

WEST TEXAS BAPTIST

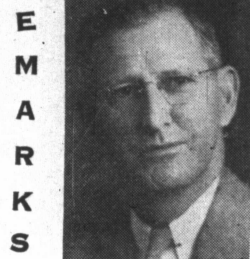
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RAMBLING



By DICK O'BRIEN

If my public will bear with me I should like to use the space so generously granted me in this paper each week to pen a few lines to our married daughters, Marie Haynes and Doris Wayne Gambill. . . . Dear children: It seems so odd to address you by other names since you have become married women, but I suppose we will all become used to it. I know it is normal for you to grow up and marry and begin to build homes of your own, but somehow to me you are still little girls riding my knees, begging for stories and songs, and an occasional lollipop. I remember how you used to scramble for a place between my knees when we would be driving in the car and hold onto the wheel and imagine you were doing the driving. And the amusing questions you would ask and the cute (to your mother and me) statements you would make. All through the years of your lives I have been so busy and so often away from home. From five to eight revival meetings a year with other things such as conventions, funerals and weddings, have almost robbed me of the privilege of being a daddy to you. All along I was planning and hoping that the day would come when I could spend more time at home with you, and I wanted to be the kind of father you would always remember with pleasure, but before I got around to that time I found that you were grown, going away to college and now married. Well, I am writing you this letter to let you know the kind of father I wanted to be, and the kind I might have been had not the unnumbered demands of the world upon the minister's time been pressing constantly upon me. I know that many times I have come home from the enervating

EVENTS TO COME

- September 11-12—Lubbock Association, First Church, Lubbock.
- September 11-12—Jones Association, Hodges.
- September 11-12—Brady Association, Eden.
- September 11-12—Wichita-Archer Association, Kamay.
- September 12—Big Spring Association, Coahoma.
- September 11-12—North Fork Association, Wellington.
- September 11-12—Mills Association, Big Valley.
- September 12—San Saba Association, San Saba.
- September 15-17—Fall Term begins, Hardin-Simmons University.
- September 16-17—Panhandle Association, Memphis.
- September 16-17—Palo Duro Association, First Church, Amarillo.
- September 18-19—West Plains Association, Anton.
- September 18-19—Trans-Canadian Association, Hartley.
- September 22-23—Floyd Association, Matador.
- September 23—Canadian Association, Miami.
- October 2-3—Wilbarger-Ford Association, Margaret.
- October 2-3—Brown County Association, Blake.
- October 6-7—Concho Valley Association, Eldorado.
- October 6-7—Stonewall Association, Girard.
- October 7-8—Callahan Association, Cottonwood.
- October 9—Haskell Association, Haskell.
- October 9-10—Sweetwater Association, Sweetwater.
- October 9-10—Pecos Valley Association, Wink.
- October 10—Cisco Association, Eastland.
- October 10-11—Big Bend Association, Marfa.
- October 19—Laymen's Day, in all Baptist Churches.

HOME MISSION OFFERINGS SHOW A LARGE INCREASE

An increase of 22 per cent in mission receipts for the first two quarters of 1941 was shown in the treasurer's report made at the meeting, September 4, of the Home Mission Board's executive committee.

Offerings the eight months from January through August, Dr. J. B. Lawrence, executive secretary-treasurer, stated, totaled \$517,295.22, an increase of \$93,536.37 over the \$423,758.85 for the same period last year. "Over a third of the increase," the mission executive said, "came from the Annie W. Armstrong offering in March of the Woman's Missionary Union. The denomination's Co-operative Program also contributed \$20,508.07 of the increase."

August contributions, Dr. Lawrence said, included first returns amounting to \$14,127.67 on the recently launched south-wide campaign for \$300,000 for army camp work.

The board approved a plan to provide 18 scholarships in Texas colleges for Mexican student volunteers for missionary work. The students will be selected and their training directed by Rev. J. L. Moya of San Antonio, superintendent of mission work in Texas.

Two new missionaries were named, Miss Elizabeth Taylor of Harrison, Ark., for kindergarten work in Key West, Fla., and Rev. Alfred Schwab to the French field, Basile, La.

Erection of three new mission chapels, purchase of a fourth, and repair of another were passed on recommendation of Dr. J. W. Beagle, field secretary. New chapels will be built on the French field, Pointe au Chien, La., Mexican field, Lubbock, Texas, and Chinese field, San Antonio, Texas. The purchase is to be made at Kalfurrias, Texas, for Mexican work, and mission property will be repaired in New Orleans.

Rev. E. E. Steele, pastor of Oakland City Church, in Atlanta, was named a member of the Board to succeed Rev. S. F. Dowis, who resigned to become superintendent of city mission work in Atlanta.

TRAINING U. CONVENTION TO MEET IN FORT WORTH

The 51st annual meeting of the Baptist Training Union Convention of Texas will meet in Fort Worth, November 20, 21, and 22, 1941. Fort Worth Baptists are making their plans now to entertain fifteen thousand messengers. This convention was organized in Fort Worth 51 years ago and, therefore, the Baptists of Fort Worth have reason to expect a very large attendance and a great time.

Dr. W. L. Howse, education director, Broadway Baptist Church, is the general chairman of the convention committee and Mr. Cloyd McClung, Baptist Seminary, Seminary Hill, Texas, is chairman of the homes committee. All those who wish to secure a room should write Mr. McClung.

IMMANUEL MEETING SHOWS GOOD RESULTS

Immanuel Church, Abilene, was greatly blessed in a two-weeks revival in which Rev. J. M. Sibley of Sweetwater did the preaching and Chas. McLaughlin, music director of University Church, Abilene, conducted the song services. There were a total of 49 additions with 17 coming for baptism. There were six rededications and three other conversions. "We never had a better evangelistic team, nor one that the people appreciated more," says Pastor D. G. Reid.

WICHITA FALLS OBSERVES HARDIN-SIMMONS SERVICE

A special Hardin-Simmons service was observed Sunday night at First Church, Wichita Falls, with President W. R. White as guest preacher of Dr. Fred Eastham, pastor. Trustees J. D. Sandefer, Breckenridge, C. M. Caldwell, Abilene, and O. T. Anderson, Olney joined Wichita Falls trustees in the service. Special emphasis was given to the Greater Hardin-Simmons campaign in Wichita Falls Monday with gratifying results, university officials report.

The crying need for today to lead us out of this chaotic condition, is for men to trust God.—E. S. Cummings.

NEW ARMY CHAPELS HAVE BUSY PROGRAM

By ALFRED CARPENTER
Superintendent of Camp Work,
Home Mission Board

New chapels being built by the government throughout the continent in the camps and posts will see few idle hours. Their doors will be wide open to the men in service.

Here is a brief outline of their weekly program. On Sunday morning there will be three services, Jewish, Catholic, and what the army calls Protestant. Through the balance of the day there will be Bible classes and vespers with one outstanding evangelistic service at night.

Monday night is given to instruction and open forum groups. Tuesday night the civilian groups from nearby churches will have charge. Wednesday night will come religious teaching of some type. Thursday night there will be mid-week prayer meetings and group singing. Friday night is reserved for different types of denominational emphasis, and Saturday night for special programs of music, group singing or choir rehearsing.

These night services or activities are only a part of the program, as the chapels will be used daily for religious services such as special holidays for the Jews, Catholics and other Christians, Vacation Bible school classes, denominational group meetings, lectures on citizenship and moral training when based upon religious principles. Then there are the funerals, marriages and numerous other functions.

The well-developed program will be interspersed with hours for prayer, meditation and devotion by smaller groups.

JONES ASSOCIATION MEETING THIS WEEK

The Jones Association is meeting at Hodges Church, Dr. E. B. Atwood, pastor, Thursday evening, September 11, following the W. M. U. session during the day. The annual sermon is to be preached at the evening service by Rev. J. H. Skiles, Stamford. Reports, addresses and dinner at the church will continue through Friday.

YOUTH ON THE MARCH

(The following address was delivered at the National Convention of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, Grand Rapids, Michigan, August 28-September 3, 1941).

