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RAMBLING

EMARKS



By DICK O'BRIEN

Well this has been one of the dizziest days of my life. And, incidentally one of the most pleasant and profitable. We have had as our guests more than 300 friends from all over this section in an all day meeting which has been so filled with fellowship and good preaching that it has left me limp . . . Strange but not a single inspiration for rambling remarks came to me during the entire day, but last night I was awake for several hours and if I had had this typewriter then I could have written a column that probably would have gone down in history . . . Did you ever wake up at night and your memory and imagination would take charge of you, and lead you into fields of thought that would make the adventures of Alice in Wonderland, sound like a stroll in the back yard? Well that is what happened to me last night. With my imagination at the helm I went back over my life with such vivid reality that I imagined I could hear the familiar tick-tock of the old family clock which burned in a disasterous fire which consumed our home more than twenty five years ago. I thought once I heard "old Towser," bark at some real or imaginary prowler as he faithfully stood guard over our household for more than ten of my childhood years. Good old Towser, the kindest dog I ever knew and as faithful to us as the needle to the pole . . . I heard again the rare sound of my mother's voice high pitched with anger as she wanted to know "who put the bucket over the pet pig's nose and eyes, and hooked the bail over his head, starting a rumpus that ended with the complete destruction of a flower bed which she had made with great expenditure of physical effort." Of course I didn't say anything then, and even last night I broke out in a cold sweat as I contemplated what would have happened had she been a mind reader . . . This logically led on to the memory of that day when Roy and I, (The Hans and Fritz of our family) dropped the small stone in the mule colt's ear as an experiment to test his reactions, and got a lot more than we bargained for. My dad never took much stock in the Ladies Home Journal method of rearing children, and if he had learned within a reasonable time that we were the guilty parties, I imagine we would still carry scars to show for it . . . But he was the grandest man I ever knew on this earth. God bless his memory, and make me just half the man he was, and I'll be a twice better man than I am today . . . Then I went to school again for my first day. And what a day! I was never hazed in college, but I dare say they would not have hit any spots that did not already have a scar to show for the experiences I had in that country school, especially at recess time, and on the way home in the afternoons. The fact that we all lived through it is a positive argument in favor of predestination. I did not take the three "r's" frequently referred to as being . . .

EVENTS TO COME

- Jan. 30—Spring Semester Begins, H-S University.
- January 31 — Evangelistic Rally, District 7.
- February 2 — Evangelistic Rally, District 11.
- February 7 — Evangelistic Rally, District 9.
- February 14 — Evangelistic Rally, District 8.
- Feb. 17-18—Y. W. A. House Party, Hardin-Simmons University.
- March 6-7—District 17 Convention, Sweetwater.
- March 7-8—District 9 Convention, Lubbock.
- April 9—B. T. U. High Attendance Day.
- April 11-13—State Sunday School Convention, Waco.
- January 30—B. T. U. Rally, Albany.
- April 18-19—District 17 W. M. U. Convention, Ranger.

EVANGELISTIC FERVOR KINDLED AT RALLY

More than three hundred pastors, laymen, women and young people from District Seventeen with visitors from out of the district were humbled, thrilled and inspired at the evangelistic rally at Stamford January 24 in which Dr. R. C. Campbell and Dr. L. R. Scarborough were the climatic speakers.

Others who brought messages adding to the evangelistic fervor were Pastors Judson Prince of Cisco, J. M. Sibley of Sweetwater and Phil C. McGahay of Breckenridge in the morning and District W. M. U. President, Mrs. J. B. Buckley, District Brotherhood President E. S. Cummings and J. D. Riddle, who spoke for District Sunday School Superintendent J. M. Cook who was unable to attend.

Dr. Scarborough called the meeting a home-coming for him, stating that his family moved to Jones county 61 years ago and that his father preached the first sermon in the county and held the first revival under a big elm tree on the Clear Fork.

Expressing a prayer for the "mightiest spiritual movement we have known among our people in our day," Dr. Scarborough called attention to the record that of nearly 25,000 Southern Baptist churches, 4,500 had no revival services in 1937 and 6,400 had not a single baptism.

"We have tried everything but revival," declared the president of the Southern Baptist Convention. Adding that war, peace, prosperity and depression had all increased our problems. Five per cent of our numbers, he declared do not exist, 10 per cent can not be found, one-fourth do not attend, half never give, nine-tenths never go to prayer meeting and 95 per cent never attempt to win a soul.

Among out of district visitors were Dr. H. H. Muirhead representing the Foreign Mission Board and Missionary John M. Riddell of District 11.

BALLINGER LAYMEN PUT ON FEED BAG

One hundred and fifty three men assembled in the basement of the Ballinger Baptist Church Friday night to enjoy a fellowship banquet and program. All of the night's activities were planned and executed by the men—including the menu which consisted of barbecued mutton, "sun-of-a-gun," beans, potato chips, pickles and onions, doughnuts and coffee, and was served in cafeteria style piping hot.

"Onward, Christian Soldiers" was sung before the invocation offered by Rev. M. C. Golden. Mr. Elmer Shepherd was the toastmaster and carried the program through in typical Shepherd style. "Return to Religion" was the theme of the talks made by Judge O. L. Parrish, E. E. King, Melvin Patterson and R. L. Maddox, teachers of the men's Sunday School classes. The key-note address was given by the pastor, Clarence A. Morton.

A sing song of the old tunes with new words appropriate to the occasion was led by Gale Dunn, music and educational director of the church. A medley of sacred songs was played on the trombone by Curthel Gilligan, band director of the public schools, and a male quartet composed of R. E. White, Jack McKey, Ed Norman and L. L. Stroble, song "A Friend to Man." George Clements was accompanied during the evening.

Standing with hands clasped in friendship circles the men sang "Blest Be the Tie that Binds Our Hearts in Christian Love," C. K. Jacobs offered the benediction.

ASSOCIATIONAL S. S. MEETING WELL ATTENDED

The most successful of the four statewide conferences for associational offices, according to those in attendance, was held at Dallas January 18 and 19.

Of the 109 associations in Texas, 103 were represented, including officers from El Paso, Texarkana, Amarillo and Brownsville.

The meeting was one of a series promoted by the Southwide Sunday School Board, which was represented by Dr. T. L. Holcomb, executive secretary, J. N. Barnett, chairman of the promotion committee, and J. O. Williams, business manager.

Department workers from Nashville and state approved workers of Texas conducted inspirational and informative conferences. Marked progress in Sunday School work in Texas was attributed by Secretary G. S. Hopkins to the associational organization movement.

FOREIGN MISSION LEADER MAKES WESTERN TOUR



Dr. H. H. Muirhead, field secretary west of the Mississippi for the Foreign Mission Board, concluded a ten-day tour of West Texas with a chapel address at Hardin-Simmons Tuesday followed by an appearance at the District evangelistic conference at Stamford.

Church appearances of Dr. Muirhead, who for 29 years was missionary in Brazil and who spent one year as representative of the Foreign Board in Europe, included a morning service at First Church, Abilene, and an evening service at University Church on January 22.

On January 15 he spoke at Midland and at Odessa. The interviewing week was taken with twice daily addresses at the Mexican Seminary at El Paso and at First Church in that city. He also gave some time to conferences with students at that Seminary.

Monday of this week he had a number of conferences with Hardin-Simmons students who plan to go to foreign fields and in the evening spoke to the Mission Workers and ministerial students.

DATE CHANGED FOR CAMP LUEDERS RETREAT

Because of conflict with other meetings which had been previously announced, the mid-winter retreat for pastors which was set to convene at Camp Lueders February 6 to 8, has been changed to Thursday, Friday and Saturday, February 16 to 18.

Those attending will arrive Thursday afternoon and the session will close with the noon meal Saturday. Dr. N. A. Moore of the Bible department of Hardin-Simmons University and a group of leading pastors of District 17 will appear on the program.

ASSN. TRAINING UNION OFFICERS MEET AT ALBANY

Dr. T. C. Gardner and a group from his office will meet district and associational officers of the B. T. U. for a conference at the First Baptist Church, Albany, on Monday, January 30.

In addition to associational officers the zone leaders and departmental leaders in the associations are urged to be present. All Training Union workers and others interested will be welcome.

The meeting will begin at ten, Monday morning and conclude by mid-afternoon.

IN B. T. U. CRUSADE



LEO E. WAITE
Lubbock

Mr. Waite is assisting in the Training Union Crusade this week in First Church, Abilene. About 200, representing seven churches beside the host church, were in attendance the first two evenings. Many others are expected to participate during the week.

