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December 1941

FOREIGN MISSION BOARD, SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION, RICHMOND, VA.

VOLUME FOUR - NUMBER ELEVEN

Announcing

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The Message of Christmas

proclaimed all year long through
THE COMMISSION

With the coming of the holiday season and the holy celebration of the birth of the Christ Child, you will instinctively begin the selection of gifts for those you love. And so, may we suggest **THE COMMISSION**, which will come to them as a monthly reminder that good will and peace are still being preached and practiced in the world?

For your convenience you will find, on the adjoining page, a subscription blank. The price is fifty cents a year and the card pictured will be sent announcing your gift. Please write your name as you wish it to appear on the card.

THE COMMISSION

CHARLES E. MADDRY, *Editor in Chief*

VOL. IV

DECEMBER, 1941

No. XI

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THE COVER—Little Grace Chang, three-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Y. K. Chang. Her father has been serving as student evangelist at the University of Shanghai, China. He is the heroic Christian whose story appeared in *THE COMMISSION* December 1940 and January 1941—the man whose hand was scorched with red-hot irons because he refused to renounce Jesus Christ.

Blessed Is the Nation Whose God Is the Lord

The following lines come from an unknown minister of England, setting forth the conditions of England at this time:

We have been a pleasure-loving people, dishonoring God's day, picnicking and bathing—

Now the seashores are barred; no picnics, no bathing.

We have preferred motor travel to churchgoing—

Now there is a shortage of motor fuel.

We have ignored the ringing of the church bells calling us to worship—

Now the bells cannot ring except to warn of invasion.

We have left the churches half empty when they should have been filled with worshipers—

Now they are in ruins.

We would not listen to the way of peace—

Now we are forced to listen to the way of war.

The money we would not give to the Lord's work—

Now is taken from us in taxes and higher prices.

The food for which we forgot to say thanks—

Now is unobtainable.

The service we refused to give to God—

Now is conscripted for the country.

Lives we refused to live under God's control—

Now are under the nation's control.

Nights we would not spend in "Watching unto prayer"—

Now are spent in anxious air raid precautions.

The evils of modernism we would not fight—

Now—see what Germany, the seat of this teaching has produced!

YOUR LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING

MAKES POSSIBLE
SUCH WORKERS AS THESE



*Mrs. Wong,
Bible woman*



*Mrs. Suoh,
Bible woman*



*Mrs. Wu,
Bible woman*



*Miss Hsiang,
Young People's
worker, Tsinan*



*Mrs. Chen,
Bible woman*



*Mrs. F. Y. O. Ling,
W.M.U. Field Secre-
tary, Chengchow*



*W.M.U. leader
for all
China*



*Faithful Bible woman
of Kweiteh*



*Mrs. He, a joyous
Christian of Kunghsien*



*Mrs. Tung, a radiant
Christian of Tsinan*



*Mrs. An Shou Son, Bible
woman, Chesoo*



*Mrs. Ch'en, an earnest
worker of Pochow*

THE COMMISSION

VOL. IV

DECEMBER, 1941

No. XI

THE CHALLENGE OF CHRISTMAS

Blanche Sydnor White

The Christmas season challenges the Christian to recapture and maintain a *spirit of optimism*, born of faith. "Joy to the world, the Lord is come" are more becoming words for Christian lips than are complaints of war and destruction, high prices and increased taxes. Hear Missionary Rex Ray, writing from ravaged China, as he says: "Christ's soldiers in South China have interpreted His orders to be, 'March on!' His presence and help continue with His witnesses, both in 'Free China' and in 'Invaded China.' His Kingdom marches on to make men free regardless of what flag their land may fly."

Today I stood on the corner of a street in the little town of Crewe, Virginia. One way led to the cemetery which houses the ashes of the worn-out, starved body of Miss Lottie Moon. The other way led to the Baptist church, with its memorial window. I chose to go to the church and look again at that window which pictures the martyred missionary, young and strong again, walking triumphantly through the harvest field, bearing in one hand a light and in the other hand sheaves of victory.

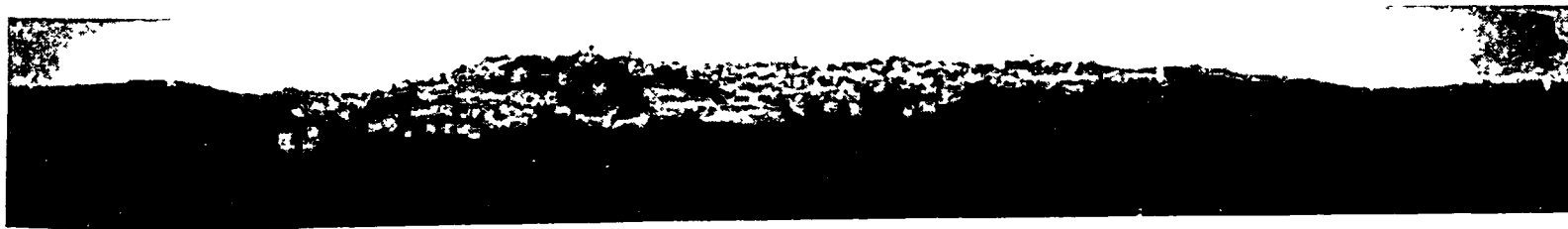
The Christmas season challenges the Christian, also, to a *spirit of liberality*, greater than ever manifested before. A six-year-old Sunday school pupil marched into his department, with his Sunday school penny. The superintendent of the department stood at her desk, playing idly with a penny.

The little fellow squared himself before her, with the astonishing proposition, "I'll match you for that penny."

I dare you, as I dare myself, at this Christmas season, to match our missionaries with our Christmas Offering. Do we dare to match the love of the Moores of Italy, who would not leave their field although it was impossible to secure the necessary nourishment for their child? Match that mother who watched her child grow weaker and weaker every day and yet, for Jesus' sake, would not forsake her post of duty. Do we dare to match the love of Addie Cox, lost somewhere in the villages around bombarded Kaifeng? Dare we say to Maxfield Garrett, our lone missionary in Japan, "I'll match you with my love-gift to Christ"? Dare we say that to those divided missionary families, divided for Christ's sake and the Gospel's? Dare we say, "I'll match you" to Mattie Macon White, who is learning to forget how she had looked forward to the reunion next spring when her husband, Missionary Philip Ernest White, was to come to America; and learning to remember that Phil has just gone on ahead and waits in the land of peace for her to come home in God's own time?

Yes, the Christmas season challenges us to a *faith* that *hopes* and *sings*; to a *love* that *gives* and does not count the cost.

"O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
Come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him,
Born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ, the Lord."



Bethlehem as seen from the Shepherds' Field during full moon

One of Southern Baptists' youngest mission fields in point of time is, as yet, its smallest mission field; but in the little country of Palestine (including Syria before the World War) has been concentrated much of the world's most fascinating history as well as some of the most marvelous beauty of the universe. It was in this small country where the sun shines so brightly that the Psalmist was inspired to liken it to a "bridegroom coming forth from his chamber, who rejoiceth as a strong man ready to run a race"; here the moon is so bright, for at least five or six nights out of each month, that one is able to read a newspaper by the light of its beams, while the stars scintillate apparently just a few feet o'erhead like great sparks off the anvil of omnipotence.

Palestine, so small that one can travel all over it in less than a day's time, has nevertheless three fairly distinct types of climate: the Jordan River Valley, three to fifteen miles in width and extending from north of the Sea of Galilee to below the southernmost tip of the Dead Sea, and lying from three hundred to thirteen hundred feet below sea level, has such warm weather almost all the year round as to be comparable to tropical climate. On the western plains of the Mediterranean seaboard area we find a somewhat milder climate, semitropical in nature, conducive to the growth of citrus fruits on an extensive scale. Then, in the mountainous areas of the Judean hills of the south, the hills of Galilee in the north-central section, and the foothills of the Lebanons in the extreme north we find a climate similar to that of the North Temperate Zone; and all this territory can be traversed in a day. One morning in February, just after four inches of snow had fallen, we left Jerusalem, twenty-three hundred feet above sea level in the Judean hills, and driving due east toward the Dead Sea area which is some thirteen hundred feet below sea level, we arrived shortly in Jericho having "dropped" several thousand feet in the thirty minute descent from Jerusalem to Jericho. With our cheeks still smarting from the snows of Jerusalem we got out of the automobile in Jericho, pulling off our overcoats because of the heat, and watched the Arabs as they picked bananas and oranges in Jericho's famous groves. Then, looking to the southeast, we could discern, on the shore of the Dead Sea about eight miles distant, people going in bathing. Peering far to the north we could see snow-capped Mount Hermon more than one hundred and fifty miles away. It has been suggested by some that the presence of such diverse

*Rev. Leo Eddleman who for seven years served as a missionary in Palestine, has been forced by war conditions to return to America.

THE LAND OF

H. LEO

climatic conditions in so small an area accounts, to some extent, for the unusual influence this country has had on the peoples and personalities that lived within its confines.

Once called a land "flowing with milk and honey" the terrain today appears to the casual traveler to be poor and neglected, but not without cause. During four and a half centuries the Turks ruled most unwisely. For one thing they put a tax on trees, and as a result, the Arabs, who are none too aggressive in the matter of work, rather than pay the tree tax, cut down all their trees. Accordingly one sees practically no trees at all in Palestine today except those that have been planted by the British and the Jews during the last fifteen years. Yet the land is potentially rich; the Jews, by fertilizing desert areas with potash from the Dead Sea and irrigating from small rivers, have converted great stretches of arid lowlands into veritable gardens.

THE RETURN OF THE JEWS

The return of the Jews to Palestine, aside from the fact of its connection with Old Testament prophecy, is one of the most interesting movements of modern times. But the fact that after three thousand years the words of the prophets are receiving tangible fulfillment is cause for increased faith in the Word of God. The same prophets who predicted the scattering of the Jews, when they should cease from following after Jehovah, also prophesied their return "in the latter days." That their present return may be according to the will of God is attested to by the fact that these Jews, who have been offered rich and fertile areas in South Africa, Madagascar, and Australia, insist on returning to Palestine where it costs them much in labor and money to make the land habitable and prosperous. In the light of the "Jewish mind for business" this would seem inexplicable except from the point of view that God has placed within the Jews an urge for the hot sands of poverty-stricken Palestine.

Standing in an office door at the foot of Mount Carmel one Monday morning last November, I watched the steamship *La Patria* which had just come into Palestine waters a few hours before. She was known to be loaded with Jewish refugees from Europe. Immediately after the start of the present war, thousands of Jews entered Palestine by boarding unseaworthy ships in Southern European ports and, on arriving in Palestine waters, informing the

OUR MASTER

EDDLEMAN*

British authorities that the passengers were sick and without either food or medical supplies. The British Government allowed such refugees to enter the country until the Arabs threatened to renew their rebellion in the event that further groups of "refugees" should be admitted. The British authorities had accordingly told the unfortunate travelers of the S.S. *La Patria* that their ship was to be re-outfitted, equipped with medical supplies and sent on to South Africa. On learning of these plans some of the passengers went below and caused some explosion which sank the vessel in the Haifa harbor. I turned around and looked just as the huge 12,000 ton steamship turned over in the water. Over twelve hundred "refugees" were rescued immediately and permitted to enter the land of "Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob."

The achievements of these sons of Abraham as they return to the land of their fathers are remarkable. Land which until fifteen years ago was covered with sand, today produces citrus fruits so prolifically that oranges for five months out of the year can be had ten to fifty for a *piastre* (5¢). Grapes, grapefruit, and other fruits are now equally plentiful. Years ago Amos said that these people should return and that they should "plant vineyards and drink the wine thereof, plant gardens and eat the fruit thereof" and neither shall they "be plucked up again" from their land "saith Jehovah their God." Besides the many colonies and settlements in

the area of the agricultural experiments, cities have been "planted" on sand dunes.

WHERE ANCIENT AND MODERN MEET

Twenty years ago there was not a house on the knoll of sand just a few hundred yards to the north of old Joppa—the city where Jonah bought his ticket when trying to flee from the Lord. Today there is a modern city, Tel Aviv, of at least 150,000 Jewish inhabitants, which extends right up to the municipal boundary of Jaffa, the modern name for Joppa. Joppa is ancient in architecture, street planning, standard of living, and mode of dress and travel; but Tel Aviv is studded with small factories, has paved streets lined with rows of brick, stone, and stucco houses equipped with electric lighting, refrigeration, and so forth.

