

WEST TEXAS BAPTIST

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No. 6

RAMBLING

EMARKS



By DICK O'BRIEN

When we fill this column with remarks about the past and dwell on the ways of yesterday there is always some one to ask, "And do you remember when they used to do so-and-so?" The other night at Knox City one of the seven readers came around and asked "did you ever eat bread that was cooked in a heavy oven which was placed over the coals in the fireplace and then a shovel full of glowing coals put on top of the ponderous lid?" Did I? And do you remember what we usually ate with this bread, not biscuits, because bread cooked this way was sown broadcast, and when you served yourself you took as large a portion as your manners and your mother would allow. If you've forgotten what we ate with it I'll tell you, yellow yam potatoes baked in the hot ashes on the old-fashioned hearth. Did we have better eating in those days or did we simply have better appetites? While the bread was baking you would fish your yam out of the hot ashes and with much grimacing and blowing on your hot fingers you would peel the hide (moderns call it jacket) off the baked yam, split the golden yellow inside and drop a liberal cut of home-made butter in and see it immediately melt and merge with the delicious innards of the luscious tuber. Laying it aside temporarily you would lift the lid from the cast iron oven using a fire poker, take one sniff of the tantalizing odor released by the operation, reach in and break off a corner lot with one hand and pick up the yam with the other. We believe the rest can safely be left to the imagination. . . . Then for what the moderns would call dessert, we would take another portion of hot bread and this time we would place the butter inside the bread and as it melted it would permeate the texture of the thick pone, then we would add candied pear preserves, home-made molasses or better still a liberal covering of honey fresh from the bee gum, and when that operation was over we felt like we had "been to supper." Of course, there was an ample supply of milk, sweet, buttermilk or clabber. I have been to a half thousand so-called banquets but I never found anything to match this at any of them. . . . And the table conversation. What we talked about and what we said about it probably would have shocked the neighbors. And things that would have passed without notice any other time or place would send us into gales.

EVENTS TO COME

- February 12-14—West Texas Bible Conference, Hardin-Simmons U.
- February 20-21—District 8 pastor's retreat, Snyder.
- February 27-28—District 16 Convention, Park Heights Church, San Angelo.
- February 29-March 1—District 7 Convention, Alpine.
- March 5-7, annual state Sunday School Convention, Harlingen.
- March 11-12—District 9 convention, Tahoka.
- March 11-17—Religious Emphasis Week, H-SU.
- March 14-15—District 10 Convention, Borger.
- March 15—District 11 Convention, Olney.
- March 26-27—District Eight convention, Midland.
- March 28-29—District 17 convention, Breckenridge.
- May 2-3—Meeting for associational officers in Training Union, Waco
- May 13-16 — Evangelistic Conferences, Seminary Hill.
- June 12-16—Southern Baptist Convention, Baltimore.
- June 24-30—West Texas Assembly, Camp Lueders.
- July 2-12—Texas Baptist Encampment, Palacios.
- July 8-10—Girls Camp, Lueders.
- July 9-17—Menard Baptist Encampment, Menard.
- July 10-12—Boys Camp, Lueders.

HENDRICK HOSPITAL JOINS IN GROUP SERVICE PLAN

A faculty member of Hardin-Simmons university and an employee of Hendrick Home for Children were two of those who within the last week have had hospital care at Hendrick Memorial Hospital with all bills paid by Group Hospital Service, Inc., the cooperative plan of Texas hospitals, created by a special act of the legislature, by which employed persons and their families may assure hospital service on a pre-payment plan.

Group Hospital Service is a non-profit organization which has the approval of state and national hospital and medical associations. Bryce L. Twitty, former superintendent of Baylor hospital, Dallas, is the general administrator and Dr. Justin F. Kimball, former head of the Baylor technical schools in Dallas, is consultant. No office has been opened in Abilene at this time but Burl King and N. C. Forrester are at work in the area organizing groups. They may be reached through the hospital office.

Benefits Offered

The contract offered by Texas hospitals under this plan assures to group members a maximum of 35 days of hospitalization in any twelve months with room service, operating room, food, general nursing as needed and a liberal use of X-ray, anesthesia, drugs and laboratory service.

For this contract the group members pay 75c per month, employed women 85 cents, while the families of subscribers may have the same care except only half of the room rent at 65c for housewives and 20c for minor children. Ward service may be secured at 50c per month.

Individuals are not accepted but groups of five or more employed persons may arrange to become subscribers to the plan. Free choice of approved hospitals and physicians is allowed. Arrangements are provided whereby hospitalization outside the state is assured.

RUNNELS WORKERS MEET WEEK LATE THIS MONTH

Program of the Workers meeting of the Runnels Baptist Association, meeting with the Winters Church, Tuesday, February 13.

Please notice the Workers meeting meets a week later this month to avoid conflict with the Pastors' Retreat at Coleman.

If you have any mission funds on hand bring or send them in please. Let us give all diligence to keep our obligations met.

10:00 Devotional arranged by Pastor W. H. Hamor.

10:15 Exposition of Romans 13:7-8, Roy Stuckey.

10:45 Exposition of Romans 1:14, Sam Brian.

11:15 Song and announcements.

11:25 Sermon, H. H. Stephens.

12:00 Noon—lunch at the church.

1:30 Song and Praise Service.

1:45 The Hundred Thousand Club, D. D. Gilmore.

2:15 Training Union, Sunday School and W. M. U.

Announcements.

2:45 Board meeting.

—Committee.

PLAINS DEACONS STUDY DUTIES OF OFFICE

Several deacons from the churches in the east side of the West Plains Association met for three nights on January 22, 23, 24, and studied the book "The Office of a Deacon."

The meeting was held at First Baptist Church, Littlefield. The pastor, Roy Shahan, led in the study and teaching of the book. Though the weather was extremely cold, the attendance and interest was good.

PROGRAM

Workers Conference, Stonewall Association, to be held at Jayton, Tuesday, February 20

10:00 Devotional, Rev. Emory Scott.

10:15 "The Baptist Hundred Thousand Club," Rev. J. B. Rowan.

10:45 Songs, testimony and prayer.

11:00 Sermon, Rev. Ross Respass.

12:00 Lunch.

10:00 Board meeting and W. M. U.

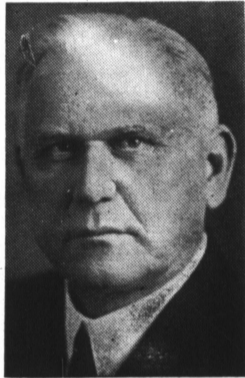
2:00 Inspirational address, Rev. C. E. Waincott.

"Character and shame depart when wine comes in."—Chaucer.

MARY HARDIN-BAYLOR TO HONOR DR. GEO. TRUETT

By D. Schlegel

When Mary Hardin-Baylor College pays tribute to Dr. George W. Truett of Dallas at an appreciation dinner on February 16, the college will be honoring a man to whom honors have not been unknown. Already he has served in the high offices of president of the Southern Baptist Convention and of the Baptist World Alliance. For 43 years he has held the same pastorate at the First Baptist Church in Dallas, a fact which, as the introduction to a biography of Dr. Truett states, removes the biography from the category of premature appraisals of men whose place in history is undetermined.



"However, the college is not tendering the dinner for Dr. Truett because of any specific achievement," says President Gordon G. Singleton. "Rather, Mary Hardin-Baylor is honoring a great denominational leader whose life has been exemplary of those things for which the college, as a Christian institution, stands."

In making public expression of appreciation to Dr. Truett, the college also will honor one whose past associations with the college have been of historic nature. In 1895 Dr. Truett delivered the commencement sermon for the Golden Jubilee class of 13 graduates at the college, then Baylor College, and on June 6, 1920, he returned to deliver the 75th anniversary commencement sermon. At that time he accepted an invitation to deliver Mary Hardin-Baylor's Centennial commencement sermon in 1945. There have been other less specific ties through the years because of Dr. Truett's friendship to the college. In 1935 he conducted a college revival, and in 1938 spoke at the funeral services for the president emeritus, Dr. J. C. Hardy. Illness had prevented him from representing the Baptist World Alliance at the inauguration of President Singleton in 1937.

Although he has achieved national and international fame Dr. Truett remains a man of inherent modesty. This man, who held crowds at the Southern Baptist Convention in 1920 spellbound as he delivered a stirring address of one hour and fifteen minutes on "Baptists and Religious Liberty" from the steps of the national capitol, was the man who had declined the presidency of his Alma Mater, Baylor University, with the simple explanation "I have sought and found the Shepherd's Heart." This statement has served as the explanation of much of his success as a preacher, for he has never lost touch with the people.

