

SOUTHWEST TEXAS BAPTIST

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Number 23

Clearing the Atmosphere

We clip this article from the Baptist Standard. It is a very clear and timely statement of conditions in Texas now. Pastor Gates can see through the maze of present conditions and very properly states the facts.

By I. E. Gates

I want Texas Baptists to call a "truce of war" on the declaration of our orthodoxy long enough, at least, to put over one great, aggressive campaign to play our debts, or we won't have anything left of our schools, colleges, universities or hospitals, to row over within twelve months.

I am dead sure of one thing, and that is that bad feeling and lack of confidence are not going to help pay these debts, but increase them. We have gone as far as we can in the direction toward bankruptcy, in the face of the worst crop conditions ever known in Texas; and it is going to take us all, doing all we can, to tide over this distressful condition that we are now in.

I do not see any hope for us to save our denominational institutions from utter bankruptcy, if we wait to pay our obligations upon them until we all agree upon the terminology of our orthodoxy. I think 95 per cent of the Baptists of Texas, are agreed in the main, concerning the fundamentals of our faith. Those who differ are further apart on the proposition of personal feelings than they are on what they believe.

My observation of twenty-five years leads me to believe that debt is the chief cause of church rows and denominational upheavals. Somebody must be blamed for such conditions.

Now, we all know how we got so deeply in debt in Texas. We planned our denominational program on the basis of the Seventy-five Million Campaign, and erected buildings, and bought added equipment on a credit, and failed to realize but a little more than two-thirds of what we had hoped, hence, the reaction we now have, as a result of our impatience, not to have waited for the cash before enlargement. The debt we owe, though large, is not too large for four hundred thousand white Baptists to pay in one great co-operative campaign; but we cannot pay it in an atmosphere of indifference engendered by personal feeling or destructive criticism. We cannot settle all the heresies in the world and do it either. I mean to keep all these heresies settled for good. I am not arguing to let heresies alone, but I do plead just now that we do not let our discussions on Modernism keep us so far apart that we cannot co-operate in paying our honest obligations.

I do admit that we have a serious situation on, everywhere, not only in the field of education, but in our churches and in our homes and in our social life, combatting many things striking at the very foundations of all we hold dear and sacred; but we must not permit ourselves to lose the institutions which have cost us so much, while we seek to remedy the things that ought to be remedied.

I know men in Texas today trying

(continued on last page)

Texas Baptists Facing God's Challenge

(Paper adopted unanimously by a great mass meeting at Ft. Worth, probably 1200 being present).

Texas Baptists have a triumphant past, a challenging present, and a glorious future. Victory has marked their way from their earliest beginning in Texas until now. They have steadily and often gloriously climbed the gospel hill. They have multiplied thousands of churches. They have a heroic and conquering ministerial leadership. They have great schools, great hospitals, the greatest orphans' home, a great religious paper. They are well organized. They have abundant wealth. Their prestige is powerful. They are orthodox in the Pauline sense.

There is not a co-operating Baptist in Texas who is a modernist in any sense of the word. They stand foursquare, with locked shields, for the whole truth and the whole program of Christ. They have not done their best. They now face a chance to do it. They have on their hearts, and hands, resting heavily upon their purses, great enterprises, involving all phases of evangelism, education and benevolence—mission boards, schools, hospitals, orphanage. These causes are Christ's causes. He designed them. He inspired our forefathers to inaugurate them. He commanded us to carry them forward. He has put His marvelous blessings upon them. These causes are ours as well as His. They are ours by the right of regeneration, by the commands of our Master, by the providence of God, by the leadership of the Holy Spirit, by the right of our sacrificial gifts, by the claims of our tears and prayers. They are ours by the blood of the Lord Jesus. They are for the saving of souls, the building of character, the establishment of the Kingdom of God on earth. They are ours for the crown of Christ. They are worthy because they promote the truth, put forward the gospel, demonstrate our witness to all that we hold dear in Christ. They are worthy because they evangelize, educate and heal and thus match the program of Jesus. If we do not support them and promote them, they will fail. Nobody else but Texas Baptists will do it. If Texas Baptists back them with their faith, their prayers, their tears, their blood, their unflinching convictions, their sacrificial gifts, their full co-operation, these causes will enable us to carry triumph to Christ's cause all along the line. Will we fail God, Christ, the Holy Spirit and their gospel program at this time? Will we falter? God forbid! We have had difficulties. We have made mistakes. Both difficulties have marked, on the human side, the progress of the Kingdom of God in all the past. Let us profit by our mistakes and make them stepping stones to a more perfect day. Our difficulties are God's challenge. His crucible through which and out of which He makes desert-crossers, Jericho-takers, heroic conquerors, God has need of heroes in Texas. Other Red Seas, barren deserts, swollen Jordans, fortified Jerichos; other lions' dens, other hot furnaces are ahead for God's people. Our difficulties are but the