Standing one day on the street which separates Tel Aviv and Jaffa, I saw a long line of modern Chevrollets just shipped from America coming toward us slowly as they demonstrated "knee-action" just perfected; looking behind us I saw coming from the opposite direction out of Jaffa a long train of heavily laden camels (also with knee-action, perfected some thousands of years ago). This meeting of the West with the East has caused no little jealousy on the part of the Arabs as they see their Jewish cousins prosper in the land of proverbial Arab poverty. This has no doubt played a major role in causing the Arab-Jewish friction of recent years.

The three official languages, as used in press, radio, court procedures, and education serve to impress one with the fact of the Jews' return to Palestine. Turning the radio dial at news time one hears



A group of Baptist young people near the ruins of Old Jericho

in turn three different voices as they in turn announce the news bulletin: "Ha'azeenu leqol Yerushalayim" in Hebrew, "Houna ElQuds" in Arabic, and "This is the Voice of Jerusalem" in English. Three official languages today as in the day of Christ when His inscription was displayed in three tongues!

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem is a great cultural achievement; its standard of scholarship being comparable to any school of its kind. There has just been completed, largely with capital donated by American Jewesses, the medical department which, with the combined resources of latest equip-

ment and the ingenuity of one-time famous surgeons persecuted out of Germany in recent years, bids fair to be one of the greatest scientific centers in the Near East. The average student in this school, the year I attended, spoke five languages; I was the only one who spoke less than three. The professor in whose department I was majoring reads twelve languages, speaks six, and composes books in three. When I first went in to the registrar to enroll as a student and they discovered I spoke only the English language, a friend of mine working in the office said, "It's time you were enrolling in some school."

(To be continued)



Little Miss Patricia Sullivan, daughter of Southern Baptist missionaries of Curityba, Brazil, brings you THE COMMISSION'S wishes for a joy-sharing Christmas

MY CHRISTMAS LIST

Have you made your Christmas list?

Thought of everyone?

Grandpa, grandma, mother, dad,

Daughter too, and son?

Have you made your Christmas list?

Giving's in the air!

Nieces, nephews, uncles, aunts,

Friends from everywhere.

Have you made your Christmas list?

Yes, beyond a doubt!

It is Jesus' birthday,

Did you leave Him out?

Make His gift the first of all!

"Inasmuch as ye

Did it to the least of mine,

Ye have given to me!"

Christmas Gift to all the world—

Dearest, first and best!

When I make my Christmas list

His name shall lead the rest.

—Edith G. Estey.

A New World To Conquer

EDWIN B. DOZIER*



The Missionary Residence in Hawaii

You will be happy to know that we have used \$2,000.00 of the Christmas offering for the purchase of a beautiful site for the church at Wahiawa and are providing means by which the local group will be able to build a nice little chapel on it.

Almost miraculously an unusually beautiful dwelling and little more than a half an acre of land were provided us in the best residential district to house a number of our missionaries and be the building in which we might start the Bible school. For that we used the remainder of the \$4,000.00 and are to pay it out with rent allowances.

All properties are to be held by the Hawaiian Baptist Mission which is a legal holding company for church and mission properties and has been recently reorganized to consist of four members of the Hawaiian Mission of the Southern Baptist Convention and two members from the Wayside Baptist Chapel, Wahiawa, and one member at large. This organization will be controlled by the Mission through the four missionary trustees. All this machinery was handed over gratis to our Mission upon the voluntary action of Mr. MacDonald and his group and not upon our request. He pointed out that unless he did this the Foreign Mission Board would have to gain a legal charter here in the Territory to acquire properties—a procedure which would entail untold red tape and time.

You will be happy to hear that Mr. Belote has recovered very rapidly from his serious kidney operation. The finest surgeon in the Territory and one of the ablest in America had his case, but was greatly surprised that no pain had been experienced and that symptoms had not been discovered more than a year or two ago.

*Mr. Dozier, Southern Baptists' missionary who served in Japan from 1933 to 1941, is now carrying on mission work in Hawaii.

We miss the Leonards who left us September 8. In pressing the work in new ground they are unequalled in skill and enthusiasm. We trust that they may have a real restful furlough and be ready to "launch out into the deep" for another term of usefulness.

Recently I visited the island of Kauai for a series of meetings from September 5 to 9. The first night I had the privilege of speaking in Japanese over the radio for about ten minutes which gave me wide publicity. The three succeeding evenings I spoke to more than a hundred people each for about one hour and we were blessed with six conversions. We have been invited back and have been asked to make recordings to send to the radio station for broadcast. They pointed out that these might be used elsewhere so that I might be able to spread my message further. This entails some expenditure of money, but we feel that it will be worth-while.

Plans for the Bible school move on apace and add much joy to our workers and to the constituency. We shall have several full-time students and a good many part-time students.

The Olivet Baptist Church is growing in attendance and interest. We need a more adequate plant for this church so as to meet the needs. You can scarcely realize this unless you see for yourself.

May our Heavenly Father give you grace and joy.

It was Christmas in Sholapur, India. Four-year-old Sheila Heib watched the exchange of gifts and then thoughtfully regarded her own presents. Turning a steady gaze on her mother she said, "I get presents, and *you* get presents, and *Aunt Nickey* gets presents; but, it's *Jesus'* birthday."



Mrs. Philip E. White

Louis Norman

Geneva

Rev. Philip E. White

FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH

Another heroic and devoted servant of Christ has laid down his life for the redemption of China. On Thursday, September 11, Philip Ernest White, of Hertford, North Carolina, after only a brief illness, passed away at his station at Kweitch, China. Several months ago, upon the insistence of the American Government, Mrs. White and the two children, along with many other missionary wives and children, returned to this country. We are so glad that Miss Attie Bostick of nearby Pochow could be with him in his last illness.

In this issue we are publishing a letter from Brother White, which reached us some days after we had received the notice of his home-going. It is a brave Christlike message and is a new evidence of the fact that Phil White had wholly dedicated his life to Christ and to the salvation of China. Like a voice from the spirit world it calls to us to redouble our effort for China's redemption.

Phil E. White was born at Hertford, North Carolina, September 6, 1898. He was converted and joined the church at the age of fifteen. In 1919 he graduated from Wake Forest College, with the B.A. degree. He then taught school for two years until, answering God's call to the ministry and to foreign

mission service, he entered the Louisville Seminary in 1921, graduating in 1924.

On June 17 of that year, he married Miss Mattie Macon Norman of Hertford, North Carolina. On July 10, 1924, they were appointed missionaries of the Foreign Mission Board, and they sailed for China on September 11. Just seventeen years from the date of their sailing for China, God called Phil White to larger service with Christ in the glory land.

Through all of those crowded years Brother White never lost his sense of a divine call to China, and his one consuming passion throughout his term of service was for the salvation of the people of that land. There were periods of civil war, seasons of anti-foreign agitation, and times of sickness, culminating in the death of a precious little daughter; but through it all, the call of Christ to China remained clear and unquestioned.

His place in China will be hard to fill. His Chinese brethren and sisters loved him and will miss him sorely. We sorrow deeply with the brokenhearted wife and two children left behind and we commend them to the God of all grace who can keep and comfort in this sad hour.

C. E. M.

Kweitch, Honan, China
July 17, 1941

Dear Dr. Maddy:

It has been some time since I have written to you, and since I am taking time this morning to correspond, I think I had better write a line to let you know that I am still about the business and at the old post.

I am addressing this letter to you at the Summer Assembly, hoping that it will catch up with you there. How I would love to be on the mountain-top with you and the others there during this high week of inspiration and fellowship. Being quite socially inclined myself, this matter of living and working alone is possible for His sake, but under no other consideration would it be attractive. With so many of the missionaries home now, I suspect there will be a good many there for the Foreign Mission Week. May the Lord speak to your hearts there during those days, and I am sure you will be praying for missions, worldwide.

These are not easy days for missions in many places, but I say unhesitatingly that these are fruitful days and great days in the life of the churches in China. For months now I have been hoping that we may be receiving help from home, but on the horizon it seems that the time is not ripe for returning families to the mission fields in China. Truly these are uncertain days, and sin and Satan and his emissaries are making a stand and have great power; but we pass over the days and, reviewing them, we feel thankful to our Heavenly Father for His grace and strength that enable us to go right along.

Last Saturday I returned from a country trip—one full day. It was interesting to me, since it was a new experience. Mr. Tsui asked me to come to help celebrate the third anniversary of the passing of his mother. It is a big family and the custom is to have

a big celebration in her memory. Since there are many in the family still heathen, I feared to accept the invitation, but I did. Mr. Tsui is a real Christian. I was at his old mother's bedside shortly before she passed away, and I think she died in the Lord. Mr. Tsui wanted the Lord to have the glory and he was jealous of any part that the heathen might use to glorify the gods. One hundred bushels of wheat, fifteen hogs, and half a dozen cattle were prepared for the occasion. There were more than a thousand present for two days. Mr. Tsui had engaged five evangelists to come and help with services while he had arranged for a preaching arbor in his village. The upshot of it all was that we had a glorious opportunity for witnessing for Christ and many stood up to declare their faith in the Lord Jesus. I had such joy and liberty in preaching as I seldom have.

Mr. Tsui is perhaps the outstanding man in his big village, but he has some younger brothers who are heathen in practices. I took my kodak and snapped pictures of Mr. Tsui's family and of the family of his eldest son and also of one younger brother's family. The third brother wanted a picture of his family also, but was ashamed for it to be taken since he was a man with four wives, and for the preachers to see so many of his wives would be embarrassing. I offered to lend him the kodak but the picture was not taken.

The people through all this region are learning what the Church in its teaching will not countenance, and some of the Chinese are growing fearless in attacking sin. But the job is so big, and sin is so entrenched.

With grateful appreciation for your kindness to my family during these days of our separation, and very best wishes to you always, I am

Very sincerely yours,

PHIL E. WHITE

THE CHRISTMAS HOLY DAYS

"Old customs make friends easily. Sending greetings or gifts to friends at Christmas time is not a twentieth century innovation. Neither is decorating the house for Christmas a by-product of the busy age in which we live. In 1513 A.D. Fra Giovanni sent the following Christmas greeting to a friend:

'I salute you—I am your friend and my love for you goes deep. There is nothing I can give you which you have not got, but there is much, very much that, while I cannot give it, you can take. No heaven can come to us unless our hearts find rest in today. Take Heaven. No peace lies in the future which is not hidden in this present little instant. Take Peace. The gloom of the world is but a shadow. Behind it, yet within our reach, is Joy. There is radiance and glory in the darkness, could we but see—and to see it we have only to look. I beseech you to Look. Life is so generous

a giver; but we, judging His gifts by their covering, cast them away as ugly or hard. Remove the covering and you will find beneath it a living splendour, woven of love, by wisdom with power. Welcome it, grasp it, and you touch the angel's hand that brings it to you. Everything we call a trial, a sorrow or a duty, believe me, that angel's hand is there; the gift is there and the wonder of an overshadowing Presence. Our joys, too; be not content with them as joys. They, too, conceal diviner gifts. Life is so full of meaning and purpose—so full of beauty—beneath its covering, that you will find earth but cloaks your heaven. Courage—to claim it—that is all. But courage you have; and the knowledge that we are pilgrims together, wending, through unknown country, Home. And so, at this Christmas time, I greet you. Not quite as the world sends greetings, but with profound esteem and prayer, that for you, now and forever, the day breaks and the shadows flee away.'

Kingdom Facts and Factors

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

"THE HIGH CALLING OF GOD IN CHRIST JESUS"

Our Mission. "Ye shall receive power when the Holy Spirit is come upon you, and ye shall be my witnesses, both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea-Samaria, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth"; "Make disciples of all the nations . . . teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you all the days, until the age is brought to its consummation."

Our Assurance. "If there is any man in Christ, there is a new order of creation. The old order has been left behind, behold there has begun a new order. And the entire enterprise is from our God who reconciled us unto himself through Christ and gave us the stewardship of his reconciling process. Thus: God was in Christ reconciling a world to himself, not reckoning up against them their transgressions, and placing in us the message of the reconciliation. In Christ's behalf, therefore, we serve as ambassadors, God calling out to men through us as his spokesmen. We plead in behalf of Christ: 'Accept reconciliation with God!'" In this relation to God in Christ Jesus "we have our courage and our approach in confident persuasion by reason of our faith in him."

Our Warfare. "Not for us is the conflict against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this dark period, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly sphere."

Our Weapons. "Although we live in the sphere of unregenerate humanity we do not make war by

the standards of unregenerate humanity. For the weapons of our warfare are not of the merely human sort, but they are powerful with God for demolishing strongholds, while we tear down theoretical systems, and every high theory that raises itself against the knowledge of God; and capture every thought scheme to enlist it in obedience to Christ; and holding ourselves ready to bring to judgment every form of insubordination whenever your (the members of the churches) obedience is complete."