Dr. Truett's travels have carried him over the world, and it is estimated that he has delivered at least one address or sermon each day for more than 35 years.

His home city, Dallas, has honored him on many occasions, the Chamber of Commerce honoring him on his thirtieth anniversary as pastor of the First Baptist Church there in 1927; the Dallas News, in a cartoon by Knott in 1932, expressing appreciation of a "beloved citizen." The members of his congregation presented him a love token or more than \$15,000 in 1937 in observance of his 70th birthday anniversary, a gift which he applied to the church building debt. In 1935 he received an honorary degree of doctor of laws from Southern Methodist University, and in 1936 the Centennial Story of Texas Baptists was dedicated to Dr. Truett, "Texas Baptists' Gift to the World."

A native of North Carolina, Dr. Truett began teaching when he was 18; and founded the Hiwassee (Ga.)

(Continued on page 2)

PLANS GOING FORWARD FOR TRAINING REVIVAL

Sixteen churches in Sweetwater association have already reported to associational director, Charles N. Gilbert that they intend to cooperate in the Training Union revival set for February 25 to March 3, with Dr. T. C. Gardner and other state workers assisting.

Pastor Gilbert states that he expects several other churches to report at the workers meeting with First Church, Abilene, on February 8, that they are arranging to have a part in the campaign of the week.

Churches which will not have study courses or enlargement activities during the week may share in the inspirational and planning hours arranged to be held at First Church, Sweetwater, on the afternoon of February 25; at Merkel, February 27 and 29; and at South Side, Abilene, on March 3.

Churches represented at the Taylor County Training Union Federation meeting at University Church, February 4, set goals for a total attendance of 2,008 in Training Union for high attendance day, March 3, and 500 in attendance at the South Side meeting.

SILVERTON CHURCH SENDS GIFT TO HOSPITAL FOR AID OF POLIO PATIENTS

Dear Mr. Collier:

I am sending a check from the First Baptist Church, Silverton, said amount to be used in treating infantile paralysis. Instead of taking an offering for the worldly affair as suggested by Mr. Roosevelt, we took our offering and are sending it to you that we might administer, not only to the physical needs, but spiritual as well.

I am hoping and praying that our great Baptist people shall soon begin a movement which will put Baptist money where it belongs instead of putting it into worldly institutions.

Yours very truly,
Jesse B. Leverett, Pastor,
First Baptist Church, Silverton.

FRIENDSHIP MISSION EXTENDS AID TO SICK

During the month of January, 163 persons were treated at the clinic of Friendship Mission, Abilene. The clinic is sponsored jointly by the Brotherhood of First Church and Hendrick Memorial Hospital. Medical services are donated by physicians who are members of the Brotherhood.

There were also 126 patients treated in homes, report Rev. and Mrs. James Alexander, missionaries, who visited in 266 homes during the month and gave out 265 garments.

Gifts for use in the mission came from as widely separated places as Hobbs, N. M., and Greggton, Texas.

The women of the mission spend two afternoons weekly in the sewing room where they are now engaged in making ten quilts from material donated by an Abilene friend.

In spite of illness and cold, Sunday School attendance averaged 92 Training Union attendance 75. A Training Union study course was held with 185 enrolled and 105 receiving awards.

In addition to conversions and additions, a young man assisting in the leadership surrendered to preach and one other made a dedication for special service.

SUPERINTENDENT COLLIER AND FAMILY RECOVERING FROM HIGHWAY CRASH

Marked recovery at Hendrick Memorial Hospital is reported concerning Superintendent and Mrs. E. M. Collier, who were seriously injured Saturday, February 3, when their car skidded on a wet pavement between Breckenridge and Caddo and crashed into the concrete bannister of a bridge.

Mr. Collier received broken ribs and was for a time seriously threatened with pneumonia. Mrs. Collier suffered a head laceration and severe bruises. Less seriously injured were their little daughter, Earlyne, and Joe Snow, son of Dr. and Mrs. W. R. Snow of Abilene.

Richard Collier escaped with minor bruises. The family car, a 1939 model sedan, was practically demolished.

The party was enroute to Mineral Wells, where the two boys were to join the Abilene high school band in playing before the State Music Teachers Association.

Abilene Preparing For Large Bible Conference Feb. 12-14



DR. FRED C. EASTHAM
First Baptist Church
Wichita Falls



REV. JOHN J. RIDDELL
Missionary, District 11
Wichita Falls

Committees were at work in the Baptist churches of Abilene this week arranging for homes for several hundred visiting Baptists who are expected to attend the Hardin-Simmons Bible Conference here February 12 to 14. The visitors will receive bed and breakfast in Abilene homes for the two nights that they remain.

The program as presented in the West Texas Baptist last week will be given with some shifting of visiting speakers from one hour to another to accommodate conflicting engagements.

Dr. J. B. Tidwell, for thirty years head of the Bible department of Baylor University, will give a series of lectures on I Timothy and President John W. Raley of Oklahoma Baptist University will bring several inspirational addresses. Each of these speakers will have an appearance at the university chapel hour.

They will also appear in Abilene churches on Sunday, Dr. Raley speaking at First Church at the morning hour and at University Church in the evening. Dr. Tidwell will have reverse engagements, being at University in the morning and First at night.

The program will begin with a welcome by Executive Vice-President Rupert N. Richardson on Monday evening and will close at noon Wednesday with the closing address by Dr. Raley, who won the hearts of West Texas laymen at a rally in Abilene last fall.

Leaders from several West Texas districts will have parts on the program and music will be rendered by groups from the university. Time has been allotted for fellowship periods during the day when the visitors will have opportunity for renewing acquaintances and making new ones.

H-SU VESPER MUSIC HEARD SUNDAYS OVER NETWORK

First of a series of vesper concerts was presented Sunday in the Hardin-Simmons university auditorium, with the university symphony orchestra, under the direction of Herbert M. Preston, and Dean E. Edwin Young of the H-SU fine arts department, on the school's new console organ, presenting the program.

The series will be continued next Sunday afternoon, beginning at 3:45 o'clock, with the public invited.

From 3:45 to 4 o'clock, the H-SU symphony group will give its Texas State Network broadcast. Dean Young presents his program after the broadcast. From week to week, school of music faculty members and students will be presented with him.

Sunday, the orchestra played the first movement of Haydn's Surprise Symphony, and selections from Friml's Rose Marie, on its broadcast. Dean Young's program included Drdla's Souvenir, Massenet's Elegy, and an arrangement of The Rosary.

A. D. Whisenant was master of ceremonies for the network program, and Jack Gardner presented the organ program.

BLIND YOUTH ENROLLS IN HARDIN-SIMMONS U.

Led to classes and about the campus by a trained "seeing eye" dog, A. J. Bell of Stamford, a graduate of the Texas School for Blind, has enrolled in Hardin-Simmons for the spring semester.

Bell was grammar school valedictorian and high ranking in the academy. He is a talented violinist and hopes to make the university orchestra. He takes notes on class lectures in braille, the writing of the sightless, and prepares classroom assignments with a typewriter. He has arranged for a classmate to do reading for him.

The ambitious youth is asking no favors and wants to be one with his fellow students.

While he is probably the first student in this section to be guided by one of the highly trained German shepherd dogs, other blind have earned college degrees, notable among whom is Rev. J. E. Boulet, pastor at Anderson, Texas, whose wife guided him to classes and read lessons to him when he was a student in Baylor University.

SWEETWATER REVIVAL HAS GOOD RESULTS DESPITE COLD AND SICKNESS

First Church, Sweetwater, had 40 additions, 17 for baptism in the two weeks revival, closing February 4, with Dr. W. A. Criswell of Chickasha, Oklahoma, doing the preaching and church choir director, Woodrow Harris, leading the song services.

The flu epidemic, which accompanied the blizzard weather, confined Pastor J. M. Sibley, his family, and many other members in bed, but did not confine their prayers and the revival carried on.

Two young people surrendered for special service. Pastor Sibley states that Dr. Criswell's messages and his Christian life were special blessings to the church.

In the past fourteen months, there have been five young people in the church who have dedicated their lives to special religious work.

