

BIBLICAL RECORDER

Journal of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina



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Editorial Brevities

A RECENT LETTER from Mrs. R. J. Taylor of Como states that she is now in her ninety-third year and that she has been reading the RECORDER for eighty-two of those years. In renewing her subscription, she says of the RECORDER, "It was in the house when I was born, and I want it in my house when I am gone." The RECORDER appreciates this word from Mrs. Taylor and wishes to extend to her greetings and cordial good wishes.

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WE WERE DELIGHTED to have as a visitor recently Staff Sergeant Joe Morman who has just returned from service in the Army during the last three years or more. He is a native of Port Arthur, Texas, and was a ministerial student in classes of the writer at Baylor University a few years ago. He had been visiting friends in Kenly in this State and is making plans to complete his education and get into a civilian pastorate.

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ON A RECENT visit to the New Hope Church, Raleigh Association, we found Reuben Wilder doing a good job as superintendent of the Sunday school and R. P. Hunt, chairman of the board of deacons. Joe M. Shockley teaches the Men's Bible Class. This good country church is missing the services of Rev. R. H. Satterfield who served as pastor until recently, but the work is going on well and it is hoped that a new pastor will be on the field before long. The RECORDER goes to every resident family of the church.

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BAPTIST INFORMER, official organ of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, colored, gives an interesting and encouraging report on the meeting of the Convention at Oxford, October 30-November 1, with facts and figures on the progress made during the past year. The Convention is now completely out of debt and the total amount raised during the past year for missions and benevolences amounts to \$101,623.34. The church membership is 275,000. It is interesting to note that white and colored Baptist membership in the State combined makes a total of 840,060.

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A LETTER from Brother Bruce V. Hartsell, who is now a student in the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and pastor of the Shepherdsville Baptist Church in Kentucky, states that in the recent list of Seminary students from North Carolina his name was omitted. Not only is Brother Hartsell in the seminary, but Mrs. Hartsell is enrolled in the music school. Mr. Hartsell was formerly pastor of the Franklinton Church in this State. He mentions also two other North Carolina men who have just entered the Seminary: John Lawrence and Archie MacMillan.

* * *

AT THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Baptist General Association of Virginia, held at Lynchburg last month, Dr. R. F. Hough, superintendent of the Baptist Orphanage of Virginia, at Salem, was elected president. Dr. Hough is a native of Norwood in this State and a graduate of Wake Forest Col-

lege. He was superintendent of Sylva Collegiate Institute from 1920 to 1924 and superintendent of the Kennedy Home—1924 to 1928, from which position he went to Salem, Virginia, as superintendent of the Baptist Orphanage there. He is a brother of J. C. Hough, who also served as superintendent of the Kennedy Home for several years. We extend hearty congratulations and good wishes to this native North Carolinian who is making good in a big way in our neighboring state.

* * *

RELIGIOUS News Service reports that Myron C. Taylor, personal representative of President Harry S. Truman to Pope Pius XII, is expected to return to Rome in January, according to Vatican circles. The Presidential envoy has been absent from the Italian capital since his return to the United States last July.

For some reason President Truman, as well as President Roosevelt before him, persists in sending this personal representative to the Vatican despite the protests of practically all religious groups in this country outside of Roman Catholic circles. The protests against this representative at Rome are not because of religious prejudice or narrowness at all, but in support of our cherished American principle of separation of Church and State.

* * *

THE BAPTIST STANDARD of Texas carried an editorial recently with the title, "Dr. W. W. Melton Honored and Promoted." Dr. Melton served for four years as general secretary of the Baptist State Convention of Texas, but resigned to accept the pastorate of the Columbus Avenue Baptist Church, Waco, Texas, beginning December 1. Dr. Melton, before becoming secretary, served for thirty years as pastor of the Seventh and James Street Baptist Church in Waco, and so he goes back to a neighboring church in the same city and he goes to one of the best churches in Texas. While a member of the faculty of Baylor University, the writer had the privilege of serving as supply pastor of the Columbus Avenue Church for a period of eight months. So he takes special interest in the coming of Dr. Melton to this good church.

* * *

THE PASTOR, Dr. Henry E. Walden, Jr., and the Sunday school teachers of the New Hope Church deserve especial recognition for the excellent record which they made at the Roanoke Association Better Bible Teaching Clinic held at Rocky Mount, November 25-30. The Sunday school has 10 teachers and every one of these attended the clinic, five of them every night, three for four nights, one for three nights, and one for two nights. Five other people who were not teachers also attended the clinic. The pastor was kept away one night because of a very important engagement, but attended four nights. If every church in the State would do as well as this one did, we would soon have thousands of efficient and well trained teachers.

J. B. Moore is superintendent in the Sunday school of the New Hope Church, and the

following are teachers: Mrs. Ford Taylor, Mrs. Clifton Turner, O. L. High, Jr., Mrs. J. B. Moore, Mrs. Milton Taylor, Mrs. Geo. R. Dew, Mrs. Grady Robbins, Mrs. Claude Thompson, A. D. Williams, and J. B. Moore (teacher in addition to being superintendent).

* * *

AT THE MEETING of the Ministers' Conference of the Carolina Association, December 3, a motion was passed enthusiastically requesting the secretary of the conference, Brother A. V. Reese, to write to Rev. I. A. Justice expressing to him the love, prayers, and best wishes of these ministers on the occasion of his 94th birthday. In the letter to Brother Justice, the secretary wrote: "No man has ever worked in this association who was so universally loved and appreciated as you are."

The RECORDER joins heartily in congratulations and good wishes to Brother Justice on this occasion. Brother Justice now lives at McCracken's Nursing Home, Asheville.

Brother Reese also writes that good reports are coming in from the 55 churches of the Carolina Association. The First Church, Hendersonville, is planning to erect a new building in 1946 valued at about \$150,000. Rev. N. B. Phillips is moderator of the Ministers' Conference.

* * *

WHEN WILL the RECORDER go back to 24 pages and also to the use of larger type as formerly? some one asks us occasionally. We plan to do this just as soon as possible, but the size of our circulation—more than 35,000, the difficulty of getting paper, and the limited quarters for our printing presses make it impossible to do this immediately. The main problem at present is the building problem. The Bynum Printing Company needs another press, but we do not have room for it in the present Recorder Building. The Convention is very wisely taking steps for either the construction of a new building or the enlargement of the old one. More space is an urgent necessity. This is part of the general problem which we have everywhere, and we feel sure that our readers will be very patient under the circumstances. Please remember that with the smaller type we are publishing just about as many words as before, and we are trying to make the paper just as attractive and helpful as possible.—EDITOR.

* * *

The first page picture this week is a winter scene in Western North Carolina. Somehow, though we so seldom have it at this season in most parts of the State, snow always suggests Christmas time, and we hope you'll take this picture as a Christmas greeting from the staff of the RECORDER.

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Editorial Outlook

TO THE MORE than 35,000 subscribers to the RECORDER and their families we extend greetings and cordial good wishes this Christmas season. We have met so many people and found so many good friends in all parts of North Carolina during the past three years that we wish we could send out very personal greetings to all of them, but that is impossible. In lieu thereof, if your eyes happen to fall on these lines, please take them as conveying a very warm-hearted message to you from the editor and his entire staff:

"May perfect peace within your heart abide
And His great Love be yours this Christmastide."

Why Not Peace and Good Will Everywhere?

JESUS CHRIST, the Prince of Peace, was born more than nineteen hundred years ago, and yet peace and good will prevail in only a small way among the peoples of mankind. Why this delay in the coming of his kingdom? It is because men have not understood and have not accepted him and his kingdom. The coming of Jesus into the world did not automatically make people good; neither does the living Christ do that today. But peace and good will wait on the New Birth and the acceptance of his way of righteousness, love, and unselfish sharing. In a beautiful Christmas pageant we find these words: "Christmas chimes are ringing messages of peace; but your heart knows lasting peace is bought by self-restraint and unselfish sharing. The music tells of good will, but good will comes only of righteousness. The Christmas carols tell us of joy; joy is the fruit of love." Here we find the conditions for peace and good will for individuals, families, communities, and nations—self-restraint and unselfish sharing, righteousness, and love.

Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam writes in the *Christian Herald* for December: "Peace has come. Good will has not. But peace without good will is transient truce."

"The power of the enemy to resist was broken, and peace followed his surrender. Strangely enough, good will is likewise dependent upon surrender, but this surrender is not to military force. It is a surrender of the heart to the Way, the Truth, the Life."

"It is a matter of Christmas presents, the gift of the individual himself to the Christ who was born in Bethlehem."

Roanoke Sunday School Clinic a Great Success

AN ENTHUSIASTIC and well-attended Sunday school clinic was held at Rocky Mount, November 25-30, with churches from three counties, Nash, Edgecombe, and Wilson, participating in the conferences. The clinic opened with a big mass meeting Sunday afternoon with former Governor J. M. Broughton as the main speaker. He stressed the bigness and importance of Sunday school work. Conferences were held each night, Monday through Friday, with an average attendance of 184. Superintendent J. A. Harper of the First Church, Rocky

Mount, was chairman of Committee on Arrangements; Dr. Henry E. Walden, Jr., associational superintendent of training; and Rev. M. M. Johnson, associational Sunday school superintendent. The local committee did an excellent job, and they were ably assisted by other leaders and pastors in the association. We would like to note among others the presence and encouragement of Pastor J. W. Kincheloe of the First Church, Rocky Mount; John T. Coley, moderator of the association; and Mrs. W. D. Farmer, who served as general secretary. It was good to see in the congregation each night Rev. G. N. Cowan, who served as pastor at Apex for many years, and Mrs. C. A. G. Thomas, whose husband was a well-known pastor in the State some years ago.

This clinic was sponsored by the Sunday School Department of the Convention under the direction of L. L. Morgan and G. W. Bullard of Raleigh. The writer was general director of the clinic and also led the adult conferences. The other departmental leaders were: Mrs. N. B. Forehand, Cradle Roll; Mrs. C. R. Hinton, Beginner; Mrs. George Miller, Primary; Mrs. Lillian Rice, Junior; Mrs. C. E. Baucom, Intermediate; Mrs. L. L. Carpenter, Young People. The purpose of this clinic was to encourage and stimulate better Bible study and teaching in our Sunday schools. It is very encouraging to find scores of Sunday school teachers hungry to do more and better work in this important field of Christian education for our people.

God and the Other Fellow

LIKE HIS MASTER, he was a carpenter. He was also a Seventh-Day Adventist, and a pacifist. Desmond T. Doss of Lynchburg, Va., refused to bear arms in World War II. He explained simply: "It is right there in the Ten Commandments. Thou shalt not kill." But Doss did not object to serving as an Army Medical Corpsman. When he was sent overseas, he asked for assignments in the front lines. He felt that God would not let him perish by the sword if he did not live by the sword, and he had a deep sense of duty to his fellowman.

Like most other soldiers, he knew terrible fear. He conquered it with prayer. During the fighting on Guam and Leyte he became famous among the hard-bitten men of the 77th Division for his serene recklessness in the face of death. In the nerve-racking weeks of the Okinawa campaign, his fame grew.