schools of Christ through which God seeks to lead us to an impregnable solidarity, an unflinching loyalty, a conquering co-operancy. We are a great blood-brought brotherhood, united in fellowship, doctrine, Christly tasks. We are under, together, the binding authority and command of Christ's after-resurrection commission. We sin against each other if we mar our fellowship. We sin against a lost world if we fail to go forward. And we disobey God if we do not do our best to put over His gospel program around the world.

Another fall round-up for all of Christ's causes is on us. Every month of this year has shown steady progress in the stabilization of our finances. We must crown the year with a great cash offering for Christ.

We, the members of the Executive Board and other co-operating Baptists in mass meeting assembled in Fort Worth, this, September 15, 1925, send forth with our deepest heart's blood this challenging call to Christ's co-operating Baptists in this state. We ought to lay on Christ's altar for state, southwide and worldwide causes, this fall at least \$900,000 in cash. Though financial conditions are below normal and a severe drouth afflicts a considerable section of our territory, yet we are able to achieve this end, if loyalty and sacrifice will seize the hearts of our people. Our people will spend much more than this for unnecessary luxuries and passing pleasures. We are able to give Christ, outside of local causes, this fall \$900,000, completing our \$1,800,000 objective for this year.

Suggested Plan for Doing It

We urge the following:

1. That we seek the mind of Christ and the power of the Divine Spirit in working together for a glorious gospel achievement.
2. That we seek the mind of Christ and the power of the Divine Spirit in working together for a glorious gospel achievement.
3. That every pastor and every other leader in the churches and in the denominational forces throw himself and herself full-length, without reservation, with a holy determination to win, back of this, our Saviour's program. Leaders in our churches must lead now, if we win. A leaderless leadership will cause us to fail. A heroic leadership will cause us to win.
4. Rally our people to prayer, to faith, to fellowship, to the great fundamental spiritualities in Christ's Kingdom, to unbroken co-operation, to a definite, functioning, co-operant organization be set up in every association, praying and planning and organizing to reach with a great cash offering under a spiritual environment every church, small and great, in every association. Go at it to win or die.
5. Do all we can to make the Convention at Mineral Wells the greatest in prayer, fellowship, spiritual power, soul-winning psychology, and con-

(continued on last page)

Carroll College Conference

On Tuesday last a conference in the interest of Carroll College was held at San Antonio, there being a representative crowd of preacher brethren present from all the territory of Southwest Texas. The sessions of the conference were held at the First Baptist Church, one in the afternoon at 4:00 and the other at 7:00 in the evening.

Dr. I. E. Gates was made chairman of both sessions.

The Valley pastors were all present but one or two, and Mr. S. C. Tucker of Brownsville was present and spoke twice and answered numerous questions that were propounded. A few other laymen were present also.

The time was consumed by brief speeches, nearly all the pastors getting into the speaking at some time. The speech was all wholesome and of a friendly nature. Some of the talk was quite frank, and many interesting phases of the College situation were brought out. Everybody expressed himself as interested in the enterprise and willing to stand by it to the consummation of the plans for its development. Definite figures were lacking, but those in charge of the work reported conditions as being serious but hopeful. Dr. Carroll needs the closest cooperation now to carry forward the plans for the school, and money remittances are the most needed just now. Up to date the contractor has been kept paid up, but on October 1 heavy obligations for materials will be falling due and lots of cash is needed. All who have made pledges are earnestly requested to make such payments on them as is possible.

