

# Arkansas Methodist



"SERVING TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND METHODISTS IN ARKANSAS"  
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## LARGE ARKANSAS DELEGATION TO PURDUE

By Mer

One hundred young people from Arkansas, among the 5,000 who will attend the National Convention of Methodist Youth, August 22-26, at Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana.

According to Dr. Ira Brumley, executive secretary of the North Arkansas Board of Education, 93, including 15 adults, will represent North Arkansas at the meeting. Dr. Roy E. Fawcett, executive of the Little Rock Conference, said 51 young people and 10 adults will go from south Arkansas.

Delegates will represent the Methodist Student Movement on 400 college campuses, and local and regional organizations of the Methodist Youth Fellowship from all over the United States, according to Richard Thompson, Springfield, Mo., president of the National Conference of Methodist Youth. The Rev. LeRoy King, projects secretary, and Thompson are in charge of the Purdue convocation.

General boards and agencies of the Methodist Church in Nashville, New York, Chicago, and Washington D. C., are co-operating with the youth organization in sponsoring the convocation which is held every four years.

The daily programs of platform hours and discussion groups will be geared to the general theme: "Our Christian Witness in the World of Struggle."

Thirty-four workshops will deal with such subjects as Christianity versus Communism, the United Nations, Protestant Beliefs, World Beliefs, World Peace, Preparation for Military Service, Preparation for College, Sex and Marriage, Racial Relations, Social Services, and Labor-Management Relations.

Keynote speakers will be Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, Washington, D. C.; Bishop Gerald Kennedy, Los Angeles; the Rev. Henry Hitt Crane, pastor of Central Methodist Church in Detroit and the Rev. James S. Thomas of the Methodist Board of Education staff, Nashville.

The Rev. Harold W. Ewing, Director of the Youth Department of the Methodist Board of Education in Nashville, will be program coordinator.

## Ben Few Camp Meeting

The Ben Few Camp Meeting, which meets annually two miles west of Princeton, in Dallas County, will begin with the evening service Friday, August 26. Dr. Neill Hart, District Superintendent of the Camden District, will be the evangelist. Rev. Jack Shaw, pastor of the Methodist Church in Cotton Valley,

## L. R. Conference Schedules T. and C. Seminars

A series of "Little Bloomingtons" will be held in the Little Rock Conference during the week of August 22-28 in the form of Town and Country Seminars, according to Rev. C. Ray Hozendorf, Chairman of the Little Rock Conference Town and Country Commission. There will be a meeting in each of the six districts of the conference as follows: Little Rock District, August 22; Monticello District, August 23; Camden District, August 24; Hope District, August 25; Arkadelphia District, August 26; Pine Bluff District, August 27 and 28. Resource persons will include Rev. Clyde T. Parsons, Mrs. J. R. Henderson, Rev. C. Ray Hozendorf, Rev. R. B. Moore, O. C. Landers and the six District Superintendents of the Conference.

The pastor, the church and charge lay leaders, the superintendent of Church School, President of W. S. C. S., one or more young people from each church, chairman of the four commissions: Education, Evangelism, Missions and Finance, Church Treasurers, Chairman of Official Board and Chairman and Secretary of Group Ministry Projects from the local churches are expected to attend.

The "Little Bloomingtons" will begin at 10 a. m. each day and continue through until 3 p. m. The meeting will begin with a brief devotional followed by a statement of the purpose of the seminar and then a discussion of the meaning and the challenge of the National Methodist Town and Country Conference held in Bloomington, Indiana, July 22-25. At eleven o'clock there will be five study groups: Evangelism in Town and Country; Education in Town and Country; Christian Stewardship in Town and Country; Outreach of the Town and Country Church Through Missions; and The Group Ministry and similar plans of Co-operation.

The afternoon session will be given almost entirely to the initiation of the Conference wide study of the Church under the direction of Clyde T. Parson, Executive Secretary of the Commission. The District Superintendent will close each day's meeting with an inspirational devotional.

Louisiana, will lead the singing. Miss Ruth Ann Parham of Fordyce, a sophomore in Henderson State College, will be the pianist. The meeting will run ten days, closing Sunday, September 4.

Many improvements have been made on the camp grounds during the last year. A cabin has been

## CENTENNIAL CAMP MEETING AT SALEM

The Salem Camp Meeting held annually under the auspices of the Little Rock District of The Methodist Church will celebrate its centennial, August 26 to September 4.

Services will be held three times daily during the encampment. Rev. John M. Shuler, pastor of The First Methodist Church at Paris, Texas, will speak at 11:00 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. each day. Mr. Shuler was guest preacher at the 1954 meeting. Rev. H. O. Bolin, pastor at Highland Methodist Church, Little Rock, will deliver the homecoming sermon at 3:00 p. m. August 28. Rev. J. C. English, pastor at Asbury Methodist Church in Little Rock, will conduct a memorial service at 3:00 p. m. September 4.

Other ministers participating in the celebration will be Dr. B. K. Selph, pastor of First Baptist Church, Benton, Rev. Henry A. Ricker, pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Benton, Rev. Ralph Clayton, pastor of First Church, Benton; Rev. Harold Davis, pastor at Bryant; Rev. F. Wesley Reutz, pastor at Sardis; Rev. Robert W. Triesch-



REV. JOHN M. SHULER

mann, pastor at Geyer Springs; Rev. E. O. Holmes, pastor at Carlisle and Dr. Francis A. Buddin, Superintendent of the Little Rock District.—Kenneth Goode, Pastor

## Conway Youth Visit Methodist Points



The 6th grade of the Vacation Church School of the First Methodist Methodist Church, Conway, visited Methodist points of interest in Little Rock, Monday, August 8. Under the sponsorship of Mrs. V. H. Merrick, Mrs. Phil Bumpers, and Miss Sue Osment, adult leaders, the group visited the editorial offices of the *Arkansas Methodist*, Methodist Information, Philander Smith College, the Methodist Children's Home, Aldersgate Methodist Camp, and Little Rock churches. The group included Betty Jane Estes, Peggy Jones, Billy Keith, Sarah Grisby, Carolyn Hazel, Mary Jane Covington, Linda Brittain, Wanda Berry, Betty Sue Ward and Gladys Sexier. In the accompanying picture, Mrs. E. T. Wayland, *Arkansas Methodist* staff, is explaining the addressing system to the Conway group.

built for boys. Sammie Taylor, a junior at Hendrix College, will be the boys' counselor. New paint is in evidence and two water pumps have been installed. Everybody is invited.

Rev. Ben C. Few, pastor at Mountain Home, has expressed his intentions to be present some during the meeting. His father was the founder of this camp in 1889.—Reporter

## TO HEAD UN OBSERVANCE

Dr. Matt L. Ellis, president of Hendrix College at Conway, was appointed chairman of the state Citizens Committee to plan the observance of the 10th anniversary of the United Nations. The appointment was made by Governor Faubus.

## NEWS AND NOTES ABOUT FACTS AND FOLKS

**REV. JEFF SHERMAN**, assistant pastor of First Methodist Church, Searcy, was guest preacher at the Bald Knob Methodist Church, Sunday, August 7, and at the Beebe Methodist Church, Sunday, August 14.

**REV. VIRGIL BELL**, associate pastor, First Methodist Church, El Dorado, was the guest speaker at the Lions Club at their weekly meeting, August 2. He used as his subject "Christians Working Together".

**REV. JOE VANCLEVE**, pastor of Monette Methodist Church, was the guest preacher for revival services at the Salem Methodist Church, beginning Sunday, August 14. The pastor, Rev. Charles Holt, will assist in the services.

**REV. J. T. BYRD**, pastor of Harrisburg Methodist Church, was the guest preacher at revival services held in the Judsonia Methodist Church, July 31-August 10. The pastor, Rev. Hasle O. West, led the singing.

**REV. CYRIL WILSON**, pastor of Asbury Methodist Church, Batesville, was the guest speaker at the Men's Club of the First Methodist Church, Batesville, Thursday, August 4. Rev. Lloyd M. Conyers is pastor.

**DR. J. KENNETH SHAMBLIN**, pastor of Pulaski Heights Methodist Church, Little Rock, is rapidly recovering at his home from a recent illness which occurred at the beginning of a European and Holy Land tour.

**YOUTH ACTIVITIES WEEK** for the Belcano Sub-District were held in the Gardner Methodist Church, August 15-18. The Woman's Society of Christian Service served the fellowship supper each evening. J. Frank Warden, Jr., was the speaker.