By T. C. Gardner

The youth of America are on the march. Many of them are marching forward; some are marching backward; but a great group is marching downward. All youth are on the march. Youth of yesterday, as well as today, march as led. They march as led by adults. They march as led by youth, but nevertheless, they are on the march, and they are marching in the direction that someone is leading.

Youth of today will meet the demands of tomorrow as gallantly and nobly as any previous generation if they have half a chance with their elders. "We can judge tomorrow by what we sow today." Today is yesterday's planting.

All ages down through the centuries have misunderstood youth. Old men and women are constantly saying, "Our young people are going to the bow-wows. They are not what they used to be."

Youth has had a worthy part in all major and important movements. They had a great part in making America a Christian nation. In reality, Christianity is a youth movement. Jesus, who loved most, lived most, toiled most, and who died to redeem a world, was only 33 years of age when he was crucified. Christianity is preeminently a youth movement. Of the millions of Christians, 90 per cent were converted before they were 25 years of age. Youth is willing to go anywhere today and under the most adverse conditions to carry the message of Christ's redeeming grace.

The Challenge of the March
Youth are hearing and answering the call of God to be missionaries in

This Changing World

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

By LOUIE D. NEWTON

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

Dr. George W. Truett begins his 45th year as pastor of the First Church, Dallas, next Sunday.

Professor Karl Barth, described as "the world's most influential Protestant theologian, has published a new book, *A Letter to Great Britain* from Switzerland, in which he says: "The Christians who do not realize that they must take part unreservedly in this war must have slept over their Bibles as well as over their newspapers."

TEXT FOR THE WEEK
"Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it."
Psalm 127:1.

papers. . . . Our resistance to Hitler will be built on a really sure foundation only when we resist him unequivocally in the name of Jesus Christ." Barth was driven from Germany by Hitler in 1935. He was a teacher at the University of Bonn. He is now teaching in his native Basle.

The Chapel of the Good Thief is the name of the largest and finest chapel in any jail in the world, dedicated last week at Clinton Prison, in the Adirondacks, where New York sends its toughest prisoners. The chapel was built by the prisoners.

Edouard Herriot, thrice premier of France, contributes an article to the September issue of *The American Mercury*, in which he says: "Among the memories which fill my journal, the most precious to me in these tragic days we are living through are

(Continued on page 4)

REV. PAUL C. BELL IS TO DIRECT WORK IN PANAMA

Transfer of Rev. Paul C. Bell from the Mexican field in Texas to be superintendent of mission work in the Canal Zone and the Republic of Panama has been announced by Dr. J. B. Lawrence, Home Mission Board executive secretary-treasurer.

Action to make the transfer effective was passed by the board's executive committee at a meeting in Atlanta September 4. Brother Bell expects to sail for Panama about the first of November.

The new superintendent of Panamanian missions has a background of nearly 30 years Spanish work in Texas. His appointment by the Home Mission Board in 1919 followed six years of service as a missionary of the Texas Mission Board. Since 1926 he had been superintendent of Mexican Baptist Institute at Bastrop, Texas.

Brother Bell does not expect to confine his work to Panama but hopes to start mission activities in the other Central American republics.

"Already," he said in commenting on his plans, "I have had two unusual appeals from that field, both from non-evangelicals. One came from a Catholic of Honduras whom I met in Galveston; he said he was anxious for the Gospel to be preached in his native country."

TWO HUNDRED ATTEND MEXICAN BAPTIST CAMP

By Pedro A. Hernandez

Rain came, but what effect did that have on the encampment for Mexican Baptists of Texas? Over 200 from all over the state were at the Menard Encampment grounds all of six days, August 23 to 29. Happiness was in all their conversation and a desire to return next year.

There were baptisms—the beauty of that day on the river cannot be expressed with words spoken by men. Rev. Matias Garcia of San Antonio, aided by Pastors Miguel Mojica of Ballinger and Pedro A. Hernandez of Abilene, baptized three willing ones for Christ.

All of this calls for a word of gratitude to the friends who made this possible. To you, the people who are friends of ours, a "thank you" is not satisfying for what you have done, but on paper that will have to do.

LAYMEN WILL MEET AT PALACIOS CAMP

A laymen's Bible conference will be held at the Palacios Encampment grounds from Thursday morning through Saturday noon, September 25 to 27. The men are asked to bring pillows, linens and cover. The charge for meals and lodging is \$4.50. Afternoons will be devoted to recreation, including fishing, boating, swimming, and golf. Men are asked to wear slacks and sports clothes.

Morning inspirational speakers will be President W. R. White of Hardin-Simmons, President Thos. H. Taylor of Howard Payne and Judge James V. Allred, former governor of Texas. Dr. F. B. Thorn of the Second Baptist Church, Houston, will preach evening sermons. Dr. Harold L. Fickett of First Church, Galveston, will conduct morning Bible study.

Three Houston business men, W. C. Harris, W. Clint Little and N. C. Oldham, are the committee in charge.

OFFICERS ELECTED BY TAYLOR CO. FEDERATION

Appreciation was voted for the services of Miss Annie Murphy, for many years general secretary, and J. W. Dodson, adult director, at the September meeting of the Taylor County Training Union Federation at Immanuel Church Sunday evening. Miss Murphy is now located in Dallas.

Federation president J. M. Martin was re-elected and Dessie Klepper, acting secretary was elected to that office. Others chosen were Joe E. Self, adult director; Durwood Nollner, senior director; A. C. Hinnant, intermediate; Mrs. Ralph Antilley, junior; Mrs. O. R. Jackson, beginner and primary.

Officers were installed in an impressive service conducted by Jaxie Short, Training Union director of Sweetwater Association, and J. D. Riddle, president of the Training Union convention of Texas.

MISSIONARY



By J. Henry Littleton

Fisher County Association met with the Highland Home Church in their annual session. The attendance was good and they had a good session. Nineteen churches were represented by letter and in person. In fact this was all the churches. Bethel Church has not been active for several years and it looks as if they will not continue. They have not had a service for many months. Brother Henley was reelected moderator and Brother George McBeth clerk. Every church reporting reported baptisms for the year. Eighteen of the 19 churches had given to missions during the year. The other one gave assurance that they would take a mission offering soon. That is as it ought to be. The women had a good session the day before and Mrs. Lawrence Trott was reelected as president. Fisher County is one of our best associations. Every church in the association has called a pastor except one and they will possibly call this Sunday.

Last Sunday was a very busy day for the Missionary. I was at Royston Sunday morning. We had begun a meeting there on Friday night. Sunday night I went to Avoca and Brother W. L. Daniel went back to Royston and will continue the meeting there this week. The Avoca Church is pastorless. Brother Joel Grimes, who has been pastor there for many years, felt like they should have a change. He is God's good man and will always live in the hearts of that people. He is a county commissioner of Jones County and will be glad to supply for pastors during the year. You cannot beat him.

We have lost another good pastor from our district, Brother Jones Weathers of Eastland. We hate to see men like him move from our field. He moved to Park Place Church, Houston. Brother Price of Gorman preached for the church at Eastland last Sunday. Brother Kil-

(Continued on page 4)

ATTENDANCE REPORTS IN WESTEX CHURCHES

The following reports are for Sunday, August 31. Send reports from your church to Box 1560, Abilene, at any time during the week.

Church	Enr.	Att.
Amarillo, First	1391	
Abilene, First	869	
San Angelo, First	813	
Wichita Falls, First	718	
Vernon, First	710	
Wichita Falls, Lamar Ave.	694	
El Paso, First	691	
Borger, First	473	
Sweetwater, First	455	
Rochester (revival)	396	418
Coleman	369	
Abilene, Immanuel (rev.)	337	314
Cross Roads	113	74
Tye		51
Johnson Chapel	65	49
Training Union		
Abilene, First	362	
Sweetwater, First	132	
Nolan	99	
Johnson Chapel	50	45

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REPORTS SHOW GAINS

Incomplete reports show a gain of 19 Vacation Bible Schools in Texas for 1941 as compared with last year, states Secretary G. C. Hopkins. The latest release from the vacation school department at Nashville, dated August 25, lists 450 reports received as of that date. Many churches, especially those holding schools late in the summer, have not reported. Dr. Hopkins urges pastors and superintendents to report immediately. His office (310 Baptist Building, Dallas, has the proper blanks for reports.

