

WEST TEXAS BAPTIST

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No. 25

Baptist Bodies Endorse Unification Movement

Chinese Missionary Describes Horrors Of Heathen Ceremonies to Bring Rain

Editor's Note: In the following interesting letter from Miss Blanche Groves of China, the writer tells of the awful drouth and famine that has gripped that part of the world during the past months, and of the efforts of the heathens to bring rain by weird ceremonies. Miss Groves tells of a massive parade in which heaven, earth and hell were presented as uniting in praying for rain. The writer sat with a Chinese Bible woman and watched this parade for three hours, and then she writes: "Never have I seen heathenism in all its hopelessness and superstition as I've seen at this time. My soul was depressed with what my eyes witnessed, and yet I am sure I'll be a more earnest missionary ever afterwards."

Soochow, China,

Aug. 10, 1934.

My Precious Friends across the Pacific:

With the irregularity of trans-Pacific mail (due to the "strike" on the Pacific Coast) one hardly knows when or whether letters will reach friends on that side, yet because I am thinking of you and have the time to tell you so I am at least starting this letter across to you.

We are in the midst of the hottest summer Soochow has experienced in sixty years. I've been in Soochow fourteen years. I've spent several of my summers in Soochow, busy at work, but I've never witnessed such a time as this. Thousands of Chinese families have moved out upon the streets where they can at least exist. Many have died of heat. The streets at night are filled with cots and boards and mats until traffic has had to stop on most of the streets. The heat and typhoid have already taken a heavy toll from our city and the cholera epidemic has just begun.

It is not only hot but also very dry in our section. The drouth has brought distress and suffering untold. The Taoist priests, Buddhist priests, and Llamas from Tibet, have sent up prayers for rain. All over our city can be seen thousands of prayer flags. These are made of black paper with dots to represent the clouds and rain drops. These flags with long streamers are hung on long bamboo poles fastened on the roofs of the houses.

Many intelligent Buddhists and Taoists as well as illiterate and superstitious people have had horrible, gruesome, heathen ceremonies and parades for weeks now. This is their method of appeasing the wrath of the angry gods and praying for rain. The different guilds of the city have vied with each other in putting on demonstrations. Each guild trying to excel all the others in elaborateness, and often in hideousness. The precious stones guilds have had charge of one parade, the paper guilds another, and the flower shops guild another, and so on.

One day all guilds of the city united in the biggest parade I've ever witnessed. This parade was strange, yet beautiful at times; interesting, yet horrible at other times. It took several hours for it to pass along one central street of the city. Different sections of the parade then separated and paraded through the principal parts of the city.

A Chinese Bible woman and I sat in a third story window of a big silk shop on the main street and watched this parade for three hours. I am glad I saw this and yet I never want to see another like it. This is the first of its kind since China became a Republic and I hope it will be the last of its kind until Christ shall come again.

Never have I seen heathenism in all its hopelessness and superstition as I've seen at this time. My soul was depressed with what my eyes witnessed, and yet I'm sure I'll be a more earnest missionary ever afterwards. Christ can and does dispel superstition wherever he enters. And Christ is China's greatest and only hope.

This parade in which all guilds were united had a central theme. Much thought and preparation preceded it. It represented heaven, earth and hell uniting to pray for rain.

Hell was represented by such hideous looking people to represent evil spirits. There were those who represented demons of all different kinds. Tortures were also represented by hundreds of young men and boys with

hooks fastened in the skin of their arms between elbow and wrist upon which was suspended heavy stones and weights. With their arms extended they ran along the streets with weights of 50 to 75 pounds. Many had portable victrolas suspended on these hooks and they carried them so steadily that the music was perfectly smooth as they marched along the street. Others beat and bruised, bit and tortured themselves and others. This all represented hell pleading for rain.

Earth was represented by people from every walk and rank and age of Chinese life. Different professions and vocations were represented. Not only the human race, but vegetable and animal life were included in all varieties and kinds. This represented earth and every living creature and thing upon the earth praying for rain.

Heaven was represented by the idols that were taken out of many of the temples of the city and carried in sedan chairs in the parade. These idols were carried to the central city temple where there is an idol representing the "Heavenly Grandfather" and all the other idols bowed to this idol. This represented the sacred people and various gods praying to the higher gods and to heaven for rain.

The conservatives say this drouth had come because of the building of a modern city hall last winter and that if it doesn't rain soon the building will have to come down. A great Buddhist priest of the city had decided to be burned alive last week if it did not rain. But there was rain and he was not burned.

My heart has been broken as I've realized a new that we are living in a heathen land where still there are millions who have not heard of Christ. In our own city here of over six hundred thousand people thousands have not yet heard of Christ.

During these depressing, distressing times the people who have been calm, and composed, and hopeful, have been the Christians about us. How Christ does dispel darkness! How Christianity does shine amidst the darkness! What noble Chinese Christians we have in Soochow!

Do we need more Missionaries? I feel that I'd like to shout from the housetops in a voice that could be heard around the world "Come over and help us." The millions here are dying without Christ. We're working day and night and yet we can't begin to reach all of them. The harvest is white but the laborers are few. Our station is so undermanned and yet trying to keep all our work going. Instead of the twelve missionaries we had a few years ago in our station there are only five left now and one of these has been in bed for six months unable to work. Dr. McDaniel who lost the sight of one eye went home for an operation in May. News—glorious news—has just come that the operation was successful and he is returning in September. We also expect Miss Lea to come back this fall and a new missionary, Miss Helen Yates, is coming. How happy we shall be to have these dearly beloved fellow-missionaries back with us.

I am especially grateful to the father for the privilege of being in China to "stand by" in times of distress and trouble. The message of Christ is comforting and often brings hope out of despair. The Christians held a fasting and prayer service two Sundays ago praying for rain. Glorious rains came after a few days. We then held a second city-wide pray-

DISTRICT MISSIONS

Rev. J. D. Brannen, Missionary District 17

JONES COUNTY ASSOCIATION HAS B. T. S. STUDY COURSE

The Jones County B. T. S. leaders and all those teaching in the Study Course will meet at Anson next Sunday, October 7, at 2:30 P. M., for an associational B. T. S. Rally, and to make preparations for the Study Course to be held in each church the following week.

Plans have been made in most of the churches for such a course of study. It is hoped that every church in the association will enter into this work, which is so much needed. Let every church select teachers and books and order books in time to have them on hand to begin the work.

STONEWALL WORKERS CONFERENCE

Stonewall Associational Workers Conference will meet at Salt Flat next Tuesday, October 9. Rev. J. S. Tierce, Aspermont, is Moderator.