"Take up, therefore, the entire armor which God provides, in order that ye may be able to withstand in the day that is evil, and after having wrought the entire enterprise through to the finish still to stand: girdle of truth; boots of preparation to carry the good news of peace; shield of faith that is proof against all the poisoned, burning shots of the Evil one; helmet of salvation; sword of the Spirit, God's word; in it all, watchful, unceasing prayer."

"THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF (OR IN) JAPAN"

The July issue of the Japan Christian Quarterly is of great importance to students of Christianity in Japan; and also for its relation to two highly important trends affecting organized Christianity and its future in all lands.

This number is almost wholly given to discussion of the Union Church and the place of missionaries and missions in the new order; and to reports and reactions of the Christian Deputation which visited the United States last spring.

It is quite clear that in the present temper and



A group of Christians in Harbin, Manchuria

plans of Christian leaders in Japan the problem of missions is a genuine one, but one not yet solved. It will require time for this.

The two trends referred to are both very real in the situation in Japan and also pressing in other countries. First there is the powerful movement within the "Church" (churches) for organic union. Its leaders are convinced and determined, finding in the present extraordinary situation opportunity for pushing to conclusion a plan which would have required much time but for the confusion of this crisis.

The other trend is that toward government control and supervision of religion. The Church administration body seem to be accepting this wholeheartedly in principle, with no clear understanding or conviction of the fate which religious freedom will suffer in the application of the principle as a national and a church policy. It is explicitly predicted that independent work outside the authorized and "licensed" Church will be prohibited and prevented. Fortunately no such drastic policy is yet in effect. The danger lies in the *apparent* (one hopes it is not actual) willingness of the union promoters to support this policy. Here is the responsibility of Baptists, so long as the matter is not closed.

Here is involved the historic question of the relation of Church and State. We have to face the fact that the vast numerical majority of "Christians" in the world are identified with, and undis-

turbed by, the fact of state churches. What is much more serious is that most of the Protestant denominations are historically involved in and are committed to the state church policy. In the United States and Canada there are strong trends leading in this direction. Current discussions about the situation of Russia reveal the cloudiness of much thinking both in the councils of state and in the efforts of churchmen. It is a time calling for all who know and believe in the principle of full religious freedom to make their contribution.

AGAIN, WHAT OF JAPAN?

At the time of this writing it is possible to say definitely that our Baptist Seminary in Japan is still in operation. A little while ago it looked as if there would be no students for next session. Now it seems certain that there will be. Our one remaining missionary, Dr. Maxfield Garrott, is still teaching, although with some rearrangement of subjects. His personal relations and service are not curtailed.

It may turn out that the Baptist denomination will be completely merged in the one United Church of Japan. That has not yet come about. Except in name and in some official relations through the head of the Convention, no change in polity or procedure has thus far been made. We must still pray. We may still hope. "Here is the patience of the saints," is a good motto for our relations with our Japanese brethren.



WELCH, THE STEWARD

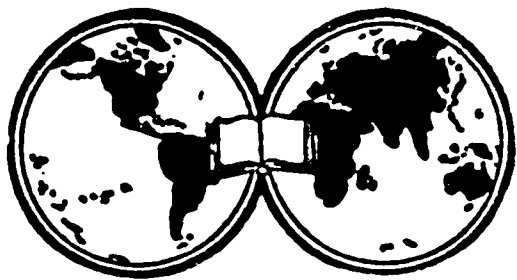
A young man accepted for the African missionary field reported at New York for "passage," but found on further examination that his wife could not stand the climate. He was heartbroken, but he prayerfully returned to his home and determined to make all the money he could, to be used in spreading the Kingdom of God throughout the world. His father, a dentist, had begun to make, on the side, an unfermented wine for the communion service of their church. The young man took the business over and developed it until it assumed vast proportions—his name was "Welch," whose family still manufactures "grape juice." He has given literally hundreds of thousands of dollars to the work of missions.

Every job is missionary work when interpreted in terms of stewardship.

WHAT SHALL I GIVE AT CHRISTMAS?

Give glow of soul, give balm of heart,
Of thy spirit's largess give a part.
Love is needed more than gold—
Love and sympathy a thousand-fold.
Stretch out thy hand to His fainting child;
Speak words of cheer, his grief beguile;
Bind up the wounds, pour in the oil;
Give a needed rest to those who toil.
Give welcome to some homeless one;
Give love to the erring, not a stone.
Send out thy sympathies near and far,
While beams above Christ's natal star.
Thyself give first, and thou shalt be
Most truly blest in thy ministry.

—Georgie Tillman Snead



World Trends

Items of Social and Missionary Interest

CHARLES E. MADDY

EMERGENCY MILLION

The Disciples of Christ (Christian) Church has launched a nation-wide effort to secure a million dollars this year for accumulated debts and emergency needs created by war conditions throughout the world. The plan is to appeal to individuals for unit gifts of \$100.00 each. The Disciples are aggressive and generous and, without doubt, will be successful in securing the *Emergency Million*.

NORTHERN BAPTISTS ASK FOR FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND

Our Northern Baptist brethren at the recent Wichita Convention launched, through a special Emergency Committee, an intensive effort to secure a special fund of \$500,000 for War Emergency Relief and a number of combined causes that have suffered because of unforeseen needs brought on by the Great War. A strong central organization has been set up, and the united undertaking will reach all of their churches. We earnestly wish them success in their effort to secure the needed \$500,000.

IF OUR SEMINARIES ONLY HAD THE MONEY

The Home Mission Board and our eighteen state mission boards are doing their best with the limited funds at their disposal to win the South to Christ

and thus hold America true to the highest ideals.

In our Southern theological seminaries and missionary training schools, including the Negro seminary at Nashville, there are more than 1,500 men and women in training for the ministry and missionary service at home and abroad. If these institutions were supplied with the funds needed for extension work, we could win and hold the South for Christ and true Americanism through the most crucial and testing decade this nation has ever faced. From *The Christian Herald* of October we quote an account of what one great institution, reinforced with ample funds, is doing in North Carolina:

"Sixty-eight young preachers have returned to Duke University (is it improper to call them Dukes?) after a summer in the rural field. They preached more than 1,200 sermons, made 8,000 pastoral calls, directed 20,000 children in vacation schools, conducted short-term training-courses in which more than 2,000 church workers were enrolled. It is all a part of the Duke Endowment.

"That Endowment should be considered carefully by those who still sound off at the colleges as 'hot-beds of atheism.' Duke is apparently another sort of hot-bed: more than 6,000 new members have come into the rural-area churches of North Carolina through the efforts of these young ministers-without-pulpits, who are preparing in this clinic for their life work in the pastorate. Ask any rural preacher in Carolina what he thinks of them."

THEY BELIEVE IN STEWARDSHIP

The Presbyterian Church of the U. S. A. (northern) last year gave to all causes the magnificent sum of \$42,000,000, the largest amount given in nine years. The increase over last year was \$337,581, a per capita gift of \$21.49, (almost thirty cents more), and the largest per capita giving since 1932. In this branch of the Presbyterian Church there are 2,013,247 members, 9,538 ordained ministers, and 1,453,225 in the Sunday schools. Local churches number nearly 9,000, organized into 42 synods and 276 presbyteries.

If 5,000,000 Southern Baptists, organized into more than 25,000 churches, would give in the same ratio as our Northern Presbyterian brethren, we could do our part in winning the world to Christ.



Mount Aconcagua—The Towering Andes, Argentina. An airplane photograph by Dr. R. C. Gresham of Moultrie, Ga.

ORPHANED MISSIONS

Because of war conditions in Europe and the impossibility of transferring funds from one country to another, there are 2,500 stranded missionaries in pagan and heathen lands without means of support. These missionaries are from Germany, Denmark, Norway, Finland, Holland, Belgium, and France. Many of these missionaries are going to suffer for the bare necessities of life, unless generous-hearted people in England and America send them relief. A committee under the guidance of the North American Foreign Missions Conference is at work gathering funds for these stranded missionaries. Any contributions given for this worthy cause will be transmitted by the Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Virginia.

HUMAN SLAVERY REAPPEARS

Human slavery is a relic of barbarianism, and it is hard to believe that any nation, calling itself civilized, would consider, for one moment, the inhuman practice of human slavery. From a reliable exchange we quote as follows:

"Slavery in Germany—Slavery as bad as that which obtained in Africa exists in Germany today. The *Daily Telegraph* reports an escaped worker's words: 'The Nazis do not compel foreign workers to take up work in Germany because of shortage of labour only, but as one of the means by which whole nations can be annihilated. Families are deliberately scattered; a son is never sent to the same place as his father, and brother never allowed to work with brother.'"

HE HAS WROUGHT WELL

Rev. J. W. Lee of Batesville, Mississippi, our beloved friend of many years, has missed only two meetings of his State Convention throughout fifty-seven years. That is a unique record and we congratulate dear Brother Lee and the Baptists of Mississippi upon the service rendered by this faithful servant of Christ and the churches. This saintly pastor has proved himself "steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord."



THE HUNS IN ACTION

Nazi bombers have damaged 2,659 church buildings of all denominations in Great Britain since the beginning of the current war. In addition to the damaged and destroyed churches, 108 vicarages, 304 church halls, 236 church schools and 36 convents have been wrecked.

We sincerely hope, when victory comes to England, that payment for all this wanton ruin will be exacted of Germany.

"A Debtless Denomination by 1945"



The Chinese character meaning "Peace"

Peace

What was the first prophetic word that rang,
When down the starry sky the angels sang,
That night they came as envoys of the birth—
What word but peace, "peace and good-will on earth"?

(Luke 2:14)

And what was the last word the Master said
That parting night when they broke brother bread?
That night he knew men would not let him live—
Oh, what but "peace I leave" and "peace I give"?

(John 14:27)

Devotional Thought

W. M. U. TOPIC: *The Christmas Story in Hearts Everywhere*

How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? and how shall they preach except they be sent? And how shall they be sent unless each Southern Baptist does his or her part in full measure?

An ancient story tells of a time when the people of a certain village planned to give a feast in honor of one of their own number who had become famous and who, after long years, was returning to visit his boyhood home.

In order that all might have a part in honoring the great man, it was agreed that each should bring from his home one bottle of wine, large or small according to his means. Each was to empty his bottle into a big cask provided for the purpose.

One of the villagers, wishing to keep all of his wine for himself, thought, "If I fill my bottle with water and pour it into the cask it will never be noticed. I can thus keep my own wine and still have my share from the cask." And that is what he did.

The feast day came and the villagers, in holiday attire, assembled to honor their noted guest. But alas! when it was time to serve the wine, only water flowed from the great cask, for each villager had selfishly decided, "My contribution will never be missed, I'll keep it for myself." Thus was the great man dishonored by those who claimed to love him—N. F. W.

Hands Across the World



By CHARLES A. WELLS

Have the thunders of hatred and the blasts of propaganda made you forget that on all the continents and in every country—even in Japan, Russia, Germany, and Italy—there are vast numbers of people who are just as deeply and sincerely Christian as we; and who are as heartsick, frightened, and prayerful over these tragic days as we could ever be? The religion of Christ is not only a private affair but a world revolutionary force which, as yet, we have hardly dared to stir; but it stands with hands stretched out across the world, a chain of faith, hope, courage, and compassion that could bind the world into a new brotherhood of mercy and tolerance. How great is our responsibility as Americans, living in peace and abundance, towards those who are suffering from strangling poverty and war!

Rev. Li Shu Ting, affectionately known among his people as "Pastor Li," first became interested in Christianity through reading a copy of the New Testament. Under the teaching of Miss Lottie Moon and Dr. C. W. Pruitt he became an earnest and active Christian.

Ordained as a minister in 1900 Pastor Li proved himself a tireless worker, an efficient organizer,



an earnest evangelist. "Several dozen Baptist churches with thousands of members were organized as a result of his life's work." He baptized more than five thousand converts and was the means of leading to Christ several thousand more.

On December 13, 1937 this "good and faithful servant was called to hear his Master's 'Well done.'"

I Will, If You Will

I will, if you will

*devote my Christmas giving to the children and the needy,
reserving only the privilege of, once in a while,
giving to a dear friend a gift which then will have
the old charm of being a genuine surprise.*

I will, if you will,

*keep the spirit of Christmas in my heart, and,
barring out hurry, worry, and competition,
will consecrate the blessed season, in joy and love,
to the One whose birth we celebrate.*

—JANE PORTER WILLIAMS.