Norman Shafer, Hardin-Simmons freshman, and Leon Mabrey, high school senior, have surrendered to the ministry. Charles McLaughlin, H-SU junior, and now director of music and education in South Side Church, Abilene, gave his life to religious education.

Imogene Taylor, another high school senior, gave her life some months ago to be a medical missionary in Africa. Miss Gladys Hardy gave herself to do special work and likely will become secretary in some church.

After a delay on account of the weather, the young people's department moved into new quarters, making room for another needed junior department.

WESTEX MEXICANS EMPLOY TRAINING UNION WORKER

An impressive consecration service was held at Snyder on February 1 for Lauro Ramirez, son of Missionary Julian Ramirez, who has been employed by the West Texas Mexican Baptist Association as Training Union field worker.

The association pays young Ramirez \$25 per month and the churches furnish transportation and entertainment. Most of the executive board of the association were present for the consecration service.

West Texas Baptist

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R. E. DUDLEY Editor

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Single Subscription, per year\$1.00
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THE TASK OF THE MISSIONARY

"Save the small churches," writes a reader in evident sincerity and distress. "We notice our missionary is supplying for the large churches who are up and coming. . . . Why doesn't he go to the small, rural churches where there isn't any interest taken in anything except community affairs?"

The writer is, of course, referring to the district missionary, who has one of the most difficult jobs in the country. As we have said before, he is misnamed, in that his work is rather that of a mission secretary than purely missionary. Primarily it is a task of organization and enlistment, which involves the whole field.

District missionaries, in our observation, spend much more of their time among the country and village churches than in the stronger town and city congregations. However, as we understand his duties, he would be amiss to fail in presenting his work to the larger churches, which are not always so self-sufficient as the correspondent seems to think.

Churches, such as she describes, "where the pastor devotes all of his time and thought to worldly affairs," are in desperate need of spiritual leadership. Having no idea as to which church the lady is a member, the editor can speak freely without offense, saying that the prime need of such a church is not a missionary but a pastor. If he is indeed giving all of his interest to the material world, he should either give place to a spiritually-minded man or should return, himself, to his high calling and put first things first.

But the work of reforming or replacing a worldly pastor is the task of the church and the Holy Spirit and not that of a district missionary, who is a helper and co-worker and not a bishop.

Many people do not seem to realize that the district missionary can supply in a pulpit only at the request of the pastor or of the church, if there is no pastor. If he were so unwise as to attempt any other procedure, it would only result in dissension and disruption instead of cooperation and progress. To be sure, it is his privilege to make tactful suggestions but he cannot assure that they will be acceptable.

Every district missionary has more invitations than several men could accept. Out of these he must fill the engagements which, in his judgment, will best fit in with his plans and the program that he is endeavoring to accomplish. This will probably mean that in the course of the year he will have contact with a fair cross-section of the churches of the district, large and small, strong and weak, spiritual and worldly.

He would need to visit the well-organized churches to be inspired by their efficiency and be better able to carry the inspiration of their accomplishments to those less favored. He would need to meet with the deeply spiritual, that his heart might be warmed to share with the cold and indifferent.

We believe that any church into which some earnest members feel that the missionary should come, can get him as soon as he can arrange it; provided they lay the matter on his heart in all sincerity and prayer.

No one knows better than the seventeen district missionaries in Texas that Baptists are rooted in the country and that if the rural churches are allowed to decay the city churches and the institutions would wither and perish.

PAYING LIKE THE FINNS

Because little Finland has pluckily paid debts when others, much stronger and wealthier, defaulted unashamed, the Finns have the solid friendship of the American people in a measure possessed by no other nation in the world.

Sunday, February 11, is Hundred Thousand Club day in Southern Baptist Churches. Part-time churches will select the most suitable Sunday of the month and present the aim and purpose of the Club. Full-time churches will give renewed emphasis to the matter, if they have not already done so this year.

A pastor tells the story of a sister who was asked to present the matter to her Sunday School class. With considerable stammering she made it clear at last that she was supposed to take a collection for some club, but could remember neither the name nor the purpose for which the money was to be used.

She was not a reader of any Baptist paper. A chart presented in "The Baptist Program" shows that 1935 was the peak year for this constructive plan of paying Baptist debts. The total that year, \$198,372, would have been exceeded in both last year and the year before but for the fact that several states have put offerings for the Club on a 50-50 basis, using half the contributions to pay debts of the state board.

This is not true in Texas. We are paying our debts in a business-like way and are helping lift the Southwide obligations. But Texas Baptists are not doing near what they could and should for either cause.

This dollar-a-month from the interested givers goes without any sort of deduction to pay on the principal of the debts of the Foreign and Home Mission Boards and other Southwide interests. More than a million dollars has been raised in this way.

If we have a debtless denomination by 1945 it will be necessary to speed up about 50 per cent in our efforts. We call it the Hundred Thousand Club, yet the income averages less than one-fifth that per month.

Baptists must do no less than the Finns. Will you have a part in this victory?

NEWS NOTES

The women of Lamesa association met at Lamesa on January 31.

Trinity Church, Abilene, reports new members in the Sunday School every Sunday.

Dr. Millard A. Jenkins has returned from a revival in the ice-bound regions of Florida.

Rev. Charles N. Gilbert of Sunset Church, Abilene, supplied the Roby pulpit on February 4.

Missionary W. C. Harrison of District Eight preached Sunday at Seminole for Pastor O. C. Curtis.

First Church, Sweetwater, where Dr. M. E. Dodd is pastor, has adopted a budget of \$80,000 for 1940.

First Church, Midland, expects to begin the erection of an education building in the very near future.

Miles Church, where Rev. R. Elmer Graham is pastor, is planning for a dedication service in the near future.

Rev. Cooper Waters of Roby has accepted the call of the Merkel Church and is already on the field.

Pastor W. W. Rivers of Center has declined the call to be missionary in District 3 and will remain in the pastorate.

R. A. Springer, state Brotherhood leader, will address the men of First Church, Midland on Monday, February 12.

Rev. Dick O'Brien will speak to the young people of First Church, Brownwood, at a Sweetheart banquet on February 13.

Nolan Church is planning for a spring revival March 3 to 10 with Rev. Gordon Barrett of Comanche assisting Pastor Dean Elkins.

J. D. Riddle will be the principal speaker at a Sweetheart banquet of the Breckenridge young people on the evening of January 12.

The Fisher Association Brotherhood will meet Thursday evening, February 8, in connection with the monthly meeting of the men of Rotan Church.

Rev. J. M. Sibley of First Church, Sweetwater, had a relapse of the flu and will not be able to attend the associational workers meeting this week.

Rev. Clyde Campbell, assistant pastor of University Church recently supplied for Pastor W. M. Turner of Pecos who was preaching at First Church, Colorado City.

Miss Lurames Reynolds, daughter of Prof. and Mrs. I. E. Reynolds of Southwestern Seminary, was guest musician at First Church, Brownwood, Sunday.

West Side Church of Wichita Falls, with Rev. Noel Snow as pastor, has purchased a \$22,000 building from the Presbyterians at a very reasonable price.

Pastor J. B. Rowan of Aspermont preached last Sunday at Mount Olive, an unchurched community in Stone-wall Association. One mature man was converted.

Rev. H. E. East of Knox City was called by the Hamlin Church on February 4. Pastor C. A. Powell of University Church, Abilene, preached at Hamlin on that day and moderated the conference.

Forty-seven white Baptist churches and forty-five Negro churches will cooperate in a simultaneous revival in St. Louis, March 10 to 24, with Dr. Roland Q. Leavell directing.

Fisher workers will meet with Cross Roads Church on Monday after the second Sunday in March, the date being changed to avoid conflict with the State Sunday School convention.

Rev. Cecil McBeth visited his home church at Nimrod February 4, and preached on invitation of Pastor L. A. Thompson. The Nimrod people are completing an attractive new building.

Volume 1, Number 1 of the Baptist Advance, bulletin of the First Baptist Church of Central City, Ky., where Rev. Kelley Barnett is pastor, has been received. It is a very neat example of mimeograph work, and full of church news.

Paint Creek, Haskell Association, will soon complete their new building.

This church was recently formed by the union of Post and Howard Churches. Rev. Almon Norris of Southwestern Seminary is pastor.

Rev. J. H. Ballard of H-SU supplied at Sunset Church on February 4.

Colony Hill Church won the attendance banner at the Training Union Federation meeting at University Church Sunday afternoon.

There were nine additions to Odessa Church Sunday, two of whom were adults coming for baptism. Dr. N. A. Moore is acting as supply pastor.

