

# WEST TEXAS BAPTIST

Vol. 7

ABILENE, TEXAS, FEBRUARY 1907

No. 3

## WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH OUR CHURCHES

by E. N. Calhoun, Magazine, Ark.

I have no desire to be a critic or faultfinder of our churches and co-laborers in God's Kingdom work, but I wish to set forth some things that seem to me to be hurtful in our churches and denominational work.

First, I am sure we are departing from the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints. I think we have departed from our first love. I believe that Almighty God has removed the candlestick from many of our churches.

I think that we have a form of godliness, but deny the power thereof. I think that we are organizing the Spirit of God out of our churches. I think we have placed too much stress on money and organization.

God has plenty of money to run His church work, and if His people will come back to Him, and stand by the New Testament—bring God's tithe into His church each Lord's Day—and quit following man-made plans, we will have the money to carry on God's work.

Our people have gone crazy about fine churches, and many of them are heavily in debt, and cannot do much for our mission work. Back in New Testament days, they had more religion to the square inch than we have to the square mile, and they had all things common, and they had the Holy Spirit's power.

There are some things that are needed before our churches will ever become a power in world evangelization.

First, some of our state and associational missionaries need to learn what missionary work is. When

In the article presented here, E. N. Calhoun, Magazine, Ark., writing for the Baptist Advance, says some pointed things on the subject of "What Is The Matter With Our Churches." When things go wrong it is easy to try to lay all the blame on "our leaders." That is about the easiest way out. Every thoughtful observer knows that there is something wrong with our churches. We believe it is time now for our people to face the issue squarely. There is no use trying to lay all the blame on our denominational leaders. They have made mistakes and many of them. These men are all laboring under almost unbearable burdens, while most of our pastors and other leaders are sitting on the sideline and watching with unconcern the gradual disintegration of our churches. Read what this Arkansas pastor has to say. We believe he has hit the nail squarely on the head. What do you think about it? The columns of the West Texas Baptist are open for a discussion of this timely subject.—EDITOR.

they learn that we will quit calling teaching S. S. and B. Y. P. U. Manuals mission work. The rural churches in Arkansas are suffering for a God-called ministry, and men with passion for the lost.

The writer went to an old dilapidated church house last summer and preached for ten nights. The church

had only a dozen members. They had not been having services of any kind. We had forty conversions and baptized 27. That kind of work ought to be done all over Arkansas.

There are at least 25 per cent of our churches that do not have prayer meeting, and at least that many with no pastor to lead them. Many of them do not want pastors. This writer is going to say that there will be a larger number without pastors if we do not clean our churches so pastors can stay on the fields. Paul says, withdraw from every brother that walks disorderly. Baptists did that until a few years ago. As a result of our disobedience along that line, we have our churches full of unsaved people, such as card-playing men and women, and other high-steppers, and cannot turn them out. Nor is that all.

We have drunkards, dancers, liars and others who need to go out the back door, and remain outside the church until they become regenerated and saved by the blood of Christ. But that is not all.

We have some deacons who need to be corrected and instructed. The most of them have a very poor conception of what real church work is. Our churches need deacons who are full of the Holy Spirit to look after the finances of the church. Some of our deacons are trying to do their duty, but others are busy trying to run off the pastors; I have met some deacons who could not touch the New Testament qualifications for a deacon with a ten-foot pole. I think such deacons ought to go out with the bunch named above. Many of our best  
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## PREACHING TRIAL SERMONS

by J. K. Hutchings

This is the time of year when we are all in the habit of making new resolutions. Some of us break them in the first two weeks and some of us a little later.

All preachers ought to get together in the beginning of this new year and resolve not to preach any trial sermons. All churches ought to get together and resolve not to invite any of us to preach a trial sermon. The situation is becoming very embarrassing, very complicated and very unsatisfactory to the churches and to the preachers.

When a church becomes pastorless, the committee is deluged with letters of recommendation and sometimes applications from preachers themselves who are desperately anxious to move. The committee gets the idea that a large number of preachers are anxious to be called, which is exactly right, and they become exceedingly independent and indifferent and often disgusted. Finally the committee gets together and selects about one dozen of the preachers who have been recommended, who become the victims of the "SAMPLING" system.

These twelve men get twelve letters, each one receiving a letter which leads him to believe he is the only pebble on the beach and before it is over with, eleven of them feel like the monkey belonging to the grinding organ peddler.

Trial sermons are unfair to the preacher and to the church.

The trial sermon is unfair to the preacher, because in the first place, he is not normal when he preaches a trial sermon. The pulpit is not built like his own. The order of services may be different. He is looking into strange faces and he is conscious or sub-conscious that they are all looking straight at him. He knows that they are going to

One of the very serious problems facing our churches just now is that of securing pastors. J. K. Hutchings, writer of the accompanying article which appeared in the Christian Index of Georgia, has said some sensible things on this subject. Our observation is that very few churches consult the leadership of the Holy Spirit in securing pastors; and in too many instances the pastors are not consulting the Holy Spirit in changing fields. You will enjoy reading this article, and we believe you will agree that writer has summed the situation up about right.—EDITOR.

be critical and if he ever makes mistakes at all, he is certain to make one, two or three on his trial sermon adventure. He is very agitated and his voice is sure to tremble when he is reading the Scripture. His self-consciousness makes him try to preach in a way that will please all of the congregation. His sermon is therefore expository and topical, Pre and Post, Fundamental and Modern, and everything else that might, by any chance be incorporated in a "Sample Sermon."

It is a wonderful sermon, he knows it is, because many of the congregation told him so; perhaps one or two have said that it was one of the best sermons that they have ever heard. It is that sort of stuff that keeps the preacher walking in air until he gets the news that the church has called someone else; after which he walks in the valley until he gets another invitation to preach another trial sermon.

The trial sermon is unfair to the preacher in the

second place, because it is not a trial sermon at all. The sermon is the least considered of anything connected with it. It is simply an exhibition of one's personality, neatness of appearance or otherwise as the case may be; in other words, it is almost like a baby show at a Fair or the Beauty Contest at Galveston, or a Farmer on the first-day of January looking over a bunch of mules.

A preacher may employ the eloquence of Jonathan Edwards, the earnestness and logic of Paul the Apostle and the sincerity of John the Baptist, and a crooked tie or unpressed clothes or dirt under one finger nail can over balance or kill the effect of it all.

One of the finest preachers in the south was rejected by one of our largest and most fashionable Baptist churches just because he was wearing a red neck tie with a gray suit when he preached his trial sermon. That church accepted another man for pastor who was—well, the Bible tells us not to judge.

The trial sermon is not fair to the church because a preacher could preach two good sermons, perhaps his own and perhaps some one else supplied the thought in them, and by so doing make the impression that he is an excellent preacher. I heard of a farmer over in Hancock County, Georgia, who drove a cow over to Milledgeville and gave a trial milking demonstration. He milked three gallons from her strutted udders and sold her for a big price, but the man who bought her never could get more than a quart of milk at a milking at any future time.

Then again, a man might be called on his personality. We usually define personality as something different from what it really is. I have recently  
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# West Texas Baptist

SAM MALONE ..... Editor and Publisher

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## SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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## OUR CLUBBING OFFER

During the past few weeks about fifty subscribers have taken advantage of the clubbing offer made by the Baptist Standard and the West Texas Baptist to secure both of these papers one year for \$2.00, the regular price of the Baptist Standard. We are sure there are hundreds of others in the West who need to do the same thing. These subscriptions may be sent either to the Standard or to the West Texas Baptist. Our pastors and missionaries can render a great service by calling the attention of our people to this liberal offer.

