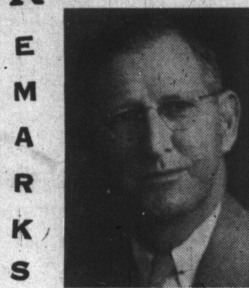


WEST TEXAS BAPTIST

RAMBLING



By DICK O'BRIEN

I am stealing a few minutes from the busy sessions of the district convention to write a few remarks. I am having the trouble I always experience when I try to write with a noiseless typewriter. Each time I hit a key I look up to see if anything happens, and it makes my neck as sore as it was the first time I visited a city and strained it looking up at the two story buildings. . . . As mentioned above I am attending the sessions of the district convention at Lamesa. I have just heard some great addresses, and a wonderful experience meeting. As I look back to childhood, and recall the meetings I attended with dad and mother and other members of the family, the experience meetings stand out the most vivid of all. I would usually go to sleep when the preacher started to preach but I always managed to stay awake through the experience meeting. One reason was that the experiences themselves interested me, and there was variety in the program; and the other was that sometimes an old brother or sister would say something that would be as amusing as a vaudeville show. Of course I was never allowed to laugh at church, but we would often compare notes on the awkward things we had noticed in testimonies. . . . I could fill a dozen columns with these things, but I am not quite sure it would be appropriate. Those brethren and sisters were in dead earnest and are now in heaven; besides the things they said and the way they said them helped me far more than they entertained me. . . . The one I am about to relate happened after I became a preacher and was conducting a revival in a remote rural community. I did not know how to lead a revival without testimonies, so each morning we would throw the meeting open to the people. Of course the same ones would speak each day and say substantially what they had said the day before. One morning a brother had given the same testimony almost word for word that he had given for several days in succession, and was followed by a quiet spoken Presbyterian brother. In his talk the Presbyterian had summed up his virtues and his virtues, modestly admitting the former to be far in excess of the latter. Then he attempted a diagnosis of why he had such a difficult time of balancing his virtues with his vices. He had given a very fine talk, much above the usual routine testimony. When he was seated the congregation was very quiet, evidently much impressed by what he had said and the manner in which he had said it. . . . The older brother mentioned above sat there with his head tilted to one side for a full minute in deep thought, and then as if he were alone and had just awakened from a bad dream, he looked up, slapped his big (Continued on page 4)

EVENTS TO COME

- March 2-6—Week of Prayer for Home Missions and Annie Armstrong offering.
- March 5—District 17 Convention, Rotan.
- March 17-18—District 16 Convention, Coleman.
- March 31-Apr. 1—District 9 Convention, Coleman.
- April 2-3—District 10 Convention, Amarillo.
- April 3—District 11 Convention, Vernon.
- April 7-9—State Sunday School Convention, Stamford.
- April 14-15—District 17 W. M. U. Convention, Stamford.
- May 16-20—Southern Baptist Convention, San Antonio.
- June 10-18—B. S. U. week, Ridgecrest.
- June 22-28—General Encampment, Leaders.

WEEK OF PRAYER AIDS HOME MISSION WORK

By Mrs. W. P. Palm
In approaching our preparation for our annual Week of Prayer for Home Missions, we may question ourselves as to the worth of spending long hours of work on the programs during all this time when all of us have so many extra demands for our time and energy.

Does this week really amount to so much after all? Have any actual results been derived from past years? As women of the churches, we have a right to know the facts. Countless numbers of women know the answers, others wonder, and still others have not had their curiosity or interest aroused enough to even question.

According to Dr. J. B. Lawrence, executive secretary-treasurer of the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention:

"First of all I want to express my deep appreciation for the service rendered by Woman's Missionary Union during the past decade. The offering made each March saved our Mission Board. The Home Mission Board, struggling under the burden of a crushing debt and passing through the most devastating depression our country has experienced in half a century, could not have maintained its mission work, even on a greatly reduced basis, without the Annie Armstrong Offering. . . . The offering last March reaching the magnificent total of \$192,852.88.

"But our need is increasing. Never before was home missions more important than now. The disturbed condition of the world has forced our nation into a gigantic preparedness program, which has created vast fields of need. We do not know when the war will end, but we do know that, when it ends, a depleted and disillusioned, morally and spiritually enervated world will come to America for a blood transfusion and we must be ready in that hour to give the world the spiritual revitalization that will save its soul.

"This makes the territory of the Southern Baptist Convention the most important place in all the world for the spread of the Gospel. When the war is over the world will need the Gospel as it has never needed it before. Every door now closed will be open. We must prepare now for that hour of opportunity. No matter when the war is ended, or how, the world will need Christ; our task is to prepare spiritually to meet our obligations to the world with the Gospel of Christ when peace has been declared an order in the world re-established.

"... Our denomination must become the agent for the international propagation of the Gospel."

Thus we have positive proof of the immeasurable good which the previous weeks of prayer and giving have done. In order to insure our national armaments and our national defense program, we must expand and strengthen our spiritual defenses. For II Chronicles 7:14 tells us: "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

The theme for the week is: "God bless our country—God's channel of blessings." The goal for the offering is \$145,000.

"Claiming nothing in the way of profecion of church members and fully recognizing all our faults, it nevertheless becomes evident that the great masses of unchurched are at once our great responsibility and our great danger, for they admit no allegiance and profess no loyalty to any standard of conduct higher than their own. When we remember that 'the carnal mind is at enmity against God,' and that practically half of our people are 'of this mind,' need we wonder that there was more illegitimacy in 1939 than ever before, more divorces—one out of every six marriages—more deserted children, that one out of every hundred women of marriageable age is a prostitute, that three billion was spent on venereal diseases, more than six billion on liquor, seven billion on gambling?"

May I conclude by asking each woman in our Baptist churches in every department of the work to question herself: Dare I refuse to join my prayers, my efforts, my influence and my attendance to the Week of Prayer, March 2-6, 1942?