San Antonio Baptists offered gracious hospitality to the visitors.

The meeting did good.

A TRULY GREAT SERVICE

Pastor Charles Pitts of Crystal City writes us of the meeting that is being held in his church now by Evangelist Bob Baucum of San Antonio. He states that in one service, last Sunday night, forty-seven joined the church, twenty-five of the number by baptism. Pastor Pitts believes that more than a hundred will be received during the meeting.

Of Evangelist Baucum he says, "He will help any church he goes to. He magnifies the Lord in all things. He preaches Jesus Christ as the only way of salvation. He preaches against sin, and spares none. He is bold and fearless in his denunciation of sin, but he catches the people."

OF INTEREST TO W. M. U. WORKERS

The annual meeting of the W. M. U. of L. R. V. Association will convene Tuesday, October 6th, with the church at Harlingen. There will be an all-day program on Tuesday, and the evening will be given to the Young People, Mrs. J. L. Bryan, Association of Young People's Leader, in charge. Preparations are being made to have this the best W. M. U. session in the history of the Association.—Mrs. J. P. McDowell.

The Southwest Texas Baptist

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Men and Movements

—Rio Grande Association met at Lytle this week.

—Missionary J. P. King is sick at his home at Bishop.

—Guadalupe Association held its annual session at Cuero this week.

—Dr. J. M. Carroll supplied for the Baptist Temple in San Antonio last Sunday.

—Pastor M. E. Weaver of First Church, Corpus Christi, has been quite ill for more than a week.

—The State Teachers College at Kingsville opened for work this week with a representative student body.

—The Editor desires to thank numerous brethren for their kind invitations to associations during this week.

—Brethren D. H. and W. N. Roberts of Lytle attended the Carroll College Conference at San Antonio this week.

—Victoria, San Antonio and Brownsville open Junior Colleges this year. The Junior College idea is growing in Texas.

—Word comes that President J. V. Brown of San Marcos Academy is very much elated over the number of students for this year.

—Pastor Ben David has begun an evangelistic meeting at Driscoll with Gospel Singer S. J. Strickland assisting him.

—The meeting at Sandia, held by Missionary J. P. King with Pastor V. V. Youngblood, resulted in twenty-five added to the church by baptism.

—Our dear friend, Missionary Joe R. Mayes of the Uvalde-Del Rio Association, sends us his subscription and asks for the paper. He reports progress in his big field.

—Secretary Groner has been in the Winter Garden section this week in the interest of the work, and attended the Rio Grande Association meeting during the time.

—Pastor Judd B. Holt and his people have been in a Sunday School training school this week with Secretary Harrell of the Sunday School Department leading.

—Pastor I. E. Gates of San Antonio attended the Baptist mass meeting at Fort Worth last week. He reported it to have been a good meeting with an attendance of some six or seven hundred.

—Rev. Walter T. Davis has resigned the pastorate of the Central Baptist Church, San Antonio, but will remain in the city for an indefinite time. He has done a monumental work during his pastorate there.

—One of the serious errors of the day is to class everybody who does not agree with you as a destructionist. That disposition on the part of a

leader-disqualifies him for any kind of Baptist leadership.

—Whatever you think of denominational weaknesses, or the faults of leaders, you ought to remember and take to heart that Baptist debts constitute an obligation on all Texas Baptists and all ought to help pay them.

—"The Cook-Stove Apostasy"—read it and write us what you think of it. Have we gone too far in the direction of sociality? Do churches over-emphasize the social side of church life? Do not the majority of them under-emphasize that side?

—Mr. Barclay Weaver, son of Rev. M. E. Weaver, Corpus Christi, left for the opening of Baylor early in the week. He is a fine type of young manhood, the kind that has made Baylor famous for its graduates.

—Pastors Riddle, Eddings, Carroll, Carlisle, Hally, Rafter, Balch, Wroten, Marshall and Combere of the Valley attended the Carroll College Conference at San Antonio this week. Layman S. C. Tucker also attended. Missionary Drury was there too.