FISHER AND SWEETWATER ASSOCIATIONS PLAN COURSES

Fisher County Association will have a B. T. S. Study Course the week beginning October 14. Plans are now being made in the different churches. Pastors are selecting books and ordering them. Teachers are preparing for the work. Brother L. A. Dickson, Roby, is the Associational B. T. S. President. Sweetwater B. T. S. Association-

wide Study Course will begin October 21, and continue through the week. Dr. T. C. Gardner and Miss Helen Gardner will be at the First Baptist Church, Abilene, and several of the churches are planning to have outstanding leaders from different parts of the state. Rev. W. R. Derr, Abilene, is the Associational President.

REPORT OF DIST. MISSIONARY

Month of September, 1934, Dist. 17

J. D. Brannen, Missionary
Sermons and addresses, 29.
Miles traveled, 2012.
Letters and cards, 42.
Telephones and telegrams, 4.
B. Y. P. U.s organized, 14.
W. M. organized, 2.
Associations attended, 4.
Workers Conferences attended, 2.
Association Study Courses arranged, 2.
Assisted in revival, 3 services.

Additions: Baptisms, 5; Letter, 5; other professions, 11. Total additions and professions, 21.

Assisted churches in contacting pastors, 2.

Assisted churches in arranging budget, 2. Both included Cooperative Program, and District Missions.

Finances: Collected for District Missions, \$14.00; Collected for Cooperative Program, \$10.00.

One District Meeting at Lueders. Every association represented. Every associational organizer present. Definite plans made for Fall Round-up and Every Member Canvass. Total present, 255.

er meeting to offer up thanks for the rain. How happy all were in this meeting because we have a God who hears when we pray.

Never have I been more keenly conscious of God's loving care and protection than during recent weeks. My health has been almost perfect. I have defied the heat by going to the roof garden (4 stories high) of our new school building to sleep at night. It is so cool and refreshing up there even when the heat is intense down below in my home. Chinese are afraid of the dew, hence I have not been able to persuade some who have suffered tremendously from the heat to join me and sleep out under the stars. One old lady who was almost overcome by the heat said, "well of-course the dew will kill me if I sleep on the open roof, but the heat will also kill me if I stay here so I'll go up and die in the cool." She was pleasantly surprised the next morning to find she had had a refreshing night of sleep, and was still alive to tell the others that dew would not kill. So for refreshing sleep I've given thanks daily.

We closed a very successful year's work in our school on June 27. The past year has been by far my best year's work in China. I attribute this to several causes. I've had a Chinese co-worker—not a Bible woman but a Bible man, or rather an Evangelistic worker who has done secretarial work, also visitation work with me and often instead of me. He helps me with my Chinese, my Bible classes and all of my organized church work. With his help I've been able to do things I've hoped to do for years, and could not find time for. Then another thing I've had unusually good health the past year for the most part. My parents and loved ones on that side have also kept well and I have had no worries about them. But the greatest reason for the splendid year is, that I learn more and more as the years ago to commit my problems, my all, to a Savior with whom nothing is impossible. The more I, "let go, let God," the more I am able to accomplish. God does marvelous works in our midst when we trust Him completely. Souls have been so beautifully along. So for this blessed year and for the privilege that is mine I can join with the Psalmist David in saying "Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me,

bless His Holy name."

By the time this reaches you the hot summer will have passed away, the autumn breezes here, and a new school year will present its challenge to us. As we face each new year, our hopes are as bright as the promises of God. I should apologize to many of my dear friends on that side for neglecting to write. But if you could follow me around for one day you would understand why there is so little time for writing. Yet I am so dependent upon your letters, your continued interest in our work—your work—here that I cannot let this vacation go by without saying to you, "I thank God upon every remembrance of you."

I'll be counting upon you, your prayers, and your letters as you find time to write during the coming months.

Your humble representative in China, BLANCHE GROVES.

PUBLICITY

Publicity is often neglected we know. That is one reason our work doesn't grow;

To the successful business man we give an applause, He feels the necessity of publicity in his cause;

Now these business firms are wise. They receive large returns when they advertise.

We too a great lesson might learn. If we this business principle discern. Report, publish, advertise, they are the same—

But remember they must be done in Christ's name.

Our work is worthy and we must plan To let it be known throughout the land;

These meetings are helpful and inspirational we know

And they will help our local W. M. S. to grow;

If all our local officers and standing chairmen would attend

We know there is many a defect we would mend.

So have a loud speaker in your band, Boost all phases of our worthy plan, Let Publicity be her middle name

Until all our women Christ's name proclaim.

The proper publicity will make a dream come true

A dream of our Associational A-L W. M. U.

Another step forward in the movement for unification of the two major Baptist bodies in Texas, the Baptist General Convention and the Baptist Missionary Association was made in a mass meeting of the two bodies at the Oak Cliff Baptist Church Tuesday. As stated in the call for the mass meeting, issued a few days ago, the purpose of the Dallas meeting was for prayer, fellowship and fraternal discussion. From the discussions in the meeting it seems evident that it is the expressed desire of both bodies that every effort be made to unite all Baptist forces in Texas in a great forward movement of evangelism and missions.

Two of the main speakers at the meeting were Dr. W. R. White of Broadway Baptist Church, Dallas, and Rev. J. O. Hearne of Waxahachie, a representative of the Baptist Missionary Union. Both speakers gave their endorsement to the unification movement.

The movement for the uniting of the two Baptist bodies had its beginning last November when Dr. W. H. McKinzie, of the Baptist General Convention and Rev. A. O. Hinkle of the Baptist Missionary Association, went before the two bodies during their annual meetings and succeeded in having committees of 25 from each of the organizations appointed to consider the matter of unification and to report to the next annual meetings to be held in November. These committees have been active throughout the year. A new proposed constitution has been outlined and agreed upon by the committee and will be presented at the November meetings. The Baptist General Convention will hold its annual convention at San Antonio beginning November 6, and the Baptist Missionary Association's annual meeting will be at Dallas beginning November 12.

NEWS NOTES

Rev. Graves Darby of Waco, formerly pastor at Cross Plains and other West Texas churches, was recently in a fine revival meeting near Waco with Pastor John Strutton. There were 66 additions to the church, 41 of the number being by baptism. Brother Darby is not in the evangelistic work, and the Lord is greatly blessing his ministry.

Rev. M. C. Bishop of Post was in Abilene on Friday of last week. He is planning for a Fall revival meeting in his church, to begin in about three weeks. Brother Bishop was a visitor in the chapel of Hardin-Simmons University and brought a brief message to the student body. He entered Simmons in 1902 and finished with the class of 1908.

It is reported that the Baptist Churches of New Orleans, La., have increased their number from 6 to 23 in the last 17 years. The ministry of the Baptist Bible Institute has contributed largely to this wonderful growth.

Rev. Leon M. Gambrell, who has done a fine work as pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church of Oklahoma City, has accepted the call of the First Baptist Church of Ozona, Texas. We are glad to welcome this good man and his family to the West.