HIDE AND SEEK WITH HOSTILE BOMBING PLANES

By FLOY HAWKINS
Hoyun, China, Dec. 1, 1938.
Mrs. B. N. Shepherd,
Abilene, Texas.

Dear Mrs. Shepherd:
It does seem so queer to be shut off from the world and have no communication whatever. That is just what happened to us. Our post office was bombed and we have had no letters since October 11 until last week. The telegraph and telephones were also out. Three days ago I had a card from Miss Alexander in Shanghai and it was twenty days old. Last night I had a letter from Mrs. Hill in Canton and it was twenty-one days old. Usually we get Canton letters the next day after they are mailed. Both letters had gone to Swatow and thence overland here by men walking. We have had no word from Hongkong.

Mr. Gallimore was in Waichow when the city was taken. The preachers had all gone to Canton to a conference called by the Convention. At eleven o'clock on October 13, an officer called Miss Shek and Mrs. So at the church and told them that Au Tau on the coast a few miles away had been taken and Waichow would be in line for attack the next day and they must flee at once. They grabbed some extra clothes and left immediately. At dawn they had reached a large market town where there was a private car ready to go to Tsang Shing in which they fortunately got a place. At Tsang Shing they managed to get into the last car going to Lung Moon where Miss Shek's people live.

Our preachers had a time getting from Canton back home. Or course those who were to have gone to Waichow, Taam Shui and Ping Shan could not get through for those places were in the hands of the enemy. They came on up in the upper part of the valley.

Mrs. Hill told us that Mr. Gallimore had arrived safely in Hongkong, but Miss Pettigrew is still up in the next province and no trains are running, about her. All the rest of our workers are safe.

There is much malaria, colds and various disorders caused from lack of proper eating and from exposure—running to the hills and fields to hide from the planes.

Miss Lai, Taam and I laughed at ourselves number of times as we crouched in the water drain outside our gate. But we weren't laughing when those planes were breathing fire above and around us. It reminded me of the dreams I used to have when I was a child; when demons and monsters of un-namable sorts pursued hot on my trail—I could feel their hot breath even as the doors of some castle of refuge closed and made me safe.

The girls decided that they had better go to some village farther north and made arrangements for Chiu Tai (my cook) to go with them to one of her relatives. But that very afternoon that place was bombed. The next day was calm and we had a revival of courage. But the following (Continued on page 4)

PROGRAM

For combined Workers' Meeting of Runnels Baptist Association and Evangelistic Conference to be held at the Ballinger Baptist Church, Ballinger, Texas, Tuesday, February 7, 1939. Clarence A. Morton, Host Pastor.

- 10:00 a. m. Devotional, Rev. P. I. Wood.
- 10:15 a. m. "The Place and Power of Prayer in a Revival Meeting"—Rev. Fred De La Shaw, Robert Lee, Texas.
- 10:45 a. m. "The Office of the Holy Spirit in the Salvation of a Soul"—Rev. J. W. Sailors, Paint Rock, Texas.
- 11:15 a. m. Sermon: "The Plan of Salvation"—Dr. E. B. Atwood, Hardin-Simmons Univ.
- 12:00 Dinner.
- 1:30 p. m. "The Place of Personal Work, Visitation, and the Power of Gospel Music in a Revival"—Rev. W. D. Taylor, Tuscola.
- 2:00 p. m. "The Southwide Baptist Evangelistic Campaign"—By Organizer, Rev. Clarence A. Morton, Ballinger.
- 2:15 p. m. "How to Have a Revival"—Rev. M. C. Golden, Ballinger.
- 2:45 p. m. Executive Board Meeting.
- Rev. W. T. Hamor, Chairman, Winners.

The Program Committee.

ALL STATE EVANGELISTS REELECTED BY BOARD



Rev. Hyman Appelman



Dr. W. Y. Pond



Rev. Wm. H. Joyner

The seven evangelists who are designated by the State Mission Board were reelected at the last meeting of that body. These men, all of whom have splendid records as soul-winners are Revs. E. Y. Dossey, Jesse L. Yelvington, George W. McCall, J. F. Stanley, Hyman Appelman, W. Y. Pond, and Wm. H. Joyner.

All of these had a part in the county-wide evangelistic campaign at El Paso which started off the evangelistic year with the exception of Evangelist Appelman who was at Phoenix, Arizona, at the time.

NO LEAGUE WITH CRIME SAYS GOVERNOR O'DANIEL

The spectre of legalized gambling in horse races was largely lifted this week when Governor W. Lee O'Daniel, in response to queries concerning his attitude on the question, expressed opposition to state partnership with crime.

"I would not be in favor of any bill," Associated Press dispatches quoted the Governor, "no matter how much money it would raise, if it placed the state in partnership with crime, or anything that might be allied with crime, directly or indirectly."

Friends of civic righteousness hailed this declaration as the answer to scores of telegrams and petitions protesting any return of legalized gambling in Texas.

THE SEMINARY CAN USE YOUR OLD HYMN BOOKS

We are trying to build a great hymnological library here at the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and I would greatly appreciate it if your friends over the south would send in to us copies of old hymnals and song books—either those with only the words or those with the words and music. Address them to I. E. Reynolds, in care of the Seminary.

Names of some of these old books are: "The Psalmist," "Old Sacred Harp," "Christian Harmony," and "Temple Star." They are to be preserved for future reference and information.

Sincerely,
I. E. REYNOLDS.

MISSIONARY

ESSAGES



By B. N. Shepherd
Missionary, District 17

Annual report of District Missionary from January 1, 1938 to December 31, 1938.

Sermons and addresses, 399. Church fields contacted, rural and village, 92. City and town, 69, total 161; revival meetings conducted, 7. Responses; rededications 74, conversions 131, baptisms 63, additions by letter 45, total 3133.

I was pastor of both the boys' and girls' camps and helped with the general camp, teaching, "Building a Christian Home." Arranged revivals for others to hold 24.

General meetings attended: Southwide; Southern Baptist Convention, Richmond, Virginia. State-wide 11; District 24; Associational 70.

Sunday School revivals in churches 3, with 177 enrolled and 103 taking examinations. B. T. U. revivals, associational 2, with 691 enrolled, 431 taking examinations and 21 conversions. Ten outside workers were used. Church Training Union revivals 4, with 242 enrolled and 167 taking examinations.

One B. T. U. organized with 40 members; one junior B. Y. P. U. organized with 24 members; one W. M. S. organized with 14 members.

Letters and cards sent out in interest of the work, 1,733. Conferences on work; group 141, private 797, total 938. Articles written and published in Brotherhood, Big Spring.

Money raised: State Missions \$11.50, pasturism \$65.00, for help in revivals \$79.66, District missions \$199.82, Lueders camp grounds, total \$395.98.

Bibles, Testaments and books sold 52, tracts and books given away 3,000. Helped ordain 7 deacons, assisted many pastorless churches, led in numerous prayer meetings and many other activities.

Number surrendered to special service in meetings 7.

B. N. Shepherd, Missionary District Seventeen.

SINCERE TESTIMONY OF A BUSINESS MAN

January 11, 1939.

Dr. Wallace Bassett,
Cliff Temple Baptist Church,
Dallas, Texas.

Dear Bro. Bassett:

I am writing this note to tell you that your message to our men last night was a masterpiece. God's Financial Plan is second only to the Plan of Salvation in the great Bible doctrines.

The nightmare of every business man is the fear that he will go broke. After more than fifty years in business, and big business at that, I am forced to conclude that the man who follows God's Financial Plan cannot go broke.

The banker may say that Wolfe is broke, he doesn't know, but I know that the large sum of money and the large amount of time I have invested in the cause of Jesus Christ is safe, and the "gates of hell shall not prevail against it." These investments make me one of the richest men in Texas today, and the moneyless millionaire that cannot go broke.

Banks may break, great mercantile establishments may break but God's promises do not break. If our people could learn that one lesson all anxiety would flee and Christianity would blossom like the rose.

Furthermore, if Jesus Christ fails nothing else matters, and wise men will stake all on Him and follow where He leads.

These lines are not written under the spell of some delusion but after long years in the mill of experience that teaches wonderful lessons that only God can reveal.

Keep on preaching God's Financial Plan and ever remember that I am sincerely,

Your friend,
M. H. WOLFE.

West Texas Baptist

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R. E. DUDLEY Editor

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"MY GRACE IS SUFFICIENT"

"But the Lord protected us and gave us grace and we are happy." With this sublimely simple declaration of faith Miss Floy Hawkins sums up her thrilling experiences in the letter from China which Mrs. B. N. Shepherd so graciously permits us to share this week with the West Texas Baptist family.