West Texas Baptist

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R. E. DUDLEY Editor

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THE OLD GODS DIE HARD

Are you old enough to recall when the term "pagan" was applied only to unclad cannibals of the Dark Continent and the South Sea islands, or else to slant-eyed Orientals who did everything backward and lived 20 centuries behind the times? In those blissful and by-gone days the adjectives Christian and civilized were used almost interchangeably and paganism had, presumably, been dead in Europe for a thousand to 1,500 years.

In the rush of the hectic years, we suddenly find ourselves in a time when, throughout vast areas of the earth, civilization and Christianity are as diverse as the poles. Most of the men now dying under the blood-red flag of Russia never saw an open church or an open Bible. On the other hand, the blonde Teutonic youth, dying for the crooked cross in perhaps equal numbers, have largely been educated to a disbelief in the Bible and to a kinship with those ancestors of fifteen centuries ago who worshipped gods of blood and iron and soil.

But before we condemn these neo-pagans too severely, let's take a look at our own country. There was a time in the "Bible Belt" when an outspoken atheist was a curiosity. Most of the population were professed Christians or expected some time to become one. Today, statistics reveal that 54 per cent of the population of the Southern States have not even a nominal allegiance to Christianity. At the present rate, the gain in population is outrunning the gains of all churches more than fifty thousand souls each year.

In the fact of this, Baptists baptized fewer people last year than the year before, and unless the trend changes quickly, we will baptize a great many less this year than last. Remember, in the century between Napoleon and Hitler, Germany changed from a land producing missionaries to a land of pagans. Unless we want our children's children to worship pagan gods we must evangelize and indoctrinate our own people on a greater scale than we are doing now.

SOUTHWIDE PUBLICITY

Editor Gwatkin of the Alabama Baptist has offered a constructive suggestion for the publicity of all south-wide Baptist causes. He suggests that a supplement, carrying news and matters of interest regarding all phases of denominational activities be printed centrally and included in all the state papers.

Commenting on this suggestion, Dr. Maddry says in The Commission that the Foreign Mission Board will be happy to co-operate in such a plan.

Weekly newspapers, nearly all use a similar service to furnish their readers with interesting feature material. The papers evidently find the plan to their advantage, as most of them use it, and the concerns furnishing the service have long records of success. Daily papers join in supporting news-gathering agencies that girdle the globe.

To adapt the idea to the Southern Baptist press involves many problems, but someone has said problems were made to be solved. The goal, which is a wider dissemination of information concerning the needs of our co-operative Baptist work, can be better attained, we believe, through some unified means joined with the publicity mediums of the different states, just as the raising of funds in joint co-operation between the state conventions and the Southern Convention has proved the best plan.

We do not understand this suggestion to contemplate the doing away with any existing publication, or the launching of a new one, but rather a denominational news service to furnish more complete information and to make the Baptist papers of greater service to their readers and to the Baptist causes.

THE VIEWS OF YOUTH

Interviews with students from various Texas colleges in attendance at the pre-school conference of Baptist students held in Fort Worth last week were carried in a great state daily. The views expressed should be heartening to newspaper readers who sometimes think the youth of the land are wholly frivolous and selfish when not downright criminal.

These Baptist young people, students in all the colleges of the state, talked of the need of a revival of genuine religion—not merely ritualism, said one. They looked at the world in the round and hoped for a peace based upon Christian principles. They talked of upholding Christian standards in a doubting, scoffing age. They urged prayers, not merely for friendly peoples and oppressed minorities, but for potential enemies.

The uninfluenced expression of such sentiments in a daily newspaper comes in welcome contrast to that spectacle, not so many months ago, when a group, claiming to speak for the youth of America, cheered Communism and jeered the President of the United States. We believe that the opinion of those wholesome young people from Baptist homes more nearly express the thought of the leadership of America tomorrow, for the thought of the country has ever been molded by college-bred men and women, and the trend of leadership in the nation is definitely toward the Southwest.

When campus leaders from all Texas colleges display such evidences of practical Christianity there is bright hope for the future of America.

NEWS NOTES

Pastor Marvin Leech of Forsan, assisted by the Forsan Brotherhood, held a good meeting at Lees, a pastorless church near Big Spring.

Dr. P. J. Conkwright has retired after being pastor at Sapulpa, Okla., for 33 years and one month, a record not equalled by any other pastor in the state.

The Brotherhood of First Church, Snyder, sponsored a meeting at Loyd Mountain with their pastor, Rev. Vernon Shaw, doing the preaching.

Rev. J. W. Patterson has resigned at Bethel, Vincent and Chalk Churches in Big Spring Association and has moved to Centra ITexas.

Missionary W. C. Harrison reports the Looney Church in Mitchell-Scurry Association has been reorganized and Rev. D. A. Jones called as pastor.

The Big Sulphur Church in Mitchell-Scurry Association has disbanded.

Major Olin J. Matthews, chaplain at Camp Barkeley, reports 20 professions of faith in a service for prisoners at the camp stockade.

Dr. W. Truett Walton, comptroller of Hardin-Simmons, was guest speaker at University Church, Abilene, September 7, in the absence of Pastor E. Douglas Carver who was in a revival at Stamford.

Dr. W. R. White was speaker Friday night, September 5, at the annual homecoming in the McCarty community near Lamesa. An appreciative audience, including many H-SU exes, greeted his message.

Rev. G. B. Bradshaw, minister in charge of the Baptist chapel at Camp Barkeley, supplied Sunday for Pastor J. M. Sibley of First Church, Sweetwater.

Mr. and Mrs. Lattimore Ewing of Brownwood began work at First Church, Lubbock, last week, their first service being a trip with a B. S. U. group to the pre-school conference at Southwestern Seminary.

Rev. Winston Borum was guest speaker at First Church, Vernon, September 7. Dr. E. S. James, Vernon pastor, is conducting a revival with Pastor Borum and the Altus Church.

Dr. W. T. Conner of Southwestern Seminary recently supplied for Dr. Geo. W. Truett of First Church, Dallas, and Dr. E. H. Westmoreland of South Main, Houston.

Dr. Karl H. Moore of Brownwood First Church, is in a revival at South Fort Worth.

The beer saloons of Callahan County closed last week following an election in which the dries won by a large majority with no speaking campaign. Night spots in Callahan towns had grown in popularity with the location of Camp Bowie and Barkeley in adjoining counties.

Rev. G. T. Rock of Tatum, N. M., has accepted the call of the Hot Springs Church in the same state.

Rev. E. D. Dunlap of Polytechnic Church, Fort Worth, led in a good revival in Sterlington, La., resulting in 26 additions, 16 for baptism.

Following a revival in the Angola Penitentiary in Louisiana 19 inmates who had professed conversion were baptized.

Chas. McLaughlin, former music and young people's director of University Church, Abilene, entered the Southwestern Seminary this week.

Miss Marie Saddler of San Angelo is assisting Pastor W. C. Ashford and Director Paul Counts in a Training Union campaign this week. Classes are being held at 4:00, 5:30 and 7:00 each evening.

Dr. W. R. White was guest speaker for the morning service at First Church, Memphis, Texas, September 7. Rev. Sid Martin is pastor.

Rev. E. R. Ingram has been leading in a revival at Plasterco Church.

In a recent article on chaplains by Dr. Alfred Carpenter, it was stated that chaplains are required to have five years of pastoral experience, when the correct figure is three.

Lowell Queen of Pine Bluff, Arkansas, has been secured as education director of First Church, Brownwood, succeeding Lattimore Ewing, who is

now one of the workers at First Church, Lubbock.

Superintendent E. M. Collier of Hendrick Hospital and Chaplain A. W. Blaine of Camp Wolters were guest speakers at the well-attended and well-entertained meeting of the Baylor-Knox Association at Vera last week.

UNDER HIS WINGS

By Edward B. Jenkins

An American missionary and his wife went to a Mission station where 20 years before two missionaries had been killed and eaten by the cannibals. These missionaries were surrounded by hostile natives, and they would get up in the middle of the night and read God's word and pray for protection.