Rev. Erick Hecksher, native of Denmark and graduate of Southwestern Seminary, spoke Sunday at Miles. He expects to return eventually to Greenland as a missionary.

Rev. E. P. Gonzales of Snyder has organized a Mexican Baptist Sunday School at Colorado City with 21 pupils. He had four professions at a recent service and expects to organize a church soon.

Harmony Church, Runnels County, will be host to the Training Union zone meeting on February 11. The Volunteer band of University Church, Abilene, will have charge of the program.

Dr. C. E. Hereford of Lubbock and Dr. J. Howard Williams of Amarillo are among the West Texas pastors who will participate in the simultaneous revival in Houston March 24 to April 7. Former West Texans announced include W. D. Green and J. Ralph Grant.

Pastor J. M. Sibley of Sweetwater First had the misfortune to fall sick at the beginning of their recent revival. In spite of this and the record cold, Dr. W. A. Criswell of Chickasha and Woodrow Harris, music director, led in a great church revival.

Pastor Joe Mays led Cross Roads Church in a study of the Extension Department last week. Seven qualified for awards in spite of much sickness in the community. They have sent in application for a Standard Sunday School for 1940.

Jentry and Paul Holmes and John Blake were licensed to preach last Wednesday night by First Church, Abilene. Jentry Holmes is a freshman in Hardin-Simmons and Paul is a senior in high school. John Blake expects to enter Baylor with the Spring term.

In memory of the late Maco Stewart of Galveston, his widow and son have presented First Church, Galveston, with the John Sealy residence, giving the church a half block upon which to erect a new auditorium. Pastor H. L. Pickett states that \$51,500 has been accumulated toward the building.

G. Avery Lee, H-SU '39, student at Yale Divinity school at New Haven, Conn., would like to spend next summer in West Texas, and will be available for revivals, either as singer or preacher. Rev. Dick O'Brien, who worked with him in the Monday revival last summer, recommends him very highly.

Honor Dr. Truett

(Continued from page 1)

Academy when he was 19, serving as principal for three years. It was in an address before the Baptist convention at Marietta, Ga., on "Christian Education" that his career is said to have started. After coming to Texas he was ordained in 1890, and in 1894 was married to Josephine Jenkins of Waco. During the World War he served in France. He is the only person who ever has presided at three sessions of the Baptist World Congress, having been asked to preside at the two sessions held preceding his own five-year term as president of the Baptist World Alliance which ended last summer.

A man of magnificent physical powers and with an amazing capacity for work, his one dissipation is coffee. A large bowl of apples always is at hand during his period of relaxation after his Sunday sermon.

It is said of this man, whose influence as a minister, and among young ministers has been so far reaching, that the world has been his parish; his pulpit his throne, and his ministry his life. As one of the most effective of Southern ministers he never compromises, never retreats, and never takes the defensive.

He who does not believe in a Supreme Being will not long believe in any human being.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

February 11

By Hight C Moore

THE PERILS OF REJECTING CHRIST

Matthew 21:7 to 22:14

In the Temple at Jerusalem on Tuesday of crucifixion week Jesus for the last time in his earthly ministry presented himself to his people as their promised Messiah. But the chief priests and scribes continued their bitterness toward him and sought to discredit and destroy him. Thereupon he delivered three closely related parables of ominous warning to his traducers and critics: The parable of the two sons showing that they were being surpassed in relation to the kingdom by penitent publicans and harlots; the parable of the wicked husbandmen, showing that the discarded kingdom would be removed from them; and the parable of the marriage feast, showing the doom of those who rejected the kingdom. What peril there is in rejecting Christ!

Notes Analytical and Expository
1. Profession and practice are contrasted in the parable of the two sons. Observe:

(1) Profession and practice were required by the man who represents God; required of his sons who represent the Jews and Gentiles; and required in the cultivation and care of his vineyard representing his interests in the world.

(2) Practice without profession was exhibited in the first son who represented the publicans and prostitutes and all outcasts among the Gentiles and the moral underworld. At first he bluntly, even insolently, declined to go to work at his father's command. But soon he sincerely repented of his sin and went to work and wrought faithfully and effectively.

(3) Profession without practice was made by the second son who represented the chief priests, scribes, elders, both Pharisees and Sadducees. He orally accepted the task given him by his father and promised to go to work in the vineyard at once. But his indolence was even worse than his brother's insolence, for he never went to the vineyard nor did a lick of work there.

(4) Practice out of penitence won for the first son the verdict that he did the will of the father while the second did not. Sorrow for sin was the main mark of difference—a sorrow that spurred to strenuous service.

(5) Profession without penitence won for the second son and all he represented the warning of the Master that the outcasts of society in their repentance and faith were entering the kingdom ahead of the unrepentant religious leaders of the time.

2. Privilege and Perfidy are combined in the parable of the wicked husbandmen. Note:

(1) The householder was provident. "There was a man that was a householder, who planted a vineyard." The householder was God and the children of Israel were the chosen people constituting and controlling the vineyard which he planted in the land of Canaan, the best spot on earth for the fulfillment of its mission and the accomplishment of the Owner's purpose.

(2) The vineyard was equipped. The planting of a vineyard is itself a matter of expense, patience, and skill. But after planting there are other things essential to the equipment and efficiency of the vineyard: a hedge of stone or shrubbery to enclose it; a winepress to take care of its fruit; a tower for the watchman to occupy night and day to prevent intrusion and robbery. Was not Israel equipped for fruit-bearing by the divine Householder? Are not we today?

(3) The husbandmen were appointed. As is frequently done, the householder let out his vineyard to tenants, the contract probably requiring payment of rent in the fruit of the vineyard, though sometimes money (either a fixed amount for the year, or in proportion to the crop) was required. Primarily the husbandmen were the rulers of the Jews and inferentially all leaders of the people, though as in the case of Israel the people themselves are included.

(4) The journey was made afar. Having rented his vineyard, the proprietor took a journey abroad. After appearing time and again in the days of Moses as the supreme founder and leader of Israel, Jehovah withdrew, apparently leaving his people in charge of his interests. We may today say the same in regard to Christ, the great Head of the Church, who, after laying its foundations, has gone away, leaving his vineyard in human hands.

(5) The rents became due. "The season of the fruits drew near." And

when that time arrives there comes with it the obligation to the owner. He is entitled to rent; expects it; will send for it; will be disappointed if it is not forthcoming; and will have it in the end—if not from the present tenants, then from their successors.

(6) The servants were maltreated. It is a dark record, but perfectly true to the facts; how that the owner sent to receive his fruits a group of servants only to have one scourged, another stoned, and a third slain by the tenant ingrates; how a second group of servants, more of them than at first, were sent on the same mission and were treated in like manner. What a picture of the prophets of old!

(7) The Son was slain. Finally the proprietor sent his own son, certainly expecting respect. But the son was plotted against as the heir, cast out of the vineyard and killed, so that the tenants, unmolested, might have his inheritance. Were not the Pharisees at that moment plotting against the Son of God and could they fail to see the point of his parable? And are there not many today who are seeking to deprive the Son of God of his rightful inheritance?

(8) The murderers were destroyed. The Lord of the vineyard, of course, returns and what will he do? What should he do? To the question the people themselves gave answer: "He will miserably destroy those wicked men!" Could there be any other fate before the city of Jerusalem and the Jewish nation following their treatment of the Son of God?

(9) The successors were employed. The auditors of the parable also declared that the proprietor of the vineyard, after ridding himself of the wicked tenants, would "let out the vineyard unto other husbandmen." And just here the Gentile world comes within the sweep of divine providence and grace.

(10) The Scripture was fulfilled. There may be a permitted eddy now and then in the stream of God's purpose but it will flow on as surely as the rivers find their way to the sea. Jesus quotes a passage which shows that the divine plan must and will be worked out to completion despite the negligence of those who profess to be workers with God in building up the kingdom in the world. "The stone which the builders rejected, the same was made the head of the corner." In the building of the Jewish nation at that time a stone ("and that Rock was Christ") was being rejected by the builders, but after a little while it should become the chief cornerstone in the structure which is being built out of redeemed humanity.

The Wrang and the Woe of Rejecting Christ

(1) The rejected proprietor should be obeyed. "A certain householder."

(2) The rejected service should be rendered. "A vineyard."

(3) The rejected stability should be attained. "Hedged it about."

(4) The rejected conversation should be continued. "A winepress."