We are sure that this is the testimony of each of our war-harried missionaries who freely chose to remain with the people whom they had learned to love while bringing them the message of the God of love.

In this land of peace we can but dimly visualize the misery, the terror and the stark despair which engulfs the people with whom our messengers in China are in constant contact. It is refreshing and encouraging to read a letter which, while vividly portraying the imminent death that is their daily portion, is infused with a spirit of quiet confidence and perfect trust.

We should daily thank the Father that He has protected his own so well and that He is bringing about China's travail to the furtherance of the gospel.

LIFTING UP CHRIST

While too many of our churches continue in a smug way, fussing over trivialities, concerned chiefly with the mechanics of religion; the evangelist, the mission, the church which magnifies the matchless Christ is too busy with the great tasks of receiving, teaching and training the souls new-born into the Kingdom to waste energies with affairs which cumber those worldly minded congregations.

The world is over-fed on silly superficialities. It has its own favorite forms of amusement. It reads and hears of social problems seven days in the week. It is not interested in ponderous theology. But it has a weary and bruised heart which craves a message of a loving Savior.

There are evangelists who are reaching out for these heart-hungry people. There are churches which are reaching out to the needy, day by day and week by week. But above all they are being reached through missions which are going out into the by-ways.

In this country, a large percentage of the mature men who are outside of the church have either been repelled by some self-centered church or have been led by the Devil's propaganda to believe that the church has no message for them. These need to come into contact with a Christ-centered church.

The church which lifts up Christ the Redeemer, magnifying his name and his mission, is finding that men are attracted by his holy personality, just as he said that they would be.

THE INSIDE OF THE CUP

In a certain shantytown there was a Baptist mission established. In this area most of the population were of the drifter type, born on the move, with never a better home than a dirty piece of canvas or a shack built of assorted odds and ends.

Out of this squalor and dirt came troops of delinquent boys and girls to fill overcrowded state institutions. And year after year, in spite of expensive efforts to extend the philosophy of the abundant life, conditions grew worse instead of better.

Then the mission was opened. For months progress was slow. Ignorance, prejudice and suspicion had to be combatted. Workers had to be developed who would labor among strange and shocking conditions for the love of Christ and lost souls.

Eventually the gospel of love opened the way. Not only impressionable children but hardened men and women who had never heard the gospel story believed and were converted. And a miracle occurred. The same people with whom social workers had made poor progress, in whom charity had developed a spirit of beggary, now that they were converted were really turned about. Even to the casual observer there was evident a new spirit of cleanliness and personal pride.

Where efforts to clean the outside had only resulted in their returning to the former wallows; the spirit of Christ, transforming the very soul, had reached to the exterior until they were "every whit clean." Scanty funds which formerly had been squandered in drinking, gambling and other vices, went for clothing and food. Time, formerly frittered away in sin, was used to improve self and surroundings.

Were the economic problems of these people also miraculously solved? No. But even that is under way. Undesirable characters have been changed into employables. In the place of a spirit of getting as much as possible for nothing, there is coming the spirit of giving because much has been given. And when the economy of scarcity gives way to that of plenty, through work, these Christian citizens will be fit for constructive tasks in the labor of the world.

What many towns are now doing in this way, yours can do as well. There is scarcely a community in the entire Southland without its population—white, black or brown—who can be made fit citizens for this land and the world to come only by the miraculous power of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

News Notes

The Arizona B. T. U. Convention will meet at Tucson February 24 to 26. Out of state speakers include Dr. Clay I. Hudson and W. A. Harrell of Nashville, secretary and Mrs. Geo. F. Elam of New Mexico and Pastor Earl R. Keating of Alamogordo.

Field Street Church, Cleburne, has called Pastor W. Clyde Hankins of First Heights Church, Houston, to succeed Dr. Ben L. David who is now connected with Howard Payne College.

Commemorating the anniversary of the sailing of the Bagbys, the first Baptist missionaries to Brazil in 1881, Dr. E. G. Townsend reviewed the growth of Baptist work in Brazil at Mary Hardin-Baylor on January 13. Mrs. Bagby was an alumna of Baylor College.

Central Baptist Church, Phoenix, Arizona, is building a new auditorium which will be occupied by February 19 when Dr. C. E. Hereford of Lubbock will begin a mid-winter revival.

Immanuel Church, Abilene, is constructing a new parsonage which Pastor D. G. Reid will occupy soon after February 1.

Ovalo Church has organized a Missionary Society since the coming of Pastor and Mrs. W. D. Green. Mrs. Green is president of the new society.

A volume of evangelistic sermons by Hyman Appelman will soon be issued by Zondervan Publishing Co.

The Chinese mission at Tucson, Arizona, is having frequent conversions and now has an enrollment of 70.

First Church Vernon has organized a men's chorus. Rehearsals are on Sunday afternoons.

The Sunday School meeting of the West Zone, Sweetwater association, will meet at Sweetwater on February 19.

Dr. J. Norris Brown, pastor of First Church, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, has been called to the pulpit of First Church, Baton Rouge, which was made vacant by the death of Dr. J. H. Pace.

Spring Creek Church at Hobbs, Fisher county is constructing a new tile and stucco building at a cost of \$1,500.

Roswell Church, where Dr. McKinley Norman is pastor, has adopted the Tithers Plan and is raising a budget of \$18,500 for 1939. In the last four months of 1938 they contributed \$6,982.58 and had 50 additions in the regular services. Reports come that the work is growing in every direction.

Rev. J. C. Parks of Rotan was guest preacher at Scranton January 22. He was ordained by this church and there performed his first baptism.

Rev. C. A. Powell of University Church, Abilene, will speak at Knox City Church at 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon, January 29. This is part of an all day celebration of the complete payment of the church debt. Rev. H. E. East is pastor.

R. A. Holson of Seminary Hill has been chosen as educational director at First Church, Ranger, and is now on the field.

Rev. J. Pat Horton, pastor at Plainview, was speaker at the Floyd association Brotherhood meeting last week at Floydada. There were 62 men present representing eleven churches.

Pastor S. E. Stevenson and Rev. A. W. Blaine of Benjamin are conducting a Sunday School revival at O'Brien. This church has set March 1 to complete requirements for a standard Sunday School.

Rev. J. Lowell Ponder, who has done an outstanding work at Rochester, has accepted a call to Quitaque and is moving there this week.

Zones 1 and 2 of Sunday School work in Sweetwater association will meet at Neill Church Sunday afternoon.

First Church, Haskell, will begin a revival, which Pastor W. M. Whatley calls a "soul culture revival," Sunday, January 29. Missionary B. N. Shepherd will be the guest preacher.

Rev. B. B. Huckaby, pastor at Dickens, has accepted a call to Morton. During his pastorate a new building

was constructed and the church changed to having full-time services.

Elmdale church, which has a Sunday School enrollment of 153, including the cradle roll, and an average attendance in the eighties, has applied for standard recognition, which they have had since 1934.

Missionary B. N. Shepherd is assisting Pastor H. E. East in a Sunday School revival at Knox City.

TOURING TEXAS WITH B. T. U. WORKERS

By T. C. GARDNER
At Wichita Falls: Secretary T. C. Gardner and Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Patterson of the State Baptist Training Union Department at Dallas will assist Missionary John M. Riddell of District Eleven and B. T. U. President J. Boyd East in a series of B. T. U. conferences. The meetings will be held at the following places: Quanah, where Rev. A. Hope Owen is pastor, January 25; Wichita Falls, Lamar Avenue Baptist Church, where Rev. R. Alton Reed is pastor, January 26; Olney, where Rev. W. H. Townsend is pastor, January 27.

All associational and church training union officers have been invited and urged to attend these conferences. At Austonio: Miss Ethel Covington, a school teacher, is also one of our finest training union workers. She devoted all of her time in the summer of 1938 to training union work. The Neches River Association, in conference, voted unanimously to secure the services of Miss Covington for ten weeks during the summer. It would be fine if each of the associations in Texas would secure a good worker to spend the summer doing B. T. U. work.

At Throckmorton: Mr. Tencil J. Scott is the B. T. U. Director at Throckmorton. He writes, "Fifty-one of our members attended the State Baptist Training Union Convention at Wichita Falls. Twenty-one of this number were there for the full time. We camped in the educational building of the South Side Baptist Church at Wichita Falls. That convention meant everything to our church. We recently had a training school with 94 enrolled in classes and 86 taking examination. Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Patterson of the State B. T. U. Department, directed this campaign.