Rev. J. O. Heath of Garden City, who is in Hot Springs, N. M., for his health is reported improving. It is to be hoped he will soon be back in active work again.

Rev. James E. Black, who has been pastor of the church at Loving, N. M., for the past few years, has accepted the call of the Theo Avenue Baptist Church, San Antonio. Brother Black was pastor at Putnam for several years before going to New Mexico.

Friends of Brother Henry Weldon, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Carlsbad, N. M., will regret to learn of the death of his father which occurred in Abilene a few days ago. The funeral service was conducted by the pastor Rev. W. R. Derr, of Immanuel Church, Abilene, assisted by Rev. G. W. Parks of Roscoe.

The meeting of the Big Spring Association has been changed from October 11 and 12 to October 9 and 10. The meeting will be with the First Baptist Church, Big Spring. W. S. Garrett is clerk of the association.

Miss Elizabeth Routh, daughter of Dr. E. C. Routh, editor of the Oklahoma Baptist Messenger, sailed a few days ago for Oghomoso, Nigeria, Africa, Western Africa. The many friends of this beautiful and consecrated young woman will wish her God's richest blessings on this needy field.

C. Thomas Hodges, who has been educational director of the First Baptist Church, Sweetwater for the past two years, has accepted the position of educational and choir director of the First Baptist Church, McAllister, Oklahoma. We regret to see Brother Thomas and his good wife leave West Texas, but wish them the best of success in the new field.

Bro. R. D. DeWeese, who for a number of years held such a successful pastorate at Anson, and who for sometime has been pastor of one of our Baptist Churches of San Antonio, has moved back to the land of Western sunshine and opportunity, and is making his home in Anson where his son and daughter reside, and where he has hosts of friends.

BROTHER DEWEESE RETURNS TO WEST TEXAS

Bro. DeWeese is one of the best equipped men among us. His training for the ministry has been of the best, and his wide experience as a pastor has been more than a post graduate course in that training. I first met him when he was a student at Mercer University, the great school of Georgia Baptists. His people in North Carolina, the Deavers and the Reeds I had known from boyhood. Their history as Baptists dates back to the beginning of things in those mountain Baptist strongholds.

Now let some of our churches harness him up. Residing in Anson, he would make an admirable pastor for some of our churches in this part of the country. I feel like I voice the sentiments of all our Baptist brotherhood, when I say to this good preacher, and beloved brother, welcome back to our midst in West Texas. — Millard A. Jenkins.

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REPRESENTED HASKELL ASSOCIATION

In the Haskell Associational Stewardship-Declamation contest the following received first place in an elimination contest Sunday, September 23, and represented the association at the district meeting Saturday, September 29:

1. Sunbeams—Bobbie Nell Milstead, Rule.
2. G. A. (Junior)—Ouida Bes Drape, Jno. City.
3. R. A. (Junior)—A. B. Arnett, Rule.
4. Int. G. A.—Martha Howell, Rule.
5. Y. W. A.—Frances Rogers, Rule. Mrs. J. E. Geer.

A CLEVER THOUGHT

Old Sinner: "If you will answer me one question, I will come to church." Minister: "What is the question?" Old Sinner: "Who was Cain's wife?"

Minister: "My friend, you will never be able to embrace religion until you stop bothering yourself about other men's wives."

West Texas Baptist

SAM MALONE

Editor and Publisher

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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SUBSCRIPTION CLUB PLAN

A good number of inquiries have been coming into our office asking about our subscription club plan. On the last page of this issue is set out the general ideas of the plan as it applies to the W. M. U. The same general plan may be applied to any church group or individual group desiring to take advantage of the club plan. The main difficulty in putting over this plan is in securing some one to act as secretary-treasurer. To be sure it is quite a task to get up the subscription list and to collect the money each month or quarter and send it in. About the only basis this can be undertaken on is a basis of service to God and to the cause in general. We do not know of a more telling and needy service that one could render than to place the right sort of religious literature in the homes of our people. One of the greatest perils facing our homes today is the kind of trashy, vile literature that is coming to them. Surely our people should awaken to the need of the proper literature in our homes.

In our club plan the West Texas Baptist will send the paper for the small sum of five cents per month, per member. In other words if you organize a West Texas Baptist subscription club in your church or in your society, each club member will pay five cents per month. Send in the list of names with the first monthly payments for each. The paper will be sent to each individual club member. The treasurer of the club will collect the monthly or quarterly dues and remit to our office. Statements will be sent monthly or quarterly to the treasurer.

This club plan has been tried out successfully by the Baptist Standard, the Baptist Messenger of Oklahoma and other Baptist State papers. We have several hundred subscribers by this plan on our list, and we are anxious to secure a few hundred more, especially in District 17.

WHY YOUTH GOES WRONG

Some time ago a brilliant and distinguished judge in a New York Criminal Court was asked: "What, in your opinion, is the cause of the present crime wave among our youth?" He took a piece of paper and carefully listed the following in the order of their appearance:

1. Lack of religious training in childhood.
2. Absence of parental authority and discipline.
3. Failure to instill ideals of modesty and chastity in female children.
4. The age-old problem of liquor.
5. Unsupervised amusements, including especially "joy-riding," cheap movies, and indecent modern dances.
6. Lack of proper recreational facilities in most communities.
7. Unwillingness of young people today to work hard, and the indulgence of this laziness by foolish parents.

Commenting on the above, Rev. T. L. Hastings, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Monroe, La., made the following remarks:

"Who can doubt the correctness of the judge's analysis? No one in the list imposes upon us a mighty obligation to provide religious training. Children used to get religious training in the home; now we have to counteract a lot of irreligious influence in the home before we can win the child to Christ and church membership. The home and the church must work together to save our children of today and civilization of tomorrow."

We recommend that our parents and religious workers take the seven statements of the New York judge and study them carefully. Perhaps many of our readers will be surprised to know that the judge has listed lack of religious training, absence of parental authority and discipline, and failure to instill ideals of chastity and modesty in female children at the head of the list. All three of these go back to the Biblical exhortation to "train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."

HARD ON THE LIQUOR DEALERS

Uncle Sam has his stinger out after about 7,000 liquor dealers in Texas. These dealers, says W. A. Thomas, collector of Internal Revenue at Dallas, owe the U. S. Government nearly \$7,000,000 in taxes. The nigger in the wood pile seems to be that each of these 7,000 dealers owe the government \$1,000 in excise tax due to the fact that the State is dry. We are not much concerned about the hard luck of these liquor dealers, but the question we would like to ask is what moral right did our Federal Government have to grant Federal License in a dry state. When the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment was being discussed the Democratic party pledged itself to respect the rights of States in regard to the liquor question. If the granting of Federal License in dry territory is not a violation of this pledge, then we would like to know just what it takes to violate a pledge.

