

WEST TEXAS BAPTIST

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RAMBLING

EMARKS



By DICK O'BRIEN

The other day I was sitting in my easy birthday chair reading the newspaper. I was particularly impressed by the news from Austin that day. The new governor was making suggestions and recommendations and the senate was promptly turning them down. I do not know how much time the chief executive had spent in preparing his recommendations, but I had a feeling from the promptness of the senate's refusals that they had not given much time to considering them. I chanced to look up and there before me was the book case containing the twins' embryonic library. The first title that met my eye was, "Alice in Wonderland," and immediately my mind connected what I had been reading about Austin, and the title of that old book, and this paraphrase came to me, "Malice in Wonderland." To my way of thinking that about sums it up. . . . Talking about that easy chair. I never knew so much comfort could be built into a chair, as I find in the one the family gave me for my birthday. Although I have very little time to use it, that chair plus my Christmas house shoes add up to about the sweetest comfort I ever enjoyed. But it should last a long time if I do not use it more than I did last week. Monday night at Wichita Falls, Tuesday morning at Abilene, and the afternoon at Swenson; Wednesday at home for prayer-meeting, and Thursday at Fort Worth, with two addresses there Friday, and all day Saturday at mother's birthday party at Carbon. All of this with two funerals, neither of which were at home and one of them a hundred miles away made up a rather busy week. All of that besides the three addresses and sermons as a regular Sunday routine. . . . And more than a dozen sick calls. . . . I really have too much to write about this week, some of it will have to wait for another time. But the trip to Fort Worth and the Seminary brought back so many memories that I would hardly know where to begin to recount them and would find it still more difficult to find a stopping place. After the banquet at the Connell Memorial church Friday night I was in the home of Sid Martin, the genial pastor. We got to swapping experiences of our childhood days and we laughed until Mrs. Martin begged for relief, so we adjourned to take up again during the Evangelistic conference in June. . . . The invitation to speak in chapel at the Seminary nearly floored me. At first I thought I was dreaming, then I thought it was a joke. But I remembered the professors at the

EVENTS TO COME

- February 26—V. B. S. Conference, Districts 9 and 10, Amarillo.
- February 27—V. B. S. Conference, District 11, Wichita Falls.
- February 27-28—District 16 Convention, San Saba.
- February 27-March 3—Annie W. Armstrong Offering for Home Missions.
- February 28-March 2—District 7 Convention, Immanuel Church, El Paso.
- March 6-7—District 17 Convention, Sweetwater.
- March 7-8—District 9 Convention, Lubbock.
- March 8—V. B. S. Conference, District 16, Brownwood.
- March 8-9—District 10 Convention, Amarillo.
- March 9—V. B. S. Conference, Districts 7, 8, and 16, San Angelo.
- March 10—V. B. S. Conference, District 17, Abilene.
- March 10—District 11 Convention, Childress.
- March 16-17—District 8 Convention, Odessa.
- April 9—B. T. U. High Attendance Convention, Waco.
- April 18-19—District 17 W. M. U. Convention, Ranger.

The Place Of Service For Laymen In The Local Baptist Churches

By W. C. ASHFORD, Pastor
South Side Church, Abilene

This is a brief resume of a message delivered to the Baptist Brotherhood of Callahan Association, convening with the First Baptist Church of Baird, Feb. 2, 1939. Written by request for the West Texas Baptist.

When one stops to seriously consider God's estimate of those human beings, called men, there comes the weighty truth that God has thrust upon the shoulders of men the responsibility of leadership. This fact is revealed early in creation as God placed every living creature on earth under man's dominion and had him to give names to all them. "And out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them; and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof" (Gen. 2:19).

Not only is a man's responsibility shown early in creation, but also, when God would give the human race a revelation of Himself as we have in the Holy Bible today, he used men to write the books as they were moved and led by the Spirit of God.

Then, too, the fact that when Christ initiated his work on earth which was to be carried on after He had ascended back to the Father, He chose men, the twelve Apostles, to take the place and responsibility of leadership in founding churches, writing a record of His life, and the great truths found in the New Testament.

Thus we see that man's responsibility in the sight of God, the Creator, is inescapable and weighty. This is doubly true when we come to consider in detail the responsibility resting on the shoulders of our good Christian laymen in our churches all over the land. The local church is an organization that requires leadership, and God is holding our men responsible for such leadership. When the men of a local church fail to discharge their duty the church suffers in proportion. The church is more than an organization, it is an organism, for through it flows the Divine life of God, the Father. When any part of the human body fails to function properly the entire body, which is a living organism, suffers and is hindered in doing its appointed work. So it is in our churches, when our men, appointed of God to fill a place of peculiar and weighty responsibility and failing to do so the cause of Christ, in the local church suffers irreparable loss as does His cause around the world; for the local church, in the economy of God, is the basis of operations and the supply station for Christ's world-wide activities through His church. The message and mission of the local church, involves eternal consideration, the matter of the salvation of souls, and the development in Christ-likeness of individual lives. With such a tremendous task committed to our churches, with the burden of responsibility of enabling the church to function as God has planned it should, resting on the laymen, we can begin to realize the importance of the men being enlisted in the work of the church to the limit of their ability.

In stressing the important place God has appointed to men in his churches, I do not minimize the far reaching work being done by our good women through the W. M. U. organization. There is a crown of achievement for the Master's church with many precious jewels; and not one of these jewels would I dim nor rob them of by magnifying the place God has ordained our men should occupy in the local church. However, the work of our good women can never reach its maximum of efficiency till the men as well enlisted in the Master's cause as are our women. Therefore, it behooves the men of our churches to realize the eternally fraught obligations which are theirs; and to hear the call of the Master to places of definite responsibility in order that Christ's churches may be enabled to carry out the exalted mission for which he founded them.

If, and when, our men step forward and assume their God-given responsibilities in the local church and for all it stands, we will, as Southern Baptists, have come upon a new day of God's mighty power and blessings. The work of Christ's Churches will be put forward in a measure beyond our fondest dreams; the lives of our

(Continued on Page 4)

H.S.U. HOSTESS TO Y. W. A. DISTRICT HOUSE PARTY

Preparations are being made to entertain 250 girls from District Seventeen in the initial house-party for the Young Women's Auxiliary at Hardin-Simmons University, Friday and Saturday, February 17 and 18.

Mrs. R. L. Mathis, state young people's leader of the Women's Missionary Society, will be featured on the program of the two days. Mrs. Dick O'Brien of Stamford, district young people's leader, is in charge of arrangements.

Members of the Young Women's Auxiliaries of Hendrick Memorial Hospital and all Abilene churches are invited to share in the events of the house party.

Much interest has been manifested in this gathering of the Baptist young women at the University and it is expected that the event will be made an annual affair.

TWO DEACONS ORDAINED AT CRYSTAL FALLS CHURCH

J. T. Davis and Paul Davis were ordained as deacons, Sunday, February 12, by Crystal Falls Church, Cisco association.

Rev. Phil McGahey with deacons from First Church, Breckenridge, and Rev. Gilbert Galloway with deacons from Parks Church constituted the presbytery.

Rev. Galloway gave the charge to the deacons and church, Rev. McGahey preached the ordination sermon. Howard Grubbs, Breckenridge deacon, acted as clerk and led the ordination prayer. The Crystal Falls pastor, Byron Bryant of H-SU, presided and questioned the candidates.

Mrs. Lockett Writes Abilene Friends

We arrived in Lagos January 5th. Dr. and Mrs. Green came to Lagos to meet the four of us and bring us up country in their station wagon. I have been happy every moment since getting back to Africa. The missionaries have all given me a very grateful and cordial welcome. They feel that my return is an answer to prayer. Most of them expected that I would go to pieces when I got to Ogbomoso, and they are greatly surprised that I am radiantly happy.