At Sterley: "The Floyd County Association B. T. U. voted unanimously to have an association-wide B. T. U. revival and study course either the last week in March or the first week in April. The First Church, Silvertown is planning to have a training school right away." L. A. Claybourn, Director of Floyd County Association B. T. U.

At El Paso: Mr. Lee Stulce, formerly of Abilene and Hardin-Simmons University, is the Educational Director of the First Baptist Church, El Paso. He is making plans to enlarge and develop the Baptist Training Union in that great church. We all rejoice that Bro. Stulce is back in Texas.

At San Antonio: Rev. Willis J. Ray, District Six Missionary, and Rev. Don O. Covington, District Six B. T. U. President, recently conducted a series of training union conferences in the seven associations in that district. The results of the campaign were as follows:

Churches represented in meetings 115
Pastors attending meetings 74
Training Union officers and members attending the meetings 991

The Program for the Meetings
A program similar to the following was carried out in each associational meeting. One full day was devoted to each association.

1. "The Baptist Training Union Director's Part in Building the Training Union"—Troy V. Campbell, San Antonio; R. O. Feather, Austin; Tom Ed Vaughn, San Antonio.

2. "Organization and Program of the Associational B. T. U."—Willis J. Ray, San Antonio.

3. "Pastors Place in Building the Baptist Training Union"—Rev. Don O. Covington, Kenedy.

4. General Conference on Training Union Work—T. C. Gardner, Dallas.

5. "The Five-Year Program"—Rev. Willis J. Ray, San Antonio.

6. "Training Union Goals for 1939"—Rev. Don O. Covington and Rev. Willis J. Ray.

7. "A Fully Traded Training Union"—T. C. Gardner.

The only conclusive evidence of a man's sincerity is that he gives himself for a principle. Words, money, all things else are comparatively easy to give away; but when a man makes a gift of his daily life and practice, it is plain that the truth, whatever it may be, has taken possession of him.—Lowell.

By the street of by and by one arrives at the house of never.—Cervantes.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

January 29, 1939

By Hight C Moore

PETER DECLARES HIS LOVE

John 21:11-19

Two or three weeks after his resurrection, the lesson of love to the risen Lord was taught on the western shore of the Sea of Galilee during his third appearance to the disciples as a body. Seven of the apostles were together, Peter, Thomas, Nathaniel, James, John and two others not named. As a means of support or for more diversion Peter suggested a few hours' return to their former occupation as fishermen. So the seven immediately entered a boat and went to work. But during the whole night they were singularly unsuccessful: "They caught nothing." Early next morning Jesus standing unrecognized on the shore, inquired of their success and then bade them cast their net on the right side of the ship. They obeyed and found themselves unable to draw the net with its multitude of fishes. At once, John, with his usual spiritual perceptiveness, declared, "It is the Lord." And Peter, with his well-known impetuosity, sprang into the sea and approached the Master.

1. The Provision of Love

The feast of fellowship illustrated the provision of love. When the other six disciples came dragging the net ashore they found a fire of coals and on it fish and bread. With Peter's help they "drew the net to land full of great fishes, an hundred and fifty three." Then, at the word of Jesus, and in response to their own feelings, they breakfasted, their hearts full of awe as they received from the hands of the Lord this early morning meal.

(We note that one of the five appearances on resurrection day was to Peter alone and another was to ten disciples including Peter. The same apostle was present the next Sunday evening when Jesus appeared to eleven apostles including Thomas. He was present at the third appearance to the apostles as recorded in our lesson. He was present on the Galilee mountain when Jesus gave the Great Commission and finally in Jerusalem and on the Mount of Olives when Jesus ascended.)

2. The Profession of Love

The appeal to affection called forth the profession of love. When the seven had thus broken their fast overnight Jesus taught them the lesson of love. His remarks were addressed to Peter, but the truth conveyed was for all. Slower than John to recognize the Lord, Peter was yet foremost of all the disciples in expressing his appreciation of the Lord's presence. Was he really more devoted than the others, and could he ever afterwards have cause to boast of his forwardness? To Simon the man rather than to Peter the apostle, Jesus addressed the question: "Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these?" Was his affection more a matter of high moral choice than of natural personal esteem, and in this did he surpass his fellows? In answer, Peter dared not speak of himself comparatively as he had so presumptuously done before his denials: he could merely assert his love, yet in a word which did not reach so high as that used by his Master. "Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee." On the basis of this love the Lord could provide for the sustenance of his flock, especially of those young in natural or in spiritual life. Therefore, the command, "Feed my lambs."

If love be sincere, it will not be ashamed of frequent expression. And the more often it is repeated, the stronger the ties that bind. The centrality of love in religion entitles it to the greatest possible emphasis. So a second time, and now not comparing him with the others, but bringing out the supreme relation to himself, Jesus said, "Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me?" And in this second inquiry he used the same word for love he had used before—expressing a regard unclogged with earthly elements, pure and spiritual. But again, unable to use that word or unwilling to expose himself to presumption, Peter reiterated the natural love he felt: "Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee." The sincerity of his soul was manifested and he could be entrusted with the watchcare of the flock of Christ. Hence now the command, "Tend my sheep."

But shall there be set a limit to love? Will a single expression of the lips be sufficient where a whole life of devotion is demanded? More for Simon's sake than his own, and strikingly suggestive of those three fearful denials, a third time Jesus said, "Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me?" This time he uses the word for love which Peter had twice used; that love shall be explored to its depths, its genuineness discovered,

and its needless externals brushed away. It seems little wonder that Peter felt somewhat keenly the persistent probe into his very heart. In a tone of intense earnestness he now replied, "Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee." In his inmost being he loved his Master with an earnest, faithful love. And with this threefold declaration of love, rising each time in intensity, Peter is assigned the important duty of not only feeding the lambs and tending the sheep, but also now of feeding the sheep. So love is the highest qualification for effective Christian work, as it is the chief link binding us to God.

3. The Proof of Love

The prophecy of martyrdom forecasts the proof of love. Looking into the future, Jesus foresaw and foretold the lifelong loyalty of Peter to Christ and his cause. In vivid phrase he declared that the apostle like his Lord should know the pain and glory of the cross. Let him not shrink at the prospect of martyrdom but lit his eyes to the higher goal and keep in his heart the Master's word: "Follow me."

The Lesson of the Lesson

"Lord—I Love Thee!"

(1) The Lord's Resurrection. Jesus rose from the dead. No other fact has been better proved. He lives today. Accept him; obey him; glorify him!

(2) The Lord's Day. He rose on the first day of the week, thenceforth our sacred day. Associate the Lord's resurrection with the Lord's day. They are inseparable.

(3) The Lord's Servants. Dead in disgrace and buried in a borrowed grave, Jesus was not without disciples. Some were true to him still. And was he not worthy of their faith?

(4) The Lord's Testimony. Even the silent sepulcher bore witness to the resurrection. The angels and the woman also testified. John was convinced and Peter started on the road to belief.

(5) The Lord's Word. The Scripture had declared that the Holy One should not see corruption. Jesus had repeatedly foretold his resurrection. The disciples' ignorance magnified their sorrow.

(6) The Lord's Love. The disciples must not hold in awe and at a distance their risen Lord, but twine around him anew the tendrils of their love. Love is the mightiest motive power in the world.

(7) The Lord's Knowledge. "Thou knowest" was Peter's refuge under the searching inquiry of the Lord. Does he not know us all altogether?

(8) The Lord's Flock. He loves them all and yearns for their love. And he wishes to entrust them to none but shepherds of love who will feed and lead them in love.

(9) The Lord's Forecast. Jesus foresaw and foretold the manner of Peter's death. The impetuous apostle, therefore, was like his Lord in anticipating as well as enduring the cross.

(10) The Lord's Command. "Follow me," said Jesus to Peter. And the apostle obeyed in life and death. The same word comes to us. Shall we be faithful?

Gold in the Golden Text

If ye love me, keep my commandments.—John 14:15.

Love Christ. He loved us with everlasting love. He is altogether lovely. Upon love he founds his kingdom, and with love he will win the world. Obey Christ. The loving Saviour is yet the righteous Lord. We are, therefore, so to love him. In fact, he says that if we love him we will obey him. Can we stand the test?

Home Daily Bible Readings

- Jan. 23—Peter Finds Forgiveness. Luke 24:28-35.
- Jan. 24—Peter Confesses His Love. John 21:15-17.
- Jan. 25—The Renewed Commission. John 21:17-19.
- Jan. 26—Peter Enjoins Devotion to Christ. I Peter 2:11-21.
- Jan. 27—A Service of Love. Luke 7:36-50.
- Jan. 28—The Greatest Thing in the World. I Corinthians 13.
- Jan. 29—Proving Our Love. John 15:12-21.

