

# 766



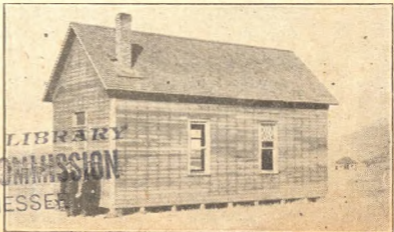
Publicity Department  
Baptist Home  
Mission Board,  
Atlanta, Georgia

# FIFTEEN REASONS

for helping the

# HOMELESS CHURCHES

L. B. WARREN  
Superintendent  
Department  
Church Extension



DARGAN-CARVER LIBRARY  
S. B. C. HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

**ONE.** One-half of the churches of Southern Methodists and two-thirds of the churches of the Disciples have been brought into being by their Church Building Funds.

This is proportionately true of all aggressive denominational bodies in the United States.

**TWO.** Southern Methodists have a cash fund of \$976,000. Their papers carry an urgent plea for another million.

They have aided 17,410 churches, but report more homeless congregations now than they did a year ago.

**THREE.** The Disciples have a cash fund of \$1,975,000. During the twenty-nine years of their operation they have loaned over four million dollars.

They plan this year to aid 127 churches in the sum of \$451,000. Their immediate goal is a fund of three million dollars.

**FOUR.** Southern Baptists have a cash fund of only \$250,000. We have 4,000 homeless congregations,—more than the Methodists and Disciples combined.

Our brethren are operating in millions. We, with our greater needs, must not only duplicate their attainments but surpass them.

**FIVE.** Our loans in the sum of \$128,000 have housed 521 congregations. These churches last year returned \$135,000 to the work of our denomination,—not including the repayment of loans.

Money invested in relieving our homeless churches pays an annual dividend of over 100 per cent.

**SIX.** This money was divided according to the convention ratio,—six dollars for Foreign Missions and four dollars for Home Missions.

The housing of a homeless church at home means the overthrow of a heathen temple across the seas.

**SEVEN.** Christian Education, Ministerial Relief, Our Army Work,—all are based on helping our homeless congregations, and rendering them financially co-operative.

Dr. J. F. Love, Secretary of the Foreign Mission Board, says he has never known of a homeless church aided in its time of need which did not become a regular contributor to all phases of our denominational effort.

**EIGHT.** The World War is but beginning. Before it ends, the little lads in our Sunday Schools will be sailing over the seas to fight the Hun.

They must be prepared,—they must be thoroughly equipped,—in every way.

**NINE.** Our Government will see to the equipment of the soldier, our Church must see to the equipment of his soul.

Multiplied thousands of our Baptist boys are going to the war from places where the Baptist congregation is homeless,—where the makeshift meeting house is the laughing stock of the community.

**TEN.** This is the closing year of the campaign for the homeless churches. What is to be done for them, must be done at once.

Are you willing for the most fundamentally important work ever undertaken by Southern Baptists to reach its conclusion without your taking part?

**ELEVEN.** You can take part with financial advantage to yourself by investing in our Annuity Bonds, non-taxable and paying a high rate of interest.

The present high rate will not be offered after the close of the present convention year, but during the next few months your investment in these bonds will be of great advantage to you and of infinite aid to the homeless churches.

**TWELVE.** You can take part by transferring your Liberty Bonds, your War Saving Stamps and Thrift Stamps to the work of housing the homeless.

Your duty to your Government was satisfied in their purchase, your obligation to your God will be met by applying them to the relief of His little ones.

**THIRTEEN.** In taking part in this great work you can erect a monument to yourself or to your loved ones. Nearly six hundred Memorials are published in the present issue of the Hall of Fame.

Are not your loved ones worthy of this beautiful memorialization? Send for a copy of the Hall of Fame, read the names and look upon the faces of those whose lives are forever linked with the churches built by their Memorial Funds.

**FOURTEEN.** A blessing will follow your participation in this work. You recall that the disciples seconded the petition of a certain nobleman in these words, "Master, he is worthy that thou shouldst do this thing for him, . . . for he built us our synagogue."

In that day Jesus blessed him who erected a building in God's name, and He is the same yesterday, today and forever.

**FIFTEEN.** By housing the homeless you will care for our Lord who in His loving work for us "had not a place to lay His head."

For He has said, "Inasmuch as ye did it unto the least of these, ye did it unto me."