Pastor and Mrs. Mu Hsi San,
for many years associated with
Miss Moon

Tengchow
Baptist Church
in which Miss
Lottie Moon
worshipped



Miss Lottie Moon
China
1873-1912

SHE BEING DEAD YET SPEAKETH IN CHINA

Through the Lottie Moon
Christmas Offering



Executive Committee, Pooi In Bible
Training School, Canton—Miss Flora
Dawson in center



Stout Memorial Hospital
Wusih, China



Above—Rev. and Mrs.
Jackson entertain a
group of Christian
workers and their
children



Kindergarten Group. "Suffer the
Little Children to come unto me."



"Of such is the Kingdom
of Heaven"

Shih Yü Bible Institute, Kaifeng



Above—Seminary
and Training School,
Hwanghsien

Right—Students from
Manchuria attending
North China Baptist
Theological Seminary
and Bible School at
Hwanghsien



THE COMMISSION

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WILL WE BE READY FOR PEACE?

One day this cruel and bloody war will be over and blessed peace will come to all the torn and bleeding nations. England and all of continental Europe will be blighted and exhausted from the effects of the fearful struggle now raging. The Orient, Japan and China, following the grapple now going into its fifth year, will be staggering under economic collapse and ruin that will mean hunger and wretchedness undreamed of in America.

But one glad day peace will come, and America will be called upon to take the lead in feeding and rebuilding a hungry and broken world.

Are Southern Baptists Ready?

This question presents itself: What part will Southern Baptists and the Foreign Mission Board be called upon to play in this mighty world task of reconstruction and rehabilitation? Will we be prepared for the severest testing our people have known since the decade of 1860-70? We must begin now to set our house in order against the day of opportunity for world service that will dawn for us, when the nations, now insane in the awful grip of war, turn again to the ways of peace. Our Foreign Mission Board must be ready to play a

worthy and courageous part in the economic, moral, and spiritual regeneration of that part of the pagan and heathen world for which the Holy Spirit has made us responsible.

Time to Take Stock

Let Southern Baptists today, in the midst of terrible and destructive war that threatens to engulf five continents, take stock of ourselves—our numbers, our resources, our message, and our commitments—and see if we are going to be ready for the requirements and obligations of a worthy peace program when the God of the nations brings this awful conflict to a close.

A Depleted Missionary Personnel

All-out war, as now conducted by heathen nations, takes a fearful toll of missionary personnel. The missionaries in these war-torn lands have been now for years under the terrible strain of war conditions, and they have suffered with their native brethren in the cruelties and injustices that are a daily occurrence on every hand. They have seen at first hand hunger, cruel persecution, the ravages of disease and the constant infliction of the death penalty upon innocent and impotent people. They have been forced to stand by in helpless heartbreaking silence and agony that could find relief only in prayer.

Our missionaries in Europe and in the Orient have suffered a physical and nervous strain during these months that is appalling. It is hard to comprehend all it means unless one is on the inside and understands something of what these missionaries have endured. The first task of the Foreign Mission Board, when peace does come, will be to send out a large number of new missionary recruits to reinforce our badly depleted and terribly overworked missionary personnel, especially in these war-ravaged lands. We shall need a host of well-prepared, God-called, life-surrendered young men and women to go as ambassadors of Christ to these lands beyond the seas.

Native Work Must Be Restored to Health

In many of the war-blighted countries the native churches, schools, hospitals, theological seminaries, as well as other kingdom agencies, have been scattered and destroyed. It will take patience, tact, and much of the love of Christ to gather again these broken and discouraged church members and start the work again. Church and mission property running into hundreds of thousands of dollars in value has been totally destroyed. The native Christians will be unable to rebuild these ruined kingdom agencies, and our Board will need a large sum of

money for the reconstruction and re-establishment of these great kingdom enterprises.

Many New Doors to Open

The Christian world has been deeply grieved over that fact that many doors once open to the entrance of the gospel were closed and others were fast closing. The implications are, now, that, with the coming of peace, the doors of the nations, as never before during the life of Christianity, will swing wide for the entrance of the gospel. We believe profoundly that, as an outcome of this terrible conflict, opportunities will open wide in Russia, the Balkan countries of Europe, the Near East, all of Africa, and the Moslem world. Japan and China and the islands of the South Pacific are going to be waiting for the coming of Christ's missionary with His gospel of peace and brotherly love. The Foreign Mission Board must secure the funds necessary and discover the young people needed for that glorious day soon to dawn.

Material Equipment Must Be Repaired

For a decade, the income of the Foreign Mission Board has scarcely been sufficient to maintain our missionary personnel, pay rents, travel to and from the mission fields, and support the native evangelists, pastors, teachers and Bible women. The Board has had nothing since 1930 for the repairs and up-keep of our vast amount of church, school and hospital property on the several mission fields.

This property would have fallen into decay and ruin long ago had it not been for the timely and generous gifts of Woman's Missionary Union out of the Lottie Moon Christmas Offerings year by year. These gifts have enabled us to keep our property in partial repair during these testing years while we were paying out huge sums for interest and debt service. During this decade, the Foreign Mission Board has paid out of its current funds the enormous sum of \$300,000 for interest on borrowed money alone. The erection of new missionary homes, chapels, school, college and seminary buildings and adequate repairs on our property, except for that made possible by the gifts from the women of the South, have had to wait.

When peace comes, we must repair our property, erect sorely needed buildings and provide our missionaries with adequate equipment with which to do their work. The Japanese armies in China, alone, have destroyed \$600,000 worth of our property. It will take *one million dollars* to replace our buildings in China and to equip them for worthy and constructive service. In Africa, Europe, the Near East and Latin America it will take another *million* to set our missions on their way to fruitful service in

the glorious and challenging new day that will surely dawn for the cause of Christian missions when blessed peace comes to the weary and suffering millions now engulfed in war.

All together for the greatest Lottie Moon Christmas Offering that Woman's Missionary Union has ever received!

A UNIQUE KINGDOM AGENCY

A careful estimate shows the total operating budget of the Foreign Mission Board will run close to \$1,400,000 for the calendar year of 1942. There are two dependable sources of income for this comprehensive and enlarging budget. From the churches, through the Co-operative Program, in designated and undesignated gifts, we shall receive close to \$900,000. From Woman's Missionary Union we shall receive nearly \$400,000. Of this sum, \$100,000 will be designated for the salaries of 125 of our 534 missionaries.

December, a Crucial Month

It can be seen at once, that December, the time set apart for the gathering of the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, is a time of vital and supreme importance for the success of our whole foreign mission enterprise. We look to Woman's Missionary Union with confident assurance that their part of the budget for the crucial year of 1942 will be forthcoming without fail.

A Supplemental Budget

In addition to the budget of the Foreign Mission Board, as fixed at the October meeting, there is the supplementary budget amounting to nearly *three hundred thousand dollars* more that is provided for through the generous gifts of Woman's Missionary Union in their December Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. For more than a decade the Foreign Mission Board has been unable, out of its current funds, to provide for certain imperative needs of the several missions and stations on the various mission fields. Out of funds received through the Christmas Offering, Woman's Missionary Union has generously supplied the means for these vital necessities. The requests come up from the missionaries in the stations to the missions, composed of all our representatives in that country or area. The missions carefully consider all requests and send on to the Foreign Mission Board those which they can approve. The Executive Secretary and the Board consider all of these requests and pass them on to Woman's Missionary Union with their approval or disapproval.

Some Vital Needs Supplied

The following is a list of some of the things the Board is able to do year by year, through the generous gifts of Woman's Missionary Union received in the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering:

The salaries of 125 missionaries.

The support of fourteen Woman's Missionary Training Schools in foreign lands.

The education of the children of missionaries through the Margaret Fund.

The expenses of W. M. U. work on the several mission fields.

The support of numerous Bible schools, kindergartens, and training agencies.

The support of publishing houses and the distribution of Bibles and religious literature.

The building of missionary homes.

The erection of college, seminary, and training school buildings.

The building of chapels and the erection of church buildings.

Support of Goodwill centers and kindergartens.

The traveling expenses of missionaries.

The support and building of hospitals.

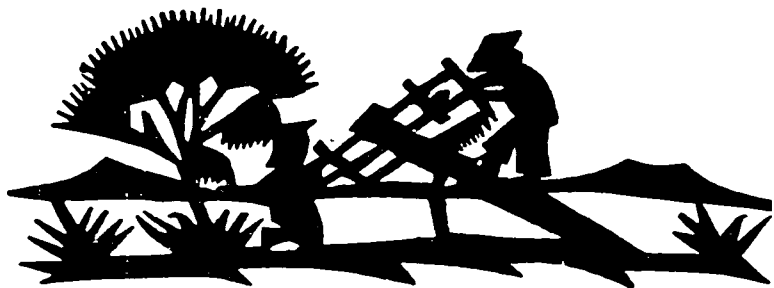
General repairs on mission property.

The above is a brief and imperfect summary of the part Woman's Missionary Union plays in the great program of work sponsored by the Foreign Mission Board in some sixteen different lands across the seas.

Should Have Right of Way

It can be readily seen, therefore, why we believe Woman's Missionary Union should have right of way during the month of December while they are engaged in the divinely approved task of gathering in the sacrificial gifts and offerings of the women, young people, and children in the Baptist churches of the South for this Heaven-sent foreign mission task.

Surely the work of Woman's Missionary Union is unique among the kingdom agencies set up in America for the ongoing of Christ's Kingdom. We are profoundly grateful to God for the blessed and ever-enlarging services of the Baptist women of the South.



A RECORD UNSURPASSED IN MISSIONARY ANNALS

The Foreign Mission Board was organized in 1845, ninety-six years ago. With the exception of the decade of the 1860's, the last decade has been the most trying and crucial period the Board has faced in ninety-six years. The year of 1933 will always stand out as the darkest hour in our long history when we consider the world-wide obligations and commitments of the Board, together with the fact that it was indebted to the banks of Richmond to the enormous sum of nearly twelve hundred thousand dollars. In the face of our sacred and binding obligations to maintain and support the more than 400 missionaries scattered across the world, overwhelmed by the stupendous debt that was crushing us in 1933, the income of the Board from the churches dropped to less than one third of what it had been five years before.

The morale and spiritual courage of Southern Baptists was at the lowest point it had reached in fifty years. There was disastrous retreat all along the line, and many of our boards, institutions and agencies faced bankruptcy and ruin. In that fall of 1933 Woman's Missionary Union halted the retreat and began the slow and heart-rending work of rebuilding shattered morale, as well as leading the procession back to financial rehabilitation and economic security. Southern Baptists will be forever grateful for the marvelous and courageous way in which Woman's Missionary Union has led in the work of foreign missions during the past decade of world-wide social, economic, and political unrest and upheaval. The record of gifts received for foreign missions through Woman's Missionary Union stands unsurpassed in all the annals of missionary giving in America. We give below the amounts given year by year, from 1931 to 1941:

Total Offering for 1930-31	\$189,924.22
Total Offering for 1931-32	\$159,079.73
Total Offering for 1932-33	\$129,687.27
Total Offering for 1933-34	\$175,577.39
Total Offering for 1934-35	\$213,925.81
Total Offering for 1935-36	\$240,455.12
Total Offering for 1936-37	\$292,401.57
Total Offering for 1937-38	\$290,219.74
Total Offering for 1938-39	\$315,000.40
Total Offering for 1939-40	\$330,424.70
Total Offering for 1940-41	\$363,303.83

The total for these years amounts to the enormous sum of \$2,699,999.78. With supreme joy and high expectations we await the outcome of the 1941 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

On this Christmas day, my Father, I come to Thee with a glad heart. Help me to observe the day fitly, with loving remembrance of the lowly birth in Bethlehem and the sorrows of Him who came to bring redemption, and with grateful thanks to Thee for Thy great mercy.

May this be a true Christmas in my heart. Save me from all selfishness. While I gratefully receive the Christmas blessings, may my heart be opened toward all the world in sympathy and kindly interest. Make my life a song; may I go everywhere with joy on my face and on my lips, thus radiating the spirit of Christ.

I pray for those to whom Christmas brings gladness, that their joy may be enriched by thoughts of the divine love; for the multitudes of little children, to whom the day means so much. I pray for those to whom the day brings little joy—the very poor; the lonely and solitary; those far away from their homes, whose hearts will not be warmed by human love; prisoners in their prisons, sailors on the sea, and those who know not Thee. I pray for the bereft and sorrowing to whom Christmas brings painful memories, making more real their sense of loss. May they find comfort in the thought of Christ's unfailing love. Amen.—J. R. Miller.