THREE "R'S" IN A REVIVAL

Rev. 2-17

I. REMEMBER—"Remember from whence thou art fallen."

II. REPENT—"Repent."

III. RETURN—"And do the first works."

"Many a man pays for his success with a slice of his constitution."

W. M. U. DEPARTMENT

SIX MISSION SOCIETIES ACTIVE IN FISHER ASSN.

The quarterly meeting of the Fisher County W. M. U. met with the North Roby Church January 10, 1939. The devotional was led by Mrs. Stephenson. Reports were made by committee chairmen on Education, Young People, Missions, Mission Study, Benevolence, Methods and Finance, Margaret Fund, Personal Service and Stewardship.

Six societies made good reports. The treasurer reported 587 women in the six society with 79 active, 66 women and 53 young people tithing, 61 gave to missions. Every member of two societies gave.

All six societies observed both weeks of prayer and four had special programs.

Eight letters and one box were sent to missionaries. The Lottie Moon offering amounted to \$170.69. There was a State Mission offering of \$31.85. Buckner Orphans Home received \$102.91 in cash and boxes amounting to \$225.01.

All apportionments were met. Eighteen dollars was sent to the Hundred Thousand Club, and \$52.70 to charity, besides food and clothing to the needy.

There were 41 Seniors reported, 21 young people are in Baptist schools and two in other colleges. There are twelve young people organizations with 150 members. Eight mission study classes were held 43 women attending.

A mission message was brought to the meeting by Mrs. L. W. Dickson. Mrs. A. M. Josey led a prayer and praise service after lunch. Mrs. O. D. Henley spoke on the Great Commission and Stewardship. Mrs. Gilbert gave a reading.

A consecration service was led by Rev. J. H. Skiles. Greetings and flowers were sent to our president, Mrs. D. L. Swint and to Mrs. Hope Swann who were both unable to come on account of illness. Mrs. S. R. Brumfield, Reporter.

NOTES FROM CALLAHAN MISSIONARY SOCIETIES

On Friday, Dec. 16, the associational officers of the W. M. U. held a Christmas meeting and party in the home of Mrs. W. B. Barton at Clyde with twenty-one in attendance. The forenoon was spent in hearing reports from the officers. After a delicious turkey dinner a Christmas program and tree were enjoyed.

The Clyde ladies met in their pastor's home on Monday for a Christmas program and social, with all circles meeting together.

The quarterly meeting of the W. M. S. of the association was held at Putnam Jan. 5 with thirty-five in attendance from Baird, Potosi, Putnam and Clyde. We were happy to have three of our district women with us, Mrs. Buckley, Mrs. Paxton, and Mrs. Chandler, who were very helpful in explaining points we were in doubt about. Mrs. Buckley gave an inspiring talk on the subject, "Going Forward with Christ." We wish every W. M. U. worker could have heard this talk. Her earnest manner makes one confident of the sincerity of her message.

The Putnam ladies served a wonderful dinner at noon and the day was so full and so interesting that the closing hour came all too soon. The next quarterly meeting will be at Potosi April 6th.

Our local Clyde W. M. S. is going along splendidly, with all apportionments reported met at the quarterly meeting. Mrs. Sikes is our president.

MRS. RALPH FULLER, Publicity Chmn.

JONES CO. M. M. U. HOLDS QUARTERLY MEETING

The W. M. U. of Jones county association held its quarterly meeting at Hamlin Jan. 12 with a good attendance and a very helpful program. Mrs. Dick O'Brien, district young people's leader, made a fine talk on the subject, "Onward Through our Young People," which was the theme of the day's program. Mrs. N. A. Moore, district chairman of education, was present with a group of Hardin-Simmons students who sang beautifully and spoke in appreciation of the student fund of which several of them were recipients. This hour was greatly enjoyed.

Every one on the program was present except two chairmen of standing committees. Our associational officers for the year are Mrs. W. L. Boyd, president and Mrs. Earle Smith, corresponding secretary-treasurer.

MRS. J. HENRY LITTLETON, Publicity Chmn.

SOUTH SIDE HOSTESS FOR SWEETWATER W. M. U.

The quarterly meeting of Sweetwater Associational W. M. U. was held at Southside church, Abilene, Jan. 12, with Mrs. C. C. Compere presiding and Mrs. Bert E. Low, Sweetwater, recording secretary.

After singing led by Mrs. R. C. Lewis, a devotional was conducted by Mrs. V. W. Tatum, North Park Church, Abilene, closing with a piano solo by Mrs. T. J. Pruett.

Greetings by Mrs. Lewis were responded to by Mrs. J. N. Anderson, Tuscola. District officers were recognized and Rev. and Mrs. W. D. Green, Ovalo, were introduced. Ten of the eighteen societies gave good reports.

After a delicious covered-dish lunch served by the hostess society reports were heard from the following chairmen of standing committees: Mrs. W. C. Taggart, personal service; Mrs. W. S. Daniel, mission study; Mrs. J. H. Dean, Missions; Mrs. J. R. Fielder, Christian education; Mrs. S. J. T. Williams, benevolence; Mrs. G. L. Paxton for Mrs. W. E. Ryan, periodicals; Mrs. Bill Haines, stewardship.

The corresponding secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Bryan Ball, reported apportionments practically all met and every indication of a good year's work from the financial viewpoint. Some of her figures are: Co-op. Prog., \$864.76; Lottie Moon, \$877.57; Mary Hill Davis, \$321.08; Jubilee bonds, \$140.40; Mrs. B. L. Lockett, \$187.50; Dr. A. B. Deter, \$58.39; Hardin-Simmons student fund, \$89.70; Charity, \$438.59; Luedera Enc. \$262.97; Carmen Arroyo, \$60.75.

MRS. JAS. ALEXANDER, Publicity Chmn.

GOOD REPORTS FROM HASKELL ASSN. W. M. U.

The quarterly meeting of the Haskell association W. M. U. was held with the Missionary Society of First Church, Munday, on January 10, Mrs. J. O. Bowden, Munday, presiding. Mrs. B. M. Whitaker of Haskell led congregational singing and Mrs. S. E. Stevenson of Goree brought a inspiring talk on "Let your light shine."

Following a few words of greeting by the president, reports were heard from local presidents, all eight of whom were present except Mrs. Johnson of Goree who was ill and was represented by Mrs. Stevenson.

These reports were full of interest and inspiration. None of us were satisfied with the amount of work reported done and all are making plans to study, pray and pay more in the future. If possible we hope to have a worthwhile year.

After lunch, served in the church annex, there was a short session of the executive board.

Mrs. R. J. Reynolds of Haskell brought a devotional afternoon and Mrs. R. C. Couch, Haskell, led in prayer. Mrs. A. C. Brook, corresponding secretary-treasurer read her quarterly report and resigned because she has moved to Throckmorton. This was followed by reports of associational chairmen. Associational Moderator S. E. Stevenson of Goree spoke briefly.

At the business session Mrs. Edd Thompson of Munday was elected corresponding secretary - treasurer. Rochester was selected as the place for the next quarterly meeting. Mrs. Lowell Ponder, Rochester, recording secretary, read the minutes of the preceding meeting and of the day. We were dismissed with prayer by Bro. Stevenson.

The spirit of the meeting was fine, the attendance good. We feel that there is much to do in all phases of work. Will you pray that we enter into the whitened harvest willingly?

Mrs. J. O. Bowden, President.

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BENEVOLENCE REPORT FOR DISTRICT SEVENTEEN

For Quarter Ending December 31, 1938

Callahan Association—Number of churches reporting, 9; number of talks, 8. Buckner Orphans Home, four offerings, two for \$2.55 and two not valued; 19 boxes, \$146.43. Clothing for 12-year girls, 15 garments; for boys 16 garments; 8-year girls, two garments; 26 other garments; 145 pieces of linens; 1 purse and 2 quilts; 125 quarts of canned goods; 65 cans; 40 pounds of peas. Beneficiary: one offering and one box, neither valued. Chairman, Mrs. J. S. Tierce, Clyde.

Cisco Association—Number of churches reporting, 9; number of offerings, not valued; 14 boxes (58 garments) not valued. Met clothing apportionment for two boys (14 garments) and three girls (21 garments); also nine other boxes at Thanksgiving. Hendrick Memorial Hospital: two boxes, not valued. Beneficiary: two offerings and three boxes, not valued. Chairman, Mrs. Grant Adams, Okra.