(5) The rejected security should be maintained. "A tower."

(6) The rejected trust should be fulfilled. "Husbandmen."

(7) The rejected compensation should be paid. "Might receive the fruits."

(8) The rejected fellowship should be appreciated. "His servants—other servants—his son."

(9) The rejected vineyard must be cultivated. "He—will let out the vineyard unto other husbandmen."

(10) The rejected Master will be exalted. "The head of the corner."

GOLD IN THE GOLDEN TEXT

I am the way, and the truth, and the life: no one cometh unto the Father, but by me.—John 14:6.

Jesus is the way; through whom else can we find our way through the wilderness of this world into the heavenly Canaan? Jesus is the truth: its source and subject, its embodiment and finished expression, its exponent and revealer. Jesus is the life; for he is its author by creation and regeneration, and its perfecter through a good life on earth and a life eternal in heaven.

Daily Bible Readings
Feb. 5—The Peril of Unbelief. Matt. 21:28-32.

Feb. 6—The Peril of Rejection. Matt. 21:33-43.

Feb. 7—The Rejection of Nazareth. Mark 6:1-6.

Feb. 8—Israel Rejects God. I Sam. 8:1-9.

Feb. 9—Rejection and Judgment. John 12:44-50.

Feb. 10—Rejection and Destruction. Isaiah 30:8-14.

Feb. 11—Restoration Through Christ. Eph. 2:11-1.

Ex - Priest Describes Conversion Circumstance



A background of Italian birth and training plus his long association with American life provide both the material and basis for his new book, "The Stranger Within Our Gates," according to Dr. J. F. Plainfield.

Recently brought from the press by the Home Mission Board as a new mission study book, this readable volume presents a unit analysis of the Christianization and Americanization of the foreigner, written by one who is himself one of the most interesting examples of the alchemy which he calls "Christian Americanization."

"I grew up in Northern Italy," writes Dr. Plainfield, "near where four nations touch each other, France, Switzerland, Austria (now Germany) and Italy. My early steps were guided along the pompous highways of the Roman Catholic Church with surroundings of such pageantry and splendor as would capture the eye and imagination of a sensitive soul. To be a zealous believer was my constant effort; to become a priest was the great ambition of my life."

"For years I studied the hardest courses offered by the schools of Italy under the scrupulous and rigorous supervision of the Salesian Fathers, with the stimulating prospective of the highest rank possible in my chosen life. My brother, William, now archbishop of the Roman Catholic Church and papal delegate to the Philippine Islands, fired my imagination by his life and attainments and affected my choices by his learning and example. I wanted to follow him."

Christianity grew until I could remain a Catholic no longer, and by a rope flung out of a window I climbed out of the monastery in the darkness of the night, never to return to it.

"Shortly after this, through prayer, meditation and the constant reading of the Bible, I found the joy of forgiveness. The preaching of the Gospel soon followed."

SENTENCE SERMONS

By O. D. Henley

Life is either unfolding or folding. God planted gardens: the devil planted weeds.

Character counts, lack of it discounts.

It is a credit to be creditable. There are no exchanges from hell. Some are more hull than wheat.

A sneer brings no cheer. Fools know everything.

Hard working is preferable to hard wishing.

Satan never ceases. He who wills to forgive wishes to forget.

More are Christless than Christlike.

Life is composed of ceaseless choices.

Love is the most concrete proof that we are divine.

We do not know what temptation the devil will try on us next.

A bad life is too long; a good one too short.

Envy makes many an enemy. What we allow we approve.

God gave us His world to use not abuse.

The need for a friend will never end. God lets man have His world to run not to suit them but Him.

Better not live than not love. Once there was nothing but God.

The devil's children prey instead of pray.

MISSIONARY'S REPORT FROM DISTRICT VII

J. A. Kidd, Missionary

Days of work and study, 30; miles traveled, 1,960; churches, pastors visited, 16; sermons and addresses, 7; Lord's Supper administered, 1; Sunday School Classes taught, 1; additions by letter, 3; tracts distributed, 200; pastorless churches supplied, 2; Assisted churches calling, 2.

Letters, reports, etc., sent, 170; religious visits made, 28; collected for Cooperative Program, \$8.50 (Presidio \$5, Mentone \$1, Valentine and Imperial \$1.50, Fort Davis \$1.00); district missions, \$32.50 (Fort Davis \$10, Presidio \$6, Imperial and Valentine \$1.50, Personal \$15.00); subscriptions to Standard, 1; attended Associational and District meets, 2.

Rambling Remarks

(Continued from page 1)

of laughter, which often resulted in our being sent away from the table, "till we could behave ourselves." . . . This would usually make the situation worse and the siege of snickering would carry on until late bedtime. . . . I know we worked the guardian angels overtime in those days, but what carefree days they were and how sweet their memory now. . . . In closing we would like to add a phrase to a clever automobile advertisement seen on every hand these days. To-wit: "Eye it. Try it. Buy it. But don't try to fly it!"

JUST THINKING OUT LOUD

By A. A. Davis, Baird

Unalarmed and unalarming. Is it true that we are unalarmed? Have we been rocked to sleep in the cradle of ease dreaming that everything is all right and there is no occasion for alarm? If we are not alarmed about anything, can we hope to alarm anyone about anything? Are spiritual conditions what they should be?

If Jesus Christ were in Baird today as He once was in Jerusalem—can you picture his reaction to scenes He would behold? What do you suppose He would say? Would you be willing to be seen standing right by his side—and would you say Amen to everything the Savior would say? Do you think He would commend our carelessness in vital matters? Would He say that it didn't make any difference much what men did and said—just any old thing was O. K. nowadays? What do you suppose His reaction would be about the way you treat the church? What would He say, about some excuses many offer for not attending and not supporting the church?

I didn't get up in time on Sunday morning to come to church. Could you look Jesus in the face and offer that, when you DO get up in time Monday morning to get to YOUR business? Could it be that YOUR business is really MORE important than the LORD's business? That extra nap of thirty minutes you took on Sunday morning was more important than the services of the Lord. But—would you counter with the statement that Sunday is a day of rest—and that it is your only day off? Did you not also read the Lord's day was also a day of WORSHIP? Is bodily rest more important than Spiritual Worship? Is the body more valuable than the Soul? We love our bodies—don't we? Do we love Souls? Even our own?

Perhaps if you had not attended the mid-night movie—you would have felt like a normal man on Sunday morning.

Then, the dads and the mothers who make no effort at all to attend services anywhere—suppose Jesus visiting in those homes? We imagine him saying: It's all right to spend your life this way. No need to show any concern over the children. If they never know anything about God—religion doesn't amount to anything anyway? Get ahead and just let the children be as nature calls. Yes—keep the whiskey bottle before them (as some do), tell them it's all right to drink a little if you want it. Keep the beer in the ice box—where they can see it and get it when they want it. Beer is all right—it brings business to town. We also imagine Jesus (can you!) when the night came for the frolic, the dance, sure it's all right to go—take the boys and girls, let them associate with the libertine—and those of low morals (this type always attend the dance). Let the married man get his wife mixed up with the other man's wife or daughter—sure, that's all right. Yes, soon a divorce court and some orphan children for society to support. Long, bitter hours of misery and shame in the hearts of innocent children and mothers. Can you imagine Jesus Christ talking like that? Soon, an erstwhile innocent girl disappears from town? Mothers and families follow to escape shame and disgrace. Yes, there is nothing to be alarmed at? All night frolics, poker

Course in Organ Now Being Offered

Hardin-Simmons department of organ, only Hammond electric organ course offered in a college or university in Texas, is now open.

E. Edwin Young, dean of music at H-SU, is teaching the new course to four students already enrolled. The number eligible is limited to ten. Lessons will be given in a studio to be constructed in the present dressing room adjacent to the stage of the main auditorium.

"Students wishing to take organ must first pass an examination in piano," said Dean Young.

Young also stated that he will probably give a recital on the new Hammond in March.

A recital featuring only students will be given later in the spring.

The new organ is being purchased by financial aid from alumni, students, and friends of the university.

games, drinking parties, wild orgies—in supposedly respectable homes? What chance does a child have under such circumstances? What do you suppose Jesus would say?

Verily, righteousness exalteth a nation—but sin is a reproach to any people.