## JUST AN APPRECIATION

Last week the editor received from an old preacher a letter in which was enclosed fifty cents for a year's subscription to the West Texas Baptist. The letter revealed the fact that this dear old soldier of the Cross had spent over forty-three years of his life in service to God and man. In recent times he was run over by an automobile and permanently crippled. He has been selling out his library and he enclosed fifty cents from his book sale to apply on his subscription. We are quoting two sentences from the letter:

"I happened to pick up a copy of your paper in the Baptist Sunday School Board room, and I enjoyed reading it, so I long to have it come regularly to my home."

"I have told you all this to ask you to pray for me. From your paper and your reference to the sad death of dear Brother Ball, showed your loving, tender, sympathetic heart. I love you because I believe you have struggled to do good. Pray for me. Some day we will talk it all over in heaven."

It is needless to say we are returning this dear old brother's fifty cents with a prayer that God may spare him many more years to "pray and read and scatter literature."

## CONDUCT IN A CRISIS

The measure of a man is easily determined in a crisis. It is not your conduct when you are pursuing the even tenor of your way that determines the metal you are made of, but rather your conduct when under fire—when the going is hard and when others around you are losing their head.

This truth is being demonstrated every day in every community. Just at this time the old world is all out of balance. The business world, the religious world and the political world is going through a transition period. It is indeed a testing time.

For a long time Texas Baptists have been passing through a critical period that is fast coming to a serious crisis. This general condition has been greatly intensified, especially in this section of the state, by events of the past two months. Many of our good people are fretting over the course of events. Some have acted foolishly and lost their heads while others have gone serenely on demonstrating their ability to keep their balance in a time of unusual testing.

The crisis we are passing through right now is a mighty good time to do a lot of thinking and praying, and just as little talking as possible. It is especially bad to do the talking before doing the thinking and praying. It is well to remember that the man

who gets mad and loses his head in a crisis is the man who always gets defeated.

Sometimes about the hardest thing a person can do is to wait on the Lord. When the Children of Israel were facing their terrible ordeal at the Red Sea; when the waters of the sea lay before them, the unsurmountable obstacles on either side and the enemy in the rear, God had Moses to issue two commands. One of these commands was to "stand still and see the salvation of the Lord." The other command was to "go forward." Sometimes it is harder to obey the first command than it is the second.

The one glorious thing to remember now is that God leads His people. Sometimes it is in the wilderness and desert places. Sometimes it is beside the sparkling springs, glowing streams and pleasant groves, but the pathway leads eventually to the promised land—the land that flows with milk and honey.

## WINDOWS OF THE SOUL

Did you ever think just what windows mean? There are the big store-windows to display the pretty things for sale. There are windows in our cars to let us see where to drive. We see colored glass and figures dressed in pretty-colored clothes in our church-windows. We have clear glass windows in our homes and our schools. Some underset ships have glass windows to see the life and plants at the bottom of the sea.

The beautiful church-windows are promises of what we find within the church. Our windows in our homes and schools are to let the light and sunshine in.

Our faces are our windows and we should keep them always cheerful and smiling for others to see promises of a loving heart within. And we should have nothing to hide, but should keep our minds like glass-windows, that all may look inside. As the sunshine comes in our house-windows we should send out sunshine from ours.—Clipped.

## RELIGIOUS PAPER TASTES

By E. E. DAWSON.

What do the average tastes of the people require a religious paper to be? Tastes vary widely. Is there a preponderance of taste for a given character of religious paper? Opinions differ as widely as tastes, yet the writer believes a greater number of people relish a certain kind of periodical, and bases his belief on his own tastes and observations of other average people.

First, they want a news paper—not "newspaper," but news paper. People love news about men and churches and movements; they like it unverified rather than old. Call it vanity or what you will, but people love to see news about themselves and the institutions with which they are connected, and about their friends. A certain former Southern Baptist editor whose paper had the largest circulation of any Baptist weekly held to this principle and people read his sheet avidly and its influence was commanding. If religious papers will become newsy they will increase their appeal many fold.

Second, readers like a religious paper to be broad in its scope, news and editorial treatment alike. The paper that confines itself to the mention of a few leading personalities, however important and loved they may be, loses its flavor. The paper that devotes its whole energy to a program, however vital that program, loses the piquancy that readers relish. If the whole force of the paper be focused on one enterprise, readers learn what to expect and rapidly sift through the mass of matter for the few grains that appeal to their appetite. Watch the average pastor read the average denominational paper; it is over in less than twenty minutes. He glances at the headlines on the first three pages and takes a dip into a few paragraphs, looks a short minute at the editorial titles, no more than a glance at the department pages, and spends ten minutes on the news columns—if they are sufficiently voluminous to hold him that long, and the rest of the twenty minutes on the book ads and duplicator, typewriter, etc., advertising. Nor does the average layman do differently, albeit he is a

slower reader. All readers will probably linger a little at the obituary column for it is personal, dealing with individuals and containing no appeal.

Third, the average reader wants a variety of articles and views. He expects to see a cross-section of his denomination as he reads the weekly issue; He does not read the president's signed messages very religiously however well played up, nor even the secretary's for he can forecast from the title and the author what the articles will say. He has followed so long that he knows what character of appeal the seasons bring. Not that he does not honor the authors or the work; he does, but these articles are afflicted with a deadly sameness seen in Hostetter's Almanac where one visualizes year after year the signs of the zodiac, a list of the feast days and eclipses followed by the same testimonials. But if Brother Quintus of Piemelton Valley is discussing the fourth dimension of Biblical inspiration, and he has not dulled appreciation by too-frequent appearance, his article is read, condemned or commended according to the tastes of the readers. Many readers are attracted to a periodical by views that they do not approve, if it is put in vigorous style. Witness the vogue of the Fulminator among the folks who vehemently disagree with its utterance! The tang of it makes them read. Were the utmost freedom of discussion is allowed in a religious paper's columns readers get the notion that it is a democratic institution, and they like it. Decretals and proclamations have never enjoyed popularity; they remain too much of the days of absolutism in religion and autocracy in politics.

Fourth, readers enjoy a mild form of proper controversy. Two adjectives were purposely used in the foregoing sentence: "mild" and "proper." Mild in the sense of being brotherly and courteous and minus the rasping old-debating-days spirit; not mild as lacking pungency and vigor. Proper in sense of dealing with all matters of polity and policy and interpretation of Scripture and doctrine. Discussions about men are improper for they lead to partisanship. To imagine that discussion of mild controversial character would harm a paper is to mistake the temper of the people. But readers love fairness and courtesy and brotherliness and good temper in such discussions. Anything else is fatal.

It would seem that a denominational paper would endeavor to represent all the estates of its denomination, give the fullest news about its workers and their labors. It would seem that it would seek devotedly to appeal to all the people of its faith by ministering to their tastes and by seeking to enlist their expressions. And this opinion of an onlooker and supporter is based on years of wide study and observation, the interviewing of men and women in a serious effort to learn their real tastes.