**MISS POLLY LASSITER**, of Arkadelphia, U.S.-2 rural worker, will be the speaker for the Youth sponsored revival, "Four Nights for God", to be held from August 28 through August 31, in the Smackover Methodist Church. Rev. Harold Sadler is pastor.

**REV. S. B. WILFORD**, pastor of First Methodist Church, Paragould, directed a Junior Camp at Wayland Spring, August 1 through August 3, for the Juniors of the Paragould District. Ninety-one children and fifteen adult workers were present for the Camp.

**MARRIED** at the Methodist parsonage in Roe on Sunday, August 5, Miss Rachel Baker and George Crosson, Jr. Rev. W. C. Lewis, pastor of the Roe Methodist Church officiated. After a brief honeymoon the couple will be at home in Roe.

**WENDELL DORMAN** preached at the Atkins Methodist Church, Sunday, July 31, during the absence of the pastor, Rev. J. W. Glover. Wendell is a senior at Arkansas State Teachers College and lived in Atkins as a boy. He is the son of Rev. and Mrs. Raymond A. Dorman, Wilson.

**REV. GEORGE TANNER** preached Sunday morning, August 14, at Winfield Methodist Church, Little Rock, where he is now Youth Director and Associate pastor. Mr. Tanner received his A.B. degree from Hendrix College in June. He was Youth Director at Winfield Church last summer. Dr. Fred Harrison is pastor.

**JOE STROUD**, ministerial student at Hendrix College was guest speaker at the morning

service, First Methodist Church, McGehee, Sunday, August 7. Rev. John Wesley Rushing, pastor of the Watson Methodist Church was the speaker at the evening service. Rev. Mouzon Mann is pastor.

**DR. E. T. WAYLAND**, Editor of the *Arkansas Methodist*, was the guest preacher at the morning service at Grand Avenue Methodist Church, Hot Springs, Sunday, August 7. Rev. Russell Brown, pastor of Piney Grove Methodist Church, spoke at the evening service. Rev. A. J. Christie is pastor.

**REV. AND MRS. W. C. LEWIS** were honored, with a reception and shower of groceries, at the close of the morning services at the Ulm Methodist Church, on the Roe Charge, Sunday, August 7. Mrs. Warren Aker was toastmaster and welcomed Brother and Mrs. Lewis back for the fourth year.

**REV. REUEL H. ALLEN**, pastor of the Plain Dealing Methodist Church, Plain Dealing, Louisiana, will be the guest evangelist for revival services to be held in the Parkers Chapel Methodist Church, El Dorado, August 21-27. He will bring the message at both the morning and evening services. Rev. Charles G. Ashcraft is pastor at Parkers Chapel.

**REV. CLEVE GILLIAM** was host to an open house event, Sunday, July 31, honoring Mrs. Gilliam, who was celebrating her birthday anniversary. Mrs. Dudley Gee and Mrs. Harold Gilliam served approximately fifty guests. Bro. Gilliam, a retired Methodist preacher, and Mrs. Gilliam have made their home in Hot Springs for the past ten years.

**REV. ELBERT B. JEAN**, pastor of the First Methodist Church, Strong, is the preacher for revival services at Park View Methodist Church, Aug. 12-19. Revival music will be under the direction of Mrs. D. P. Gordy and Gerald Gordy. J. W. Newsam will be song leader. In connection with the revival nightly lay visitations will be directed by Dale Woosley. Rev. Joe R. Phillips is pastor at Park View Church.

**REV. GEORGE STEWART**, pastor of the Beebe Methodist Church, was the guest preacher at the morning service of First Methodist Church, North Little Rock, August 14. Mr. Stewart was a member of this church at the time his father, the late Rev. Allen D. Stewart, was pastor. Dr. C. M. Reves, of Hendrix College will preach at the morning service, August 21. The pastor, Rev. J. William Watson, Mrs. Watson, and the girls are on vacation in Florida.

**DR. WINSLOW S. DRUMMOND**, President of the College of the Ozarks, was the guest preacher for the morning service at First Methodist Church, Clarksville, Sunday, August 14. The evening sermon was preached by Rev. Jerry Stroud, who will continue his studies in the College of The Ozarks this fall in preparation for the Methodist ministry. The pastor, Dr. Paul Bumpers, Mrs. Bumpers and daughter, Bonnie Carolyn, are on vacation.

**REV. W. R. BOYD** was presented a Gruen Verithin pocket watch and chain by the congregation of the Scott Memorial Methodist Church, Eudora, at the morning service, Sunday, August 7. The presentation was made to honor Brother and Mrs. Boyd for their services to the church during the past year and to welcome

them back for another year. Brother Boyd lost his watch recently in an accident at Methodist Camp Keener.

**MRS. A. L. RIGGS** was Dean of the Farmington Vacation Church School, July 18-22. Thirty-eight children were enrolled and there was a staff of ten workers. The Kindergarten group studied "My Home and Family"; the Primary group studied, "Learning from Jesus" and the Junior group studied, "Living and Working Together as Christians". Refreshments were served each day by the Woman's Society of Christian Service. Rev. A. L. Riggs is pastor at Farmington.

**PAUL LAMBERTH**, conference youth president, was leader for a three day training school for the Rector-Piggott area at Rector, First Church, August 10-12. The school was sponsored by the Clay County Group Ministry of which Rev. Floyd G. Villines, Jr., who was recently selected as the rural minister of the year, is chairman. Other charges who are members of this group are Rector, Fourth Street, Rector Circuit, Leonard Circuit, Boydsville Circuit and St. Francis Circuit.

**REV. HUBERT E. PEARCE**, pastor of the Wynne Methodist Church, was leader of a discussion group on the subject, "Being Christian in Our Personal Lives," at the Youth Activities Week, August 7-12, at the church. The inspirational speaker each evening was James Harris, Earle, a Hendrix College student, who will attend the World Convocation of Methodist Youth, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana. The daily schedule included prayer time, supper, singing and discussion time, recreation and closed with a worship service each evening.

**PARAGOULD DISTRICT** Men's fellowship was entertained by the Methodist Men of the Mammoth Spring Church, August 4. After a chicken dinner, prepared by the host church, a worship service was led by Rev. James Fleming, pastor of St. Paul's Methodist Church, Jonesboro. Reports from the national town and country convocation were given by Rev. John Barrett, Rev. Floyd Villines, Jr., and Rev. Byron McSpadden. Loren Robinson, chairman of the Paragould District Methodist Men, was in charge of the program. The group will meet at Griffin Memorial Methodist Church in October.

**DR. AND MRS. A. B. BOND** presented Winfield Methodist Church, Little Rock, a cross made of olive wood, which came from the Mount of Olives in Palestine, at the fellowship hour Sunday evening, August 7. The cross is about three feet high. Dr. Bond, who has been chief of the education program under the federal government's "Point Four" program, has worked in Egypt for the past three years. He and Mrs. Bond are former members of Winfield Church, and were guests of the church at the evening service July 31 when they showed slides of scenes in Egypt, and told of experiences there.

**DR. FRANK COPPLESTONE**, Mrs. Copplestone, and daughter, Frances, are on their way back to England after completing four weeks of an exchange of pastorates with Dr. Ethan Dodgen of First Methodist Church, Jonesboro. During his stay in Jonesboro, Mr. Copplestone attracted the attention of Christians of all denominations, and was the speaker at various civic clubs. The Copplestones plan to visit in Boston then go on to New York, where they will board a ship for England. They hope to meet Dr. Dodgen and his family in New York for the first time. The Dodgens plan to sail back to the United States late this week and return to Jonesboro next week.

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## The Layman's Column

By  
Charles A. Stuck  
Lay Leader  
North Arkansas Conference



### STIR UP THE GIFT OF GOD

These words were written by the Apostle Paul to his beloved "son" Timothy (II Tim. 1:6). At the time he was writing them, Paul was chained to the wall in a dark prison where almost unspeakable conditions of filth existed. His only light came from a small hole in the top of the jug like cell, and as the little circle of light crept across the dirty floor, we can picture the Apostle moving slowly to follow it in order that there would be enough light to guide his pen. He had a pretty good idea that his death was not far off. . . Roman soldiers probably had already told him.

But that did not cool this great spirit. With the power that only God can give at such times, Paul wrote to Timothy. Nineteen hundred years after the words were written, they still stir us, just as they must have heartened his quiet disciple, who was then trying to lead the Christians at Ephesus. In his letter, Paul told Timothy to "stir up the gift of God. . ." This must have been wonderful encouragement, coming directly from Paul the chained prisoner, who still preached God and Jesus as vigorously as he did on Mars Hill in Athens.

