

The Commission

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VOLUME FOUR
NUMBER ONE



A Waterfall in South America

*Who will supply
the Living Water?*

Foreign Mission Board - Southern Baptist Convention - Richmond, Virginia.

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THE COMMISSION

CHARLES E. MADDRY, *Editor in Chief*

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THE COVER portrays the picturesque cataracts of Iguazu. In this beautiful section of South America Southern Baptists do not have a single missionary.

A New Year's Message

By L. Howard Jenkins, President,

Foreign Mission Board

GREETINGS

THIS issue of THE COMMISSION will reach its readers during the days when you are busy with preparations for that season of joy and gladness—Christmas. In a few days you will be greeting your friends and loved ones with that conventional “Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.” I do sincerely wish every reader just that. This wish is more than conventional and formal, it comes from the heart, and I wish I could say it to each one in person.

As you sit around the fireside, I am sure you will be grateful for all God has done for you—grateful that you can sit safely in your own home instead of in a bomb shelter.

Some who read this will be rich and some poor, some old and some young; but all will have something for which to be thankful. In many homes there will be a vacant chair which will bring poignant memories of a voice stilled forever. For some, perhaps, there will be a new voice in the home to give new meaning to Christmas. In many homes, thank God, the family circle will be unbroken and, with gladness and gratitude in your heart, you will gather around a well laden table.

Whatever your personal situation may be, my prayer is that this glorious season will be filled with a gladness you have never known before and that you will receive just the blessing suited to your individual need.

As we close the books of the old year and open those of a new, I am sure, if you share my annual experience, there will be many regrets over lost opportunities, over tasks imperfectly performed, and over words hastily spoken to the hurt of others. But as we enter the New Year, let us do so with a strong heart and the determination to correct those shortcomings. So, a happy and useful New Year to every reader!

GRATITUDE

In the capacity of president of the Foreign Mission Board, I wish to give expression to a few reasons for gratitude as we face 1941. I am grateful for our constituency, that great group who, by their gifts and prayers, make possible the enduring work of the Board. It can be said, without fear of being charged with misstatement, that foreign missions is

the center of everything being done by Southern Baptists. This cause is dear to their hearts. In spite of war and depression their interest is unabated, as is evidenced by their ever increasing gifts. The treasurer's monthly report reveals more clearly than anything else what Southern Baptists think of foreign missions and their obligation to give the message of Christ to the whole world, in spite of difficulties which at times seem unsurmountable.

Then, I am thankful for our missionaries, every one of them. While they have their human frailties, just like the rest of us, they are not altogether like many of us. I believe there is more devotion to duty among all missionaries than in any other group anywhere. I take off my hat to them and, when in their presence, I feel like bowing in reverence, for I am in a holy presence. They are a constant inspiration to me, and I thank God for them and the privilege that has been mine in having association with them. While I have tried to carry my light part of the load at home they carried the vastly heavier load in distant lands.

In this group you will find more optimism, faith and happiness than anywhere else. I marvel at their faith and wish it were also mine. They are optimistic as to their work for they know they have a Leader who will, at all times, give whatever is needed. And why should they not be happy? They know they are dealing with the only means that will bring salvation to men and peace to their hearts. They know that this Gospel they are preaching is the only way. They know the only salvation for the world is for it to accept the fundamental principles of Jesus Christ. They know that no nation which neglects God can survive. They know that Christianity, if adopted universally, would save the world from the destruction it seems to be facing. They know the work they are doing is fundamental and is more important than at any time in the history of the world. These convictions bring that happiness at which we marvel, but it is understandable when we think of these things. Let us not slacken our interest in a time like this, when our noble missionaries need our support and prayers as never before.

I might give many other reasons for gratitude, such as the improvement in our income, the decrease of the debt, with greatly reduced interest pay-

ments, the ever increasing gifts of our women through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, and the many evidences of a quickened interest in our work throughout the South; but space forbids.

GODLINESS

In view of the discouragement which might be felt in some quarters, due to the difficulties in Asia and Europe as a result of the war, I do want to say one thing in closing. Frankly, we face difficulties and no man knows what lies ahead. We must work from day to day. But the very hardness of the task should be a challenge to us. Men are made great by doing hard jobs. Worthy effort builds character. It is easy to drift with the tide; but when we have to buck it, that is when we show the stuff out of which we are made. This is no time to give up or even to draw in, except where we are forced to do so by authorities whom we must recognize. If our missionaries are not permitted to work in a country, they can stay, if allowed, and can live a quiet, simple Christian life which will testify for Christ and influence others for Him just as much as preaching. Only a few of us can preach a great sermon, but all can live a great and good life that will lead men to follow Jesus Christ. Let me illustrate:

A gentleman of my acquaintance once held an important government position in India. On one of his visits home he was asked to name the man who impressed him most during his stay in India. He replied, without hesitation, that it was a Salvation Army captain and his wife. There was a notorious village inhabited entirely by bandits. This captain was determined to win these men for Christ and decided that the best way to do so was to live amongst them. When he told his friends of his decision they tried to dissuade him, saying it meant certain death if he made such an attempt. In spite of these warnings, these two devoted souls moved their few belongings to the village and set up a home. They did not preach a single sermon, made no public utterance of any kind. They just lived a simple Christian life such as they thought would influence these men for Christ and a good life. This gentleman told how after the two had been in the village for twelve months every bandit had become a professed Christian, led to Christ by a man and woman who were sincerely devoted to Christ and who possessed a determination to show their faith and love by just living before these men as they thought Christ would have them live. Example is a powerful weapon, so, if our missionaries are prevented from preaching, teaching, or performing other missionary tasks they, nor we, need not despair. *They can just live Christ.* Perhaps this will have an even more

powerful effect than any sermon they could preach. So let us have new hope and courage in spite of all handicaps and let us unfalteringly press on to an even larger service.

* * *

A BUSINESS MAN LOOKS AT PRAYER

Although nearly a quarter of a million clergymen—Protestant, Catholic and Jewish—pray for and with us every week, pitifully few of us have learned to use prayer in our own daily lives.

I have discovered that there is only one basis for prayer, and it consists of just four words—*Thy will be done.*

Most of us have repeated this phrase a thousand times, without ever sensing that it is the foundation not only of peace of mind and heart, but of successful living. In itself the phrase is passive, but it comes to life as soon as we take the first two words seriously, and put some drive behind the last two: *Thy will—be done.*

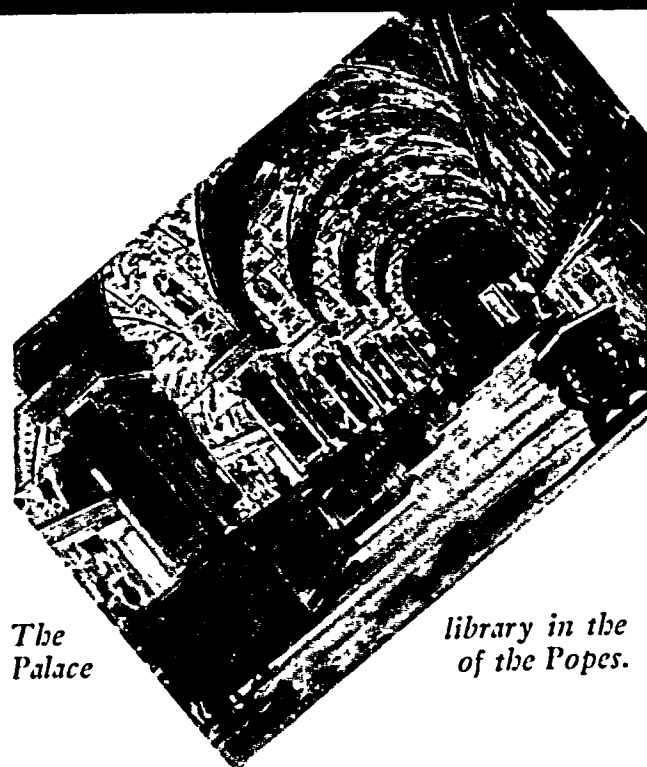
The people the world regards with affection and respect are nearly always those who plunge into life with “*Thy will be done*” in their hearts. The fullness of their spirit overflows into their daily work and spreads over all those with whom they come in contact.

Prayer takes on new emphasis: *Thy will be done—and be done by me!*

Today there is sore need for more “private virtue for public good.” For many years we have been trying to achieve social justice by legislation; but we shall make little real progress until enough of us are privately living “continuous prayer” lives to swing the balance—and at the same time to prove the power of “*Thy will be done*” as a workable, personal philosophy.

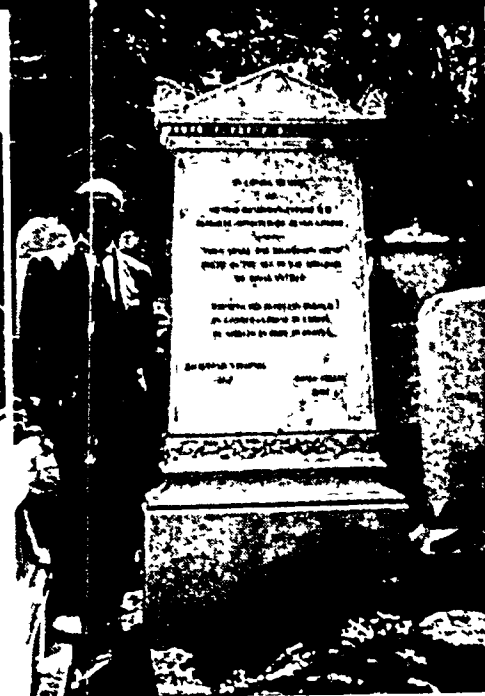
In the tragedy that is engulfing Europe we can see all too clearly where the opposite philosophy leads—the *My-will-be-done* of the dictator. Unfortunately, this spirit is not confined to distant dictators. We could all name *My-will-be-doners* among our own acquaintances and fellow workers, petty dictators who make the world a harder place for us and an unhappier place for themselves. These people would be amazed to discover how much more enjoyable their lives would be, were they to substitute “*Thy*” for “*My*.”

Prayer is a vital, moving force. Any man or woman can use it, day in and day out, to make his or her little corner of the world a finer, happier place—and in so doing find rich rewards.—Reprinted by courtesy of *Forbes Magazine*.



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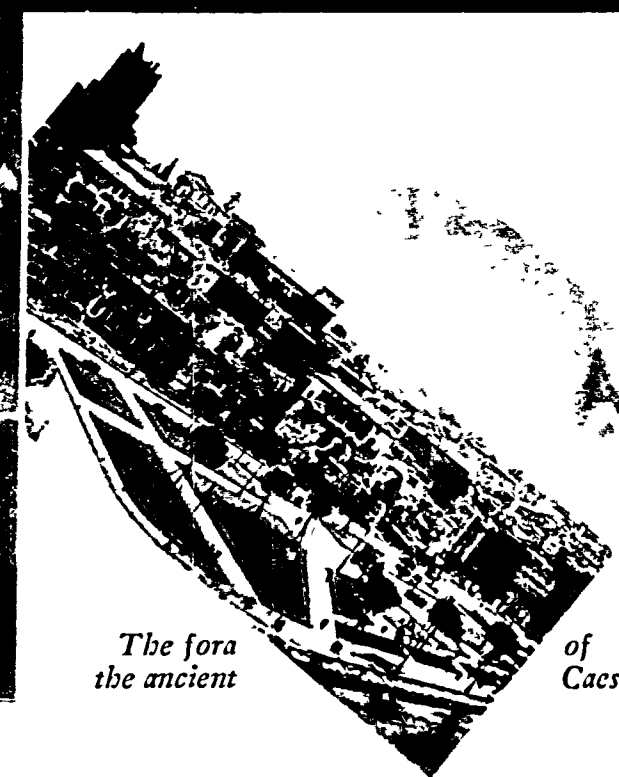
The author at the tomb of
George B. Taylor*.



A group of Italian Baptist leaders
including Drs. Whittinghill and
Laddry, taken on the Executive
Secretary's trip to Rome.



An Italian girl and boy in
their native costumes.



The fora
the ancient

of
Caesars.

ITALY AND THE GOSPEL, by Dexter Gooch Whittinghill

I REALIZE that my topic is not very popular at the present time. As Christians we should not allow our prejudices and material interests to becloud our spiritual vision. I wish also to put in a plea for the people of Italy—not, however, for the Government. Why should we condemn an entire nation for the misdeeds of its rulers? The Pope, the King, and many of Italy's prominent statesmen were decidedly opposed to this war of plunder and aggression. So were a great majority of the Italian people. What can the average man do to thwart the purposes of a dictator? Deprived of his liberty and means of defense, he can do nothing but obey orders or take the consequences. Truly the people of Europe, especially those of the totalitarian states, deserve the sympathy, prayers, and material help of Christian America.

COUNTRY AND PEOPLE

Italy is a boot-shaped peninsula extending into the Mediterranean sea from the north. The snow-covered Alps at the north stand as great barriers. The Apennines form its backbone and the three burning volcanoes—Vesuvius, Stromboli, and Etna—are imposing watchtowers. The Mediterranean, the Adriatic, and the Tyrrhenian seas wash its classic shores, while mysterious Sardinia, historic Capri, and beautiful Sicily go to complete the geographical picture of this beloved land. Italy's unbroken history for nearly 2500 years, its lovely cities, cathedrals and art galleries, its varied scenery, glorious sunsets, luscious fruits and fragrant flowers make it the

*Dr. Whittinghill's father-in-law, Dr. Taylor, began Baptist work in Italy.

FIELDS
AND FACTS

This masterly presentation of Baptist work in the land of the Popes and the Caesars grows from the author's rich experience. From 1900 to 1939 Dr. Whittinghill served as a missionary to Italy, supervising all Baptist work there after 1904. With his beloved wife, daughter of Southern Baptist's pioneer missionaries to Italy, he has transferred his field of activity to America. Don't miss the rest of his article.

most admired of all lands. Every lover of beauty of all nations looks upon Italy as his "second native country." Italian civilization is a veritable mosaic. Almost every city and many small towns preserve traces of many civilizations. Etruscan, Greek, Roman, Byzantine, Moorish, Medieval, Renaissance, and modern elements enter into its complex structure. America has been called the "melting pot" of the modern world, but Italy has been able for centuries to absorb all these elements and adapt them to form a united and compact nation.