CHRISTIAN SERVICE BAND SECURES BUS FOR TRIPS

More than a year ago, the Hardin-Simmons Christian Service Band started raising money to buy a bus to enable members to make trips to give programs in surrounding territory. Last week they got the bus.

They have a conveyance in good condition which will seat 20 persons. The purpose of this large vehicle is to enable the band to arrange three programs for the same day at as many places along a route. On February 22 the bus carried programs to Sagerton, Old Glory and Johnson Chapel. The preceding Sunday members had charge of both programs at Friendship Mission, while others went to Admiral, Callahan County.

There is a balance of \$500 on the bus, to be paid in 15 monthly installments.

Churches wishing to have the Christian Service Band program, as well as churches or individuals wishing to help pay for the bus may write Cecil McBeth, 2425 Simmons Avenue, Abilene.

DR. WHITE WILL LECTURE TO MINISTERIAL COUNCIL

Pastors of Abilene and surrounding territory are invited to attend a series of lectures which will be given by President W. R. White for the university Ministerial Council, March 2 to 6, from 2:30 to 3:30 each afternoon.

Speaking from a rich experience of 25 years in the ministry, serving churches of from 60 to 6,000 members, Dr. White will discuss problems which frequently confront ministers, particularly pastors. Churches served by Dr. White include Glendale, Rockwood, Goldthwaite, Royce City, Greenville, Lubbock, Broadway, Fort Worth, and Oklahoma City.

Subjects for the lectures are: Preparation Processes; Pulpit Presentation; Pastoral Prerogatives; Public Relations, and Visitation. It is possible that two lectures in addition will be arranged for evening delivery.

ATTENDANCE REPORTS FOR SUNDAY, FEB. 15

In order to contrast the attendance on February 8 under Central Standard time and on the following Sunday under War Time, we are giving the reports for both dates in parallel columns. The one church which shows gain is understood to have continued on Standard time.

Send reports to Box 1560, Abilene, any time during the week.

Church	2-8	2-15
Amarillo, First	1526	
Lubbock, First	1352	1138
Abilene, First	1112	935
Wichita Falls, First	1007	640
El Paso, First	900	
Vernon, First	839	599
Wichita Falls, Lamar St.	690	453
Brownwood, Coggin Ave.	648	484
Borger, First	616	
Abilene, University	610	500
Breckenridge	609	
Plainview, First	572	440
Odessa, First	444	437
Sweetwater	441	411
Coleman	432	357
San Angelo, Immanuel	298	309
Training Union		
Abilene, First	365	366
Abilene, University	223	210
Breckenridge	181	
Vernon	195	149
Sweetwater, First	109	145
San Angelo, Immanuel	122	108

PROGRAM

- Workers Conference, Fisher Association, March 2, 11 o'clock War Time
- 11:00—Devotional, Rev. C. P. Rogers.
- 11:15—The Outlook of Our Mexican Work, Rev. George Reid.
- 11:40—Repentance, Rev. J. D. Vaughan.
- 12:05—Justification by Faith, Rev. C. E. Dick.
- 1:00—Lunch served at the church.
- 2:10—Board Meeting, W. M. U. Business Meeting.
- 2:30—Business Session.
- 2:35—Sanctification, Rev. W. L. Daniel.
- 3:00—Security of the Believer, Rev. J. P. McBeth.

10,000 EXPECTED AT SS CONVENTION IN APRIL

With a program theme keyed to these times, "Victory Through Jesus Christ," the Texas Baptist Sunday School Convention will meet in Houston April 7-9, with an attendance of 10,000 expected.

Dr. G. S. Hopkins, Dallas, State Sunday School Secretary, conferred recently with the host committee, of which Dr. E. D. Head, pastor of the First Baptist Church, is general chairman, and found leaders in charge of local arrangements already at work on their convention assignments.

Among the outstanding inspirational speakers secured are Dr. C. D. Maddy, Richmond, Va., executive secretary, Foreign Mission Board; Dr. W. F. Powell, First Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn.; Dr. T. L. Holcomb, executive secretary, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.; Dr. C. Oscar Johnson, pastor, Third Baptist Church, St. Louis, Mo., and Dr. W. W. Melton, Dallas, executive secretary, Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Inspirational speakers who will also serve as conference leaders are: Wm. P. Phillips, J. N. Barnett, Miss Marie Estes, Miss Mary Virginia Lee, Miss Blanche Linthicum, and Rev. Sibley C. Burnett, all of Nashville, Tenn. B. B. McKinney, Nashville, Tenn., will lead a music conference.

Texas Sunday School workers who will serve as conference leaders are: J. Earl Mead, Dallas; T. B. Maston, Fort Worth; L. H. Tapscott, Dallas; Mrs. T. C. Jester, Houston; W. L. Howse, Fort Worth; J. W. Bill Marshall, Dallas; Mrs. Joe Trussell, Brownwood; Mrs. H. E. Walker, Dallas; Mrs. O. E. Parris, Dallas; Dr. Floyd Barnard, Fort Worth; Mrs. V. H. Mahan, Dallas; Miss Bertha Mills, Dallas; Mrs. Carl McEachern, Austin; and Mrs. J. T. Sisemore, Amarillo.

A special feature of the program will be a "Sunday School Training Banquet," limited to 600 people from large and small churches who have completed at least 12 Sunday School study course books.

Officers of the Convention are: Troy Campbell, San Antonio, president; Dr. G. S. Hopkins, Dallas, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Julia Mae Slaughter, Dallas; and Mrs. Manon Seawell, Fort Worth, recording secretaries.

BUFFALO GAP CHURCH ORGANIZES BROTHERHOOD

The recently organized Brotherhood of Buffalo Gap Church held their first meeting Friday evening at the high school lunch room where a barbecued duck supper was served. Judge E. S. Cummings, state Brotherhood president, brought a gripping message on Priceless Gifts from Penniless Men.

Buffalo Gap, the oldest community in the section, has recently dedicated the first Baptist church house in town. While there is still work to be done on the building, it is being used and is all paid for. The walls are of a handsome stone.

Rev. Scott W. Hickey is the pastor and School Superintendent Shelton is president of the Brotherhood.