THE MAKING OF A MASTERPIECE

"The Lord will perfect that which concerneth me." (Psa. 138:8). You remember the story of Murillo's masterpiece that hangs in the Seville Cathedral—I suppose one of the great paintings of the world. . . . Do you remember how it was painted? The great artist one morning felt he was inspired to paint—it was an irresistible impulse. He called for some canvas; but they had no artist's canvas there, so they searched around and brought him some rough brown canvas, little better than sacking; that was all they had. He took it, rough and coarse as it was, and, stretching it across a board, painted on it the world's masterpiece. . . . Some of our lives are a bit rough and ugly. My friend, the Lord would point His own likeness not only on your life, but also in your soul. He would fill you with His own Spirit, so that you may go out and live a life that is sweet.—A. Lindsay Glegg.

HORSE SENSE

Dr. J. D. Blanton, late president of Ward-Belmont college in Nashville, Tennessee, addressed a young ladies meeting. The remarks were directed chiefly toward the freshmen, but some of them may be adopted with success by the upperclassmen. With only minor revisions the remarks made by this great educator were:

"More important than matriculation, more important than room and roommate, more important than the education itself is the individual student's attitude and conduct at college. As a student one would do well to make some definite decisions.

"Realizing that the best way to find oneself is to lose oneself in some cause, choose a purpose, ambition, or desire in life, and bend every effort toward that choice.

"Before deciding any issue, take time to ask yourself the question, Am I being true to the best that is in me?

"Remember—a habit started now (though small as a cigarette) may lead to poverty, poor health, unhappiness, and tragedy.

"Remember also—a habit started now (though small as a prayer at sunrise) may lead to joy, success, contentment, and abundant life.

"Don't laugh at the idea of a budget. Time, money, and energy go further when properly distributed. It is easier to keep up than to catch up.

"You are thinking now perhaps of self, your room, and your roommate—three vital factors in your school life. As a roommate resolve to be the best.

"We take it that every young person here is a lady in the highest and truest sense of the term. Get acquainted with every girl on the campus.

"Don't rush into a crush! Heartaches and disappointments often follow. Confide slowly and sparingly.

"Don't build up a story of your former surroundings. The young lady who has the least to say usually is accustomed to the best. False pride in family, face, or fortune never pays, unless you want to be called a campus snob. Don't brag!

"Don't be surprised if you do not find yourself a leader in the class. This is a new opportunity to develop ability to rise.

"Thoughtfulness is among the greatest of virtues. A letter mailed, a shoe tied, a note written may win a life-long friend.

"Realize that your facial expression, tone of voice, and general disposition can quickly change the atmosphere. Keep smiling. Never give up! In your social life, in your physical life, in your mental life—be temperate. Be careful, open, and sincere in every friendship. Learn to love and not let loving master.

"Don't take a dare! It takes more courage to say No than to say Yes; more courage to resist than to follow the procession. Some others may not like you but you'll win their respect.

"Be true to your religious duties and affiliations. Join wholeheartedly in religious endeavor on the campus and in your church. Be true to your religious convictions. If you knelt by your bedside at home, do it here. To surrender a conviction or principle for convenience sake is the first step in the wrong direction. You will need more strength. Pray for it and help will come.

"Think well of your parents. Failure in this stamps one as an ingrate.

"Don't rush into an opinion of folk. Opinions are usually elevated as we come to know folk. An unkind word once spoken can never be recalled. Try not to be a gossip! Be, like Christ, in a position to help.

According to the Police Report of Dallas for the year ending September 30, there was a marked increase in drunkenness and murder and a decrease in robbery, burglary and theft. Arrests for alleged drunkenness for the year was 10,127 against 6,264 for the previous twelve months. For September alone the total was 1,082 against 557 in September of 1933 and 377 for September of 1932. And in face of such statistics as these, the liquor advocates will tell you that there was more drinking under prohibition than there is with the open saloon.

Ten Reasons Why Christians Should Not Play Cards

1. Card playing is the favorite pastime for many estimable people, but it is also the favorite pastime for the very worst class of people on earth. In fact, playing cards have associated themselves with dice, whiskey bottles, pistols and all outlaw equipment. Card games will be found running in all saloons, gambling dens, harlot houses; anywhere and everywhere wicked men and women congregate. Surely Christians may find some other pastime. This first reason alone should cause any Christian to shudder at the sight of a playing card.

2. Card playing is the path to gambling. People do not become drunkards until they take the first drink. People do not become gamblers until they play their first game. True there are other forms of gambling, but every body knows that cards are the chief instruments used by gamblers from time unknown. By learning to play card games men have lost all their earnings and savings and their families have suffered by untold thousands for the bare necessities of life. If Christians must find games for amusement, surely something may be found that will not lead to gambling. What real Christian wants to amuse himself at a gambling game?

3. Card games have led to many murders and suicides, and will lead to many more. The blood of these men cries to heaven for vengeance on a vicious and senseless pastime. Christians who play cards have most certainly never thought this matter through to some of its terrible and certain ends. Think this through and pray it through.

4. Card playing is not at all necessary to happiness, or health, or good characters, or success. It is no mental or social or spiritual accomplishment. Ninety-nine per cent of all ministers of the gospel oppose the game in any form. All the leading denominations of Christians have from time to time published their opposition to this dangerous practice. If the game is harmless, as its advocates contend, why this universal opposition from the greatest moral forces in the world? Pause, and think this over!

5. The Bible, the book of the Christian, condemns such things. In First Thess. 5:21 and 22 the apostle of the Lord tells us to prove all things and to hold fast that which is good, and to "abstain from all appearance of evil." There's nothing good in card games to hold to when we put the game to the test of results. There are many things that the Christian may give his time to about which there is no appearance of evil. A loving and prayerful and steady perusal of the Bible will take away all desire for cards and card games.

6. Card games waste the time of the Christian. We are told in Ephesians 5:15 that Christians are to "walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil." The Revised Version reads: "Look therefore carefully how ye walk." And Moffatt's translation reads: "Be strictly careful." Now, the

Devotional Thoughts

SPEAKING THE TRUTH

By manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience.—2 Cor. 4:2.

God delights in truthful lips. Right words are fruit from the Tree of Life. The Lord walketh in His garden, and the fruit of holy lips is sweet unto His taste. But untrue words are as rotten fruit offered in the sacrifice of the temple. What is more abhorrent than putrid fruit? "Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord!" It is only the lips that have been purified with flame from the holy altar of God that can offer words that are pleasing unto Him.—J. H. Jowett.

PRAYER PRODUCES ENLARGED DESIRES

"Ye shall ask in my name." (John 16:26).