One day last April he climbed a 400-foot escarpment with an assaulting infantry battalion. At the top the attack faltered under a storm of artillery, mortar and rifle fire. But Doss stayed at the exposed summit for hours, lowered 75 wounded men down the rock walls to safety before descending himself, haggard, dirty, miraculously alive. For weeks, after that, he was in and ahead of the front lines. Twice he was wounded. Grenade fragments ripped his legs, knocked him down and out of action. But when other corpsmen tried to carry him back, he crawled off the litter, sent them to another wounded man. Then a shell-burst shattered his arm. He lashed a rifle stock to the arm, managed to crawl hundreds of yards to safety.

One sunny day last week 26-year-old Corporal Desmond T. Doss stood at attention on the White House lawn. President

Harry Truman placed a pale blue ribbon around his neck, shook his hand warmly. As he stepped back—the first conscientious objector in U. S. history to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor—generals, admirals, Cabinet members, his proud parents and his pretty wife applauded enthusiastically.

As a Seventh-Day Adventist, a conscientious objector, and a veteran, Desmond Doss had something to say about war: "Everybody has got to get back to believing in God and the other fellow and his rights."

That might have sounded irrelevant to some, but Desmond Doss knew better.—*Time*, October 22, 1945. Used by permission.

His Star in the East

NEVER SINCE the angels sang hallelujahs on the Judean hills has the East figured so prominently in the eyes of the world as now. Even though there were few who actually knew about that immortal event, the birth of Christ, there were wise men from the East who traveled "even to Bethlehem." We do not know exactly from whence they came, but they followed the star and brought their gifts to the king of kings, even if they did not understand it all.

It was the old story of the East searching for spiritual treasures, even as Jesus likened the Kingdom of Heaven to the merchantman seeking goodly pearls. So often the worship of the East turned to things rather than personality, to images, rocks, trees, fetishes, and divers spirits. The East is accustomed to giving gifts, but now the wise men sought something beyond the gold and frankincense and myrrh, emblematic of the material cultural and spiritual values, even the milk of human kindness. And so we sing:

"We three kings of Orient are;
Bearing gifts we traverse afar."

Yet never before have so many of varying races and colors of men looked to the Light of Bethlehem. It takes all colors to

make the garden of humanity really glorious. In India and China, in Africa and Japan and all the isles of the seas there are those who take up that refrain of the angels—"Glory to God in the highest!"

We are reminded of a conversation with a Parsee (Zoroastrian) British subject and fellow prisoner of Japanese militarists who would have extinguished his star in the East, as he said: "As a child I was taught to look to Western nations for real civilization. But now what have we?" He was only beholding what seemingly those worshipers of the Son of Heaven at Tokyo had learned in methods of death and destruction from the West. Somehow, some way, somebody had failed to let his light shine.

Strangely enough, the East has looked to the West for that ineffable light which lighteth every soul. But the keepers of that Light have allowed it to be so clouded that the East, in its mysticism, can hardly interpret the meaning of it. Man's inhumanity to man can hardly be comprehended at times. And now the world stands in wonder and, alas, aghast at the potential secrets of atomic energy for either the best or the worst.

But now the East comes along with the West to worship. The star that lighted the plains of Bethlehem that night two millenniums since has not been altogether put out. It may be that we all need to learn how to worship anew, as the Christmastide has been so commercialized, and revitalize the sacredness of it, as we bow with all the peoples of the earth in confusion and global dangers. Not only at Bethlehem, but in Jerusalem, in Europe, in Asia, in America, everywhere should men repent and seek the wisdom of the Wonderful Counselor, the real Prince of Peace, in learning to follow him and do his will.

"Sinners, wrung with true repentance,
Doomed for guilt to endless pain,
Justice now revokes the sentence,
Mercy calls you,—break your chains:

Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the new-born King!"

—ARTHUR R. GALLIMORE.

Christmas in a Shattered World

A Message of Assurance

By W. R. Cullom

This is the Christmas message for 1945 which Dr. Cullom has sent to many of his friends. We are publishing it in the **RECORDER** because we want all our readers to be able to share it. Dr. Cullom is professor emeritus of Bible, Wake Forest College.

IN WRITING my word for the Christmas season this year four classes of people are in my mind: (1) Those who are under the necessity of facing an empty chair and of longing for "the sound of a voice that is still"; (2) those who are deeply burdened on account of the vast amount of suffering, sorrow, hunger, sickness and distress that is literally spread abroad over the whole earth; (3) those who are facing the future with misgivings, with anxiety, with apprehension, with dread, with fear; (4) those who are deeply concerned as to what God's will and purpose are for them personally and individually as they face the unparalleled challenge of the task of rebuilding a shattered world. Some have one, some have two, some of us have all of these trying conditions to deal with. May the One who gave us Christmas give us at this time his special presence, his much-needed help, his all-sufficient grace, and his unlimited blessing!

Comfort In Fellowship

SOME ONE has said that "misery loves company." Perhaps a better statement as to this matter would be that all intense feeling longs for fellowship. At least, there is comfort in the assurance that others before us have gone through similar experiences. Only a few examples will be suggested here, but these should suffice: (1) If we think of the situation with those who faced life after that catastrophe which we speak of as Noah's Flood, we must know that theirs was an experience much more difficult and trying than the one that surrounds us; (2) God's Chosen People had to face a situation fully as difficult as our own when Moses led them out of Egypt to go toward the Promised Land; (3) the scattered, harassed, humiliated exiles to whom Jeremiah, Ezekiel and Isaiah (chapters 40-66) ministered were surrounded by conditions fully as difficult and as hard to deal with as those that surround and con-

front us today; (4) when Rome fell into the hands of the barbarians in 476 A.D. the people of Europe stood face to face with tasks and trials that would beggar description; (5) the conflict with the Mohammedans at the break-up of the Middle Ages was one that tried men's souls to their very depths; (6) the hardships and tasks that were experienced and dealt with by our own grandfathers and grandmothers right here in the South two generations ago were as heart-rending and as soul-testing as anything that we see today or probably shall see in this generation. The God who led and helped his people hitherto surely will not fail us now.

What Shall We Do?

THERE IS no question, then, as to the fact that all the peoples of the earth (each of us included) are having to face experiences that are most trying, even excruciating in many cases. What shall we do with these experiences? What can we do?

I venture to suggest six simple things: (1) That we bring ourselves to realize deeply and strongly that our help must come from God; and that his resources are amply sufficient even for those who face the direct difficulties; (2) with this conviction in our souls, that we learn to wait on God in earnest prayer and in humble supplication until our souls shall be reinforced "from on high" for all that is about us, all that is ahead of us, and all that shall be required of us; (3) that we see to it that no root of bitterness, no feeling of resentment, no suggestion of retaliation shall be allowed to find lodgment in our souls; (4) that we believe in God with such fervent earnestness that we shall not lose hope even for those who have tried to destroy all that we have considered most worth while in the world; (5) that while we wait and pray, we shall make sure that we respond promptly, heartily and faithfully as step by step God shall make known to us his will and purpose for us and for the world about us; (6) that we understand thoroughly that absolutely nothing short of this will be anything like a worthy or even an approximately adequate response to the approach of God in Christ which gave us our Christmas with all that it signifies to us (Jno. 1:14; Phil. 2:5-11).

Encouraging Examples

(1) As a direct result of their loyalty to their God, three young Hebrews were cast into the fiery furnace heated seven times hotter than it was wont to be heated. When the king came on a tour of inspection he found "four" walking in the midst of the flames and said, "The form of the fourth is like the Son of God" (Dan. 3:18-25). One of the names given to our Lord in connection with his entrance into the stream of our human life was "Immanuel," which means, "God is with us." Is this not for us the deeper meaning of Christmas?

(2) George Boone was a student in the theological seminary at Fort Worth, Texas, when I saw him. Like so many of us under such circumstances, George was finding the going hard. He stood one day before his window thinking over the situation. A heavily loaded freight train was stalled in trying to make the grade just a few hundred yards from where he stood. An extra engine was brought out from the yards, gave a little help, and off the train went on its way. George said to himself, "I need a double-header in my life." And when he had told me the story he pointed to a large placard hanging on his wall and said, "There it is." And here is what was on the placard: "Have faith and be faithful."

(3) A dear friend of mine was critically ill. I called to see her as often as I could. One morning when I walked in she reached out her feeble hand to me and said, "Brother Cullom, I'm almost gone." I thought so, too, but thought it wise not to say so just then. My reply was this: "Well, Mrs. Blank, we don't know about that: I may go now before you do. But as to which shall go first is a comparatively insignificant matter. Whichever one of us may go first has this assurance from God's Eternal Word: 'The Eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms.'" I made a brief prayer while I held her hand, turned away, and never saw her in the flesh again. When I asked the daughter, who stood by and heard the above conversation with her mother, the

next day whether she had any suggestion as to the funeral service, she said that on my last visit to her mother I had quoted something from the Bible about "the everlasting arms." It comforted her mother so much that if I could she wished I would use that Scripture for the funeral. Accordingly Deuteronomy 33:27 was the text for that service.

(4) A lawyer in England had all his sons (four) killed in World War I. When he brought the last death message to his wife he said, "Jean, we have nothing left but memories." "But such beautiful memories," she faltered between her sobs. On Armistice Day of that year (1918) that lawyer locked himself in his office, got down on his knees and thanked God that his four sons had not died in vain.

(5) A dear friend who has had to spend

a long time in a hospital sent me recently this gem: "The soul would have no rainbows had the eyes no tears."

And so it has been hitherto, so it is now, and so it will be world without end. His presence, his grace, his help, his blessing will make us adequate for whatever duty, whatever trial, whatever task, whatever difficulty may be ahead of us. And with this assurance in our souls as we go forward, we shall sing with the beloved P. P. Bliss,

"So on I go not knowing,
I would not if I might;
I'd rather walk in the dark with God,
Than go alone in the light;
I'd rather walk by faith with him,
Than go alone by sight."

The Christmas Present

By Phillip J. McLean

The author, a former missionary to China and now pastor of Central Baptist Church, Newnan, Georgia, writes that this story is based on an actual incident which was told in a letter from the nurse-wife in the story to Miss Willie F. Harris of Hwa Mei Hospital, American Baptist Mission, Ningpo, China.

MISS HARRIS was getting ready for Christmas. For many months packages had been arriving from America with gifts that she would distribute at the hospital and send to her "daughters" in many parts of China. The new class of student nurses knew they would receive the coveted American dolls. Although the other nurses had received them in earlier years there was probably no gift they would prize more highly than another doll from America.

She checked her lists. There were gifts for each of the staff, the nurses and the employees. There were gifts for the patients who would be in the hospital. Many of these had never known of Christmas. Some of the student nurses would have their first experiences, too, with this Christian celebration.

First, attention had to be given to the "daughters." These were the girls who had come in other years as students and now as graduate nurses were in many parts of China as wives and nurses. Each year Miss Harris sought to send them a Christmas remembrance. Her heart rejoiced that while many had come as students with no knowledge of him who came on the first Christmas, all had gone out as his followers. As gifts were selected for each of them, an entry was made on the list. Finally gifts were marked for all save Mei-ing. What could she send to her in that village in the far northwest where she had gone with her doctor husband who now served in the army?

She got out the last letter from Mei-ing. It told of happiness in that distant home. "God has been good to us," she wrote. "I now have three sons. Little Siao San came to us in June." That suggested that she send some toys for the children. What would she send Mei-ing? Her eyes were caught by a beautiful copy of Raphael's Sistine Madonna that some one in America had sent for a gift. That was it. She would send the picture to Mei-ing.