One day a native came and asked the missionary to let him see his watchman. He told him that he had no watchman. Then the native told him that they had killed and eaten two other missionaries years before. He said: "We had planned to kill you and your wife night after night; and came to carry out our plan. But there always stood around your house a double guard of watchmen with glittering swords, and we dared not to come near. Each time we would leave without carrying out our intentions. At last we hired a professional assassin who was not afraid of men or devils. Last night when he came near your house, we followed at a distance. But there stood by the shining watchmen, and the killer fled in terror." Then the missionary opened the word of God and read to him:

"I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge, and my fortress (fort with a fort) my God; in Him will I trust."

"Surely He will deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and noise-some pestilence."

"He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wing thou shalt trust, his truth shall be thy shield and buckler."

"Nor for the pestilence that walketh in the darkness; for the destruction that wasteth by noon day" (Psalm 91:2-6).

AT THE TOP O' LIFE

By Orval A. Hendon

The Army says the morale of the boys in the camps is at its lowest, even lower than during the last war. The spiritual side of life needs lifting up; every soul needs encouragement. How many boys do you know in an Army camp? How many of these boys have you written? I think one of the ways to be at the top of life is to write a letter to some boy in an Army camp. Many things can be written: home town news, local news, state news, words of encouragement, laughs, and last but not least salvation.

The greatest news that has ever been published is the news of Christ as the Lord and Savior of men: "And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which is to all people." When all is summed up that is our only hope, a hope in a better and more peaceful life after death. If you have not prayed a prayer pray one today for that poor lonesome boy off yonder in the camp. Let us not neglect them, because we might be the means of winning another to Christ.

In that spare moment today take time to write some boy in an Army camp. If you don't know any and will correspond with one, address me at Hylton, Texas. I'll be glad to send you a name and tell you something about the boy.

No better thing can be done for a boy away from home than to write him a letter of encouragement and cheer. Won't you be at the Top O' Life by writing that boy in the camp today?

"I am the way, the truth and the life; no man cometh unto the father, but by me."—John 14:6.

TO THE LOVED ONES AND FRIENDS OF SOLDIERS

Be sure to write many cards and letters to the boys in the East Texas and Louisiana war games. It will help their morale and bless their hearts to hear from you? I have two sons there and know whereof I speak. I was with these boys as they were leaving Brownwood to be gone 55 days in the field. Many of them said to me, "Tell the people to write to us. Don't let us down by neglecting to write often." Help the blessed lads and National Defense by writing as often as possible to cheer and inspire them.

WILLIAM H. JOYNER,
State Evangelist.

Sunday School Lesson

September 14, 1941

THE ETERNAL GOD, THE SOURCE OF HELP

Read and Study Rev. 7:9-17

For artistic finish and unity the Book of Revelation is surpassed by no other book in the Bible. Eight verses of introduction and 16 verses of conclusion bound the seven sevens contained in the body of the book. They have been enumerated by Dr. B. C. Taylor as follows:

- I. The Seven Churches (1:9 to 3:22).
- II. The Seven Seals (4 to 8:1).
- III. The Seven Trumpets (8:2 to 11:19).
- IV. The Seven Mystic Figures (12 to 14).
- V. The Seven Bowls (15 and 16).
- VI. The Sevenfold Judgment (17 to 19:10).
- VII. The Sevenfold Triumph (19:11 to 22:5).

It is in connection with the last of the seven seals that we have John's inspired vision of the Eternal God upon his throne and also his picture of worship in heaven.

1. The Multitude Before the Throne. THE SONG OF THE SAVED is a psalm of praise to God as Savior. Note seven things about the redeemed:

Their Number. It is a host that cannot be counted, a multitude innumerable, a throng far exceeding the hundred and forty-four thousand out of the tribes of Israel divinely selected, sealed, and set apart for God's purposes.

Their Origin. They are gathered here out of every nation on the globe. They represent every tribe, every people, every race of mankind. All the languages used on earth will be unified in heaven.

Their Position. They are standing in the attitude of profound respect and reverence. They are directly before the ineffable throne of God; and they are therefore in front of the Lamb who was their atoning Savior.

Their Purity. The raiment of the redeemed consists of long, white robes. Sin-free persons are supplied with stain-free garments. The righteous are to wear the robes of righteousness forever.

Their Triumph. The palms in their hands are significant not alone of the victory of their Lord, as in his triumphal entry into Jerusalem, but also of the fact that they, too, are conquerors, and "more than conquerors" through him that loved them and gave himself for them.

Their Exultation. Their victory becomes vocal. Their praise is perfect in its heavenly harmony. Their cry swells into a celestial cantata; flawless in tone and in melody unspeakably grand.

Their Theme. What else could it be but the salvation that came from God our Father through his Son our Savior? Let Moffatt translate it:

"Saved by our God who is seated on the throne, and by the Lamb!" or Weymouth: "To our God seated on the throne, and to the Lamb, we owe our salvation!"

2. The Angels Round About the Throne

THE ASCRIPTION OF THE ANGELS is a tribute of honor to God as Sovereign. Note three things here about the angels:

Their Arrangement. They were standing in a circle of which the center was the throne. Within that vast outer circle were the Lamb, the four living creatures (Rev. 4:6), the 24 elders, and the multitude of the redeemed.

Their Attitude. In humility and reverence "they fell before the throne on their faces." The worship of God is the highest and holiest employment of the heavenly hosts. As the multitudes stood and shouted their thanksgiving, so the angels fell prostrate to render their offering of praise.

Their Ascription. Shouting their "Amen" to the song of the saved, they ascribed to God the Eternal insignia of his Kingship, and the same sevenfold ascription is due to the Lamb (Rev. 5:12). Truly the worthiness of God is the noblest theme of the inhabitants of heaven. As Savior and Sovereign he is worthy of recognition as the source, embodiment, and expression of blessing, glory, wisdom, thanksgiving, honor, power, and might. And he is worthy of it forever.

Gold in the Golden Text

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.—Rev. 4:8.

God is God, the one and only deity, and beside him there is none else. God is sovereign, the one and only Lord of every creature and of all creation. God is omnipotent, the one and only being who can be called Almighty; for he has all might and power. God is holy, the one and only Person who is perfect and can be called thrice holy even in heaven. God is eternal, the one and only Person "who was and who is and who is to come," thus infinitely antedating and infinitely postdating the present. God is God!

Daily Bible Readings

Sept. 15—The Accuser Cast Down. Rev. 12:7-12.
Sept. 16—The Song of the Lamb. Rev. 15:2-4.
Sept. 17—The Victory of Faith. 1 John 5:1-5.
Sept. 18—Victory in Poverty. Phil. 4:10-13.
Sept. 19—Victory over Self. Rom. 7:22 to 8:2.
Sept. 20—Armed for Victory. Ephesians 6:10-16.
Sept. 21—Tempted but Victorious. Matt. 4:1-11.

PARABLES OF THE LORD

Discussed By
COOPER WATERS

PARABLES OF THE MUSTARD SEED AND LEAVEN

Matthew 13:31-33

The parables of the Mustard Seed and the Leaven illustrate the mysterious and certain growth of the Kingdom of Heaven. The visible Kingdom of Heaven on earth is the church and these parables may well illustrate the growth and attainment of the church, how it started in a very small way and spread to the uttermost parts of the earth. However, there is a more personal application than that. The real Kingdom of Heaven on earth is within the hearts of the Christians; the church is an outward expression of the way that Christians feel in their hearts. Therefore, an application of these parables that comes closer home is that they represent the growth and attainment that Christianity makes within the hearts of the individual Christians.

1. Parable of the Mustard Seed. The mustard seed is only a small beginning because it is among the smallest of seeds. By the process of growth this small seed makes a plant, which when it is matured, is a tree with branches large enough for the birds to find rest and shelter in. A matured Christian is a place of shelter and rest for the weary sinner. He is like the man in the first Psalm who is a tree planted by the rivers of waters, his leaf does not wither. The advice and counsel of a matured Christian are mollifying ointments for the weak and weary. From a small

seed has developed a sturdy tree of rest and shelter.