I am back in the same school work as before, manager and superintendent of the Ogbomoso Day School. Last week I met several times for two or three hours with my teachers to make schedules and to make schemes of work. This week school started January 23rd, and I am in it up to my neck.

My old house where Lee and I lived has been turned over to me to use as a day school. Health officers during the Yellow Fever epidemic decided that it was too near the natives for white people ever to live there again. Lee had repaired the place until it is one of the best in the mission. The yard is grown up in weeds and the shrubbery has grown wild. The citrus fruit trees are weighted down with fruit, I am happy to say, and all of us are enjoying it.

We have a dispensary in my old house where two nurses come twice a week to examine and treat the school children. We have manual training classes there and expect to teach sewing in one room and have a physics and botany laboratory in two other rooms. I shall have my office there. The agricultural teacher will have gardens in the yard and in that way we shall get rid of the weeds. The school girls will plant their flower gardens there and care for them. I am making all kinds of plans for improvement in my school and religious work.

I am working on Sundays at Baki, a little mission in one of the most neglected heathen quarters of this city. I shall do much personal work with the day school pupils, and shall often visit in the town. I should enjoy giving the greater part of my time to evangelistic work.

You ought to see me riding a bicycle, that is practicing riding one. I fell off Kathleen's Saturday and skinned my knee. It is happily heal-

DISTRICT EIGHT GAINS ONE-THIRD IN 3 YEARS

A net gain in membership of over 33 per cent in the three evangelistic years of 1936, 1937 and 1938 was reported by District Missionary J. J. Strickland at the District Eight Pastors' Retreat which was held at First Church, Big Spring, Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning.

Out of district speakers were Dr. J. W. Bruner, of Southwestern Seminary, who stressed personal evangelism; Dr. E. B. Atwood of Hardin-Simmons University, who spoke on the relation of education and evangelism; and Rev. R. Alton Reed of Lamar Ave., Wichita Falls.

Other speakers were Pastors E. F. Cole, Lamesa; T. A. Patterson, Colorado; and H. D. Bruce, Midland, who developed different phases of the conference theme, evangelism.

J. D. Riddle of Abilene conducted song services the first day and by request gave solos at both afternoon and evening meetings. The Hardin-Simmons trio, Misses Orine and Mary Hughes and Leta Rue Riddle, gave special numbers.

Associational chairmen of evangelism, N. S. Garrett of Big Spring, E. A. Phillips of Lamesa, and T. A. Patterson of Colorado were heard on plans for association wide evangelism during the year.

Dr. C. E. Lancaster, of Big Spring, district president, presided, assisted by Vice President N. M. Pitts of Coahoma. First and East Fourth Street Churches, Big Spring, entertained the visitors on the Harvard plan.

Practically every preacher in the District was present except some who were unavoidably hindered. Among the latter was Pastor E. E. Mason of West Side Church who was attending the funeral of his son-in-law, G. E. Morton, victim of an airplane tragedy at Abilene. Sympathy was expressed by the assembly for Brother Mason.

Vacation Bible School Conferences In West Will Have Top Leaders

Conference Leaders



REV. SIBLEY BURNETT
Vacation Bible School Department
Nashville, Tennessee



G. S. HOPKINS
Sunday School Missionary
Dallas, Texas

CISCO ASSN. NEWS

Judson Prince

According to Brother Will Poe, veteran Worker's Conference attendant of Cisco Association one of the largest crowds he ever witnessed in his 44 years of attendance upon these meetings was present last Tuesday, February 7th at the First Baptist Church, Cisco, for the monthly meeting. Approximately 300 were served lunch by the good women of the church. Many others were present who did not remain for the lunch hour.

All of the messages were of the highest order. Rev. Bradley Allison, pastor, Riverside Baptist Church, brought the sermon at 11 o'clock.

In the afternoon in the Executive Board meeting there was much rejoicing because of the payment of a small debt incurred through our associational Mission program.

The next meeting is to be held in the First Church, Breckenridge, March 7.

BAPTIST PERSECUTION ENDED IN ROUMANIA

News dispatches have announced that a new decree in Roumania will permit the opening of Baptist Churches in that kingdom.

Under stringent regulations which went into effect last fall, most of the Roumanian Baptist churches were closed. Many were officially sealed and others were locked with the keys in the hands of police. Baptist leaders in some provinces were cruelly persecuted.

Baptists in America and England especially the offices of the World Alliance have repeatedly protested this reversion to practices of the middle ages. During the recent visit of King Carol to London an earnest protest was addressed directly to him.

ZONE MEETING AT WILMETH

About 80 were present at the Sunday School meeting of the North Zone of Rannels association at Wilmeth Church Sunday, February 12. An interesting program was brought by the Bradshaw Church, 41 of whom attended, led by Pastor Harold Russ. The March meeting will be at Pumphrey.

Dr. T. L. Holcomb of Nashville, Secretary of the Southwide Sunday School board and Dr. Sibley Burnett, field worker directing vacation Bible school activities, will be in Texas the last days of February and in early March on a tour planned for increasing interest in the daily vacation Bible schools this summer.

Plans call for a rally at Amarillo on Sunday, February 26, for workers in Districts Nine and Ten. On Monday, February 27, they will meet with leaders for District Eleven at First Church, Wichita Falls.

Other sections of Texas will be visited during the following week and the leaders will return to the West on Wednesday, March 8, to Brownwood where the conference will be held for District 16.

At San Angelo, on March 9, leaders will gather from Districts Eight and Seven together with the western part of Sixteen. This is an area larger than most of the states of the Union.

The tour will conclude March 10 with a meeting for District Seventeen at First Church, Abilene.

In addition to the Southwide leaders, outstanding men and women in the vacation Bible school work in Texas will have part in the conference.

Rev. J. I. Gregory, pastor at Highland Heights Church, Wichita Falls, is leader for Districts Eleven and Seventeen; Rev. R. Elmer Dunham, Santa Anna, for District Seven, Eight and Sixteen; and J. T. Sisemore of Amarillo, for Districts Nine and Ten.

Goals are being set for the number of schools to be held in the different areas this summer. Fifty are planned for the Panhandle-Plains area and J. D. Riddle, leader for Sweetwater association, hopes to increase the number in the two counties from seven in 1938 to fifteen this year.

SIX WESTEX CHURCHES HIGH IN BTU AWARDS

Churches With Two Hundred or More Awards During 1938

By T. C. GARDNER

Twenty-six churches in Texas received over two hundred training union awards during the year of 1938. The church leading Texas was Second Baptist Church, Marshall, with 387 awards. The truth of the matter is this church led all the churches in the Southern Baptist Convention in 1938. Rev. John Bates is the pastor of the church and Mrs. John Bates is the efficient Training Union Director.

The church making the second highest record in Texas, also in the Southern Baptist Convention, was Gaston Avenue Baptist Church, Dallas, where Dr. W. Marshall Craig is pastor and Miss Mabel Elrod is the Training Union Director.