Some weeks later a small package arrived at the Wu home. The toys, so strange, received the welcome that only children can give where such are rare. The picture was hung on the wall in a place of honor. Mei-ing told its story to her sons and the children of neighbors who had never heard of Christmas and why people celebrated such a day. Visitors commented on the peculiarities of western art and asked the meaning of the picture.

It was a happy home despite the fact they were so far from the old home. Dr. Wu served with an army unit that had been sent to this region to maintain order and to watch the Communists who had made the "Long March" from the south to this region in the northwest. There were occasional clashes and raids and some trouble with bandits, but for the most part a truce existed and there was talk of negotiations for a peaceful settlement.

Trouble Comes to the Wu Home

THE CALM was broken one summer morning when a soldier dashed into the Wu home crying, "Wu Sz-mu! Wu Sz-mu! Lai! Lai! Tu-fei! Tu-fei! Ai-yah! Ai-yah!" (Mrs. Wu! Mrs. Wu! Come! Come! Bandits! Bandits! Oh! Oh!)

His words piled themselves together in such a torrent that they revealed no more than some tragic happening.

Mrs. Wu met him with anxious face but sufficient composure to seize his arms and try to shake some coherence into his words. "Stop!" she cried. "What are your words? What are your words?"

With great effort the man finally got out his story. "Four rough-dressed men came to the dispensary a little while ago. They said they wanted some medicine. When Dr. Wu came in, they would not hear his words but began to take what they wanted of dressings and medicines. They tied us up; but when

they left, they decided to take Wu I-sen with them. Just now some soldiers came and found us. I hurried to tell you."

No second word was needed to identify the raiders. All knew they had come from the Communists to the north. So much time had passed that now pursuit would be of no avail.

Night brought a weight of loneliness to Mrs. Wu. Friends went back to their homes. She settled the older boys behind the curtains of their bed. Little Siao San slept peacefully in her arms. The lamp flickered and then found new life. Mrs. Wu found her eyes on the picture. It seemed to draw new radiance from the increased light. She looked to the face of the mother in the picture. Many times before the picture had seemed to bring her a strange sense of peace and strength. Tonight she needed help so greatly. Could she find faith and courage for this trial?

The days become weeks, but there was no word from Dr. Wu. Mrs. Wu found much to keep her busy. The children required her care and now that the doctor was gone, she was the only one with a knowledge of western medicine. Daily she went to the dispensary. Neighbors sought her help in the hope that she could do what the old-fashioned Chinese doctors and the priests could not do. She was tired and worn when night came. It was good that she had to stop and give milk to little Siao San. As he nursed, her eyes would be drawn back to the picture. There was help for her spirit as she looked upon another mother holding her Child. She was grateful that Miss Harris had sent the picture as a Christmas present, but more because of God's gift of which it told.

Strangers Come to the Village

ALMOST FOUR months passed. The major part of the soldiers at the post had moved out seeking to capture a bandit gang that had been making raids in the harvest season. One day a party of strangers drifted into the village. People were at once suspicious. Merchants quickly moved their best goods into hiding. Families secreted their valuables. The visitors were not slow in asking for what they wanted. When it was not delivered, they knew how and where to search. They moved in pairs about the shops and houses.

Two of the strangers came into the Wu home. Mrs. Wu quickly assured them that she had nothing they would want in her humble home. They gave no heed to her words, but proceeded to look for themselves. Suddenly she was startled to hear one of the men say to his companion in a dialect strange to that region, "We go. We will not trouble those who live here. Their God was once my God."

Mrs. Wu was speechless for a moment, for the man spoke in her home dialect. Then, almost hysterically, she cried out to him, "What do you mean by saying that our God was once your God? How is it you speak my native dialect?"

Startled by this outburst, the man looked at her as if seeing some one he had seen long before. Then he pointed with his chin to the picture. "I see that picture," he replied. "I used to see it many years ago and to know the foreign doctrine. I thought I had forgotten it all. I have put these superstitions out of my thought. I do not want you to

'eat bitterness.' We go."

"But," pleaded Mrs. Wu, "what do you mean? We come from the same place. You speak my dialect. You know my God. You must help me. You must!"

The man's face relaxed a bit. Then he spoke. "As a boy," he began, "I went to a Christian school. There I saw that picture and learned the story about it. Once I thought I would have him for my God. Then the new revolution came. I wanted to help our country. I joined the 'Red Society.' I learned how foreigners came with this new religion to hide their imperialism and to enslave us. I know now that all religion is superstition." Turning again and looking at the picture he said quietly, "I have come far from home. I thought I had forgotten until I saw that picture."

"You must help me," pleaded Mrs. Wu. "You must help me! I have eaten much bitterness here. My husband was the doctor here. He helped people. He didn't harm any one. Four moons ago some men came here and took him away. You must know about that. You must know where he is. I have had no word. Is he safe and well? Can't you do something? We have common ties. How can I get him back? Please help me."

The man looked again at the picture. He shook his head. He would admit nothing nor would he make any promises. In silence he and his companion left the house.

That night Mrs. Wu prayed long and earnestly. She looked at the picture and marveled that it should have so influenced so rough a looking man as the visitor of the morning. She wondered if she dared hope that anything would come of it.

It was almost dusk on the following day. Three men came into the village. They made their way to the Wu home. The doctor came home. The faces of the men who brought him lost some of their hardness as his wife and children welcomed him. One of the men walked over and looked at the picture. There was much rejoicing in the family and when they looked around to speak again to the men they were nowhere to be seen. They had slipped away into the night.

The Wu family stood before the picture. What a story it told! What a Christmas present it was! Telling the story of God's Christmas Present to mankind, coming as a Christmas present to a faraway village in a distant corner of China, it had been the means of bringing back a father to his family. In the little home the Wu family joined in a prayer of thanksgiving to the God whose miracles are not all in the past.

Let's Not Forget the Others

The leaders and members of all religious faiths are being called on nationally and locally to respond to another opportunity to help relieve the suffering in war-scarred lands.

Twenty-five million people overseas received clothing contributed by the American people last spring in the United National Clothing Collection. Members of most religious faiths united in support of that drive. Some religious groups also made separate clothing appeals principally among their own memberships. But many millions overseas

are suffering and dying because they still lack clothes, shoes and bedding.

The Victory Clothing Collection for overseas relief, January 7-31, was organized to help them. It is the only nation-wide drive in January for the collection of clothing to be distributed without any discrimination whatever—religious, political, or racial—to the victims of Axis aggression. The national goal of this drive on behalf of UNRRA (United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration) is 100,000,000 garments, in addition to shoes and bedding.

The Victory Clothing collection committee in your community looks to your church for the utmost support in the following ways:

1. Contact the campaign in your community NOW to decide how your members can most effectively serve.
2. Impress on your members the urgent need for this humanitarian program.
3. Assign specific duties to each group—men's, women's, and young people's organizations.
4. Offer your gifted speakers to present the appeal at public meetings and school assemblies, and on local radio programs.
5. Display clothing appeal posters on organization bulletin boards.
6. Offer available space for clothing depots, and man them.
7. Ask members with cars to transport clothing to depots.
8. Urge contributors to attach friendly letters to clothing gifts. Remember, these expressions of good will can help heal the spirit, while clothes protect the body.
9. Impress on EACH member that the Victory Clothing collection starts in his own home. Local newspapers and radio stations will announce details of collections in each community.

NOTICE TO CHURCHES AND PASTORS

I have decided that it is wise to call your attention to the fact that reports have come to me that in some cases there are those who pose as returned missionaries, and thereby gain entrance to our churches. In some cases these people may be representatives of our Foreign Mission Board, while in others they may not be. Some of them may be termed "independent" and may in reality know little or nothing about our Baptist program. If pastors or churches are in any doubt at all, they should write to the Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Virginia, which board will be glad to furnish information about any of our own missionaries.—M. A. HUGGINS.

Books Received

- JIMMY MOVES TO BAYVIEW. By Mabel Garrett Wagner. Friendship Press. Paper, 25 cents.
- FAMOUS LEADERS OF INDUSTRY. Fifth Series. By Joseph A. Moore. L. C. Page and Company. Cloth, \$1.75.
- TRAILER TOWN. By Mary Brewster Hollis. Friendship Press. Cloth.
- SPIRITUAL PROBLEMS OF THE TEACHER. By Ordway Tead. The Hazen Pamphlets. Number Twelve. Single copies, 10 cents each. Fifty or more, 5 cents each.
- THE MODERN WONDER BOOK OF THE AIR. By Norman Carlisle, Reginald Cleveland, Jonathan Wood. The John C. Winston Co. Cloth, \$2.50.

Sunday School LESSON • • • •

R. PAUL CAUDILL

The Message of Christmas to the World

Lesson for December 23
Bible Material: Luke 2

As we approach the Christmas season, we find ourselves looking out upon a world that is still largely without Christ. Of the two hundred and fifty billion peoples of the world, there are still perhaps 70 per cent of them to whom the Christmas story is either unknown or else but passing fancy. Here in our own beloved America, "Christian America," they say, there are perhaps as many as sixty million souls without Christ and hence without hope.

For many, here and throughout the world, Christmas will be but another season of revelry and dissipation. Commercialism and holiday excesses will largely rob the event of its hallowed significance. The mistletoe and the holly and the tinsel and the ornate trappings of colorful fancy will all but obscure its real significance.

What can we do as followers of Christ, as Sunday school teachers and church workers to help our thoughtless, unbelieving world to appreciate the true spirit of Christmas? We can do nothing better than to endeavor to interpret to the world the meaning of his advent, as set forth in the Scriptures, and then in simple, quiet, and unaffected manner live the message—herald the story both in word and in deed!

Joy

It is difficult to know just where to begin in our effort to interpret in mere words the meaning of the Christmas message. Perhaps there is no better word to begin with than the word "joy." "And the angel said unto them, Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people" (Luke 2:10). Luke tells us that the shepherds were at first "sore afraid" when the angels appeared unto them with their heavenly announcement, but that their grave fears were soon dispelled. The tidings they were about to announce to the world were to be the world's greatest joy. "Stop being afraid," they said.

And Christmas means just that—joy, joy unspeakable—to those who will to know its true meaning. For long centuries the children of Israel had longed for their Messiah, their deliverer, and now he had come. The poor, the broken-hearted, the captive, the down-trodden, all the bruised and bleeding hearts of the sin-cursed world would find in him the perfect answer to their every need, if they would but seek it. Joy, such joy as the world had never dreamed of, was now theirs for the asking!

In many hearts, to be sure, there will be felt the grievous weight of the heavy hand of sorrow at this Christmas time, because of separations and disappointments that have come incident to the war; but throughout it all there can be heard the age-long message of comfort, "And we know that to them that love God all things work together for good." There is still "joy" for us in Christ Jesus. His grace is sufficient unto every need.

Salvation

The real basis for the joy of the world, however, lies in the salvation that is wrought in Christ as Redeemer. His incarnation has joyful meaning only in proportion as human hearts come to know him as Saviour and Lord. It was for this cause that he came into the world.

Said the angel of annunciation, "And thou shalt call his name Jesus; for it is he that shall save his people from their sins" (Matt. 1:21). And, again, the words of Paul reassure us: "Faithful is the saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners" (1 Tim. 1:15). But, best of all, we have the testimony of his own words: "For the Son of man came to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10).

His birth was the literal fulfillment of the prophetic words of Micah (5:2) uttered more than six hundred years before: "But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, which art little to be among the thousands of Judah, out of thee shall one come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel: whose goings forth are from old, from everlasting." Well might the angel say unto the shepherds, "I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all the people; for there is born to you this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord."