2. Parable of the Leaven. The leaven is only a small beginning also. It is just a tiny piece of yeast placed in three measures of dough. The glorious attainment of the leaven is that it finally saturates the entire batch of dough. Christianity begins in a small way in a person's life. The first step is the surrender of the heart and then after a while Christianity has saturated the whole being. The matured Christian is for Christ heart, soul, and mind.

GOD IS WATERING THE DESERT

Dr. J. L. Hart, who returned to his work in Chile last March, writes that they have recently closed the best meeting they have ever had in North Chile. Night after night a full house, many hearing the Gospel for the first time, and the conversion of several for whom they had long been praying—these were some of the evidences of God's favor.

Dr. Hart and his co-worker have a parish of 250,000 people and have to travel anywhere from 1,000 to 2,000 miles each month to meet their appointments. He pleads for more missionaries to come and thrust in the sickle now while there is promise of such a rich harvest, and concludes: "God is watering this desert and we fully expect to see many flowers and much fruit for the Lord . . . where it was said by some that nothing could be done."

Youth

liquor were written in 1940.

When the young people and their leaders began licity to the sinful, de store saloon, the Ch from one end of the sta demanded that the law A study of the situation fact that the principles had been defeated by law governing the so-prescription sale of areas. It was pointed democracy we are com ocratic principles and respect the right ity. vote, but, official flected that approxi million prescriptions for n 000 gallons of liquor w dispensed in Texas in 13 convincing evidence the law was ineffective. I also that in dry counti any age and any sex an might obtain a presc quor, and without restr prescriptions filled at d ing a package store b

The wet leaders of shouting from the h the only people in the st ed to defeat the drug s the old worn-out men a had retired. Therefor people proposed to mar itol to let the lawmak the young people of thi to see the law changed.

The Thrill of a Un

United Youth, a temp ization composed of al bition and temperance the initiative in organiz people of Texas in a Yo that would march to th on February 18, 1941. gested that automobile by adults to take the yo Austin, that only youn their leaders and spons trip. It was also s placards or signs, be placed on the automobi slogans as "Liquor has "Liquor blights youth" liquor out of Texas." leaders had said, "If 2,500 young people to that day, we will be when we got to Austin of the 18th, we found th 8,000 young people fro tion of the state had as for a gigantic and al dened demonstration a quor traffic.

The program began sharp with a young ma young man directing t young people making The keynote address by Dr. Homer Price Rai of the University of Te "The day is coming wh be dry, and I am incli that day is not far dist now a program of alco to prevent the social than spending millions o tion of crime resultin t Other speakers during clared, "Liquor must go, must vote liquor out of

The Inspiration of M

the Capitol

After a brief service auditorium, the entire g vited to march to the c the lawmakers. It had for young people only addresses. The crowd large that only a sma the group could enter capitol building. The who had been invited to legislature made marvel and thus convinced the i this state that not only e people interested in T ing dry, but the young selves were vitally conc great question.

One of the speakers, is the legislature, said, " solution of the drink pr the day when human b civilized enough to cont appetites, when they w intoxicating liquor at have sufficient sense to to drive an automobile the influence of intoxica

"This day can be hast structive legislation, ed forts on the part of par churches and other org Laws on drunken driv to keep John Barleyco wheel; but even in this, likely to be the more p Young people should not themselves picked out o learn that alcohol and ga mix, nor should they ne hospital patients to lear is a breeder of disease.

Youth On The March

(Continued from page 1)

liquor were written in Texas during 1940.

When the young people of Texas and their leaders began to give publicity to the sinful, destructive drug store saloon, the Christian people from one end of the state to the other demanded that the law be changed. A study of the situation revealed the fact that the principles of democracy had been defeated by the present law governing the so-called medical prescription sale of liquor in dry areas. It was pointed out that in a democracy we are committed to democratic principles and must recognize and respect the right of the majority vote, but official statistics reflected that approximately seven million prescriptions for more than 650,000 gallons of liquor were issued and dispensed in Texas in 1940. This was convincing evidence that our present law was ineffective. It was learned also that in dry counties students of any age and any sex and at any time might obtain a prescription for liquor, and without restraint get those prescriptions filled at drug stores doing a package store business.

The wet leaders of Texas were shouting from the house-tops that the only people in the state who wanted to defeat the drug store bill were the old worn-out men and women who had retired. Therefore, the young people proposed to march on the capitol to let the lawmakers know that the young people of this state desired to see the law changed.

The Thrill of a United March

United Youth, a temperance organization composed of all other prohibition and temperance groups, took the initiative in organizing the young people of Texas in a Youth Cavalcade that would march to the capitol city on February 18, 1941. It was suggested that automobiles be provided by adults to take the young people to Austin, that only young people and their leaders and sponsors make the trip. It was also suggested that placards or signs be printed and placed on the automobiles with such slogans as "Liquor has no defense," "Liquor blights youth" and "Vote liquor out of Texas." United Youth leaders had said, "If we can have 2,500 young people to go to Austin that day, we will be happy." But when we got to Austin the morning of the 18th, we found that more than 8,000 young people from every section of the state had assembled there for a gigantic and almost unprecedented demonstration against the liquor traffic.

The program began at 10 o'clock sharp with a young man presiding, a young man directing the music and young people making the speeches. The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Homer Price Rainey, president of the University of Texas, who said, "The day is coming when Texas will be dry, and I am inclined to think that day is not far distant. We need now a program of alcohol education to prevent the social evils rather than spending millions on the prevention of crime resulting from alcohol." Other speakers during the day declared, "Liquor must go." "Texas must vote liquor out of the state."

The Inspiration of Marching to the Capitol

After a brief service in the large auditorium, the entire group was invited to march to the capitol to visit the lawmakers. It had been planned for young people only to deliver the addresses. The crowd was so very large that only a small portion of the group could enter the historic capitol building. The young people who had been invited to speak to the legislature made marvelous addresses and thus convinced the lawmakers of this state that not only were the older people interested in Texas' becoming dry, but the young people themselves were vitally concerned in this great question.

One of the speakers, in speaking to the legislature, said, "The ultimate solution of the drink problem awaits the day when human beings become civilized enough to control their own appetites, when they will not drink intoxicating liquor at all, and will have sufficient sense to avoid trying to drive an automobile while under the influence of intoxicating liquor."

"This day can be hastened by constructive legislation, educational efforts on the part of parents, schools, churches and other organizations." Laws on drunken driving will help to keep John Barleycorn from the wheel; but even in this, education is likely to be the more potent factor. Young people should not have to have themselves picked out of a wreck to learn that alcohol and gasoline do not mix, nor should they need to become hospital patients to learn that drink is a breeder of disease. Educational

efforts based on scientific data plus religious and moral exhortation can, and will, do much to solve this problem.

The Exhilaration of Marching in the Parade

After the young people had visited the House and Senate a mammoth parade through the business section of the city was staged. It was estimated that between fifteen and twenty-five thousand people participated in the parade. As youth marched through the business section of the city, they sang "The Eyes of Texas" and "Onward Christian Soldiers." Young people from every section of the state who marched in the parade carried banners and placards with mottoes and slogans on them. Some of the mottoes are as follows:

"Liquor has no defense."
"Liquor destroys democracy."
"Swat the honky-tonks."
"Let Texas youth be heard."
"Don't pay pensions with rum revenues."

"Out with liquor—our life is at stake."
After the parade and lunch the crowd was so very large that it was necessary to have an overflow meeting and to have two programs given simultaneously in the afternoon, at which time the young people of the state expressed themselves frankly relative to the liquor traffic. They said, "We are convinced that liquor is one of the greatest problems confronting the citizens of America today. Liquor and gambling are two of the worst enemies of youth. Therefore, the young people of Texas, working together as United Youth, are calling upon all of those in authority to repeal the drug store liquor bill." The young people said further that "In view of the fact that the laxity of the drug store liquor bill has been and is a menace in dry territory; that most any person, regardless of physical condition and age, may secure a prescription and purchase as much liquor as desired; we urge that the Texas legislature now in session take such action as will bring about a revision of the drug store liquor bill by passing House Bill 373 to remedy such abuses."