In the whole Southern Baptist Convention seventy-three churches were granted two hundred or more diplomas and seals during last year, twenty-six of this number were Texas Baptist churches. The churches in Texas received over 200 awards were as follows:

Marshall, Second	387
Dallas, Gaston Avenue	364
Ft. Worth, Travis Avenue	314
Dallas, Forney Avenue	303
Houston, Tabernacle	301
San Antonio, First	297
Amarillo, First	281
Longview, First	271
Commerce	257
Dallas, Cliff Temple	253
Mineral Wells, Calvary	252
Houston, Baptist Temple	251
Houston, Park Memorial	249
Vernon, First	249
Houston, Woodland	246
Dallas, First	241
Port Arthur, Memorial	234
Port Arthur, First	232
Palestine, First	231
Wichita Falls, Highland Hts.	225
Dallas, East Grand	224
Houston, West End	218
Wichita Falls, Lamar Ave.	217
Leonard	210
Ft. Worth, Broadway	201
Memphis	200

TUXEDO ORDAINS DEACONS

At the evening hour, February 12, Brethren Edd Hasburn and Englen were ordained deacons to assist Pastor W. D. Green in the work of Tuxedo Church, Jones county. Rev. D. D. Johnson of Abilene preached the ordination sermon. Pastor Green also reports a good start at Ovalo.

West Texas Baptist

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R. E. DUDLEY Editor

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MASS PRAYER

"Supposing in every country of the world," says David Lawrence in The United States News, "five minutes were set aside at noon each day for a week in which all work, except absolute necessities were stopped while people bowed their heads and asked God to help free the world from the yoke of men who would exploit their fellow human beings? Suppose these mass prayers were not merely confined to pleas for the tragic victims of the dictator's wrath? Suppose, instead, the prayers were offered, too, for the dictators themselves?"

It would be worth trying, wouldn't it? If these prayers could be offered in the sincerity of true worship.

In the hysteria of the threat of war last fall there was mass prayer of an unanimity which has seldom happened—and there was no war. Then, the calamity being averted, we lapsed into our several and selfish ways and the tenor of life moved on as before.

Mr. Lawrence is a practical newspaperman who challenges the Christian world to prayer, not only for themselves, not stopping with those whose distress evokes human pity, but, in the spirit of Christ, to pray for the persecutors.

Most of us go our several ways with little thought in our prayer life for those beyond our daily thoughts. Nations, dictators, persecutions and wars are far from our thoughts in the hour of supplication. Yet in a thousand ways our daily life is affected by these things. Eered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

It is beyond the power of any of us to call the nations to prayer but we can each have access to the Throne of Grace where it is our privilege to claim the attention of Almighty God.

If daily in our private devotions; if regularly in our public gatherings; we unselfishly, solemnly and wholeheartedly invoke the blessings of Heaven upon the warring and troubled peoples, both the oppressed and the oppressor, we will stultify our faith if we will not believe that our God will hear our prayers to His glory and the unfolding of the Divine Will.

And will not such a challenging exhibition of faith and practical Christianity be blessed in the harvest of souls for which we will labor and pray?

SOUL-WINNING MATES

One of the great features of the Baptist Student movement is the plan for "prayer mates," that is, two who covenant together to pray for the burdens of each other. The idea has an appeal to youth and it also has Scriptural foundation. "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

Dr. Scarborough has expanded this idea, challenging Southern Baptists to select soul-winning mates who will go out two by two into the community in which they live in an earnest effort to win the lost to Christ.

There was a time when the revival meeting was the one big social gathering of the year. Everybody attended, just as they attended church, because there was no other place to go. In those days there were many conversions, frequently of hardened sinners, at the preaching services without the assistance of any personal work.

Now it is an extraordinary service which brings out a large percentage of the church members and it is rare that the unsaved from the adolescent period upward ever attend religious services.

For these reasons it is now far more essential than it was in the days of our fathers for Christian people to do personal work if any other than the children from the Sunday Schools are to be converted.

Under these circumstances the plan of soul-winning mates is a very timely suggestion. Jesus sent the twelve, and again the seventy, out two and two. In the beginning of missionary enterprise among the Gentiles the same system was followed with great success.

We owe Dr. Scarborough our thanks for bringing to mind this New Testament custom. It should find a great place in the earnest efforts of this evangelistic year.

VISITATION

In line with the stewardship emphasis of these months, a consecrated deacon suggested to his Sunday School class that instead of the deacons calling upon unenlisted members once a year with a request for money for a church and denominational budget which they do not understand, which will be expended for causes in which they have little interest, that they begin visiting them months in advance.

Instead of approaching members who never attend with a request for money, he suggests brotherly efforts to win them back to their first love.

This is splendid psychology. It is also plain horse sense. Very few horses can be caught up after long months on the range, running with the wild herd, that will pull a pound when hitched up. Good, gentle horses which have been out of harness for a long time require careful handling and gradual conditioning before they are expected to help with a heavy load.

The deacon is probably right. A church which can have its every member canvass persistently conducted throughout the year will likely have little trouble in raising an adequate fund for the budget at the beginning of the fiscal year. It will also likely have little trouble with any other part of its program.

First Church, Lubbock has employed a trained young woman as director of visitation, which is a forward step for the larger church. Many would visit more if they knew where the visits were needed.

News Notes

First Church, Brownwood, is constructing a junior building to relieve congested conditions in the Sunday School.

The First Baptist Church of Shreveport celebrated its ninety-fourth anniversary of February 14. In that time there have been sixteen pastors, including Dr. M. E. Dodd, who has remained twenty-seven years. The charter membership of nine has grown to 4,730.

Pastor J. M. Sibley of First Church, Sweetwater, will lead his flock in a revival, March 12 to 26. Mrs. P. L. Ullom, choir director, will lead the music.

Laymen of District Seven will have a district Brotherhood meeting Monday, February 27, preceding the District convention which meets with Immanuel Church, El Paso, the three following days.

Miss Bonnie Thomas, graduate of Southwestern Seminary and Texas Tech, has been chosen church visitation director of First Church, Lubbock.

Rev. John W. Williams, pastor at Hobbs, N. M., is in Hendrick Memorial Hospital, making rapid recovery from a severe attack of pneumonia.

First Church, Big Spring, will stress trained workers for the Teaching Service in a study course, February 20 to 24. Six books will be taught.

Superintendent W. H. Haney, Mrs. Z. C. Steakley and Mrs. Tom Miller will teach courses in a study of Sunday School work in First Church, Sweetwater, February 19 to 25.

George T. McBeth, former Sunday School superintendent of District Seventeen, was speaker at Nimrod Church last Sunday.

FREE TO PASTORS

SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD OFFERS FREE COPIES OF TRAINING UNION SOUL-WINNING BOOKS TO PASTORS WHO WILL TEACH CLASSES.

The supreme interest of the Baptist Sunday School Board in evangelism through this year has prompted the Board to make the following offer to pastors in the churches of the Southern Baptist Convention:

During 1939 the Board will give one copy of WINNING OTHERS TO CHRIST, by Roland Q. Leavell, or one copy of A WINNING WITNESS, by G. S. Dobbins, to any pastor who will teach, or get someone to teach, one of these books to a class of his people during 1939. It is understood, of course, that the members of the class will use books and that it will not be just a lecture course by the teacher. In a case in which the class membership is composed of both young people and adults, the Senior seal will be given to seniors and the adult seal to adults. To receive these credits, however, all the Training Union study course requirements should be met. See the statement in each book.

Any pastor wishing to take advantage of this offer should write T. C. Gardner, 708 Burt Building, Dallas, Texas, who will approve the request and pass it to the State Book Store.

WINNING OTHERS TO CHRIST is the Senior book and A WINNING WITNESS is the Adult book.

PROGRAM

Jones County Baptist Workers' Conference, Meeting with First Baptist Church, Anson, Texas, Feb. 21, 1939. Theme—Enlistment for Evangelism.

10:00 a. m. Song Service—A. L. Stell.

10:10 a. m. Devotional—L. D. Crumpler.

10:30 a. m. "Enlisting the Sunday School for Evangelism"—J. H. Littleton.