There are papers of this type, and they do appeal. There are papers that have lost their appeal because of a sung idea that the paper should limit its mention to a small coterie of brethren, and admit nothing to its columns except what boasts of and boosts some program.

A good man remarked the other day after reading the foregoing, "I read the West Texas Baptist with keenest relish because it seems to be nearest like the paper you mention." So, here's better luck unto you, Editor Sam, for the good year 1931!

## A HARVEST HYMN

Great God!—our heartfelt thanks to Thee!  
We feel Thy presence everywhere;  
And pray that we may ever be  
Thus objects of Thy guardian care.

We sowed! by Thee our work was seen,  
And blessed; and instantly went forth  
Thy mandate! and in living green  
Soon smiled the fair and fruitful earth.

We toiled!—and Thou didst note our toil,  
And gav'st the sunshine and the rain,  
Till ripened on the teeming soil  
The fragrant grass, and golden grain.

And now, we reap!—and oh, our God!  
From this, the earth's unbounded floor,  
We send our Song of Thanks abroad,  
And pray Thee, bless our hoarded store!

W. D. GALLAGHER.

RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT

January 8, 1931

Resolved that the members of the Rule Baptist Church extend to Mrs. Chas. Ball and each of her children, our sincere sympathy in the irreparable loss of her husband and their father.

Bro. Ball came to Rule as pastor of the Baptist Church on March 20, 1927, remaining until November 3, 1929. During that time, we as members of his congregation, profited by his ministrations, and he greatly endeared himself to us by his amiable character, his earnest devotion to duty, and the hearty interest he manifested in our welfare as a people.

In the pulpit he faithfully presented the precepts of our religion, warned us against the evils that continually beset us, and earnestly pleaded with us to see our truest happiness in the paths of rectitude and peace.

In our homes he was our sincere and sympathizing counselor and friend, in hours of pain and sorrow he spoke gentle and soothing words to our troubled hearts, his benediction rested upon us in our domestic and business affairs and in all things he proved himself our competent and loving pastor.

Resolved, that as God in his infinite wisdom has called his servant to the heavenly home, we commend the bereaved ones who are left to mourn the sad visitation of death, to the Heavenly Father, and pray that they be submissive, and make His will their will, believing that God doeth all things wisely, though often times "He moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform."

Be it further resolved, that a page of the minute book of our church be dedicated to the memory of our deceased friend and former pastor, with these resolutions copied thereon, a copy printed in the West Texas Baptist, and a copy sent to Mrs. Ball and her children.

Respectfully submitted,

MRS. J. A. CASSLE  
MRS. C. O. DAVIS  
MRS. H. L. CHAMBERS  
AND J. M. HOWARD  
Committee.

HE TOOK A RECEIPT

Of the French Senator Renaud, the Kolnische Zeitung told this anecdote:

When Renaud first came as Senator to Paris, he engaged a room at a hotel and paid a month's rent—150 francs—in advance. The proprietor asked if he would have a receipt.

"It is not necessary," replied Renaud; "God has witnessed the payment."

"Do you believe in God?" sneered the host.

"Most assuredly," replied Renaud; "don't you?"

"Not I, monsieur."

"Ah," said the senator, "I will take a receipt if you please."—Christian Standard.

THE CLOCK'S THREE HANDS

"Come, hurry up" said the second hand of a clock to the minute hand. "You'll never get around in time if you don't. See how fast I'm going," continued the fussy little monitor, as it fretted round on its pivot.

"Come, hurry up," said the minute hand to the hour hand, utterly oblivious of being addressed by the second hand. "If you don't be quick you'll never be in at the stroke of one."

"Well, that's just what our young friend there has been saying to you."

At this point the clock pealed forth the hour as the hour hand continued:

"You see, we're on time—not one of us behind. You take my advice—do your own work in your own way, and leave others alone."

Moral: Mind your own business.—Exchange.

We claim to be missionary Baptists, but the appeal of the Foreign Mission Board, together with the record of declining contributions the last few years, indicates that in practice we are ceasing to be "missionary."

What Think Ye Of Christ?"

B. H. HILLARD, Berea, Ky.

By observation, and from contact, it would seem that this is a question far more pertinent than when propounded by our Lord to the disciples. The following figures represent a survey recently made by Geo. Herbert Betts, Professor of Religious Education, in Northwestern University. A questionnaire was sent to 1,500 preachers and ministerial students, 700 responded, the results follow; figures indicating percentages:

DO YOU BELIEVE—	Ministers		Students	
	yes	doubt no	yes	doubt no
That God exists?	100		100	
That God is three distinct persons?	80	7 13	44	21 35
That God is omnipotent? That the relation of God to man is best expressed in the word "Father?"	87	4 9	64	7 29
That the idea of evolution is consistent with the belief in God as Creator?	98	1 1	98	2
That the creation of the world occurred in the manner and time recorded in Genesis?	61	46 33	94	4 2
That God leaves the universe wholly to the control of law without controlling it in person?	47	5 48	5	6 89
That the devil exists as an actual being?	10	6 84	13	11 76
That God is a being with personal attributes complete and perfect in all moral qualities?	60	7 33	9	9 82
That the New Testament is, and always will remain, the final revelation of God to man?	95	1 4	77	10 13
That Jesus was born of a virgin without a human father?	66	10 24	18	13 69
That Jesus, while upon earth, was as truly subject to temptation as other men?	71	10 19	25	24 51
That in His life upon earth Jesus met all the problems and difficulties using only those powers and resources available to other men?	97	1 2	97	3
That Jesus lived a life wholly blameless and without sin or wrongdoing?	74	6 20	81	10 9
That while upon earth Jesus possessed and used power to restore life?	92	4 4	75	16 9
That Jesus' death on the cross was the one act which made possible the remission of sins?	82	9 9	45	28 27
That after Jesus was dead and buried He actually rose from the dead, leaving the tomb empty?	70	6 24	29	10 61
That after a period had elapsed following His death and resurrection Jesus was seen by His disciples and friends ascending into heaven?	84	4 12	42	27 31
That heaven exists as an actual place or location?	84	6 10	45	23 32
That hell exists as an actual place or location?	57	15 28	11	20 69
That there is a continuation of life after death?	53	13 34	11	13 76
In the resurrection of the body?	97	2 1	89	7 4
	62	5 33	18	13 69

That there will be one final day of judgment for all who have lived on the earth?	60	8 32	17	16 77
In a visible bodily second coming of Jesus to establish a reign of righteousness on earth?	40	11 49	8	17 75
That forgiveness of sin is required for one to be in right relationship with God?	98	1 1	92	4 4
That prayer has the power to change conditions in nature—such as drought?	64	11 25	21	22 57
That God now acts upon, or operates in, human lives through the agency and person of the Holy Spirit?	94	1 5	82	11 7
The above reveals certain things worthy of consideration.				

First, that the trend towards modernism and infidelity is decidedly rapid. The student boy makes a mark showing in this respect over the present personnel of ministers.

Second, the belief in immortality maintains a good level, while the belief in heaven and hell as actual places is low, as is the case with the resurrection of the body. The question might well be raised, Where is the soul to spend eternity?

Third, the second coming of our Lord finds little place in the theological thinking of this 700 preachers and theological students.

Fourth, evolution, of course, finds an "upper seat" in the hall of fame among these.

Fifth, a small percent believe in a personal devil. Sixth, as might be expected, the "Fatherhood of God" idea is outstanding. judgment.