This salvation that is in Christ is for the whole world. God is no respecter of persons. The ground about the cross is level. It was God's love for the world, the whole world, that caused him to give his only begotten Son "that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have eternal life."

If every believer the world around could but understand that the real meaning of Christmas is a way of salvation, a plan of redemption, and would bend his every nerve and sinew to the proclamation of that grand truth, we could experience afresh something of the hallowed joy that surrounded the shepherds on Bethlehem's night.

Praise

Christmas is a time of praise also. We are told by Luke that "suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest.'" For the first time in the history of the world infinite God and finite man were met in perfect union. The Son of God had become incarnate. He had taken the form of a servant, "being made in the likeness of men; and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself" (Phil. 2:7f). Never before was there such cause for praise. Even the heavens were made to echo with the joy of the glad hour. Sweet oratorios were sung by angelic choirs.

It may be difficult for many to sing with accustomed joy, at this Christmas time, because of pressing grief from fruits of war; but we must sing, we must praise him still.

Glad paeons of praise must still break forth from sincere hearts and ascend unto our God.

Mingled with the word of mouth, however, must be our loving deeds, if we are to observe Christmas as he would have us. This is no time for the mere singing of Christmas carols. We must go beyond mere words of praise. Without attendant acts of loving service our words will become as sounding brass, or clanging cymbals. Our world is broken and torn and bleeding from the ugly wounds of war. Unless we stoop, as we sing our songs of praise, in an effort to bind up those wounds and heal the broken hearts, we will have missed the Christmas spirit. Let us praise Him both in word and in deed, for there are opportunities for doing so on every hand—both at home and abroad.

Peace

Last of all, the Christmas message is a message of peace: "And on earth peace among men in whom he is well pleased." We need to make much of this phase of our Christmas message this year. Never before have so many hearts in so many different parts of the world yearned for the blessings of peace.

Peace, of course, is possible in the truest sense only among men "in whom he is well pleased," as the American Standard Version puts it (Luke 2:14). This makes our responsibility, as Christians, all the greater. We must go with the message, and go quickly, to every part of the field, and the field is the world. Only in this way can the peace for which all our hearts yearn come, and abide.

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News: PERSONALITIES and EVENTS

RECORDER circulation, December 12—35,312.

On November 25 the amount of the Thanksgiving offering of the First Church, High Point, was \$877.37. The goal was \$700.

Rev. A. C. Lawson has resigned as pastor of the Bailey Memorial Baptist Church of Greensboro. He is available for pulpit supply, pastoral, or evangelistic service. He resides at 1016 S. Aycock Street, Greensboro, N. C.

Word has been received of the accidental death of Mrs. A. T. Robertson of Louisville, Ky. Mrs. Robertson was the widow of the late Dr. A. T. Robertson, for many years professor of Greek at the Seminary, and was the daughter of Dr. Broadus.

Wingate Church, Union Association, is now subscribing to the RECORDER on the Every-Family Plan, with 125 subscriptions. Congratulations to Pastor David K. Shelton and the church!

Rev. J. H. Wilson and Rev. O. G. Dellinger, both of Bryson City, assisted Pastor L. P. Smith in revival services in the Hayesville Baptist Church, November 18-27. There were five conversions. One father rededicated himself after his little daughter was converted.

We received a Christmas story for the Home Circle page too late for publication, but maybe it will be used another year. The sender failed to send his or her name, so it cannot be acknowledged. As a general rule, we do not publish contributions unless the contributor is identified. However, there could be no objection to this little Christmas story.

High View Church, Beulah Association, entered the Every-Family Plan of subscribing to the RECORDER in November. Twenty-three copies of the paper go to homes in this church. R. W. Hovis of Timberlake is pastor. We congratulate him and his people, and hope that they will find the RECORDER worth while.

We appreciate contributions even though often we cannot find space for them. We wish to acknowledge a poem from Miss Janie Blackmore of Warsaw, which we have not been able to publish so far.

First Church, St. Pauls, W. Earl Robinson, pastor, had contributed \$454.73 to the Thanksgiving offering for the Orphanage by the first of December, and it was hoped that additional gifts would bring the total to \$500.

Lincolnton First Church, South Fork Association, subscribes to the RECORDER on the Every-Family Plan. One hundred and forty-eight copies of the RECORDER go every week to this good church, of which O. D. Moore is pastor.

Chaplain Charles A. Francis of Waynesville, formerly pastor at Winterville, is now on terminal leave and is making his home

at Bethel in Pitt County, girlhood home of Mrs. Francis. Chaplain Francis served three and a half years in the Army and attained the rank of captain.

Dr. and Mrs. Zeno Wall were back in Shelby on Sunday, December 2, after Dr. Wall, pastor of the First Church, Shelby, had participated in a ten days revival and Bible conference in Live Oak, Florida.

The First Church, High Point, is making an effort to pay in full the balance of its indebtedness by the end of this year. The amount due is \$17,000, and nearly \$4,000 was in hand to be applied on this at the beginning of December.

Twenty-two young people from the membership of the First Baptist Church of Canton, where Rev. Richard A. Kelly is pastor, are pursuing their education in various schools of higher learning in North Carolina, Virginia, Kentucky, and Georgia.

Attention, Readers!

This is the last issue of the BIBLICAL RECORDER for 1945. According to the usual custom, an issue will not be published the last week in December. So do not expect a RECORDER again until January 2, 1946.

In the meantime, we wish you every one a truly happy Christmas season.

Tom S. Lawrence, who has been missionary of the Pilot Mountain Association for several years, with headquarters at Winston-Salem, has accepted the call to become pastor of the First Church, Cliffside, in the Sandy Run Association, and will assume his duties there January 1.

Dr. Hubert M. Poteat, Jr., has just been promoted to the rank of Commander. A son of Dr. and Mrs. H. M. Poteat of Wake Forest, he is attached to the staff of the Naval Hospital in Philadelphia.

This year the West Washington Baptist Church of Washington, D. C., is presenting its twenty-first White Christmas Pageant, entitled "The Blessings of Peace." The interesting feature about these pageants is that they have all been original productions planned by members of the church. The present pastor of the church, Charles B. Austin, was formerly at Laurinburg, in North Carolina.

The Rosemont Baptist Church, Charleston, recently closed a week's revival. Rev. John L. Coley of Raleigh, N. C., did the preaching. All who heard his messages were deeply stirred. There were eleven who came forward to join the church by baptism. Rev. A. G. Todd, pastor of the church, had charge of the singing. His Junior Choir learned many choruses. It was truly a great week.—*The Baptist Courier.*

The Wake Forest Enlargement Campaign, under the direction of R. R. Jackson, was

put on in Nash and Edgecombe counties in December. William D. Clark, superintendent of the East Carolina Training School in Rocky Mount, served as general chairman. Co-chairman were Ray Bandy for Rocky Mount, Dr. J. Grover Raby for Edgecombe County, and Rev. Guy Moore for Nash County. The goal set for this area was \$300,000, and at last reports the campaign was going well.

Rev. Oren Bradley, who became missionary of the Blue Ridge Association a few months ago, has begun publication of *Blue Ridge News*, a mimeographed bulletin giving information about the activities of the churches in the association, making announcements, etc. We have received the first copy, "No. 1—December and January."

The Ellerbe Church in the Pee Dee Association, Frank Moore, pastor, has adopted the Every-Family plan for subscriptions to the RECORDER. This gives this church 68 subscriptions, the paper going to every, resident family of the church. Hearty congratulations and good wishes to Pastor Moore and the people of his church.

Miss Mary Elizabeth Moore, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. William H. Moore of Winston-Salem, was married on Sunday, December 2, in Winston-Salem to Mr. Lucius Edward Teasley. The couple will be at home at 428 South Lumpkin Street, Athens, Ga. The bride's father was formerly connected with the Baptist State Convention, and Mrs. Teasley is a 1945 graduate of Meredith College.

Invitations have been received to the marriage of Miss Doris Goerch, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Goerch of Raleigh, to Mr. Harry Perryman Horton, on Saturday, the twenty-second of December, at eight o'clock in the evening, First Baptist Church, Raleigh. Miss Goerch, who has been assisting her father in editing *The State* magazine the last few years, is an active member of the Raleigh First Church.

John A. Morgan, Sr., was separated from the service October 15, 1945, after having served in the chaplaincy since March, 1943. His rank was that of captain and he served overseas for 23 months. Chaplain Morgan has been called as pastor of Central Church, Spruce Pine, N. C. He received the A.B. degree from Wake Forest College in 1929, and prior to that was a student for a time at the University of North Carolina. He has held pastorates at Durham, Apex, Raleigh, and Nebo, in this State.

We have been graciously received by the people of the Beavertown Baptist Church, Asheville. When we arrived on the field October 2, we found the work going forward in a most enthusiastic way, despite the fact the church had been without a pastor for some months. It is a great joy to labor with these fine Christian people.

It was a privilege to have Rev. R. R. Linville, pastor of the Flat Creek Baptist Church, to preach for us in our revival meeting. Brother Linville brought soul-stirring

messages, from God's Word. Thirteen young people were added to the church by baptism. We have recently observed Every-Member Canvass, which proved very successful.

The church paid the expense of their pastor to the State Convention in Raleigh; also they have showered us with many pantry gifts, for which we are grateful.—W. E. WALKER, Pastor.

On Sunday evening, December 2, at 7:30 o'clock, a memorial service was held for the fifteen young men from the First Church, High Point, who gave their lives in World War II. Included in the service was the dedication of the church library as a memorial to these young men. A bronze plaque, a picture, and book plates were placed as suitable markers. W. Wilbur Hutchins is pastor of this church.

Dr. Ellis A. Fuller recently held an eight-day revival for First Baptist Church, Anderson, S. C., of which Dr. F. C. McConnell is pastor. Large crowds attended and there was evidence of the presence of the Holy Spirit in great power. Approximately 100 united with the church during the meeting, sixty of these coming on the last day.

Temple Baptist Church, Durham, Rev. H. G. Hammett, pastor, has recently adopted a budget of \$60,000 for 1946. With the canvass as yet incomplete, over \$46,000 is already in sight from the pledges turned in at the office. A heartening fact concerning the pledges made is that some three hundred have pledged to tithe. The budget for 1946 is divided among three objects—the building fund, local expenses, and the Co-operative Program.

A daily press report states that century-old Mill Creek Baptist Church, near Roxboro, was completely destroyed Sunday night, December 2, by a fire which started in the basement. The regular meeting of the BTU was being held at the time and members, assisted by Co-vel firemen, removed all the furnishings, but were unable to save the building because of lack of water. The building was valued at \$10,000 and there was little or no insurance. It was thought the fire spread from the basement furnace.

We quote the following lines from the November 11 bulletin of the First Church, Shelby, Dr. Zeno Wall, pastor: "Thursday night our meeting closed, but the revival will go on for a long time. Your pastor regards it as one of the best meetings the church has ever had. The congregations have been uniformly large; the singing by the congregation and the three choirs, very inspiring; the fellowship rich and beautiful and the preaching by Dr. Middleton plain, passionate, scholarly, scriptural, searching and stirring." There have been 140 members baptized into the First Church, Shelby, this year.