10:55 a. m. "Enlisting Personal Workers for Evangelism"—Fred Moreland.

11:20 a. m. Announcements and Special Music.

11:30 a. m. Sermon—H. D. Bruce, Midland.

12:00. Lunch.

1:30 p. m. Board Meeting.

2:30 p. m. Sermon—P. D. O'Brien.

3:00 p. m. Adjourn.

We hope that every church in the Association will become very much interested in the Evangelistic movement this year. Please send as many representatives as possible from your church to this Evangelistic meeting.

JUST TALK

By Elliott Dudley

Lull

For the first time since the Christmas holidays, news from the Old World has held a minor role. Only the death of the Pope has been given significant headlines since the fall of Catalonia province in northeastern Spain.

The Spanish rebel forces under General Franco are resting from the severe mid-winter campaign and reforming for a campaign to capture Valencia, the last major port remaining in loyalist hands.

Premier Juan Negrin is undertaking to whip into a semblance of defense the remnants of the government forces and the eight million miserable people under their control. He is willing to surrender, if assured of no persecutions, and a government elected free from foreign influence. But that he will never gain.

Islands

There was a little flurry when a British war vessel steamed into the harbor of Minorca, which was still in government hands. It recalled the Victorian days when the appearance of a British war ship in a troubled zone meant that the Mistress of the Seas would have the final say. But this time it was only to carry away the last of the defenders.

Italy has an air base on the sister island of Mallorca and will probably plant a submarine base at the splendid harbor in Minorca, whether England and France like it or not. Mussolini may relax for a time on some of his other demands for this concession but openly or secretly, the islands will be Italian.

Keep an eye on the Canary Islands, last shores of the Old World seen by Columbus before he sighted the New. Spain has owned these islands since the Fifteenth century. There is a splendid harbor, capable of accommodating the largest of vessels as well as great fleets of German submarines. The islands lie across England's seaway to West and South Africa. They are only a little farther from Brazil than Hawaii is from our west coast. They are as close to New York as Brest, France or Portsmouth, England. Hitler with his eyes on colonies will scarcely overlook that strategic location.

New Hope

Now that the burial of the Pontiff is over, great interest will be manifested in the selection of his successor. Hitler is believed to be pulling wires for the election of a German Pope.

If that unlikely event should happen, it would shatter all precedent since the middle ages. In the Fourteenth century French popes moved the seat of the papacy from Rome to Avignon, France. This political struggle lowered public regard for the office and was a great factor in bringing on the Reformation.

Care has long been taken to keep the majority of the College of Cardinals Italian. This is the body which elects the popes and it is probable that they will have greater regard for Mussolini in Rome than for Hitler across the Alps.

Border Clashes

Winter must be comparatively mild in Manchuria to invite the skirmishing which has been resumed between the Japanese and the Russians. Last fall when war threatened in this sector, Japan still had major objectives ahead in China and Hitler had not conquered Europe at Munich.

Now Germany, unafraid in the west, is undermining the chief cornerstone of Russia, while Japan's triumphant, mobile army is in a position to challenge Siberia with the coming of spring.

After many failures, the Japs have at last found them a Chinese tool in old Marshal Wu Pei Fu, one of the war lords who fattened on the miseries of China's civil wars before the country was united under Chiang.

It is reported that the invaders plan to release their shock troops by enlisting hungry Chinese under Marshal Wu to combat the patriots. It is a smart scheme if enough Chinese fall for it.

SENTENCE SERMONS

By O. D. HENLEY

An Achan hurts. Self cries loudly for attention. Love has more admirers and fewer followers than anything.

Doubting disciples dislike duties. He who hasn't any friends doesn't deserve any.

Jesus never idled. Love is life's silver lining.

Ignorance always speaks for itself.

Love keeps no charge accounts. Doubt disheartens.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

February 19, 1939

By Hight C Moore

BEVERAGE ALCOHOL AND ITS SOCIAL PERILS

(A Social Aspect of the Liquor Problem.)

Amos 6:1-6; 1 Peter 2:11, 12; 4:1-5
From Amos and Peter we have the biblical basis for our lesson on a social aspect of the liquor problem. The prophet condemned self-indulgence, while the apostle urged self-control and commended Christlikeness.

1. Self-Indulgence Condemned (Amos 6)

Warning against wickedness. Amos condemns self-indulgence. Note: Danger lurks in ease. The warning is first against false security. The religious leaders of the country depended upon their connection with Zion and trusted their luxurious prosperity. Thus they were lulled with glittering insecurity and were insensible to danger. The warning then turns against false confidence in fortified strongholds of Jeroboam; but they ought to trust in the Lord rather than the mountain of Samaria. The position and privileges of the leaders ought to have insured better conduct, for the people came before them for counsel and judgment. Three thrilling instances of national overthrow are now cited to warn Israel. Think of Calneh, founded by Nimrod, one of the five great Babylonian cities, a famous and almost impregnable stronghold which had recently been subjugated by Assyria. Consider Hamath, the mighty city on the banks of the Orontes which lately had been conquered by both Israel and Assyria. Consider Gath, one of the five chief cities of warlike Philistia, which but a short time before had been captured by Uzziah, king of Judah, who had demolished its very walls. They were prosperous and yet they fell. So will proud and powerful Israel if it persists in vice.

(2) Degeneracy is linked with luxury. Amos enumerates ten of Israel's vices. He charges them with incredulity, for they cynically put far away the evil day; with injustice, for with violence they enforce their fraud; with indolence, for they loiter effeminately upon their beds with inlaid ivory; with immorality, for they were infected with wantonness; with insatiableness, for they lived continually on the fat of flock and stall; with indecency, for they sang and played their voluptuous songs; with irreverence, for they mimicked the Davidic instruments for revelers; with intemperance, for they gulped their wine out of the sacrificial bowls; with impiety, for they anointed themselves with ointments used only for holy purposes; and with indifference, for they are unmoved by the afflictions of their people. No severer indictment can be drawn than the naming of these sins. These sores had broken out on the body of the nation; its heart and blood were filled with poison; outward appearance was only the veneer covering incipient death.

2. Self-Control Urged (1 Peter 2)

Behavior that is seemingly, Peter urges self-control. Such a life is devoted to good works and upright behavior causes even maligning foes to glorify God. (1) The doers of good works are "beloved" of the apostle, "sojourners" on earth for a time, and "pilgrims" on the way to the Better Country. (2) The phases of good works include abstinence and achievement. The first caging, confirming, and controlling fleshly cravings of all sorts on the ground that they wage war upon the soul; the second consecrating and centering every energy upon "seemly behavior" which would influence others to better lives. (3) The foes of good works exhaust every device of slander and vilification, only to set believers in better light and to strike the sharp edge of their own consciousness. (4) The goal of good works is to glorify God, and this is done even by the persecuting Gentiles themselves in their day of providential visitation.

3. Christlikeness Commanded (1 Peter 4)

Living to the will of God. Peter commends and commands Christlikeness. One who puts Christ in the center of his life and of his world will come nearest the ideal of character and conduct. (1) He accepts the divine Christ who is Son of God and Son of man, the best citizen earth ever knew. (2) He trusts the suffering Christ who, though maligned and misunderstood, laid down his life in vicarious atonement for the sins of men and left an example which inspires us to do and be our best. The

same mind which he had when he endured the cross should animate us in the midst of any suffering we may be called on to endure, for suffering makes sin less attractive and takes the edge off temptation. (3) He follows the directing Christ. He is not dominated by the desires of the flesh but years after the will of God, desiring to make it the rule of his life. (4) He is indebted to the delivering Christ. His past record, like that of Peter's readers, may not be without sin and stain. They used to be inflamed with the desire of the pagan Gentiles about them. They walked in every path of vice. They knew the byways of lasciviousness and lust. They had indulged in drunken brawls. They had caroused in idolatrous abominable. But Christ had delivered them from the galling chains of their iniquity. (5) He takes sides with the dividing Christ. There is a difference between the good citizen and bad citizen. And when, at the word of Christ, a redeemed and reformed citizen refuses to run with his old associates into former excesses, they first think it strange and then they begin to gossip and speak evil about him. But if he is a good citizen he stands his ground. (6) He acknowledges his responsibility to the judging Christ. He is accountable not merely as an individual or as a member of the family, but also as a citizen who realizes that Christ is ready to judge those who are now living as well as those who have passed away.