Well, let us continue with our thinking, if it is not too offensive. In spite of all preaching many will continue in the road of sin. We had as well reconcile ourselves to this fact. But are we as concerned as we should be? Many could be won to Christ—and saved from sin and its defilements if we would but get them as burdens on our hearts. Why do people instinctively turn to the church when great sorrow comes into their lives? Is it not an admission that the church could command a greater respect than ever if we would but measure to our possibilities?

Let us give ourselves to the advancement of the cause of Christ through the local church. Are you praying for the church? Do you support the church with your money? Do you do so regularly—and cheerfully? Are you doing your best? No half hearted effort will win in any undertaking. Begin now to place full emphasis upon the Lord's work.

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ABILENE, TEXAS

Book Reviews

"A CORRAL FULL OF STORIES"

This is the title of a most wholesome book of interesting and humorous stories of the open range by Joe Evans, ranchman, El Paso.

He has given 1,000 of these to be sold by pastors over Texas, the proceeds to go to send a "hand" or helper to Brother Clem Hardy, missionary to the Amazon country, three times the size of Texas.

Surely our pastors will welcome an opportunity to place one of these

books in the home of every member possible, also others, who will gladly help in a great cause like this.

We thank the Lord for Brother Evans and other good laymen who love our mission work and trust this movement succeeds. The book sells for \$1.00. All proceeds go to the Mission Board and no expense is deducted.—J. A. K.

DISTRICT MISSIONARY ILL

Missionary J. Henry Littleton suffered a light attack of flu which kept him confined to his room for several days. He was at his desk for a while Tuesday and expects to be at full speed again by the end of the week.

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ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM DISTRICT SEVEN

By Missionary J. A. Kidd, Alpine
The Bible and Evangelistic Conference, Pecos, January 22-23, was hindered by the severely cold weather. Quite a few braved the cold and came on Monday, and a very helpful program was carried out to the satisfaction of all present. Dr. Taylor brought an unusual message on Brotherhood work Monday night to a good crowd. Others who brought helpful messages were Brother John Abbott, Mrs. J. L. Dunn, Mrs. Wallace McCarver, Brother L. W. Hardcastle and Philip Brown. Besides laymen and women there were 12 of the pastors and preachers present.

Churches Calling Pastors
Presidio has called Brother W. L. Massagee of Brownwood, and he has become happily settled on the field, and the church is very grateful to be able to have full time work, by the assistance of the State Mission Board. The work has a bright outlook with a splendid opportunity in a border town where no other Protestant church is working.

The Clint Church has called Brother Vernon Yearby and he has accepted and moved his family on the field, and will continue his work in the Seminary. Our district is happy and the church fortunate in having this fine young preacher in this needy field.

Grandfalls church has called Brother Gilbert of the Seminary. They are hoping that he will accept.

Fort Davis Church was supplied last Sunday both services by the missionary. They are very enthusiastic and have voted to go to full time, having invited a prospective man, Brother Jack Manning who has finished his Seminary work.

The McCamey Church and pastor, T. E. Funderburk, are in a revival with Brother A. D. Foreman, Jr., of Angelo preaching and Brother Hardcastle of Fort Hancock singing.

The Alpine Church recently had 83 in midweek prayer service. Last Sunday Pastor M. M. Fulmer presented the Mexican work in Alpine and the church gave nearly \$100 on the Mexican church building. Brother Leo Estrados of the Mexican Seminary, El Paso, is pastor, and Mrs. Lula Murphy of Alpine is his assistant.

New Church Organized
The McGoffin Street Church, El Paso, was organized on Christmas Eve with 86 members, and immediately called Brother Pat Johnson as pastor. He has diligently worked in this mission and is well fitted to build up a good church in this needy section of El Paso.

Rev. H. J. Matthews, pastor at Marshall, will assist Brother W. M. Turner of Pecos in a two weeks revival beginning March 10. Brother Taft Holloway of Sanderson will do the singing.

Brother Clarence Morton of Balingier will do the preaching in a revival in Sanderson beginning the latter part of February.

The First Church, El Paso, has organized a Noon Day Prayer meeting, 12 to 12:30 for the men. Already much good has been accomplished and no doubt will from time to time. Another church has a prayer meeting for the men at 7:15 just before they go to their work. These meetings are well worth while and are sorely needed in this day.

The March Week of Prayer will be March 4-8.

Church Schools of Missions are most fruitful meetings in the churches and the Home Mission Board is emphasizing these in the South. We believe an associational wide movement of this kind would be fine in April. We hope somebody will encourage this great work.

The Crane Church is making plans to remodel and enlarge their church plant this spring, and this indicates a fine leadership and growth on the part of pastor and church.

John Abbott conducted a helpful revival with the Mexican church in Pecos January 21-28. His report shows eight sermons in December, 13 additions, nine conversions, 137 visits,

LINCOLN SAID—

"It is the duty of nations as well as of men to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God . . . and to recognize the sublime truth, announced in the Holy Scriptures and proved by all history, that those nations only are blest whose God is the Lord." (From Lincoln's Fast Day Proclamation, March 30, 1863).

"The year that is drawing toward its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever-watchful providence of Almighty God.

"No human counsel hath devised, nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy." (From Lincoln's Thanksgiving Proclamation, Oct. 3, 1863).

"I can only say in this case, as in so many others, that I am profoundly grateful for the respect, given in every variety of form which it can be given, from the religious bodies of the country. I saw, upon taking my position here, I was going to have an administration, if an administration at all, of extraordinary difficulty.

"It was, without exception, a time of the greatest difficulty this country ever saw. I was early brought to a lively reflection, that nothing would succeed, without direct assistance of the Almighty. I have often wished that I was a more devout man than I am; nevertheless, amid the greatest difficulties of my administration, when I could not see any other resort, I would place my whole reliance on God, knowing all would go well, and that He would decide for the right.

"I thank you, gentlemen, in the name of the religious bodies which you represent, and in the name of our common Father, for this expression of your respect. I cannot say more." (From Hale's "The President's Words," page 125).

MINISTERIAL ACTIVITIES AT HARDIN-SIMMONS

By Harold Russ
The Ministerial Council was privileged in having Editor R. E. Dudley as principal speaker on February 4.

We have some new preachers in school this semester but have not learned the exact number. Brother Fred Porter is engaged in a building campaign at Mattson and for that reason did not enroll this semester.

Brother Vernon Bliss reports that he baptized one person at Throckmorton last week. He is pastor at Fort Griffin.

Brethren Dandignac and Cox with their families are attending the Moody Bible Conference at Chicago. They will also visit Mrs. Dandignac's parents in Indiana.

Brother Redden reports five additions at Cottonwood last Sunday.

1,850 miles, 73 tracts and Bibles given. A Mexican church building is planned for Marfa, one having been completed in McCamey recently and soon to be dedicated with a revival.

The Sanderson Church and Pastor Holloway are adding two new departments to their Sunday School equipment, transforming the basement into beautiful Sunday School rooms for the children and youth.

The Missionary visited and preached in the following churches in January: Presidio 2, Balmorhea, Toyah, Sanderson, Ft. Davis.

Prov. 1:6, "In all thy ways acknowledge Him and he shall direct thy paths."

Emmette Chandler

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CORRESPONDENT WANTS ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

A thoughtful correspondent, who requests that her name be withheld, writes the West Texas Baptist concerning some questions which arose in the discussion of the Sunday School lesson of January 28.

She is concerned over a growing irreverence and the tendency of church members to set aside God's plan of church financing.

The editor presents her questions with his idea of the scriptural answer and invites readers who may feel led to do so, to discuss the matter further.

1. Was it God's plan that men sell doves, etc., in the Temple provided they made no personal gain?

No. In the plans described for the Tabernacle and Solomon's Temple, there is no mention of provision for such business. The fact that the dealers fled from Jesus, unarmed and alone, suggests that they were conscious of the guilt of desecration.

2. How many plans has God for the support of the church?

One. Under the dispensation of Grace, we believe, the church is dependent upon the offerings of members given freely and lovingly. As was forcefully presented by Rev. Alfred Richards in our issue of January 25, we believe God expects no less than the tithe.

3. Can any other plan be set up by man and be done for God's glory?

Such a plan might eventually work to the glory of God but, if it is contrary to His will, those who institute it will suffer as did Israel when God permitted them to choose a king against His advice.

4. Was it God's plan that unsaved men help support the kingdom?

We believe that God wants His work supported by his children. However, some of us are disobedient children who fail to do His will. So, we believe that God can and does take the money of unregenerate people and bless it to His glory. We also believe that the givers receive an adequate reward.