Robert W. Williams became pastor of Mt. Hebron Church, South Mountain Association, the third of last March, and since that time there has been much effort put into the work of God, with good results. We have had two revivals since he has been with us, with 25 additions. There have been three study courses, one in the Sunday school and two in the Training Union. Our budget for last year was \$1,000. This year it came up to

\$2,500. Monday night, December 3, brought to a climax a series of ten nights of singing school. We also have a parsonage under construction.—MRS. R. A. BRITAIN, Church Reporter.

The three state executive secretaries of Arizona, California, and New Mexico, respectively, are asking the Woman's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention that they be given funds from the 1946 Annie W. Armstrong offering for the erection of church houses in these pioneer states.

In a letter to Mrs. G. R. Martin of Norfolk, Va., president of the W. M. U., they point out that 47 new churches were organized in this area during the past year, and that there are more than one hundred churches without houses of worship. They are too weak to build without assistance and there are no mother churches to help them. The statement is made that fifty per cent of the people of the West are without the gospel of Jesus Christ. The secretaries are asking for \$200,000, which would be handled by the Home Mission Board.

Special Attention: Recorder Representatives and Pastors!

Immediately after you have received the FIRST NOTICE of expiration, please get busy on the renewal of your club to the BIBLICAL RECORDER. A delay in sending the renewal list very often causes a club to be dropped one week and then re-entered a week or two later. This makes a great deal of additional work for us, and is an inconvenience to the subscribers. Promptness in sending in renewals will be greatly appreciated. Before sealing your report, be sure that the following information is included: The name of the church, the name of the association, the name of the pastor, and the name of the RECORDER representative.—EDITOR.

"The Gospel of Great Joy" will be the subject of the North Carolina Baptist Hour radio broadcast on Sunday morning, December 23. Dr. Broadus E. Jones, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Raleigh will be the speaker, and his message will be broadcast at 8:30 a. m. over these stations: WPTF, Raleigh; WSOC, Charlotte; and WSJS, Winston-Salem.

Dr. Charles E. Maddry of Raleigh, secretary emeritus of the Foreign Mission Board, will speak on "The Gospel and the Mission Enterprise" on Sunday morning, December 30, in the last message of the 1945 series of North Carolina Baptist Hour radio broadcasts. He will be heard at 8:30 a. m. over WPTF, Raleigh; WSJS, Winston-Salem; and WSOC, Charlotte. On the first Sunday in January the Southern Baptist Hour Series of radio broadcasts will begin. On January 6, Dr. W. Marshall Craig, pastor of the Gaston Avenue Church, Dallas, Texas, will speak on "The Lordship of Christ." Dr. Craig was formerly pastor in North Carolina.

Chaplain (Colonel) Ivan L. Bennett of Ash, Brunswick County, has been awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for services as chief chaplain of Army forces in the Pacific, according to information received by his

wife, who has been making her home in the Raleigh Apartments here during the war years. Colonel Bennett is serving on the staff of Gen. Douglas MacArthur, who made the presentation of the award. Colonel Bennett has been in the Army 27 years and has been on duty in the Pacific since April, 1942. He is the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. H. I. Bennett of Ash.—The News and Observer, Raleigh, December 7, 1945.

Among visitors in recent weeks have been Pastor Woodrow Robbins of the Leland Church, Wilmington Association, and U. L. Rourke and S. A. Sue, lay members of the same church; Pastor J. M. Johnson of Durham Memorial Church; Rev. J. R. Everett of Colerain; Pastor L. W. Fields of Norwood and R. A. Kendall, superintendent of the Sunday school in the same church; Rev. C. R. Hinton of West Albemarle Church and George A. Rogers, member of the same church; Rev. J. A. Seymour, pastor of Grace Church, Albemarle, and Lloyd Pickler, superintendent of the Sunday school of Grace Church; Mrs. James Gillis and Mrs. Arthur Denny, members of Sharon Church, Flat River Association; Mrs. George R. Dew, member of New Hope Church, Wilson County; Dr. J. R. Moseley, Macon, Ga.; Chaplain (Lt. Col.) A. L. McKnight, a Baptist, native of Mississippi, graduate of Mississippi College and Southern Baptist Seminary, now with Headquarters First Army, Fort Bragg, N. C.

From Little River Currents, bulletin edited by Miss Zula Rogers, missionary for the Little River Association, we learn that several new pastors have come to the association, or soon will come: Rev. Joe Belcher of Buie's Creek has begun work at Bethel and Pleasant Memory; Rev. T. H. Williams, Raleigh, has come to Rawls; and Dr. A. Paul Bagby of Louisburg will begin work at Buie's Creek, January 1.

The bulletin also announces that Rev. L. J. Atkinson has resigned the pastorate of the Antioch Church, but that their friends still hope that he and Mrs. Atkinson may still be led to remain rather than go to Virginia as they now plan.

Mrs. D. B. Andrews, associational W.M.U. president, recently organized a W.M.S. in the Kennebec Church of the Little River Association. Eighteen of the fine women of these churches met on November 22 to make plans for the quarter's work. Mrs. Daisy Haire is president of the new organization.

Among the chaplains who were separated from the service during November were:

Chevis F. Horne, who was educated at Campbell College, Wake Forest College, and the Southern Baptist Seminary, from which he received the Th.M. degree in 1939. He was pastor at Martinsville, Va., from 1939-42. He attained the rank of captain during his service in the chaplaincy.

Clarence E. Hobgood of Hertford, N. C., who is a graduate of Wake Forest College, and attended the Southern Baptist Seminary, and received the B.D. degree from Yale Divinity School in 1940. He held a pastorate at Oxford from 1934 to 1936, and at Hertford from 1940 to 1942. He served as chaplain from 1942 until he was separated from the service in November, 1945. He attained the rank of captain and served 30 months overseas.

The HOME CIRCLE

A Christmas Carol

Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas to-night!
Christmas in lands of the fir-tree and pine,
Christmas in lands of the palm-tree and vine,
Christmas where snow-peaks stand solemn and white,
Christmas where cornfields lie sunny and bright,
Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas to-night!

Christmas where children are hopeful and gay,
Christmas where old men are patient and gray,
Christmas where peace, like a dove in its flight,
Broods o'er brave men in the thick of the fight,
Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas to-night!

For the Christ-child who comes is the Master of all,
No palace too great and no cottage too small;
The angels who welcome Him sing from the height,
"In the City of David, a King in His Might."
Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas to-night!

Then let every heart keep its Christmas within.
Christ's pity for sorrow, Christ's hatred for sin,
Christ's care for the weakest, Christ's courage for right,
Christ's dread of the darkness, Christ's love of the light,
Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas to-night!

So the stars of the midnight which compass us round
Shall see a strange glory, and hear a sweet sound,
And cry, "Look! the earth is aflame with delight,
O sons of the morning, rejoice at the sight."
Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas to-night!

—PHILLIPS BROOKS.

A Christmas Visitor

Daddy, Archie and May went to the woods to get a Christmas tree, and found just what they wanted—a straight, bushy little pine.

"There is something I must cut off," said Archie.

"No, no!" cried May, holding his hand. "Let it stay. It is a caterpillar's house."

May was right. One Indian summer day a caterpillar came to the little pine tree and thought to himself, "What a nice place to sleep."

So he made himself a house. He did not leave even a window to look out.

One day as the tree stood in the parlor he grew warm.

"It must be spring at last," he thought.

So he poked a hole in the wall of his house and out he came, but he was not a caterpillar!

"Oh, see the lovely butterfly!" cried May. He flew to the treetop bough; and the children said there was nothing on the tree so pretty as the butterfly.—*Story World*.

When a star shone over Bethlehem, when Wise Men and humble shepherds knelt by a manger crib, when a song was heard in the Syrian night, these were the tokens that a Saviour had come, to be to all mankind an Everlasting Light, a Prince of Peace, a Shining Hope. Nothing in the long gray centuries has annulled the message and meaning of our Christmas faith. It remains the Hope

of the world and the Peace of the human heart.—DAVID K. BARNWELL, in *The Calendar* of the First Baptist Church, Summit, N. J.

May you have
The gladness of Christmas
Which is hope,
The spirit of Christmas
Which is peace,
The heart of Christmas
Which is love.

Keeping Christmas

Are you willing to stoop down and consider the needs and the desires of little children; To remember the weakness, the loneliness of people who are growing old; To stop asking how much your friends love you and ask yourself whether you love them enough;

To bear in mind the things that other people have to bear on their hearts; To try to understand what those who live in the same house with you really want, without waiting for them to tell you; To make a grave for your ugly thoughts—and a garden for your kindly feelings with the gate open—are you willing to do these things, even for a day?

Then you can keep Christmas.

Are you willing to believe that love is the strongest thing in the world—stronger than hate, stronger than evil, stronger than death—and that the blessed life that be-

gan in Bethlehem nineteen hundred years ago is the image and brightness of the Eternal Love?

Then you can keep Christmas.

And if you can keep it for a day, why not always?

But you can never keep it alone.—*Ex.*

Same Old Santa

Same old Santa, same old joys,
Same old dolls and sleds and toys;
Same old holly, same old tree,
Same old gifts for cherubs wee;
Same old carol, same old light,
Same old stockings hung at night;
Same old words of merry cheer,
Same old Christmas! Seems to me,
Same good wishes for the year.
That's the way it ought to be.

—Selected.

Spice Box

"Lady," said the beggar, "could you give me a quarter to get where my family is?"

"Certainly, my poor man, here's a quarter. Where is your family?"

"At the movies."—*The Dickinsonian*.

* * *

"I'll be good for a penny, mother," coaxed little William, hopefully.

"Oh, Willie," replied his mother, "why can't you be like your father? He isn't good for a penny. He's good for nothing."—*Christian Science Monitor*.

* * *

"And how are you getting on at school, Jimmy?"

"Oh, fine! I'm learning words of four cylinders now."—*Ex.*

* * *

TEACHER: "What are the products of the West Indies?"

BOY: "I don't know."

TEACHER: "Come, come! Where do you get your sugar from?"

BOY: "We borrowed it from the next-door neighbor before rationing."—*Ex.*

* * *

MARY: "What relation is the doormat to the footscrapper?"

JANE: "A sister."

MARY: "No; guess again."

JANE: "Mother."

MARY: "Wrong. A stepfather."—*Copied*.

* * *

PERCIVAL: "Daddy, do they raise political plums from seeds?"

DADDY (who never had one): "No, young man. Political plums are more often the result of a bit of clever grafting."—*Clipped*.

* * *

TEACHER: Jimmy, would you please tell us what is your favorite flower?

JIMMY: Chrysanthemums.

TEACHER: Spell chrysanthemums for us.

JIMMY: Come to think of it, I like roses better.—EDITH AUTRAN, in *'Teens*.

* * *

"While I was in Europe I saw a bed twenty feet long and ten feet wide."

"Sounds like a lot of bunk."—*Newport Recruit*.

Woman's Missionary UNION

MRS. J. S. FARMER, Acting Executive Secretary

MRS. J. CLYDE TURNER, Acting President
MISS ORA ALFORD, Treasurer
MISS KATHRYN ABEE, Young People's Secretary
MISS RUTH KELLER, Field Worker

"Christmas for Christ"

By MRS. J. CLYDE TURNER

This has been the approved motto of Woman's Missionary Union for the Christmas season for a number of years. May it become our definite program for this present season. Never has there been so great urgency that this be followed.

