

SOUTHERN BAPTIST HOME MISSIONS

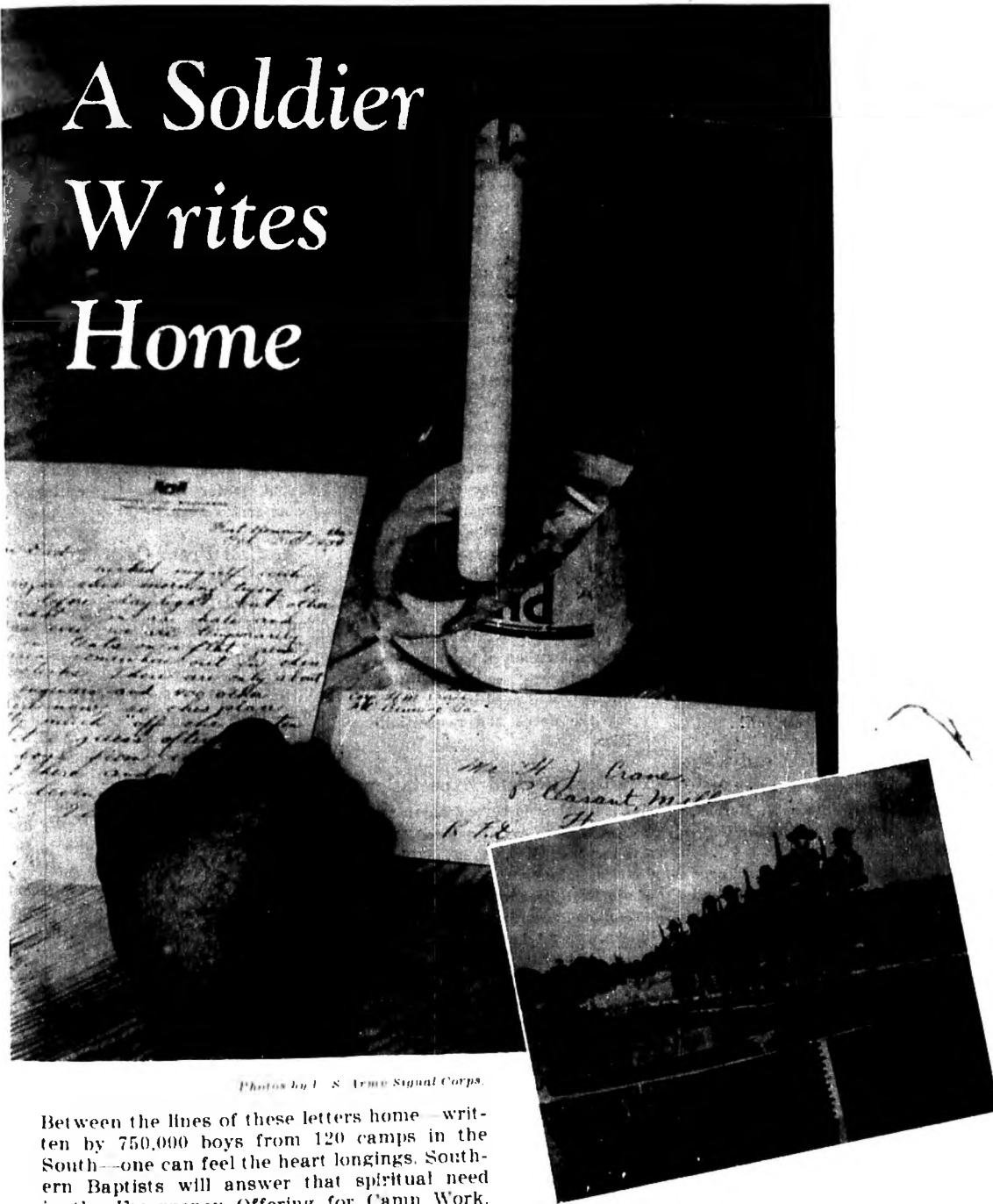
Motto: Trust the Lord and Tell the

VOL. XII.

AUGUST, 1941

No. 8.

A Soldier Writes Home



Photos by U. S. Army Signal Corps.

Between the lines of these letters home—written by 750,000 boys from 120 camps in the South—one can feel the heart longings. Southern Baptists will answer that spiritual need in the Emergency Offering for Camp Work.



Ready for Action

DR. JOSEPH T. WATTS, executive secretary of Maryland Baptists, realizes the urgent need of immediate action in regard to the spiritual welfare of men in Army camps in his state.