The Satisfaction of a Victorious March

The senators and representatives of the state were so impressed with this youth movement that this bill, sponsored by Texas youth, passed the House of Representatives by the top-heavy vote of 117 to 15 on March 20th. Therefore, it is easy to see that the Texas Youth Cavalcade was a decided success. The result of the movement might be summed up as follows:

1. More than 8,000 young people from every section of the state went to Austin February 18th.
2. Between 15,000 and 25,000 people participated in the Youth Parade.
3. The bill that the young people of Texas were sponsoring, H. B. 373, passed the House by a very large majority.
4. The young people were encouraged to find such a large number of youth interested in temperance, prohibition and law observance. This youth movement did something to young people that will be lasting.
5. United Youth councils are being organized in each of the 254 counties in the State of Texas with a view of inspiring the citizens of the state to vote Texas dry. Texas youth are determined to "dry Texas up" county by county until the state is dry. One hundred twenty-six counties are already dry.

The youth of Texas are on the march. They are marching with their eyes focused upon Christ and their hearts fixed upon Him. They are marching with a determination to ultimately vote Texas dry and thus save our young people from the insidious evils of the liquor traffic.

NO OTHER WAY

Recent word from J. Christie Pool, who went out to Nigeria in 1934, emphasizes the fact that, "The bleeding sore of Africa is still bleeding and she needs Jesus just as much as ever before. Every time I go into the town of Ogbomoso, I am reminded of the injunction of Jesus to go and preach the Gospel to every creature. Hungry hearts are calling us. I cannot help but think of the multitudes who are worshipping the devil, himself, this very night. I do not mean just worshipping idols, but prostrating themselves before the shrines of Satan and his demons. The devil really has the black man of Africa in his grasp. How we do need to pray and to preach Jesus, for there is no other way for them to be freed from the old tempter's snare."

ASSOCIATIONAL GIFTS TO DISTRICT 17 MISSIONS

Receipts during August for district missions from associations in District 17 have been as follows:	
Association	Amount
Callahan	\$14.00
Cisco	38.00
Fisher	40.00
Haskell	19.00
Jones	35.00
Stonewall	2.00
Sweetwater	66.00

R. E. DUDLEY, Treasurer.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL SUCCESS AT SHEFFIELD

The Sheffield Baptist Church closed a very successful Vacation Bible School, August 29. The school was directed by Pastor Foy O. King, who also was teacher for the Junior Bible study, and directed the hand work for the boys. Mrs. Homer Schwalbe told the character stories for the Junior class and directed the hand work for the girls. During the hand work period the boys made waste paper baskets, what-not shelves, and door-stops, from plywood. The girls made belts from scrap leather.

The Primary department was directed by Mrs. O. A. Smith, and assisted by Miss Alma Glynn Smith. The children of this department had as their topic of study, "Learning to be like Jesus." During the week the children constructed the city of Nazareth, in a sand table, and made letter holders from paper plates.

The Beginners department was directed by Mrs. Foy O. King. She was assisted by Mrs. Nip Blackstone II, and Misses Rosa Nell McKinley and Betty Jo Burleson. The children of this department were taught Scripture verses and told Bible stories, which were illustrated by pictures. In play the children dramatized the stories.

The children were served refreshments by the different mothers at the recess period. There were 36 who came at least one day, and there was an average attendance of 34.

An offering was taken at the close of the school for Chinese relief.

ALL THINGS TO ALL MEN

Being "all things to all men," even as the Apostle Paul, our missionaries often find themselves in strange settings and are constantly adjusting themselves to even stranger customs. L. Ramon Brothers, of the Baptist College, Iwo, Nigeria, writes of giving two Sunday afternoons a month to visiting and preaching in the compounds of some of the chiefs of Iwo. The first one visited was that of the Prince, the son of the King of Iwo, who has 30 wives and 24 children. He had previously inquired of the missionary whether he, a man of about 40 years, who had been a Mohammedan so long, could really be saved and become a Christian; he then asked if he was too old to learn to read the Bible. On being told that both of these attainments were possible, his face lighted up like a child's and he continues to be an earnest inquirer.

OUR MOST DANGEROUS ENEMY

Said J. L. Ralston: "Our most dangerous enemy this side of the Atlantic is the idea that we have plenty of time."

This is equally true in the matter of preparedness for eternity—as well as for our country!

Because we know not when we may lose the use of our faculties, because we have no lease on our lives, because we know not when the Lord Jesus will come again, and because the Word commands it, we should act NOW.

Isaiah 1:18: "Come, now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."

2 Cor. 6:2: "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold now is the day of salvation."

Hebrews 3:15: "Today if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation."—Now.

SNYDER REVIVAL

First Church, Snyder, has just closed a fine meeting with 24 conversions and 23 additions. The pastor, Vernon Shaw, did the preaching, with Roy Lee Williams of Hardin-Simmons University doing the singing. Brother Williams is a fine worker. He is a fine visitor and will make one of our very best educational workers. Some church should be using him over the week-ends this winter, says Pastor Shaw.

Truth and compassion can overcome tyranny.—Admiral Byrd.

MISSIONARIES MUST BE READY FOR EMERGENCIES

Foreign Mission Board

"Ready" might well be the motto of Miss Eva Sanders, of Virginia and Ogbomoso, Nigeria. Through force of circumstances she and Mrs. McCamey, a fellow missionary, found themselves spending the night in a home where they had not wanted to go. In the night they were called to a woman and were able to save her life, through her child was dead. This brave missionary nurse relates: "It was a miracle and makes us feel so humble, for I had never done the things I had to do that night. . . I had nothing to work with save the simplest instruments, but it was a success and we were very thankful. The very next morning, the husband of the woman sent a gift to the church as a thank offering to the Lord for her recovery. He had more faith than I had, for I was not then sure she would live, though she had survived through the night. She, herself, was at the church eight days later."

On another occasion Miss Sanders had stopped at a place where she conducts a dispensary every Monday morning. Much to her surprise, a member of the local church, whom she had never met before, presented her with a cool grass hat adjoining his own home, and told her it had been built especially for her use in treating her patients. She declares, "You can't imagine how thankful I was, for it is always noon before I reach this station and the heat is most exhausting."

Surely we must agree with Miss Sanders when, in connection with yet another evidence of God's protection, she says: "No one can be a missionary long and not see the hand of God definitely at work. Pray that these people may see God's hand at work among themselves and know the true meaning of the Gospel they have heard."

AN ANCHOR SURE AND STEADFAST

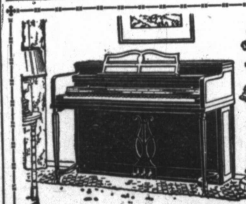
Miss Margie Shumate, of Sun Hing, Kwong Tung, China, takes time during a busy day to write in detail of some of the doings of her mission. She says she finds solace and strength in getting out a hymn book and having a song service all by herself. She always sings "Rock of Ages," "Jesus, Lover of My Soul," "How Firm a Foundation," and a few other old favorites learned in her childhood. She gives this beautiful testimony of God's keeping power "at such a time as this":

"Although the work is slow and discouraging these days; although my heart is troubled about many things, although I often feel lonely and restless; still there is a peace that passeth understanding deep down in my heart, and I thank God we have a hope as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast. . . The world is rocking on its foundations, and we know not what a day may bring forth, but those of us who have a living faith in a living God can take our stand upon the Rock of Ages, and never fear."—(F. M. B.).

The religious atmosphere of the home, its climate, as it were, the living there in love and the beauty of holiness, training in the Bible and in loving service, family prayers, teaching the children to pray, and all that makes the home a house of God and a gate of heaven—such a home is the most effective way of bringing the children to Christ, and making them useful to the world. This is the business of parents.—Amos R. Wells.

Wisdom is knowing what to do next; skill is knowing how to do it; and virtue is doing it.—David Starr Jordan.

I am no longer interested in any job unless somebody says, "It can't be done."—Lawson H. Cooke.



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ARE YOU IN HARMONY WITH PAUL?

By C. C. Andrews

I am happy to find myself in harmony with the Apostle Paul concerning the way of life, and its consequent relationship with God through Jesus Christ. I have set down here only a few of his personal experiences. Later, if God and the editor of the West Texas Baptist permit, I will write some more of his similar methods of instruction for our consolation. I would appreciate a card from you. I am nearing 81 years of age, and have some infirmities from which "I am given sustaining grace."