Fisher Association—Buckner Orphans Home: one offering, \$41.22; two boxes of toys and cookies, \$42.75; other boxes, \$168.62; clothing for 12-year boys, 26 garments; for girls, 20 garments, also three garments for 8-year girls; 8 linens. Hendrick Memorial Hospital: one box of jellies and preserves. Beneficiary: one gift and three Christmas cards. Chairman, Mrs. Emory Scott, Rotan.

Haskell Association—Number of churches reporting, 5. Buckner Orphans Home: four offerings, \$75.13; eight boxes, \$205.29; clothing for 12-year boys, 64 garments; for girls, 60 garments; for 9-year boys, 11 garments; for 9-year girls, 8 garments. Beneficiary: one offering, \$4.50; love gifts, \$18.50; one box, not valued, one Christmas card. Chairman, Mrs. D. Scott, Haskell.

Jones Association Number of societies reporting, 5. Buckner Orphans Home: one offering \$27.55; one box cookies, \$4.57; three boxes clothing \$118.92; clothing for 12-year boys, 29 garments; for girls, 12 garments; 171 other garments; Ministers relief: one offering, \$2.00. Beneficiaries: one offering, \$7.70; one box canned goods, \$8.50. Chairman, Mrs. Ed Rowell, Anson.

Stonewall Association—Number of societies reporting, 5. Buckner Orphans Home: one offering, \$18.00; six boxes, \$27.07; clothing for 12-year boys, 27 garments; for girls, 22 garments; two garments for 8-year olds; 14 linens. Beneficiary: Girard, one Christmas box, not valued. Chairman, Mrs. Tom Cooper, Girard.

Sweetwater Association—Number of societies reporting, 11. Number of talks, 13, one program. Buckner Orphans Home: six offerings, \$124.19; 11 boxes, \$259.52; clothing for 12-year boys, 23 garments; for girls, 153 garments; 9 sweaters for other ages. Beneficiaries: three offerings, \$7.50; one box, \$3.50; three boxes, not valued; 12 Christmas cards. Chairman, Mrs. J. T. Williams, Abilene.

All reports on time. Total amount of clothing sent for girls—numbers in parentheses represent apportionments for each article—dresses, (17) 45; brassiers, (17) 28; slips, (32) 41; pajamas, (31) 35; socks, (31) 42 pairs; hose, (31) 30; 8-year dresses, (10) 4; sweaters, (0).

Clothing for boys—pants, (12) 25; overalls, (12) 14; shirts, (12) 42; socks, (12) 48; shorts, (12) 21; undershirts, (12) 20; 8-year sweaters, (12) 2; 2-year sweaters, (0) 5; 10-year sweaters, (0) 2.

Good used clothing, toys and books were included in the 75 boxes to the Buckner Orphans Home.

Respectfully submitted, Mrs. Geo. L. Paxton, chairman, District 17.

POSITIONS

Young people interested in early employment, with opportunities for advancement, should send for the inspiring story of how the Draughon Training and placement facilities have proved the shortest and surest route to good incomes for thousands of young people. Call, phone, or mail coupon today for "Proof of Position" and special money-saving plan.

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STONEWALL W. M. U. MEETS AT GIRARD

The quarterly meeting of the Stonewall Associational W. M. U. met with the Girard Baptist Church, Girard, Texas, January 13, 1939, at ten o'clock in the morning.

Our topic, The Great Commission—Our Mission "The Love of Christ Constraineth Us"—II Cor. 5:14.

The morning program consisted of our opening song service led by Mrs. Darden, Girard, Texas; Devotional, Mrs. George Thomas, Peacock; Greeting, Mrs. Mat Darden, Girard; Response, Mrs. Hedgecock, Peacock; Recognition of visitors; special music, Mrs. Grover Little, Jayton; Report of the Corresponding Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Grover Little, Jayton; Missions, Mrs. G. C. Torrance, Swenson; Periodicals, Mrs. Ellis Scoggins, Peacock. We also had "The Love of Christ Constraineth Us" through local W. M. S.: Swenson, Mrs. Ed Hahn; Peacock, Mrs. Alton Vaughn; Jayton, Mrs. H. J. Whitley; Aspermont, Mrs. Pearson Couch; Girard, Mrs. Alf Parks.

The hour before lunch was devoted to special music and a very inspirational sermon by Reverend G. W. Thomas, Peacock, who used as his text Acts 17.

The afternoon program was opened by song service led by Mrs. Mat Darden, Girard; Devotional, Mrs. H. J. Powell, Peacock; The Love of Christ Constraineth Us Through: Benevolence, Mrs. Tom Cooper, Girard; Mission Study, Mrs. George Thomas, Peacock; Stewardship, Mrs. E. L. Bowman; Personal Service, Mrs. A. E. Aycock, Aspermont; Education, Mrs. W. H. Porter, Jayton; Young People, Mrs. Irvin Pearson, Aspermont; Margaret Fund, Mrs. Robinson; Bible, Mrs. Faye Hinton, Jayton; Board Member at Large, Mrs. Lula Rice, Jayton.

Following the program a short business session was held and we adjourned to meet with the Peacock Baptist Church, Peacock, Texas, in our next quarterly meeting.

MRS. H. J. POWELL, Publicity Chmn.

MISSIONS REPORT OF DISTRICT W. M. U.

Members of committees on missions, 57. From the reports that I have received, it seems that in the larger churches and in some of the others, where the work is better organized, that they all use the circle plan, each having a representative on the Mission Committee. They hold regular meetings for planning and discussion.

Missionary chairmen in young people's organizations, 20. Missionaries home on furlough, one, Miss Viola Humphrey, Dublin, Texas. Courtesies to missionaries home on furlough, 92. Letters to missionaries this quarter, 64 from women, 14 from young people.

Number of boxes to missionaries sent by women, 2 with 68 gifts; sent by young people, 4 boxes.

Volunteers for foreign services, one, Demetra Norvelle, Moran, Texas. Regular monthly missionary programs, women, 114; young people, 74. Special programs, women, 12; young people, 10.

The special season of prayer was observed with 595 women in attendance, ten of whom were new members. Young people in attendance at special seasons of prayer, 348.

Mrs. Ed Hahn, Mission Chairman, District 17.

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LAMESA ASSN. NEWS

By J. J. Gentry

Bro. W. C. (Feller) Wright is the new pastor of the Fairview and Midway Churches and running in high at both places. The Midway church is building a pastor's home and has it almost completed and paid for.

Bro. William Arnett from Midland is bringing things to pass at Woody and Five Mile. The Five Mile Church wrecked the old building and erected a better one and are also building a pastor's home. Everyone is happy over the coming of Bro. Arnett.

Bro. Earnest Phillips is the successful pastor at Wilson and Sparenberg and is doing a great work. The Wilson Church has also bought a home for the pastor. This makes three pastor's homes for rural churches in this section.

Bro. Burnes who is serving Hancock and New Home in Dawson county and Fairview in Gaines county is making progress in his work.

Bro. Sam Malone, who needs no introduction to anyone in West Texas, is doing a great work with the good church at Klondyke. Sam has helped this writer in several meetings in the past several years and of course we are not surprised at his success. He is sound and sensible.

Bro. K. R. Cumble of Ackerly has led that good church to go to full time. Just a few years ago it was barely keeping up one-fourth time work. It is remarkable what a church can do with the right vision.

Bro. E. F. Cole is recovering from an attack of flu. This good pastor is doing a great work here. The church can hardly take care of the people who come to worship.

Bro. O. C. Curtis of Andrews has resigned from the Andrews church to accept the care of the church at Seminole. Bro. Curtis has done a great work at Andrews. He came there about four years ago and found only about 40 members and the work disorganized, with no place to meet except in the district court room in the court house. Now they have more than 200 members and a beautiful church house paid for, and have bought a nice pastor's home and have it more than half paid for. God was surely in this work. Brother Curtis was converted in 1932. The Lord took him out of a barber shop and is making him one of our best pastors. We congratulate Seminole on her choice and sympathize with Andrews in her loss.

This writer's work at Patricia and Florey is going as well as the best. Patricia has gone to half-time. We bought the Patricia school house for a church and installed Butane gas, and have it all paid for. One of the members of the Florey church took

the pastor and wife to Midland on Monday before Christmas and made our hearts glad by presenting us with an almost new four door V-8 sedan. Boy, this brought to mind our boyhood days when we got our first pair of red-topped brass-toed pair of boots. We haven't got over this thrill yet. I had the happy privilege of baptizing this good ranch foreman about five or six years ago.

Brother W. M. Whatley is doing a good work with the church at Grandview. Bro. Whatley has some time which it would pay some church to be using.

This association regretted to lose Bro. Jesse B. Leverett to the church at Meadow.