"Stir up the Gift of God." The great Albert Schweitzer wrote, "Sometimes our light goes out but is blown again into flame by an encounter with another human being. Each of us owes the deepest thanks to those who have rekindled this inner light." These words from the pen of one of today's most consecrated Christians might shed a new light on the words of Paul. Are you worried about your future? Do the days seem hopeless and useless? Are you sorry for yourself? Then start pouring your energies into the lives of other who need help. It will blow the ashes off the coals of your life and make them blaze anew with joyful brilliance.

One of the modern German translations of this passage in Timothy says it thus; "Fan into flame a new gracious gift of God." Maybe that's what

## Editorial

### Stewardship Of Space

IT was inevitable that sooner or later the question as to who holds title to the outer space should come up. Recent press dispatches indicates that a first class squabble is in the making as to who has "rights" to the space out beyond the earth's atmosphere and that rocket and satellite experts feel that this question is of sufficient importance that some international agreement should be effected before any extended program of outer space rockets, space ships and satellites is projected.

For many years there has been general agreement among nations that the air above any nation "belongs" to that nation and that it has the "right" to control the use of that space. The space ownership question now under possible dispute concerns that space out beyond the earth's atmosphere which has come into prominence in the news recently after announcement was made that plans are going forward for the launching of an earth "satellite" which would, after it reached certain altitudes, circle the earth every 90 minutes.

It is not our purpose here to propose any solutions or to question the reality of the problem. However, it might be appropriate to suggest that any agreements which may be reached that do not take into account the use of outer space for the betterment of mankind will be lacking in stewardship content. It is not likely that this question will be of sufficient import in the near future to cause any great uproar, but the mere raising of the question is an indication of the lack of stewardship conscience by those who are specializing in the field.

If, for example, the people of the world shared a common conviction that the "earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof," and that people hold their possessions as a trust from God, it is quite likely that many of the worries that plague the world today would be no more.

Schweitzer was thinking of when he wrote the words above. Maybe that is what Paul was thinking when he wrote the troubled Timothy. Let us find someone who needs our help; then help him as best we can; then let us thank God that this person was the means of helping us to "fan into flames anew the gracious gift of God."

### A Record Unparalleled In Benevolent Giving

RECENT press reports state that reliable estimates regarding the philanthropic giving of John D. Rockefeller and John D. Rockefeller, Jr., place the total amount of their gifts at \$2,500,000,000. This amount, we are told, is equal to a little more than \$3,500 per day for every day since the beginning of the Christian era.

This total amount includes, as well as the direct gifts of Mr. Rockefeller and son, the dividends and accumulated increase in values of stocks they contributed which have been so wisely handled by those in charge of the foundations and other methods of giving instituted by the Rockefellers.

In the last generation, John D. Rockefeller was the object of severe criticism when his investments in Standard Oil stock began to snowball into the enormous fortune he accumulated. Some even declared that no man could accumulate money honestly, so rapidly. When in later life, out of his enormous fortune, the contributions of Mr. Rockefeller reached astronomical figures, some indicated that he was attempting, through such contributions, to buy goodwill.

However, if we may judge from the gradual increase in philanthropic giving of Mr. Rockefeller from youth to old age, we are made to feel that his larger gifts were but the cumulative results of life-long systematic giving. We are told that Mr. Rockefeller's first job was as a bookkeeper, which job he held from mid-September until the close of the year. For the more than three month's work he received \$50.00, or a little less than fifty cents per day. His "Ledger A" account book, which he started when he began work, shows that out of the \$50.00 he contributed for various benevolent purposes \$5.88 which, under the circumstances, must have been sacrificial giving.

From these small, but sacrificial gifts, the contributions of John D. Rockefeller grew as his fortune grew. His spirit of benevolent giving was inherited by John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Now we are told that, including money already distributed and money left in the treasury to be distributed, the public benefactions of John D. Rockefeller and his son total between two and a half and three billion dollars.

The Rockefeller billions have been wisely distributed over the United States and the world. Hendrix College has received thousands of dollars out of the funds they have established.

### A Lift For Living

By Ralph W. Sockman

#### Drive And Drag

Physically we are so made that we move better going forward. We can walk more easily forward than backward. It is easier to manipulate our hands in front of us than behind us. This is a truth which the little girl discovered when she was trying to button her dress in the back, which I am told is rather a difficult task.

The little girl exclaimed, "Why, mother, how can I? I'm in front of myself."

Yes, we are so built that bodily we move better going forward.

But in moving through time it is just the reverse. We can see what is behind us, but not what is in front of us. We know what happened yesterday; we cannot tell what will happen tomorrow. And now because we have to move through both time and space, we human beings often develop a tension between the forward drive and the backward drag of life.

Our Lord was very familiar with lives thus divided. He once said, "No man having put his hand to the plow and looking back is fit for the Kingdom of Heaven." On another occasion He is recorded as exclaiming to a group of listeners: "Remember Lot's wife."

However you interpret the Old Testament story of Lot and his wife, the point of it was that when they were ordered to leave the wicked city of Sodom, Lot's wife kept looking longingly back to the place she should have left behind her. The result proved fatal.

When a person continues to look back to something he should put behind him, when a person keeps reopening yesterday's decisions and weakening himself with futile regrets, when a person leans over backward in order to carry on his shoulders the chips of yesterday's grudges—then that person is a house divided against itself, and says Jesus, "If a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand."

How then, is a life thus torn between its forward and backward pulls, to be integrated and made whole? For one thing, Jesus taught



us to cut ourselves loose from part of our past. You recall His cryptic utterance, "Let the dead bury their dead." That was the Master's short surgical way of saying that we are simply to turn our backs on some things and go ahead. One secret of executive efficiency in handling one's life is to know how to close the door behind us.

The story is told that Lloyd George, former British Prime Minister, was once playing golf with a man who left the gate open in a pasture as the two were leaving the golf course. The statesman went back and closed the gate. When they resumed their walk, Lloyd George told his companion of a fine old doctor who had died in the neighborhood a short time before. When the neighbors asked the dying physician if he had any message he would like to leave for his admiring friends, the old doctor replied, "You might tell them that I've always made a point of closing the door behind me."

Do not keep the gate open so that yesterday's pack of hounding worries will rush in to spoil today's peace of mind.

But Jesus does more than merely bid us turn our backs on what is behind us. We cannot shut off all the past. Memories enrich life. But the land of recollection can be so transformed that good memories remain and the evil ones are blotted out.

We know how lights can be used in a theater to neutralize colors on the stage. I have seen spotlights so used that certain colors on the stage were completely blacked out, leaving certain features invisible. Well, that is a crude analogy of what Christ does to our memories. He blots out the blues and keeps the reds. That is, Christ helps us to forget the blue depressing days of our past and to keep the red letter days of glorious memory.

Also Christ helps us to keep a view of what is behind us somewhat as the rear-view mirror enables the driver of a car to see the road behind him without taking his major gaze off the road ahead. On our crowded highways we need to see behind us, especially when we turn left, lest we be run into from the rear. In our social thinking we speak of turning to the "left," that is, to the radically new. Just because of this "leftiest" trend we need to see the road behind us. Such a view, with God's help, can keep us from being either a reactionary or a revolutionist.

Christ takes a man torn between the forward pull and the backward lag and directs him so that he leaps wholeheartedly toward what is ahead.



# Being A Methodist Preacher Is The Same Everywhere

By GEORGIA NEELY, Methodist Information

Baseball and iced tea are new and different, but being a Methodist preacher is the same, said the Rev. Frank T. Copplestone, Liverpool, England, who has been guest minister for the past month at the First Methodist Church in Jonesboro.

The Rev. Mr. Copplestone, his wife and daughter, Frances, left England July 7, and arrived in New York, July 12. He exchanged pulpits with Dr. Ethan Dodgen, who, with his family, has spent the month in Liverpool.

"Being a Methodist preacher does not basically change, no matter where in the world you go," Mr. Copplestone said, "but there are some differences in the congregations."

For instance, he explained, in his church in Liverpool, he has more people who attend church services than the number on the church roll. In the United States, the situation is often reversed.

The only big difference in the order of worship, however, is in England there is a portion of the Sunday morning service set aside for the children. Mr. Copplestone conducted such a service at Jonesboro one Sunday, and thought the children liked it very much.

He was favorably impressed by the youth work being done at the Jonesboro church where Miss Regenia Watson is youth director. In his church in England, deaconesses have the responsibility of carrying on the youth program, and there are four assigned to the church where Mr. Copplestone preaches.