WAR-ZONE MISSIONARIES SEND OUT GOOD NEWS

The following cables have been received from Dr. E. Beddoe, Wuchow China:

- February 12—"Direct contact Shanghai missionaries as usual."
- February 10—"Direct contact Rankin others (Hongkong) still well treated. Rankin appeals South support enlarged program West China. Direct Williams others (Shanghai) all right. Schools there as usual."
- Jacksonville, Florida, February 17—"Arriving home today, miraculous journey. Will come to office soon."
- Ruby Daniel.
- Miami, Florida, February 17—"Just landed, leaving for Macon Tupelo few days. Awaiting instructions."—John Moore.—F.M.B.

REINFORCEMENTS SAIL FOR CHILEAN MISSION

On February 17 the following missionaries sailed for Chile: Rev. and Mrs. J. W. McGavock, Rev. and Mrs. W. A. Maer, Miss Ethel Singleton, Miss Lois Hart.—F.M.B.

Sunday School, Training U. Convention Meets At Rotan



REV. L. L. TROTT
District Training Union Director



EWELL O. BONE
Dist. Sunday School Superintendent

DISTRICT T. U. DIRECTOR SETS ATTENDANCE GOALS

By Lawrence Trott
March 5 and the Sunday School and Training Union Convention will soon be here. Rotan is looking forward toward entertaining a large crowd of Baptists of District 17 on that day. We hope you will not disappoint us.

Since it will be a long time before we have another Training Union Convention, our folk will want to contact and receive information and inspiration from our great leader, "Big Chief" Gardner. Not only will he be here, but Dr. G. S. Hopkins and others of our leaders will be here. You can't afford to miss this, the first convention of its kind in our district.

We are suggesting some attendance goals for each association in District 17. Will you folk in these associations not work to pass these goals? Cisco Association, 100; Callahan, 60; Jones, 100; Haskell, 80; Stonewall, 40; Sweetwater, 160; Fisher, 200. These goals should not be hard to reach if we begin immediately to work to that end. Such a meeting will be good for our work and we are sure you will take advantage of it. There should be at least one car load from each church. We will be looking for you.

DISTRICT 12 DECIDES ON UNIFIED CONVENTION

The decision was reached last week to have a general convention for District 12 in 1943. The meeting was planned at the annual Sunday School and Training Union Convention for the district which was held last week at Riverside Church, Fort Worth.

Heretofore, the district has had, in addition to the recent session, an annual convention of the Woman's Missionary Union and a district Brotherhood rally. Next year the four organizations will hold a unified session at Cleburne, continuing two days, with all phases of the work presented.

Rev. T. A. Petterson, Evans Avenue pastor, was elected president of the convention. Rev. J. D. Brannon is district missionary. Vice-presidents of the convention are the district leaders of the four auxiliary organizations.

DISTRICT 17 LEADERS TO MEET THURSDAY, MARCH 5

President W. R. White of Hardin-Simmons University will bring an inspirational address just before noon at the first annual meeting of the Training Union and Sunday Schools for District 17. The meeting will be held in the handsome, new building of First Church, Rotan, on Thursday, March 5.

Heretofore, the district has had a two-day meeting in which all the denominational work was presented. Under the changed plan, the general meeting was held at South Side Church, Abilene, in the fall and there will be a two-day W. M. U. convention next month at Stamford.

The opening address will be by Dr. G. S. Hopkins, state Sunday School missionary. This will be followed by an open conference for the Training Union, led by Dr. T. C. Gardner, state Training Union director.

In the afternoon there will be a Sunday School conference led by Dr. Hopkins and the closing address will be by Dr. Gardner. Also speaking in the afternoon, will be Pastor Levi W. Price of Gorman, who will discuss Sunday School visitation, and Pastor Roger D. Hebard of Breckenridge, who will tell of the need for organized evangelism.

Rev. Lawrence L. Trott, who is host pastor, is also Training Director for the district. Ewell O. Bone, director of music and education in First Church, Breckenridge, is district Sunday School superintendent. They will be presiding officers for the meeting.

Special music will be rendered by the men's quartet from Hardin-Simmons.

This Changing World

"... that those things which cannot be shaken may remain."—Heb. 12:27.

By LOUIE D. NEWTON
I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands — one nation, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.

"Can terror, hunger, and propaganda rule the one hundred and fifty million captives of Germany?" This is the significant question which Time News magazine asks on its front cover, issue of February 23, under the photograph of Reinhard Heydrich, known in Germany as "the hangman." Hitler has appointed Heydrich, his bloodiest man, to combat the growing rebellion in Europe. How many people he has hanged, starved, and otherwise murdered, we can not

TEXT FOR THE WEEK
Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.
—Psalm 33:12.

now surely say; but he is determined to quell any and every uprising, at whatever cost. He is thought to be the son of a Jewish father.

Now working in Germany are some two and a half million imported workers, of which 20 per cent are women. It is reported that within the past week one hundred and fifty of these workers were executed for complaining about long hours and harsh treatment. Recently when a German policeman was killed in the Czech mining town of Kladno, the Gestapo arrested the mayor of the town, kept him in a sweat box until he committed suicide. All of this comes under the grand title of Neue Ordnung (New Order).

Premier General Hideki Tojo told the Japanese parliament last week that the fall of Singapore would enable Japan to "dispose of Burma, China, India, the Netherlands East Indies, Australia and New Zealand, in that order." And then he added this significant phrase: "The war will (Continued on page 4)

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le in the any ways merged. It seemed I have with Mr. since this ed and I prit than The final had come ard could a the West ing. There Standards in Texas. r increased ct year or the Baptist he Baptist any profit r missions or its pre- cation of rs. It has in helping our people i. It has fostered by big way, a Univer- Hospital, a by those ut I verily for their the sacri- is like los- 3) ging which can- in."—Heb. WTON the Flag of America which it indivisible, for all. ounced last as been de- d a team, d Milo Per- in charge e Warfare, on Hender- Nutt, W.M.C. ove referred on, working WEEK, I am God. a 46:10. ent, may be arge of the y. Former sding Jesse Sidney Hill- fully tucked Oklahoma, nt speeches. He said, of Congress to anything to win the to lead and t that faces t He went illustrations h Congress, left undone ght to have those things aft undone." double their led Nations. to do their blessed with ge 3)

West Texas Baptist

Published on Thursday of each week at 241 Hickory Street, in the interest of Kingdom Work in the West.