When we ask in His name we ask first for His sake, and second, as in His person. And such desires, resting their hopes of answer solely upon His mighty sacrifice and all-sufficient merit, and shaped accurately and fully after the pattern of the wishes that are dear to His heart, are to be the prerogative and the joy of His servants. Each new influx and tidal wave of knowledge of the Father, which Christ gives to His waiting child, leads on to enlarged desires, to longings to press still farther into the unexplored mysteries of that magnificent and boundless land, and to nestle still closer into the infinite heart of God. . . . Thus aspiration and fruition, longing and satisfaction in His heart, are to be the prerogative and the joy of His servants. 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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

PICTURES OF SILVER

BEULAH K. HICKS

FELLOWSHIP WITH CHRIST

John 15

It was in the upper room in Jerusalem in the year A. D. 30 when Christ with his apostles had gathered around the table for the last supper.

Christ, weary and worn, with the shadow of the cross dense across his path, perhaps glanced out of the window and saw a vine growing. Immediately he took the vine as it grew and made it a beautiful lesson of truth and power.

"I am the true vine and my father is the husbandman."

Beautiful was the vine and great was Christ's appreciation of all things beautiful, but much more lovely was the true vine.

Sadly and almost pensively, it seems, was his great yearning over these whom he loved and must leave behind to build their spiritual lives.

"Abide in me and I in you." He pictured their spiritual growth in him, "As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; so neither can ye, except ye abide in me."

The sap from the vine must flow into the branches or it withers and dies. The gardener will clip off the dead branches but the green ones will be pruned and kept neatly in symmetry of the growing garden so that much fruit will be borne.

When the picture seemed clear to the men, Jesus gave them a promise of a haven, a place of grace, where strength may at all times be gained or renewed. The promise of answered prayer gives the Christian his strongest hope of abiding in Christ.

The love of the Heavenly Father for His son was used as the example of Christ's love for his disciples. "If ye keep my commandments ye shall abide in my love."

Christ, of whom Isaiah wrote, "And the government shall be upon his shoulders: and his name shall be called"

ed wonderful, counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace," sat humbly in their midst, even having washed their feet, teaching them the wonderful lesson of love and joy. He was a "man of sorrow," yet his joy in the Father was unbounded.

"No longer do I call you servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends: for all things that I heard from my father I have made known unto you."

Friends on this earth are our greatest blessings, but how much greater is the friendship of Christ who holds all the power in the earth and heaven.

It has been explained that abiding in Christ is not basking in Christ. It requires growth that is pruned to bear perfect fruit. Often the Christian's life leans on the weeds of earthly help but the good gardener will always pull up the offensive weed, perhaps breaking and pruning tender tendrils to make it grow rightly.

"And that your joy may be made full." The radiant Christian life should radiate joy to the world. It should not be silly and smirking but deep and understanding that brings responsive impulses to good from the world. This can be gained only through prayer life asked in the name of Jesus.

If the light of his word and spirit shine upon our prayers, silly vain and useless things will be rooted out.

The victorious life is sought by all true Christians and be had for the asking, a right. If a Christian would deepen their spiritual life by abiding in Christ, personality and strong character would be developed.

Strength and peace untold always follow abiding in Christ, not just visiting him, who said, I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. John 14:6.

City Church News

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH NEWS

The First Baptist Church of Abilene loaned its pastor last week to the denomination in the fall missionary round-up. Dr. W. M. Wright, Mr. George Mason, and Dr. Jenkins composed the speaking team for Brownwood, Midland, Pecos, and El Paso. Practically every church in these districts composed of many associations, was represented.

Mr. George Mason, Executive-Treasurer of our State Convention, spoke at the First Baptist Church Sunday morning service on "God and Mammon, Which?" All agreed that it was one of the greatest addresses ever heard from that pulpit.

Monday night the Young People of the Church gave a social on the Roof Garden for the students of Hardin-Simmons University. The affair was given a Japanese setting, and was largely attended and enjoyed by the students.

The B. T. S. is growing week by week under the leadership of Mrs. Robert Jones. Beginning October 21, State Secretary T. C. (Big Chief) Gardner will lead in a Training School. He will bring with him some of his ablest state workers. Plans for this school were made months ago.

The Texas Woman's Christian Temperance Union will hold its Convention in the First Baptist Church next week, 10-12. A W. C. T. U. is being organized in Abilene. With the red banner of death being waved over the heads of our youth by liquor, it is time to bring out the white ribbon.

The church will show an increase in gifts to Missions and Benevolences this week at the Sweetwater Association of \$1,374.20. During the four years of depression, it has decreased its building debt \$20,000.00. There is seldom a Sunday without additions to the membership.

B. T. S. OFFICERS TRAINING SCHOOL

The City Federation Baptist Training Service will start a school for officers Monday evening, October 8, 7:30 o'clock. A forty-five minute period of inspirational service, and practical suggestions and demonstrations will be given the last forty-five minutes.

The school will be held in the following churches:
Monday—First Baptist Church.

Tuesday—University Baptist.
Wednesday—Calvary Baptist.
Thursday—Immanuel Baptist.
Friday—South Side Baptist (Sunset Baptist included.)
Monday—Trinity Baptist.

Tommy Grant will be general director, and will be assisted by the following teachers: Presidents—Murray Fuquay; Vice-Presidents—Foy King; Rec. Secretaries—Miss Annie Murphy; Cor. Secretaries—Miss Irene Flannagan; Bible Readers—Leader—Miss Ladola Harper; Treasurers—Mrs. J. C. Burkett; Group Captains—Ray Mathis; Choristers and Pianists—Rev. Vergil Reynolds; Leaders and Sponsors—Mrs. J. H. Dean; Departmental officers—Miss Ola Harlan.

TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Virgil Reynolds of Trinity Baptist Church reports a very good day last Sunday. There were 210 in Sunday School and over 100 in B. T. S. Also there was one addition to the church.

Delegates were elected and there is to be a good representation at the Association meeting at Sweetwater.

Next Sunday begins a new year's work for the church. The Lord's Supper will be observed and the annual fall offering taken.

The budget plan is being launched and subscription drivers will be on duty this week. Our work is going forward in a wonderful manner.

UNIVERSITY CHURCH

We had a very good day Sunday. There were several additions to the church and a goodly number in attendance.

Two new unions have been organized in the Senior department of the B. T. S. since the opening of school. The names of these unions are the Hardin and the Gambrell.

A good number of our members plan to attend the Association.

UNCLE JOE'S PHILOSOPHY

There was an old negro from the country who came to town once a week to purchase his supply of coffee and tobacco. One day the storekeeper said to him, "Uncle Joe, what do you think about the depression?"

The old negro looked up whimsically and said, "De 'pression ain't nothin' but a golf game. All dat it takes to ovacome de 'pression am three putts. Putt yer trust in Gawd, putt yer faith in de U. S., an' putt yer might in yer work."