GOVERNMENT

This country has passed through various stages of Government. First, there were kings, legendary and authentic, for about two hundred years; then the great Republic was founded which continued for nearly five hundred years. The world's greatest dictator, Julius Caesar, destroyed it to make way for the mighty Empire of which his adopted son and nephew, Augustus, became the first Emperor. In the fifth century the Empire fell. It seemed to be the end of the world, at least to the great Augustine who was inspired by this catastrophe to write "The City of God." In this great Christian document the author exhorts us to fix our minds on heavenly things. Rome of the Caesars, which seemed to be eternal, is gone; now we must "look for a city whose builder and architect is God."

NEW ITALY

The vicissitudes of Italy from the fall of Rome to 1870 are too many to mention. This year represents a memorable date for Italians. It has marked the unification of Italy, the promulgation of the dogma of papal infallibility and the loss of the Pope's temporal power. This new epoch is generally termed the "Third Italy."

Mussolini has many things to his credit, having performed miracles for his country. After the World War, the Italians were disappointed and humiliated by the Treaty of Versailles. They did not receive their share of the spoils of war. The new leader soon inspired the nation with courage and self-respect and did much to improve the country in a material way. In fact, the nation has been almost entirely transformed. The younger elements of fascism seem to be out for conquest and glory, regardless of consequences.

In the midst of these radical changes, the King has lost practically all of his authority.

Since Baptists have been working in Italy for seventy years, it is our duty to learn more of this land and its wonderful people, in order that we may more justly appreciate them for what they are and for what they have done. Our indebtedness to this country is indeed great. American was discovered by Columbus, an Italian; another Italian, Amerigo Vespucci, found other lands in the western hemis-

phere. In the field of science, we owe much to Galileo who revealed to the world secrets of the solar system; Galvani, Volta, and Marconi have made stupendous discoveries regarding electricity. To Marconi we are indebted for the greatest of all modern discoveries—wireless telegraphy which made the radio a possibility. What would Americans do without their radios?

In the matter of law, Italy has contributed immensely to other nations of the world. American law is largely based on the code drawn up during the reign of Justinian. Our mother country, England, received from the Romans its basic ideas of justice and equity.

Education's indebtedness becomes even greater. No American institution of standing could maintain its curriculum without drawing largely on Italy. The historian must acquaint himself with Julius Caesar, Tacitus, Livy, and Suetonius, for vivid pictures of the Roman republic and Empire. The world's poetry would be poorer without the contributions of Virgil, Horace, Ovid, and Dante. The aspiring orator must study Cicero's orations for diction and scathing logic.

Italy is another name for art. Where else in the world can we learn so much of beauty as in this beloved land? The paintings of Giotto, Botticelli, Titian, Leonardo da Vinci, Michael Angelo, Raphael, and others bring to our mind marvelous visions of loveliness and strength. The sculptures of Cellini, Leonardo da Vinci, and Michael Angelo would do credit to the Greeks in the age of Pericles.

This article will be continued in subsequent issues of THE COMMISSION.

FIELDS
AND FACTS

Training Native Leaders in Latin America

AS WE talk of training leaders in Latin America we must not be unmindful of many facts: Baptist work is not yet sixty years old; Baptist church membership is still small; the remuneration for Baptist preachers is pitifully meager; as yet it is not thought proper for women to travel about the country alone; there is no outside encouragement to follow a profession that brings neither high position nor adequate living. The urge must come from a deep love for one's Saviour and a passion for leading people to a knowledge of Him. It is not surprising, therefore, to learn that the greatest problem in our Baptist work in these countries is a dearth of pastors.

In Southern Baptist minutes we read fascinating reports of Baptist seminaries and training schools in South America. Just as interesting are the plans for the preparatory training of the constituency—the gathering together of Christians who have not the money, the literary education, nor, too often, the desire for seminary or training school.

The Theological Seminary of Rio de Janeiro has an extension department. Dr. John L. Riffey devotes all his time to this work. Last year he held six institutes and in them he reached fifty-six pastors and evangelists and twenty-two deacons and Sunday school workers. Who knows but that in the hearts of some of these laymen will come the call to the ministry?

Southern Baptist work in the highly developed little republic of Uruguay is still so small that, as yet, they can have classes only two nights a week for local church workers; but, perhaps from these classes will come a flaming evangel.

One of the most unique ways of training comes from missionary W. Q. Maer, in south Chile. As leader of B.T.U. work there, he is making an effort

to train lay-preachers among his young people by preparing sermon outlines for them. There are one hundred and thirty-two lay-preachers among the young people's societies. They can help the few pastors on those fields in the one hundred and twenty-four preaching points which are in southern Chile. Down in Orsono is a young Arab, a recent convert to Christianity, whose heart is burning with the desire to share this wonderful news that has come to him. He is trying to preach to a little group, and his only training is coming from books loaned to him by missionaries.

Dr. A. B. Deter has started an interesting "feeder" work in Curityba, Brazil. For many years he has been going up and down the rivers of South Brazil, penetrating the forests, reaching people whom the Gospel had never touched. A few weeks with them, many converts won, a little church organized, and then he left them. Without help from older Christians, it is so difficult for new Christians to go on in the "Jesus way" of living. So Dr. Deter has had a dream of a little training school for preachers. When the writer was there last year Dr. Deter showed a vacant lot—"The ideal spot for a preachers' school," he said. "See the fruit trees? See the large garden spot? Several men could come for a few weeks at very little expense." Now the dream has become a reality and, on the vacant lot, with money from the 1939 Beyond-the-Goal Christmas Offering, the building has been erected and the first group has come and gone. "You should see the garden," Dr. Deter writes. "The first year more than paid expenses."

All of the five training schools in these fields have institutes for the girls. At the close of the school year they have two weeks of intensive training, and then go out during the summer vacation two-by-two to serve in different states. The institutes are made possible through the W.M.U. fund of the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. The description of one will serve as an illustration of all. Last year's program institute at Recife, Brazil, included classes in story telling; discussions on Baptist beliefs, soul winning, and W.M.U. methods; handwork for Vacation Bible Schools, with lessons in the use of the mimeograph; directing church music, with new songs for children; poster making; health instruction—lectures given by Brazilian physicians. Who would not like to follow these Training School girls as they pass on to hundreds of women and children the way of the "abundant life" found in Christ Jesus?



By Mrs.
George
McWilliams,
Liberty,
Missouri

FIELDS
AND FACTS

INTERCESSORY PRAYER AND MISSIONS



PRAYER is an experience so charged with infinite power that words cannot carry its meaning. How can the Fountain of Life be transmuted into language? Prayer is so vast in its extent, so eternal in its scope, that it changes the dimensions of all human life.

DIVINE IN ITS ORIGIN

God is the Creator; "in His hands are the souls of every living thing and the breath of all mankind." Man is the creation; "and is to glorify the Father which is in heaven." Prayer is God's means of communion with His creation, and the means of growth and enrichment of human life. Prayer springs from a need of God. Prayer is the search for a living Heavenly Father. Prayer is the fundamental means by which the gospel message is spread. Man has evolved many ways of spreading the Gospel but God has only one: "Pray the Lord of the harvest that He will thrust forth laborers into His harvest." Whenever Christians fail to realize that labor and supply depend on their prayers, the message lags. Andrew Murray says, "So real is the power which the Lord gives His people to exercise in heaven and earth, that the number of laborers and the measure of the harvest actually depend upon their prayers."

God is the Author of missions and our authority for prayer. The Word of God is our inspiration for prayer and our manual of intercession. It tells us "that men ought always to pray." "Pray without ceasing." "I will that men pray." "Give yourselves to prayer." "Strive with me in your prayers." "I exhort that prayer be made."

An intercessor is one who pleads in behalf of an-

other, a mediator. All sacred history is rich with the intercessory prayers of patriarchs, prophets, saints, apostles, and believers. The power of prayer and the operation of the Holy Spirit were evident in the early church. Down the ages intercessory prayer has drawn the world to the feet of God. The Moravians, Wesley, Whitefield, Carey, Moody, and others knew that prayer and the operation of the Holy Spirit were God's means of bringing mankind to Jesus. Men prayed and the doors of nations opened to the Gospel. It was the key which unlocked to the believer both heaven and earth.

PROGRESSIVE IN ITS TENDENCY

Prayer also leads into a deepening spirituality. Prayer is a progressive means of growth in obedience and consecration in the lives of individuals. Prayer follows exact laws. Intercessory prayer is contingent upon certain things. Knowledge of God's Word, which is the Sword of the Spirit, is a necessity. Our desires and motives are important. "If we regard iniquity in our hearts the Lord will not hear us." He tells us, "when ye stand praying forgive." If we do the work demanded of us, we must

(Continued on page 13)

*By Mrs.
W. J. Cox,
Memphis,
Tennessee*

*(treasurer of the
W.M.U., shown
here with Mrs.
F. W. Armstrong,
W.M.U. president)*



A Virgin Mission Field

WILL you stand with me for a little while on the top of a steep mountain that rises abruptly from the edge of a city of nearly eight hundred thousand souls? It is near dusk. Behind are the grim, dark sides and the snowy summits of the high Andes. Below, indistinct in the fast growing twilight, is Santiago, capitol of the Republic of Chile. Suddenly the electric lights flash on and the city is like fairyland. But I have not invited you here simply to enjoy the breath-taking beauty of the scene. I want you to sense the spiritual hunger and need of this lovely land of nearly four million people. In this "shoestring republic" twenty-six hundred and sixty miles in length, stand on any street corner or crossroads where people live and, after a gospel hymn or two, preach the good news of the Kingdom of God, and a crowd will gather, and always seekers after light will linger as long as the speaker will stay.

To meet the vast needs of Santiago and the surrounding country Southern Baptists have four missionary couples, three of whom are in their first period of service. The Theological Seminary building has just been completed and, under the presidency of Mr. Espinoza, who graduated last year from the Louisville Seminary, it will meet the needs of the young Chilean preachers. A Woman's Missionary Training School also will soon be in operation. Five hundred miles to the south, at Temuco, where our work in Chile was begun, there are two missionary couples and four single ladies and the Baptist College (co-educational) with over six hundred students. In this section most of Chile's forty Baptist churches are located.

Very early one morning, Dr. W. Q. Maer, one of the Temuco missionaries, and I caught a train for a preaching tour. At Loncoche, where the train did not stop, Dr. Maer threw off a bundle of baptismal robes for the local pastor to use the next day. All

"Below, indistinct in the fast growing twilight, is Santiago"



FIELDS
AND FACTS



Above are "the snowy summits of the high Andes"

during that seven hour train-ride he pointed out villages and towns and even lonely country houses where our work is making progress. At one station I met a policeman who is a deacon; and at another, behind her display of cooked food for the benefit of the travelers, was the president of the missionary society. At Ossorono, our destination, we were met by the pastor and some of his men and escorted to the rented hall, which serves for a church. Here, in the afternoon, candidates for baptism were given a final examination and then baptized in a river, as beautiful as any I have seen. That night, despite the dance on the floor above us and the gala observance of the New Year, the hall was crowded to the door and others listened at the windows. A man over sixty accepted Christ, saying that it was the first time he had ever heard the Gospel. Everywhere missionaries and native pastors go, they hear that story.

At the Chilean Baptist Convention at Concepcion the pastors, without exception, reported on the ripeness of the field and the hunger of the people for the Gospel. But we must hurry; this condition may not continue long unless pressed to advantage. Social reformers and agitators are busy with their spoken and written messages. Indeed, one tried to get the ear of the Convention.

The Chileans are so winsome and attractive. Their courtesy and charm would win you as they do all comers. My four weeks in Chile brought me in contact with many of them under varying conditions, from being injured in a train wreck to trying to preach to them. In every instance they won my heart. I covet them, all of them, for our Christ. Let us multiply our gifts, our interest, and our prayers for our good neighbors in South America, and particularly those in Chile.

By R. C. Gresham of
Moultrie, Georgia

The Preacher-Training School in Curityba

By A. Ben Oliver of Curityba, Brazil

WHEN in 1935, I arrived on the field in Curityba, Brazil, I found a crying need for a building and grounds where we might establish a center for training the laymen who preach, and for preparing the ever-increasing number of young men who want to attend the Seminary in Rio, but who lack the elementary preparation necessary. Brother A. B. Deter, veteran missionary in Brazil, had long desired such a place, but, due to other work that forbade his dedicating more time to this phase of missionary activity, had been unable to bring to fruition this dream of years. With the coming of Drs. Maddry and Scarborough to our field, we were encouraged to present the matter to the South Brazil Mission for its ratification, having the promise that it would be favorably considered by the Board, if the Mission approved it. Our brethren saw the need, and voted to recommend it to the Board. The request was then passed on to the W.M.U. of the South, and they graciously gave us \$3,000.00 toward the purchase of the lot and construction of the building.

I had been renting a room for the boys to stay in, and with the able assistance of several brethren, had been holding classes with them during the days I was in Curityba. Such a program was far from efficient, but was helping in a small way to meet their need. With the assurance from the W.M.U. that we might go ahead, Brother Deter began searching for some land near the Mission property, and was fortunate enough to find a large tract, sufficient for the construction of the buildings and for cultivation by the students to produce the greater part of their food-stuff.

A board, composed of three Brazilian brethren and the two missionaries, was appointed to work with us. Plans were drawn up for the building, bids were submitted by various contractors, and the offer that we deemed best was accepted.

What a happy day for us when the ground was broken! In our imaginations we saw the fine group of young Brazilian preachers who, through the years, will there receive their start in the ministry that is to bless Brazil, and extend its beneficent influence to the ends of the earth. Not only this, but our vision was filled with the large number of faithful laymen, good men who want to preach the Gospel, and who in the absence of a pastor, carry on the work in those little churches of the interior. We plan to conduct two Institutes each year, inviting the key-man of each church to come for a

few weeks and receive training in evangelization, Baptist doctrine, and B.T.U. and associated work.

With such a vision, and such plans before us, the Board of the future *Escola Batista de Treinamento* in Curityba elected Dr. A. B. Deter to direct this work. Without any idea of setting up a school to compete with either of our seminaries in Brazil, we plan to be a "feeder" to them, recommending young men who seem to be sufficiently prepared and dedicated to the work to continue their studies in our fine Seminary in Rio de Janeiro.