Never before in our lifetime and methinks never again will the need and opportunity be so great as it is today. World needs have been presented in *Royal Service* and Week of Prayer programs. Let us now make our offering, remembering that only as we serve our fellow man can we serve Jesus Christ. May our offering be a worthy one and may we be able to pray as did Robert Louis Stevenson—"Help us to rightly remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the Wise Men. Close the door of hate and open the window of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desire with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing that Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clean hearts. May the Christmas morning make us happy to be thy children and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen."

"For somehow, not only for Christmas,
But all the long year through,
The joy that you give to others
Is the joy that comes back to you."

—WHITTIER.

At this glad Christmas season we in the office send to each one sincere good wishes as we greet you in the name of the Babe of Bethlehem, "Great Little One! Whose all-embracing birth lifts earth to heaven, stoops heaven to earth."

FOY JOHNSON FARMER.
KATHRYN ABEE.
ORA ALFORD.
RUTH KELLER.
EDNA BUFFALOE.
LILLIAN OGBURN.

AN ANNOUNCEMENT

Many of our W.M.U. members had the privilege of knowing Mrs. Lois Heath while she was in our State representing the Home Mission Board, and will read with interest of her marriage on November 30 to Rev. Robert D. Wright, of Castleberry, Ala. Best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Wright!

MRS. A. T. ROBERTSON CALLED HOME

Miss Ethel Winfield in a letter dated December 8 writes: "I know that you are grieved as we are to hear of Mrs. A. T. Robertson's death Monday night. I do not know what happened. Miss Littlejohn's telegram simply said that she died as the result of a traffic accident."

Indeed we are grieved, for North Carolina

W.M.U. loved and admired Mrs. Robertson. Her Bible studies in *Royal Service* through a period of years were an outstanding contribution to the Union, the Lottie Moon preparatory book, *These Things Remain*, that she gave us had wide circulation and was studied eagerly. We are grateful for her long, useful life; we sympathize with her loved ones; we think with happiness that she is rejoicing now in the presence of the Saviour.

MRS. HICKERSON'S VISIT

The Woman's Missionary Union of North Carolina is deeply indebted to Mrs. Clyde V. Hickerson, Southwide Stewardship Chairman, for her visit in our State, December 3-7. We are also indebted to Mr. and Mrs. Huggins for making it possible for Mrs. Hickerson to visit the various cities. Mrs. Huggins and Mrs. Farmer made the full schedule without delay, by driving the Huggins' car. Mrs. Hickerson spoke in Rocky Mount, Henderson, Raleigh, Meredith College, Durham, Burlington, Greensboro, Winston-Salem, Charlotte. The weather was unfavorable and the attendance not large, but as Mrs. Turner said, "The Lord isn't dependent on numbers."

Mrs. Hickerson is a woman of culture and consecration, and her talks were inspiring and informative. Everywhere she made many friends, and we cordially invite her to come again.

ANNUAL REPORT BLANKS NOT TO BE SENT

Many inquiries are coming concerning annual report blanks for our organizations. When the report blanks were revised, it was the thought that as the *Standard of Excellence* report is now made quarterly, the superintendents will not need an annual report from the societies. All necessary information will be found on the quarterly reports.

MISS ALFORD SAYS

Don't forget to send your money for the Orphanage to Mr. R. D. Covington, Thomasville, N. C.

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Do not fail to collect every Christmas offering envelope. The need is greater this year than it ever has been; we are blessed "beyond word or thought"; let us each one express our gratitude by a liberal gift. The goal for the South is \$1,000,000; that makes our North Carolina goal \$100,000.

News Notes

Rev. Charles B. McConnell was installed as pastor of the Franklinton Church, Raleigh Association, on Sunday evening, December 9. Rev. S. E. Mercer, pastor of the Franklinton Methodist Church, read the Scripture, and the presentation of the Bible and the charge to the church were by Dr.

W. R. Cullom of Wake Forest. The response was made by J. O. Purnell of Franklinton. Dr. A. C. Reid of Wake Forest College delivered the charge to the minister.

A native of Asheville, Mr. McConnell has an A.B. degree from Wake Forest College and B.D. degree from Union Theological Seminary, New York City. He was pastor of the Nashville Church, this State, from 1937 to June, 1942, at which time he resigned to become a chaplain in the Army. He served in this country and in the European theater until October, 1945, when he was separated from the service.

* * *

Rev. Frank Robinson, who is pastor of Union Chapel in the Raleigh Association, has half time open and would be available to serve some other church. Union Chapel, which has half-time services, would be glad to arrange its schedule to allow the pastor to serve other churches any two Sundays in the month.

The church at Union Chapel has had a remarkable growth in the past two and a half years under the leadership of Mr. Robinson. At that time it was revived as a mission Sunday school. The first year not much was accomplished except the actual organization. Since that time the church building has been repaired; last year two Sunday school rooms were added, and a choir space was built.

The membership is now 102. Thirty-four members were added last year, 22 of whom came by profession of faith and baptism. According to the church letter, about \$1,700 was raised last year for all purposes. Already some \$700 has been raised since the beginning of the new associational year. An Every-Member Canvass was put on several weeks ago. This year a definite amount in the budget has been set aside for the Co-operative Program, as the church feels it must change its status and become a contributing rather than a mission church.

* * *

Rev. Richard A. Kelly, pastor, First Church, Canton, who had to take an enforced rest at his home in Canton, is greatly improved. After a thorough check-up in the Bowman Gray Clinic of Wake Forest College in Winston-Salem a few days ago, he was pronounced physically fit and he will be able to resume his pastoral duties in a few days. During the time that he has had to be away from his church, the pulpit has been filled by Dr. Hoyt Blackwell, president of Mars Hill Junior College; Rev. T. H. Parris, pastor of the Clyde Baptist Church; Rev. C. W. Rogers, who has recently been honorably discharged from the U. S. Naval Chaplaincy, and Rev. J. N. Binford, who has recently retired from the pastorate of the First Baptist Church, Haines City, Fla. Mr. Kelly was for thirteen years the pastor of the First Baptist Church of Belmont, N. C.

* * *

Miss Janie Cash, who recently came to be associated with the Charlotte Public Library, has accepted the position of assistant to Miss Nancy Carroll, the librarian of Myers Park Church.

Christian Education

IN THE CHURCHES

L. L. MORGAN, Sunday School Secretary
R. T. HOWERTON, Jr., Student Union Secretary
HARVEY T. GIBSON, Training Union Secretary

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Associational Officers

Meet

More than two hundred Associational Sunday School Officers, representing forty-one associations, attended the State Planning Meetings, December 4 and 5. Twenty associations were represented at Tabernacle Church, Raleigh, December 4, and twenty-one had officers in the meeting at First Church, Morganton, December 5.

Mr. J. N. Barnette and Dr. Homer L. Grice from the Sunday School Board in Nashville were present to assist the State Sunday School Department with the program. Others assisting were Dr. F. O. Mixon, Mr. M. A. Huggins, Dr. L. L. Carpenter, and Miss Zula Rogers in the Raleigh meeting. At Morganton we had the assistance of Rev. Fred Forrester, Miss Elizabeth Campbell, and Miss Louella Brown.

The purpose of the meetings was threefold: (1) to launch the 1946 Southern Baptist Sunday School program; (2) to plan for the January 22 Simultaneous Associational Meetings throughout the State; and (3) to study plans for visiting each church in the seventy associations in North Carolina during the first two weeks of February.

January 22: This should be an important date in every association. About one-half of the superintendents have already announced the place and hour for their meeting. We hope to be able to publish the complete list at an early date. This meeting will afford the Associational Officers an opportunity of enlisting every church to participate in the 1946 Sunday school program and to study plans for special meetings in every church in February.

February Meetings in the Churches: Each Associational Superintendent has been asked to arrange teams to go into every church for Church Planning Meetings for Sunday School Officers and Teachers. Several associations already have their teams arranged and churches assigned. Of course each church will be contacted for permission and a date for the visit. The Sunday School Board has printed a thirty-two page book to be delivered to all teachers and officers in the local church. The book contains the 1946 Sunday school program and helpful suggestions for making it the best of all years in Sunday school work.

Forms have been prepared for use in arranging teams and churches. These may be had upon request.

We hope each church will co-operate with its Associational Officers in these two major projects.—G. W. BULLARD.

News Notes

Pastor Victor Koon of the Olivet Church, Honolulu, writes to thank friends in the

TRAINING UNION

Christmas Greetings!

Your State Training Union workers send their warmest yuletide greetings and best wishes for a happy New Year to all North Carolina Baptists. We are closing a year that has seen great events. The year has marked, perhaps, the closing of one era and the beginning of another. In this Christmas season we shall all find new joy and hope for the months ahead as we turn our thoughts to the Christ Child.

As we meet the New Year, we ought to pledge ourselves anew to the tasks that lie ahead. The New Year ushers in a new century for Southern Baptists. The call of this new Baptist century is a call for a renewed faith in Baptist principles and a new interest and enthusiasm in our program. It offers a new challenge to our leadership, and a new opportunity for service.

We pledge ourselves to the great and challenging program of carrying the Gospel to all the world and to the continued education and spiritual growth of the membership of our churches.

LOUISE PASCHALL.
MARGARET SPARKS.
LAW M. MOBLEY, JR.
MARY LOU WALL.
HARVEY T. GIBSON.

homeland who prayed for the work in Honolulu during recent evangelistic meetings. Chaplain Neal Ellis, USNR, brought a series of powerful evangelistic messages. The first Sunday of the meeting there were about sixty-five professions of faith in Sunday school and church services, and the total for the eight days was 82, the largest ingathering thus far since Baptist work was begun in the Hawaiian Islands. The converts included people of many races such as Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Hawaiian.

Mr. and Mrs. P. Shaffer Rowland from Atlanta, Ga., took charge of the music and led in a fine spiritual song service. Service men from many states joined in the campaign and helped in personal work.

At the close of the meeting, a love offering was taken for the Rowlands and Chaplain Ellis, but they wanted it to be used toward a church building, and challenged the audience to join them in an offering for the purpose, with the result that before the day was over, almost \$2,000 was raised in cash and pledges. Pastor Koon thinks the results of the meeting will continue to be felt not only at Olivet, but throughout the whole mission field in Hawaii.

Rev. J. N. Binford, of Ridgecrest, N. C., is now available to do supply work in North Carolina. I can commend him without reservation. He has retired from regular pastoral

work and is not interested in having any more pastorates.

Brother Binford has been for many years one of the most useful pastors in Virginia, Kentucky, and Florida. He has not only been a successful minister, but is a splendid preacher. During the period of enforced rest I have recently passed through, Brother Binford has supplied most acceptably here at Canton for me. He has won the hearts of our people and has rendered a timely and effective service for the Lord here. After December 3 I will resume my regular work as pastor, and Brother Binford will be glad to serve in any church where he is needed.—RICHARD A. KELLY, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Canton, N. C.

J. Thurman Williams, of 915 W. Cannon Street, Fort Worth 4, Texas, is a gospel singer and will be available for engagements after March 4, 1946. Last year he had many more invitations than he could accept, and therefore this year he is arranging his schedule well in advance in order to avoid as many conflicts as possible.

Rev. James E. Baker, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Columbia, N. C., will be glad to give information about Mr. Williams to any one in North Carolina who desires it, and Rev. Loyd R. Simmons, Evans Avenue Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Texas, will also recommend him.

Home Board Adopts Increased Budget: Elects New Workers

Based on anticipated receipts as indicated by 1945 offerings, the Home Mission Board, in its annual meeting the last week in November, adopted a budget of \$1,437,000, which is more than 50 per cent above the \$965,000 budget of the current year.