—The Valley has about twenty-five hundred Baptists. They are all under heavy burdens, many of them for their church buildings. But they all give liberally to denominational causes. State Missions has done a very effective work in the Valley and is now receiving a fine return for the expenditures.

—Rev. W. T. C. Briggs of Dilley desires work in Southwest Texas. He is a young man thirty-five years old, with a family, of a preaching experience of fifteen years. He is a native of Western North Carolina. Three years ago he was called to the church at Dilley and accepted and during his pastorate has succeeded in erecting a neat meeting house.

—The Baptist Standard is now a wide-open paper and the brethren can get into print if what they write stays within reasonable bounds. Nothing of recent years is so well pleasing to the great mass of Texas Baptists as this wide-open policy. Editor Routh has secured his place in the esteem of Texas Baptists by his wise and heroic course. For years only a small group of brethren could say what they pleased in its columns. We hear some brethren take the wide-open policy very seriously and strenuously oppose it. If some brethren do hold such a view, it is the case of the few against the great majority. Texas Baptists are for free speech in their newspaper.

PASTOR PERRITT AT EDNA

The Edna Baptist Church has called Brother Perritt as pastor and he and family have moved on the field that is white already to harvest but the laborers are few compared with the harvest. We are in need of a better and larger building in which to take care of our Sunday school and church services. We are hoping and praying that in the near future our needs may be met. Numbers are alright but what we want is His presence, power and leadership, then it is that we are not afraid to undertake anything for Him. In Brother Perritt we have a God-fearing man, one that does not compromise with sin and preaches the gospel of Christ with power.—Publicity Director.

Never give up, for God never gives you up.

Only the wicked clamor for the repeal of a good law.

Printers' Errors

When you read an item in a newspaper and find a lot of errors in the spelling you may be reasonably sure that the editor who wrote or edited the item has read it before you have and has suffered a bit of keen torture as a result of the errors. He is afraid that some reader will not know the intricacies of print shops and will charge the illiterate spelling to the editor.

Sometimes the printer tries all kinds of improvements of the mother tongue at the editor's expense. He will take a plain initials of a degree that any fifth grader knows and change L. D. to L. L. D. in spite of proof corrections. That occurred several times in our last week's issue, much to our annoyance. The printer will also take "incorrigible" and after your proof is in make the new word "incorrigible," which does not occur in any known dictionary.

But don't get peeved at the printer for his errors. If you sat in one position before a linotype machine as long each day as the ordinary operative does, you might not be able to spell your own name without disgracing it so that your friends could not tell who you meant. And don't charge the editor with ignorance nor negligence. Errors just will occur in the best regulated shops. For example, the writer has a Bagster's Bible, for which he paid a dozen dollars, and in the twenty-second verse of the sixth chapter of Romans, the printer left out the last word, "life," which leaves the verse hanging up in the air without any proper sense. And yet the best proof readers were employed to read the proof at least four times.

Co-operation

By O. J. Cole

Not only is co-operation one of the basic laws of nature, but it is one of the fundamental doctrines of the Bible. In the beginning God said, "Let us (God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Ghost) make man." The same Triune God co-operated in man's redemption.

In nature, different elements co-operate in earth's production. The grain of wheat (life) in co-operation with sunshine, the fertile soil, moisture, all co-operate to produce the harvest. To be more minute, the different organs of a human body co-operate in the activities of life. By co-operation (in love) the home is established. By co-operation (in justice) the State is maintained. By co-operation (in love, justice and service) the church becomes a great force for good in the world. All the activities of religious life are maintained and carried on by co-operation. Our great denominational life is but an expression of this doctrine.

A lack of co-operation will hinder the great purposes of life. In a large area in Texas the clouds did not co-operate and a drought obtained. No crops were harvested.

If you fail to co-operate with your Lord, or His church, the great purposes of your life are hindered. The purpose of every life is high and holy but to the extent one fails to co-operate with God and His work, to that extent are the great purposes of life thwarted.

In these times of stress and need everyone who loves God and the souls of men should yield a hearty co-operation. Let's all co-operate in worship, in giving that every department of our work may be put forward.