"For I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day" (2nd Tim. 1-12).

"For we are the circumcision, which worship God in spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh. Though I might also have confidence in the flesh. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more:

"Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law a Pharisee; concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is of the law, blameless.

"But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea, doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord; for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ, And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith" (Philippians 3:3-9).

"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. But if I live in the flesh, this is the fruit of my labor: yet what I shall choose I wot not. For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better" (Philippians 1: 21-23).

"I am crucified with Christ; nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain" (Galatians 3:20-21).

"And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure. For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me.

"And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory

PROUDLY AN AMERICAN

By BERTHA WALLIS, Missionary in Birmingham

Johnny is so proud he is an American. I wish you could have heard his prayer yesterday thanking God for the beauty and peace of America. Johnny is a bright-eyed Italian boy who was converted in Vacation Bible School, but has not been baptized.

Yesterday in my Sunday School class of junior boys, he said, "Miss Wallis, let me tell you what Sister Mary Alice told me. She said, 'Johnny, why don't you come to mass?'"

"Because I go to the Baptist church," I told her.

"The Sister said, 'All Italians ought to go to the Catholic church.'"

"They might do that in Italy," Johnny answered, "but I am an American and live in America and we can go anywhere we want to go to church and no one can keep us from going."

HIGHLAND HEIGHTS REVIVAL

Rev. W. R. Derr recently led in a revival in Highland Heights Church, Wichita Falls, where Rev. A. C. Huff, former missionary in District 9, is pastor. There were above 25 additions, 14 of whom came for baptism. There were many reconsecrations, mostly adults. Rev. Derr, pastor at Ralls, is now in a meeting with Pastor P. A. Powell and the Acuff Church. There were nine additions, eight for baptism, the first week.

in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me" (II Corinthians 12:7-9).

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EVANGELISM, EDUCATION ARE CRIME ANTIDOTES

By Mrs. L. B. Doneho
(Report on Civic Righteousness, Baylor-Knox Association).

"If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and forgive their sins, and heal their land."

We believe since we are debtors to all men to give them the Gospel, and since there is neither Jew nor Greek, bond or free, male or female, but we are all one in Christ Jesus, that we should recognize more fully and freely our obligations and opportunities toward the Negro race. Allowing the Spirit of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to control us in our relations and attitudes to all people of all races.

We deplore the fact that our crime record for 1940 continues in undiminished, if not in increasing volume. In the face of our claim that we are the most Christian nation in the world, we have the humiliating and mortifying fact that we are the most criminal nation in the world. The volume of serious crimes within the borders of our United States surpasses the volume of serious crimes in every other nation in the world. In the year 1940, 1,517,026 crimes of serious nature was committed in this fair land of ours.

As Baptists we should commit ourselves unreservedly and wholeheartedly to a program of evangelism, of home training, of sound education, and proper social environment, that will rapidly and permanently wipe out the crime wave, and take this blot of shame from our national life.

We believe we should emphasize the freedom of religion. And be alert to instances in which this freedom might be threatened, urging our people to rally to the common defense of the most basic and the most sacred of all American principles, the absolute separation of church and state and the absolute freedom of religion.

According to the report of the National Safety Council of Chicago, both the fatalities and accidents for 1940 showed decided increase over 1939. The summary for the year is as follows: Killed, 96,500; injured, 9,100,000; the cost, \$3,500,000,000. The toll was 4 per cent greater than 1939, or almost 4,000 lives. 25 per cent of the accidental deaths and accidental injuries are caused by the legalized liquor traffic, for which there is no possible excuse.

We express our intense hatred for alcoholic drinks in all forms at all times and in all places. The saloon has returned in forms a thousand fold more vicious and debauching than anything ever known during the prohibition era. The beer garden, the cocktail lounge, the night club, the dance halls, are forms that have been thrust upon us. These recognize no restrictions of time, place, age, or sex.

We believe the liquor advertisements should be suppressed, by public opinion, and by appropriate legislation.

At the present time of national and world crises we regard the relation of the drink evil to the matter of national defense as the most acute and urgent phase of this evil, and that something should be done to protect our men who are now called in such large numbers into camp for intensive training, against the blight and curse of liquor and its associated evil prostitution.

Noting the lack of Sabbath observance by so many of our people, we urge that we teach and live out the message of Isaiah 58:13-14.

"If thou shalt turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honorable; and shalt honor him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words; then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it."

JAYTON REVIVAL

Rev. C. R. Joyner of Spur has closed a meeting with Pastor C. N. Gilbert of the Jayton Church. The song services were led by Buford Forrester of Gambell Street Church, Fort Worth. There were 14 additions to the church, six by baptism and eight by letter. Brother Joyner is a fine Gospel preacher. He knows no other gospel but salvation by grace. Brother Forrester is a fine young man and a good song leader. They have been a blessing to the Jayton Baptist Church.

If we had paid no more attention to our plants than to our children, we would now be living in a jungle of weeds.—Luther Burbank.

This Changing World

(Continued from page 1)

the ones which bring back the beginnings of my cordial relations with two nations for which my admiration is today more fervent than ever—Great Britain and the United States. Thus far, Herriot has not been arrested by the Vichy regime.

Paul Joseph Goebbels, Hitler's mouthpiece, last week said over the German radio: "Some Germans say they are strong-minded enough to listen to British lies and not be harmed by them. I reply this is not true. British lies get into the blood, making listeners weak and tired of carrying on, thus showing that the poisons transmitted by the British Broadcasting Corporation are beginning to work."

Watch for some real action when pending legislation is enacted whereby labor racketeers may be prosecuted. Assistant Attorney General Thurman Arnold, to whom organized labor is no sacred cow, is awaiting this legislation for authority to get at some situations which for the present are protected by the famous decision of Felix Frankfurter, handed down last February.

That Japan is deeply concerned over the President's Labor Day speech, though he did not mention Japan, is everywhere evident. "Can't we be friends?" was the plaintive question of Ambassador Nomura as he entered the White House conference last week, at which conference Secretary of State Cordell Hull, fingering his pince-nez ribbon, and letting the President do all the talking. At the close of the conference, Japan's ambassador inadvertently picked up Secretary Hull's hat and wore it away, smiling.

President Roosevelt's Labor Day speech was, next to Prime Minister Churchill's recent speech, the greatest utterance of the year. A sentence or two: "In times of national emergency, one fact is brought home to us clearly and decisively—the fact that all of our rights are interdependent. . . . The right of freedom of worship would mean nothing without freedom of speech. . . . That is what unites us—men and women of all sections, of all races, of all faiths, of all occupations, of all political beliefs. That is why we have been able to defy and frustrate the enemies who believed they could divide us and conquer us from within."

Brigadier General John Magruder heads the able delegation named by the President to visit China and give further assurance to that great nation of our purpose to aid them in every possible way. I was impressed by the remark of a banker some days ago, when he said: "I regard China as the greatest opportunity for a young man who wants to throw his life into the next greatest development."

Thomas E. Dewey, speaking at the Williamstown Conference last week, said: "Religion must reassert itself as a living force in the moral values of the nation. Our form of government was devised on principles flowing from deep religious conviction. . . . Every essential of any free society springs from the concepts of morality, family life, and duties and faith in the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. Each of these is denied by the purely materialistic philosophies of totalitarianism."

Roman Catholics in Bedford, Indiana, are protesting a ruling which deprives parochial schools of free textbooks; while at Hicksville, N. Y., the local school board has been reversed by the state department of education in its policy of refusing to haul Roman Catholic children to parochial schools in the public school buses.

In Oregon the legislature this summer passed a bill providing free textbooks for parochial schools, but opponents of this measure are fighting to get this legislation put on the referendum in 1942 so that the people will have a chance to vote on the question. They are determined to fight the issue to a finish. And they are very wise.

Mr. W. J. Brown, British labor leader, in a very able address to the people of Britain on Labor Day, said: "We have seen what happens when states become laws unto themselves and disregard the obligations of the common humanity which they share with the rest of the world."