The Copplestone family has found the hot weather in Arkansas the hardest thing to adjust to. Mrs. Copplestone likes the supermarkets very much, and particularly the way the meat is packaged and displayed.

"We learned right away that fried chicken is the favorite Methodist meal in Arkansas," Mr. Copplestone said, and admitted they liked it. In England chicken is always roasted. They also eat fewer salads across the Atlantic than we do here.

"We like the coffee, too," they insisted, but finally admitted they did bring their own tea and made a pot of it now and then. They had never seen iced tea before, Mr. Copplestone said, "because in England it is so cold we do not have or need the pellets (ice cubes) to go in it."

Frances was delighted with the size of American cars which are larger than British automobiles. She attended her first drive-in movie in Arkansas, and enjoyed it very much.

Mr. Copplestone stressed the fact that the lay speaking program in North Arkansas was being carried on in a very effective way. In England, the lay speakers play a much bigger role in Methodism than they do here.

"We have a very extensive training period for lay preachers," he said, "and they are fully accredited before they are allowed to accept the preaching responsibilities. They are never permitted to administer the sacrament."

"Methodist pulpits in England could not all be filled with preachers, and thus, lay speaking is very important to us," he said. "Charles Stuck, (Jonesboro, who is lay leader of the North Arkansas Conference) has been to England to study our plan, and I understand, has done much to promote the program here," he added.

The entire Methodist Church in England is served by one Methodist publication, according to Mr. Copplestone, and he was amazed by the fact there are area and even conference church publications here.

There is a news service comparable to our Methodist Information in England, he said, but like the one in the United States, it is reasonably new.

He has found the secular press in the United States very fair, he said, and also very accurate in reporting the news.

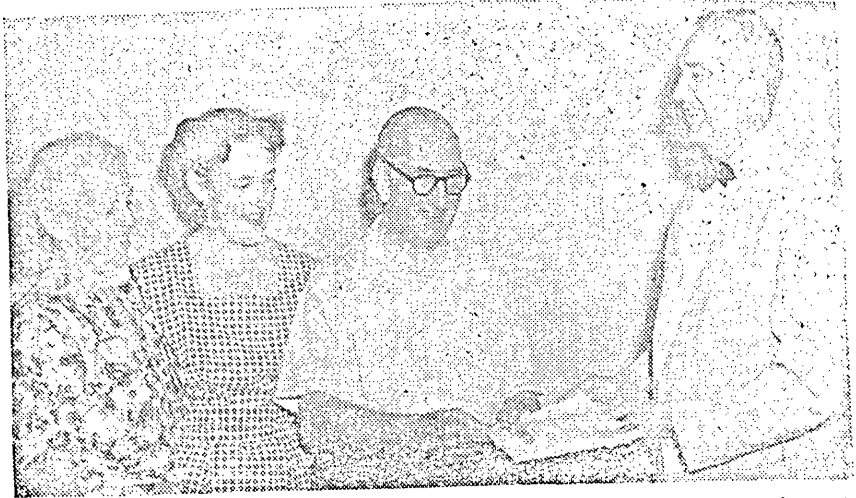
Mr. Copplestone could not guess how many, but he has spoken to several thousand people while he has been in Arkansas. He has addressed most all of the civic clubs in Jonesboro during his stay, in addition to speaking to a packed church every Sunday morning and evening. He has also visited and spoken to several Methodist congregations in neighboring towns.

The citizens of Arkansas showed their gratitude when they made Mr. Copplestone an official Arkansas Traveler, and he also received a personal letter along with the award from Governor Faubus.

Jonesboro's Municipal Judge Forster Clarke presented Mr. Copplestone with the certificate and letter last week before he and his family left for Boston to visit relatives. "One of my nephews is a Methodist preacher in Boston," he said.

The Copplestones will return to England later this month and Mr. Copplestone will resume his duties as superintendent of the Liverpool Methodist Mission where he has served the past seven years.

Dr. Dodgen and his family are scheduled to return to Jonesboro, August 17.



Judge Forster Clarke, Jonesboro, presents Rev. Frank T. Copplestone, Liverpool, England, with an Arkansas Traveler Certificate. Mrs. Copplestone and Miss Frances Copplestone, daughter, are shown with Rev. Mr. Copplestone.

## Methodist Minister Of The Year Honored

A reception was given for Rev. Floyd Villines, Pastor of the First Methodist Church, Piggott, Arkansas, Sunday, July 31, after the evening church services.

A large crowd gathered in the basement of the church to honor Rev. Mr. Villines and his family for the wonderful work contributed to the Methodist Church by this outstanding minister and his family.

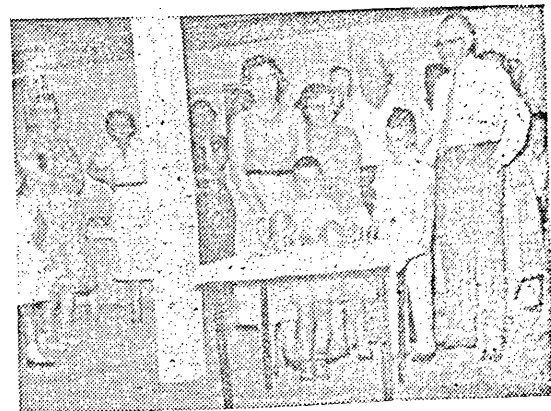
The occasion was a "Welcome Home," to Bro. Villines, who has been named Rural Minister of the year of 1955 for the State of Arkansas. He was given a scholarship in connection with the honor from

Emory University of Theology.

Miss Leah Williams extended the welcome to the family in the form of a very appropriate, original poem, written by Miss Ella Mowery of Piggott, Arkansas.

The Villines were presented with a silver service, by Loren Robinson, chairman of the Official Board from the entire membership of the church.

Following the presentation a social hour was enjoyed, at which time punch and cakes were served from a beautifully arranged table.



Left to right: Mrs. F. G. Villines, Gray Wayne, Loren, Rev. F. G. Villines, Jr. and Floyd, Jr.

## METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME REPORT FOR JULY, 1955

We want to express our sincere thanks to the groups and participants listed below who have rendered a service or presented gifts to the Home during the month of July, 1955.

Chas. E. Baber, Veterans Hospital Bldg., North Little Rock—candy  
Clinton Methodist Church—fresh vegetables and canned goods (pickup truck load)  
Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Garrison, Little Rock—fresh vegetables  
Springdale First Methodist Church—scrap books, pencils, and assorted gifts  
Mrs. F. R. Rambo, Little Rock—fresh vegetables  
Mr. and Mrs. Clay Smith, Little Rock—fresh vegetables  
Mrs. W. A. Dossett, Sr.—fresh vegetables  
First Methodist Church, Searcy—Miscellaneous gifts

### MEMORIALS FOR JULY

IN MEMORY OF:  
William L. Corley by Adelia and Franklin Loy  
Mrs. Dan Balmer and son, Tim, by Dora and Lee Ogletree  
J. W. Morris by Dorcas S. S. Class, Lewisville Methodist Church  
Mrs. F. O. Pledger by Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Moseley  
Mrs. Roy Custer by (Mrs. Sextus) Nance N. Wilson  
William Keith by Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Hoffman  
A. J. Edmonson by The Ladies Bible Class, Lonoke Methodist Church  
Mrs. Roy G. Custer by Mrs. Lucille Tomlinson  
John Pirtle by Wesley Fellowship Class, Carr Memorial Methodist Church, Pine Bluff  
Mrs. M. A. Welty by Emma, Kate and

Sarah Lide  
Miss Beulah White by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Frank  
Mrs. Laura Rogers by Mrs. Viola F. Mitchell  
Fred I. Akin by Mrs. Viola Mitchell  
Mrs. Laura B. Rogers by Sherrill W. S. C. S.  
Mrs. M. A. Kennedy by Magnolia Jackson  
Street Methodist Church W. S. C. S.  
Mrs. Sophie Chennault by Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Levi  
G. H. Shockley by Mrs. G. H. Shockley  
Mrs. James E. Johnson by Mrs. G. H. Shockley  
Mrs. Mollie Wray by Mr. and Mrs. N. D. Couch  
Don Russell Hillman by Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Gordon  
E. T. Brown by Mr. and Mrs. Louis L. Ramsay, Jr.  
F. W. Baldridge by Mr. and Mrs. James Rudy  
Mrs. A. C. Kersey by Mrs. Olin Shockley  
Mrs. Georgia Hulén by Fort Smith District Children Workers  
O. M. Robbins by Mr. and Mrs. John M. Smith  
Miss Genevieve Harrington by Mrs. George S. Word  
C. A. Powell by Mrs. G. R. King and daughter  
J. D. Ware by Mr. and Mrs. A. M. McKennon  
Jack Robertson by The Lone Oak Home Demonstration Club  
Mrs. James McCracken's mother by Reyno Methodist Church  
Clint Caldwell by Mr. and Mrs. Roy F. Price  
Mrs. Charles Brendlinger by W. S. C. S. of the West Memphis Methodist Church  
W. T. Gerrard by Mrs. Geo. S. Word, and Mr. and Mrs. Geo. C. Morgan, Jr.  
TOTAL Memorials for July — \$141.75  
R. CONNOR MOREHEAD, Supt.