The above survey was made in and around Chicago.—Western Recorder.

THE MAN WHO MEANT TO GIVE

by Howard W. Pope, St. Petersburg, Fla.

He was a good man, kind and true,  
Who often told what he would do  
When he was rich and had the means,  
And lived no longer on baked beans.  
And this he said from day to day,  
Until his best years slipped away—  
Not knowing God will close the door  
To wealth—unless we help the poor.

When hard times came and all around  
Bread lines were formed in ev'ry town,  
He gave no cash, he gave no bread;  
Instead of that, he often said:  
"Next year I will begin to give,"  
Not knowing surely that he'd live—  
The same old story newly told,  
Though every day he laid up gold.

And when the sick could no more wait  
Or his intentions which were late,  
They simply died and passed beyond  
All chance for that man to respond.  
Last week that man lay dead and cold,  
And all he left behind was gold.  
He had no friends—he never had—  
Because his life made no one glad.

Here is a lesson all should learn:  
Give what you can, but quickly burn  
Your good intentions which bring naught  
But bitter heartaches, dearly bought.  
Today's chance we can now secure—  
Tomorrow's is by no means sure.  
If we this chance let slip away,  
It may not come another day.

Miss. Review of the World.

# Woman's Missionary Union of Texas, District No. 17

WATCHWORD—"BE YE STEADFAST." 1 COR. 13:58.

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**QUARTERLY REPORT FOR OCT. NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER**

District and Associational Fund Expense	Total	\$ 12.00
Receipts	Disbursements	\$ 12.00
Oct. 8, 1930 Bal. on Hand .....	District Scholarship Girl	57.11
10-15 First Church Abilene.....	12-5 1st Church, Abilene .....	25.00
10-30 University Church.....	12-8 South Side .....	15.00
11-15 Ovalo.....	12-8 Sweetwater .....	2.00
12-1 Immanuel.....	12-9 Blackwell.....	1.50
12-5 South Side.....	12-13 University.....	5.00
Total.....	Total.....	\$105.61
Disbursements	Disbursements	\$ 17.00
10-15 W. F. Joiner (Minutes) \$ 10.00	12-5 Dist. Treas.....	10.00
10-15 Abilene Ptg. Co. Programs 2.00	12-14 Dist. Treas.....	7.00
10-15 Mrs. Jones, Dist. Treas. 12.50	Total.....	\$ 17.00
10-24 Mrs. White "Expense to Ex-Meeting" 12.50	Breedlove Loan Fund	
11-3 University Florist "Mrs. Pender" 1.50	10-15 1st Church, Abilene .....	11.73
11-28 Mrs. White, Expense to Convention 23.00	11-12 1st Church, Abilene .....	13.50
12-5 Dist. Treas.....	12- 9 1st Church, Abilene .....	11.75
12-5 Stamps and Envelopes 1.00	Total.....	\$ 35.07
Total.....	Disbursements	\$ 11.73
\$ 74.25	10-15 Dist. Treas.....	11.73
Jan. 1-31 Bal. on Hand .....	11-17 Dist. Treas.....	13.50
Mexican Missionary Daughter	12-14 Dist. Treas.....	9.84
Oct. 8 Bal. on Hand .....	Total.....	\$ 35.07
Disbursements	W. M. U. Hut Lenders	
Nov. 3 Dist. Treas. (Transferred for Bible Chairs) .75	10-15 1st Church, Abilene .....	12.50
Executive State Scholarship Fund	Disbursements	\$ 12.50
Receipts	First Baptist Loan Fund	
12-8 Mrs. R. M. White.....	10-15 1st Church, Abilene .....	41.05
Disbursements	11-12 1st Church, Abilene .....	47.28
12-14 Dist. Treas.....	12- 9 1st Church Abilene .....	34.45
Christmas Gift to Bro. Parrack	Total.....	\$122.78
11-12 1st Church, Abilene .....	Disbursements	\$ 41.05
11-27 University Church.....	10-15 Dist. Treas.....	41.05
11-22 Caps.....	11-17 Dist. Treas.....	47.28
12-1 Immanuel.....	12-14 Dist. Treas.....	34.45
Total.....	Total.....	\$122.78
\$ 157.00	Baby Incubator W. T. B. Hospital	
Disbursements	10-30 1st Church, Abilene .....	\$100.00
11-22 Mrs. Joiner (Benev. Chairman) 11.25	Disbursements	\$100.00
11-29 Mrs. Jones, Dist. Treas. 3.45	11-3 Dist. Treas.....	\$100.00
12-1 Mrs. Jones, Dist. Treas. 1.00	Buckner Orphans Home	
Total.....	10-8 Freewill Offering .....	\$ 27.27
\$ 157.00	11-27 University.....	22.40
Christmas Gift to Blanche Rose Walker	12-5 Merkel.....	7.50
11-12 1st Church, Abilene .....	12-5 South Side .....	.25
11-15 1st Church, Abilene .....	Total.....	\$ 57.42
\$ 25.00	Disbursements	\$ 27.27
105.00	11-29 Dist. Treas.....	22.40
Total.....	12- 5 Dist. Treas.....	7.50
\$130.00	12-31 Dist. Treas.....	.25
Disbursements	Total.....	\$ 57.42
11-17 Dist. Treas.....	Silver Anniversary Simmons	
\$130.00	10-15 1st Church, Abilene .....	9.75
Christmas Gift to Mrs. B. L. Lockett	10-30 1st Church, Abilene .....	8.65
11-12 1st Church, Abilene .....	11-12 1st Church, Abilene .....	2.15
\$ 35.00	12- 9 1st Church, Abilene .....	.55
Disbursements	12-14 1st Church, Abilene .....	13.75
11-12 Dist. Treas.....	12-18 Tye .....	7.50
\$ 35.00	Total.....	\$ 42.35
Christmas Gift to Mrs. Jenkins	Disbursements	\$ 18.40
12-20 1st Church, Abilene .....	11- 3 Dist. Treas.....	18.40
\$ 10.00		
Disbursements		
12-20 Dist. Treas.....		
\$ 10.00		
Margaret Fund Student Christmas Gift		
12-5 1st Church, Abilene .....		
\$ 5.00		
12-8 South Side .....		
.50		
12-8 Sweetwater .....		
2.50		