R. E. DUDLEY Editor

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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ON ATTENDANCE

Has your attendance fallen off with Sunday School meeting on war time? Well, as the youngsters put it, don't feel original. You have lots of company. If you don't think so, just glance at the parallel columns of reports which appear elsewhere in this paper.

The loss is by no means confined to West Texas. Of all the larger churches reporting to Dr. Hopkins' office, not one showed a gain. On the contrary, about 90 per cent had losses of more than one hundred, some of the largest having a decrease of over 400. Only three, Gaston Avenue, Dallas, where they were observing the 15th anniversary of Pastor Marshall Craig; Rosen Heights, Fort Worth; and First Church, Odessa, had even approximately a normal attendance and these were all slightly off.

Less complete reports show no uniformity in Training Union averages. While some had considerable decrease, others had a like increase and some were about as usual. But there is no doubt that earlier rising has hit the Sunday Schools.

Now, to meet this situation, there is one thing which can be done everywhere and a second arrangement, which may be possible in some places. This second and easy way out is to re-arrange the schedule of services to begin later in the day. Some churches are doing this. Due to the inter-relation of other activities, that is a question which each church and community will have to work out for itself.

The other and more difficult solution divides itself into two measures. It is more valuable to the church, to the membership, and to the unchurched of the community. First we can all do, is to show more loyalty in spiritual matters, as well as in national affairs. Then we must be more diligent to seek out the unenlisted, who are more in need of spiritual reinforcement today than ever before.

This is no easy assignment. But the easy days are over.

WORLD INFLUENCE IN HOME MISSIONS

Last week we had something to say about the lack of mission effort at the proper time having an important bearing on the pagan attitude of the Japanese government. That was foreign missions. Also, we muffed another opportunity in the formative days of modern Japan. If we had used every effort to evangelize the Japanese students who came to our country and to show them Christian living at its best, the work of the limited number of missionaries which we finally sent to their country, would in all probability have borne much more fruit. That was a matter of home missions.

It was a matter, too, of Christian education. The pity is that so many of the talented youth of heathen countries who came to so-called Christian America for education were induced to attend universities where their professors were no less pagan than themselves, and where, instead of learning of Christ and yielding their lives to principles of Christ, they learned to sneer at Christianity as impractical and out of date.

If all the students who have come to American colleges from the Orient had returned to their own countries to live and foster Christianity as have Madame Chiang Kai Shek and her two talented sisters, all of whom are graduates of a Christian college in our country, we can well believe that the history, not only of the Orient but of the entire world, would have been radically changed.

Foreign missions, home missions, Christian colleges, Christian hospitals, orphanages, the varied activities of our own churches; all are closely inter-woven missions if they are conducted as the Master expected when He gave us the Great Commission. If we are for winning our nearest neighbor to Christ, we must be for winning the most remote human on earth, for he may have more influence on our children than the man who lives next door.

THE OFFERING

"Now, concerning the collection." Next week is the Annie W. Armstrong Week of Prayer, when members of the Woman's Missionary Societies meet to inform themselves and pray about Home Missions. Having learned of the needs and opportunities and having prayed, they will find themselves constrained to give and to encourage giving by others.

If ever an organization has merited support, having earned it the hard way, it is the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. Not many years ago this board was robbed by one who had been trusted and left under the burden of excessive debt. Then many who sat in places of influence expressed the opinion that after all, home missions had served its day and the time had come for liquidation of all its projects.

Thank God, a more courageous counsel prevailed. When we find, in spite of the thousands of churches in the Southern States, the population is growing more than twice as fast as the church membership, there must be much cooperative mission work, beyond what the churches can accomplish separately, else, in a few generations, the Brazilians, the Chinese, the Africans, or some now more benighted folk, will find it necessary to send foreign missionaries to America.

Texans, especially, have reason to be generous with Home Missions. There are around one hundred missionaries in the state, whose salaries are being paid, wholly or in part by the Home Board. Most of these are working among the half-million Mexicans in the state. It was one of these missionaries who said, "If you do not want the young men of my race to entice your boys into alleys and down on the creek to buy liquor and marijuana, you must help us carry the Gospel to my people."

NEWS NOTES

Rev. E. Douglas Carver was guest speaker for the Sweetheart banquet in the Young People's department of First Church, Stamford, last week.

Miss Jaxie Short, is assisting Pastor Floyd Chaffin and the Coleman Church in a Training Union enlargement campaign this week.

The men of First Church, Cisco, are planning to organize a Brotherhood Friday evening, February 27. Judge E. S. Cummings will be the speaker of the evening.

The District 7 convention is meeting on Tuesday and Wednesday. Among the out of district speakers are President W. R. White of Hardin-Simmons University and Brotherhood Secretary R. A. Springer of Dallas.

Ira Powell, education director of First Church, Borger, has accepted a like position with First Church, Galveston, where Dr. H. L. Fickett is pastor.

Dr. Edward B. Jenkins assisted last week in a study course in Eunice, N. M. He preached at Jal Sunday morning, February 15, and at Eunice at night.

Rev. E. Douglas Carver, pastor of University Church, Abilene, gave an inspiring address to a large group at the monthly meeting of the Temple Church Brotherhood February 17.

Dr. W. R. White was principal speaker Friday afternoon, February 20, for the Day of Prayer for Peace, sponsored in Abilene by the federation of church women.

Oklahoma Baptist University is sponsoring a church music conference this week, with Dean Warren Angell and B. B. McKinney of the Sunday School Board leading.