## WARNS OF CONCEPT THAT STATE CAN WORK MIRACLES

Americans are in danger of unconsciously adopting "the basic Communist doctrine that the State can work miracles," a leading Methodist layman said at Lake Junaluska. The warning was issued by Ray H. Nichols, editor and publisher of the Vernon (Tex.) Daily Record and president of the Methodist Board of Lay Activities. "Characteristic of the thinking today is a tendency to approach problems in the abstract and to deal with them in the mass," he said. "If the decision is tough and unpleasant, we like to pass it along to the government. We insist that the government do things for us which we could do much better at less cost." Mr. Nichols addressed the annual Southwide Methodist Laymen's Conference. He said the result of this mental attitude is to "remove the emphasis from the individual and make almost everything impersonal." "Even the Church has been affected by the popular idea of making things as easy and impersonal as possible," the editor said. "It isn't so much that we are losing any of our convictions as it is a result of our thinking of life as a gigantic abstraction," he added. "Responsibility is personal. There is no place in the Christian code for flippancy or irresponsibility or indifference to what goes on in the world." Stressing that the Gospel "was made for difficult times," Mr. Nichols urged that instead of "Shrinking from the tests that seem to lie ahead" we should "welcome the opportunity of demonstrating the faith we profess."

### President Urges Practical Application of Christianity

Application of Christianity to everyday affairs is the only practical hope of the world, President Eisenhower said in a message to the 20th anniversary conference of International Christian Leadership, Inc., at Seattle, Wash., wishing it success. "The result will be fresh vigor in the international effort to build a firm and just peace within the brotherhood of men under the Fatherhood of God," the President said. The conference was attended by some 300 delegates and visitors from the United States, Canada, Mexico, Germany, the Netherlands and the Philippines.

### July Record Church Construction Month

Church construction set a new record in July with a total of \$66,000,000, the Departments of Commerce and Labor reported. This was \$4,000,000 above the previous high for a month established in June and \$14,000,000 over the July, 1954, figure. The July total boosted church construction for the seven months to \$401,000,000, a gain of 32 per cent over the same period of 1954.

## Atheists Accused of Misquoting Washington

American atheists were accused in Washington of misquoting George Washington in an effort to deny that the United States was founded on religious principles. Rep. W. Hiestand (R-Calif.), in a statement placed in the Congressional Record, condemned as "disgraceful" what he said was a misquotation of Washington by John L. Manners and Walter B. Stevens of the National Liberal League, New York. The two recently filed suit in Federal Court for an injunction to stop Postmaster General Arthur W. Summerfield from issuing postage stamps carrying the motto "In God We Trust." The league, in its court brief and accompanying press releases, quoted the First President as saying that "The Government of the United States

of American is not, in any sense, founded on the Christian religion." Rep. Hiestand said that a check with the Library of Congress shows that the quotation is from an old English translation of a treaty between the United States and Tripoli executed in 1797 and signed by President John Adams.

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## APPROVES NEW HEADQUARTERS BUILDING FOR WORLD COUNCIL

A projected \$750,000 building program for new headquarters of the World Council of Churches in Geneva was approved at Davos, Switzerland, by the Council's Central Committee. The project provides for office facilities, a chapel and a library. It was presented to the Central Committee by Dr. Eugene Carson Blake of Philadelphia, president of the National Council of Churches, who is chairman of the finance committee for the new headquarters. Dr. Blake said mem-

ber Churches will be asked to raise \$300,000 for the project by August, 1958, the Council's tenth anniversary. Another \$450,000, he said, will be sought simultaneously from individual contributors and foundations. The Council's present inadequate headquarters include over 20 offices housed in two temporary wooden barracks.

### Warns of 'Dangerous Illusion' In Soviet-Western Rapprochement

Civiltà Cattolica, noted Jesuit journal published in Rome, labelled as "a dangerous illusion" the much-heralded rapprochement between the Soviet Union and the Western powers. The warning was sounded in an article written by the Rev. A. Messineo, a Jesuit spokesman on international affairs. "The West now finds itself confronted by another insidious 'peace offensive' launched without any intention of reaching agreement on presently unresolved problems," Father Messineo said. "Meanwhile 'co-existence' reveals itself as a Utopia, all the more dangerous because its falsely pacifistic coloring is capable of putting the West to sleep and leading it away from its policy of unity."

sibility as supervising chaplain of the Chicago State Tuberculosis Sanitarium and maintain an office there. The bishop named the Rev. John A. Ross, a former assistant pastor in DeKalb, Ill., to succeed to the dual St. Paul-Wesley pastorate.

## Graham Moving Headquarters to Washington

Billy Graham is moving his headquarters from Minneapolis, Minn., to Washington, D. C. The evangelist said the decision has been reached because Washington is more centrally located with respect to the members of his team, most of whom have their homes within 400 miles of the capital. Mr. Graham's own home at Montreat, N. C., is within commuting distance of Washington. Only a small suite of offices will be maintained in Wash-

ington, he said, and it will be solely for the purpose of receiving and answering mail and planning future crusades. Billy Graham Evangelistic Films already maintains headquarters in Washington for distribution of his movies. Mr. Graham moved his headquarters to Minneapolis several years ago when he became president of Northwestern Schools, a position he subsequently resigned.

### Penna. Turnpike Issues Church Guide

The Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission, operator of the 360-mile trans-state toll road, has issued a second edition of "A Guide to Your Place of Worship." The booklet contains a directory of churches of all denominations within easy driving range of each interchange. It is available on request at toll gates on the highway.

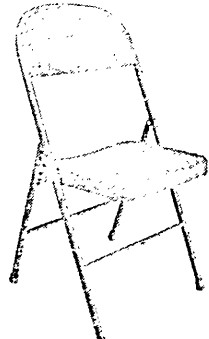
### Methodist Bishop Names 'Minister of Healing'

Methodist Bishop Charles W. Brashares of the Chicago area, named the Rev. Raymond H. Laury "minister of healing" at hospitals in the West Side Medical Center in Chicago. For the past 17 years, Mr. Laury has been pastor of St. Paul Methodist church and the adjoining Wesley Foundation in the center which serves many Methodist medical and nursing students. He will continue his former respon-

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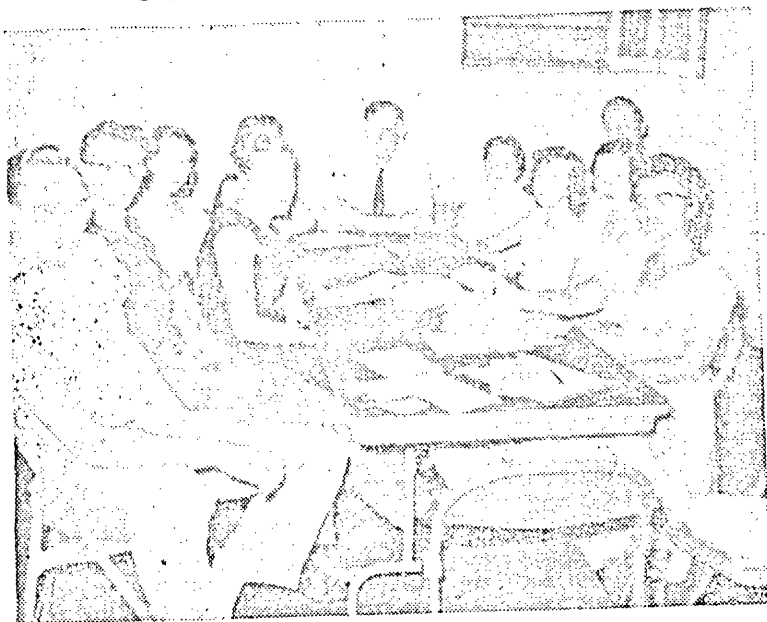
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**LIDO CAFETERIA**

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Little Rock, Arkansas



## Youth Activities Week at St. Luke's Methodist Church



COUNCIL AT WORK

August 14-21 has been designated as "Youth Activities Week" at St. Luke's Methodist Church, Little Rock. Every night is filled with an interesting schedule that includes "Food, Faith and Fellowship." Each evening will begin with a fellowship supper at 6:00 p.m. Parents in the church will see that the suppers are prepared and served. On this committee are: Mr. and Mrs. John Stegal, Mr. and Mrs. John Dilbeck, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Trout and Rev. and Mrs. D. M. Hankins, Jr.