With the withdrawal of Brother A. B. Deter from the field, due to the poor health of Mrs. Deter, we shall lose one of the greatest servants of the Lord that Brazil has ever known. I shall be forced to assume the duties of director of this school, in addition to those of general evangelistic work in that large field. Dr. Deter loves young preachers, and knows how to instill into their lives many of those lessons without which their ministry would be foredoomed to failure. We shall feel keenly the loss of this great servant, and of his counsel and experience. But the work will go on. God's men, called by Him, must be trained. Thanks to the Women of the South, we now have this fine building, dedicated to the advancement of education and training of these men in His service.

This building will stand as a monument to the devotion of the women of the South to the cause of ministerial education in Brazil, and to the faithful vision and efficient service of Dr. A. B. Deter. I thank God for its completion, and for the reality of unselfish love and devotion which made it possible.

A monument to missionary vision and home support—the Baptist Training School



FIELDS
AND FACTS

Kingdom Facts and Factors

W. O. CARVER, *Professor of Missions, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary*

GOD'S MISSIONARY CALL TO AMERICAN CHRISTIANS

Following is a condensed quotation from a form letter sent out by the editors of *The International Review of Missions*. It emphasizes a position and a plea brought forward in preceding issues of THE COMMISSION.

"The organized Christian world mission must face now and in coming months and years great trials and great changes. Already the virtual separation of most of the continental missionary societies from the fields in which they have worked constitutes a major blow to the total fabric of missions. In Great Britain the rigours of war finance cannot but affect the budgets of the societies, whatever the spirit of devotion that upholds the work. In the United States the dislocation of world economy must retard prosperity, and the Christian people of the United States of America are already shouldering greatly increased burdens as their continental brethren fall by the way. New and strange forces have been unleashed in the world, some good, some most evil, some as yet incalculable. The only prophecy which it is safe to make is that what is customary and familiar to our minds will be changed, and that we must essay new and unknown tasks. India, the Far East, the Near East, Africa, Latin America—in not one of these is there the prospect of slow evolutionary change; in each there is the certainty of rapid development as the new forces are deployed and the old comes into contact with the new."

Southern Baptists have an urgent call to greatly enlarged support of our world-wide missions. Loyalty to Jesus Christ and gratitude for our more favored condition in these tragic days should arouse us to heroism in this cause at all costs of sacrificial living and giving. The brightest light in this dark era will be world-wide missions.

* * *

RELIGIOUS "TOLERANCE" AND EVANGELISM

In recent years a growing crusade for religious tolerance has been making headway in our country.

WORLD
TELESCOPE

This is well, except that we need to go further than tolerance. Entire, unquestioned and ungrudging freedom in religion should be our universal practice. And for all the crusade, evidences abound that religious freedom in principle is in danger in America, because of the many instances of its violation in practice.

The most extensive line of the campaign is that of the "inter-faith" conferences and the newspaper and other forms of printed propaganda of the "inter-faith" organization. The Federal Council of Churches is also active in this interest.

With fullest sympathy and approval of the sentiment and practice of tolerance and freedom and of personal sympathy and understanding among all men of religion, one may point out some wrong effects and undesirable inferences concerning this fine sentiment and its promotion.

For one thing, evangelical witness is as greatly needed in America as ever it was. Jews and Catholics need to know Jesus Christ and the experience of living faith in Him as truly now as before the days of fellowship conferences among followers of all faiths. If the cultivation of good feeling in this matter chills the desire and checks the effort to bear witness to the need of all men for the "one mediator between God and men," it will be a serious matter. If indifference is engendered with reference to evangelizing Jews and Catholics, as well as all others, all religion will suffer. We must more than ever "persuade men: Be ye reconciled to God."

If it shall come to be considered an impertinence and a breach of tolerance for a Catholic to seek to enlighten his Protestant friend and his Jewish neighbor concerning the way of life; or for the Protestant and the Baptist to tell his Catholic and Jewish friends of the spiritual freedom of a personal fellowship with Jesus Christ, then under the guise of tolerance the very sources of religious conviction and power will be attacked.

The Catholics have been especially enthusiastic about this campaign for tolerance. At the same time, in a quiet way, they are conducting an unparalleled campaign of Catholic evangelism—propaganda some would call it. And they are succeeding with it. Evangelical Christians have better reason for their evangelism, and at no time in our history has it been more urgent that we evangelize Catholics and Jews.



*Rev. A. R. Crabtree in the
Seminary Chapel at Rio*

Winning Brazil Through a Trained Native Ministry

By A. R. Crabtree of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

spokesman for the new era of progress along educational lines. During these forty years, Brazilian Baptists have marched triumphantly "from victory unto victory," with firm and steady progress and with cumulative spiritual power.

As a student of Brazilian Baptist history I am firmly convinced that we stand once more at the crossroads, and that the future of our cause will depend upon our sympathetic understanding of the urgent needs of a native trained ministry, and upon the co-operative and concentrated efforts of missionaries, Brazilian pastors and churches, and the Foreign Mission Board, to strengthen our seminaries, not only with our sympathy and good will, but also with substantial financial help.

Until 1936 our seminaries were overshadowed by the colleges with which they were connected. They now exist as separate and independent institutions, but the buildings which our Seminary in Rio occupies are about ready to be condemned; our teachers are overburdened; we have very few textbooks; our library is inadequate; and our students' aid fund is almost nothing. With all their struggles and handicaps, our seminaries have rendered a magnificent service in the training of more than a hundred pastors, who are now the leaders of the denomination and who have proved the value of their training.

Because of the relative weakness of our Baptist native ministry, we face a crisis in Brazil. Our numerical weakness becomes increasingly embarrassing. The Southern Baptist ministry was numerically weak and poorly trained when our first seminary was founded at Greenville in 1859. The founders were men of wisdom and prophetic insight.



The 1940 Graduating Class of the Rio de Janeiro Seminary

DR. R. J. WILLINGHAM, in his annual report in 1901, declared that evangelization had progressed so rapidly in Brazil that the workers were not able to organize and train the evangelized for the Master's service. Ever since that report was written the need of trained workers has been one of the outstanding problems of our work in Brazil. At the end of twenty years of strenuous labor, with meager results, and at the dawn of the new century, our Baptist work entered on a period of progress that continues to grow in influence and power with the passing years. At the present stage of development of Brazilian Baptists, with their Home and Foreign Mission boards, colleges, seminaries, and publishing house, the need of trained workers is greater today than ever before. It is especially significant that where our work has been most successful in the three states of Espirito Santo, Rio and Sao Paulo, with their 267 churches and 30,309 members, the problem is most acute, for more than a third of these churches are without pastoral care.

With the beginnings of our evangelistic success it often proved easier to evangelize in new territory and organize new churches than to care for the older churches with their increasingly complicated problems. Soon the older churches, struggling at a poor dying rate, began to pass out of existence, and the missionaries waked up to the danger of such methods, and the great need of capable pastors to care for the flocks.

It was about this time that missionaries and the Foreign Mission Board turned their attention to establishing colleges and seminaries in Brazil. This was a great turning point in the history of our Brazilian Mission. The *Jornal Batista*, the newly founded Baptist paper, became the enthusiastic

Tried in the Fire

By Buford L. Nichols

This is the second and concluding chapter of this thrilling article which was begun in the December issue. Chung is in prison and his wife had the option of getting him out if she would renounce her religion.

Chapter II

"I will do anything," said she, "except give up my faith in Jesus. That means more to me than life itself."

"If you do not give up your faith in Jesus," said the accusing soldiers, "we will keep your husband in prison at least six months and subject him to such severe persecution that you may never see him again."

On her knees she pleaded for her husband's release. Her last plea was, "Please let me see his face once more. Let me see him tonight and my heart will be happy."

"We'll give you two minutes to talk with your husband," they said. Chung was led out. It was a happy meeting. They talked to each other in a different dialect so that no one about could understand. "They burned my hand last night," he said, "and they are coming back tonight. Get all the friends on their knees in prayer."

Back into the cell Chung was shoved. Mr. Fang had been released. Chung was alone, yet not alone, for the Saviour whom he had refused to deny was by his side. The Christians met in groups and interceded with God for him. In the writer's home the prayer meeting did not close until two o'clock in the morning.

That night the accusers did not return to persecute. Chung slept in peace until the break of day.

The third day passed slowly. Chung began to wonder why he could get no contact with his friends. "Have all my friends ceased to think of me?" he asked himself.

About noon a coolie came bringing some bread and a bottle of milk to Chung. Chung began to question him. "Where are my wife and my friends? What is being done toward getting me out of here?" The coolie replied, "Ask no questions. Only pray. That's all we on the outside can do." Chung thought on these words and, putting all evidence together, he came to the conclusion that his friends had not forsaken him but that they were agonizing in prayer for him. They were staying away for the sake of

expediency. They had chosen the royal road to his release—prayer. Realizing this, Chung sat down and wept for joy.

In the evening he was released. Friends and neighbors gathered in his home to hear his testimony. He was weak from hunger, cold, and pain, and he moved the hearers to tears as he told of his trials and triumph. Every one broke into praise and thanksgiving.

But even while the people still lingered in prayer and praise, the officers sent and took Chung and led him away to prison again. Dispute had arisen among the officers as to his release. The local pastor said, as he saw Chung go away, "If he never lives to preach another sermon, that talk tonight will live on in our lives as a memorial to his faith. I praise God for him."

In the prison room with Chung that night there was a young man who had never heard the Gospel. From the faithful Chung he heard and he believed. There was a revival meeting in the cell as the two glorified God together.

Next morning, the fourth day, the faith of Chung was put to the severest test. The devil had been working through cruel soldiers, trying to coerce Chung to renounce his faith in Christ. Here is Chung's testimony:

"I felt that the devil was in the cell with me. He said to me, 'You are foolish to cling to your faith in Christ. It is all superstition. Don't you know that you will die in here unless you give up Jesus?'"

"I can never listen to your temptations, Satan," I said. "Go away and leave me. I shall never forsake my Saviour."

"Let me suggest a plan," said Satan. "I want to be your friend and get you out of here. Do as I say and you will be released. When the soldiers come in to persecute you, say words to the effect that you are renouncing Jesus. You may have mental reservations and believe in your heart as you like. Only say with your mouth that you no longer believe in Jesus."

"I fell into the devil's trap," said Chung. "I made up my mind to say to my persecutors, 'I do *not* believe in Jesus.' And if they pressed me too close I would say one of the negatives to myself, and speak the other so they could hear it. At the same time I would keep faith in my heart. It would be only a matter of concealing thoughts with words. When I thus made up my mind I felt that the devil went away and left me. I seemed bold and courageous."

"After a few minutes I felt a guiltiness in my heart. I realized that in my heart I had denied my Lord. I fell on my face on the cold concrete floor and cried for forgiveness. While I was on the floor

the soldiers came in, brought me out, and set me free.

"'I believe you are a good man at heart,' said one of the soldiers. 'You need not give up your faith, for it means a great deal to you and it has helped to make you a good man. If you will come with us, we will help you to get a good job paying a big salary.'

"'Thank you for setting me free, and for the offer of a position,' said Chung. 'But my heart is interested only in preaching the Gospel. I may never get a big salary, but I am happy to serve the Lord Jesus. My reward is in Heaven.'"

Since his release from prison Chung has been a flaming evangel for Christ. Daily he does personal work among the students. Under the power of his testimony, many people are turning to Christ. He praises God for leading him through those trials.

NOTE. It must not be concluded from this incident that Christianity itself is in disfavor in China. Quite the opposite is true. When Chung was known to be a genuine Christian it was at once recognized that he was not a spy or a disloyal citizen. Only his claim to be a Christian was under trial. The incident clarifies the distinction between a true Christian and one who, through false motives, joins the church or professes Christianity.

Chung's experience is a chapter in Christian evidences. It casts a flood of light on the validity of the Christian faith. To the true believer, faith in Christ is more precious than life itself.

Is the cause of missions worth-while? Do the results of missionary activity justify the huge expenditure in money and human life? Should there be a retrenchment in missionary work during this period of suspicion and strife and war? These are not the questions of faith but the whimpers of doubt. A missionary work that produces Christian characters like Chung—those who can stand the test of fire—is eminently worth-while and should be continued at all costs until our Saviour shall come again.

* * *

(PRAYER—Continued from page 7)

abide in the True Vine and be fruit bearers. It is said one can work without praying but one cannot pray without working.

TRIUMPHANT AND ETERNAL IN ITS COURSE

Prayer for the glory of God is triumphant and eternal in its course. The prayers of Jesus for His disciples, and for all who were to believe on His name through the Holy Spirit are yet being answered. Creative prayer cannot be calculated by human arithmetic. *This day of untold agony for mankind is a call to prayer.* Prayer creates conditions

which make it possible for God to work in the hearts of men. We are deeply conscious that our times have not been a period for intercessory prayer because we have not been deeply conscious of our need of God. Ours is an age of such marvelous mechanical and scientific achievements that it has tended to glorify the abilities and wisdom of man. Impressed with the power of man, who has measured the universe, conquered space and elements, we are filled with a petty conceit. A merciful God patiently waits for the return of His people to His means of extending the message of salvation. He longs for them to turn away from the broken cisterns which hold no water, and return unto Him the Fountain of Life, the Source of infinite power.

Unthinkingly and almost unconsciously, we have been preaching prayerless sermons, doing prayerless work, living prayerless personal lives. Jesus said: "Without me ye can do nothing." The only way we can receive His help is through prayer. Prayer alone will vitalize our indifferent and unwieldy church memberships. Prayer alone will bring the longed-for revival. Prayer alone will unite the hearts of believers in their desire to save the world. In no part of our Southern Baptist life do we become so united for the glory of God as in our prayer life. In no part of denominational life do we see such outstanding results of intercession as the increased giving which follows prayer. When God's people truly learn the power of prayer in missions, they will cease to ask for petty things and claim the world for Christ Jesus. He, "the same yesterday, today and forever," has given us a power, the power of prayer, the Fountain of Life, which will win, save, and bless all mankind for all eternity.

"Lord teach us to pray."

In the February Issue

An article by Dr. W. W. Hamilton, President of the Baptist Bible Institute and of the Southern Baptist Convention, entitled, "Forward, Southern Baptists."