5. If not, why?

We recall no incident in Apostolic times where collections were taken among others than the churches, so that must be the proper procedure. However, the Tabernacle built by Moses was decorated with gold and gems contributed by the Egyptians.

6. Is it true that dances and card parties are held in the basement of any church?

Yes, not only in other sections of the country, but in some places in our own land. There is no Baptist church within our knowledge which countenances such practice.

7. Is a basement considered a part of God's house?

If the basement belongs to the church, we would consider it a part of God's house; but, as in the Temple certain parts were held more sacred than others, so in modern, departmentalized church buildings, the room where the members assemble as the church should be more hallowed than other rooms. This would not sanction the use of any of these rooms for purposes which would dishonor God. Neither should any Christian allow his home or any other building under his control to be put to any use which would dishonor God.

8. Is reverence for God's house a command?

Yes. Leviticus 19:30—"Ye shall

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FISHER W. M. U. MEETS WITH HIGHLAND HOME

The Fisher County W. M. U. met January 8 with Highland Home Church in connection with the Workers Conference. Mrs. W. H. Stephenson made a talk on associational W. M. U. work, and reports were given by local presidents and chairmen.

A new society was organized during the quarter with the Highland Home church. A splendid report was given of their work. They made two quilts, sold them and divided the money between Buckner Orphans Home and the Mexican Missionary.

The Royston ladies have also been piecing quilts, selling chickens, etc. They gave over \$40 to buy paint for their church building and are now working toward new benches.

The missionary societies sent candy, cookies, and other gifts to the girls at Seminary Hill.

Lottie Moon programs were observed in both women's and young people's organizations. May each one try to do more for our Lord and Master in the new year than ever before.

Mrs. S. R. Brumfield, Publicity Chairman.

PRISCILLA HELPERS MEET

The ministers wives of Hardin-Simmons University met in a called meeting, Thursday, at the home of Mrs. E. B. Atwood, for the purpose of electing officers for the new semester.

After a short devotional given by Mrs. A. R. Posey and song led by Mrs. S. E. Brian, the following officers were elected: president, Mrs. T. J. DuBose; vice-president, Mrs. Fred Porter; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. A. R. Posey; pianist, Mrs. Abe Hester; reporter, Mrs. Harold Russ.

Mrs. Porter directed the club in some games, after which Mrs. Atwood served refreshments.

Mrs. Jennings of Las Vegas, New Mexico, was a visitor and members present were: Mesdames Hester, DuBose, Brian, Cecil McBeth, Porter, Posey, Russ, and the hostess, Mrs. Atwood.

keep my sabbaths and reverence my sanctuary. I am the Lord.

9. Hebrews 12:28—A reverential worship required.

This reads: "Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. And verse 29 adds: For our God is a consuming fire.

CHURCH BULLETIN SECTION

WEST SIDE, BIG SPRING

We had 107 in Sunday School on February 4. Sixteen of us helped take a city-wide census. I believe the workers enjoyed the sunshine and the friendliness of most all the persons interviewed.

At 6:30 in the baptistry of First Church, the sacred ordinance of baptism was administered to four happy persons; two brothers and the wife and daughter of one of them.

I am happily encouraged by the large attendance of earnest listeners at the two preaching hours Sunday. Please do not forget and leave us off your prayer list.

E. E. Mason, Pastor.

DRASCO

The services of last Sunday were characterized by increased interest. Our Training Union was especially good. There were several new ones in attendance, and two additions to the church.

Remember to plan big for February 21. Now is the time to renew our effort. Let us pray, plan and practice.

Harold Russ, Pastor.

HATCHEL

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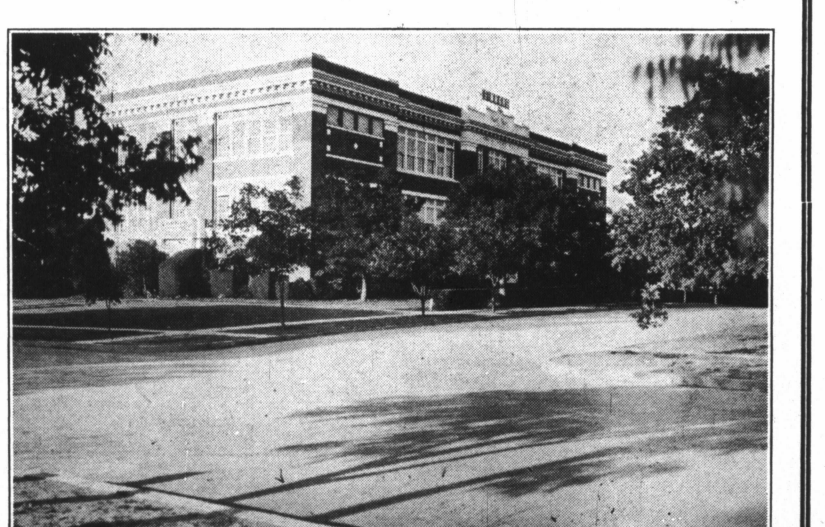
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February 12, 13 and 14, 1940

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ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM DISTRICT SEVEN

By Missionary J. A. Kidd, Alpine
The Bible and Evangelistic Conference, Pecos, January 22-23, was hindered by the severely cold weather. Quite a few braved the cold and came on Monday, and a very helpful program was carried out to the satisfaction of all present. Dr. Taylor brought an unusual message on Brotherhood work Monday night to a good crowd. Others who brought helpful messages were Brother John Abbott, Mrs. J. L. Dunn, Mrs. Wallace McCarver, Brother L. W. Hardcastle and Philip Brown. Besides laymen and women there were 12 of the pastors and preachers present.

Churches Calling Pastors

Presidio has called Brother W. L. Massagee of Brownwood, and he has become happily settled on the field, and the church is very grateful to be able to have full time work, by the assistance of the State Mission Board. The work has a bright outlook with a splendid opportunity in a border town where no other Protestant church is working.

The Clint Church has called Brother Vernon Yearby and he has accepted and moved his family on the field, and will continue his work in the Seminary. Our district is happy and the church fortunate in having this fine young preacher in this needy field.

Grandfalls church has called Brother Gilbert of the Seminary. They are hoping that he will accept.

Fort Davis Church was supplied last Sunday both services by the missionary. They are very enthusiastic and have voted to go to full time, having invited a prospective man, Brother Jack Manning who has finished his Seminary work.

The McCamey Church and pastor, T. E. Funderburk, are in a revival with Brother A. D. Foreman, Jr., of Angelo preaching and Brother Hardcastle of Fort Hancock singing.

The Alpine Church recently had 83 in midweek prayer service. Last Sunday Pastor M. M. Fulmer presented the Mexican work in Alpine and the church gave nearly \$100 on the Mexican church building. Brother Leo Estrados of the Mexican Seminary, El Paso, is pastor, and Mrs. Lula Murphy of Alpine is his assistant.

New Church Organized

The McGoffin Street Church, El Paso, was organized on Christmas Eve with 86 members, and immediately called Brother Pat Johnson as pastor. He has diligently worked in this mission and is well fitted to build up a good church in this needy section of El Paso.

Rev. H. J. Matthews, pastor at Marshall, will assist Brother W. M. Turner of Pecos in a two weeks revival beginning March 10. Brother Taft Holloway of Sanderson will do the singing.

Brother Clarence Morton of Balingier will do the preaching in a revival in Sanderson beginning the latter part of February.

The First Church, El Paso, has organized a Noon Day Prayer meeting, 12 to 12:30 for the men. Already much good has been accomplished and no doubt will from time to time. Another church has a prayer meeting for the men at 7:15 just before they go to their work. These meetings are well worth while and are sorely needed in this day.

The March Week of Prayer will be March 4-8.

Church Schools of Missions are most fruitful meetings in the churches and the Home Mission Board is emphasizing these in the South. We believe an associational wide movement of this kind would be fine in April. We hope somebody will encourage this great work.

The Crane Church is making plans to remodel and enlarge their church plant this spring, and this indicates a fine leadership and growth on the part of pastor and church.

John Abbott conducted a helpful revival with the Mexican church in Pecos January 21-28. His report shows eight sermons in December, 13 additions, nine conversions, 137 visits.

LINCOLN SAID—

"It is the duty of nations as well as of men to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God . . . and to recognize the sublime truth, announced in the Holy Scriptures and proved by all history, that those nations only are blest whose God is the Lord." (From Lincoln's Fast Day Proclamation, March 30, 1863).