After the supper each evening there will be two one hour periods for discussion. The Seniors have chosen for their two topics for discussion "Boy and Girl Friendships" and the leaders of this will be Mr. and Mrs. O. R. Blacklock. The Seniors second topic for discussion will be "The Making of The New Testament" and this will be led by the

Pastor, Reverend Mr. Hankins.

The Intermediates will meet for two periods of discussion also. They have chosen to discuss "The Methodist Youth Fellowship" and will use the MYF Handbook as their text, and Ernest Glover will be the leader. Their second topic for discussion will be "Using My Bible" and the leader for this will be Mrs. Eloise Hackman.

The St. Luke's Church School Superintendent, Maurice Trout, the Superintendent of the Youth Division, Herbert Monday, and Raymon Blacklock, President of the Methodist Youth Fellowship, assisted in the planning and preparations for this coming week. The entire membership of the church was invited Wednesday night for a Prayer Meeting and Ice Cream Social, sponsored by the Methodist Youth Fellowship and the Youth Activities Week.—Church Reporter.

## TEACHING IN THE CHURCH SCHOOL

This is a Leadership Education, motion film, 30 minutes, black and white, produced by the Publishing House through the Radio and Film Commission for the General Board of Education. This film is designed to aid teachers, leaders and parents of older juniors, intermediates and senior youth in the program of Christian teaching as related to the Church school and the home.

This film is described as follows: "Teaching in the Church School" is a new type of leadership education film. It is not a fictional story but an actual photographic record of the experiences of twenty-two intermediate boys and girls, their teachers, their pastor and their parents. It pictures the development of a nine-session unit of study from the group graded series on "What It Means to Be a Christian." The things you will see and hear actually happened and the words were recorded exactly as they were spoken.

The Little Rock Conference Board of Education is leasing this film for a year, beginning Sept. 1, and will be glad to make it available for use in local church, district and Conference meetings. A small

rental fee of \$2.00 is requested to help defray the lease and handling expenses of the film. Order from the Conference Board Office, 525 Exchange Building, Little Rock.—Roy E. Fawcett.

## CHURCH SCHOOL RALLY DAY

Sunday, Sept. 25, has been designated as Church School Rally Day, the purpose of which is to emphasize the importance of Christian Education and to receive an offering for the promotion of the program of the Conference Board.

"Days of Life That Teach Us" is the theme of this year's program prepared by Mrs. Howard Grimes of First Church, Dallas. This program will provide the basis of an effective service for those who wish to use it. A copy has been sent to the pastors of the Little Rock Conference. Additional copies may be had from the publishing house at — per copy, or per dozen.

As in the past, the offering goes to the Conference Treasurer, Mr. Fred Gauntt, 916 Hickory Street, Texarkana, Arkansas. — Roy E. Fawcett.

## GENERAL OFFICERS' JOB ANALYSIS

The Department of General Church School Work has made

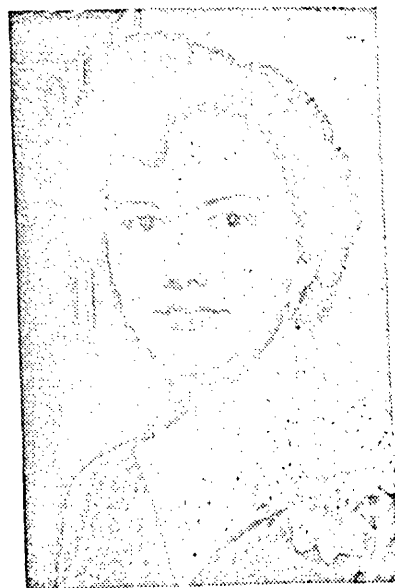
## JO ANN RICHARDSON TO SERVE AS US-2

Miss Jo Ann Richardson, Baton Rouge, is now studying at Scarritt College, Nashville, preparatory to serving as a U.S.-2. She is the daughter of Mrs. T. C. Richardson, and a member of Istrouma Church, Baton Rouge.

Miss Richardson was graduated from Centenary College where she was secretary of the Methodist Student Movement, president of the James Dormitory and the Maroon Jackets, honorary leadership organization for women. She was listed in Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities, and held membership in Alpha Sigma Pi, honorary scholastic fraternity, and Phi Beta, honorary music and speech fraternity.

Rev. Edward W. Harris, superintendent of the Baton Rouge District, and Mrs. Harris entertained at tea July 20 in their home for Jo Ann, assisted by Mrs. James Oldham, district secretary of youth work for the Woman's Society of Christian Service; Rev. George Harkins, district director of youth work for the Methodist Church and Mrs. Harkins, and Mrs. James T. Harris, Monroe, conference secretary of Missionary Personnel.

Guests attending included life service volunteers, district officers of the Woman's Society, and the Methodist Youth Fellowship, ministers in the Baton Rouge district and their wives, and friends of Miss



JO ANN RICHARDSON

Richardson's from Centenary College.

Assisting in serving were Mrs. W. E. Trice, Mrs. Jerome Cain, Mrs. T. M. Ellis, Mrs. R. M. Nichols, and the Misses Lucie Raye Barillier, Kay Saladin, Beverly Smith, Elaine Golsen, Yvonne Wicker and Donna Leet. Guests were registered by Mrs. Shelly Curry and Mrs. Raymond Dehainaut.

Miss Richardson is the first girl to enter Full Time Life Service from the Baton Rouge District.

## LITTLE ROCK CONFERENCE SEMINARS ANNOUNCED

Mrs. Glenn Martel announces that the districts of the Little Rock Conference Woman's Society of Christian Service will have their fall educational seminars as follows: Arkadelphia District at Grand Avenue, Hot Springs, August 18; Camden District at First Church, Camden, September 1; Pine Bluff District (1) at Grand Avenue, Stuttgart, September 2 (2) at First Church, Pine Bluff, September 7; Little Rock District at First Church, Little Rock, September 9; Monticello District at First Church, Fordyce, September 16; Hope District at First Church, Lockesburg, September 22.

available a set of materials giving a job analysis for the general officers of the Church school, including the pastor, general superintendent, assistant superintendent in charge of membership cultivation, chairman of the commission on Christian education, secretary, literature secretary, treasurer and librarian.

These leaflets are in outline form, with clarity of meaning, and prepared for quick reading. The general superintendent would do well to have two sets of these leaflets, one to distribute to his workers and one for his own use. These materials may be had from the Service Department, Box 871, Nashville, Ten. In ordering, ask for "General Officers Job Analysis Set" (8347-C). The price is 25c a set, cash with order. — Roy E. Fawcett.

The Christian faith demands more than mere co-existence; it requires that our faith seek a peaceful world order under God. The word co-existence is a good word if we mean by it a modus vivendi

## NEWS IN BRIEF

The Wesleyan Service Guild of West Memphis held its annual picnic supper at the First Methodist Church on July 19. Thirty-four members and guests were present. The hostesses were Mesdames James Bledsoe, Yancey Sims, Russel Pryor and L. P. Bernhard.

The program, "The Work of the Wesleyan Service Guild" was conducted by Mrs. F. D. Fisk and Mrs. William Flannigan. The devotional was led by Mrs. Harold Craig, Sr. An inspirational solo was sung by Mrs. Hazel Freeman.

Betty Sue Harris, who has been sponsored through her college years at Philander Smith College by the Fort Smith District, is now at Scarritt taking an intensive six-weeks course under Miss Alpharetta Leeper, after which she is to serve as a U.S.-2 at the Bethlehem Center, Fort Worth, Texas.

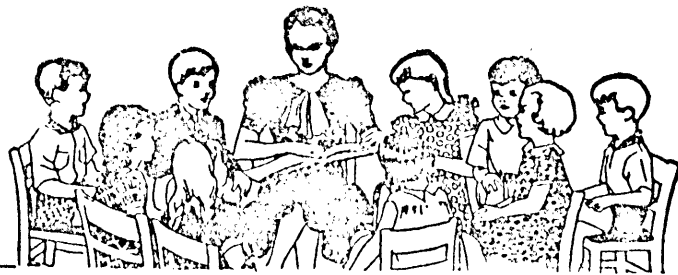
The Society of the First Methodist Church of Van Buren met Tuesday July 12, for their regular monthly business and worship program. The noon luncheon was served by Circle number two. The devotional program was led by Mrs. Fay Williams. Others taking part were Mrs. Clifford Russell, Mrs. Jim Hart and Mrs. Lawrence Harvey.