"What You Have Done for Us," by B. Gray Griffith, Secretary of the British Baptist Missionary Society.

Articles by Mrs. B. A. Copass, on "The Women's Part in Wiping Out the Denominational Debts," and Dr. Sankey Lee Blanton, of Wilmington, entitled, "Baptists' Contribution to the New World."

"Challenge of the Cameroons," by Dr. George W. Sadler, Secretary for Europe, Asia and the Near East.

Other articles on Africa by I. N. Patterson, Isabella Moore and Dr. H. Glenn Walker.

All Things Through Christ

I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.—Philippians 4:13.



Inabelle Graves Coleman, to whose journalistic genius and artistic insight is due the early excellence of this publication. From her pen come these glad tidings from the war-torn Orient, where she is "standing by" despite danger. To her go our grateful good wishes and earnest prayers for her health and safety

PERHAPS nowhere in the world today can one find the followers of Christ exemplifying with more confidence this affirmation than the Chinese Christians are demonstrating it, hour by hour, in every walk of life. They have an age-old truism: "Sorrow produces seriousness." Resultant of their recent years of bitterest sorrow, from which none has been immune, these Oriental children of God are taking Him seriously, accepting His word literally, experiencing His Spirit intimately, personally, and sharing with numbers of the pagan multitudes the secret of their inner peace. This is Orient's star of hope today.

URGENT NEED

Only four years ago this past summer the S.S. PRESIDENT TAFT, of the American President Lines, carried me away from the shores of Cathay. Returning I witness the terrific changes that have registered upon both people and things. But more distressing than hollow, skeleton buildings are the weary expressions of Southern Baptists' witnesses who, without doubt or debate, have written with their lives a new sequel to the Acts of the Apostles. Their experiences have exacted a toll that may be tragic for some of them unless they can "come apart and rest." The load has been too heavy and

**FIELDS
AND FACTS**

nerve exacting for an extended race through such dangers as have been theirs.

GOOD NEWS

The second year of the All-China Baptist Seminary at Kaifeng records an enrollment of seventeen students—four young women and thirteen volunteers for the ministry. Last year there were only six students registered for courses in this new Seminary.

Reports from our seminaries in Hwanghsien and Macao (formerly at Canton) forecast for them the best year yet.

In spite of the dangers and handicaps prevailing because of the war, Christian students are more willing than ever to make sacrifices that they may be better trained to serve Christ.

EIGHT HUNDRED UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Already the University of Shanghai has enrolled 834 students who crowd all of their classes into the forenoon in order that the more than 500 middle school students may use the same classrooms in the afternoon.

Of the 335 freshmen there are over 100 Christians—the best percentage ever enrolled. Of the 234 Christians in the student body last year (1939-40) 104 were Baptists. The initial check-up during this first week of the 1940 autumn semester gives promise of an even larger proportion than last year's record showed. These initial facts and figures reveal limitless opportunities and potentialities.

One week of acquaintance with the University students verifies the truth that the majority of these young people come from the upper class of China, from cultured, intelligent families. Without doubt they are the builders of a new China. From the chaos and destruction through which they are passing they must piece together the mosaic of a great, enduring nation. To lead these young people to know the one and only God and His Way for building is the thrilling challenge entrusted to the members of the faculty of the University of Shanghai.

Inabelle Graves Coleman

A DESERT PARABLE

By J. L. Hart of Antofagasta, Chile

NORTH CHILE is a desert. From the deck of a steamer the view of the barren, rocky coast of Peru and North Chile is anything but attractive. When the steamer docks at Antofagasta many ask, "Why a city on a desert?" It is because it is the port for the shipping of the minerals that are found abundantly in the desert. In that section are vast nitrate deposits, borax lakes, enormous copper mines. From these also comes all the iodine of the world.

It is not my purpose, however, to write of the natural resources of North Chile, but to record a missionary's vision—a desert parable that carried a message.

One day I was at the large nitrate plant, Maria Elena. When the manager, Mr. Kruger, heard that I was crossing the desert to the large copper mine Chuquicamata, he said, "I'll be glad to take you in my car and save you the dusty ride on the train." I readily accepted his kind invitation, and soon we were off. After traveling some miles Mr. Kruger said, "Look out there. What's that moving on the desert?" As we approached the moving object we saw it was a man. When we overtook him Mr. Kruger stopped the car and said to him, "Where are you going?" He replied, "To Chuquicamata." Then Mr. Kruger asked him if he had anything to eat. "No," he replied. He asked the man if he had any water, and again he said, "No." Then Mr. Kruger said to him, "Do you see those bones out there? Yours would be with them before long, for no man can cross this desert afoot without food or water."

Opening the car door, Mr. Kruger said to him,



"... along on that desert road"

"Get in. I'll take you along." But the poor fellow, looking at his soiled and torn clothes, did not move. So Mr. Kruger reached out, took him by the arm, pulled him in the car, and we were again off for our destination.

After traveling for some hours we arrived at the copper mine and Mr. Kruger gave the man some money to get something to eat. Then we drove on to the hotel where we were served a delicious dinner. But I was not hungry. I was having a vision.

That poor man had become a symbol to me. There he was trudging along on that desert road. To what? To certain death. If someone had not come to his rescue, his bones would now be bleaching on that desert sand. Then I seemed to see those millions in Latin America, trudging along life's highway to death. There is bread for all, and there is water for all. Jesus said, "I am the bread of life." But how are they to obtain that bread? That is your glorious task and mine. And never before was there a more challenging opportunity than there is now to take the Bread of Life to Latin Americans.

Help of the Helpless

A wise old adage says, "When the outlook is not good, try the up-look."

A woodman, tramping over weary miles of underbrush, became exhausted under the burning, noon-day sun. Weak and faint from thirst, he plodded gloomily on, ever keeping his eyes on the stony, thorny ground, and feeling increasingly sure that he could never live to reach his journey's end. Pausing for a moment's rest, he looked up to a rocky elevation from which some pine trees were growing. With the keen observation of a woodman he noticed that the trees all bent slightly in one direction. "That means that there is water there," he gasped feebly as, with his ebbing strength, he dragged himself toward the trees. There he found a clear and sparkling spring from which he drank and was refreshed. Revived and able to continue his journey, there was in his heart a song of gratitude that he had tried the "up-look."

Today the scorching heat of strife and hatred and oppression have made the missionary trail difficult and tangled. With missionaries driven from their fields of service, with buildings shattered and work disrupted, "the outlook is not good." Let us try "the up-look."

N. F. W.

FIELDS
AND FACTS

Stronger than a
battleship are bonds of
Christian fellowship



A training school girl
of Buenos Aires (left)
and Martha Ellis of Alabama

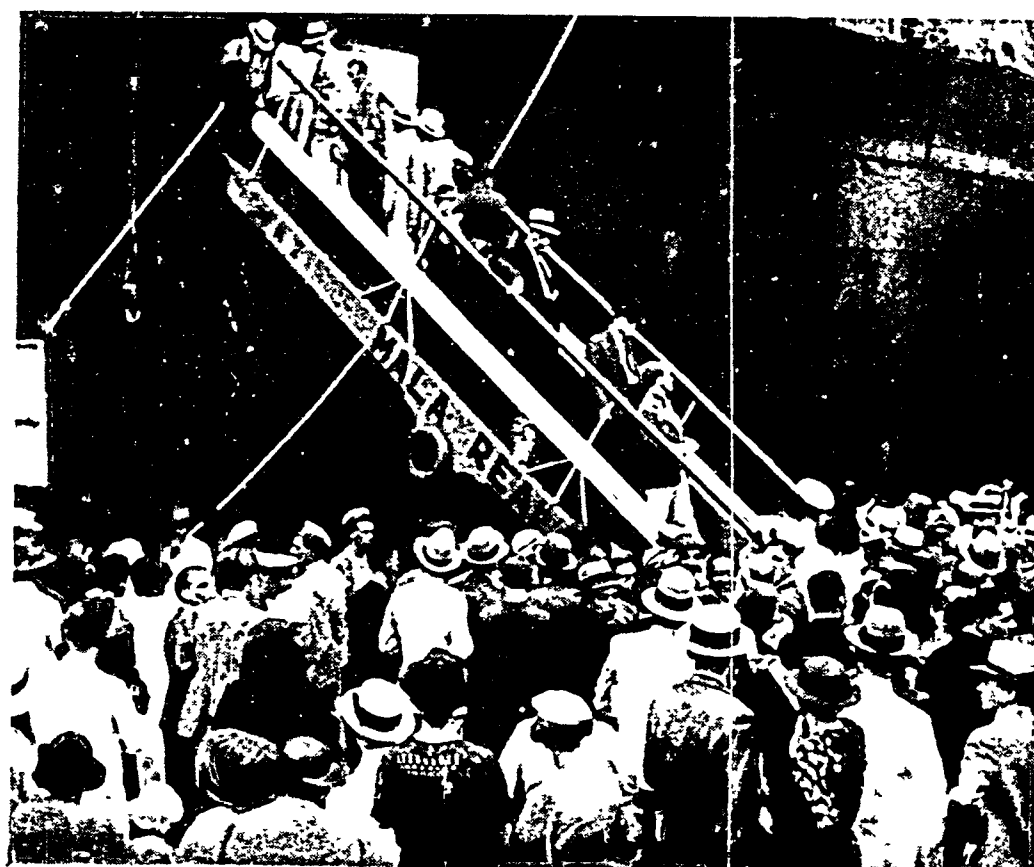


Laying the Bible Institute corner-
stone in Santiago, Chile



In this Argentine home Mrs. J. C.
Quarles finds a Bible

Down the gangway in Rio de Janeiro go Dr. and Mrs. Charles E. Maddry



A street
scene
in

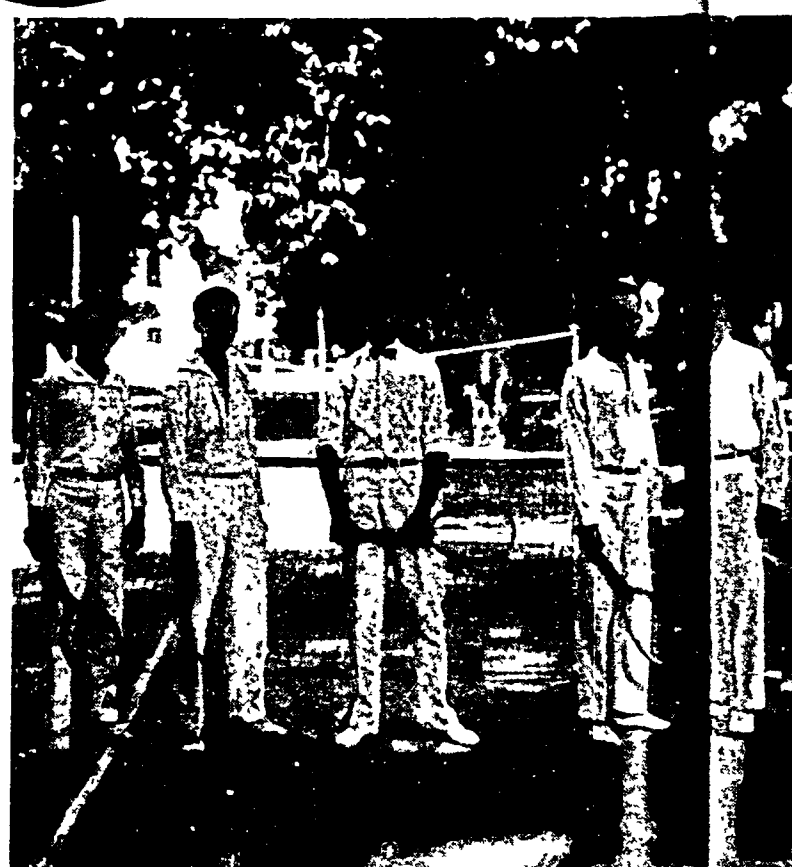


Vil-
la Am-
ericana,
Bra-
zil



It
should
not prove
hard to make
friends with
this beautiful
Brazilian girl

"Won't
you join
us?" these
Brazilian boys
seem to be calling.



Hitler's tanks could not
go through this pass
in the Andes of
Chile; our mis-
sionaries can
and do!



Missionary Paul
Porter of Bra-
zil holds a
street ser-
vice, us-
ing an
organ



mis-
sionary
co-workers



Symbols not of military might but of good-will are these motorcycle police-
men escorting Dr. Maddry and President L. R. Scarborough through the
streets of Brazil's capital



Mexican Baptists



A Brazilian Baptist family



BINDING the AMERICAS with FRIENDSHIP

If you want to write to South America, one of these miniature pictures (which seem to be quite useful now) might possibly pass for a postage stamp (though you had better not make the attempt).

THE COMMISSION

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The Christmas Bells Are Muffled

CHRISTMAS BELLS

I heard the bells on Christmas Day
Their old familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet the words repeat
Of peace on earth, good will to men!

And in despair I bowed my head;
"There is no peace on earth," I said;
"For hate is strong, and mocks the song
Of peace on earth, good will to men."

For uncounted millions in Europe, Africa, and Asia, the bells of a happy, glad Christmas will not ring this year. The song of the angels on the Judean hills that first Christmas night "praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will to men'" is muffled and hushed in the frightful noise of death-dealing guns and the scream of bombs raining ruin and destruction upon teeming cities and quiet, peaceful countrysides. All Europe is an armed camp and one vast munition factory. The time and thought and supreme energy

of 440,000,000 people are given over wholly to work of destruction and mass murder. The slow accumulation and achievement of ten centuries in the upward striving of Europe, the old home land of most of us, is rapidly being destroyed in the frightful holocaust of total and unrestrained war. Millions are hungry and starving, and other millions are in prison and concentration camps, while murder and unbridled lust stalk openly through the lands cursed with the rule of the dictators.

The saddest tragedy of all is the fact that Africa, wholly without her consent, has been parcelled out among the warring nations of Europe, and the helpless black people have been trained in the brutal art of war and set at each other's throats. As goes Europe in this deadly struggle now raging, so go the helpless millions of Africa. They are to be enslaved and exploited by their European conquerors.