SHE HAS BEEN A HELPER OF MANY

Paul, in the last chapter of his letter to the Romans, pays this tribute to a consecrated woman:

I commend unto you Phoebe our sister, who is a servant (deaconess?) of the church that is at Cenchreae: that ye receive her in the Lord, worthily of the saints, and that ye assist her in whatsoever matter she may have need of you: for she herself also hath been a helper of many and of mine own self.

Recently there passed into the better land a remarkable servant of Christ in the person of Miss Laura Lazenby, of the First Baptist Church, Statesville, North Carolina.

For some fifty years Miss Lazenby had been the able leader of the women of the Statesville church and of the South Yadkin Association. She was a teacher and for several years she taught in the Baptist Orphanage at Thomasville. She was a devoted friend of the Orphanage and bequeathed a part of her large library to the institution.

She was a woman of great culture and of rare charm. She loved her church with a devotion that was unsurpassed by any person we have known throughout a long ministry. She was a gifted and attractive Sunday school teacher, a constant and devout student of the Word of God.

For many years Miss Lazenby was the superintendent of the W.M.U. work in the South Yadkin Association and, under her wise and aggressive leadership, this Association became one of the most generous and progressive units in the state.

The supreme love of this devoted servant of Christ was Foreign Missions. While she lived, she gave generously of her time and means for the furtherance of the enterprise of the Baptist Foreign Mission Board. By means of hard work, wise business management and close economy, she accumulated a modest but substantial estate. With the exception of her books and some personal effects as-



signed to her sister, as a memorial to her father, she left to the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention all that she possessed. The Board will set up, according to the provisions of the will "The O. O. Lazenby Memorial Fund," the income to be used for the work of the Board in lands afar.

We are deeply grateful for this generous gift, and until Jesus comes again, the gift of this sainted woman will go on preaching the gospel.

We bless God for this remarkable servant of Christ. Life for us and for multitudes of others has been greatly enriched because of her.

—Charles E. Maddry



Ambassadors for Christ



V. Lavell Seats—I was born in Tuckerman, Arkansas, November 16, 1915. When I was eight years old my parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Seats, moved to Kansas City, Missouri. I was graduated from the Westport High School in 1932. During that year I was converted, largely through the influence of my sister Mrs. Irma Lee Donoho. I was baptized and united with the Tabernacle Baptist Church. The pastor, Rev. R. T. Jandon, had a great influence on my life.

When I was seventeen years old I felt God's call to the ministry. Soon thereafter I entered the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago and spent two years there. During that time I met Miss Helen Elizabeth Franklin who, on August 3, 1935, became my bride.

We went to Bolivar, Missouri, where both of us attended school. I graduated from the Southwest Baptist College and entered William Jewell College at Liberty, Missouri, from which I graduated in May, 1939. During my college course I served as pastor of the Pleasant Home Baptist Church of Butler Association and the Jasper Baptist Church of Jasper, Missouri.

In the fall of 1939 I entered the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at Louisville, Kentucky, and during my work there I was pastor of the Baptist Church of Chaplin, Kentucky.

In May, 1941, I graduated from the Seminary. In September Mrs. Seats and I were appointed in Service for the Master by the Foreign Mission Board, as their missionaries to Africa; and on October 9 we sailed for Nigeria, there to invest our lives in service to our Master.

Helen Franklin Seats—I was born in Pontiac, Michigan, July 12, 1914. My father was a Baptist minister. This and the fact that I was raised in a Christian home greatly influenced me in my acceptance of Christ at the age of eleven. My parents

never urged me to do it without a full understanding of what it would mean, but I knew they were in full sympathy with my decision. I went forward at the invitation of my pastor (my father having gone to be with the Lord) and the encouragement of my wonderful Sunday school teacher.

When I was about twelve we returned to Pontiac, Michigan, and transferred our membership to a Missionary Baptist church where my father had also been a pastor. It was there, at the age of fifteen, that I fully consecrated my life to be used wherever God might wish me to be, and there was in my heart the sincere desire to serve Him where I was really needed. I spent many years in service at my home church and in missions sponsored by our church. The summer following my graduation from high school I spent teaching Bible school in what is referred to as "the forest region," of northern Michigan. It was a revelation to me to learn of the great needs of the hearts of the people and of their earnest desire to know of Christ.

Just when the definite call to Africa came to me I do not know. For a number of years that needy land had been on my heart, but this year its call seemed more urgent than ever. My feeling was similar to the conviction which comes to one before conversion. It became a "must" in my life. Reason, however, didn't enter into my call but only the deep longing of my heart to work with them over there.

I spent two years at Moody Bible Institute, one full year of college work and music at Southwest Baptist College in Bolivar, Missouri, and one year at the Seminary in Louisville. In all of it my interest has been in the study of His word and music, having taken also six years of voice, two years of conducting and two years of piano. I have enjoyed my work very much and look forward eagerly to using, in Africa, the training I have received.



*Almighty Father, help us so to count on Thee
that Thou mayest be able to count on us. Amen.*





Stephen P. Jackson—On February 27, 1911, I was born in Brazil, South America, where my father and mother were missionaries in the far interior town of Santa Rita de Rio Preto. From the coast it was a six weeks' journey by boat up the San Francisco and Rio Preto rivers.

Most of my boyhood was spent in Brazil where early my heart was touched by the physical and spiritual needs of the people.

While in Greenville, South Carolina, in 1923, my growing love for Christ bore fruit in my decision for Him as my Saviour and Lord. Dr. George W. Truett was preaching in a revival at the First Baptist Church of Greenville. I had a fine Sunday school teacher whose name I do not remember but whose influence will always live in my life. I recall how happy he was over my decision, how he taught me to pray to God to overcome my temper, and assured me he was praying for me.

While in high school I became possessed of a growing ambition to be a Christian doctor in Brazil like our missionary doctor, Dr. Downing and the great Brazilian doctor and Christian, Dr. Nogueira Paragua. This ambition continued throughout my college days, but the death of my parents and the depression of 1929-30 made me abandon my hopes. However the missionary desire persisted and in 1930 I definitely dedicated my life to Christian service.

Meanwhile an opportunity to work in a government hospital rekindled my desire to be a medical missionary and I saved my pennies so as to enter medical school. But God had other plans for my life and I felt His unmistakable call to preach. In the autumn of 1936 I was licensed to preach, and immediately I entered the Seminary in Louisville.

The four years there were years of testing, growing, inspiration and blessing. The work with the Student Volunteers of Kentucky, the deputation programs in churches and schools, retreats and conventions were sources of joy and inspiration.

In February of 1940, my last year at the Seminary, I met Miss Pauline Sheriff who on June 17, 1941, became Mrs. Jackson. Finishing the Louisville Seminary course in May, 1940, I went to work with several weak mountain churches where I had some of the most varied, testing and thrilling experiences of my life.

On June 12, 1941, I was appointed by the Foreign Mission Board as a missionary to Brazil, and on October 7, Mrs. Jackson and I sailed for our new field.



Pauline Sheriff Jackson—On February 5, 1917, I was born near Hollis, Oklahoma. My parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Sheriff, were active members of the First Baptist Church at Bethel, Oklahoma. They took my five brothers and myself to Sunday school and church regularly from our early childhood.

In the summer of 1928, during a revival meeting led by Rev. R. N. Colyar, I accepted Christ and was baptized. I took part in Sunday school, B. Y. P. U., and an unnamed children's missionary group led by our pastor. The only activity of that group which I remember was singing "Jesus Loves the Little Children of the World," and I recall our pastor explaining who "the children of the world" are.

With my parents I moved to Hollis, Oklahoma, taking our membership to the First Baptist Church there. During my high school years my activity in the church was confined to my attendance.

In September, 1934, I entered Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College at Stillwater, Oklahoma. Although I attended B. Y. P. U. and Sunday school regularly, I was not actively giving my life to Christ.

In the spring of 1935, I surrendered all my efforts to His service. That fall I attended the State B. S. U. Convention at Ada, Oklahoma, and through an appeal made by Dr. L. R. Scarborough, I heard and answered God's call, to serve wherever He would use me.

Through our Ann Hasseltine Y. W. A., channels of service opened that made me know God was preparing me for a foreign field. In 1937, when I heard Rev. and Mrs. Nelson from Brazil talk on the need for young people in service there, I felt that was God's call to me.

Graduating from the Oklahoma A. and M. College in 1938, I entered the W. M. U. Training School in Louisville, Kentucky, but I did not openly volunteer for foreign service until May of 1941, when I became in love with Stephen P. Jackson who was dedicated to service for God and who was a volunteer for the mission field of Brazil.

Since graduation I have been employed at the Baptist Home for Children in Washington, D. C.

The inspiration of my Christian roommate, Muriel Budge and the devotion of my family have greatly influenced the course of my life.

It is with deep gratitude and with eager anticipation that we turn our faces toward our new field of service.

Christianity: A World Youth Revolution

ARCHIBALD M. McMILLAN

Paul wrote to Timothy: "Let no man despise thy youth . . . Give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine . . . save thyself and them that hear thee."

The world is convulsed today with two pagan revolutions—national socialism and communism. The only salvation of the world lies in making Christianity truly a world movement, in which youth shall play an important part by supplying the dynamic enthusiasm that has made other revolutions successful. Dr. Luther Wesley Smith of the American Baptist Publication Society tells how youth set in motion these two gigantic revolutions.

"How do you expect to make communism such a revolution?" scoffers asked Lenin when he was a relatively obscure Russian.

"Just give me a few years with the Russian youth," Lenin replied. "Let me fill them with such ideas as are found in Karl Marx' *Das Capital*, and I will have my world revolution." This dire prophecy has come too nearly true.

Such people as the dubious Russians laughed at Adolf Schicklegruber, or Hitler, the Austrian ex-corporal and paper-hanger, when he babbled of world conquest. To such scoffers Hitler would scream in reply: "Let me for a few years dominate the thinking of German youth, filling their minds with the teachings of German race superiority and world rulership, and in a few years I will have my world revolution." So in small groups or bunds these evil poisonous doctrines were poured into the minds of German youth until all the world was forced to witness "The Revolution of Nihilism."

"The power of totalitarianism over youth," declared Marquess Lothian, "lies in its demand to the individual to work and strive, not for himself or herself, but for something beyond." Let me tell you of Egon Hanfstaengl. I first met him at Harvard's International Club. Young Hanfstaengl's father was at one time Hitler's foreign press chief, private piano player and confidante. Losing sympathy with the way Hitler did things, the elder Hanfstaengl left the Nazi party and, barely escaping from Germany with his life, made his way to England. I used to study the German Bible with Egon, a big, burly fellow who speaks perfect English. Despite the rough treatment his father received at the hands of the Nazis, Egon came to this country filled with enthusiasm for some aspects of the Hitler youth movement. Lately he has given full allegiance to America's military program.

Egon left Harvard to join the air corps in Alabama, where I visited him recently. Later there came from him a letter telling how much he had



Egon
Hanfstaengl

enjoyed reading the German Bible I had sent him. This indicates how eager the mind of youth is for any challenging idea; and Christianity is potentially the world's most dynamic movement.

THE CHALLENGE OF A HARD TASK

How can youth be enlisted in making Christianity a world enterprise? First, we must realize that this is a difficult job. In this country religion has become too effortless. As Editor R. E. Dudley of Texas recently wrote: "God gave to youth of all ages a heart which ever vibrates in answer to a challenge. The Christ who commissioned His followers to go into the world promised them not peace but a sword; not favor but persecution; not ease but hardship."

DIRECTED ENERGY

In the first epistle to Timothy, Paul exhorts the young man thus: "Rebuke not an elder, but entreat him as a father . . ." Certainly I would not want it to appear as if I, a young person, were in any sense rebuking those who are helping, perhaps more than any other group, to make Christianity a world revolution through an aggressive missionary program. However, I think we American youth can make a very serious charge against whomever is responsible for a world in which most efforts now seem directed toward destructive rather than constructive endeavor.

Let me illustrate. Young Quentin Roosevelt, grandson of the late President, after a visit to China for Harvard University was organizing an ambu-

lance corps to go out and help the suffering Chinese. He could not get enough support for this wholly worthwhile undertaking, and now he is an officer in the United States Army. Another college mate was young Joseph Kennedy, the former ambassador's son. He met with a group there who were interested in seeing among the nations a better understanding based on Christian principles. Recently in a newsreel I saw a picture of him being examined by army doctors before being inducted into the air corps. Egon Hanfstaengl himself is an example of a young person who could have been won for constructive Christian work but instead was won over by the program of militarism. One day as I was describing the probable hardships but certain spiritual rewards of sowing down such a country as China with Christian literature, he broke in and said: "I haven't known so very much about Christianity, but there is a tough job, and if you go into it I would certainly like to be right in there by your side." Egon is now in the U. S. Air Corps.