"The year that is drawing toward its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever-watchful providence of Almighty God.

"No human counsel hath devised, nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy." (From Lincoln's Thanksgiving Proclamation, Oct. 3, 1863).

"I can only say in this case, as in so many others, that I am profoundly grateful for the respect, given in every variety of form which it can be given, from the religious bodies of the country. I saw, upon taking my position here, I was going to have an administration, if an administration at all, of extraordinary difficulty.

"It was, without exception, a time of the greatest difficulty this country ever saw. I was early brought to a lively reflection, that nothing would succeed, without direct assistance of the Almighty. I have often wished that I was a more devout man than I am; nevertheless, amid the greatest difficulties of my administration, when I could not see any other resort, I would place my whole reliance on God, knowing all would go well, and that He would decide for the right.

"I thank you, gentlemen, in the name of the religious bodies which you represent, and in the name of our common Father, for this expression of your respect. I cannot say more." (From Hale's "The President's Words," page 125).

MINISTERIAL ACTIVITIES AT HARDIN-SIMMONS

By Harold Russ

The Ministerial Council was privileged in having Editor R. E. Dudley as principal speaker on February 4.

We have some new preachers in school this semester but have not learned the exact number.

Brother Fred Porter is engaged in a building campaign at Mattson and for that reason did not enroll this semester.

Brother Vernon Bliss reports that he baptized one person at Throckmorton last week. He is pastor at Fort Griffin.

Brethren Dandignac and Cox with their families are attending the Moody Bible Conference at Chicago. They will also visit Mrs. Dandignac's parents in Indiana.

Brother Redden reports five additions at Cottonwood last Sunday.

1,850 miles, 73 tracts and Bibles given. A Mexican church building is planned for Marfa, one having been completed in McCamey recently and soon to be dedicated with a revival.

The Sanderson Church and Pastor Holloway are adding two new departments to their Sunday School equipment, transforming the basement into beautiful Sunday School rooms for the children and youth.

The Missionary visited and preached in the following churches in January: Presidio 2, Balmorhea, Toyah, Sanderson, Ft. Davis.

Prov. 1:6, "In all thy ways acknowledge Him and he shall direct thy paths."

Emmette Chandler
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CORRESPONDENT WANTS ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

A thoughtful correspondent, who requests that her name be withheld, writes the West Texas Baptist concerning some questions which arose in the discussion of the Sunday School lesson of January 28.

She is concerned over a growing irreverence and the tendency of church members to set aside God's plan of church financing.

The editor presents her questions with his idea of the scriptural answer and invites readers who may feel led to do so, to discuss the matter further.

1. Was it God's plan that men sell doves, etc., in the Temple provided they made no personal gain?
No. In the plans described for the Tabernacle and Solomon's Temple, there is no mention of provision for such business. The fact that the dealers fled from Jesus, unarmed and alone, suggests that they were conscious of the guilt of desecration.

2. How many plans has God for the support of the church?
One. Under the dispensation of Grace, we believe, the church is dependent upon the offerings of members given freely and lovingly. As was forcefully presented by Rev. Alfred Richards in our issue of January 25, we believe God expects no less than the tithe.

3. Can any other plan be set up by man and be done for God's glory?

Such a plan might eventually work to the glory of God but, if it is contrary to His will, those who institute it will suffer as did Israel when God permitted them to choose a king against His advice.

4. Was it God's plan that unsaved men help support the kingdom?

We believe that God wants His work supported by his children. However, some of us are disobedient children who fail to do His will. So, we believe that God can and does take the money of unregenerate people and bless it to His glory. We also believe that the givers receive an adequate reward.

5. If not, why?

We recall no incident in Apostolic times where collections were taken among others than the churches, so that must be the proper procedure. However, the Tabernacle built by Moses was decorated with gold and gems contributed by the Egyptians.

6. Is it true that dances and card parties are held in the basement of any church?

Yes, not only in other sections of the country, but in some places in our own land. There is no Baptist church within our knowledge which countenances such practice.

7. Is a basement considered a part of God's house?

If the basement belongs to the church, we would consider it a part of God's house; but, as in the Temple certain parts were held more sacred than others, so in modern, departmentalized church buildings, the room where the members assemble as the church should be more hallowed than other rooms. This would not sanction the use of any of these rooms for purposes which would dishonor God. Neither should any Christian allow his home or any other building under his control to be put to any use which would dishonor God.

8. Is reverence for God's house a command?

Yes. Leviticus 19:30—"Ye shall

FISHER W. M. U. MEETS WITH HIGHLAND HOME

The Fisher County W. M. U. met January 8 with Highland Home Church in connection with the Workers Conference. Mrs. W. H. Stephenson made a talk on associational W. M. U. work, and reports were given by local presidents and chairmen.

A new society was organized during the quarter with the Highland Home Church. A splendid report was given of their work. They made two quilts, sold them and divided the money between Buckner Orphans Home and the Mexican Missionary.

The Royston ladies have also been piecing quilts, selling chickens, etc. They gave over \$40 to buy paint for their church building and are now working toward new benches.

The missionary societies sent candy, cookies, and other gifts to the girls at Seminary Hill.

Lottie Moon programs were observed in both women's and young people's organizations. May each one try to do more for our Lord and Master in the new year than ever before.

Mrs. S. R. Brumfield, Publicity Chairman.

PRISCILLA HELPERS MEET

The ministers wives of Hardin-Simmons University met in a called meeting, Thursday, at the home of Mrs. E. B. Atwood, for the purpose of electing officers for the new semester.

After a short devotional given by Mrs. A. R. Posey and song led by Mrs. S. E. Brian, the following officers were elected: president, Mrs. T. J. DuBose; vice-president, Mrs. Fred Porter; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. A. R. Posey; pianist, Mrs. Abe Hester; reporter, Mrs. Harold Russ.

Mrs. Porter directed the club in some games, after which Mrs. Atwood served refreshments.

Mrs. Jennings of Las Vegas, New Mexico, was a visitor and members present were: Mesdames Hester, DuBose, Brian, Cecil McBeth, Porter, Posey, Russ, and the hostess, Mrs. Atwood.

keep my sabbaths and reverence my sanctuary. I am the Lord.
9. Hebrews 12:28—A reverential worship required.

This reads: "Wherefore we receive a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. And verse 29 adds: For our God is a consuming fire.

CHURCH BULLETIN SECTION

WEST SIDE, BIG SPRING

We had 107 in Sunday School on February 4. Sixteen of us helped take a city-wide census. I believe the workers enjoyed the sunshine and the friendliness of most all the persons interviewed.

At 6:30 in the baptistry of First Church, the sacred ordinance of baptism was administered to four happy persons; two brothers and the wife and daughter of one of them.

I am happily encouraged by the large attendance of earnest listeners at the two preaching hours Sunday. Please do not forget and leave us off your prayer list.

E. E. Mason, Pastor.

DRASCO

The services of last Sunday were characterized by increased interest. Our Training Union was especially good. There were several new ones in attendance, and two additions to the church.

Remember to plan big for February 21. Now is the time to renew our effort. Let us pray, plan and practice.

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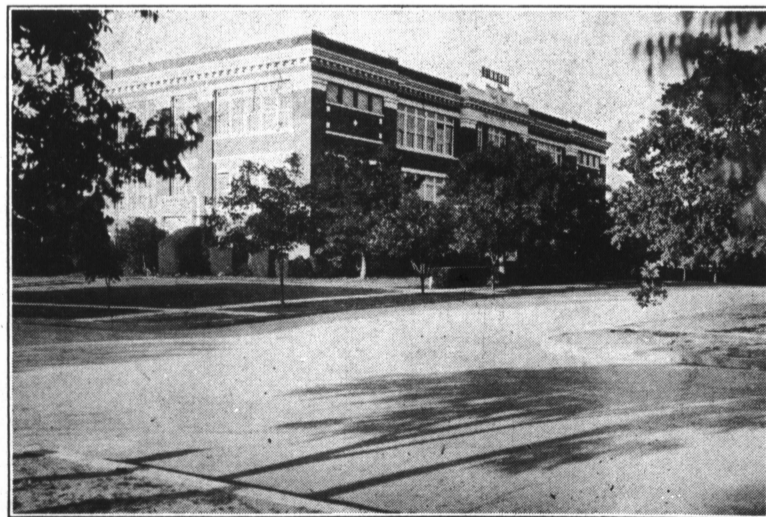
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