In Asia there are not less than a thousand million people directly involved or vitally affected by this war now raging in both East and West. In the World War of 1914-1918, 10,000,000 soldiers were killed and 11,000,000 were permanently incapacitated by wounds, disease and sorrow that followed in the wake of the most destructive war the world has ever seen up to that time. But the undeclared war which the military party of Japan has been waging upon innocent, helpless China now for three and one-half years surpasses by far, in mass murder and destruction, anything ever seen by mankind since the dawn of history. It is estimated that 1,000,000 Japanese soldiers, helpless puppets in the hands of the cruel and dominant military party, have been killed or wounded in this ignoble attack unleashed upon defenseless China.

In this frightful war now raging in China, one hardly knows whom to pity more, the common people of Japan or those of China. Both are helpless victims of pagan military leaders in Japan, who are drunk with the lust for power and world domination.

China's population is so dense and human life is counted so cheap in the Orient, that it will never be known how many Chinese have perished during this war. It is believed, however, by those who are familiar with China, that not less than 10,000,000 men, women, and children have been killed, wounded, or violated since this fearful and wholly unnecessary struggle began.

And this is Christmas time! The time when the bells in the churches should ring out the glad, good news, that Christ, the Prince of Peace, has come into the world to bring joy and good will to all mankind. The time when the children, who have wandered far, come home for glad re-unions, and blessed fellowship, and joy unrestrained. But into

the peace and holy quiet of the blessed Christmas season, there intrude the rude clangor of war drums, the roar of cannon and the scream of falling bombs. When will it end? O Christ of Bethlehem, hasten the day of peace! Shorten the time of agony and bloodshed and suffering for the helpless, driven ones of earth!

It is Christmas, but the bells are muffled.

* * *

A Missionary Statesman

In 1915 the Foreign Mission Board appointed Rev. and Mrs. William Carey Taylor to missionary service in Recife, Pernambuco, North Brazil. They were assigned to educational work and for twenty years gave themselves with unfailing devotion and zealous consecration to the education and training of young men and women for the ministry and missionary service. Dr. Taylor is a scholar of broad culture and a teacher of rare charm. For two decades he devoted his fine talent and consecrated scholarship to the work of theological education. It was largely through his far-sighted wisdom and enthusiastic leadership that the College and Theological Seminary at Recife came to occupy such a high and commanding position in Baptist circles in North Brazil.

It is in the realm of literature and the writing and creation of devotional and theological books that Dr. Taylor stands out with pre-eminent distinction. Through the quarter of a century of Dr. Taylor's notable service in Brazil he has produced many of the textbooks on theological and Biblical subjects now in use in our colleges, seminaries, and training schools in Latin America.

In 1935, Dr. Taylor was elected secretary for all of the Foreign Mission Board's work in Latin America. He has travelled widely, visiting our schools, colleges, and mission stations in all the Latin countries where the Board has work. He is highly gifted in the art of teaching and instructing pastors and leaders and has been greatly blessed in his labors.

At the October meeting of the Foreign Mission Board it was realized that the executive secretary must have more staff assistance for the rapidly growing and expanding work in Latin America. It was not deemed wise to discontinue the widely effective service now being rendered by Dr. Taylor in Latin America. He was, therefore, elected a missionary-at-large for all of our enterprises in Latin America and will continue the same kind of far-reaching work he has been doing for the past five years.

A committee of three members of the Board was appointed to search for an outstanding man for the position of Secretary of Latin America, with headquarters in Richmond.

Thus we shall have some assistance in the ever-growing and expanding demands of the Latin American work and, at the same time, save William Carey Taylor, far-sighted missionary statesman, for our work down under the Southern Cross.

* * *

We Sorrow with Them

Acting upon the repeated advice of the State Department, the Foreign Mission Board has been compelled to bring home on emergency furlough, many of our missionaries—more than one hundred mothers and children. The furloughs of missionaries due in 1941 have been advanced and they have already reached the home land. Dr. Rankin will be sending others from time to time as he is able to secure passage for them. All told, we had in Japan and China about 230 missionaries.

The State Department, in anticipation of a possible flare-up with Japan in the Far East, is advising that all Americans come home while there is an opportunity to secure passage.

We have appointed seven young missionaries to work with our newest Mission in Honolulu, and three others will be assigned to join them, making ten in all for the promising work there.

This wholesale exodus of missionaries from the Orient will add greatly to the financial burdens of the Foreign Mission Board. How we are going to be able to meet the regular current budget of the Board and care for this extra \$50,000 needed for the evacuation of one-half of our missionaries from the Orient, is a problem that is giving the officials of the Board grave concern.

The greater loss, however, will fall upon the work of our Board in China. The Chinese churches, schools, colleges, missionary training schools and theological seminaries are left without missionary supervision or guidance in this critical hour of China's destiny. From many of our churches the shepherds have been withdrawn and the flocks will be scattered and ravaged. A number of our institutions will be closed and our property looted.

We believe, however, that the heaviest sorrow and tragedy of all have fallen upon the faithful, devoted missionaries—those sacrificial men and women who have given their all for Christ and the salvation of Japan and China. God has richly blessed their labors. They won the first converts and organized the churches. They have nourished them and seen them grow and multiply. They have established institutions for the training of a native ministry and leadership for the churches. Now, for the time being at least, they are forced to withdraw and leave their work and their faithful co-workers.

For many of these missionaries, the past three-and-one-half years have been a time of endless and unspeakable agony. Some are coming home broken in body, and heart-sick over the sufferings and sorrows they have witnessed and been unable to relieve. We would humbly commend them to the God of all Grace in the words of the Apostle Peter: "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you; But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy. If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified."

* * *

We Are Deeply Grateful

The ripest and most challenging mission field on earth today for Southern Baptists is Latin America. We have made a splendid beginning in four of the larger and more advanced republics, viz.: Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina, and Chile. We have 144 missionaries in these four republics. Every mission in these lands is urgently asking for recruits. Uruguay alone is begging for three more missionary couples. Some six large and populous states in Brazil have not yet received a missionary. Four new missionary couples are desperately needed in Chile and we ought to send a dozen new recruits to Argentina this year. Our Foreign Mission Board ought, by all means, to open work in Paraguay, Peru, and Colombia in 1941. Southern Baptists should send one hundred new missionaries to Latin America in 1941 and 1942.

For months we have been hoping and planning and praying for the way to open for advancement in these lands of the Southern Cross. Until the churches give us more money for the sending of the Gospel to distant lands, we must wait in impotence and disappointment.

The young people are ready to go—scores of them, called of God and splendidly prepared. They are eager to match their lives against our money. Surely a way must be found to send the Gospel to our neighbors to the South.

It can readily be understood that there is joy in our hearts over the announcement of the Texas W.M.U. leaders that out of their beyond-the-goal gifts of the 1940 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, they are giving us \$7,000 for the outfit, travel, and salary of four young Texans for Latin America. We plan to appoint them at the April meeting of the Board. We are deeply grateful for this generous gift in this momentous hour.

Some Regional Conferences

Latin America, as a potential mission field, is just now claiming the earnest attention of many of the leading Protestant mission boards of the United States and Canada. The executive secretaries of the major mission boards of North America met in Atlantic City on December 10, for a session of four days. Careful attention was given to the critical situation now facing all mission boards in the war-torn lands of Europe, Africa, and Asia. In the absence of the executive secretary, who was in a meeting with our Mexican mission at El Paso, Texas, at that time, Dr. George W. Sadler, secretary for Europe, Africa and the Near East, represented our board in this conference. The leaders from the several organizations gave earnest and serious consideration to the claims of Latin America as a field for immediate and concentrated effort on the part of the various missionary bodies of North America for advance in constructive missionary endeavor. For many months we have been urging this matter upon the Baptists of the South. We believe the time has now come when our Foreign Mission Board should take a great forward step in the expansion of our work in these lands of the Southern Cross. In an effort to inform our people and inspire them to undertake a great program of expansion in our mission work in Latin lands, we are arranging to hold, during January and February, a series of regional conferences in several of the leading cities of the South. We plan to use in these conferences several of our missionaries from Latin America who are now at home on furlough. In addition to these missionaries, Dr. John R. Mott, international missionary leader and President of the World Foreign Missionary Conference, has promised to give us five days for these regional conferences on Latin America. Dr. Mott has just returned from a four months' visit to most of the countries of South America. He has a marvelous story to tell of the triumphs of Christ's Gospel in the neighbor lands to the South of us. The dates and places for these regional conferences will be announced shortly.

* * *

Joy In Heaven

One of the most satisfying and heartening passages in the New Testament is that statement of Jesus in Luke 15:10: "Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth." The saints and redeemed, along with the angels, stand in the presence of God and the risen, glorified Saviour. Among that host, we must believe our dear departed Brother W. R. Spight now rejoices in the glory and triumphs of our ador-

able Lord. During the all-too-brief years of his earthly life, he lived nobly and worthily for the honor of the Redeemer's kingdom and church. God gave Brother Spight the ability to make money, and the Holy Spirit gave him a generous heart toward Christ and all the causes fostered by his church.

In his last will and testament he left the Foreign Mission Board fifty per cent of the income from his estate, and fifty per cent of the corpus of the estate when it should finally be settled. It was specified that the money could only be used for the appointment and support of new missionaries year by year.

Already the Foreign Mission Board has received \$60,000 from this estate during the past three years. We have in hand the last \$20,000, and the Board has instructed the secretary to bring forward, at the April meeting of the Board, some twelve or fifteen new missionaries for appointment to Latin America. What a far-reaching kingdom investment this servant of Christ made at his death! Surely multitudes from pagan and heathen lands will rise up in the judgment and call him blessed.

Surely there is joy in heaven over the fact that for this man, to live was Christ and to die was gain.

* * *

It Can Be Done

By the first of January, 1941, the paid-up subscription list of THE COMMISSION will be close to *twenty thousand*. We have set our goal for *thirty thousand* paid-up subscribers by January 1, 1942. If we can attain this goal, THE COMMISSION will be self-supporting and we can begin to plan for the enlargement of the magazine. We now print thirty-two pages and we are terribly crowded for extra space. We hope that the number of subscribers will increase to such an extent by the end of 1941 that we can increase the size of the journal to forty-eight pages and then to sixty-four pages as soon as the income will justify the enlargement.

There are nearly *five million* members of Southern Baptist churches. Surely, it is easily possible for THE COMMISSION to secure *one thousand* new subscribers each month during the year 1941. We call upon all of our friends, pastors, W.M.U. leaders, board members, and missionaries on furlough to help us secure *one thousand new subscribers each month* during 1941. This will mean greatly increased prosperity for our foreign mission work both at home and abroad.

God's Man In the Right Place

The foresight and wisdom of the Foreign Mission Board in 1935 in making Dr. M. T. Rankin, Secretary of the Board's work in the Orient, has been demonstrated anew in the crisis which has arisen in the Far East at this time. Upon his shoulders, with the counsel and co-operation of his fellow missionaries in Japan and China, has rested the heavy weight of responsibility for the present and for the immediate future of all of our work in eastern Asia. The destiny of the work itself, together with the welfare and safety of 230 Southern Baptist missionaries, has been largely in his hands. He has been equal to every emergency thrust upon him and has met each responsibility with confidence and wisdom. He is God's man in the right place for this destiny-making hour across the Pacific.

* * *

Heartfelt Gratitude

The following letter received recently, expresses the deep and genuine appreciation which is felt by a host of British Baptists.

Baptist Missionary Society,
Cokes Lane House,
Chalfont St., Giles, Bucks.
30th September, 1940.

Dear Dr. Maddy:

You have had official communications from my colleagues about the opening of the windows in Heaven, and the showering of blessings on the old B.M.S.

If you do not agree that Heaven and the Southern States are synonymous, you will admit that yours is God's own country. I, too, am constrained to add my word of humble and fervent thanks and appreciation for the wonderful response of your people. We rejoice, also that their effort has also strengthened your own financial position.

You have heard of the destruction of our premises, and the further misadventure from incendiary bombs in the adjacent temporary quarters, which drove us back again into what remained of the old home. We shall hang on there as long as we can; but we have as a refuge the beautiful house at Kettering, practically given to us, in the Midland town where our Society was founded 148 years ago.

Events seem to be drawing us closer together in every sphere; we feel encouraged, and grateful to God.

I hope that you are keeping well, and that all goes well with your work.

All good wishes and kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

Clement C. Chesterman.

NEWS FLASHES

By Gene Newton

Sailings

Rev. and Mrs. Maurice E. Brantley and Dr. and Mrs. Howard D. McCamey sailed for Capetown, South Africa, on November 4, 1940. From Capetown they planned to go by coastal steamer to Nigeria.

On October 19, 1940, the S.S. DELBRAZIL sailed from New Orleans carrying a party of missionaries to South America. Two new missionary families were in this party: Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Lunsford, Pernambuco, Brazil, and Rev. and Mrs. R. L. Carlisle, Jr., Montevideo, Uruguay. Rev. J. J. Cowser returned to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, alone, as Mrs. Cowser's health did not permit her to sail at this time. She will join her husband in the spring.

Miss Ruby Howse sailed on November 2, 1940, on the S.S. DELORLEANS for Buenos Aires, Argentina en route to Temuco, Chile to take up her work as an educational missionary.

— • • —

A New Field

The Baptist Mission in Hawaii is always glad to welcome missionaries who are kept away from their regular fields. Rev. and Mrs. James D. Belote and Miss Hannah Plowden have stopped there to work until they can get to China. In November Rev. and Mrs. H. B. Ramsour, Jr. arrived in Honolulu from Tokyo, Japan to join their fellow-missionaries. Mr. Belote writes that Hawaii is a place of great need and of great opportunity for the Lord's work.