Avoid Self-Indulgence and Cultivate Self-Control

(1) Self-Indulgence in Church. "At ease in Zion." They were the Chosen People; why fear? They were the Children of Abraham; why toil and trouble? They were in Zion; why not be at ease? How foolish men are to build on such shifting sand!

(2) Self-Indulgence in State. "Trust in the mountain of Samaria." But their capital needed something stronger than a mountain to uphold it. There can be no strong and stable government without sound citizenship, and the good citizen must be good at heart first of all, and he trusts God before his government.

(3) Self-Indulgence in Industry. "Seat of violence." Force fails after a time. Violence becomes its own victim. Fraud must eventually collapse. Apply the Golden Rule in the marts of commerce.

(4) Self-Indulgence in Society. "Revelry" (v 7 ASV). With spirituality gone, there is license for any vice. The social structure becomes rotten. Riot takes the place of righteousness. The race reels downward to degeneracy and ruin.

(5) Self-Indulgence in the Home. "Eat the lamb—drink wine." Gluttony and drunkenness go together. Intemperance in eating and drinking undermine manhood, overthrow reason, and destroy body and soul. Break the shackles of slavery to appetite.

Gold in the Golden Text

It is good not to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor to do anything whereby thy brother stumbleth. Romans 14:21.

The object of solicitude is "thy brother." To him we are bound by ties of fraternal. In particular we are to see that no stumbling block is put in his path and that no snare is spread or his feet. In order to keep our own skirts clear we are "not to eat flesh, nor to drink wine" if by so doing we give needless offense to any brother and impede his progress in the Christian life. In other words we are to abstain from certain things which may not in themselves be harmful to us yet seen in us by others would lead them astray. That is, we ought to abstain for the sake of others.

Home Daily Bible Readings

Feb. 13—Alcohol and Youth. Ecclesiastes 11:9 to 12:1.

Feb. 14—Selfish Indulgence. Amos 6:1-6.

Feb. 15—The Obligation to Ourselves. 1 Peter 2:11, 12; 4:1-5.

Feb. 16—Alcohol and Poverty. Proverbs 23:20-32.

Feb. 17—A Nation Weakened by Alcohol. Isaiah 5:8-13.

Feb. 18—Personal Abstinence. Jeremiah 35:1-10.

Feb. 19—Christian Liberty. 1 Corinthians 8:9-13.

DOCTRINAL

ORDINANCES OF THE CHURCH

By C. D. OWEN

There were two events in the personal ministry of Christ on earth, that stood out separate and distinct from all the rest. On these two events hung the redemption of mankind. One was just as essential to his redemption as was the other. First of these events was His death on the cross. I Peter 2:24. "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins should live unto righteousness." Second event, was His burial and resurrection. "Who was raised for our justification." Rom. 4:25.

These two events being equally essential to man's redemption, Christ put in his church two ordinances to be observed by the church, in commemoration of them. One of these ordinances is the Lord's Supper which symbolizes his death, the bread representing his broken body, the wine his shed blood. The other is baptism, which symbolizes his burial and resurrection. Rom. 6:4.

There are two reasons why these ordinances were put in the church. First, to safe-guard them. Christ said of the church, "The gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Second, that the church may continue to observe them until Christ comes again. Concerning the Lord's Supper Paul said: "Ye do shew the Lord's death till he come." (I Cor. 11:26) Concerning baptism, Christ said, "Baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost—and lo, I am with you all the way, even unto the end of the world."

There is a definite manner in which these ordinances are to be observed. Paul speaking to the church at Corinth said: "Remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances as I have delivered them to you."

The following four principles are taught concerning the Lord's Supper:

1. Transubstantiation, taught by Roman Catholics, That after consecration, the bread and wine are converted into the actual body and blood of Christ.

2. Consubstantiation, taught by Lutherans. That the body and blood of Christ are present in the bread and wine.

3. Sacramental view. That the Lord's Supper is an outward sign of an inward grace, and serves as a dedication for service. It is called a "Sacrament." Many protestants hold this position.

4. Baptists believe, that Christ instituted the Lord's Supper as a memorial of his death on the cross and it is, therefore to be observed in remembrance of him. I Cor. 11:24-25.

It is also a symbolic ordinance, the broken bread is a symbol, or likeness of his body, the wine a symbol, or likeness of his shed blood. Luke 22:19-20.

It is declarative. Declares the fact of his death. "Ye do shew forth the Lord's death till he come." It declares, the manner of his death. The bread representing his body. The wine representing his blood shed for remission of sins. Luke 22:20.

We shall now notice some restrictions relative to this ordinance. There is a definite manner in which it is to be observed. I Cor. 11:2. It is called the Lord's Supper. See I Cor. 11:20. (Do not call it "Sacrament," or "Communion.") Being the Lord's Supper, He has given definite restrictions with reference to it. First restriction is in the motive of observing it. This motive must be that Christ alone, remembered in his death on the cross, such a motive would exclude the ordinance from being observed as an expression of friendship for those of other communions.

Another restriction, is a division among believers. I Cor. 11:18-20. "For first of all, when ye come together in the church I hear there be divisions among you; and I partly believe it. For there must be also heresies among you—When ye come together therefore into one place, ye cannot 'eat the Lord's Supper.' The apostle declares emphatically, where there is a division or heresies, we 'cannot eat the Lord's Supper.' This is certainly true; in what is called 'Open Communion,' where there is a division in doctrine and practice. The apostle continues by giving a reason why the Lord's Supper cannot be observed under such conditions. "For in eating every one taketh before another his own supper; and one is hungry, another is drunken (thus making a social meal of it). What, have ye not houses to eat and drink in? or despise ye the church of God, and shame them that have not? What shall I say unto you? Shall I praise you in this? I praise you not."

The Scriptural qualifications for the Lord's Supper are found in Acts 2:41-42. "They that gladly received the word were baptized (there is

faith and baptism) and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls (church membership). And they continued steadfastly in the apostles doctrine and fellowship (fellowship, in doctrine, no division) and in BREAKING OF BREAD, and in prayers." That is the scriptural order in approaching the Lord's Supper. Would you say, Baptists are narrow because they believe and accept it?

Some say, "We will all take the Lord's Supper in heaven, why not on earth?" We will not take the Lord's Supper in heaven. That is an ordinance for those on earth. I Cor. 11:25. But grant for the sake of the argument that we will take the Lord's Supper in heaven, it could not be "open communion." Open Communion consists of division in doctrine of various denominations.

OF ALL SCHOOLS

By GORDON BARRETT

While a brat at the foot of the mountains of Georgia, I attended school in a log house, no windows, stick and dirt chimney, dirt floor, door of the institution of learning was hung on wooden hinges. In this school, our curriculum was reading, writing, spelling, and arithmetic. When I learned to spell "incomprehensibility" and "incompatibility," I said to myself, "Boy, I don't know what these words mean, but they sure are big ones, and I'll find a time and place some sweet day when I can use some of them."