There are two life principles, service and serve us.

The Cook or the Book Which?

(THE COOK-STOVE APOSTASY)

The Cooking Squad vs. Praying Band
The early church Prayed in the Upper Room, the Twentieth Century church cooks in the Supper Room.

To-day the Supper Room has taken the place of the Upper Room, Play has taken the place of Prayer, and Feasting the place of Fasting. There are more Full Stomachs than there are Bended Knees and Broken Hearts. There is more fire in the Range in the Kitchen, than there is in the Pulpit. When you build a fire in the church kitchen, it is often, if not altogether, puts out the fire in the Pulpit. Ice Cream chills the fervor of Spiritual Life.

The early Christians were not Cooking in the Supper Room the day the Holy Ghost came; they were Praying in the Upper Room; they were not Waiting on Tables, they were Waiting on God; they were not Waiting for the fire from the Stove, but for the Fire from Above.

They were Detained by the Command of God, and not Entertained by the Cunning of Men. They were all Filled with the Holy Ghost, not Stuffed with a Stew or Roast.

O, I would like the Cooking Squad put out, and the Praying Band put in, less Ham and Sham and more Heaven, less Pie and more Piety, less use for the Cook and more use for the Old Book. Put out the fire in the kitchen and build it up in the altar.

More Love and more Life, fewer Dinners and get after Sinners. Let us have a church full of Waiters on God, and waiting for His Son from Heaven.

Editor's Note.—The above is furnished us by a good woman of Corpus Christi. It is one side of a big matter. The social side of church life cannot be safely neglected, but it must not be substituted for real spirituality. Only one thing is absolutely essential to church success, and that is genuine spirituality.

As to Anonymity

This editor has received probably a hundred letters of late from brethren who desired to commend The Southwest Texas Baptist for its editorial policy, and to give hints of things that the writers thought ought to be said. But the almost invariable postscript is a request that the writer's identity be withheld from the public. We have religiously kept every such request.

Why did we not reveal the identity of the writers? Because we honor their feelings in the matter. They are earnest souls who love the Lord and His work, who co-operate with all that Baptists are doing, who believe in the free speech of the brethren, but they do not want to get themselves involved in an endless chain of difficulties. Some brother wrote not long ago that Baptist preachers are not afraid. He is right while wrong? Baptist preachers are not afraid to stand for the right on all moral questions. For some years now they have been afraid that they would be subjected to a wrong classification by certain brethren if they dared say a word that did not accord with those brethren's ideas of denominational policy.

Nothing wounds our heavenly Father so much as unrequited love.

Business circles should be on the square.

Young People's Activities

L. L. LEGGETT, Editor

Back Your Pastor Up.

Is This True of Your Union?

"How many men work in your factory?"
"About one out of every ten."—Columbia Banter.

The Junior Union of the London B. Y. P. U. came to Corpus Christi last Sunday night to put on a program for the Juniors of the First Church, but they had car trouble just outside the city and had to walk to the street car line, and reached the church just as B. Y. P. U. was over. It is a regret to all that they did not get to render their program after going to the trouble of making the trip, but they must come back again some time. Mrs. D. H. Stockton is the efficient leader of these Juniors.

Last Thursday night the Seniors of the First Church of Corpus Christi entertained themselves with a boat ride on beautiful Corpus Christi Bay. It was a rare treat to the twenty-five who went and it is reported that only one "fed the fish."

The last Sunday in September is annual promotion day and many boys and girls will get to step up into that mysterious and wonderful next class they been looking forward to for so long a time. Officers, see that they get the proper recognition as well as initiation. Put them to work. Get everybody to working. This is the finest time of the year to do good B. Y. P. U. work—the fall and winter. We have more pep, more aggressiveness, feel like turning the world over. School is starting, athletics rouse the body to new activities. Let's take advantage of

all these facts in our B. Y. P. U. work and make it hum this season as never before.