— • • —

Arrivals from China

In accordance with advice from the State Department the follow-

ing missionaries were evacuated from China and arrived in the United States in December:

Miss Lila Watson, Mrs. George Carver, Mrs. W. B. Johnson, Mrs. C. H. Westbrook, Rev. and Mrs. C. A. Leonard, Mrs. Victor Koon, Miss Jennie Alderman, Dr. Jeannette Beall, Miss Elizabeth Gray, Miss Zemina Hare, Miss Anna Hartwell, Miss Mary Her-ring, Miss Willie Kelly, Miss Ola Lea, Rev. Wesley Lawton, Miss Helen McCullough, Miss Bonnie Ray, Miss Thelma Williams, Mrs. R. E. Chambers, Mrs. N. A. Bryan, Mrs. C. L. Culpepper, Mrs. Wilson Fielder, Mrs. A. S. Gillespie, Mrs. H. M. Harris, Mrs. J. B. Hipps, Mrs. J. E. Jackson, Mrs. R. A. Jacobs, Mrs. I. V. Larson, Mrs. Deaver Lawton, Mrs. F. P. Lide, Mrs. J. W. Moore, Mrs. B. L. Nichols, Mrs. L. B. Olive, Mrs. Earl Parker, Mrs. R. F. Ricketson, Mrs. H. H. Snuggs, Mrs. S. W. Vance, Mrs. J. H. Ware, Mrs. Phil E. White, Dr. and Mrs. P. S. Evans, Dr. and Mrs. J. H. Humphrey, Rev. and Mrs. G. W. Strother, Rev. and Mrs. J. H. Wiley.



Bettie Jane and Patricia Sullivan, daughters of Rev. and Mrs. P. D. Sullivan of Curitiba, Brazil

— • • —

Students Abroad

Among the missionaries attending the College of Chinese Studies

at Peking, China, this year are Miss Cleo Morrison, Miss Grace Wilson, Miss Fern Harrington, Rev. and Mrs. H. H. Culpepper, Rev. and Mrs. R. F. Gray, and Miss Mary Lucile Saunders.

From Shanghai, China, comes the news that school enrollments are unprecedented. There are nine hundred enrolled in the University of Shanghai including middle school classes.

— • • —

Practical Stewardship

A letter from Rev. R. Cecil Moore of Temuco, Chile, tells of a church which meets in a country school on the property of Señor Francisco Artega, who was baptized a little over a year ago after his wife had prayed for him for many years. These country farmer folk have spontaneously given the plot of land with the buildings and fruit trees to the Mission for church work.

— • • —

Homebuilders

Rev. and Mrs. W. W. Lawton, formerly of Kaifeng, China, have built a house at Ridgecrest, North Carolina. They are glad to welcome to their home their daughter-in-law, Mrs. Deaver Lawton of Laichowfu, China, and Mr. Wesley Lawton, Jr. of Kaifeng, China, and their two children.

Other missionaries who have permanent homes in America are Dr. and Mrs. Everett Gill, Wake Forest, North Carolina, and Dr. and Mrs. J. McF. Gaston, 422 N. Florida Ave., DeLand, Florida.

Miss Neale C. Young has moved into her new house at Ede. The home is on a lovely site high on a hill overlooking Oshogbo in one direction and Ede in another.

FROM THE FRONT

COMPILED BY
Archibald M. McMillan

Incorporating Material Formerly Included in "Missionaries Write the Secretary" and "Editorial Varieties"

INTERNATIONAL For Future Reference

To lead an attack on atheism in Russia through Rumania is the ambition of the Rev. W. E. Craighead, our doughty Scottish missionary who was forced to beat a "strategic retreat" from Bessarabia. With 20,000 Bessarabian converts "running interference," he would have Baptists blast into Russia from the southwest.

Another possible point of attack on the "devil's forces" of Russia is Alaska at the northeast, where a friend who spent the summer there reports rich opportunities for mission work. The eyes of the world are turning toward those frozen tundras, where Japanese and Germans have started conducting "walking tours," and where Little Diomed Island, owned by the United States, is a mere stone's throw from Russian soil on which military preparation is rumored.

Baptists already are busy in 16 other lands; but if, in the days ahead, they expand their work or else seek new fields after other "strategic retreats," they might well consider work in Alaska. A foothold here might pave the way for evangelistic work in Russia herself, which Craighead characterizes as "the best mission field imaginable for Southern Baptists."

Britain and the Blacks

Baptist work in Africa has been aided by the British government's hearty support. If England falls under Hitler's onslaught, it will be a dark day for the black man of Africa. The lights will go out in

"the Dark Continent" as well as in Europe and perhaps the Orient too unless Britain wins.

Freedom of the Press

British Baptists are feeling the effects of wartime censorship, according to *The Baptist Times*, published in London, which recently was reprimanded for referring to the "mishap" at the British Missionary Society offices (which were nearly demolished by a Nazi bomb). The English editors, after reading a Richmond paper which



Mrs. Northrip (see col. 3) and Miss Scaggs outside the Sadler Memorial Baptist Church

gives "a fairly full account of what happened," (relayed from England to the U. S. press by the F. M. B. in Richmond), state:

"We are more than anxious to keep within the regulations of the Ministry of Information, but we are at a loss to understand why American journals are allowed to publish a plain straightforward statement while we are debarred from making any reference to the matter—or giving even the most ambiguous information."

AFRICA

Medical Work Advancing

Great progress in the work of the Baptist hospital in Ogbomo-

sho, Nigeria, is reported by Mrs. Ray U. Northrip (see cut), whose letters written en route to Africa recently were published in a book entitled *From Oklahoma City to Ogbomosho*. Evangelism in the wards is stressed by all the workers, including Drs. Northrip and George Green, superintendent; Misses Kathleen Manley, Ruth Kersey, and Eva M. Sanders, nurses; and Mrs. Northrip, now substituting for Mrs. H. Glenn Walker as secretary and bookkeeper. In this hospital last year 2,000 patients received over 20,000 treatments, including 232 major operations.

Women Excluded

Just after the McCameys and Brantleys sailed for Africa (see "News Flashes") via Pernambuco, Trinidad and Capetown toward Lagos, word was received that no more women were to be permitted to enter Nigeria. Kept from sailing to their chosen field were Dr. and Mrs. Paul O'Neal, who must now wait in this country until the restrictions are removed.

Recruits Needed

With some willing volunteers unable to enter Africa, the need for helpers there becomes even more pressing. Missionary A. Scott Patterson of Lagos writes that "every section of the work is undermanned; some are overdue for leave. In the next three months he plans to erect three other buildings at Yaha, finish the new Union Church in Lagos, built a new Domestic Science building at Lagos, in addition to other duties.

EUROPE

At Their Posts

Despite the war raging over Europe, Southern Baptist missionaries there have remained at their stations—Mrs. Elin Jerngren Bengston in Spain, the Dewey Moores in Italy, Miss Ruby Daniel in Hungary, the John Allen Moores in Yugoslavia, and the Roy F. Starmers in Rumania.

— • • —

Safe In the Quake

Friends of the Starmers and of Mrs. Petre Trutza (formerly Miss Earl Hester of Oklahoma) will be glad to know that while the Baptist buildings in Bucharest were badly damaged by the recent earthquake, no one was injured.



Miss McIlroy sloshes through
(see "Trivia," col. 2).

LATIN AMERICA

Revival In Brazil

During a week's services conducted in Jaguaquara, Bahia, Brazil, by the Rev. W. W. Ente, there were 120 decisions and 65 baptisms. In addition to preaching every morning and night, he conducted each afternoon a Bible School for children and trained the young people for definite service during the December-to-February vacation.

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"One . . . All Nations"

Six nationalities are represented in the young married women's class taught by Mrs. Frances Bagby of Sao Paulo, Brazil,

CURRENT CHRONICLES

daughter-in-law of Southern Baptists' pioneer missionaries to Brazil, the Rev. and Mrs. W. B. Bagby. In the class are a Swiss, a German, a Russian, an Italian, two Americans from Texas, and the others are Brazilians.

To help unify the polyglot population of South America in allegiance to Christ, many new missionaries are needed, Mrs. Bagby writes. "Age is showing in some of us," she continues, "and the ranks have been thinning lately. Who will fill the gaps?"

— • • —

Pioneering In Paraguay

A trip into Paraguay was taken in the fall of 1940 by Miss Minnie Douglas McIlroy of the Argentine Publishing House in Buenos Aires. Going 800 miles or so up the Paraná river, she came to Asunción, the capital of Paraguay, located where that republic joins Argentina and the disputed Chaco territory over which Paraguay fought Bolivia. Here Miss McIlroy taught a Daily Vacation Bible School and the WMU manual.

Offerings were taken to buy tracts for country work and fruit for the "woefully neglected" children of the hospital. Despite weather ranging from "cold" to "scorching" in a single week, the meetings were a success, with "El Paraguay para Cristo" (Paraguay for Christ) the motto and "Salvation's Fountain Is Flowing for Me" the favorite hymn.

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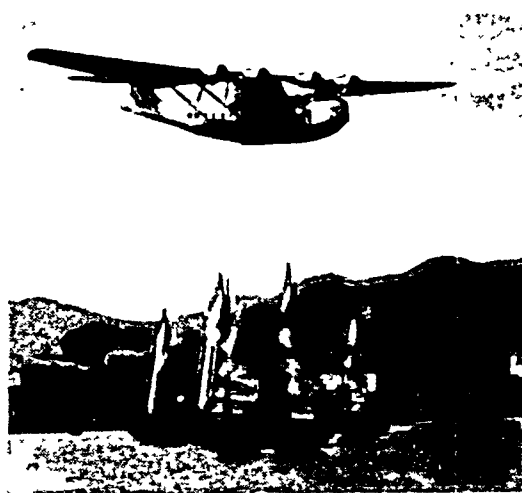
TRIVIA

- Miss Neale Young of Africa is screening her house to help keep out mosquitoes and snakes.
- When her ox team balked at pulling through a puddle, Miss Minnie McIlroy of Argentina sloshed across in her bare feet (see cut).
- One reason for immorality in South America: frequent wars with resulting scarcity of men; the remedy: Christianity.

THE ORIENT

The Closing Door

A foretaste of the fate of free Christianity in Japanese-occupied territory may be contained in a "Renovation Manifesto" governing the Korean Methodist Church, one copy of which was smuggled from Korea. This manifesto, issued October 2 and just brought to the Foreign Mission Board headquarters in Richmond by a Baptist missionary returned on furlough, seems to indicate that the Chosen Methodist Church, already headed by a Japanese bishop, has come under the thumb



The China Clipper hovers over
the troubled Orient

of the totalitarian Japanese government. Containing sections on "Thought Guidance," "Organizational Control," "Renovation in Education," "Social Education," and "Aid in Military Affairs," the document declares that the "renovated" church must:

- Thoroughly understand the principle of Chosen's corporate part in the construction of the New East Asia; . . . understand that the universalism of Jesus is to find its expression in the principle of the "Eight Pillars One Household" (an Oriental teaching); . . . (and) that Jesus' teaching . . . is one with the spirit of loyalty to ruler. . . .
- Prohibit democracy, which is in opposition to the national structure of our empire.
- Firmly resist individualism . . . (and) freedom, as it runs into effeminacy and indulgence.
- Root out all evil, lawless communistic thought.



Scanning the papers for news from the Orient are Cornelia Leavell, Cora Mac Marriott, and Theresa Anderson, three "China-borns" shown here in the library of the W. M. U. Training School in Louisville, where they are studying.

- Have all foreigners . . . withdraw from . . . leadership. . . .
- Arrange for . . . complete financial independence (of the Chosen Church). . . .
- Dissolve the missionary department of the Joint Central conference, the organ of co-operation. . . .
- Reconstruct the theological school.
- Unite the Chosen Methodist Church with the Japan Methodist Church.
- Inculcate the Japanese spirit (in all educational institutions) . . . (and give military training in the theological school.
- Separate the gospel of Jesus from the false doctrines traceable to . . . Jewish history and Western culture, . . . a Japanese gospel clarified on the basis of Oriental sacred writings and philosophy.
- Proagate the Imperial Way.
- Encourage shrine attendance. . . .
- Bring all members to a full sense of their duties as subjects of the Empire (part of which concern) anticommunism and national defense. . . .
- See that many members volunteer for military service . . . (and that all) understand their duties in relation to conscription.
- Vigorously control all espionage information.

There is dynamite in this document which marks the transformation of free, democratic Christianity in Korea to a dish-watery conglomeration of emasculated Methodism and Oriental paganism.

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Dispatch to Reuters

The roles of missionary and reporter were combined by the Rev. H. L. Carter, now pastor of the First Baptist Church of Dickson, Tenn., during his stay in China. One of his dispatches to Reuters News Agency about an uprising near Canton, China, "scooped the world."

G. H. Q. in U. S. A. Land Grab Protested

The "high-handed" action of the United States government in seizing Southern Baptist property within 600 feet of the El Paso seminary building for a camp site was protested by Executive Secretary Charles E. Maddy in wires to Secretary of War Stimson and Senator Morris Shepherd. "This is not Germany," Dr. Maddy declared, "and we have rights that should be respected." Last week he visited Texas to investigate. Action on this matter is expected soon.



"Mother Berry" (see col. 3)

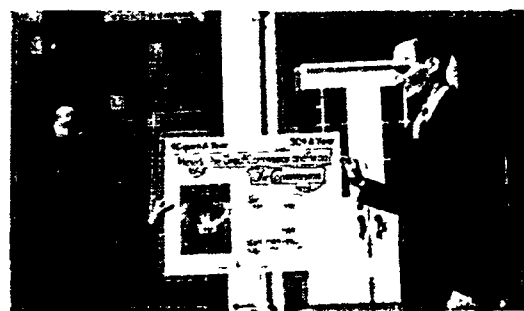
Conventions Covered

State conventions held so far were attended by State members of the Foreign Mission Board, and staff members from the "general headquarters" in Richmond spoke at most. Dr. Maddy was at Alabama, Georgia, Illinois, Missouri, and North Carolina; Dr. R. S. Jones, field representative, at New Mexico; Dr. G. W. Sadler, secretary for Africa, Europe and the Near East, at Oklahoma and Texas; Missionary I. N. Patterson and Miss Myrtle H. Zentmeyer,

editorial assistant, at Louisiana and Mississippi; Missionary John Lowe at Arkansas and Missouri; Missionary L. M. Bratcher, at Kentucky and Tennessee; and Missionary J. L. Hart at Maryland.

Miss Zentmeyer also visited the Baptist Bible Institute, where she interviewed sixteen who are looking toward service in foreign fields, and the Southern Baptist Hospital in New Orleans, interviewing three nurses who are volunteers for mission work; Hillman and Mississippi colleges in Clinton; and Blue Mountain College, where she had thirty-minute interviews with fifteen missionary prospects, even though the whole college was busy preparing to celebrate the next day the ninetyeth birthday of "Mother Berry" (see cut), who had been sixty-eight years on the campus and whose father founded the school in 1873.