The business session was conducted by Mrs. E. E. McBride, president of the Society.—Mrs. Fay Williams, Publicity Chairman

enabling the nations to avoid war during a probable long period of peaceful competition. It may well prepare the way for peaceful cooperation in abolishing war and in creating the conditions of and international organizations for the maintenance of permanent peace.—Dr. Charles F. Boss, Jr.

## ARKANSAS METHODIST





## HARRY'S RICHES

ONE day little Harry spent the morning with his young playmate, Johnny Crane, who lived in a fine house, and on Sunday rode to church in the grandest car in all the country round.

When Harry returned home, he said, "Mother, Johnny has money in both pockets!"

"Has he, dear?"

"Yes ma'am; and he says he could get ever so much more if he wanted it."

"Well, now, that's very pleasant for him," I returned cheerfully, as a reply was plainly expected. "Very pleasant; don't you think so?"

"Yes ma'am; only—"

"Only what, Harry?"

"Why, he has a big popgun, and a watch, and a hobbyhorse, and lots of things." And Harry looked up into my face with a forlorn stare.

"Well, my boy, what of that?"

"Nothing, Mother," and the tell-tale tears sprang to his eyes, "only I guess we are very poor, aren't we?"

"No, indeed, Harry, we are very far from being poor. But we are not so rich as Mr. Crane's family, if that is what you mean."

"O Mother!" insisted the little fellow, "I do think we are very poor; anyhow, I am!"

"O Harry!" I exclaimed reproachfully.

"Yes, ma'am, I am," he sobbed; "I have scarcely anything—I mean anything that's worth money except things to eat and wear, and I'd have to have them anyway."

"Have to have them?" I echoed, at the same time laying my sewing upon the table, so that I might reason with him on that point. "Do you know, my son—"

Just then Uncle Ben looked up from the paper he had been reading. "Harry," said he, "I want to find out something about eyes; so, if you will let me have yours, I will give you a dollar apiece for them."

"For my eyes?" exclaimed Harry, very much astonished.

"Yes," resumed Uncle Ben, quietly, "for your eyes. I will give you chloroform, so it will not hurt you in the least, and you shall have a beautiful glass pair for nothing, to wear in their place. Come, a dollar apiece, cash down; What do you say? I will take them out as quick as a wink."

"Give you my eyes, Uncle!" cried Harry, looking wild at the very thought, "I think not." And the startled fellow shook his head.

"Well, ten, twenty dollars, then."

Harry shook his head at every offer.

"No, sir! I wouldn't let you have them for a thousand dollars! What could I do without my eyes? I couldn't see Mother, nor the baby, nor the flowers, nor the horses, nor anything," added Harry, growing more excited.

"I will give you two thousand," urged Uncle Ben, taking a roll of banknotes out of his pocket.

Harry, standing at a respectful

distance, shouted that he never could do any such thing.

"Very well," continued the uncle, with a serious air, at the same time writing something in his notebook, "I can't afford to give you more than two thousand dollars, so I shall have to do without your eyes. But," he added, "I shall tell you what I shall do. I will give you twenty dollars if you will let me put a few drops from this bottle into your ears. It won't hurt, but it will make you deaf. I want to try some experiments with deafness you see. Come quickly, now! Here are twenty dollars all ready for you."

"Make me deaf!" shouted Harry, without even looking at the gold pieces temptingly displayed upon the table. "Why I could not hear a single word if I were deaf, could I?"

"Probably not," replied Uncle Ben. So, of course, Harry refused again. He would never give his hearing, he said, "no, not for three thousand dollars."

Uncle Ben made another note in his book, and then came out with large bids for "a right arm," then "left arm," "hands," "feet," "nose," finally ending with an offer of ten thousand dollars for "Mother," and five thousand for "the baby."

To all of these offers Harry shook his head, his eyes flashing, and exclamations of surprise and indignation bursting from his lips. At last, Uncle Ben said he must give up his experiments, for Harry's prices were entirely too high.

Ha! Ha! laughed the boy exultingly, and he folded his dimpled arms and looked as if to say, "I'd like to see the man who could pay for them!"

"Why, Harry, look here!" ex-

claimed Uncle Ben, peeping into his notebook, "here is a big addition sum, I tell you!" He added the numbers, and they amounted to thirty-two thousand dollars.

"There, Harry," said Uncle Ben, "don't you think you are foolish not to accept some of my offers?"

"No, sir, I don't" answered Harry, resolutely.

"Then," said Uncle Ben, "you talk of being poor, and by your own showing you have treasures for which you will not take thirty-two thousand dollars. What do you say to that?"

Harry didn't know exactly what to say. He blushed, and then tears came rolling down his cheeks. He threw his chubby arms around my neck. "Mother," he whispered, "isn't God good to make everybody so rich?"—Burning Bush

## THE GREAT JUMP

Ned and May were twins. May was not so tall as Ned, and she was not as strong; but May thought more, learned more, and was more helpful than Ned.

Ned could jump down one step of the stairs at a time. When he held the top of the rail, he could jump two steps at a time. Ned was proud because he could jump farther than May could.

When Ned and May were four years old, Ned felt that he was a big boy, for he would soon start going to school. He liked to talk—and he especially liked to tell about all the things he thought he could do.

"I can jump! I can jump a great way!" cried Ned. "Now that I am four years old, I can jump down four steps at a time, and I don't even have to hold to the top of the rail!"

"Oh, no! Ned," said Mary; "you

must not try such a long jump as that. You must wait till you are big."

"I can jump four steps at a time, I am sure I can!" bragged Ned. "I can do much more than you can, May; for you're just a girl, and I am a boy—a big, strong boy. Look, now! see how I can jump!"

Ned ran up the four steps, and looked down on May with a smile. "Just look how I jump!" he cried once more.

Ned jumped down the four steps but, as you may imagine, he came down on his nose, and not on his feet! Oh, how his nose hurt!

Poor Ned screamed with pain. May ran quickly to help him up. And so did Aunt Jane, who had heard his loud crying, though she was in her own room with her door shut. She could have heard him through two or three doors.

Aunt Jane washed Ned's nose, and put some salve on it to make it well. But it did not get well for a long time. It was nearly as big as a pear, and as red as a strawberry, for more than a week!

Do you not hope that Ned's fall taught him not to brag so much about the big things he was going to do?—Old Reader

## JUST FOR FUN

The class was discussing the North American Indians when the teacher asked if anyone could tell what the leaders of the tribes were called.

"Chiefs," said a little girl.

"Correct," said the teacher. "And what were the women called?"

A sharp little lad answered promptly, "Mischiefs."—Good Business

\* \* \*

The head of a local business recently returned from his annual two weeks with pay.

"How was your vacation?" inquired an office worker.

"Fine," he replied, "but there's nothing like the feel of a good desk under your heels again!"—Louisville Courier-Journal Magazine

\* \* \*

A homemaker was struggling with directions for installing a new wall-type can-opener. After several unsuccessful attempts she gave up and went to get her glasses for a closer look at the directions.

When she returned the opener was neatly in place and the cook was already using it.

"How in the world did you get this up?" the astonished mistress asked. "You've told me you can't read!"

"Well, ma'am," was the reply, "when you can't read, you've just got to think."—Jean Blodgett

\* \* \*

Sunday school teacher: "Why should we always be kind to the poor?"

Pupil: "Because you never can tell when some of them might get rich."



## FRIENDS

*My dog and I are really friends,  
He's learning to do tricks,  
He runs and carries things to me  
Like leaves and balls and sticks.*

*We have such happy times each day,  
In a race he keeps ahead,  
And he's the first to greet me  
When I jump out of bed.*

—A.E.W.

# 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 AUGUST 28, 1955

## A NEW START

READ THE ENTIRE LESSON FROM YOUR BIBLE  
Isaiah 45:1-4, 13 Ezra 1:1-8

MEMORY SELECTION: Turn to me and be saved,  
all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is none  
other. (Isaiah 45:22)



We are beginning a new series of studies today - UNIT IX: "NEW BEGINNINGS". This unit consists of five sessions. The general aim of the unit is "Through a study of the return to Jerusalem and the re-establishment of the Jewish community in the homeland to see the hope for new beginnings today." The aim of the lesson today is "to encourage adults to make a fresh start in the Christian life." It is well enough to keep these aims in view as we proceed with these studies.