This will chronicle the passing of the scribe hereof from a three year service of love with the saints at London to a new field of labor for the Lord at the First Church of Corpus Christi. We regret to leave the London church and the London community which is remarkable in so many ways, and without doubt justly deserves the title of being the best country church in this part of the state. Dear Grandpa London and his family have made this so, and it has been a pleasure to work with them and the pastor and the organization they have built up, for these three years. We have absorbed much good training there, where more than one hundred seals and diplomas have already been earned and awarded this year, and enshrined in our hearts forever will be the memory of the sweet fellowship we have enjoyed in the midst of these good people. May the Lord's blessings continue to rest upon them. Likewise, we are glad to get back to the dear old First Church at Corpus, after a four year's missionary journey, and we look forward to a year of delightfully hard work, judging by the very liberal schedule that has been worked out and put upon us already. Contributors to this B. Y. P. U. column are asked to address us at 1201 South 7th street, Corpus Christi, Texas, and if sufficiently urgent, to phone 1274-J. We crave a letter from each corresponding secretary in the association, whether married or not.

FOR RENT—Two three-room apartments in Duplex; garage in connection; furnished or unfurnished. Ring 210 or see Mrs. J. W. Sauer on Nettie street, near College.

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Wants This Paper

A pastor in another state sends us his money and requests the paper. He says that a brother preacher told him of the paper and he wanted it at once. He says, "I believe in a free and independent paper, not subject to a censor committee. Of course we are glad to have all such information as such wise committee would allow us to have, but Baptists want more than just that. I am for the whole Bible program, with emphasis on the Bible. I want to know what J. M. Carroll and others of the tried and true heroes of the cross are doing. On the side, I want to know who are teaching the Bible and holding great Bible schools in the churches. I can easily find out all those who are holding banquets and great study courses, etc., with diplomas, seals, awards, and all that. By the way, I see where one of the encampments had made a new departure and had a Bible class taught by real honest-to-goodness Bible teacher, and it worked so well they have decided to try it again next year. One of the greatest needs today is for great Bible teaching revival. Back to the Book and to the authority of Jesus Christ and to the unhindered administration of the Holy Spirit in New Testament churches. The Acts of the Apostles would be a fine text-book in some of our Assemblies as well as in our churches." To all of which we fervently say, Amen!

It feels good to be good.

Filthiness is next to devilishness.

Jesus will be enthroned or entombed.

The path of glory leads beyond the grave.

A man may make a false step by standing still.

The mask soon becomes an instrument of torture.

When faith goes to market it always carries a basket.

He who does not honor God with his substance does not honor him with his soul.

It does not matter whether a man's religion has a puncture or a blowout, the result is the same.

It is more profitable to spend time thinking about where you're going than about where you came from.

We are either "sheep" or "goats." The goat is closely akin to the mule, only he has his heels in his head.

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CLEARING THE ATMOSPHERE

(Continued from first page)

to defend certain positions, and explain certain phraseology, who do not want to take the stand they are taking, but they suffer themselves driven into a corner, and to defend certain positions just because they dislike others who are defending what they really themselves believe in; and really have no objections to. They want to state their positions in a different phraseology, even at the risk of being misunderstood, rather than be found in agreement with that man, or men whom they dislike.

Now, you know, and I know, that I have put my pen right down on the tender point in this controversy in Texas; and until we can come to state exactly what we believe, in the simplest English, and in the most direct manner possible, both in articles and from the platform, regardless of any other man's position, we are not going to have any rest or peace from all this ceaseless agitation now going on.

For fear some man might take a little credit to himself, or boast that he had smoked them out, I fear some of the best Christian men we have would prefer to defend positions with veiled phraseology, capable of being misinterpreted by the average man, rather than stating directly and clearly, leaving no ground for misunderstanding, just what they do really mean and believe.

If this is the case, and know numbers of influential men who believe that it is, and have so stated their conviction to me, then these good brethren are doing great harm to all of our work, and hindering us from paying these debts. I know they are not doing this intentionally, and will probably deny my diagnosis of the case, but as an honest Christian I am simply writing down what I see from the sidelines in this scrap; and stating what I am forced to believe from reading articles and interpretations on our faith and message by various writers.

It would be much fairer to the average man, who is not much of a scholar, for those of us who write and speak just to declare ourselves on one side or the other of this Evolution question, so that it would require no further explanation on how we stand; and to stand ready all the time, and on any occasion to restate our positions, if called upon.