The managing editor of THE COMMISSION met a generous response at conventions in Kentucky, Maryland, North Carolina and Tennessee. Those at the North Carolina convention gave \$185.86 (the equivalent of 372 subscriptions at 50 cents a year), including donations to the missionary subscription fund but exclusive of gifts for missionary travel. En route he visited the seminary and training school in Louisville (see cuts) and the Sunday School Board offices in Nashville.



In front of Norton Hall at the Southern Seminary in Louisville, the Rev. and Mrs. L. D. Johnson are shown looking at a sign which reads, in part, "Heed the Great Commission and read The Commission."



Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Brantley

MAURICE EUGENE BRANTLEY—I was born in Altoona, Florida, June 25, 1914. My parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Brantley, were earnest Christians. Ever since I can remember, my father was a deacon in our home church in Altoona, Florida, until the time of his death in 1938.

At the age of nine I realized the necessity of accepting Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour. This I did and joined the Baptist Church in my home town. I was baptized by Rev. Y. P. Yeagan, who, after I became a preacher, told me that while he was baptizing me he said to himself that he was baptizing a future minister of the Lord Jesus Christ.

From the time of my conversion I have been active in the various organizations of my church. For a number of years I served as secretary-treasurer of our Sunday school and as director of the B. T. U. of our church.

I felt the call into the ministry when I was quite young, but did not yield until the summer of 1932. That fall I entered John B. Stetson University, De Land, Florida, as a ministerial student and while there was called to the pastorate of the Baptist Church of Okahumpka, Florida.

On January 21, 1934, I was ordained into the gospel ministry by my home church. In June, 1934, I received the L.I. degree from Stetson and taught school during the 1934-35 term. In the fall of 1935 I returned to Stetson and remained there until August, 1936, at which time I received the A.B. degree. In the fall of 1935 I was called to the pastorate of the Baptist Church in Port Orange, Florida. The Lord abundantly blessed my work there.

In the fall of 1936 I resigned this pastorate and entered the Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky where I remained for the 1936-37 term.

In the summer of 1937 I supplied for the First Baptist Church in Tallahassee, Florida. There I met Louise Doyle who became my wife June 17, 1939.

For the past three years I have been principal of the school at Mascotte, Florida.

MISSIONARY
INTEREST

Two Young Couples

For several years I felt the call to do foreign mission work and in January, 1939, as a result of a conference with Brother W. H. Carson, and after much careful and prayerful consideration, I volunteered for educational and evangelistic work in Nigeria, West Africa.

I thank God that on April 10, 1940, He saw fit to direct our Foreign Mission Board to appoint Mrs. Brantley and me for work in Nigeria.

* * *

LOUISE DOYLE BRANTLEY, (Mrs. MAURICE E.)—I was born in Lawton, Oklahoma, December 15, 1916. I consider it a great blessing that I was reared in a Christian home, where my parents were shining examples before me. Church life has always been a part of me, but gradually I became more conscious of the meaning of being a Christian; and, at the age of twelve I was converted and then baptized by Dr. E. P. J. Garrott of Arkansas.

Out of this Christian experience grew others, so that I was led to feel God's call into definite Christian work. This meant a complete change in plans for the future, because I entered college with the intention of becoming a school teacher. However, I am grateful today for that call which came in late high school and early college years. Unlike many calls, mine was not a sudden one, not one which appeared at a certain day or hour. Rather it has been a growing experience.

In the spring of 1937 I graduated from the Florida State College for Women, in Tallahassee, with an A.B. degree. I began to make plans for entering our Training School in the fall. But it was during that summer that I surrendered to the call to foreign service. I had been keenly interested in missions and had felt that perhaps that work would challenge me, but I was not sure until the summer of 1937, during B. S. U. week at Ridgecrest.

As for the country in which I might work, Africa was my "first love." So, during my two years at our W. M. U. Training School in Louisville, I made a special study of our work there, writing a thesis on *Reaching Nigeria Through Medical Missions*. I graduated in May, 1939, with an M.R.E. degree.

On June 17, 1939, I married Maurice E. Brantley whom I had met two years before, and who had also been led to answer God's call to the foreign field.

We rejoice that we were appointed April 10th, 1940 for work in the Niger Delta, West Africa.

to Serve Abroad

D. F. ASKEW—One of four children, I was born September 12, 1914, at Dothan, Alabama. My father ran a machine shop, and as I attended the local grammar school I worked with him afternoons doing odd jobs. My high school life was a time of transition. I began working in a drug store after school and at night. During this time of adolescence, like most young people, I was in a state of upheaval due to my searching for the truth and the values of life. All my life I had been trained to attend church and Sunday school; but at this time, worldliness and careless living drew me away from the Lord's house.

During a year of disappointment because I could not go to college after I graduated from high school in 1932, I was led to read the Bible. While daily reading it until I had finished the New Testament twice, I came to realize more and more each day that its chief message to me was that Christ did not have my life, and that He wanted it. Distracted and torn between a love of sin and His definite call for me to receive Him as Saviour and serve Him in a foreign place, I was morbid for weeks. In a miraculous manner, God opened the way for me to go to Howard College. Being definitely convicted of sin and my need for Christ, I received Him as my personal Saviour in the fall of 1933, my freshman year in college. Immediately, I knew that I was born again and had "passed from death unto life." I rejoiced in my experience of witnessing before my home church in Dothan when I was baptized.

Three months later I yielded further to God's definite call for foreign missions. For the next seven years I worked with one view—to go wherever He would send me. After finishing the course at Howard College in 1937, I married Julia Reaves of Anniston, Alabama, and went on to the Seminary in New Orleans. For three years now, both of us have been doing mission work among the French-speaking people of southern Louisiana.

* * *

JULIA REAVES ASKEW—I was born of Christian parents, October 22, 1914, in Anniston, Alabama. My earliest recollections are associated with the important place the church had in our lives. I was a regular attendant at the First Baptist Church of my home town. When I was twelve years of age I accepted Christ as my personal Saviour. My life then took on new meaning and, from that moment on, I have found joy in the abundant life that Jesus offers.

I finished the local high school in 1932. It was my prayerful ambition to enter college in the fall but, because of financial difficulties, it looked impossible. In a marvelous way the Lord made it possible for me to get a scholarship and find work to help pay my expenses. In the fall of 1932 I entered Howard College in Birmingham, Alabama.

During my first year I yielded to the unmistakable call of God to surrender my life for foreign service. The next years were ones of definite planning for the time when I should be ready to go.

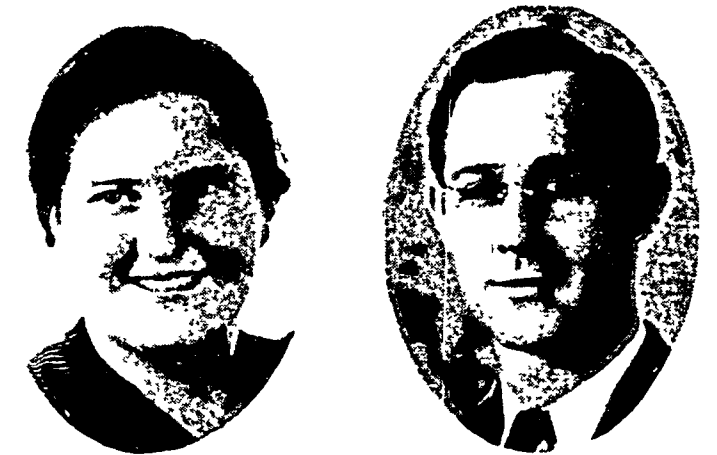
In 1935 I became engaged to D. F. Askew, himself a missionary volunteer.

Upon my graduation from Howard College in 1936, I became a teacher in the Collinsville High School. During the summers of my college years I did W. M. U. field work in Alabama.

In 1937 D. F. Askew and I were married and went immediately to New Orleans to be students in the Baptist Bible Institute. Our years there were happy ones. We were engaged in French mission work in the section. This is good background for the work we hope to have in our new field.

In the fall of 1938 our first baby, Anne Wistar, was born.

The D. F. Askews



Friendly Exchange

Supposing in every country of the world five minutes were set apart at noon each day for a week in which all work except absolute necessities were stopped while people bowed their heads and asked God to help free the world from the yoke of men who would exploit their fellow human beings. Suppose these same mass prayers were not merely confined to please for the tragic victims of the dictator's wrath? Suppose instead, the prayers were offered too, for the dictators themselves?—David Lawrence in United States News.

MISSIONARY
INTEREST

Studying Missions

MARY M. HUNTER
Manager Department of Literature
and Exhibits

"I'm Still Your Missionary"

By Blanche Sydner White, Corresponding Secretary of Virginia W.M.U.

The Foreign Mission Board chose him as Secretary to the Orient before the mutter of machine guns was heard in the Far East. His understanding of missionary methods, his diplomatic approach to missionary problems, his unswerving loyalty to the right, when once he had made a decision, these were some of the qualifications which Dr. M. Theron Rankin possessed—ideal qualifications for a missionary secretary anywhere.

One morning, however, the young secretary presented credentials which to one Southern Baptist, at least, were far more convincing than all of the others. "I'm still your missionary," he said. And what a missionary he has proven himself to be!

It is of Theron Rankin, *the missionary*, that I would speak first. He is a son of South Carolina, born and reared in a home which has given two sons to China. He is a graduate of Wake Forest College and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary—institutions which have furnished many outstanding men to the missionary movement. No missionary could be asked to make better preparation than was his, but there was one advantage which he had over the other candidates of his time—he was the son-in-law of our pioneer missionaries, Dr. and Mrs. George Greene, of Canton. He and Valeria Greene Rankin inherited so much that usually costs almost a lifetime of missionary service to acquire.

Of their work in South China between their appointment in 1921 and the beginning of his new work in all Southern Baptist Missions in Japan and China, much could and should be written. He was president of Graves Theological Seminary from 1925 to 1935, when he entered upon his new duties as Secretary to the Orient.

The "Shanghai Incident" had left its mark upon the nerves of the two nations, but the "China Centennial," the first great achievement of Dr. Rankin's administration, eclipsed even war news. In that great celebration all Chinese Baptists became conscious of their heritage and were aroused to a new appreciation of their opportunities. Northern Baptists, Southern Baptists, English Baptists, Swedish Baptists and others all became Chinese Baptists. Sectional and provincial lines were crossed.

Then in July, 1937, came the tragedy of war which swept across China, touching every Mission which Southern Baptists had established. Wisely, calmly, firmly he dealt with conditions as they arose. Every missionary co-operated and the amazing missionary advance in China, in spite of war, is as great a chapter as was ever written in the Acts of the Apostles. "Not foolish, but fearless," might be written over his handling of our forces in the Orient.

Out of the horror of it all, he came home to report to the Board. He came to find us absolutely sure that nothing could be done in China at this time beyond "holding our own." Who can forget his passionate appeals to Southern Baptists? Who can forget his face as he presented to his Board the fifteen candidates who were sent out to the Orient in 1940?

(Continued on page 31)



Dr. Milledge Theron Rankin

FRIENDS

"We will be friends with all the world,
With children near and children far,
For all of us the Saviour came,
For all arose the Christmas star.
From sea to sea above the world
The flag of love shall be unfurled."

* * *

WHO AM I?

Joy
Enete
whose
parents are
missionaries
in Brazil



Mr. Enete
and
Sammy—the
"Charlie
McCarthy"
who
preaches to
the boys and
girls of South
America



Can you guess the names of these missionaries to South America? After you have guessed as many as you can, look on the inside of the front cover, and discover the others under ARGENTINA, URUGUAY, BRAZIL, CHILE, and MEXICO.

1. What all small children love to do.

(D.F.)

2. A famous king of Bible times.

(V.L.)

3. Combats or fights. (J.C.).....

4. A beautiful bird. (S.L.).....

5. To send for something.

(Bertha)

6. The color of snow. (M.G.).....

7. A head workman. (B.).....

8. An official on a ship.

(Alberta)

9. A maker of honey and something we long for

in warm weather (J.L.).....

10. My first sends forth heat. My second is a letter of the alphabet.

(S.S. and T.B.).....

11. Crowing fowls. (Mildred).....

12. A maker of suits. (W.C.).....

13. My first is a fruit my second means *beside*.

(Rosalee)

14. Something used in camp fires.

(L.D.)