12-9 Blackwell.....	1.50	12-31 Dist. Treas.....	23.95
12-13 University.....	2.50	Total.....	\$ 42.35
Total.....	\$ 12.00	Christian Educational Foreign Student	
Disbursements	\$ 12.00	12-18 Type.....	\$ 1.00
12-14 Dist. Treas.....	12.00	Disbursements	\$ 1.00
District Scholarship Girl	\$ 10.00	12-31 Dist. Treas.....	\$ 1.00
12-5 1st Church, Abilene .....	.50	Lottie Moon Offering Christmas	\$ 45.05
12-8 South Side .....	2.50	12- 8 South Side .....	120.13
12-8 Sweetwater .....	1.50	12 9 Blackwell.....	5.00
12-9 Blackwell.....	2.50	12- 8 Sweetwater Association	286.84
12-13 University.....	2.50	12-9 1st Church, Abilene .....	5.00
Total.....	\$ 17.00	12-14 1st Church, Abilene .....	3.25
Disbursements	\$ 17.00	12-14-18 Caps .....	12.00
12-5 Dist. Treas.....	10.00	12-20 Lamar St., Sweetwater	120.33
12-14 Dist. Treas.....	7.00	12-29 University Church .....	
Total.....	\$ 17.00	Total.....	\$597.60
Breedlove Loan Fund		Disbursements	\$464.27
10-15 1st Church, Abilene .....	11.73	12-14 Dist. Treas.....	133.33
11-12 1st Church, Abilene .....	13.50	Total.....	\$597.60
12- 9 1st Church, Abilene .....	9.84	Total Receipts.....	\$1,295.78
Total.....	\$ 35.07	Total Disbursements.....	1,264.42
Disbursements	\$ 11.73	Balance on Hand .....	\$ 31.36
10-15 Dist. Treas.....	11.73	MRS. C. R. LINDSEY, Treas.	
11-17 Dist. Treas.....	13.50		
12-14 Dist. Treas.....	9.84		
Total.....	\$ 35.07		
W. M. U. Hut Lenders			
10-15 1st Church, Abilene .....	12.50		
Disbursements	\$ 12.50		
10-15 Dist. Treas.....	12.50		
First Baptist Loan Fund			
10-15 1st Church, Abilene .....	41.05		
11-12 1st Church, Abilene .....	47.28		
12- 9 1st Church Abilene .....	34.45		
Total.....	\$122.78		
Disbursements	\$ 41.05		
10-15 Dist. Treas.....	41.05		
11-17 Dist. Treas.....	47.28		
12-14 Dist. Treas.....	34.45		
Total.....	\$122.78		
Baby Incubator W. T. B. Hospital			
10-30 1st Church, Abilene .....	\$100.00		
Disbursements	\$100.00		
11-3 Dist. Treas.....	\$100.00		
Buckner Orphans Home			
10-8 Freewill Offering .....	\$ 27.27		
11-27 University.....	22.40		
12-5 Merkel.....	7.50		
12-5 South Side .....	.25		
Total.....	\$ 57.42		
Disbursements	\$ 27.27		
10-10 Dist. Treas.....	22.40		
11-29 Dist. Treas.....	7.50		
12- 5 Dist. Treas.....	.25		
12-31 Dist. Treas.....	.25		
Total.....	\$ 57.42		
Silver Anniversary Simmons			
10-15 1st Church, Abilene .....	9.75		
10-30 1st Church, Abilene .....	8.65		
11-12 1st Church, Abilene .....	2.15		
12- 9 1st Church, Abilene .....	.55		
12-14 1st Church, Abilene .....	13.75		
12-18 Tye .....	7.50		
Total.....	\$ 42.35		
Disbursements	\$ 18.40		
11- 3 Dist. Treas.....	18.40		

12-31 Dist. Treas.....	23.95	Total.....	\$42.35
Christian Educational Foreign Student		12-18 Type.....	\$ 1.00
12-18 Type.....	\$ 1.00	Disbursements	\$ 1.00
Disbursements	\$ 1.00	12-31 Dist. Treas.....	\$ 1.00
12-31 Dist. Treas.....	\$ 1.00	Lottie Moon Offering Christmas	\$ 45.05
Lottie Moon Offering Christmas	\$ 45.05	12- 8 South Side .....	120.13
12- 8 South Side .....	120.13	12 9 Blackwell.....	5.00
12 9 Blackwell.....	5.00	12- 8 Sweetwater Association	286.84
12-9 1st Church, Abilene .....	286.84	12-9 1st Church, Abilene .....	5.00
12-14 1st Church, Abilene .....	3.25	12-14-18 Caps .....	12.00
12-14-18 Caps .....	12.00	12-20 Lamar St., Sweetwater	120.33
12-20 Lamar St., Sweetwater	120.33	12-29 University Church .....	
12-29 University Church .....		Total.....	\$597.60
Total.....	\$597.60	Disbursements	\$464.27
Disbursements	\$464.27	12-14 Dist. Treas.....	133.33
12-14 Dist. Treas.....	133.33	Total.....	\$597.60
Total.....	\$597.60	Total Receipts.....	\$1,295.78
Total Receipts.....	\$1,295.78	Total Disbursements.....	1,264.42
Total Disbursements.....	1,264.42	Balance on Hand .....	\$ 31.36
Balance on Hand .....	\$ 31.36	MRS. C. R. LINDSEY, Treas.	

## BIG SPRING ASSOCIATIONAL W. M. U. MEETING

One of the most spiritual and inspiring W. M. U. meetings held in the Big Spring Association in some time was that which met January 6th, with the first Baptist Church in Big Spring.

Mrs. K. S. Beckett, Asso. President, presided in her usual gracious manner. "Stewardship," the topic for the day, was given special stress in the devotional by Mrs. J. M. White of Midland. Mrs. M. B. Robertson, also of Midland, brought an inspiring message on the same subject.

The quarterly business session was entered into, at which time splendid quarterly reports were given by the various Associational Chairmen, indicating that much profitable work is being done in the Big Spring Association. Of outstanding importance are the amounts raised for the Lottie Moon Offering, totaling \$737.50;

Buckner Orphans Home, cash \$140.97, Boxes, valued \$499.10.

At the present time, a found of \$1,000.00 is being raised, proceeds of which will go to provide additional dormitory space for the school in Lagos, Africa, where our beloved Lucille Reagan, daughter of Mrs. B. Reagan, Eighth District President, is stationed.

In December, this association was honored by having as guests the returned missionaries Mrs. Chambers, who spoke at the December Workers' Conference in Coahoma, and Mrs. Sallee, who spoke in Midland.

MRS. A. M. GANTT,  
Midland, Publicity Chairman.

## WHEN DEATH COMES

George Eliot has somewhere this beautiful sentence: "When death, the great reconciler has come, it is never our tenderness that we repent of, but our severity." How many millions of sorrowing souls, grieving over the loss of their dear ones, have found the sharpness of death sadly sharpened by the memory of the harsh words they have spoken! No one is ever sorry, at such a time, that he has been too patient, too forbearing, too forgiving, too kind and loving and merciful.

It is a fine thing to form the habit of looking ahead to the time when we may lose those who are near and dear to us, either by our going ahead of them, or by their departure for the better country. Such an anticipation is not morbid, it is only sensible. Any looking ahead is sensible if the foreglimpse is of something sure to come, and something against which some provision should be made. Not to foresee it is the height of imprudence.

And when death comes, what will give us chief concern is almost certain to be our relation with others—some quarrel that should have been made up long ago, some old-time wrong that remains unforgiven, some enmity unreconciled. These furnish death with its sharpest sting. We should remove the sting today, before death comes.

—Amos R. Wells.

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## A Page of Simmons University News

### Prexy Tells of Experiences In Europe; Sunday

Filling the pulpit Sunday evening at the University Baptist Church, Dr. Sandefer reviewed some observations and experiences of his European tour the past summer.

In opening his address, he explained that different persons traveling over the same territory would, beyond doubt, see a widely different range of objects. The horse-jockey making a trip would, on returning describe a valuable pony he saw, an architect would describe a beautiful building, and a minister would no doubt notice the churches.

In connection with this Dr. Sandefer told of the attitude of some members of his party toward world famous sights seen on the tour. "When visiting Westminster Abbey in London, a number of my party," he said, "after traveling some four or five thousand miles, presumably to see it, did not even enter it but sat in the motor bus and held hands."