CONSTRUCTION VS. DESTRUCTION

It's not that we begrudge the country our services in time of military emergency, but we Christian young people would much rather be actively engaged in a constructive and aggressive program of world-wide missions, which, if fully carried out, would make war unthinkable and armaments unnecessary. Youth will respond if they are challenged with a mission program one-hundred-fold that of our present program, which is a good beginning, but only a beginning. If Uncle Sam can raise up a million men almost overnight to fight Hitlerism, why cannot we Baptists raise up an army of 10,000 youth to fight "the world, the flesh and the devil"?

A SUPREME OBJECTIVE

In the second place, if Christianity is to become a world revolution with youth taking a leading part, it must be total. Its aim should be nothing less than world dominion. In his recent book, *Europe and the German Question*, Professor Forster declares that Christianity must replace Prussian militarism if Europe and the world are to be made safe. This is far too narrow a view: Christianity must replace any and all other teachings and must reign supreme in the hearts of all men everywhere. It must be a process of radical displacement. Oriental religions like Confucianism, Mohammedanism, and Buddhism studied as philosophies have value, but as ways of life they must be discarded in favor of Christianity, "for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

CHRISTIANITY'S METHOD

Though Christianity's aim must be totalitarian, its

methods must ever be individual. It cannot force masses of men to worship God but must lead them on by one to the throne of grace. We can never prophecy the future influence of one soul won to Christ. A little Chinese stowaway, Peter Soong, was befriended when he came to America for study, and now his four great children, splendid Christians all, are among the most influential people in China. Would that somebody could have won Adolf Hitler to Christ when he was an impressionable youth. Would you think this process almost too great a miracle for God Himself to accomplish? Then listen to the following excerpts from his own autobiography. Hitler says, on page six of *Mein Kampf*: "Once the village pastor had seemed to the little boy the incarnation of all attainable human success." If Christianity had made a really vital appeal to Hitler at that time, and had been followed through, the whole history of the world might have been changed. He loved to talk: what a pity that there was no Baptist Training Union in his town where he could have been led to speak of Christ and His power rather than to scream against the Jews and to preach world destruction. Since we cannot get at Hitler, at least we can approach some youth, who may easily be a leader of tomorrow. By winning one soul to Christ, we may change world events.

POWER PLUS PITY

Though the Christian path is hard in that it demands self-sacrifice, it must be tender in its compassion for suffering humanity. My friend, David Morgan, tells of a big, bronzed Swiss, Pierre Ceresole, who organized a band of volunteers from twenty-two countries to help suffering people in times of emergency. When roadways or bridges were destroyed or corps imperilled by avalanche, earthquake, storm or flood, this group of singing



The son of former Ambassador Kennedy aids travellers in Europe to secure passage to America

workers would leave their regular tasks and go to rescue. Using picks, shovels and wheelbarrows, these men and women would repair the damage and then return to their usual walks of life. The Friends or Quakers do very much the same thing: they are at work now in Spain, on the Burma Road and in other trouble spots on the globe.

Our missionaries and those of other denominations are working all over the world to help relieve human want. Their arms must be upheld with more support from us at home, and their numbers must be vastly multiplied. As Dr. John R. Mott pointed out, though America has only five per cent of the world's population and seven per cent of the world's territory, it has about thirty-five per cent of the world's wealth. We have the means and should help those in greater need.

PUBLICITY'S PART

Finally, if youth is to be enlisted in this Christian world revolution, there must be a widespread and effective program of publicity and propaganda. The future task of missions must be publicized NOW; propaganda must help prepare the way. German

youth were indoctrinated for years: they read the party magazines, they saw the party posters. Charles Wells quotes Hitler as saying: "I'll do more with paper and ink than Napoleon ever did with gunpowder," and this seems to be coming true. He never marched without plastering posters around and passing out pamphlets.

Every young Baptist should be thoroughly indoctrinated with Christian teachings; every young Baptist should read the splendid publications which outline the missionary program whereby Christianity can become a world revolution, for, as General Chiang Kai-shek said, "Christ is the world's greatest revolutionary leader and can inspire young people to follow Him today."

For youth's sake alone we should see that our missionary magazines go into every one of the million or more Southern Baptist homes. All of our young people should be reading such magazines as THE COMMISSION. If they are off at camp, send it to them; if they are now at home, put it in their hands. Let this go on for three or four years and Christianity may well become a world revolution which will displace false doctrines.

CHRISTMAS MENU

	Grace	
Kindness	Conscience Clear	Good Cheer
	Tender Memories	
	Charity, Served with Discretion	
	Love	
Peace		Truth
	Long Life, Stuffed with Usefulness	
	Heart Fond and True	
	(A Large Portion)	
	Sweet Thoughts	
Affection		Happiness
	Best Wishes for Absent Friends	
	Mizpah	

A LOTTIE MOON SOLILOQUY

(With apologies to Shakespeare)

To give or not to give: that's not the question:
That God, my heavenly Father asks each day.
He gives to me both freely and with system,
And not in grudging or haphazard way.

To give or not to give: that's not the question:
Whether 'tis nobler that I do accept
From day to day God's blessings so abundant,
And then at greedy grasping prove adept,
Or that I show my love and thanks unending
By sharing freely, with a world in need,

The gospel which has brought to me such comfort;
Thus may I speak my gratitude indeed.
To get; to share; to sacrifice. Ah, there's the rub;
To give a gift that I shall truly miss—
To go without some luxury I've longed for—
To prove my love for God in ways like this.
Lord, at this joyous, holy Christmas season,
Thinking how Thou did'st give Thy Best to me,
Help me to bring a gift that's sacrificial
An off'ring that shall tell my love for Thee.

—N. F. W.

Training for Service

J. C. POOL*

Since its removal to Ogbomosho in 1939, the Seminary has showed steady progress. In 1940 we had a total enrollment of nineteen. In addition to the men we have had fifteen women studying in the classes provided for them.

We have been very happy over the spirit in the school. There has been an increasing emphasis on evangelism and a deepening of the spiritual life in every respect. One thing that has helped this has been the prayer service held at chapel hour every Friday. On that day we have no speaker, but devote the period to prayer. The Seminary is steadily growing stronger in scholastic attainments. Additions to our staff and the raising of standards have contributed to this.

THE STAFF

During the year our staff has had the following missionaries as part of its personnel: J. C. Pool Ph.D. principal; teacher of Greek, New Testament, Religious Education, Theology and Church History; Mrs. Elizabeth Routh Pool A.B., instructor in Music and English; Miss Josephine Scaggs A.B., teacher of Old Testament, New Testament, Evangelism; Rev. C. W. Knight Th.M., instructor in New Testament, Hebrew, Old Testament, Sociology, Evangelism; Miss Eva Sanders A.B., R.N., and graduate W.M.U. Training School, Louisville, Kentucky, director of Women's Training School and teacher of Bible, English, W.M.U. methods; Miss Vivian Nowell, graduate W.M.U. Training School, Louisville, Kentucky, teacher of women's practical home-making, and Bible.

In the middle of the year Miss Scaggs left us to go to another work and Mr. Knight has been welcomed to fill the gap in our ranks. Miss Scaggs made an outstanding contribution to the spirit of the school by her intense devotion and faith in God. We have two African members of our staff: Rev. S. A. Adegbite, and Rev. E. A. Atilade. Both men are graduates of the Seminary.

Before turning away from mention of our staff we must speak a special word of gratitude to Miss Sanders for her work in keeping the health standard of the school on a high level. The Ogbomosho Baptist Hospital also deserves our thanks for giving our students special consideration in regard to treatments there.

*Dr. J. Christopher Pool is principal of the Baptist Seminary in Ogbomosho, Nigeria.

EVANGELISTIC EMPHASIS

The year has been marked by great evangelistic activity. We have held revivals at a number of places. Mr. Knight and a group of the students went on an evangelistic expedition to the Shaki district just after the close of school, and reports indicate that there must have been well over one hundred decisions for Christ during the week.

Sunday afternoons Mr. Knight and several of the students, using the hospital station wagon, have gone on evangelistic tours of the villages. The principal has taken others in his little car to still other villages. Every Wednesday afternoon we have gone to preaching stations all over Ogbomosho, taking the good news of Jesus our Lord. Several villages have been visited by students who make the trips on bicycles. These young Christians have done a splendid work. Each Sunday for some time George Bamikole has ridden eleven miles to Ganbari and has been a great blessing to that Mohammedan town. The people love him and want him to return. G. O. Akinwumi has spent two years at Ikoyi, which is one of the most difficult fields we have in the country. He has made a great impression on the people there. Many children come to the services, great crowds are reached in the market place. The chapel erected some years ago has been repaired, and benches, a table, and other church furniture have been installed in the building.

OUR THANKS

We are grateful beyond words for the gift of money, enough to buy a new station wagon, to increase the effectiveness of our evangelistic work. This money has been given jointly by the Women of Oklahoma and the Women of the South. This will mean a great deal to our work when we are able to buy the station wagon. War conditions prevent us from doing so just now.

TWO NEEDS

The Seminary has two outstanding needs. The first one is *books*. Our library is not at all what it should be. We are getting some of the books we must have but not nearly enough. We need more reference books along all lines. Our Library needs especially books on religious education, secular education, and the standard textbooks used by the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at Louisville, Kentucky. Our students also need books.

None of them has an adequate supply and they have very poor libraries to take with them as they go out on the field.

If you have some helpful book or books that you are willing to pass on to these needy and ambitious students, send them either to Dr. J. Christopher Pool, Baptist Seminary, Ogbomosho, Nigeria, West Africa, or to the Foreign Mission Board, 601 East Franklin Street, Richmond.

The second need is for *money* to support worthy students. This very day I am tutoring two fine young men outside the school because they have not sufficient support. Others have already been refused entrance. Since \$50.00 a year will enable a student to have the benefit of the seminary life and training, we are hoping that some group or individuals will grasp the chance to help equip a young African for the gospel ministry.



Curtis Everett Deane, son of the assistant treasurer of the Foreign Mission Board smiles in joyous anticipation of the BIG LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING his daddy will have to count

THE IDEAL CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

Christmas is not a day or a season, but a condition of heart and mind. If we love our neighbors as ourselves; if in our riches we are poor in spirit and in our poverty if we are rich in grace; if our charity vaunteth not itself, but suffereth long and is kind; if when our brother asks a loaf we give ourselves instead; if each day dawns in opportunity and sets in achievement, however small; then every day is Christ's day.—James Wallingford.

THE ROMANS USED HOLLY

It should prove of immense interest to students of history that the early Romans had a festival at about the time of our Christmas and that they festooned their houses with holly in honor of the god Saturn. This was called the Saturnalia, and the character of celebration may be judged from the fact that the name is still the synonym for carousal and immorality. At this time the Romans sent their friends sprigs of holly, thus indicating their good wishes for prosperity and long life. It is related that the early Christians also decked their homes with holly at this season for the purpose of escaping persecution.

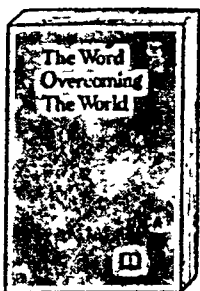


The Christmas Pageant, Pooi Ling Kindergarten, Tung Shan, Canton, China

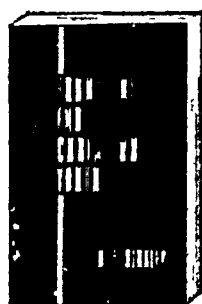
Studying Missions

MARY M. HUNTER
Manager Department of Literature
and Exhibits

Missionary Motives



The Word Overcoming the World—E. C. Routh



Frontiers for Christian Youth—O. T. Binkley



World Airways for the King—Florence B. Decker

1. *Why should I study missions?*

Because my education is sadly deficient if I am ignorant concerning this, the most important work in the world.

Because a study of missions will greatly increase my faith in Christianity's God. It is God at work.

Because as a Christian I cannot otherwise grasp the full mission of the Church.

Because as one who has a personal duty in regard to missions I cannot intelligently discharge this duty without informing myself on the subject.

2. *Why should I give to missions?*

Because it is the most paying investment.

Because of the joy that comes to the giver.

Because I am only a steward of the money that God has given me, and I must use it for His glory.

Because I am put to shame by the liberality of heathen converts.

Because it is God's will that missionaries should go, and that I should help them. (Romans 10:14.)

Because I am grateful to God for what He has given me. (John 3:16.)

Because souls are dying and I may help.

3. *Why should I pray for missions?*

Because the world needs prayer.

Because in the past missions have always prospered as believing prayer has increased.

Because God has conditioned the success of missions on prayer.

Because I am commanded to pray.