Pastor Jones Weathers of Park Place Church, Houston, has received his commission as a chaplain in the United States Army and is now stationed at Camp Wallace. The church has granted him a leave of absence for the duration and is going ahead with a revival this week with Evangelist McKinley Norman doing the preaching.

Rev. Horace L. James, formerly pastor at Henryetta, Okla., has been selected as state evangelist by the Arizona convention.

Rev. Calvin Nelson, 15 years pastor of First Church, Palestine, was recently called to his reward.

Rev. Bill Marshall is conducting a youth revival at First Church, Lubbock, February 25 to March 1.

Dr. W. B. Irwin, superintendent of Lubbock schools and a deacon in First Church, was elected president of the Panhandle pastors' and laymen's conference, in the meeting this month.

Dr. W. R. White supplied for Pastor E. Douglas Carver at University Church, Abilene, last Sunday evening.

Dr. J. L. Moye, Home Mission Secretary for Spanish speaking work, was guest of Moran Church, Sunday

evening, February 22. Pastor Finis Williams states that the service was a great inspiration for the Home Mission Week of Prayer.

Prof. W. C. Ribble of H-SU spoke for Pastor Joe R. Mayes at Pleasant Valley last week. Rev. Mayes had recovered sufficiently from recent illness to accompany him on the trip.

Rev. Clyde Jackson of Temple Church, Abilene, is assisting Pastor George Dale in a revival at Tahoka, beginning February 25.

Rev. Emmett Brooks is to be with Pastor Sam E. Brian in a revival at Pumphrey, March 29 to April 5. This is the home church of Rev. Brooks, where he was licensed to preach.

The date of the Youth Revival to be led by Rev. Luther Holcomb at First Church, Abilene, has been changed to April 19 to 26. A later date had previously been announced.

Rev. J. O. Hux, a student at Wayland College, has been called to the Running Water and Valley View Churches, both communities being near Plainview. He has resigned at Munger, Lamesa Association.

Paul Harrup, USO director in Abilene will address the University Church Brotherhood February 27. Attorney General Mann is to speak for their annual banquet in April.

Rev. Clyde Jackson assisted Pastor Emmett Brooks and the Oplin Church, teaching a class in Growing a Church. There were 26 awards and the church was greatly blessed.

Rev. Finis A. Williams and family are planning to leave Moran Friday to accept the work at Park Heights Church, San Angelo.

Trent Church, where Rev. Fred H. Porter is pastor, has spent about \$600 in remodeling and enlarging their church building. Six class rooms have been added. They expect to use about \$200 more for improving in the near future.

PROGRAM

Floyd Association Workers Conference, with Balls Church, March 3

Program will begin and run on War Time.

Theme: "The Present Crisis a Challenge to Our Churches."

10:00—Song and praise service.

10:10—Devotional, Rev. F. M. Wiley.

10:20—The Challenge to Our Sunday School, Rev. C. H. Roark.

10:50—The Challenge to Me and to My Church, Rev. Aaron Shaw.

11:20—Announcements.

11:25—Special music to be supplied by the Ralls Church.

11:30—Sermon, Rev. W. M. Draper.

12:05—Lunch.

1:15—Executive Board and W. M. U. meetings.

2:00—Song and praise service.

2:10—The Hundred Thousand Club, Rev. H. L. Burnham.

2:40—Business.

2:45—Inspirational message, Rev. B. B. Huckabay.

BROTHERHOOD MEETINGS TO BE HELD THROUGH DISTRICT SEVENTEEN

The following program will be given in the several associations at the time designated:

Cisco—First Church, Cisco, Sunday afternoon, March 8th, 2:30.

Callahan—First Church, Baird, Monday evening, March 9th, 7:30.

Sweetwater—First Church, Abilene, Tuesday evening, March 10th, 7:30.

Fisher—First Church, Roby, Wednesday evening, March 11th, 7:30.

Haskell—First Church, Haskell, Thursday evening, March 12th, 7:30.

Jones-Stonewall—First Church, Hamlin, Friday evening, March 13th, 7:30.

THE PROGRAM

7:30—Special Song, Hardin-Simmons Quartet.

7:50—Address, Sleeping Through a High Destiny, Dr. W. R. White.

8:15—Aims and Objectives of Texas Baptist Brotherhood, Judge E. S. Cummings, State President.

8:35—Special Song, Hardin-Simmons Quartet.

8:45—Address, Dr. Lawson Cooke, Southwide Brotherhood Secretary, Memphis, Tennessee.

Cisco will meet at 2:30 on Sunday and the program time will be on the same basis as above.

We are expecting at least this number of men from the following associations: Cisco, 400; Callahan, 100; Sweetwater, 400; Fisher, 150; Haskell, 150; Jones and Stonewall, 200.

This is a program that each pastor should be behind. Organized, advertize, bring your men.

J. HENRY LITTLETON,
District Missionary, District 17.

Sunday School Lesson

March 1, 1942

THE PARABLES BY THE SEA

Read Matthew 13; Mark 4:1-34; Luke 8:1-18

Study Mark 4:26-32; Matt. 13:44-50

A parable is not a proverb with its flashing metaphor, nor a fable with its fictitious elements, nor an allegory with its elaborateness and variety of application, but rather a simile limited to the conveyance of religious truth. It was in the autumn of A. D. 28 that Jesus adopted the parable as a mode of instruction. He did it because there was manifest a growing opposition to his work. Through the parable, therefore, he accomplished the twofold purpose of concealing the truth from its enemies and conveying the truth to receptive hearts. On a single remarkable day of teaching by the Sea of Galilee Jesus delivered a connected and cumulative series of parables setting forth the kingdom through various stages from its establishment in the hearts of men, as shown in the Sower, to its consummation before the bar of God as shown in the dragnet. We have before us five of these "parables of the kingdom."