PROGRAM

Y. W. A. House-Party
Hardin-Simmons University
February 17-18

Friday Afternoon

3:00 Registration.
3:30 Call to Order, Mrs. Dick O'Brien, District Young People's Leader.

3:40 Song Service.
4:00 Introductions.
4:15 Welcome, Martha Rigney, H-SU. Response, Lillian Yates, Stamford.
4:30 Devotional, Ona Faye Little.
4:45 Solo, Ann Rader.
5:00 Address, Mrs. R. L. Mathis, State Young People's Leader.

5:30 Adjourn.
6:00 Dinner.

Friday Evening

7:00 Sing Song.
7:15 Accordion Solo, Marijohn Melson.

7:30 "Confidences," Mrs. Mathis.
8:15 Cow Girl Bank Concert.
9:20 Social Hour.

10:00 Friendship Hour, Mrs. O'Brien in charge.

10:15 Explanation of Prayer Mates, Verna Lee Carson.
10:30 Taps.
10:45 Devotions in rooms.

Saturday Morning

6:30 Prayer meeting.
7:00 Breakfast.
9:00 Song Service.
9:15 Devotional, Mrs. J. B. Buckley, W. M. U. President District 17.

9:35 Special music.
9:45 Skit.
10:00 Chapel.

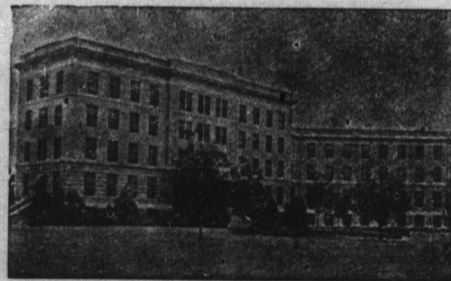
10:45 Foreign Students: Martha Jane Moore, China; Virginia Deter, Brazil; Carmen Arroyo, Mexico.
11:30 Music.

11:45 Farewell Message, Mrs. Mathis.
12:15 Adjourn.

Registration fee will be 25 cents, meals at cafeteria 95 cents.

The longer I live, the more deeply am I convinced that that which makes the difference between one man and another—between the weak and powerful, the great and insignificant, is energy—invincible determination—a purpose once formed, and then death or victory.—Fowell Buxton.

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For further information address the Superintendent.

E. M. Collier, Superintendent

DOCTRINAL

GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION By C. D. Owen

A friend asked Hon. William E. Gladstone what he considered the greatest question of the age. He replied: "The greatest question of every age is the salvation of a soul from sin. That question rightly settled, settles all other questions of human valuation." It was the question of the Philippians and also, of the rich young ruler. Nicodemus came to Jesus by night, earnestly seeking the way of salvation. Jesus said: "Ye must be born again. Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." Those simple words of Jesus express the nature of God's plan of salvation. "Born again," means re-generation. So we say, a person must be regenerated, or born again, in order to be saved from sin.

In considering this subject, I would first discuss it negatively—Our salvation does not consist of reformation. Reformation is an amendment of life. Regeneration is a change of nature. Christ said: "Ye must be born again." Peter said: "Ye are partakers of the vine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust."

Reformation only improves the old man (fleshly man). Regeneration sets up a new man. Paul said: "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature." Reformation pertains to morality. Regeneration pertains to spirituality. One is natural, the other is supernatural. One is the work of the creature, the other, the work of the Creator. Paul said: "Ye are God's workmanship." One follows our own efforts, the other, our surrender to God in repentance and faith.

Second, we are not saved by observing the law. Paul said: "I do not frustrate the grace of God; for if righteousness came by the law, then Christ is dead in vain."

Third, we are not saved by education of the mind. Some claim that a person may be religiously trained, that he will come in possession of salvation by such training. Nicodemus had such training and was even a teacher in matters of religion, but Christ said to him, "Ye must be born again." The rich young ruler speaking of religious training said: "All these things I have observed from my youth up; yet he came to Jesus asking what he might do to inherit eternal life."

Fourth, we are not saved by our good works. If salvation came by our good works, we would become our own Savior. If salvation were by our good works, our good works would have to be of such nature as to merit salvation. To merit a thing, is to render an equivalent to that thing. Then our good works would have to be an equivalent, or, equal in value, to salvation. It would also put Christ under both, legal and moral obligation, to save us, as a result of our good works, making salvation a debt, rather than "by grace." Paul said, "Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but by debt. But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness." Rom. 4:4-5.

Again: "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast." Eph. 2:8. Some may say, "Salvation is not altogether by the works of the individual, but partly by his good works and partly by God's grace." But what sayeth the scriptures? Rom. 11:6. "And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise, grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace; otherwise work is no more work." Showing clearly, that it is wholly of grace, or, wholly of works. Paul said, "It is by grace—and not of works." So that settles that question. If our salvation is not obtained by reformation, by observing the law, by education, by our good works, then, how must we be saved? I answer—By Christ satisfying the demands of the law in our behalf. Paul said: "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us." Gal. 3:13. "Ye are become dead to the law by the body of Christ." Rom. 7:4. "For Christ is the end of law for righteousness to every one that believeth." Rom. 10:4. "For he hath made him (Christ) to be sin (sin-bearer) for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." 2 Cor. 5:21. Now, notice in connection with the above scriptures Rom. 3:24-25. "Being justified freely BY HIS GRACE (Not our grace) through the redemption THAT IS IN CHRIST JESUS: (not in us) Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins," etc.

How may we have access to "his

grace" wrought out and made possible for us by his death on the cross? Paul answers this question in Rom. 5:1-2. "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also WE HAVE ACCESS INTO THIS GRACE WHEREIN WE STAND AND REJOICE IN THE HOPE OF THE GLORY OF GOD." Now note four things. 1st, it is by grace. 2nd, "By faith into this grace." 3rd, It is not of works. 4th, It is the "gift of God." Paul said, "The love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost WHICH IS GIVEN UNTO US." Rom. 5:5.

You may ask, are there no conditions on the part of the sinner in the plan of salvation? Yes, but they are not conditions in the nature of "good works" for we are not saved by works, but by grace through faith. There are at least three conditions on the part of the sinner. First, is conviction of sin. This is the work of the Holy Spirit. John 16:8 "And when he (Holy Spirit) is come, he will convict the world of sin." This personal conviction of guilt of sin produces a godly sorrow that worketh repentance to salvation. 2 Cor. 7:10 "For godly sorrow worketh repentance unto salvation." Following repentance, is faith in Christ. 1 Peter 1:8. "Receiving the end of your faith even the salvation of your souls."

Repentance always precedes faith in the plan of salvation. See Acts 20:20-21 and Matt. 21:32. "Repentance is toward God," because every sin is against Him, therefore, it is a godly sorrow that worketh repentance unto salvation. Faith is in Christ, because he is the mediator between God and man, having made atonement for our sins by his death on the cross. This fact is clearly seen in Rom. 3:24-25, which reads: "Being justified freely by his grace, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God hath set to be a propitiation through faith, in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins."

RAMBLING REMARKS

(Continued from page 1)
longing to that period, which were "readin', ritin' and rithmetic." I took the ones that stood for "running, rasslin' and recess." . . . Then I lived over that age when I was too big to sleep on a pallet under the edge of the arbor during a revival service, and too small to stay awake through the long meeting. I would usually go to the wagon out in the dark and try to sleep. The vulgar, profane talk of the rowdies who never went near the arbor until the invitation was given for penitents, and the movements backward and forward of the tired mules hitched to the wagon would keep me awake and miserable until the meeting was over. Then four miles home over alternately sandy and rough rocky roads. Then we would go through a soft sandy strip I would be lulled to sleep by the grinding of the wheels in the sand, the monotonous squeak of the old spring seat and my dad's familiar cluck to the team, only to be rudely awakened when we hit a rocky strip of road and my head would bounce like dry peas on concrete, and I would be hit by as many hands and feet as the aggregate of the extremities possessed by my three to six brothers who were sharing the pullman with me . . . You know how I got back to sleep last night? Just exactly as I did in the old days. We finally got home, groped around in the dark until we unhitched the team, then fell into soft clean beds, and zzzzzzz—Before I knew it one of the twins wanted to know if I wanted to eat breakfast with the family. It was eight o'clock.