The nearest Baptist church to Camp Meade where almost 40,000 men are enlisted, according to Dr. Watts, is eight miles away. It is the same distance to the nearest Baptist church to Aberdeen Proving Ground and Edgewood Arsenal where a total of nearly 10,000 are enrolled.

"Our pastors are willing to bend every effort toward meeting our denominational responsibility for the soldiers," Dr. Watts states.

Our Responsibility

IN a total of 120 defense training areas in the South approximately 750,000 men are enlisted. About 600,000 of these are in training in regular army camps, while the remaining number are in air bases, flying schools, and technical schools.

Boys in these camps are our responsibility. Their religious interests should vitally concern every Baptist. We must not fail to do our part in keeping the religious fires burning on the hearthstone of their faith.

Georgia Baptists Ready

READY to cooperate in every way possible is Dr. James W. Merritt, executive secretary speaking for Georgia Baptists.

"All of us are deeply concerned over this camp situation," he states, "and we are anxious to begin making our contribution to the men and the communities affected."

Special Worker Needed

FROM Dr. B. L. Bridges, general secretary of the Arkansas Baptist Convention, comes the report that there are around 20,000 men now in Camp Robinson, four miles from Little Rock.

The only church within the limits of the camp property is a small, weak country church. The next closest

church does have a full-time pastor but is small and unable to meet the need.

"There are many evil influences," Dr. Bridges writes. "Road houses are perhaps as bad as they are anywhere. Beer joints are flourishing."

"We need a building in which we can render services to the boys from a religious standpoint solely."

Dr. Bridges also voices the need for a special worker for the three small churches nearest the camp.

Churches Inadequate

WITHIN the next few months at least 90,000 men are expected to be brought into Fort Knox in Kentucky, writes Dr. J. W. Black, general secretary of Kentucky Baptists.

Situated near this camp are two Baptist churches, the largest one having a membership of only 150. Neither church can take care of any more people in the present building, Dr. Black states. Both churches need full-time programs with a full-time pastor, new buildings, and new equipment.

Three other Baptist churches within a radius of twelve miles offer slightly better facilities, but they will need help in meeting the needs and responsibilities.

Problem Beyond Expectations

OUR problem is beyond anything we could have ever predicted," is the statement of Rev. A. T. Wilkinson, district missionary at Rolla, Mo., where Fort Leonard Wood is located. This camp, according to Brother Wilkinson, second largest in the United States, is baffling the workers in the missionary problems.

Help is needed in making a survey of the problem and plans for meeting the needs, writes the missionary.

A Call for Help

A CALL for help is sounded by a Louisiana pastor, Rev. Frank Stagg, of the First Baptist Church of DeRidder, near which Camp Polk is located.

Before present developments began

DeRidder had a population of not over 4,000. Membership of the church is 700.

"Our church has a splendid building," Brother Stagg writes, "but no paid helper other than the pastor. If a worker or a couple could be sent to our church would furnish facilities for them."

"These camps indeed present tasks far beyond the ability of the local church to meet alone satisfactorily."

Part-Time Church Eager to Serve

FROM the part-time pastor nearest Camp Stewart, Ga., comes a real statement of definite need as seen by his church at Hinesville.

Literature would be a great help, and Bibles are needed to give to the soldiers, Rev. C. L. Phillips states.

"We want you to know that our church is offered as a channel in which any part of our mission cause cares to work," Brother Phillips writes the Board. "We are not asking for anything, but will gladly receive any and all help. The Hinesville church was not prepared, but so far we meet conditions as best we can."

Call From California

FROM California comes a letter from a chaplain saying that he is looking to Southern Baptists for spiritual guidance in the camps.

"Last year there were over 33,000 men from every state and possession who passed through here and this year promises to be even greater," writes Rev. Albert E. Rumba, chaplain at Fort McDowell, Calif.

"We maintain magazine and pamphlet racks," he continues. "We distribute Testaments and Bibles to the men as we are able to keep a supply. I would like to place a New Testament with every man who passes through the post who could be persuaded to take one."

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HOME MISSIONS

My God Shall Supply All Your Need According To His Riches In Glory By Christ Jesus.—Phil. 4:19.

VOL. XII

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SOUTHERN BAPTISTS never faced a graver responsibility than has been forced upon them through the placing of 120 training camps and 750,000 soldier boys in their midst. The Home Mission Board in cooperation with the state secretaries has been charged by the Southern Baptist Convention with the task of meeting this responsibility.