Because I can plead great promises.

Because the prayer of faith is always answered.

Because Christ prays for all for whom He died.

—*The Other Sheep*



By Clipper Plane and Strato-liner—Willie Jean Stewart



Visiting Around the World
Ruth Carver Gardner



These Things Remain—
Ella Broadus Robertson

A Year-Round Christmas Gift

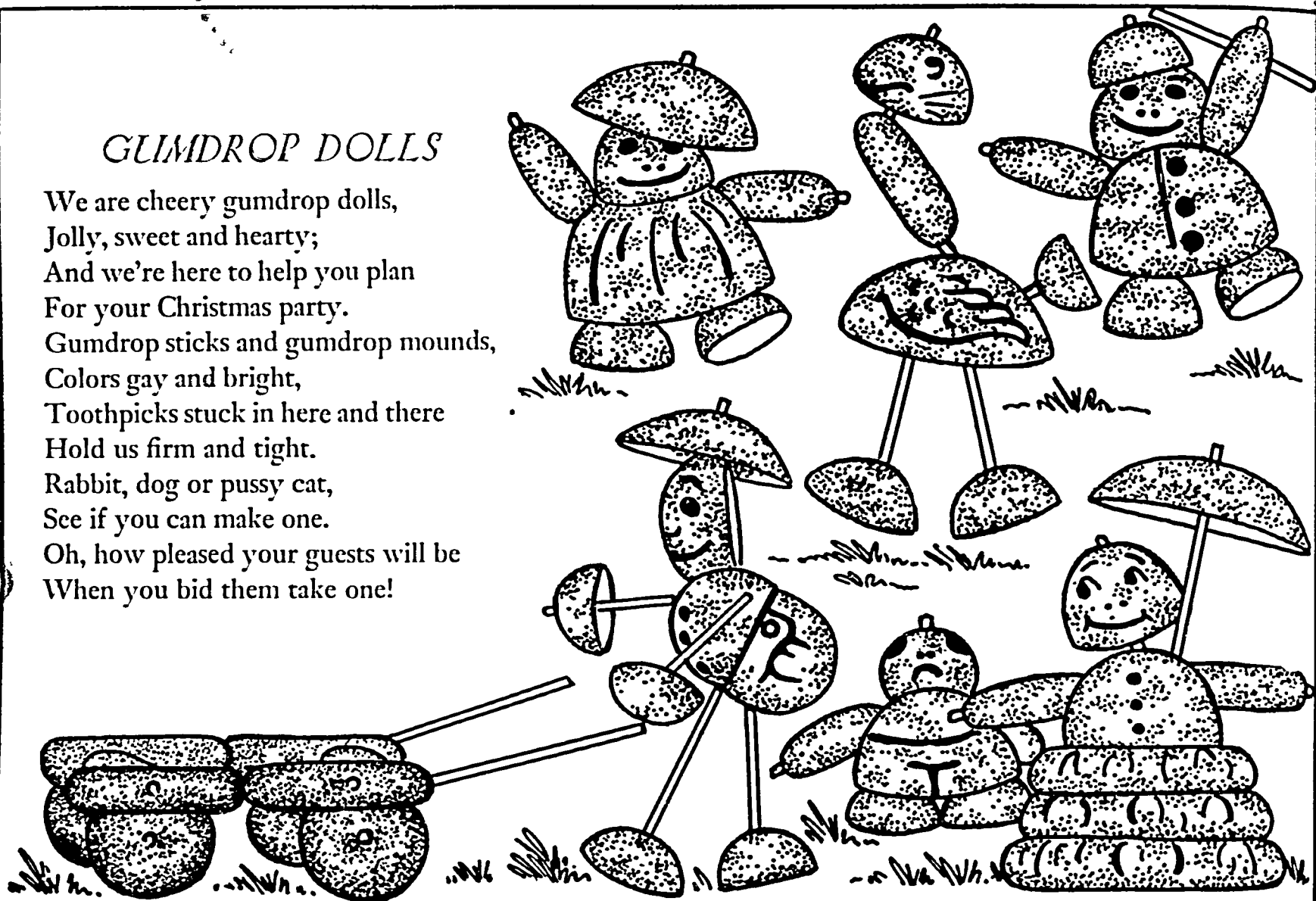


THE COMMISSION is the organ of the Foreign Mission Board. It is devoted to foreign mission work. It teaches the fundamental principles of missions. It brings the latest news from the fields. It contains many pictures of scenes in distant lands and of the work of our missionaries. It has a children's page. It is educational, instructive, and inspirational. It is indispensable to missionary workers. It ought to be in every Southern Baptist home. It will be stimulating and helpful wherever circulated.

We appeal to the lovers of foreign missions to help us secure a large increase in our circulation at the Christmas season and to give it as a Christmas gift to friends who are not subscribers.

GUMDROP DOLLS

We are cheery gumdrop dolls,
Jolly, sweet and hearty;
And we're here to help you plan
For your Christmas party.
Gumdrop sticks and gumdrop mounds,
Colors gay and bright,
Toothpicks stuck in here and there
Hold us firm and tight.
Rabbit, dog or pussy cat,
See if you can make one.
Oh, how pleased your guests will be
When you bid them take one!



AN OUTDOOR CHRISTMAS TREE

H. M. RICHARDSON

I've got a little Christmas tree
Out in the yard. It's not for me,
It's for the birds; the squirrels too
Perhaps will find a nut or two
Tucked in the branches, if they hunt—
That always is a squirrel stunt.
The birds—oh, they will find enough
Of meat and bread and all such stuff,
Tied to the branches with some string
That as they peck will sway and swing.
Most likely some of it will fall
Upon the ground; they'll find it all.
They'll be so hungry they will come
And hunt around for every crumb.
You don't suppose this Christmas tree
Was put out here for only me!

THE LITTLE LORD JESUS

The Little Lord Jesus, for you and for me,
Came down out of Heaven, our Helper to be
And this is His birthday—this glad Christmas day;
O, tell Him you love Him; He hears what you say.

The Little Lord Jesus, just come from the sky,
Was laid in the manger, with cattle close by,
No soft, pretty pillow, no little white bed,
But only a manger, with hay for His head.

The Little Lord Jesus, who slept on the hay,
Has gone back to Heaven, and loves us today,
And now, on His birthday, we all want to bring
Our selves as a love gift to Jesus our King.

NEWS FLASHES

Gene Newton

Sailings

October 7, 1941, Rev. and Mrs. Stephen P. Jackson, Rev. and Mrs. T. N. Clinkscales and Miss Maye Bell Taylor sailed from New Orleans for Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, aboard the S. S. *Delmundo*.

Rev. and Mrs. Malcolm W. Stuart, Miss Helen McCullough and Miss Clarabel Isdell sailed from San Francisco for Honolulu on October 9, 1941 on the S. S. *Matsonia*.

On October 9, 1941 Miss Isabella Moore and Rev. and Mrs. V. Lavell Seats sailed from New York on the S. S. *Acadia* bound for Lagos, Nigeria. Miss Moore is one of the missionaries who was on the *Zamzam*.

Rev. and Mrs. L. M. Bratcher sailed from New York on October 11, 1941 aboard the S. S. *Argentina* to return to their work in Brazil.

October 17, 1941, Rev. H. H. McMillan and Rev. Wilson Fielder sailed aboard the S. S. *President Harrison*, for Shanghai, China. Mrs. McMillan and Mrs. Fielder are remaining in America.

Miss Ruth Ford and Miss Auris Pender sailed for Hong Kong by way of Manila on the S. S. *Pleasantville*, October 22, 1941.

Appointments

At the meeting of the Foreign Mission Board on October 15, 1941, six missionaries were appointed to work in South America. Rev. and Mrs. H. W. Schweinsburg, Southern Baptists' first missionaries to Colombia, will sail in November. Miss Lois Hart, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. J. L. Hart of Chile, and Miss Ethel Singleton plan to sail for Chile in January. Rev. and Mrs. Edgar F. Hallock will go to Brazil.

Announcements

Announcements have been received of the arrival of the following babies:

September 8—William Gilman Gray, son of Rev. and Mrs. R. F. Gray of Baguio, P. I.

September 14—Martha Sue Lingerfelt, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. J. E. Lingerfelt of Jaguaquara, Brazil.

October 6—Roy Franklin Starmer, Jr., son of Rev. and Mrs. Roy Franklin Starmer of Bucharest, Rumania.

Weddings

On September 29, 1941, Miss Martha Jane Moore, daughter of Mrs. J. W. Moore of Chefoo, China, married Mr. Merrill L. Hutchins. Mr. and Mrs. Hutchins are making their home in Washington, D. C.

Miss Edyth Boyd became the bride of Rev. Malcolm W. Stuart at 7:30 P. M., September 18, in the Garland Baptist Church, Garland, Texas. The ceremony was performed by Rev. J. W. Marshall, Texas Student Secretary, assisted by Rev. F. M. Segler. Given in marriage by her brother, Edgar Boyd, the bride wore a gown of bridal satin and a fingertip veil. She carried a white Bible showered with gardenias and stephanotis.

Dr. J. Paul O'Neal was best man. A. D. Jackson Jr. and J. D. Robinson were ushers.

Mr. and Mrs. Stuart have gone to Hawaii to serve there until they can go to China. Their work will be among the soldiers.

A Challenging Trip

Rev. C. L. Culpepper has returned to Hwanghsien, North China, after a three months' trip into Free China. Although the journey was a hard one, it was a glorious experience. Mr. Culpepper writes that the West, with its great throngs of war-driven people and millions of unevangelized natives, must be reached, and it must be done *now*.

Sympathy

Dr. James B. Wright, father of Miss Lucy Wright of Hwanghsien, China, passed away on the eighth of October. Sincere sympathy is extended to Miss Wright and her family.



A Chinese Christian student



Margie Shumate, the loyal missionary of Shiu Hing, China

Two Noble Stewards

Cheung Shing Kwong, the "old blusterer," as he was commonly called by the people of Lin Tong, was sick. He was a big, heavy man, always ready for a quarrel or a heated argument, but he was kind-hearted, nevertheless, and was generally liked by the villagers. But now he was sick, and had been sick for some weeks. They had called in several doctors who gave herb tea, and the man who practiced the art of puncturing bodies to cure sickness had brought his needle and punctured the sick man in a dozen or more places. His wife had gone to several shrines and made offerings to demons pleading for his recovery, but Cheung Shing Kwong only grew worse, and he was given up to die. Just at this time someone came along and told of "foreign devils" in Canton who could work miracles of healing, and declared that if they would take him to Canton these same "foreign devils" could surely heal him.

The relatives held a conference as to what should be done. Their hearts were filled with fear as they thought of sending him to "foreign devil" doctors; but when they asked what he wished to do, he replied that if he did not go he would die anyway, and if there was a ray of hope for his life he wanted to go to Canton. So they carried him to a boat and he was taken to the Canton Hospital. There he received healing at the hands of doctors who were connected with that hospital a generation ago. What is more, he heard the story of Christ there. He accepted Him as his Saviour and returned to Lin Tong a new man.

I shall not dwell upon the ridicule and persecution he faced as he began to serve as a steward of the Gospel, preaching the new doctrine in Lin Tong and the surrounding villages. Suffice it to say that in time a church sprang up at Lin Tong and exists to this day. Scores have been saved in this field and four or five ministers have come out of this church.

All of Cheung Shing Kwong's children became useful and outstanding Christians. He decided to send his son, Cheung Wun Mun, to the Canton Hospital to learn foreign medicine. There was no medi-

cal college in South China at that time, so the seventeen-year-old lad entered the hospital as a student, and by reading what medical books were available, listening to lectures by the doctors, and by observation and practical experience, he developed into quite a capable doctor. After he had learned all that he could, he married the educated and consecrated daughter of a Christian family. With this new wife and with \$40.00 in his pocket, he came to Shiu Hing and settled down to practice medicine.

At that time foreign medicine was not known in Shiu Hing. The people were suspicious of it, and Dr. Cheung Wun Mun had difficulty in making a living; but by degrees he won the confidence of the people and his practice grew. But he did not let money-making take first place in his life. The first place was given to his Lord whom he loved and served. In his drugstore he preached Christ to his patients. He preached on trains, boats or wherever there were people to listen. He preached in the churches and was invited to many places to conduct meetings. He would leave his drugstore and his practice and go wherever there was a call for his services, whether in the Shiu Hing field or more distant places, and nothing was ever paid him for his service. Several times missionaries approached him and begged him to give up practicing medicine and devote full time to preaching the Gospel, but he refused each time saying that he wanted to preach, but did not want it to be said that he was doing it for foreign money. He wanted to serve God without a salary, and not only did he support himself, but he gave liberally to the Lord's work.