The party found many peculiar conditions in their travels. He described the European passenger coaches as being short stubby things with the doors in the middle. Water on one of these is a luxury and must be bought as the other drinks. The reason for this is that to serve water free would ruin the sales of wines and liquors, by which a greater part of the people make their living. He cited another unusual condition which, he said, existed in Holland. Although Holland is one of the foremost dairying countries in the world, the people never drink milk. Every farmer has his cows but he sells all the milk to the cheese factories. In the main, liquors are used for drinking, and moderately too, for the party saw only about eight really drunk persons on the trip.

Farming conditions described as being common to most of the countries visited, would make the average West Texas farmer feel as though he were "hogging" the land. The Holland farmer, he said, tills from ten to fifteen acres. He has his house, his cow, and possibly a few hogs. His entire farm is equipped for irrigation and he has a windmill to pump the water from a well out through pipes to all parts of his field.

A great part of the travel on the continent was by bus. The whole of Europe, he said, is traversed by paved highways. Great strides are still being made in road construction. He predicted that within a few years the governments would be able to speed troops over these roads to all parts of the empires. These roads, he related, already virtually scale the Alps. It was over these roads that the party crossed this range.

In further relating his experiences, Dr. Sandefer told of his visit to St. Peter's Cathedral. He did not attempt to describe it, for "it is beyond description," he said. To impress its

immensity he told of the number of persons who could worship in it at once. It has standing room for 65,000 people. In this cathedral there is an immense statue of St. Peter, the first pope. The followers of Saint Peter make regular visits to the cathedral to kiss the foot of his statue. This has been going on so long that the foot is beginning to wear away.

In the countries where as many as one third of the people are Catholic, the government is controlled by them. The reason for this, according to the protestants, is that they do not carry their religion over into politics.

In closing his address, Dr. Sandefer paid tribute to Mussolini, present dictator of Italy. Mussolini, he said, is one of the greatest organizers of modern times, and has done more for the good of the common people than any leader in the world. To the poorer class of people he has given ten acres of land on which is a sizeable house equipped with free electricity and water. Further, he has built up a splendid system of schools and is compelling all persons between certain ages to attend them at least six months each year.

There is a possible chance that this same trip may be made again next summer by a different section of the band with possibly a few of those who made the trip last year. Several cablegrams have already been received inviting the band to revisit Europe.

### Band to Appear At Mineral Wells

The Cowboy Band of Simmons university, has been engaged for the formal opening of the Southwestern Ice Manufacturers' annual convention to be held at Mineral Wells, February 4, 5, and 6, according to information received from the West Texas Utilities company, under whose sponsorship the musical organization will appear.

Arrangements were completed yesterday between the West Texas Utilities company and G. B. Sandefer, business manager of the band.

The Simmons Cowboys will present the same program with which they delighted thousands on their recent European trip, providing a stage show for the delegates to the convention, and entertainment for the annual banquet of the home service division of the association, to be held the night of February 3, at the Baker hotel.

A thirty-five piece band, special acts, novelty singing, and John Regan, English cowboy, bullwhip-cracker and star roper will be features of the program.

Ben Stripling was elected president of the Classical Club for the winter term at its first meeting of the year in Mrs. Baker's room Thursday afternoon. C. Howell was elected vice-president, Lucille Mattox, secretary, Ward Allen, treasurer, and Jo Beth Horton, reporter.

### Library Receives Large Collection Valuable Papers

An addition, to what is possibly the greatest single collection of historical matter in any West Texas College, the Crane library—now the property of the Simmons library—was made during the holidays, it was revealed this week by Dr. Rupert N. Richardson.

This latest addition includes the private and business documents of Judge R. C. Crane, who made his first donation in 1924. It includes papers and books gathered over a period of 50 years by the judge and his father. It might well be termed, "the greatest collection of data in documents and books on the history of the Southwest and West Texas."

"These papers will give us in minute detail," said Dr. Richardson, "the work and experience of a lawyer and public prosecutor in West Texas communities, Roby and Sweetwater, over a period of 50 years. We regard them as extremely valuable because they give the history of a business and a profession—the thing that historians of today are turning to more and more and that the historians of the future will continue to regard as more important than the merely sensational and bizarre, which has been accorded the limelight in the past."

It is revealed in Dr. Richardson's statement also, that thousands of papers are included in the collection.

Judge Crane served as county attorney and district attorney in Fisher county. Since moving to Sweetwater, he has continued to take an active part in public affairs and for several years has been president of the West Texas Historical Society.

### B.S.U. Gives First Program at Capps

The B. S. U. started its work off the first Sunday of the new year by rendering a program to the combined assembly of young people at Capps along the theme of the "God Planned Life."

Those making the trip in the B. S. U. car were Foy King, Marguerite Parish, Ruby Thompson, Clarence Howell, Bertha Gartner, Ethel Comer, with Miss A. M. Carpenter, sponsor.

"Several other engagements are already made for extension work by this group for this term, and no doubt because of the value both to the people on the programs and to the ones in the churches where these inspirational messages are given, this work will be continued in a fine way, thus bringing the people of the surrounding district in closer contact with the religious fervor of our university, and providing a means of expression for those interested in service," said Mrs. Allen.

### Plotkin Leaves For Los Angeles To Open Studio

Dr. Peter Plotkin, former head of the department of portraiture and Biblical art of Simmons university, will leave Abilene in a few days for Los Angeles, California, where he will open a studio and school.

Dr. Plotkin made his last public appearance, Monday at the McMurry chapel hour. This appearance was in connection with the presentation of a portrait of Bishop W. F. McMurry, which was made from photographs of the bishop. Bishop McMurry was in charge of the Northwest Texas Conference at the time McMurry was founded. This picture is to hang in the chapel where a picture of Dr. J. W. Hunt, school president, has already been hung.

During the two years he spent in Abilene, Dr. Plotkin painted portraits of Dr. J. D. Sandefer, Dr. O. H. Cooper, Dr. Julius Olsen, Dr. Paul W. Horn, president of Texas Tech, and others. In addition to this he painted portraits of Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, and Sam Houston. Several of his paintings hang in the Simmons chapel and some in the lobbies at the Hilton and Wooten hotels.

### Probation Waived On Simmons Entry Into Music Ass'n.

According to a letter received by President Sandefer from Howard Hanson, head of the National Association of Schools for Music, Dr. Leighton's report on Simmons University to the commission on the curricula of the national association was satisfactory. The commission voted unanimously at the last meeting to extend full membership to Simmons in the association and to waive the probation. The admittance of Simmons will be formally ratified at a meeting in St. Louis December 29-30 and will receive formal notification after the meeting.

### Bronco Raises Photo Percentage Over Other Years

A total of five hundred eighty pictures were made this year for the Bronco. These represent the largest percentage of enrollment in pictures during the annual's history.

During last term—at the photographer's first trip here—417 photographs were made, followed by near 165 this term. However, this term's pictures included some sixty individual pictures of Cowboy Band members and Cowgirls.

## MITCHELL-SCURRY HOLDS MONTHLY CONFERENCE

The Workers Conference of the Mitchell-Scurry Association was held with the Westbrook church Tuesday, January 6th. There was a good representation from all over the Association and the spirit of the meeting was fine. The theme of the day was evangelism, and all except one on the program responded with a well prepared discussion. The substitute was well received and brought a message worth while.