There are two types of work that we are planning to do: one is work on the inside of the camps in cooperation with the chaplains; the other is work outside of the camps in cooperation with Baptist churches.

We have scores of letters from chaplains pleading for our help. We quote from one letter which is typical:

"I would be glad to have you visit me and preach to my boys as a whole and also hold services for the Baptist boys. This regiment is from Tennessee, and a large per cent of the men are Baptists or from Baptist homes. There are 2,700 men in the regiment at present and we will get more soon. You and the Sunday School Board can be a great help to us. I would like to start a Sunday school if the literature is available. We are having from 500 to 700 men at our morning church service. We have plenty of old magazines for the men to read, but have no religious literature except some Gospels and New Testaments. I would like to get any literature you think would be helpful. If the Board has some good books of fiction—biography, or other kinds that could be given to us—it would also help. We need all the help that you can give us in our effort to cultivate the spiritual life of these men under our charge."

On the outside of the camps our work will be in cooperation with Baptist churches. There are contiguous to the camps scores of Baptist churches—most of them country and small town churches wholly inadequate to meet the situation thrust upon them.

We quote from one of the many letters which we have received from pastors who have churches contiguous to the camps:

"We have in our town one Baptist church with about 400 members on roll. Our church building is a one-room affair and will seat about 300. Since the coming of the army camp to our door

with 30,000 young men and the additional families because of the camp, the civilian population has doubled so that now instead of having 5,000 people, counting the boys in camp, we have between 40,000 and 45,000 people. We are trying our best to meet the needs, but with our present facilities it is impossible to do so. We need a building. We are crowded out in every way. It will be impossible for us to do very much until we have some place to put the people. We need a high type worker that would be able to carry on the right kind of program using the local church in any way that the church could serve. This worker, or workers, would need to know how to approach the young men when they are on leave and give them the Gospel in a way that would win them. The sky is the opportunity here now as far as we Baptists are concerned. I hope and pray that the Baptists of the South will open their hearts to our crying need July 27, and that the \$300,000, and even more, will come in on that date, and it would if about 100,000 Baptists could visit our town and church for one Sunday between now and July 27."

This is a type of the letters we are receiving daily from pastors contiguous to the camps. Those closest in have already appreciated the need for work in the churches adjacent to the camps. The sense of need will grow until the largest of our churches in the cities near the camps will be overwhelmed by it.

There are 750,000 of our boys in the camps in the territory of the Southern Baptist Convention. At least two-thirds of these young men are given leave each week-end. This means that at least 500,000 of our young men flock into the towns and cities contiguous to these camps on Saturdays and Sundays. Shall they be left to drift, or shall we make some effort to direct them so that on Sunday they will find a place where they can worship God?

The churches in our cities contiguous to these camps will more and more realize the need for denominational help in meeting this situation. During the next five years, and possibly from now on, the cities contiguous to the camps will be flooded each week-end with these young men, and unless our Baptist churches make provision to look after these boys, they will drift away from the churches and be lost to church life when they return to their homes.

We must take care of our boys in the camps.

Are the French People Accepting the Gospel?



Q. What progress is being made among the French in southern Louisiana? S. C. R.

A. The Gospel is making progress among the French people who have the opportunity to hear it. Over 100 were baptized last year. Above is a French home which has been transformed by the Gospel.

Q. How many of the missionaries to the Indians are Indians themselves? A. P. J.

A. Of the seventy-two workers among this race fifty-two are Indians and twenty are white.

Q. Does the Home Mission Board have any workers who are ministering solely in their task to the country church? H. B. H.

A. Rev. Percy Ray of Myrtle, Miss., devotes his entire time to aiding and reviving the country churches around the territory in which he works. He has done far-reaching work in the past year, reporting that he has conducted twenty-six revival meetings in which 544 have professed Christ.

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740 Monroe Avenue, Rochester, N. Y.

Q. How many good will centers does the Home Mission Board operate?

A. Under the direction of the Board are two good will centers in Baltimore, Md.; one in Christopher, Ill.; Ensley, Ala.; New Orleans, La.; and West Frankfort, Ill., totaling six.

Q. How many missionaries work among the French people? P. M. W.

A. The Home Mission Board has eleven missionaries in southern Louisiana in addition to the twelve members of the faculty of Acadia Academy, and there is one worker on the southern Illinois field.