HARDIN-SIMMONS UNIVERSITY NEWS

(From The Brand)

Auditorium Scene Of First Program By Gibson-Deaton

Variety In Numbers Offered By New Head of Voice Department

Mrs. Lola Gibson-Deaton, new head of the voice department in Hardin-Simmons university made her opening appearance before an Abilene audience Monday night in the Hardin-Simmons auditorium. The program consisted of operatic arias, ballads, negro spirituals, and folk songs.

The instant approval of the audience was won with the opening aria, "O Sleep, Why Dost Thou Leave Me," from Handel's "Semele," and was held until the closing encore, "By the waters of the Minnetonka."

Without mannerisms or seeming effort, Mrs. Deaton proved herself to have complete mastery of a beautifully clear and brilliant coloratura soprano voice. Soft, high tones, dramatic passages, difficult and real trills floated from her voice with apparent ease, without deviation from pitch or forcing of the throat, in intelligent rendition of Puccini's "Vissi d'Arte" (La Tosca), and the exceedingly taxing aria, "Nobles Siegneurs" (Les Huguenots), by Meyerbeer. German songs, including the immortal "Wienlied" of Brahms, and a French number by Hahn, were ably sung in their respective languages.

In her fourth group Mrs. Deaton sang ballads and negro spirituals which captured the hearts of her listeners. An unusually clear diction enabled even those who were farthest from her to catch every word.

The well known Bach-Gounod "Ave Maria," offered as a concluding number, to which a beautiful obligato was played by Herbert M. Preston, head of the violin department of Hardin-Simmons, was scheduled as the closing number, but the audience called the singer back for her third encore.

The program was ably accompanied throughout by Ruth Scheibe, Dallas pianist, who has come to Abilene to be associated with Mrs. Deaton in her work here.

Correction

The Brand is glad to correct an error printed in last week's paper. A story which stated that Dr. E. B. Atwood, who returned recently to take over classes of the Bible department, was head of the department was in error. Dr. N. A. Moore is head of the department, a position which he has held for three years. Dr. Atwood, who went on leave four years ago on account of ill health, has returned to lecture to one or two advanced classes.

B. S. U. Members Given Publicity

The pictures of Miss A. M. Carpenter, Vernon Yearby, and Wilhelmina Kropscott appeared in the October, 1934, issue of the Baptist Student along with a write-up of the history of the Baptist Student Union since its organization in 1920.

Miss Carpenter has been sponsor of the organization since 1923; Wilhelmina Kropscott was president of the Union last year; and Vernon Yearby is a part-time student worker and student secretary of the B. S. U.

The write-up says "The B. S. U. received the state Standard of Excellence award in 1923, 1924, and 1925—the last year it was given. Simmons has been given a First Magnitude rating every year that award has been offered."

Y. W. A. Selects Boren As Prexy Wednesday

Tommie Boren, Memphis, was elected president of the Young Women's association at its first regular meeting Wednesday evening in Mary Frances hall.

Other officers selected include: Katherine Calicut, vice-president; Louise Creed, secretary and treasurer; Eloise Norred, pianist; Margaret Upshaw, chorister; and Myrtle Eugenia Haggard, reporter. Rosa Crockett, chairman, Louise Creed, and Mildred Richeson composed the nominating committee.

GIVES RECITAL



Mrs. Lola Gibson-Deaton gave her first recital before an Abilene audience Monday night in the Hardin-Simmons university auditorium.

Students Elected To BSU Vacancies

Officers Express Hope For Successful Year As Roll Increases

Vacancies left in the B. S. U. council staff by students not returning to school, who were elected to positions last spring, were filled Thursday night by the election of Murray Fuquay, first vice-president; Rose Mary Malone, pianist; Freddie Sue Bloxom, corresponding secretary; and Frank Burruss, treasurer.

Officers already installed, and positions which did not have to be filled in the last meeting included N. J. Westmoreland, president; Clara Welch, second vice-president; Ray Mathis, third vice-president; Rosie Crockett, secretary; Jack Moore, chorister; and Paul Wright, extension secretary.

The first meeting of the council for the year 1934-35 was held Thursday night, September 19.

The program at the initial meeting consisted of discussions by Murray Fuquay, Frank Burruss, and Kelly Barnett on the subject, "Factors concerning the Master's minority on the Hardin-Simmons campus." A piano number by Miss Eloise Norred was also presented.

The council has for one of its motives, the reaching of a quota of 40 Baptist Student Magazines on the campus this year. Twenty-nine of that number of subscriptions have already been secured.

Another objective is to send a delegation to Memphis, Tennessee, for the third All-Baptist Student conference to be held there October 25-28, inclusive.

According to officials of the B. S. U., 300 students from Texas are expected to attend the conference. A special train to the meeting will pass through Abilene, it was stated.

In discussing the work of the B. S. U. for this year, the president stated, "I hope that students will not consider this activity just the work of a few students, but that of the entire student body. An inspirational hour is the offer of the council to each student who will attend the Thursday night meetings."

Atwood Delivers Talk To Ministerial Council

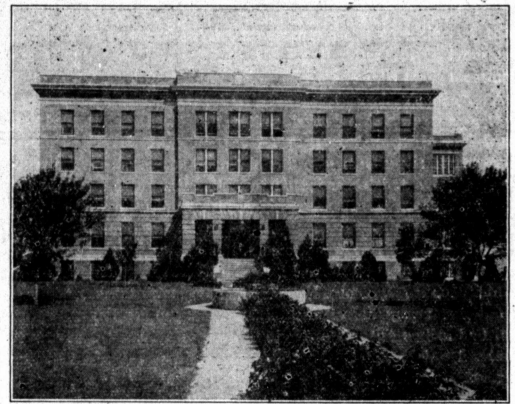
Thirty-two ministers gathered in Prof. W. D. Bond's room Friday night, Sept. 21, for the initial meeting of the Ministerial Council. Fifteen of these preachers have never attended Hardin-Simmons University before this year. Many of the more experienced ones already have work in the field in or near Abilene.

After the devotional and business Dr. E. B. Atwood of the Bible department delivered the main talk of the evening. No new members were called due to the fact that there was a shortage of time for the initiation.

This organization meets every Friday night at 7:30 o'clock.

A wedding of exceptional interest was announced September 22 when Miss Dorothy Sandefer, niece of Dr. J. D. Sandefer, became the bride of Mr. Charles Powers of New York City.

West Texas Baptist Sanitarium



The West Texas Baptist Sanitarium is the only Baptist or Protestant Hospital West of Fort Worth. It is strictly modern in every detail, has the highest rating given by the American College of Surgeons, maintains a first class Nurses' Training School, and has the largest body of medical workers in West Texas to serve you.