PROGRAM

District Evangelistic Rally, First Baptist Church, Vernon, Texas, February 2, 1939
MORNING
10:00, Song Service—Volus Nors-worthy.
10:15, Reading of Acts, Chapters 1-5—R. Alton Reed.
10:30, The Revival Needed Today—J. Ralph Grant.
10:55, Essential Elements in a Revival—Dr. L. R. Scarborough.
11:35, Special Music—J. Boyd East.
11:40, The Essentials of Pentecost—Dr. R. C. Campbell.
12:20, Lunch.
AFTERNOON
1:20, District Board Meeting.
2:00, Song Service—E. A. Scarborough.
2:15, What a Revival Will Do for Us Today—W. H. Townsend.
2:40, "So There May Be a Performance Also"—J. M. Riddle.

Hide and Seek--

(Continued from page 1)
day the planes came at eight and bombed more severely. M. Cheung sent word that there was a room for them in the house at the village where he and his parents and family were. The girls got their things together and found women to help them and left at twelve.

At one o'clock I was just washing my cup and plate after eating my crackers and milk when here came the planes again. That morning the planes had circled so many times and so low over this part of the city that every one said that they had found the soldiers' headquarters on either side of us and the city hall in the tall trees in the park just a block away. So I decided to go outside the walls to the fields.

The planes were flying so low, however, I just managed to get to the South Gate when the planes were so near that we dared not go out in the open. With numerous other fliers I waited in the big room, which is the gate in the wall, until the planes passed over far enough that they could not see us. We knew that they would circle and come back on account of the direction of the wind. Sure enough, we had hardly gotten settled in the hedges along the paddy fields just outside the wall till here they came zooming—the first one dropping a huge bomb in the lower city, starting a fire. The second one started diving right toward me and released a bomb that looked as big as a wagon as it glided and screamed its way right toward me.

I was just saying, "Lord, I thank thee that my time has come, forgive my shortcomings and bless those who carry on," when that thing swerved in its course and dropped two blocks in front of me. Another fire started and the fumes were terrible. After thirty minutes all the planes left and we could hear only the roar of the fire and the crashing of timbers. As I went back through the gate and along the street to see just how close the fire was to the chapel, Mr. Kong, one of our preachers, caught up with me and helped carry my emergency bag into the yard.

We found brick and tile and boards shaken loose from that old rickety building, so I started up stairs to see if the weak wall in my room had given way any more. But Mr. Kong called to me quickly to come back for the roof was falling. We got out into the street and found that it was the crashing of timbers of houses down the street. M. Kong said it simply would not do for me to stay there that night alone and went to find Chueng Shuk Poh or some one to stay with me, but none wanted to risk that old building. Shortly Mr. Cheung and the girls and my cook came back from the village saying that there was room for me out there and I simply must go. So I gathered some things and prepared to go but no one would carry baggage that late, though they agreed to go at dawn in the morning.

We stayed two weeks at Taan Ha and had very good opportunities of witnessing to the people in the evenings, but the daylight hours were filled with getting together something to eat and eating it between hiding from planes. Washing was a problem, too. Often we had to grab things and bring them in wet and wait for another opportunity to hang them out on the bushes.

Conditions in the villages in China are not what they are as we Americans know them, but are exceedingly primitive both in fixtures and sanitation ideas. I was afraid that we would all get the "epizooty" as my grandmother used to say. But the Lord protected us and gave us grace and we were happy.

Then when the district official had all the bridges burned because he heard that the enemy was heading

this way, the women and children were fleeing further to the interior, so we had to go too. Four people from the Basle mission were having lunch with us that day and invited the two girls and me to come to their compound which we gladly did.

We have been here two weeks and a little more. There is opportunity to visit the folks in the hospital, for the patients fled to the villages, got worse and came back. Then we have services in the evening in the hospital and in the early mornings here in the chapel with all of us folks who are refugees inside the walls near enough that we can run to our trenches of refuge in a very short time.

We feel the prayers you people are offering in our behalf and thank the Lord. We also pray daily that He will comfort your hearts with the fuller realization that He will not permit us to experience any greater ill than He gives us grace and strength to endure.

The strain is truly great upon the folks over here and over there, but may the Lord use us to his glory as he sees fit.

Very sincerely,
FLOY.

SEMINARY NEWS

Mr. Sterling Lorenz Price, recent graduate of Southwestern Seminary, has been elected head of the voice department at Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, Tennessee. Mr. Price was presented in graduation recital by the Seminary's School of Sacred Music just prior to his departure to take up his new duties. The recital program included four groups of sacred numbers especially selected by Mr. Edwin McNeely, instructor, to demonstrate the remarkable versatility of Mr. Price's voice.

Mr. Price is an A. B. graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University and has served as music director and educational director of the Calvary Baptist Church, Waco, Texas, during the past two years.

Dr. L. R. Scarborough, president, Southwestern Seminary and the Southern Baptist Convention, delivered three evangelistic addresses to the New Mexico Baptist Pastor's Conference at Portales, New Mexico, January 16, 17, and 18.

Dr. Frank Weedon, pastor, First Baptist Church, Denton, Texas, had as his pulpit guest on Sunday, January 22, Dr. L. R. Scarborough, president, Southern Baptist Convention.

SENTENCE SERMONS

O. D. Henley
God doesn't demand more than He deserves. Your lot may be hard, but there are many lots harder.

There is no suitable time for sin. Foul things cause a stink.

The devil is a dabbler.
"Better be cross-eyed than cross-spoken."

Neglected golden opportunities produce leaden regrets.

Big souls often do little things, but little souls rarely do big things. Prejudice prevents progress.

The devil's promises are too good to be true.

The devil believes in inflation. Man imitates God's sovereignty instead of His goodness.

The Bible way to overcome a temptation is to fight it, not fool with it! Selfishness secures no satisfaction. Man learns slowly and forgets fast. Sin is insatiable.

No improvement means impoverishment.

Christianity will get out if it ever gets in.

Let's take the instant by the forward top.—Shakespeare.

Let thy attire be comely but not costly.—Livy.

CHURCH BULLETIN SECTION

FREE BULLETIN SPACE OFFERED SMALL CHURCHES

Any West Texas Baptist Church which sends the West Texas Baptist to every active family, just as they would send a bulletin if they had it, is offered free bulletin space for local announcements equal to that given Elmdale Church on this page.

Larger churches will be given additional space and if more than the free space is desired it may be had at a reduced rate. News of general interest will be carried, as it always has, in the news columns.

ELMDALE

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

Hardin-Simmons News

Tidwell Heads Ministerial Council For Spring Term

The ministerial council met in its last meeting of this semester and elected officers for the spring term. S. L. Tidwell was elected president of the organization. Others elected were: Elmer Holt, vice-president; Douglas Crow, secretary; Vernon Bliss, treasurer; Melvin Byrd, reporter; Clyde Campbell, pianist; Gordon Dondignoc, choirist; Clint Irwin, B. S. U. representative. Clyde Campbell, the retiring president, brought an instructive message and expressed his love and appreciation for the co-operation of the council this semester.

Offer Scout Course For Next Semester

A course in Scouting and Scout work is planned for next semester. It will be a one-hour credit course and will cost fifty cents. If you do not wish the credit the course will be given free.

The class will meet every Monday at one-thirty. All those who are interested in scout work or in boys training are urged to attend. Various high scout officials in the city will give lectures from time to time during the term.

If you are interested in taking this course see—Mr. Polk.

"Who cannot but see oftentimes how strange the threads of our destiny run? Oft it is only for a moment the favorable instant is presented. We miss it, and months and years are lost."

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Abilene, Texas
GENERAL PRACTICE

O'Brien Addresses Mission Workers

The Rev. P. D. O'Brien, pastor of the First Baptist church, Stamford, was guest speaker at the Mission Workers meeting Wednesday afternoon. His subject was "The Things God Has Done For Us."

Officers elected were: Doris Wayne O'Brien, president; Charles Torrence, vice president; Myra Nell Hamer, secretary; Arvil Richardson, reporter; Avis Matthews, B. S. U. representative; Omer Hyde, choirist; Betty Sue Pitts, pianist; Dr. E. B. Atwood, faculty advisor; and Miss A. M. Carpenter, councilor.

PROGRAM

Baptist Brotherhood Meeting
Callahan Association
Meeting 7:30 P. M. February 2,
First Baptist Church Baird

Theme: Man Power for Christ.
Christ's Challenge to Men—Rev. W. C. Ashford, Pastor South Side Church, Abilene.

Some Aims for 1939—Judge E. S. Cummings, District President of Brotherhood, Abilene.

Special Music.
Results of Harnessed Man Power—Rev. Dick O'Brien, Pastor First Church, Stamford.

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REGISTRATION FOR SPRING SEMESTER, JANUARY 30

For catalog, pictorial, or visit by representative, write Secretary-Treasurer

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Abilene, Texas