The lesson today marks the beginning of the final unit of this quarter's studies. There are three of these units. The first had to do with the downward trend and final fall of the Southern Kingdom. The second told of the Exile, and showed how people can find spiritual strength to live in dark hours of despair. This final unit has to do with new beginnings. In it we will be studying about the restoration of the remnant who made their way back to Jerusalem, and rebuilt the structure of their spiritual existence.

### Lesson Background

King Cyrus was a great conqueror. He began his career as the ruler of a small country by the name of Anshan. His overlord was King Astyages who was the ruler of the Medes. Cyrus soon conquered this king and declared his freedom from him. He then conquered Croesus, king of Lydia, in Asia Minor. This king was the richest man of that age of the world. His next conquest was of Babylonia. The general of his army, Gobryas, took the city of Babylon in 539 B. C. It is said that he did this without a battle. The priests of Babylon had become angry with their king because he had neglected to worship their god, and in a spirit of retaliation opened the gates of Babylon and permitted the army of Cyrus to enter. Some weeks after this Cyrus himself entered the city triumphantly. In 538 he passed a decree declaring that all the captive people who had been brought to Babylonia by his predecessors were free and at liberty to return to their homelands. The Jews were only one group of these people. People were there from other countries as well. All were liberated. Many of them returned to their homeland while others chose to remain in Babylonia.

There were 42,360 Jews who chose to go home, many others decided to remain in Babylonia. There were several reasons why many of these people did not choose to return to their homeland. Some of them had become wealthy; they were good business men. They had become attached to their adopted country and many of them had taken out citizenship papers. Some had formed close friendships with the Babylonians and other had even intermarried with

them. Then, still others dreaded the long and dangerous journey back and they realized that rebuilding the Temple in a desolate country as Palestine had then become, would be quite an undertaking. So they chose to remain in Babylonia. Cyrus encouraged all the Jews to return but did not require that they do so. He did insist, however, that those who remained assist in rebuilding the Temple by making large donations for this purpose. He himself made contributions to this cause and encouraged other citizens of his country to do likewise. One of the finest things that Cyrus did was the restoring the golden vessels to the Jews that Nebuchadnezzar had taken from the Temple when he destroyed it.

On the whole, Cyrus was a wonderful person. He was not only a great man but he was a benevolent man. As stated above, he not only permitted the Jews to return to their homeland, but he also granted the same privilege to other captive people. Some say he did this because he saw the danger of having so many foreigners in the very heart of his empire. But regardless of what prompted him to do it, it was a benevolent act.

Second Isaiah was very high on Cyrus. He spoke of him as being "the Lord's Anointed". The Lord's anointed really means the Messiah. In all the Bible this term was never applied to any other Gentile. In fact it was never applied to any one except king of the Davidic line. In spite of the great compliments paid to him by Second Isaiah Cyrus never became a worshiper of the true God. He lived and died a faithful adherent to the Babylonian religion, but this was not a bad religion. In fact Judaism borrowed much from the religion of their conqueror.

The Jews made their way back to Palestine and began to rebuild Jerusalem and other sections of the country. Their progress in rebuilding was very slow. Some forty years later, under the leadership of Nehemiah, the walls of Jerusalem were completed, the Temple rebuilt and ready for dedication.

### What Cyrus Did For Judaism

It will be noted that this liberation was along religious rather than political lines. The Jews were not permitted to re-establish their nation as an independent country. They were instructed to rebuild the Temple and make it again the headquarters of their religion. This is exactly what they did. They thus began their existence as a spiritual rather than a political people. Judaism was purified.

The captivity itself had done something to the Jews along religious lines. They had gone away from Jerusalem feeling that it was impossible to properly worship God in

a foreign land, but they had learned there that God was present in Babylonia just the same as he was in Palestine. A few outstanding leaders, including some of the early prophets, discovered this fact prior to the time of the Exile, but it took the Exile itself to get the thought across to the rank and file of the people. This was a great forward step in the matter of religion. They learned that God was the God of all and that he was present in all countries. They carried these two facts back with them to Palestine and build them firmly into the doctrines and practices of their religion.

Though Cyrus himself never accepted Judaism he contributed a lot toward its purification. He urged the Jews to return to their homeland, and he himself made considerable donations toward the rebuilding of the Temple. This activity on his part assured the continued religious education of the Jews. It kept Judaism alive as a distinct religion. It is a universally admitted fact that Christianity came up out of Judaism as a flower comes out of the soil. In helping Judaism, therefore, Cyrus was making a moral and spiritual contribution to all future ages of the world. Not only did Christianity come from Judaism, but Christ himself came from the same source.

### A Fresh Start

As we progress with this lesson we need to keep constantly in mind the general theme of the unit: "New Beginnings," and the aim of this particular study: "To encourage adults to make a fresh start in Christian life."

The Bible itself seems to be a book of new beginnings. Over and over again we have the accounts of both nations and individuals having to make a fresh start in life. They would fail and the only hope was to start over again.

We have this idea of a new beginning early in the Bible. God created Adam and Eve and put them in the garden of Eden. He gave them certain commandments to keep. Soon, through disobedience, they fell away. After this one of two things had to take place; they had to either be cast away from fellowship with God forever, or be given a chance to make a new beginning. They were given this chance.

Then, we have the account of the antediluvian world. The human family had become pretty numerous on the earth, but all except Noah and his family had forsaken God. The people became so wicked that they were destroyed by a flood. Then the human race had a new beginning in Noah and his family, who were saved from the flood.

We all remember the twin sons of Isaac and Rebecca - Jacob and Esau. Jacob began his career as a supplanter; in fact that is the meaning of his name. Later, after he had wrestled all night with God in prayer, he got a new name and a new nature. His name was changed to Israel, which means a prince who has power with God and men.

At the invitation of Joseph, who had become the second ruler of the land, the Children of Israel went to Egypt. For several years all went well. Then these people were transformed into slaves. They suffered this cruelty for many years and then were liberated. They made their way to the Promised Land, and there they had a new beginning. They laid the foundations of a nation which gave both religion and Christ to the world.

Moses was founder and early leader of this nation. He began his adult life as a murderer but he had a new beginning and turned out to be the spiritual leader of some of the most religious people who ever lived.

The most important new beginning of all is that which takes place in the heart of the individual who first puts his trust in Christ as his Saviour. Saul of Tarsus experienced this great change. He began his public career as a persecutor of the early Church, but on the Damascus road he experienced a new beginning and turned out to be the greatest Christian the Gospel of Christ ever produced.

### The Lesson For Us

As was true in the olden times, we need new beginnings today. One of the fine things about the whole situation is the fact that human nature has a resilience. Defeated people, by the help of God, can stage a come-back. That is one of the most obvious facts of the history of the human race. That has been done over and over again. We all remember the old saying, "You can't keep a good man down." That is equally true of a bad man provided he is willing to forsake his sins and put his trust in Christ to help him. All around us are the needs for these new beginnings.

Literally thousands of homes could be saved every year from the divorce courts if those involved would only realize that they can have a new beginning. Christ is knocking at the door of every home that is about to go on the rocks, and if admitted he will see to it that home has another chance to succeed. The account of Christ's ability to save has been wisely called "The Gospel of another chance." A heathen poet once wrote a poem entitled "The Land of Beginning Again." In this poem he went on to express a desire for a land where people who had failed could make a new start; a place where sins and mistakes of a life-time could be laid aside, and unhampered by them the individual could go on to success. That is exactly what the Gospel of Christ purposes to do. It will give the sinner and the failing another chance; a new start in life.

There are thousands of nominal church members; people who are Christian only in name. They are failing as professed followers of Christ. Their chief need is a fresh beginning, a new start. These Jews of old had failed religiously. They found themselves in the bonds of captivity. Just as many so-called Christians find themselves in the bonds of evil habits and wrong choices. These Jews needed a new chance; an opportunity to start over again. It was given to them. Many of them took advantage of it. True religion was kept alive in the world because of their choice to start over again. Nominal church members need to make this same choice. The greatest spiritual awakening the world has ever witnessed would take place if church members who are really failing as Christians should reconsecrate their lives to Christ.

The record shows that one out of every five families in the United States move every year. This means that one-fifth of our population are making a new beginning in some strange community every year. The record also shows that if these people do not affiliate themselves with the churches in their new communities during the first six months they usually lose interest in the church.