1. Parable of the Seed (Mark 4)

THE KINGDOM IN GERM is pictured in the parable of the planted seed. How mysterious is life! We may know something of its processes, ascertain its limitations, and supply its conditions, but after all, how incomprehensible a thing is life itself. The seed is cast into the ground. The sower sleeps and rises night and day as he goes about his toil. But silently, steadily, successfully, the seed springs up and grows, he knows not how. And after the mysterious germination follows the various stages of development from the first edge of color in the blade to the ripe corn in the ear. And when the stage of maturity has been reached then comes the harvest and the erstwhile sower puts forth the sickle and gathers in the golden grain. So is the kingdom of God in its sowing, its germination, its development, and its fruition.

2. Parable of the Mustard (Mark 4)

THE KINGDOM IN GROWTH is pictured in the parable of a mustard grain. How little was the kingdom when the King uttered these imperial, far-reaching words! An unlearned and unarmed Villager for its head; a little cluster of horny-handed fishermen for its prime ministers; a fickle throng of curiosity seekers for its chief admirers! And now the hoary-headed, powerful hierarchy of Jerusalem is taking steps to destroy it. Such a kingdom, critics might say, is a grain of mustard, so little as to be scarcely visible in the unwashed hand. Even so, let the grain of mustard, less than all the ordinary seeds of field and forest and garden, represent the messianic kingdom. But it has within it the possibilities of phenomenal growth, a growth entirely out of proportion to its size. Springing up, it surpasses all the herbs of its class, becoming tree-like in its proportions and hospitality, for in its branches the birds of heaven lodge and there find sustenance. Such is the kingdom which from a small and inauspicious beginning must develop into prominence and blessing. Indeed, the earth shall be filled with its glory and into it shall be finally absorbed all the kingdoms of the world.

3. Parable of the Treasure (Matthew 13)

THE KINGDOM OF PRIVILEGE is pictured in the parable of the hid treasure. A man in the pursuit of regular duty, possibly plowing or some other agricultural employment, by apparent accident discovers one of the treasures sometimes hidden in the field for safe keeping in troublous times. He rehides the treasure, goes and sells his property, and buys the field. Then according to Jewish law the treasure reverts to him and he becomes the happy possessor of the new-found riches. How true this was to life in the case of the apostles! As it were by happy chance, though of course by divine design, they discovered the hidden treasure of the Messiah's kingdom. It was infinitely better and more valuable than all else they could call their own. Willingly and devotedly they forsook all and followed Jesus.

4. Parable of the Pearl (Matthew 13)

THE KINGDOM IN POSSESSION is pictured in the parable of the pearl. Here we have the element of seeking and so of greater appreciation than shown in the discovery of the treasure. A merchant is visiting various markets at the centers of commerce in order that he might add goodly pearls to his own stock at home. On the round he finds a pearl of great price. His appreciation of it is so high that he sells out his entire stock and secures this one pearl. The intimation is that he acted wisely and made a good bargain. The Jews had thought that without effort on their part they would be entitled to the blessings of the messianic age. To the idea this parable is unalterably hostile. Only the seekers find, and only those who part with all else for the pearl that is priceless can enjoy its possession.

5. Parable of the Net (Matthew 13)

THE KINGDOM IN CONSUMMATION is pictured in the parable of the dragnet. A group of fishermen cast their dragnet into the sea, enclosing fish of all kinds. They draw it up on the beach and then sort out the haul, storing the good in vessels and casting the bad away. Even so, a just and wise separation will be made between the subjects and the foes of the Messiah in the end of the world. Then angels at the bidding of the King shall come forth and sever the wicked from among the righteous. **Gold in the Golden Text**
Never man so spake.—John 7:46. Jesus was the Great Teacher. He was great in his character, being divine. He was great in his message, for never man spake as he spake. He was great in manner, for people heard with amazement and glorified God. He was great in impress and influence, for he taught with evident authority reaching back to the throne of God and striking deep into the hearts of men.

Daily Bible Readings
March 2—Drink and Heredity. Judges 13:2-7.

March 3—The Appetite for Strong Drink. Isaiah 24:5-12.

March 4—Drink and Disaster. Joel 3:2-8.

March 5—When Leaders Drink. Isaiah 28:1-7.

March 6—A Total Abstinence. Luke 1:13-17.

March 7—Good Will Not Acquit the Wicked. Nahum 1:1-10.

March 8—Drunkards and the Kingdom of God. 1 Corinthians 6:9-12.

PARABLES OF THE LORD

Discussed By
COOPER WATERS

PARABLE OF THE UNPROFITABLE SERVANT

Luke 16:7-16

In the story of the Unprofitable Servant we have the seemingly harsh treatment of a good servant who has toiled all day in the field. After the hard day's work in the field he comes to the house and instead of being sat down to a table filled with food, he is required to prepare not only his own meal but prepare the meal for his master and serve him first. On top of that he is not even given any word of appreciation. According to Jesus, he shouldn't expect any words of commendation for his labor and for his willingness to prepare the master's meal first.

The question immediately arises as to why Jesus would recommend such a treatment of servants. As a matter of fact, Jesus didn't recommend this treatment, he merely used the custom that was being used to illustrate a spiritual truth. The key to the whole problem is the fact that the servant was receiving wages for all that he did. He expected to work and serve

when he hired out. It was in the contract for him to work in the field and then come in and prepare the meals. He only did that which he was paid to do.

To make the spiritual application we only need to say that when (if it were possible) a person has fulfilled all the law and has kept every single commandment, he is entitled to no special praise. Even a perfect moral man has only done his duty. It is the duty of every one to be good. Even a perfect man has not profited the Lord anything; therefore, the Lord is under no obligation to give him salvation. God gives salvation as a sort of a bonus; that is, as a gift over and above anything that could be earned. Galatians 2:16 tells us that "by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified."

The point of the whole thing is that when we see we have failed to earn or merit salvation even at the best, if we cast ourselves on the mercy of God he will give out of his grace what we in all our efforts could not attain—salvation.