I also attended Grayson College in Whiteright, Texas, and Baylor University in Waco, Texas. While these schools did not make any "big one" out of me, they surely did do right well, considering what they had to work on.

While I cherish with fond recollection some of the things that transpired while in the above mentioned schools, I must confess that of all the schools that I have attended, the school of Experience, eclipses them all. In this school of Experience, lessons are taught that have never been written in text-books. Out of all the professors that I have met, and I must confess that I have met some mighty fine ones, old Prof Experience surpasses them all.

When God wanted a man from whom to grow a great nation, HE went down into the land of Ur and called Abraham who was seventy-five years old at the time that he was called out.

When God wanted a man to lead HIS people out of bondage and write the first five books of the Bible, HE went out into a wilderness and found Moses who was eighty years of age.

When Jesus wanted a man who could and would dare to do, HE called Saul of Tarsus who became Paul the Apostle. This servant of his master planted more churches in more hard places than any other person. He never quit, but when ninety-two years old, he stood erect and died an heroic death.

If churches change from the ripe and experienced preacher to young and inexperienced preachers for pastors in the next two decades as they have in the past two decades, they will be calling their pastors out of the kindergarten.

Any one that engenders strife between the young and the old is an enemy to both. There is room for all, and each in his place, there will be no conflict.

If the churches will go back to their first love, humble themselves and ask God to direct them in the call of a pastor; if the preachers will quit playing politics and ask God to direct them as to where He will have them go, the world will have more respect for both churches and preachers. The churches and preachers are supposed to be spirit-led organizations and persons; and if each or either neglect the leadership of the Divine Spirit, both are going to suffer.

Love for both churches and preachers prompts me to write this note. I hope it will be read in the spirit in which it is written.

POSITIONS

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DRIVE OPENS TO SMASH U. S. RUM MANUFACTURE

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Representative Louis Ludlow (D., Ind.) is organizing a vigorous campaign in Congress to outlaw the government's Virgin Island rum business.

He plans to offer a resolution forcing the administration to dissolve its four-year-old partnership with island rum makers and to prohibit further use of federal funds for manufacture or sale of the beverage.

Mr. Ludlow commended the administration for seeking to relieve economic distress in the islands—the reason it went into rum manufacturing—but said that "this enterprise puts the government squarely before the boys and girls of the country in the attitude of sanctioning the use of rum."

WAR IN PALESTINE

By MILLARD A. JENKENS, D. D.

The greater war events of the world have kept it out of the big headlines, but war is there. Shem, son of Noah, lived 600 years and begat sons and daughters. He was the first Semite, and the father of the Semitic or Jewish race. Two years after the flood, Shem at the age of 200 had a son he named Arphaxad.

Of this lineage was born Abraham who had two sons, Ishmael the elder, son of an Egyptian maidservant whose name was Hagar; and the younger, Isaac, son of Sarah, wife of Abraham. She was unwilling that Ishmael should share equally with Isaac, so he and his mother were driven out into the desert where "he grew and dwelt in the wilderness and became a rafter."

In Palestine today Ishmael has 900,000 descendants called Arabs, and Isaac has 400,000 descendants called Jews. The sons of Ishmael claim the precedence because they say they "were there first; and that for 13 centuries they have tilled its soil." The sons of Isaac claim the 10,000 square miles as theirs because through Isaac they are the "heirs of Abraham and therefore heirs to the promise God gave him that his seed should possess it forever; and that up to the time the Romans sent 4,000,000 on their wanderings, the land for a thousand years had been theirs."

The 3,000-year-old feud of these claimants is being enacted today with bullet and bomb, and in the estimation of some writers endangering the British Empire which holds a mandate over Palestine for the Jews, as vast millions of its subjects are of the same Moslem faith of those Arabs, and with them hold Jerusalem as the center and headquarters of their religion.

Bible students, as well as students of political world affairs will watch with great interest the outcome. In prophetic Scripture, Palestine is promised to the scattered, persecuted and unwanted Jews; that they shall be gathered back and planted in their own land to be plucked up no more forever (Amos 9:15)—Watchman-Examiner (New York).

WORKERS MEET AT THALIA

Officers of District Eleven were speakers at the Workers' Conference of Wilbarger-Foard association which met at Thalia on February 14. District Missionary John M. Riddell presided.

Speakers on the program were Volus Norsworthy of Vernon, Sunday School superintendent; Mrs. T. J. Furniss, W. M. U. president; J. Boyd East, Quanah, B. T. U. director and Rev. A. Hope Owen, Quanah, evangelistic leader. Rev. W. B. Fitzgerald, Crowell, led a devotional period.

These district officers are presenting this program under the direction of Missionary Riddell in every association in the district except one.

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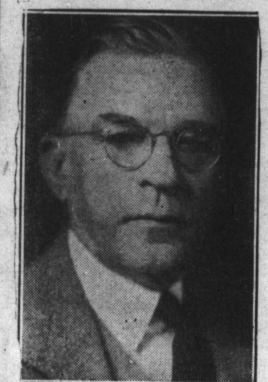
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MAYOR HAIR ANNOUNCES FOR SECOND TERM



Mayor Will W. Hair, who is concluding his first term as mayor of the City of Abilene and his first political position since becoming a citizen of the city nearly twelve years ago has announced for re-election for a second term. The election will take place April 4.

Judge Hair feels that he is much better equipped to handle the business of the city as the result of two years of experience at the head of the municipal government. He also has expressed a desire to continue in that position until the final completion of the Phantom Hill water project and the refunding of the city bonds.

The construction of the lake at Fort Phantom Hill, which when filled will be one of the largest in West Texas, was a major project of Judge Hair's first administration. It will provide water for a city double the present size of Abilene and is a factor in the Brazos river control.

The Mayor states that he stands for economy in administration and maintaining the credit of the city, with progress as rapidly as the finances of the city permits.
(Political Advertisement)

THE SUCCESSFUL CHURCH

There is a story told in England of two country deacons who met one day in a market-town and fell to comparing notes about their congregations. "Did you," asked one, "have any additions to your membership last year?" "No," answered the other, "but we had some blessed subtractions."

Our statistics give us away: we despise the "little flock." It may indeed be that the hard going that the churches are experiencing in these times—for there is a serious declension in the rate of the churches' growth in recorded membership—is a sign that God is purposing that it shall again become a "little flock," so that it may make a new beginning. A successful church is well enough, if it be successful in the right way and for the right reasons; but it is well to remember that a failing church in the eyes of men may be a successful church in the eyes of God.—From The Contemporary Christ by Richard Roberts.

Sleeping Christians make a weeping Christ.

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GENERAL PRACTICE

Hardin-Simmons News

Jewette Patton To BSU Post

The B. S. U. council met in a special meeting to elect one new council member and to discuss plans for coming events, notably Religious Week, March 20 to 26.

Jewette Patton was elected second vice-president to fill the vacancy caused by the graduation of Ann Rader.

S. E. Smith gave a report of the B. S. U. conference that he attended at Dallas, recently. He said several schools reported the best revivals that they have had in several years. The other schools are joining us in expecting a great revival on the campus of H-SU," he said.

The regular time for the council meeting has been changed from Thursday evening to second and fourth Wednesdays at 4:30 o'clock.

Harper Van Ness Gets Alternate Appointment

Harper Van Ness, H-SU sophomore from Mexico, Mo., received word this week from his congressman, Representative Clarence Cannon, of the Ninth Missouri District, that he had been appointed first alternate for this year's entrance class to the U. S. Naval Academy, at Annapolis. Mark Adam Thomson, of St. Charles, Mo., was named principal.