15. What greedy people want when they have

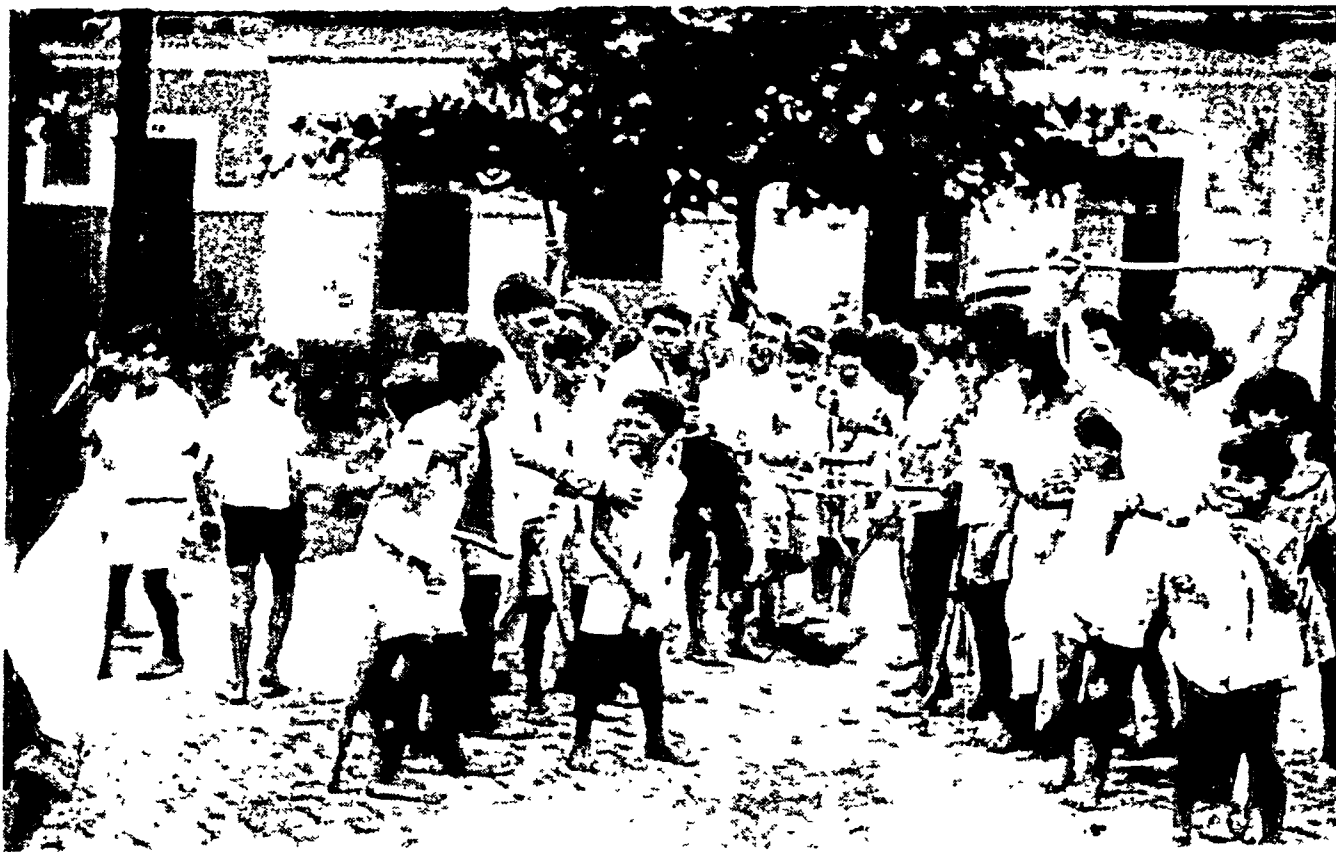
money. (R.C.).....

16. The name of a president of the Confederacy.

(J.E.)

BEATING UP JUDAS

On the Saturday following Good Friday, the children of Brazil make an effigy (or dummy) to represent Judas, who betrayed Jesus. Then, with hatred and vengeance, they beat the figure with sticks, and finally burn it. How they need to have us send them missionaries with the true story of the loving and forgiving Jesus!





Pan America

A Pageant by
Mrs. R. L. McMillan
Raleigh, N. C.

The Pan American Union was formed in Washington, D. C., in 1890. Pan means "All"—Pan America means all the American Republics. For our January study we are presenting a suggestion for a Pan American Pageant. The costumes may be elaborate or simple, but they should be colorful. From *The National Geographic* and many encyclopedias it is possible to get authentic pictures of Pan American costumes. From the Pan American Union, Washington, D. C., may be bought a collection of the National Anthems of the Pan American countries (25 cents) and the Flags of all the Pan American countries. The Narrator, who should have a voice of good carrying power, should be back stage or screened from view. The piano should be inconspicuous.

Large white cross or model of the Christ of the Andes is in center of stage with spotlight. All characters, as they come on stage from right, take their places at the foot of the Cross.

Narrator: "God built Him a continent of glory and filled it with treasures untold;

He studded it with sweet flowing fountains and traced it with long winding streams;

WOMEN'S
WORK

He carpeted it with soft rolling prairies and columned it with towering mountains:

He graced it with deep shadowed forests, and filled them with song.

Then He called unto a thousand peoples and summoned the bravest among them.

They came from the ends of the earth, each bearing a gift and a hope.

The glow of adventure was in their eyes, and in their hearts the glory of hope.

And out of the bounty of earth and the labor of men;
Out of the longing of hearts and the prayer of souls;

Out of the memory of ages and the hopes of the world,
God fashioned a people in love, blessed it with purpose sublime, and called it America."

Enter: *Spirit of Democracy* recites "My Country 'Tis of Thee."

Spirit of Declaration of Independence bearing parchment scroll says: We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.

Spirit of Gettysburg Speech recites: "A government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

Spirit of the Monroe Doctrine recites: "It is still the true policy of the United States to leave the parties to themselves."

Spirit of Missions: "In Christ there is no East or West, in Him no South or North." The faith of Christ is a living thing. The Church of Christ proclaims, "Go ye

into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." In the first century of our Lord, Joseph of Arimathea purposed to set forth into a strange land that heathen men might glorify the name of Christ. And now the twenty-one Republics of the Pan American Union believe "that He hath made of one blood all nations that do dwell upon the earth, that they should seek the Lord."

Pan American Nations: National Anthems as characters appear—

Argentina in colorful native dress brings her gifts of grain.

Bolivia presents her great Patriot, Simon Bolivar.

Brazil brings gifts of flowers and commerce.

Chile—"Rising more than 100 feet from its pedestal, set on a 2300 foot crest, the heroic Christ of the Andes, facing east, is visible for miles around, especially when illuminated at night. "Sooner shall these mountains crumble into dust than the Argentines and the Chileans break the peace they have pledged themselves at the feet of Christ, the Redeemer."

Colombia bears aloft a golden Horn of Plenty.

Costa Rica is represented by a girl of purest Castilian stock.

Cuba presents lilting guitar trio.

Dominican Republic carries her Coat of Arms on which are seen the Book of Gospels and the motto: "God, Country and Liberty."

Ecuador offers chocolate and music, two of her treasures.

El Salvador holds aloft its Flag and Coat of Arms representing the colors of the Federation of United Provinces of the Center of America, the blue and white which proclaimed a sublime aspiration toward union and fraternity.

Guatemala presents the March of Flags.

Haiti with small flash lights, suggests Firefly Fancies.

Honduras presents Evening Chimes.

Mexico presents Serenade with flowers, jewels.

Nicaragua shows Tropical birds and flowers.

Panama pictures soldiers and sailors.

Paraguay is represented by the Spirit of Justice.

Peru shows marvelous gifts of silver and the University of Peru which is older than Harvard, having been established in 1551.

Uruguay presents melodious carefree music.

Venezuela pictures commerce and flowers.

United States carries the American Flag and sings, "God Bless America."

Narrator reads:

"A Cross on a Hill
Cross most magnetic
There it flashes and burns
Till the sordid world turns,
And the callous heart yearns,
As it charms and enthralls,
And beckons and calls,
To its feet, to its feet.

Humanity gladly, reluctantly, sadly,
Comes hurrying, comes creeping,
Comes praying, comes weeping,
In surrender complete,
To the blood-stained feet
Of a Cross on a Hill
Great Cross on a Hill."

Grand Finale—all characters kneel at the Cross and repeat in unison, in clear tones, "He hath made of one blood all na-

tions that do dwell upon the earth, that they should seek the Lord."

All characters continue kneeling as they sing:

"In the Cross of Christ I glory,
Tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time;
All the light of sacred story
Gathers 'round its head sublime."

"I'm Still Your Missionary"

(Continued from page 28)

Back to China he went in the summer of 1940, soon to face another emergency. The evacuation of women and children is a step which world conditions make necessary at this time. But there is no thought of deserting our Chinese Baptists, nor will Theron Rankin lead in the homeward trek. He will never lead any missionary into danger, nor will he remain in any position one second longer than duty calls him to remain. There is no showmanship in him, but there is a tremendous sense of his responsibility to the cause, to the missionaries on the field, to their loved ones here, to his Board, to his God.

Japanese Baptists can trust him to be perfectly fair. No bitterness, no political propaganda, under the guise of religion, creeps into his messages, for it is not in his heart. He is Secretary to the Orient, and he pleads for the Japan Mission as faithfully as he does for missions in China. "I am resolved to know nothing among you," he follows the Apostle Paul in saying, "save Christ and Him crucified." The reinforcement of the Japan Mission during the past five years is a proof of Theron Rankin's statesmanship and his non-partisan leadership.

As he bears the tremendous strain over there, I find myself wondering how Southern Baptists can best hold up his hands. By prayer, of course; but I remember what another missionary said to us: "If you don't give anything to support my work, then don't pray for me, because I doubt if God hears your prayers." So I think we need to add to our prayers our financial co-operation. *Suppose in the midst of all this agony of uncertainty, Theron Rankin knew absolutely that Southern Baptists were already preparing to finance a forward movement in China and Japan.*

It seems to me I can hear him across the miles as, sometimes, he turns his thoughts longingly toward the homeland, where wife and children and other loved ones now wait for a better day and, to us, he's saying with a steady voice, "I'm still your missionary." Back across the miles I'd like to send him this message: "We'll hold the ropes. Go as far down into the depths of that well of misery as you think wise. You can count on us."

WOMEN'S
WORK

Our Missionaries' Birthdays

JANUARY

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|---|
| 1 | Miss Cornelia Brower, Casilla 185, Temuco, Chile | 18 | Floy White Jacob (Mrs. R. A.),* % Foreign Mission Board, Box 1595, Richmond, Virginia |
| 1 | Miss Cecile Lancaster, 58 Kago-Machi Ku., Tokyo, Japan | 20 | Dr. Jeannette E. Beall,* % Foreign Mission Board, Box 1595, Richmond, Virginia |
| 2 | Miss Mary C. Demarest, Yangchow, Ku., China | 20 | Alice Johnson Hayes (Mrs. C. A.), Box 350, Shameen, Canton, China |
| 2 | Jessie Read McCrea (Mrs. T. F.),* 969 Marshall Boulevard, San Bernardino, California | 21 | Rev. M. W. Rankin, Shiuchow, Kt., China |
| 3 | Miss Elizabeth E. Rea,* 7010 So. Park Avenue, Chicago, Ill. | 22 | Winnie Bennett Ayers (Mrs. S. E.),* % Foreign Mission Board, Box 1595, Richmond, Virginia |
| 3 | Rev. John A. Abernathy, Tsinan, Shantung, China | 22 | Rev. Wade D. Bostick,* Shelby, North Carolina |
| 4 | Rev. L. Raymon Brothers,* 413 W. Howry St., DeLand, Florida | 22 | Miss Jessie Green, Wuchow, Ks., China |
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| 16 | Mrs. S. L. Ginsberg,* 10859 Longwood Drive, Chicago, Illinois | | |
| 17 | Dr. William Lindsay Wallace,* 23 Graduate House, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Penna. | | |

*At present in this country.

* * *

Illinois is the first State to surpass its January 1942 goal (by 19 subscriptions). A letter just received from General Secretary E. W. Reeder contained 61 subscriptions. Which State will be next?

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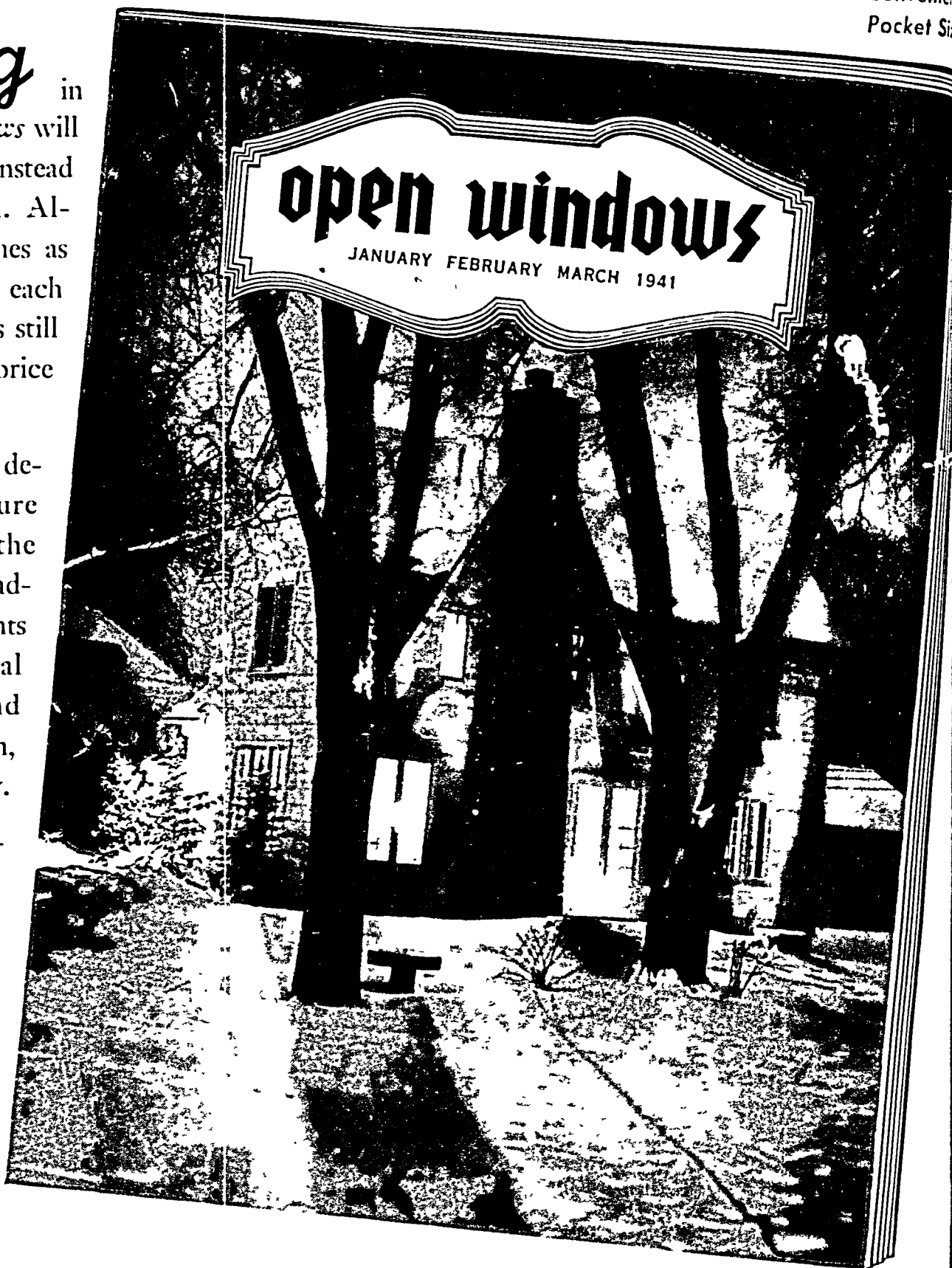
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