At the Board Meeting the financial problems were discussed and prayed over. The W. M. U. session was indeed inspiring, the apportionments for the specials for the year were read and accepted and a loan library for mission study was planned for and will be available real soon. The outstanding topic of the day was given by Rev. W. C. Ashford of Colorado. He brought an inspirational address on the Final Preservation of the Saints in an old fashioned way that was truly faith strengthening. The women of the hostess church served a bountiful dinner to more than 150 people. The next meeting will be held February 3rd, with the Union church.

## ASSOCIATION TO HOLD S. S. REVIVAL

The workers of the Sweetwater Association are completing plans for the associational Sunday school revival which begins Monday February 2nd. The revival will be in charge of G. S. Hopkins, state secretary of the Baptist Sunday school forces, assisted by Andreu Allen, assistant in the state work, and Rev. C. D. Owen, missionary of the Sweetwater association.

On Sunday afternoon, February 1st a rally will be held by the workers in the revival, the meeting to be held with the First Baptist Church, Merkel. At this meeting final details of the revival will be worked out.

The workers will meet at Merkel each afternoon during the revival (with the exception of Thursday), the purpose being to conduct conferences on the work. The conference for Thursday will be held in connection with the regular monthly workers conference of the association at Trinity Baptist Church, Abilene.

On Sunday, February 8, the revival will be closed and a final rally at Merkel, beginning at 2:30 o'clock. At this meeting awards will be made for work done.

Missionary Owens states that at least twelve churches will participate

## CALLAHAN ASSOCIATION

The Callahan County Association held its regular monthly meeting with the Cross Plains Baptist church Tuesday, January 6, 1931.

It was a great honor to have with us many visitors outside the county. Bro. Ross Respass of Cottonwood brought the devotional. After which Bro. J. R. Mayes of Baird spoke on "Who is my Neighbor?"

The inspirational address of the day was delivered by Dr. W. R. White, Secretary of state missions, whose message was, "The Keys of the Kingdom."

Cross Plains W. M. S. made every one glad he was there when lunch was served.

In the afternoon our President, Mrs. John Cook had charge. She brought an encouraging message. Seven societies were represented. The special members by Cross Plains little Baptist children were a genuine pleasure to all.

After a short period of time the afternoon program was turned over to Dr. M. E. Davis, Professor of Biblical Literature, Howard Payne College. He spoke on the "Peculiarities of Baptists."

This was a great message and very instructive.

Our next meeting will be held with Putnam church, Tuesday, February 3rd.

MRS. J. H. STRAHAM,  
Publicity Chairman.

## ROSCOE CHURCH NEARS COMPLETION OF UNIT

The Roscoe Baptist Church, headed by its pastor, Rev. W. H. Howell, is rapidly bringing to completion the first unit of its new building. The basement unit is being covered this week and upon completion will mark the close of activities for a time.

Plans call for the completion of the structure as soon as conditions will permit. The basement is to be used for Sunday School purposes, being ideally planned for this use, until the completion of the auditorium. About \$2,000.00 has been invested in the initial unit.

## CAN YOU BEAT THIS

The records show that the Sunday School Teachers and Workers of the First Baptist Church, Abilene, at their regular Wednesday night meetings through the year just closed, had an average weekly attendance of 255, a gain of 15 over 1929, and a gain of 18 over 1928. For the year they have reported 37,894 visits, 35,760 phone calls, and 20,678 cards and letters written. The average attendance of the school for the year was 1264, and notwithstanding it has been the hardest year ever experienced in West Texas, the average school attendance was only four less than 1929. This record speaks its own message for both the leadership and the faithful co-operation of the forces. Bravo! Coats off to the future!

It is also to be remembered, that in spite of the great numbers that have moved from the city during the hard year of 1930, the church has held her own in membership, closing the year with 3,177 members.

## PINKERTON CHURCH ORDAINS PREACHER

The following news item which was sent in some time ago by Rev. J. C. Parks, missionary of the Haskell Association was unintentionally "side-tracked." Brother Parks has been the faithful missionary of the Haskell Association for several years, and he is one of the best missionaries we know. On account of the unusual financial crisis he is serving the Haskell Association for only half time. He has moved from Haskell to Goree, Texas, where he is serving that church for half time. In regard to the ordination of Brother Hubert Sego, Brother Parks writes:

Brother Hubert Sego was ordained to the full work of the Ministry last Sunday November 30, at the Pinkerton Church in Haskell Association. Rev. H. R. Whatley preached the sermon, Rev. J. Perry King conducted the examination, Brother Frank Gage of Abilene led the prayer, Rev. J. E. Tucker delivered the charge, Deacon J. F. Simpson presented the candidate and the writer acted as moderator. It was a real good service. The church at Grace has called Brother Sego.

## NEW CHURCH COMMENDS PASTOR

To Whom it may Concern:

Whereas our Pastor, Rev. W. L. Ayres, has publicly declared for the whole verbally inspired Bible in the following words, to wit:

"I believe the Bible to be God's revelation to man. That the Holy Scriptures were inspired word for word, from the first word in Genesis to the last word in Revelations, and even though men of old spake as they were moved upon by the Holy Spirit that the Sacred Scriptures in their original are just as much the words of God as if He had written them word for word in Heaven with His own hand and handed them down to man ready prepared."

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Anson Avenue Baptist Church, Abilene, Texas in regular Conference do this third day of January 1931 fully and wholeheartedly indorse and commend our Pastor in his stand.

Be it resolved further that this resolution be spread on our minutes and become a part of our Church Record. And, further that the Clerk shall be instructed to send copies of this resolution to the Baptist Standard, West Texas Baptist, and other papers for publication.

Signed,  
J. J. Day.

## BOOK REVIEW

"The Business Man Looks at Preaching," by J. H. Anderson, published by the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, Nashville, Tenn., is a tonic for the preacher. Would that we had more such laymen. As one of the group whose good fortune and great pleasure it has been to be his pastor, I have read with a keen relish every word of this valuable little volume.

Millard A. Jenkins.



## The Life Blood of Industry

The work of the newly-organized Texas All-State Committee will have a stimulating effect on West Texas industry. It will not only increase the production of manufacturing plants already located in this vast empire, but will bring new factories and new capital into the territory.

For efficient and economical operation of any business relying upon motive power for its production work, electric current supplied by the ever-ready, dependable transmission line system is an absolute necessity. In no other way can the manufacturer be assured of a constant, flexible supply of energy.

When new industries locate in West Texas, they will choose the towns in which transmission line service is available. The West Texas Utilities Company—with its three major generating stations, twenty-two auxiliary plants, and over 2,500 miles of transmission line—is rendering dependable electric service to 120 prosperous cities, towns and communities in West Texas, the "Land of Opportunity." It is furnishing them with the very life-blood of industry, so necessary to permanent growth and development.

## West Texas Utilities Company

### FISHER COUNTY WORKERS HOLD MONTHLY MEETING

Our regular Workers Conference met at Royston, January 5. A good program was well carried out. Every subject was discussed. The Royston ladies fed the folks in their usual good way. We are going right ahead with our general meetings, although we have no regular missionary. Our mission chairman, D. G. Reid, is keeping the work well in hand. He is preaching practically every Sunday afternoon at some pastorless church. He is keeping in touch with the churches and pastors and is ready to help anywhere needed.

The next workers conference will be at Longworth, February 2.