LEAVELL TO PANAMA FOR EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGN

By clipper from Miami Dr. Roland Q. Leavell, superintendent of evangelism for the Home Mission Board, carried the Gospel to Panama on a Pan-American flight the morning of September 6.

The south-wide evangelistic leader was scheduled to lead a ten-day evangelistic campaign in Balboa Heights Baptist Church, Rev. P. Ennis Taylor, pastor.

To enable him to fill previously made engagements in the states and also conduct the revival in the Zone, the Balboa Heights Church, itself a self-supporting product of Baptist Home Mission work, raised the money in advance to cover the expenses of the round trip by air.

"I shall leave Miami at 6:45 Saturday morning," Dr. Leavell commented as he left Atlanta, "and reach the Canal Zone at 1:15—1,177 miles in seven and a half hours."

Dr. Leavell said that he would conduct extension services in the army and navy contingents in the Zone, hold evangelistic conferences with the preachers of all denominations, preach twice daily, September 7-10, in Balboa Heights Baptist Church, and lead a visitation evangelistic program.

On an assignment from Dr. J. B. Lawrence, Home Mission Board executive secretary-treasurer, Dr. Leavell will survey the possibilities of mission work in the Republic of Panama, a work which the Board expects to open later this fall under the supervision of Rev. Paul C. Bell, missionary for over 25 years among the Mexicans in Texas.

Dr. Leavell will make over-night stops on his return in Guatemala City and Mexico City.

Rambling Remarks

(Continued from page 1)

duties of the ministry and you have felt that I was unduly nervous and irritable. I am sorry. I never meant it to be that way. While away from home I had to be cheerful and more or less entertaining and the strain of it often rendered me unfit to be with my own family. I know now that that is the reason my own father and mother were not always cheerful and full of good humor. When life begins in earnest to make its demands upon you, and you begin to realize how unreasonable these demands often are, you will understand your mother and me better. Now the public might think, if they read this letter, that you children had been dissatisfied with your treatment at home. Of course we know that is not so. No family has ever got more mileage out of living than we have, and you do not know but that you have as good parents as anybody. I have never missed a chance in conversation with you or in a letter to you to express my deepening appreciation for your mother, who has had to be both parents to you most of the time. The most fortunate thing of an earthly nature that ever came to any of us was when she consented to be my wife and your mother. You have good blood in your veins and a good name to cherish. We want you to know that we are completely satisfied with the men you have chosen as husbands. We could not have found two young men that would have suited us better. And now in closing if I might modestly suggest a few things to observe to make married life successful and happy. The first one you have already done, that is, married men whom you love and whom others can respect. My advice is to give a maximum of attention to common sense and fair play in your marital relationships and a minimum of attention to "columns" in newspapers and magazines on home problems. These are usually like patent medicine advertisements, when you read them you imagine a hundred symptoms you never would have thought of if you hadn't read them in the ad. Read your Bible, have a definite plan of home devotion, at meals or bedtime, and don't lose faith in God or each other. Live one day at a time and live for the good you can do rather than what you can get out of life for yourself.

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GENERAL PRACTICE

FUNERALS AFFORD GOSPEL OPPORTUNITY

Even a funeral service affords an opportunity to preach the Gospel, as was shown by two held recently in a little Mexican mission church. One was for an adult and one for a baby.

"These services," said Rev. C. Hernandez Rios, missionary, "were very good opportunities to speak about doctrines of the Gospel."

At the service for the adult he preached on the great need of people to be prepared to depart and to go to Heaven.

In the other service he answered these questions: When a baby dies, where does his soul go? Does the infant need to be baptized before or after he dies? Is baptism necessary for salvation? What is the teaching of the Bible about this matter?

He preached in a church where many Catholic people were gathered. They were very attentive during his message and seemed very interested in all that was said. He invited the congregation to attend the regular services and many promised to do so.

Missionary Messages

(Continued from page 1)

lian, a student here in Hardin-Simmons, was in the Gorman pulpit.

Brother Jimmie Bolton supplied for the church at Anson last Sunday morning. The Anson Church is looking for a pastor. They have invited Brother P. C. Williams of Georgetown to fill their pulpit at his earliest convenience. They will supply with students until he comes. There is no man in all Texas that we had rather see come back to the 17th District than P. C. Williams. Some of us remember the outstanding work that he did in Stamford. There is not a greater opportunity for building a great church than at Anson. We had many letters from our friends about Anson Church. We gave their names to the pulpit committee but they are seeking a man, and we are praying that God will lead them every step of the way. We are in a good day when churches seek the leadership of the Lord in calling pastors.

Brother Cooper Campbell supplied for the church at Golan in Jones County last Sunday. Brother R. H. Williams has been pastor here for some 17 years. Brother Williams is now 83 years old. He did not begin preaching until he was past 40. He feels now that he is entitled to rest from active service for these next few years. He will be glad to supply for pastors and I can vouch for him doing it in a good way. I will have more to say about him at some future time.

Jones County Association meets with the Hodges Church this Friday.

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ANNUAL REPORT OF S. S. ZONE 1 JONES, ASS'N.

By Mrs. V. L. Merritt

Baptist Sunday Schools of Zone 1, Jones Association held their annual meeting with Stith Church, September 1, 1940. Officers elected were Rev. Melvin Byrd, Zone superintendent; Miss Mildred Browning, secretary; and Mrs. V. L. Merritt, reporter.

At the October meeting H. G. Smith was unanimously elected to fill the place of Melvin Byrd, superintendent (resigned). Other officers named were Elbert West, assistant superintendent, and Mrs. Edgar Bradley, study course chairman. Mrs. V. L. Merritt has served as secretary in the absence of Mrs. Mildred Browning Harris.

Eleven programs have been rendered during the current association year, with one fellowship meeting with an inspirational message by Rev. J. B. Bradford on "Relation of Pastor and Sunday School Teacher in Soul Winning."

An all-day meeting was held at Stith January 23 when "a platform of progress" was presented by association officers.

Topics during the year have included:

"Telling the Story of Jesus," Stith Junior Adults; "A True Story," Shiloh Intermediates; "Giving Ourselves Wholly Unto the Lord," Noodle Adults; "Faith," Riverside; "A Platform of Progress," Stith; "Our Greatest Task," Hebron Juniors; "Mother," Shiloh; "Duties of a S. S. Teacher," Noodle Adults; "What Makes a Great S. S.," Hebron; and "Problems and Possibilities of the S. S.," Stith.

Noodle has held first place in efficiency, winning the banner five times, followed by Shiloh in second place. The average grade has been 56 1/2 per cent for the year.

There has been an average attendance of 61, with 25 visitors. (It will be recalled that there are no full-time churches in Zone 1). There have been 35 additions to the churches reported.

Church Bulletins

CROSS ROADS AND PLEASANT VALLEY

I would not be half as interested in writing this note if it were not for the fact that I think I am just about to beat Brother Dick O'Brien. You know, I have kept count and there have been just even five people told me this summer that they read my notes in the West Texas Baptist. I read it and that makes six and I am not bragging either. I just have that many.

We have had a real good summer with both our churches and are ready to start in for a new year, and hope to make it better than last. Both churches have by their vote said they wanted me to be their pastor on for another year. I have voted the same way, so we will just go on together. Good crops are abundant in both communities and with the fine spirit among the people, it seems that we have a good start and ought to get somewhere.

Sunday was a good day with the Cross Roads folk, and while we were rejoicing there in the service of the Lord, Pleasant Valley was holding its conference and asking me to continue as its leader. Next Sunday I will be at Pleasant Valley and will preach in the morning, and at night Brother Littleton will be there with his mission pictures and will show them for us. Now I think this a good thing, we never can get anything as well fixed in our mind by hearing it as we can by seeing it and when we see those pictures of the mission fields it will mean so much more to us than for some one just to tell us about the work and workers there. Yes sir, Brother Henry, we like it and will be looking for you.

Cross Roads, by a strong vote, asked that Brother Littleton come and see them and bring his pictures. I wonder if he will come. How about it, Brother Missionary, will you come?

JOE R. MAYES, Pastor.

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DR. W. R. WHITE, President

Abilene, Texas