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 Dudley, C. A. Neal, Rt. 2, Abilene.
 Denton Valley, Louis Johnston, Rt. 2, Clyde.
 Eula, R. E. Bourland, Rt. 2, Clyde.
 Oplin, John Roberson, Oplin.
 Potosi, M. A. Williams, Rt., Abilene.
 Putnam, George Gaskin, Putnam.
 Scranton, Mrs. J. D. Sprawls, Rt. 2, Cisco.
 Belle Plains.
 2, Anson.
 Stamford, T. A. Upshaw, Stamford.
 Stith, F. K. Moudy, Rt. 1, Merkel.
 Truby, Haskell Caffey, Anson.
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 (Continued on page 4)


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 Dressy, Mrs. Fred B. Long, Cross Plains.
 Dudley, C. A. Neal, Rt. 2, Abilene.
 Denton Valley, Louis Johnston, Rt. 2, Clyde.
 Eula, R. E. Bourland, Rt. 2, Clyde.
 Oplin, John Roberson, Oplin.
 Potosi, M. A. Williams, Rt., Abilene.
 Putnam, George Gaskin, Putnam.
 Scranton, Mrs. J. D. Sprawls, Rt. 2, Cisco.
 Belle Plains.
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 Stamford, T. A. Upshaw, Stamford.
 Stith, F. K. Moudy, Rt. 1, Merkel.
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TUNE IN EVERSHARP'S "TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT"

This Changing World

(Continued from page 1)
mains to be fought." That can mean but one thing—the United States.

In 1864, General Sherman, in an effort to bolster the morale of the North, said: "I sometimes think our people do not deserve to succeed in war; they are so apathetic."

Last week, on Lincoln's birthday, to be exact, Congressman Hutton W. Summers of Texas arose in the House and said: "Great, stupendous, terrible times like this come rarely in the history of the ages, in the history of civilization. . . . We have been losing this war from the time we began it, literally losing this war. We are being licked, and only the realization of that fact can arouse and solidify and vitalize the American people before it is too late."

In a mood of biting irony, the President spent his most terrible week. Poking fun at those who criticized the Government's blundering complacency didn't do the President or anyone any good. Secretary Early was kept busy explaining that many of the remarks of the President were merely "facetious." But the country was in no mood for joking.

The Washington Post, in a front-page editorial, said: "If there is any one industry in this country which needs conversion to a wartime basis it is our Government." And that drew from the President the quip about "bright boys."

Mr. Wendell Willkie drew blood, sweat and tears, when he declared: "There is no need to point out the preposterously ineffectual manner in which the Government's labor policy, if anything so vacillating can be called a policy, has been handled. The country is well aware of it." And even while Mr. Willkie was speaking, the Labor Board was admitting that it didn't have a fixed policy. And, alas, strikes were continuing to tie up defense plants and men were beating one another with clubs.

"The sight of a soldier sitting by a machine gun reading a Bible is not uncommon in Bataan or Corregidor. Soldiers and sailors pen brief notes to the chaplains asking for New Testaments. Several of the chaplains have passed out over two thousand New Testaments since December 7," writes Melville Jacoby from beleaguered Bataan.

What is the actual situation with reference to moral conditions in communities adjacent to the camps? This question needs to be intelligently answered by the respective communities. A good deal of guessing has been released, always to the detriment of general morale. We may depend upon the Army keeping a close watch on the situation, but Army officials much prefer that the civilian authorities take such action as is necessary. That adds to the definite responsibility of every alert, loyal citizen in these communities. The constant cooperation of religious, civic and military leaders should be maintained.

The United Catholic Organizations Press Relations Committee took a number of the nation's popular magazines to task in last week's Jesuit weekly, America, for having published articles that the UCOPRC regarded as "anti-Catholic." Magazines named and reprimanded: The Ladies Home Journal, the Saturday Review of Literature, the Reader's Digest, Redbook, Harper's, Cosmopolitan, McCall's, Good Housekeeping, and Magazine Digest.

Two thousand young men in the United States have registered as conscientious objectors under the Selective Service Act. Some of them are in civilian work camps, while others are going abroad for relief, evacuation and hospital work.

PROGRAM

Callahan Workers Conference, Meeting with Putnam Church, Wed., March 4

Theme: "Go Ye" (Matt. 28:19).
10:00—Song and devotional, Rev. A. R. Posey.
10:15—Howard Payne Ministerial Courts, Mrs. A. E. Baten.
10:40—Our Need of Going, Rev. W. H. Bell.
11:05—Our Authority for Going, Rev. A. A. Davis.
11:30—Recognition of visitors.
11:35—Sermon, Rev. Sidney Cox.
12:15—Noon lunch.
1:20—Board meeting.

Sunday School Program
2:00—Devotional, Mrs. C. E. Poe.
2:15—Departmental conferences.
2:50—Goals Set for the Year.
3:00—Inspirational address, Rev. Strauss Atkinson.

List of Sunday School Officers
Adult leader, Mrs. H. Varner, Cottonwood.
Young People's leader, Strauss Atkinson, Eula.
Intermediate leader, Mrs. G. P. Gaskin, Putnam.
Junior leader, Mrs. Elva Smith, Baird.
Primary leader, Mrs. A. A. Davis, Baird.
Cradle Roll leader, Mrs. Royce Gililand, Baird.
Extension Department leader, Mrs. A. E. Baten, Clyde.

Rambling Remarks

(Continued from page 1)
hand resoundingly on his leg and said in a high pitched voice, "By golly, that's exactly what's the matter with me." . . . Well, he shouldn't have said it in a meeting where I was supposed to preach within the next few minutes. I was so amused and as my mother used to say, "my tickle box" was so completely upset, that I wouldn't have trusted myself to preach a funeral without the temptation to laugh in the middle of it. . . . Well, I gotta get back to the meeting before they miss me.