Dr. Cheung loved little children and they loved him. He loved young people and helped some of the poor ones to get an education. He was ever ready to help the poor and those in distress. The rich were his friends, and the city people delighted to honor him. At times he was chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, and Superintendent of the Public Hospital, and the high and low came to him constantly for consultation about their problems.

Eternity alone will tell the story of how many souls this man led to Christ, and of how many non-Christians have a high regard for Christianity because of the life of this man. And eternity alone will tell how many Christians have been helped in their Christian lives by Dr. Cheung Wun Mun. He went to his heavenly home last November and we miss his presence more and more all the time.

FROM THE FRONT

COMPILED BY
Archibald M. McMillan

New Secretary To Latin America

Announcement has been made that Dr. Everett Gill Jr., who was the choice of the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention in its semi-annual meeting last April for secretary to Latin America, will begin his duties at the Board's headquarters in Richmond, Va., January 1, 1941.

At present, Dr. Gill is State member of the Foreign Mission Board from Louisiana and pastor of the St. Charles Avenue Baptist Church in New Orleans. His father, Dr. Everett Gill, who is now living in Wake Forest, North Carolina, has only recently retired from his position as superintendent of Baptist Mission work in Europe, where he served nobly for many years.

The new secretary of the Board is a graduate of the William Jewell College, where he received his B. A. degree, and of the U. S. Naval Academy. Dr. Gill was awarded his Th.M. and Ph.D. degrees at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, and later did further graduate work at the University of Edinburgh. In the year 1940, Dr. Gill was honored by his Alma Mater, William Jewell College, with the degree of Dr. of Divinity.

His experience in religious work as instructor at the William Jewell College and as pastor of Baptist churches in Kentucky, Missouri, and Louisiana, has been wide and varied. Dr. Gill is very active in the work of the Southern Baptist Convention, having served on several southwide committees, as trustee of the Baptist Bible Institute, and as author of several books on religious subjects.

Back from Italy

Dr. William Dewey Moore, after almost five years of excellent service as Southern Baptists' missionary to Italy, has returned to America with his wife and four children. He reported on the work of the Italian Baptist Mission, stating that the entire mission has recently been turned over to the native Baptists in Italy. These loyal Christians, despite war and its accompanying evils, are carrying the work forward under the leadership of Ludovico Paschetto, the executive secretary.

Our Work in War-Wrecked Europe

Dr. George W. Sadler, secretary to Africa, Europe, and the Near East, reported on other parts of Europe, saying that Miss Ruby Daniels and Rev. and Mrs. John Allen Moore are remaining in Hungary; Rev. and Mrs. Roy Starmer and their new little son in Rumania; and Mrs. Nils Bengtson in Spain. It was suggested that Mr. John Allen Moore be asked to go to Spain to do relief work in that country during the present crisis.

Plans were also reported for strengthening the work in Africa and safeguarding the Board's property in the Near East.

The Commission

Members of the Foreign Mission Board are continuing their efforts to push the circulation of THE COMMISSION, official organ of the Board, it was announced. Each Baptist pastor is being urged to support the magazine, which now has a circulation of 27,000. Plans are being made to boost the circulation to 30,000 by December 31.

OUR GIFTS

When we soothe earth's weary children,
Tending best the least of them,
'Tis the Lord himself we worship,
Bringing gold to Bethlehem.

Whoso bears his brother's burden
Whoso shares another's woe,
Brings his frankincense to Jesus
With the men of long ago.

Where a life is spent in service,
Walking where the Master trod,
There is scattered myrrh most fragrant,
For the blessed Christ of God.

—James A. Blaisdell.

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Our Missionaries' Birthdays

December

"Prayer gets things done."
"The things that are impossible
with men
Are possible with God!" He will
draw nigh

To those for whom you pray in
life's dark hours;
Hope's stars shine brightest in a
moonless sky.
"Prayer gets things done."

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|--|
| 2 | Miss Roberta Pearle Johnson, 466 Rue Lafayette, Shanghai, China | 20 | Thelma Florence Frith Bagby (Mrs. Albert I.), Porto Alegre, Brazil |
| 2 | Mabel E. Saunders (Mrs. J. R.), Shiuchow, Kt., China | 20 | Rev. L. L. Johnson,* 304 W. Georgia, Shawnee, Oklahoma |
| 3 | Miss Mary Lou Dunn, c/o Box 116, El Paso, Texas | 22 | Rev. W. H. Tipton, Shanghai, Ku., China |
| 4 | Miss Lydia Greene, Box 350, Shameen, Canton, Kt., China | 22 | Rev. John Leslie Riffey, Caixa 1892, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil |
| 6 | Alice Roberts LeSuer (Mrs. D. H.), Chihuahua, Mexico | 22 | Ruth Newport Carlisle (Mrs. R. L.), Avenida Centenario 3080, Montevideo, Uruguay |
| 6 | Bettie Abernathy Ricketson (Mrs. R. F.),* Hollis, Oklahoma | 22 | Dr. T. W. Ayers,* 978 Juniper Street, Atlanta, Georgia |
| 6 | Miss Mildred Smith, Iwo, via Lagos, Nigeria, West Africa | 24 | Olive Baldock Walker (Mrs. H. Glenn), Ogbomoshosho, Nigeria, West Africa |
| 8 | Rev. R. E. Pettigrew,* Humboldt, Tennessee | 24 | Ossie Ouida Price Littleton (Mrs. H. R.), Iwo, Nigeria, Africa |
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| 16 | Frances D. Tumblin (Mrs. J. A.), Caixa 111, Natal, Brazil | 30 | Mary Long Ware (Mrs. J. H.),* Tupelo, Mississippi |
| 17 | Rev. Z. Paul Freeman, Rivadavia 750, La Rioja, Argentina | 31 | Rev. Walter Bayliss McNealy, Goyania, Goyas, Brazil |
| 18 | Miss Isabella Moore, Oyo, Nigeria, West Africa | 31 | Rev. Bennie Theodore Griffin, Abeokuta, via Lagos, Nigeria, West Africa |
| 18 | Gertrude W. Morgan (Mrs. F. A. R.), Av. Sete de Setembro, No. 70, Araraquara, Brazil | | |
| 20 | Rev. B. J. Cauthen, Kweilin, Kwangsi, China | | |

*At present in this country.

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Among Recent Books

V. G. RANKIN

Primary Sunday School Work—Allene Bryan. Broadman Press. Price: cloth 60 cents, paper 40 cents.

In her excellently prepared book on Primary methods, Miss Bryan shows that she understands and loves little children, and that she has a thorough grasp of the fundamental principles of pedagogy. After reading her first chapter one is convinced that this book possesses a wealth of help for those who work with Primary age groups.

The well worked-out chapter outlines and the questions for examinations will prove of great help to all who wish to use the book in study courses.

* * *

Red Hills. Marel Brown—Broadman Press. Price: \$1.00.

In the four divisions of *Red Hills* the author por-

trays, in a beautiful way, her conception of life that must be broken in order that it may bring forth "green fields, ripe grain and new bread."

Those who read her messages will gain real help and inspiration from the everyday characters who speak words of counsel through the pages. Particularly interesting is the story of the author's grandmother with her worthwhile philosophy: "When anybody buys a pound of my butter, I want to be sure they buy a pound of butter."

We shall all do well to pray the prayer found in the last stanza of the poem "Way of Life";

"Lord in Thy love make us to know
That sun comes after rain;
And life must be an oft ploughed field
To yield abundant grain."

A Christmas Gift

The members of the staff of the Foreign Mission Board, realizing the hunger and suffering in China, decided to forego the pleasure of exchanging gifts among themselves and to send, to those starving people in the Orient, the money that would otherwise have gone into the purchase of presents for one another. On a given morning, at the daily prayer hour, the money was presented, and \$95.00 was cabled to China as a love gift. Clubs and classes and other groups, hearing of this plan, decided to adopt it.

MINISTERS RETIREMENT PLAN

PRIOR SERVICE CREDITS DEADLINE JUNE 30, 1942

Our Young Ministers and the Ministers Retirement Plan

Three Questions Asked and Answered

Question (1): What is meant by prior service credits?

Answer: By **prior service credits** is meant credits given by the Relief and Annuity Board to members of the Ministers Retirement Plan for service rendered **before membership in the Plan began**.

Question (2): What will be the effect on an individual preacher say 60 years of age as regards Prior Service who joins the Ministers Retirement Plan **before June 30, 1942**?

Answer: A preacher 60 years of age who joins the Ministers Retirement Plan before June 30, 1942, can retire at any time after 65 years of age and receive a monthly benefit check in a sum based on the salary received for service rendered over the period of 25 years before retirement. This means that he would get a benefit, based not alone on the period of time (in this case five years) he paid dues into the Fund, but also for twenty years additional back of age 60, during which time he did not pay dues. In such a case the pastor whose salary had amounted to as much as \$1,200 per year on the average during the 25 years before retirement would be entitled to a maximum benefit of \$600 per year upon retirement at age of 65 or thereafter. If his salary had been \$600 per year on the average over the 25 years prior to age 65, he would be entitled to a maximum benefit of \$300 per year. **Men of other ages, 55, 50, 45, 40, and the years between, would be entitled to the maximum benefits arrived at in the same way.**

Question (3): What will be the effect on the preacher **who delays joining the Retirement Plan until after June 30, 1942**?

Answer: If a preacher of 60 years of age should delay coming into the plan beyond June 30, 1942, and should come in at any time later than that date, he would not be entitled to any benefit for service rendered **before June 30, 1942**. In the case of the preacher at age 60, he would get no benefit on account of his 20 years of service prior to age 60. The benefit of membership in the Ministers Retirement Plan to him would be only one-fifth as much as he would have received had he begun his membership **before June 30, 1942**. In other words if his salary during the five years from 60 to 65 averaged \$1,200 per year his benefit would be the maximum of \$120 per year, and if his salary had averaged \$600 per year his maximum benefit would be \$60 per year. It should be plain to the reader the preacher who delays coming into the plan beyond June 30, 1942, will do so at great cost to himself.

Three Questions Asked and Answered

Question (1): In the Ministers Retirement Plan do the young men contribute toward the retirement benefits of the old men?

Answer: No, the young man's dues are credited to him and him alone, and can never be used to pay pensions to any person other than himself or his beneficiaries.

Question (2): In the Ministers Retirement Plan does any young man save anything by waiting until he reaches age 35 or 40?

Answer: No, he does not **save anything**. Any money that he would have paid in had he been a member would have been spent, usually, and not saved at all. The money paid in is a savings account drawing 3½% interest and cannot benefit anyone but himself or his dependents.

Question (3): Does the young man of 30 who waits until he is 35 years of age to join the plan lose anything by waiting?

Answer: Yes. Here is an illustration of how it works. The young man of age 30, supposing that is the year when he takes his first pastorate, who delays participation in the Ministers Retirement Plan until he is 35 would thereby have a reduced benefit when he retires after 65. If his salary had averaged \$2,000 over the last 25 years of his services he should be entitled to a maximum of \$1,000 retirement benefit, but five years' delay in participation reduces that maximum benefit to \$734 per year. If the average salary of such pastor has been only \$1,000 and he should have been entitled to \$500 maximum benefit, then his benefit would be reduced by his failure to participate five years to \$367 per year. These figures would be true proportionately of other ages and other salaries.

Surely the young preachers can see that waiting is an expensive business. There is no gain in waiting, but there is loss and that loss is material.

Then the young minister should consider what would happen to him if he should break down permanently and totally at an early age, as many young men do. If he has delayed entrance into this plan there will be no benefit for him. If he had participated in the plan one year and had been active in the State for five years in all and then should have the misfortune of breaking down, there would be a substantial benefit for him on account of total and permanent disability, ranging upward to \$500 per year, according to salary.

NOTE: While the young men do not contribute to the retirement benefits of the old men, the contribution of their churches do help to provide the benefits for the old men. The churches do not contribute money to benefit only their pastors, but to benefit all the pastors, young and old, who join the plan.

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Here is a portrait of a radiant personality, a genuine and lovely person, a blithe and courageous spirit. For Ruth Carver Gardner, gifted daughter of Dr. and Mrs. W. O. Carver, was all of these. From "Tales from the Baby Book," from her high-school and college years, from her life as a pastor's devoted helpmate (she was the wife of E. Norfleet Gardner)—from all these a beautiful, glowing, and unselfish life unfolds gracefully and purposefully through the years. One reviewer—who is usually sternly sparing of praise—says it is for young women what *Borden of Yale* is for young men.

Ruth \$1.50



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BY J. CLYDE TURNER

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