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The West Texas Baptist Sanitarium is owned and controlled by the Baptists of Texas, dedicated to God and the relief of suffering humanity, not operated for profit, ready to serve sick and injured humanity, regardless of race, creed, or color.

E. M. COLLIER, Supt.

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1934 WATCHWORD—"BE STRONG AND OF GOOD COURAGE—FOR JEHOVAH THY GOD IS WITH THEE." JOSHUA 1:9.

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ANNUAL ADDRESS OF MRS. C. O. DAVIS, RULE, TEXAS, PRESIDENT HASKELL CO. ASSOCIATIONAL AUXILIARY

Once again the time has come when those to whom Woman's Missionary Union has committed definite tasks must render an account of their Stewardship. As I reviewed our work for the year my heart was stirred with deepest gratitude to God for his goodness to us in giving us so many joyous privileges, yet each a sacred responsibility. I am made to say with Joshua of old, our watchword for the year "Be strong and of good courage—for Jehovah, thy God is with thee." We know Jehovah has truly been with us or we could not have accomplished as much even as we have in such trying times.

Let us analyze together the thoughts in our watchword: "Be strong and of good courage"—occurs three times in four verses and each time there is a challenge or a promised reward: "Thou shalt cause this people to inherit the land"; "Thou mayest have good success whither-soever thou goest"; "Jehovah thy God is with thee. We must be courageous.

The word "Courage" comes from a Latin word, cor, meaning heart. Courage is not a matter of the head but of the heart; not of the understanding, but of the feeling. You may have the theory of courage perfectly and still be a coward. What you need is a heroic heart.

"I love the man who dares to face defeat
And risk a conflict with heroic heart
I love the man who bravely does his part
Where right and wrong in bloody battle meet."

When bugles blown by cowards sound retreat,
I love the man who grasps his sword again
And sets himself to lead his fellow-man,
Forward through the battle's din and heat."

That is true courage, yet if man would face such for one's country, would we not face more for our God. He has promised us, the inheritance of the land. "Only be thou strong, and very courageous." We have inherited a great land. Our borders are large, the people therein are many. But how courageous? The land is well inhabited by those who claim to be Christians. I wonder if we have the Christian courage of Shyriootom of Old. It is said he was called before the Emperor who threatened him with banishment if he remained a Christian. "Thou canst not banish me."

"But I will slay thee," said the Emperor.
"Thou canst not, for my life is hid with Christ in God."
"I will take away thy treasures!"
"Nay, but thou canst not, for my treasure is in heaven and my heart is there."

"But I shall drive thee away from man and thou shalt have no friend left."
"Nay, but thou canst not," once more said the faithful witness, "For I have a friend in heaven, from whom thou canst never separate me. I defy thee, there is nothing thou canst do to hurt me."

Such is Christian courage. I ask you, do we possess it? Do we always have the courage to see God in everything? Do we see him in our reverses as well as in our successes? Many times God tests us and in many ways. How do we stand these tests?

He says, "Thou mayest have good success whithersoever thou goest." We should consult God in all our undertakings. If we face a change in life's occupation, we should consult Him. If we anticipate a change in location we should ask Him if it is best. Whatever our problems may be He will help us to solve them aright, if we will only consult Him. Our mistakes in life come because we are not willing to recognize Him as Lord and Master of our lives. We are not willing that He shall have first place in our hearts. We are too prone

to compromise with sin and to have more than one master. We should have the courage to say, "I owe no allegiance before that of Christ, my Master." And to go out in His strength and conquer.

From the musty pages of an old history some lover of brave deeds has brought to life the story of a Roman legion encamped in the dead of winter on the shores of an Armenian lake.

1. The imperial edict—
2. Description of the scene—
3. Much of the soldiers past image of Caesar.

4. One vailed to pour his libation—
5. I owe no allegiance before that of Christ, my master."

6. 40 in all stood in line.
7. 40 famous wrestlers.

8. Roman general stood agast—
"What is this?" Do you understand what awaits you?

9. Given another chance—
10. The short winter day drawn to a close, must march again.

11. "Forty wrestlers, wrestling for Thee, O Christ, claim for Thee the victory and from Thee the crown."

We are glad we are not all called to die the courageous death of the 40 famous wrestlers, but to live for Him is our task, and to live so that His name may be glorified in our lives.

Then if we live thus, He has promised—Jehovah, thy God is with thee. Is not that the climatic promise of all? We cannot ask more than for God to be with us. Time and time again in his word he has made us this promise if we will only obey him. He says in Chronicles: "If my people, who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray, and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and forgive their sins and heal their land."

"Ask of Me and I will give the nations for thine inheritance." In this is our faith strengthened in prayer for missions, and in our prayer for missions we are called to observe three regular seasons. Our societies did this in a splendid way this year. Our offerings were all larger than ever before. Our Lottie Moon Xmas offering amounted to \$293.35. The largest offering we have ever given I am sure. Our own state of Texas lead all other states in this offering. Texas gave more than \$27,000. Aren't you glad our own little Association had a worthy part. Praise is ascribed to God and thanks to every contributor for this big victory. Gratifying also was our March offering for home missions, \$117.48. This offering from henceforth is to be known as the Annie W. Armstrong offering for Home Missions. Particularly appropriate does this seem, for certainly Miss Armstrong as the union's first corresponding secretary was a pioneer in really constructing methods of work among our home mission people. Since she inaugurated the Xmas offering and suggested that it be named for Miss Lottie Moon, it seems doubly appropriate that the union's other large annual over-and-

above offering be named for Miss Armstrong, who for 18 years served W. M. U. as its unsalaried corresponding secretary.

Just as we believe that through prayer Christians enter into God's inheritance for them and cause others to enter, so do we believe that the challenge with its reward comes through enlistment in missionary activities. As a result of our large missionary offerings our societies have increased. We have 8 reporting this year, with an active membership of about 117. Our Y. P. number in all 19 with a total enrollment of 220. Out of the 19, 10 are new or reorganized this year. We have three new R. A. organizations. Again Texas leads in the largest membership for this year, more than 37,000 in W. M. S. alone. We lead in new organizations for the year also—130.

We have had 4 quarterly meetings and an interesting program on some phase of our W. M. U. work at every workers' council. I have been present at every meeting.

Certainly it may be said that Mission Study causes Christians to inherit spiritually. So our Mission Study work goes forward. We have to our credit for this year 27 classes, 164 seals and 59 certificates.

A number of our societies this year conducted a School of Missions in the church. Thus increasing our Mission Study work. We are hoping more will follow this example next year.

Our Mission Institute held at Rule was very well attended and about 100 women enrolled. This was truly a high day in Mission Study work. Training our women to be more efficient missionary teachers.