Rev. John Caylor, pastor for twelve years at Highland Baptist Church, Shreveport, La., was elected by the Board secretary of education to fill the vacancy created through the resignation of Rev. Joe W. Burton. Mr. Burton, after ten years' service, goes to the Sunday School Board as head of a new department of home curriculum.

Elected to a new position as field worker in the rural department was Dr. John D. Freeman, editor of *The Western Recorder*. Dr. Freeman is author of the book, *Country Church*, published by the Home Mission Board. He was formerly secretary of the Tennessee Baptist State Board.

Employed personnel re-elected included Dr. J. B. Lawrence, executive secretary-treasurer; Dr. Courts Redford, assistant executive secretary; Dr. M. N. McCall, superin-

tendent of Cuban missions; Dr. Alfred Carpenter, superintendent of camp work; Dr. Fred C. Eastham, superintendent of evangelism; Rev. Jacob Gartenhaus, Jewish work; Rev. Paul C. Bell, superintendent of missions in Panama; Rev. Lewis W. Martin, superintendent of schools of missions; Rev. R. G. Van Royen, director of visual education; Mrs. Una Roberts Lawrence, mission study editor; Dr. S. F. Dowis, superintendent of city missions; Rev. J. L. Aders, Miss Wilma Bucy, and Miss Irene Chambers, field workers; J. W. Wing, office secretary.

Dr. J. W. Beagle, retired Home Mission Board field secretary, died at his home in Cynthiana, Kentucky, Friday, November 16.

Born in Kentucky in 1868, Dr. Beagle served the Home Mission Board 26 years, first as enlistment secretary and later as field secretary, prior to his retirement in 1943.

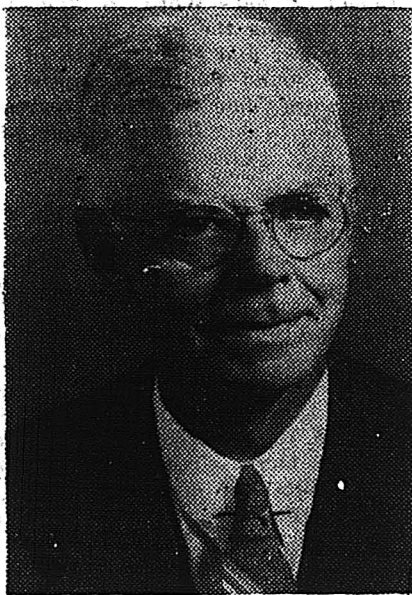
He was the author of two books—*People of the Jesus Way* and *His Precious Promises*.



Miss Frances Orr, above, is the only daughter of Superintendent and Mrs. D. H. Orr of the Pisgah Forest Church, Transylvania Association. During a revival meeting held in the church during the fall, she dedicated her life to Christian service. She intends to begin her college training in January.

Her father is serving his twenty-fifth year as superintendent of the Sunday school, and he and Mrs. Orr are held in the highest esteem by the people of the community.

DR. BAGBY ACCEPTS CALL TO BUIE'S CREEK



Dr. A. Paul Bagby, pictured above, resigned the pastorate of the Louisburg Church recently in order to accept a call to Buie's Creek, where he will begin his work January 1, 1946.

Dr. Bagby holds the M.A. degree from the University of Richmond, the Th.D. from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, and has held seven pastorates: Woodlake Church, near Frankfort, Ky.; Glasgow, Ky.; Highland Church of Louisville, Ky.; Wake Forest; First Church, Wilson; Williamsburg, Ky.; and Louisburg. He comes from a family of preachers, as his father and three of his uncles were preachers. He also had a brother who was a preacher and a sister who was a missionary.

Well known as an evangelist as well as a pastor, Dr. Bagby will, we feel, have a great opportunity at Buie's Creek, which is the

church that serves the students of Campbell College.

Buncombe Association Baptists

From the December 1 bulletin sent out by H. M. Hocutt, associational missionary, we gain a good deal of information about the Baptist work in the Buncombe Association.

About 40 people representing 16 churches in the association attended the meeting of the Baptist State Convention in Raleigh, November 13-15.

Revival meetings have been held recently in three churches—Avery's Creek, Mt. Olive, and Enka—and as a result a number of persons have joined each church by profession of faith and baptism.

Twenty-one Vacation Bible Schools were held in the association last summer, with a total enrollment of 1,945, and there were 65 conversions reported.

The Inanda Church on the Brevard Road in the edge of Asheville had only about 20 in Sunday school a year ago, but now there are about 80. The church is looking for a pastor and the members have expressed a desire to come into the association.

The West Asheville Church recently concluded its second revival of the year. A former pastor, Brother Ivey, did the preaching. During the meeting 68 made profession of faith and 10 others, joined by letter. The church has voted to assume the support of a missionary in addition to its other activities. Nane Starnes is pastor.

Merrimon Avenue Church, Asheville, has announced plans for a \$100,000 plant to be erected in the future.

Emmanuel Church, Asheville, has made good progress since the coming of Pastor Hearne a few weeks ago. Five have come into the membership by profession and 12 by letter. The B.T.U. has grown in attendance from four the first night to 55. The church has decided to add some Sunday school rooms, and about \$900 has been received in cash and \$150 more has been prom-

ised for this purpose.

The associational missionary recently held revival services on Ball Mountain near Chimney Rock. About 45 people live on the mountain, and eleven of them are Baptists and those who do not belong to any church are mostly Baptists in principle. One family is of another faith. There was one conversion during the week, and a great deal of interest was taken in the services.

HOW ABOUT YOUR EXEMPTIONS?

By J. E. DILLARD

Now is the time to figure your income for 1945 and estimate the amount of your income tax for the year. It will be too late to make adjustments after December 31.

The law permits an exemption from income tax up to 15 per cent of your taxable income if this has been given to recognized religious and benevolent causes.

Check up and see how you stand. If you have not actually given 15 per cent of your taxable income this year, you can do so before the last of this month. In this way you will help some worthy and needy cause at small cost to yourself.

Why not make a Centennial thank offering, or a gift to one of our seminaries or mission boards, or through the Co-operative Program to be distributed to all our causes in proportion to their needs?

Send your gift, properly marked, through your church. Think, pray, act. Do it today.

The Bible teaches us not only the way to heaven but how to be happy on the road.—
DR. PERRY F. WEBB, San Antonio, Texas.

OBITUARIES AND RESOLUTIONS

Obituaries and formal resolutions of one hundred words or less, will be published free of charge. Above one hundred words the rate will be three cents a word. We are compelled to make this charge because of the pressure on our news columns. Cash must accompany copy.

BIBLICAL RECORDER

121 W. Hargett St. Raleigh, N. C.

IN MEMORIAM

WADE HAMPTON FOSTER

A Christian gentleman and an upright citizen fittingly describe him as no other words can. The sweet personality and Christian character of Mr. Hampton Foster were manifested in his daily life of service to his family and friends. Few fathers have ever been such a pal to his children in the home, and few have ever reared such a large family of fine Christian boys and girls as he has.

Mr. Hampton Foster was born in Franklin County, and he is from a very prominent family. He was a faithful member of Sandy Creek Church, having surrendered his life to Christ in early childhood. He died November 15, 1945.

He will be greatly missed in the entire community, for he was loved by all who knew him. His influence will linger and never will his memory fade.

Our hearts go out in deep sympathy for his entire family and loved ones. We pray that God will guide them and cause them to continue to emulate his beautiful character.—
MRS. PAUL CHILDERS.

MRS. FRANK L. SMITH

The Woman's Missionary Society of River-side Baptist Church, Bladen County, North Carolina, regrets to announce the death of one of our beloved charter members, Mrs. Frank L. Smith, on November 14, after a lingering illness. We shall miss this faithful co-worker in our work: Therefore be it resolved:

First. That we bow in submission to God's will in our loss.

Second. That we shall strive to carry on the work she left.

Third. That a copy be sent to the family and one to the BIBLICAL RECORDER.

MRS. MATT LEWIS,

MRS. ROSA MUNN,

MRS. SAM MARSHBURN.

Committee.

HELEN STONE SHIPP

Helen Stone Shipp went to be with her Lord whom she so dearly loved on October 25, 1945.

She was born on March 8, 1849, in Wake County, near Morrisville, N. C. She was the daughter of the late Needham and Mary Marcom Stone and the widow of the late R. T. Shipp.

She was a Christian, unselfish in every act of life, always thinking of others and ready to help those in need. Her greatest joy in the later years of her life was to "treat" the children of the primary grades of the Cedar Fork Sunday School.

Her chief interest in life was the Baptist Church and its activities. She loved the BIBLICAL RECORDER and was a subscriber for many years. Even after her sight failed, she would ask for the RECORDER and place it near

her heart and keep it there for several hours. "Aunt Hellen," as she was known by all, joined Cedar Fork Baptist Church when she was ten years old and held her membership there for 86 years.

She spent many hours reading her Bible, all through which many verses are marked, especially those about the "many mansions" prepared for those who love God. Death held no fear for her, as she was ready to meet her Lord.

"Death cannot long divide,
For is it not as though the rose
That climbed my garden wall
Had blossomed on the other side.
Death doth hide
But not divide;
They are but on Christ's other side!
They are with Christ and Christ with me
In Christ united still are we."

MRS. JODIE SHIPP.

Hearty Welcome to Our Returning Chaplains

Southern Baptists have had approximately 1,100 chaplains in the Army and Navy, and dozens of these chaplains are now being separated from the service each month. We have reports on 34 of these chaplains either on terminal leave or separated from the service during November, and they come from practically every state in the territory of the Southern Baptist Convention.

We are writing to urge that pastors and church leaders extend a hearty welcome to these men and render any service possible in helping them get located in satisfactory pastorates and other forms of Christian service. We respect the independence of the local church and depend on the guidance of the Holy Spirit; but a kind word spoken and a helpful contact made will be of real service in most cases to both churches and chaplains, and we feel will be honored of the Lord. These chaplains have rendered a noble and heroic service and, in many cases, one of great difficulty and danger; and we want to prove to them our appreciation of their services. Also they have learned much and had many rich experiences; and as they come back to civilian pastorates, they will prove to be great assets to the cause of Christ and to our Baptist work in particular. Let not only church leaders but also our more than 5,000,000 Southern Baptist members join in hearty welcome to these returning chaplains.—L. L. CARPENTER, *Chairman, Southern Baptist Commission to Co-operate With Returning Chaplains.*

Pastor H. M. Stroup Gives Encouraging Report From Franklin Heights Church, Kannapolis

Franklin Heights Church is debt-free and has a surplus in the treasury. Therefore we are to build a pastorium at an early date. On Sunday, December 2, the congregation went on record as favoring this as the very next most needful thing.

At the meeting December 2 considerable progress was noted. Forty-nine members had been added, making the present enrollment 161. A \$1,200 note was liquidated during the year, and more than \$7,000 came in

through the Unified Budget. Ten per cent of this amount has gone into the Co-operative Program.

Some highlights on the program for the day were:

1. Highlights in the Training Union—MR. H. C. PHILLIPS, *Director*.
2. Forward Steps With the WMU—MRS. B. C. BIVENS, *President*.
3. The Sunday School Achieves—SUPT. N. J. HELMS.
4. Growth in Church Life—DEACON ROY K. BYRD.
5. The Outlook in the Kingdom—PASTOR H. M. STROUP.