All-Church Directory For District 17

(Continued from page 3)

Guire, Abilene.
Bethel, Mrs. Henry Ellinger, Buffalo Gap.
Blackwell, Mrs. G. H. Arledge, Blackwell.
Buffalo Gap, Mrs. Floyd Tate, Rt. 1, Tuscola.
Caps, Hollis Buchanan, Rt. 5, Abilene.
Cedar Gap, R. A. Reddell, Tuscola.
Colony Hill, Dow Vinson, Rt. 2, Abilene.
Elmdale, Ralph Antilley, Rt. 5, Abilene.
Eskota, Mrs. Albert Blankenship, Trent.
Hamby, E. B. Gooch, Rt. 1, Abilene.
Hylton, Mrs. C. Kinard, Hylton.
Lawn, W. W. Henderson, Lawn.
Mt. Olive, J. D. Modrall, Blackwell.
Mt. Pleasant, Elsie Roland, Rt. 3, Merkel.
Maryneal.
Merkel, Clark Munday, Merkel.
Moro, Matthew Shaffer, Guion.
Neill, H. L. DeShazo, Abilene.
New Live Oak, Mrs. Fay Brown, Rt. 4, Merkel.
Nolan, Mrs. Lem Ray, Wingate.
Ovalo, B. W. Riddle, Ovalo.
Salt Branch, Mrs. H. B. Robertson, Merkel.
Shep, J. C. Hamilton, Rt. 1, Wingate.
Sweetwater, First, C. R. Simmons, Sweetwater.
Sweetwater, Lamar St., J. M. Bratcher, Sweetwater.
Trent, H. W. Beckham, Trent.
Tuscola, D. H. Swindle, Tuscola.
Tye, Miss Lula Hassey, Tye.
View, B. E. Plozman, Rt. 1, Tye.

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Abilene, First, Mrs. W. W. Haynes, 718 Mulberry, Abilene.
Abilene, Immanuel, Mrs. H. L. Rice, 1602 College Drive, Abilene.
Abilene, South Side, Mrs. Harry Hayes, Abilene.
Abilene, Sunset, Mrs. S. Z. Paul, 326 Sammons, Abilene.
Abilene, Temple, Mrs. Dillard, 802 Jeanette, Abilene.
Abilene, University, Mrs. C. D. Owen, 1602 Ambler, Abilene.
Abilene, North Park, Mrs. G. W. Thompson, Anson Avenue, Abilene.
Blackwell, Mrs. Leroy Stone, Blackwell.
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Elmdale, Mrs. W. A. Strickland, Rt. 5, Abilene.
Merkel, Mrs. Lum Gilbreath, Merkel.
Nolan, Mrs. Alvie Egger, Nolan.
Ovalo, Mrs. James Bryant, Ovalo.
Sweetwater, First, Mrs. Tom Miller, Sweetwater.
Sweetwater, Lamar St., Mrs. D. C. Smith, Sweetwater.
Trent, Mrs. W. C. Matthews, Trent.
Tuscola, Mrs. W. I. Taylor, Tuscola.
Tye, Mrs. Earl King, Rt. 3, Abilene.

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Abilene, Calvary.
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Bethel, Jack Hammond, Rt. 1, Tuscola.
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Buffalo Gap, C. E. Short, Buffalo Gap.

Caps, Mrs. W. F. Joiner, Rt. 1, Tye.
Cedar Gap, Mrs. J. H. Robinson, Tuscola.
Colony Hill, C. E. Warford, Abilene.
Elmdale, Frank Antilley, Rt. 5, Abilene.
Eskota, Albert Blankenship, Trent.
Hamby, Bert Clemmer, Rt. 1, Abilene.
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Lawn, Carroll Watson, Lawn.
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Merkel, Comer Haynes, Merkel.
Moro, O. C. Grissom, Guion.
Neill, O. A. Newman, Rt. 5, Abilene.
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Nolan, Lem Ray, Wingate.
Ovalo, H. L. Lackey, Ovalo.
Salt Branch, Houston Robertson, Merkel.
Shep, R. L. Jackson, Rt. 1, Wingate.
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Sweetwater, Lamar, Clyde Lewis, Sweetwater.
Trent, P. B. Cooper, Merkel.
Tuscola, Ted E. Edwards, Tuscola.
Tye, J. W. Perry, Tye.
View, J. A. McGhee, Rt. 1, Tye.
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Cedar Gap.
Colony Hill.
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Eskota.
Hamby.
Hylton.
Lawn, Miss Neely, Abilene.
Mt. Olive.
Mt. Pleasant, Mrs. Don Williams, Rt. 1, Tye.
Maryneal.
Merkel, Eleanor M. King, Merkel.
Moro.
Neill, Billie Johnson, Rt. 5, Abilene.
New Live Oak.
Nolan, Billie Buchanan, Nolan.
Ovalo, J. T. Bryant, Ovalo.
Salt Branch.
Shep, J. C. Hamilton, Rt. 1, Wingate.
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Trent, Alice Carey, Trent.
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New Hope, No. 2.
New Hope, No. 3, D. B. Raney, Ranger.
Nimrod.
Okra.
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Lone Cedar.
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Mitchell, G. C. Taylor, Cisco.
Necessity, Elen Cottle, Moran.
Moran, L. E. McGowen, Caddo.
New Hope, No. 1, Allen George, Ranger.
New Hope, No. 2.
New Hope, No. 3, E. Bargaley, Ranger.
Nimrod, T. C. Cozart, Nimrod.
Okra, Arthur Wolf, Okra.
Olden, James Ward, Olden.
Pioneer, A. C. Harris, Pioneer.
Pleasant Hill, H. G. Hines, Carbon.
Pueblo, Gene Green, Moran.
Ranger, First, E. T. Eubank, Ranger.
Ranger, Second, G. E. Landtroop, Ranger.
Rising Star, A. N. Searly, Rising Star.
Sebanno, Mrs. Lean Scott, Nimrod.
Staff, C. L. Henderson, Eastland.
Union, Ben Williams, Nimrod.
Wayland, Mrs. Clifton Harrison, Breckenridge.

WORKERS MEETINGS

Workers Conferences meet in the various associations at the following time:
Fisher County, Monday after First Sunday.
Cisco, Tuesday after First Sunday.
Callahan, Wednesday after First Sunday.
Sweetwater, Thursday after First Sunday.
Stonewall, Tuesday after Second Sunday.
Jones, Tuesday after Third Sunday.
Haskell, Tuesday after Fourth Sunday.

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Third Term, August 24 to September 11

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