Again has the challenge to Joshua—"Thou shalt cause this people to inherit"—been linked with our Y. P. and Stewardship work—in our Declaration contests we had four go to Abilene to the district contest, winning three places there. Y. W. A.—Miss Mary Frances Moore; Jr. G. A.—Miss Stella Mae Lagow, and Jr. R. A.—John Roger Geer. All of these from Rule. Bobbie Nell Milstead was association winner for Sunbeam, but lost at district. She was from Rule also.

Mrs. Leigh and Mrs. Buckley came to us in January and organized a young people's council. We are extremely proud of this work. We had 36 Y. W. A.'s to go to camp at Lueders, and 18 R. A.'s. Our district is to be congratulated on two such fine camps. What these camps may mean to our Y. P. eternity alone can tell.

Surely we have "inherited" again through our apportionment. All were met last year and a good start is made on this year. Some churches having paid all. We are glad, because under such conditions we know it has meant labor and self-denial on the part of some of our women. We remember that \$50 of this apportionment goes to Simmons. Our Floy Hawkins fund is new, and we are

proud of this new addition to our apportionment.

Buckner's Orphans Home and our hospital have been well remembered. Many boxes, cases of eggs, and jars of fruits and vegetables have been sent.

Several of our societies had interesting programs in the church on our Relief and Annuity work. Thus stimulating our offering for our old ministers.

Thus we might continue to tell of the much "good success" that has been granted to our W. M. U. work in our Association. It has been a joy to serve you. I realize that I have failed in many ways to do my very best, but I hope that my failures may be stepping stones to success for our new leader. May she be "strong and of good courage," and may we help her to go forward and inherit the land.

May we resolve—
To keep our courage firm, that we may know
No thought of fear when we are called to go.

To keep our trust in God forever true,
That we may do what He would have us do.

To march straight forward where our Captain leads,
Proving our loyalty by simple deeds,
This is my prayer, Lord, may we faithful be,
That by true service we may honor Thee.

UNAWARES

They said, "The Master is coming
To honor the town today,

And none can tell at what house or home
The Master will choose to stay."
And I thought while my heart beat wildly,
What if He should come to mine,
How would I strive to entertain
And honor the guest divine.

And straight I turned to toiling
To make my house more neat;
I swept and polished and garnished,
And decked it with blossoms sweet.
I was troubled for fear the Master
Might come ere my work was done,
And I hastened and worked the faster,
And watched the hurrying sun.

But right in the midst of my duties
A woman came to my door;
She had come to tell me her sorrows
And my comfort and aid to implore.
And I said, "I cannot listen
Nor help you any today;
I have greater things to attend to."
And the pleader turned away.

But soon there came another—
A cripple, thin, pale, and gray—
And said, "Oh, let me stop and rest
A while in your house, I pray.
I have traveled far since morning,
I am hungry and faint and weak;
My heart is full of misery,
And comfort and help I seek."

And I cried, "I am grieved and sorry,
But I cannot help you today.
I look for a great and noble guest."
And the cripple went away.
And the day wore onward swiftly—
And my task was nearly done,
And a prayer was ever in my heart
That the Master to me might come.

And I thought I would spring to meet
Him,
And serve Him with utmost care;
When a little child stood before me
With a face so sweet and fair—
Sweet, but with marks of terrors,
And his clothes were tattered and

old;
A finger was bruised and bleeding,
And his little bare feet were cold.

And I said, "I am sorry for you—
You are sorely in need of care;
But I cannot stop to give it,
You must hasten elsewhere."
And at the words a shadow
Swept over his blue veined brow,
"Someone will feed and clothe you,
dear,
But I am too busy now."

At last the day was ended,
And my toil was over and done;
My house was swept and garnished—
And I watched in the dark—alone.
Watched—but no footstep sounded,
No one paused at my gate;
No one entered my cottage door;
I could only pray and wait.

I waited till night had deepened,
And the Master had not come.
"He has entered some other house,"
I said,
"And gladdened some other home."
My labor had been for nothing,
And I bowed my head and I wept,
My heart was sore with longing,
Yet, in spite of it all, I slept.

Then the Master stood before me,
And His face was grave and fair;
"Three times today I came to your door,
And craved your pity and care;
Three times you sent me onward,
Unhelped and uncomfortable;
And the blessing you might have had
was lost,
And your chance to serve has fled."

"O Lord, Dear Lord, forgive me!
How could I know it was thee?"
My very soul was shamed and bowed
In depth of humility.
And He said, "The sin is pardoned,
But the blessing is lost to thee;
For comforting not the least of mine
You have failed to comfort me."

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West Texas Baptist---W.M.U. Subscription Club Plan

During the recent annual meeting of District 17 at Abilene, the editor of the West Texas Baptist submitted to the body a subscription club plan which was heartily accepted by the organization in its closing session. The plan, briefly, was that the West Texas Baptist would give the W. M. U. all the space necessary for the promotion of their work, and where clubs of ten or more members was formed, the subscription for each club member would be at the rate of five cents per copy for month, which would be only sixty cents per year for each subscription.

A SUGGESTIVE ORGANIZATION

As a working basis to put over the subscription club campaign, the following suggestions are made:

1—The general supervision of the campaign to be in charge of periodicals chairman of District 17.

2—That the campaign in each association be directed by the associational periodicals chairman, or some other person designated. This chairman will see that each local W. M. S. in the association is given an opportunity to organize a subscription club.

3—Each local W. M. S. where a subscription club is organized to designate some member as treasurer, said treasurer to secure a list of the club members and send them in to the West Texas Baptist, together with the first quarterly subscription payments. Statements and receipts will be sent from the West Texas Baptist office to each local W. M. S. treasurer.

COST OF CLUB PLAN SUBSCRIPTIONS

The cost of the subscription plan will be at the rate of five cents for each subscriber, per month, where as many as ten subscriptions are secured. For example, if there are twenty members of a local club who want the paper the cost for the twenty subscriptions will be only one dollar per month. It is preferred that these subscriptions be paid quarterly (15 cents per member per quarter), in advance; however, a club will be allowed to pay monthly, if it prefers.

While the plan is meant primarily for District 17, any other W. M. U. in West Texas will be allowed to organize subscription clubs on the same plan. The club plan is simple enough. It just means that any local W. M. U. in West Texas can secure a list of names of those wanting to subscribe for the paper, send the list in with a remittance at the rate of five cents per month per member. The names will be placed on our mailing list and the club sent each week to the club members. Statements will be sent to the designated treasurer of the group, who will collect the subscriptions and remit.

A GOAL OF 2000

The West Texas Baptist would like to have 2,000 subscriptions from the W. M. U. on this club plan during the next thirty days. Organize your club now. Also appoint a publicity chairman to report the news from your society, and in return the editor promises to make the paper serve constructively in the promoting of the W. M. U. work, and all other phases of our Baptist work.

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