Special music was rendered by the choir. The pastor baptized five new members at the evening hour of worship.

The Franklin Heights Church was organized in 1937. There are now 208 in Sunday school; 75 in Training Union; 10 in the Cradle Roll department. We are at work unitedly for the Lord's cause.

NEWS NOTES

Dr. C. L. Niceley, pastor, First Baptist Church, Sturgis, Kentucky, and Song Evangelist Gradie E. Bloyd, Greensburg, Kentucky, have just concluded a successful revival in the Prairie Baptist Church, Noblesville, Indiana. Brother G. R. Reynolds, a native of Kentucky, is pastor of the Hoosier church. Of the meeting, he says: "Dr. Niceley is an original thinker, a forceful preacher and a deep student of God's Word. Brother Bloyd knows how to sing the great hymns of our faith with power and effect. Both of these brethren are sound Southern Baptists and they make a very fine team in a revival. I commend them to our Baptist people wholeheartedly."

* * *

The First Baptist Church of Canton, where Richard A. Kelly is pastor, has just had one of the most successful years in all of its history. Well over one hundred members have been added by baptism, watchcare, letter, and restoration to the church during the first ten months of Mr. Kelly's work as pastor of this splendid church. Gifts for all purposes made during the associational year recently closed totaled over \$25,300. The Building Fund has been increased since last December 15th from \$18,000 to approximately \$36,000. The attendance on Sunday mornings has consistently taxed the capacity of the auditorium. God is blessing this good church in a wonderful way.

* * *

The First Church, Smithfield, to which James C. Cammack, Jr., came as pastor a few months ago, held "Christian Emphasis Week," November 25-December 2, with the pastor bringing special messages every evening and with all the organizations of the church co-operating. Monday was designated as Family Night, and the subject, "Broken Altars"; Tuesday was Adult Night, with the subject, "Seeking Spiritual Maturity"; Wednesday, Youth Night, with the subject, "Living Out the Will of God"; Thursday, Junior Night, with "A Boy's Gift to Jesus" as subject; Friday, All Church Night, with the subject, "Christ for All." Sunday, December 2, was designated as Church Loyalty Sunday, and the morning subject was "The Meaning of Salvation" and the evening topic was "What To Do With Jesus."

On Wednesday evening, 39 of the young

people in the service came forward to dedicate themselves to "living out the will of God." By their action they laid themselves on the altar of service, saying that wherever God led they would willingly go. Some were consecrating themselves for full-time Christian service—some to be missionaries, some to be preachers of the gospel.

During the last two months twenty new members have been received into the church, eight of them by baptism.

* * *

Now that so many more veterans are returning to civilian life every day, it becomes increasingly important that correct information be made available to them regarding various provisions under the GI Bill.

Officials of the Unemployment Compensation Commission in North Carolina report that far too many instances have been called to their attention in which veterans have either been misinformed or placed at a disadvantage for lack of understanding of this program. To provide the needed information for veterans, the Unemployment Compensation Commission, which has charge of administering readjustment allowances in this State, has prepared a pamphlet—in question and answer form—dealing with re-

adjustment allowances and unemployment compensation for veterans. Copies of this pamphlet may be secured from Frances T. Hill, Informational Service Representative, Unemployment Compensation Commission, Raleigh, N. C.

Returning veterans and those in position to be of service to returning veterans would do well to secure a copy of this pamphlet.

* * *

Sunday, December 9, was designated as Church Loyalty Day in the First Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, Dr. Ralph A. Herring, pastor. The following week was Volunteer Week, ending with an every-member canvass on Sunday afternoon, December 16.

Anger is a stone cast into a wasp's nest.—
PROVERB.

ATTRACTIVENESS

IS LACKING IN SMALL RURAL CHURCH & CHAPEL BLDGS. SIMPLE DESIGNS EMPLOYING ECCLESIASTIC DIGNITY ARE EXEMPLIFIED WITHOUT EXTRAVAGANCE IN OUR PLANS.



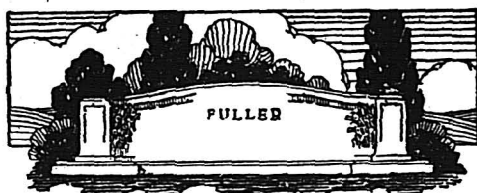
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World Fellowship of Christians

Lesson for December 30
Printed Text: Acts 10:23b-29, 34-43

(NOTE: We are publishing the exposition of next week's Sunday school lesson in this issue because the RECORDER will not appear next week, and we do not wish our readers to be without Dr. Caudill's exposition of the Sunday school lesson for December 30.)

The war has made us all world conscious. Even the tiny islands of the sea—Iwo Jima, Saipan, Okinawa—have become household words. Young men of the Ferry Command of our armed forces dart hither and yon among the nations of the earth with as much ease and speed as our rural pastors used to visit their field of churches. Verily, we have come to see that no man lives unto himself. We are members one of another, as closely intertwined in the vast network of civilization as the knotted meshes of a fishing net.

The Waiting World

Now, as never before, the peoples of the world see the necessity of some common ground upon which they may stand in the adjustment of mutual difficulties and in the solution of common problems. We have in the Scripture lesson a bold reminder of this patent truth.

Luke tells us (Acts 10:24) that when Peter and his traveling companions arrived at Caesarea, they found Cornelius "waiting for them, having called together his kinsmen and his near (Greek 'necessary') friends." It is a stirring picture that Luke presents, one filled with zeal. "And when it came to pass that Peter entered, Cornelius met him, and fell down at his feet, and worshiped him." (The word rendered "worship" should be rendered "did him reverence." The word, says Dr. W. O. Carter, "is used for reverence toward superior manhood or toward God, being derived from the fawning of a dog before a man." Peter was the saving representative of God to him and so worthy in Cornelius' thought of great reverence.")

Cornelius, at the afternoon hour of prayer, had seen an angel of God in a vision and had been instructed by the angel to send men to Joppa for Simon Peter, who was at that time lodging at the house of Simon, a tanner, by the seaside. The angel had announced to Cornelius that Simon Peter would have for him a message. When Peter arrived, therefore, the anxious centurion, together with a host of his friends, was waiting.

If we are to find the answer to our imperative need for world fellowship, we must seek divine counsel and wait patiently on the Lord until that counsel comes. Brotherhood, from the Christian viewpoint, does not stem from human wisdom or the strong arm of self. The world is beginning to realize this as never before. God employs human resources in the execution of his designs, but these natural powers must ever be responsible to him and move in accord with his plan.

A Difficult Principle

When Peter reported to Cornelius at Caesarea and heard his strange story, he doubtless found it difficult to keep his composure. Apparently Peter "is apologizing to his own scruples as well as explaining to the company his presence when he begins by saying, 'Ye, yourselves understand how unpardon-

able it is for a Jewish gentleman (the word is not merely man) to attach himself to, or to come before one of another race (in friendly relationship); still in my case God showed me to call nobody common or unclean that is human.' This more exact, if somewhat awkward, rendering shows how thoroughly the principle of his vision had impressed Peter" (Dr. Carver).

Dr. Carver goes on to say, "It was a great advance to recognize that no human being must be thought of as common. It is a very difficult principle to accept practically. Peter seems to have overlooked or to have ignored the fact that these Romans and other Gentiles despised Jews quite as much as Jews contemned them, and that Cornelius had wholly set aside his pride in his eagerness for the way of life."

However great Peter's inward feeling of opposition may have been concerning the Gentiles, he evidently flung it to the four winds, for he came to Cornelius as summoned, without gainsaying. That Peter was vitally concerned with the implications of his visit is manifest from his word, "I ask therefore with what intent ye sent for me?" whereupon Cornelius tells his story.

To what extent are we as Christians able to recognize the fact that no human being must be thought of as common? Are we certain that deep down within our hearts there are not reservations which prohibit us from a Christlike acceptance of this truth? This thought deserves serious consideration if this lesson is to make the impact it ought to make upon our lives.

Eyes That See

Following Cornelius' account of his vision and the instruction of the angel, which resulted in his sending for Simon Peter, Luke tells us that Peter "opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons." It was here that Peter got his eyes and mouth open—eyes so he could see and mouth so he could speak his conviction. The point was difficult to get, but Peter had it at last. He saw that mere nationality is not a matter of concern with God, that a man's acceptability to God is based upon his reverence for God which manifests itself in righteousness, not works of merit.

Our difficulty in dealing with people of other races lies in the fact that we do not recognize that they are as precious in God's sight as we from the standpoint of racial stock or nationalistic heritage. We are not acceptable to God merely because we are born of certain parents or belong to a given nation. Our relationship to God is a personal matter and rests on a voluntary union of the believer with him in Christ Jesus. A man can be a great Christian, a victorious servant of God, in spite of his race. Even heredity and environment are not powerful enough to bar one from the kingdom of God and from the privileges that obtain for subjects of the Messiah's kingdom.

Foundation for Fellowship

The foundation for fellowship of Christians lies of course in the believer's experience of regeneration through the atoning power of the risen Christ. It is through the

Redeemer's name that remission of sins is to be had by all believers of every race every where. Only as men come to believe on him can they "come into the sphere of his redeeming activity and control."

It is the responsibility of Christians to bear this message of his redeeming love unto the remotest bounds of the earth. In this way men of every nation may become acquainted with the transforming power of his boundless grace and thereby obtain for themselves, through faith, the grace of God which abounds unto salvation.

Unless Christians publish everywhere these glad tidings of great joy, they will lose the only opportunity they have for laying foundations that will make for a just and enduring peace.

BROTHERHOOD ON THE MOVE IN ALABAMA

A most forward step was made by the Alabama Baptist Convention in the establishment of a Brotherhood Department. The Program Committee in respect to the laymen, who met Monday arranged for a period to be devoted to the hearing of the laymen. It was agreed that a regular department of the Convention be established for a Brotherhood organization. A full-time executive secretary will be employed for the leadership of the movement. The matter was approved in principle with the details to be worked out by the Convention Executive Board.

Whether the laymen of the State would enlarge into a departmental Brotherhood or into an auxiliary of the Alabama Baptist Convention was the main issue.

The decision was that the Brotherhood would be organized into a department of the convention under the leadership of an Executive Board.—*The Alabama Baptist*.

Dr. E. L. Spivey, missionary for Piedmont North Carolina, filled the pulpit of the First Church, Gastonia, at both services on Sunday, December 9. Dr. V. Ward Barr, pastor, was conducting revival services in the First Baptist Church, Luxora, Arkansas.

"I had the pleasure recently of preaching in two revivals near by," writes Chaplain Worth C. Grant from Camp J. H. Pendleton, Oceanside, Calif. "I was at Fallbrook Baptist Church for one week, followed by a meeting at the Oceanside Baptist Church. In both churches there were hearty responses from the professing Christians and several rededications, but no conversions. It was also a pleasant experience to attend meetings of the State Convention of Southern California, which meetings were held in the First Baptist Church of Hollywood.

"In extending the greetings of the city of Hollywood, its mayor somewhat apologetically said that his city had been called the 'pleasure capital of the world,' but that there were lots of very fine people in it as was evidenced by the number of churches. This is quite true. The First Church is a very attractive one, and Dr. Harold L. Proppe, who recently returned from leave of absence while in the Navy as a Chaplain, has been pastor for 18 years."

The sweetest music is not oratorios but in the human voice when it speaks from its instant tones of tenderness, truth and courage.—EMERSON.