The coming of W. D. Green from the Mitchell-Scurry Association has strengthened us greatly. He is located at Sylvester and McCaulley churches, thus giving him full time work. All of our pastors, excepting one, Chas. R. Smith of Dowell, live in the county. Brother Reid has full time at Roby. Bro. Phil J. Little has Liberty and Plasterco churches, Bro. W. T. Priddy has Hitson, Bro. C. W. Johnson has Royston, Bro. A. D. Williams has Newman and Spring Creek and Bro. W. S. Brown has Pledger, Longworth and Bethel. The other churches of the county are without pastors so far as known. Rotan is in touch with some good men and will probably call a pastor before this is published.

The County W. M. U. had a good meeting at Roby, January 12. Mrs. Reid is president and is leading well. Brother Green preached for them at the morning hour. The Roby ladies gave them a good dinner. The work is going forward in a fine way. The next quarterly meeting will be at Rotan.

W. C. Martin.

### PEOPLE DON'T WANT SHOWS AT CHURCH

People are tired on Sunday. They have seen enough shows through the week. They have had all the entertaining they care for. What they want on the Lord's day is a quiet conversation with an earnest-minded man who is interested in the high things of the spirit and who knows how to interpret the words of Jesus and the signs of the times. Declamation is a bore, oratory is an offense, fireworks of every sort are an impertinence, but a quiet talk on the deep things of God is always strengthening and healing. A preacher who is content to speak in everyday language to his people Sunday after Sunday about Jesus Christ, and the application of Christian ideas to their personal experiences and to the problems of their generation, can be interesting and fresh at the end of thirty years.—Charles E. Jefferson.

### SHREVEPORT PASTOR HAS BUSY YEAR

Shreveport, La. — 1,000 added to churches to which he has preached during the year 1930, 20,000 miles traveled to preach 220 times in the pulpits of churches in a dozen states,

two books published, "The Christ Whom We Worship," and "Missions Our Missions," is part of the record taken from the report of Dr. M. E. Dodd Pastor, First Baptist Church, Shreveport, La. Other items as given by John S. Hamond, pastor's assistant, include 73 addresses not including prayer meeting addresses, 20 funerals, 51 marriages, and the reception of 475 members into this great church which now numbers more than 4,000 members on its roll. The total receipts for all purposes were over \$108,000.00 of which some \$10,000 came from the Sunday School and associated groups. The educational work of the church which Mr. Hamond directs includes over 2,700 Sunday School pupils and 340 B. Y. P. U. members. The missionary messages from this evangelistic pulpit are heard nation wide each Sunday evening 7:45 to 9:30 over KWKH.

### PATIENCE IS FRUIT BEARING

The husbandman does not expect to reap tomorrow what he sowed today. He does not incontinently plow up his field again, and sow another crop, if he does not at once see the ripe corn. He watches and waits, and through much that is disappointing and unpromising, nurses his plants to fruitfulness. We also must learn with patience to bring forth fruit, not despairing because we cannot at once do all we would; not sinking under the hardships, sacrifices, failures, sorrows, through which we must win our growth to true fruit-bearing, but animating and cheering our spirits with the sure hope that the seed we have received is vital, and will enable us to produce at last the sound and ripe fruit our lives were meant to yield.—Marcus Dobbs.



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**WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH OUR CHURCHES?**

(Continued from Page 1)  
 preachers have been forced off their fields by such characters in our churches. May God speed the day when our churches will come back to the New Testament and clean themselves of such filth and rottenness.

To have great churches, we need members who have been born again. We need to establish the old-fashioned altars in our churches and homes. We need members who are full of the Holy Spirit. We need members who will pray. We need members who will love the church and put Christ's work first in their lives. We need members with a passion for the lost.

We need old-fashioned Holy Ghost religion that makes people shout the praises of God. We need members who will stand for the defense of all the gospel of Christ. Officers and teachers are not qualified to hold positions in our churches. We are not clean high-toned Christians.

We need more depending on a divine call to preach than on education. We need more preachers who are not afraid to preach all the gospel and tell the people of their sins. Our preachers and denominational workers need to call our churches back to God. God will forgive our sins if we seek his face and pray.

I believe all of God's word from Genesis 1 to the last verse of Revelations. It is the divine word of God. Men were inspired and moved by the Holy Spirit to write it. The gospel is God's message to me, spoken by a Mediator. Our ancestors were made in the image of man and were not monkeys or donkeys.

**A STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT JOHN R. SAMPEY**

The friends of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary have no doubt wondered whether its funds were involved in the recent failure of two large banking institutions in Louisville. The Seminary had about \$50,000.00 on deposit in the Louisville Trust Company, part of which consisted of special funds in the savings department. The greater part of the Students' Fund coupons for the session were represented in a certificate of deposit for a little over \$11,000.00, and the open checking account of the Seminary in the Louisville Trust Company amounted to over \$17,000.00. Naturally, the Seminary will suffer serious embarrassment if these funds should be tied up for a long time. No one seems to be able to tell whether the depositors will suffer serious losses or whether the Trust Company will finally pay a hundred cents on the dollar. Let all friends of the Seminary who have made subscriptions for its support do their very best to help us at this time of need. If some of our true friends who have already paid their pledges in full to the Building Fund could see their way to send in a voluntary contribution, such generosity would be most highly appreciated.

For a good many years past the Seminary has carried deposits in three different banks in Louisville. We are grateful that we had sufficient funds in the Lincoln Bank & Trust Company and in the Fidelity and Columbia Trust Company to enable us to meet all obligations up to the present time. We shall do our best to live within our income.

**PREACHING TRIAL SERMONS**

(Continued from Page 1)  
 been convinced that personality is not what we are, but what we seem to be.

Some weeks ago a barber moved into the town where I live and I was fascinated by his fine personality the first time I saw him. He attended church and made himself quite popular in the community, especially with the girls. He was very fascinating in appearance. I found myself often gazing at him and admiring his frank, open, handsome face. About a month ago he left at midnight with another man's automobile and four stolen bar-

ber outfits. The sheriff is seeking to bring his fine personality back to this city but has not been successful so far.

Many a good church has been torn to pieces and almost paralyzed by calling an unworthy man about whom they knew nothing.

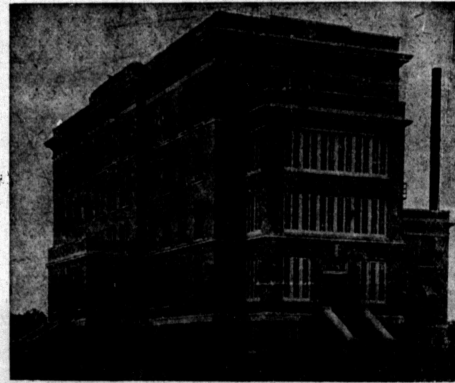
We ought to be honest with each other. The church should be honest with the preacher and seek to help him and encourage him to work in the Kingdom of Christ.

The preacher should not flirt with the church and

seek a call when he does not mean to accept it. The church should not invite a preacher to preach a trial sermon until his record has been investigated and not then unless they mean business.

Let us resolve as we enter this New Year that we will let the Lord have something to do with this matter. Let us resolve further that we will do our best and be honest and sincere with each other and then we will see the tangled web that we have woven in our restlessness and haste, straightened again and we will be happy in the work of the Lord.

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