H-SU PAVING FUNDS CAMPAIGN DISCUSSED

Plans for raising the \$4,000 needed by Hardin-Simmons university for its part of the paving of the 2,400-foot campus "circle drive" were launched Monday afternoon at a meeting of Abilene members of the school's board of trustees. The meeting was called by Ben Allen, the conference being held at the Citizens National bank.

Several gifts were made by the directors who plan to quietly raise the balance needed for this project. Most recent improvements on the H-SU campus have been made possible through gifts on non-Abilenians and the Abilene board members consider it their duty to finance the paving project through donations of Abilene friends of the university. — Abilene Reporter.

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WITH STUDENT PREACHERS

By Melvin Byrd

Bro. Arlie McDaniel has accepted a call to the Toyah church in the Pecos Valley association. This is one of the best half-time churches in that association. Arlie reports a good day there Sunday.

T. J. Dubose has resigned his churches near Wichita Falls, and has taken charge of the jail service conducted each Sunday afternoon at the county jail in Abilene.

Gene Hall preached at Truby the first Sunday of this month. They had good services, and did some extension work in the afternoon. This church is pastorless.

We had an unusually good day at Hannah Sunday. A men's Bible class was organized Sunday morning with nine present. They named several prospective members and said they would pray for them and visit them until they were enlisted.

The ministers that attended the pastor and laymen retreat at Wayland last week gave a report of the meeting at ministerial council Friday evening. It was a great meeting. A similar meeting will be held at H-SU next year.

Omer Hyde preached at the jail Sunday afternoon. There were several requests for prayer.

Elmer Holt reports good services at Central Sunday. He had six additions to the church.

Pastor Carrol Holtzclaw is making plans for a revival at Sunset church in the near future. He plans to let the ministers of H-SU do the preaching. Pray for this meeting.

Dr. Bob Jones, the noted evangelist now engaged in a revival at the First Methodist Church, spoke at the chapel assembly Tuesday morning. His message was very interesting to all.

Dr. E. B. Atwood spoke at the pastor's retreat of District Eight which met at Big Spring Monday and Tuesday.

Arville Richardson preached at Pleasant Hill Sunday. He reports that they are going forward. Plans are being made to organize a W. M. U.

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For further information address the Superintendent.

E. M. Collier, Superintendent

GIFTS TO TEXAS CO-OPERATIVE PROGRAM

District 17, B. N. Shepherd, Organizer
Callahan Association
January 1939

J. S. Pierce, Organizer, Clyde.

Churches	Amt. Thru C. P.
Admiral	\$ 6.00
Antioch	
Atwell	1.00
Baird	14.00
Belle Plaine	66
Clyde	29.75
Cottonwood	
Cross Plains	1.00
Denton Valley	
Dressy	
Dudley	
Oplin	2.00
Potosi	7.21
Putnam	
Scranton	
	\$61.62

Cisco Association

Churches	Amt. Thru C. P.
Albany	\$ 35.64
Blubb Branch	
Breckenridge	246.17
Caddo	
Carbon	
Center	
Cisco East	
Cisco First	74.99
Crystal Falls	
Desdemona	1.81
Eastland	55.21
Gorman	28.40
Leon	
Long Branch	
Mangum	
Midway	
Moran	5.00
Necessity	
New Hope No. 1	
New Hope No. 2	
New Hope No. 3	
Nimrod	
Okra	
Olden	13.15
Parks	
Pioneer	
Pleasant Hill	
Pueblo	
Ranger First	66.00
Rising Star	
Sabanna	.90
Staff	
Union	
	\$527.27

Fisher Association

Churches	Amt. Thru C. P.
Barron View	
Bethel	
Cross Roads	
El Paso	2.00
Cannon	
Highland Home	24.50
Hitson	4.00
Liberty	11.00
Longworth	
McCauley	12.60
Moody	
Newman	
North Roby	2.00
Plasterco	3.45
Pleasant Valley	
Pledger	
Roby	32.25
Rotan	153.83
Royston	1.00
Sardis	5.00
Springs Creek	
Sylvester	34.25
	\$275.88

Haskell Association

Churches	Amt. Thru C. P.
Bethlehem	
Brushy	
Cottonwood	
Currys Chapel	
Gauntt	
Gillespie	
Goree	1.84
Haskell, First	61.42
Howard	
Knox City	14.78
Munday	47.00
New Hope	
O'Brien	4.61
Pinkerton	
Post	
Rochester	24.07
Rockdale	
Rule	18.00
Scranton	1.00
Smith Chapel	
Sweet Home	
Tanner Paint	
Weaver	
Weinert	
Weston	
	172.72

Jones County Association

Churches	Amt. Thru C. P.
Amity	
Anson	49.71
Avoca	
Bethel	
Boyd's Chapel	
Comper	
Corinth	2.00
Fairview	4.78
Flat Top	
Friendship	

Golan	
Hamlin	50.00
Hannah	
Hawley	1.50
Hebron	5.20
Hodges	
Lueders	
Mt. Pleasant	
New Hope	
Noodle	
Nugent	
Oak Grove	2.00
Prairie View	
Shiloh	
Stamford First	201.39
Stith	
Truby	
Tuxedo	5.00
	321.58

Stonewall Association

Churches	Amt. Thru C. P.
Aspermont	\$30.00
Bulah	
Center View	
Clairemont	
Girard	
Jayton	
Johnson Chapel	3.00
Mt. View	
Old Glory	
Oriana	2.25
Peacock	
Rio Vista	
Salt Flat	
Swenson	
Valley View	

Sweetwater Association

Churches	Amt. Thru C. P.
Abilene, Calvary	\$ 1.00
Abilene First	\$40.00
Abilene Immanuel	12.50
Abilene North Park	12.60
Abilene Southside	116.42
Abilene Sunset	
Abilene Temple	9.00
Abilene University	136.91
Bethel	
Blackwell	28.98
Blair	
Buffalo Gap	2.00
Calvary	
Caps	
Cedar Gap	
Colony Hill	
Elmdale	31.32
Hamby	
Hylton	
Lawn	
Mary Neal	.80
Merkel	88.21
Moro	3.00
Mt. Olive	
Mt. Pleasant	
Neill	
New Live Oak	
Nolan	
Ovalo	
Salt Branch	
Shep	6.00
Sweetwater First	63.26
Sweetwater Lamar	
Trent	5.00
Tuscola	11.25
Tye	6.00
View	1.50
Whiteflat	
	\$884.75

R. C. CAMPBELL,

General Secretary.

SPIRITUAL QUIZ

2 Cor. 13:5

"If all Christians were just like me
What kind of Christians would
there be?"

1. Is your life before your family and your fellowman such that they believe you are a Christian? Matt. 5:16.
2. Do you read your Bible daily? Ps. 119:105.
3. Do you study God's word? 2 Tim. 3:16.
4. Do you pray daily for divine guidance in your life? Matt. 26:41.
5. Do you pray for missions and our missionaries? Rom. 15:30.
6. Do you pray for our local and denominational leaders? Acts 12:5.
7. Do you have a family altar in your home? Prov. 22:6.
8. Are you using your talent in the Master's service? Matt. 25:15.
9. Are you faithful and loyal in this service? Matt. 25:23.
10. Are you free from harmful gossip? Lev. 19:16.
11. Is your criticism of local and denominational leaders constructive criticism only? Matt. 12:36.
12. Do you minister to the needy? Matt. 25:34-36.
13. Do you visit the sick and shut-ins? (Same scripture as above).
14. Do you tithe? Mal. 3:10.
15. Have you been instrumental in leading any souls to Christ? Jas. 5:20.
16. Have you talked with anybody this year about their souls salvation? 2 Cor. 5:20.
17. Is your life "unspotted from the world?" Jas. 1:27.
18. Do you hold up the hands of your leaders? Rom. 13:1.
19. Are you faithful in attending services of worship? Matt. 18:20.