If any man is uncertain about my position, I am ready, day or night, to telegraph it to him, regardless of any controversy now going on, anywhere on the face of the earth, or who may or may not advocate the same position with me.

I do plead for simplicity and directness of statement that needs no further interpretation nor explanation. Just say, and keep on saying what we mean to say, so that a child cannot possibly misunderstand us. I know this can be done, and ought to be done, regardless of personal feelings, for the sake of our campaign, to pay these pressing millions we owe, and to settle this agitation on Evolution.

Some men may not be pleased to have the thing over, and will want to raise other issues; just let them raise them, and we will fight them out when we come to them. If they have merit, we will give them consideration, but if not, we will just let the agitator agitate, and we will keep right on keeping on, paying our debts.

These debts must be paid, and the right spirit on our part will do it. The most unfair thing to the work, and to the workers, in any great undertaking, whether it be in church or school, or denominational program, is for

those who lead us and have our confidence, and with whom we seek to co-operate, to confuse our minds and becloud issues, and tone down the morale of a great number of plain Baptists, creating an atmosphere of indifference, and, in many cases, of doubt and suspicion, just because they continually refuse, on the ground of personal feeling, or for some other reason, to define themselves clearly, definitely, directly and unmistakably, so that the average man or woman can easily understand their meaning, without interpretation or further explanation, when a great question is up for discussion, over which there is serious division and debate.

If there ever was a time for clearness and directness of statement, now is that time.

No use to deny that the atmosphere is befogged and beclouded, and the average plain Baptist is going to demand before he does much, that there be the frankest expression possible on the fundamentals of our faith on the part of pastors, school men, and denominational men; and I think he has the right to such expression from us.

TEXAS BAPTISTS FACING GOD'S CHALLENGE

(Continued from first page)

structive Kingdom-building, and then go from that Convention to make an every-member canvass for the 1926 program, bringing at least 75 per cent of our churches to the budget, regular, systematic, proportionate giving, to the Lord's cause on the basis of New Testament stewardship.

This is our appeal. We base it on all the precious doctrines of the gospel, the pressing commands of Jesus, on our love for a lost world, loyalty to the causes Christ has given us, and our allegiance to the Lord Jesus Christ. We would press this great matter to the conscience of the Texas Baptist brotherhood in the name and for the sake of the meaning and the message of Christ's cross.

MISSIONARY KING AT SANDBIA

For the past few days I have been attending a revival meeting at Sandbia. This meeting, with Pastor V. V. Youngblood, is being conducted by Missionary J. P. King of Corpus Christi, assisted by S. J. Strickland of Ft. Worth, who has charge of the song service. Nelson Strickland, son of S. J. Strickland presides at the piano. From every standpoint this meeting has been a signal success for the Master. Night after night I, together with a large congregation, have listened to the Missionary preach the Word with power. At every service Brother Strickland brought a wonderful message through the songs, the earnest appeal of which brings a tear to the eye of the hardest sinner. If there is anything in a piano in the way of music Nelson can certainly get it out.

Sandbia has been reached by this meeting perhaps as never before. It hark from center to circumference under the power of the Gospel. Old men hardened in sin were broken down before Calvary. Mothers and fathers came to Christ weeping because of their sins. Children surrendered to Christ. As the revival continued, Christians, one by one, began to awake to the need of the gospel and went forth in the discharge of their Christian duty.

May the influence of this wonderful ingathering continue long, and the lives of these brethren, who labored there to make the meeting a success continue to be a blessing to the world is my earnest prayer.—Ben M. David.

The Southwest Texas Baptist Is Growing But It Needs The Co-operative Sympathy of Every Southwest Texas Baptist

Work without worship means worry.

To forget wrong is the best revenge.

Prayerless pews make powerless pulpits.

The Bible promises no loaves to the loafer.

The truest end of life is to know that life never ends.

The present is the future from which we hoped so much.

The program of Jesus is, mercy for the sinner, no quarter for the sin.

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of
Money
But
Not
Too Much
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Raise By
Convention
Time

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