The Place of Service For Laymen--

(Continued From Page 1)

men so enlisted will be enriched in spiritual power and heavenly joy; and the heart of a suffering, bewildered world will be lifted up closer to the heart of our compassionate Christ who gave His life on the cross that all might have life eternal through faith in Him. As men, let us not fail the Master in this tragic hour of the world's need. Let us hear the voice of Christ calling to paths of blessed service; and answer as God may give us the grace to fill the place He has planned for us to fill till life's brief race shall have been run, in order that, when we stand before him, we may hear the glorious words: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

In closing I desire to quote two pungent and meaningful paragraphs by Dr. M. E. Dodd, Pastor of the great First Baptist Church, Shreveport, Louisiana. He has the following to say relative to utilizing our Baptist laymen:

"We need to utilize the laymen for the sake of the preacher. Many preachers are held down to the details of church work in administrative and directive responsibilities which should be done by business men. Preachers use time for these things that should be given to prayer and preaching. If the preacher would call the laymen and the laymen would respond and relieve the preacher of responsibilities, it would release him for a larger and more influential spiritual ministry in proclaiming the Word and prophesying for God."

"To sum it all up—God wants his men to be used, they themselves are willing to be used, there are vast fields in which they may be used, and there is great need for their utilization. When the manpower of our churches and our beloved denomination comes forward in whole-hearted consecration to Christ, then the chariot wheels of His kingdom will move with accelerated speed and God's glory will soon fill the earth as the waters cover the sea."

Something to Think About

Pastor A. W. Blaine of Benjamin sends us the following timely verse by one of his members.

INHUMANITY J. V. Jones

A poor old mule by the wayside stood
Cropping the thorny bush for daily food,
Wondering if he once more
Would find water as he did the day before;
Anxiously he watched each passer-by
In hopes he might his master spy,
Coming to lead him back to food and stall
Where he could forget hunger and snow fall
His mulish mind could not understand
Why his master calmly gave the command
"Turn him out and let him roam
For he is no longer of service at home,
When young and strong he served me well
For how many years I can not tell
But now he is old and it's against my rule
To keep on caring for a useless mule."

I pondered deeply as I watched this scene
Till memories woke my conscience keen
Then I knew that churches as a rule
Treat their pastors as this man did his mule.

THE LITTLE HELPER

By J. E. DILLARD

There is a picture in the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington that I go to see every time I am in the Capital City. It is called "A Helping Hand"; it was painted by Emile Renouf.

The picture portrays a hardy but kindly old salt with feet scotched and nerves straining as he pulls upon the big oars and rows his great boat across the rough waters. By his side sits a demure little girl. I think it is his granddaughter, she has put her tiny hands upon the big oar and thinks she is helping.

And she is helping; you can tell it by the happy, proud smile on grandpa's face. She isn't pulling the boat very much, but she sure is encouraging grandpa to pull. For every ounce she pulls, he pulls another pound. That is why it is called the Helping Hand.

How our Hundred Thousand Club needs encouragement just now. Some of us have been doing our bit in the Baptist Hundred Thousand Club ever since it started. We have made some headway—a million dollars have been paid upon those denominational debts. But some have grown weary and quit; others are tired and almost ready to give up.

We can at least encourage these good friends by putting our hands upon the oars. We may not be able to do much pulling but it will help others to pull more. And then you know every little helps some.

Let's join the Baptist Hundred Thousand Club and pay a whole dollar a month to help get rid of those debts. If we can't pay a whole dollar let's pay a half dollar, or even a quarter. Let's do something. Let's join the Helping Hand bunch. What do you say? Shall we join or not join? Let's do it today!

INCREASED FAITH

By VERNON YEARBY

This prayer of the Apostles deserves our attention because it is a prayer for the Spiritual blessing and that is a blessing always of prime importance.

An increased faith will increase our religious delights.

An increased faith will deliver us from distressing doubts.

An increased faith will emancipate us from perplexities of pulpit and pew.

An increased faith brings settled opinion, conviction and unshakable confidence in The Eternal.

An increased faith will give us joy which will diminish our sensibility of the pleasures of sin.

An increased faith will purify our hearts.

An increased faith will glorify our Creator.

Our faith can be increased by earnest, humble apostolic prayer—"INCREASE OUR FAITH"; may we fall on our knees at Calvary and cry, "LORD? I BELIEVE, HELP THOU MY UNBELIEF."

Our faith can be increased by fervent and devout companionship with him who saves: Jesus Christ, the alpha and omega of our faith.

Our faith can be increased by allowing nothing to eclipse its light, obstruct its operation, or impair its effects.

Then, because we need an increased faith as we face a tremendous task, and because we can have an increased faith to accomplish that task, accept Him promise and pray INCREASE OUR FAITH.

CUNNINGHAM &

OLIVER

Attorneys-at-Law

Citizens Bank Building

Abilene, Texas

CHURCH BULLETIN SECTION

BRADSHAW

Sunday School, Each Sunday at Ten Training Union, Sunday Evening at 7 Preaching, Second and Fourth Sundays 11:00 A. M. and 8:00 P. M.

There were 67 in Sunday School February 12. Let us try to have at least 75 by the Fourth Sunday. Remember, we have a training union for each age.

Our Invitation to All! Numbers 10.29.

Harold Russ, Pastor; A. O. Faith, Supt.

ELMDALE

- 1939 Goals For Sunday School
1. Increase enrollment to 175.
 2. Organize and standardize classes above Junior Department.
 3. Enroll all resident church members in Sunday School.
 4. Enlist unchurched Baptists in community.
 5. Average attendance of 100.
 6. Start a church library.
- Finis A. Williams, pastor, Wendell Foreman, superintendent.

RAMBLING REMARKS

(Continued from page 1)

Seminary are not the joking sort, at least that is the impression they made on me when I did my stretch there back in the twenties. As John Bunyan would say, I was put to it to know what to discuss. I felt tempted to speak on some of my recollections of Seminary life as it was lived in the early twenties. I was a little afraid to do it, as there was one experience that kept clamoring for expression that may be better untold. This particular experience has to do with a large friendly Thomas cat who silently slipped about the corridors of old Fort Worth hall. One night a group met on third floor to study (?) Greek, or something. The above-mentioned cat quietly joined the party. Someone present asked if we had ever put a cat's paws in empty shot gun shells to test reactions. We hadn't. And being assured that it was worth trying we found four shells, emptied out the contents and carefully and thoroughly pushed each paw of the gentle-old feline into these new boots. When we placed him on the floor there was a mild reaction. A slight arching of the back, a fluffing of the tail, dilated eyes and a low mew, but none of this prepared us for what followed. He tapped the floor with one foot and his blood pressure started an ascent that probably hasn't returned to normal yet. He tried to jump away from this metal footing and when he did the other three feet joined the tattoo. Then things started to happen. Whether fortunately or unfortunately someone left the door open and that cat "took off." Up and down those halls with those four metal feet beating time to the most unearthly shrieking I have ever heard. Fully aroused we tried to catch him, half afraid we might and not knowing what to do if we did, our hearts nearly stopped when he took a nose dive down to the second floor. He seemed to have no concern for the fact that the men and their wives on that floor were making final preparations for retiring. As

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REGISTRATION FOR SPRING SEMESTER, JANUARY 30

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