Q. In what cities has the Home Mission Board established city mission work? O. M. T.

A. The Board began its program of city mission work in Houston, Tex., with the appointment of Rev. Loyd Corder as missionary. On June 1 Rev. Solomon F. Dows began work in Atlanta, Ga., as city missionary. The program in these two cities is only the beginning of what the Board hopes to be an extensive program, and similar work is to be established in other cities.

Q. On what fields in the South is work among the French carried on? J. W. C.

A. The Home Mission Board has work among the French in southern Louisiana and central Illinois.

Q. What plans are being made to raise money for Southern Baptists' work in Army camps? T. W. D.

A. There will be an emergency appeal for religious work in camps and communities July 27, 1941. In churches throughout the South. On this day Southern Baptists will be asked to make their offerings to this work to "Carry Christ to our Camps" and the goal is \$300,000.

Q. What is Acadia Academy? M. W.

A. Acadia Academy is located in the very heart of the Louisiana French country. It is a school for the training of the French people who desire to study for religious work. Dr. Joseph T. Fleider is the principal, and there are eleven other members of the faculty.

Q. Where does the Home Mission Board do work among the Chinese? S. Y. T.

A. The Board has three regular Chinese fields of work in San Antonio, Texas; El Paso, Texas; and in Phoenix, Ariz. The latter field has been opened recently and Miss Margaret Jung is doing work there. Rev. Shau Yan Lee, a native of China, is a general missionary who works throughout the South in addition to his regular ministry in El Paso.

Q. How many people were led to Christ through the work of Home missionaries last year? J. W. T.

A. There were on Home mission fields last year 5,375 people making a profession of faith in Christ.

Q. How many rescue missions does the Home Mission Board foster? T. S. J.

A. The Board fosters three rescue centers, two in New Orleans, La., and one in Jacksonville, Fla. Rev. Clovis A. Brantley is superintendent of the Rescue Mission and Women's Emergency Home in New Orleans, and Rev. L. C. Bennett is in charge in Jacksonville.

HOW TO ASK QUESTIONS

Any reader can get the answer to any specific question of fact concerning the fields, tasks and needs of Home Missions in the South and in Cuba by writing Questions Editor, 315 Red Rock Building, Atlanta, Ga. Please enclose 3c for reply.

August, 1941.

What the Pastors Can Do

in every emergency. We are depending upon them now.

There are some specific things which they can do.

1. We are asking our pastors to preach on Sunday morning, July 28, a sermon on the subject of "Carrying Christ to the Camps." This affords a great opportunity to emphasize the need to make our camps religious, as well as military.

2. We are requesting our pastors to give ample space to this emergency appeal in the church bulletins so that the entire membership will know what we are planning to do.

3. We would suggest that if

there are chaplains available that the pastor invite one of these Baptist chaplains to speak to his people at prayer meeting or in a five-minute message at some Sunday service.

4. We are requesting the pastors to make a strong appeal on Sunday morning, July 27, for the offering. We have a program outlined that will provide for the spiritual needs of our boys in camp, but it will take a minimum of \$300,000 to put that program on.

The work is important, the need is great, our people are interested. We sincerely believe that if the pastors will present this emergency appeal to their people the money will be furnished for the work in the camps.

Dr. Carpenter Is New Camp Work Head



Dr. Lawrence and Dr. Carpenter

DIRECTING the army camp work made possible by the \$300,000 emergency offering on July 27 will be Dr. Alfred Carpenter, new superintendent of camp work for the Home Mission Board.

Dr. Carpenter, elected late in June, resigned the First Baptist Church, Blytheville, Ark., July 2 to begin his duties with the Board the middle of July.

The new camp superintendent succeeds Dr. Noble Y. Beall, resigned. Dr. Beall remains with the Board as field secretary in charge of Negro work. Upon his request he was relieved of the camp work.

Dr. Carpenter was reared in Oklahoma and is an alumnus of Oklahoma Baptist University and of Southwest-
ern Baptist Theological Seminary. He

was active in the pastorate while a student.

He was associated with the Home Mission Board for five years following his graduation at Southwestern, first as pastor of Balboa Heights, Panama, and superintendent of mission work in the Canal Zone for three years, and then as field representative of the Board's Church Building Loan Fund.

While in the Canal Zone he ministered regularly to the army and navy men stationed there. He also had close contact with the chaplains.

Since 1934 Dr. Carpenter has been pastor in Blytheville of a church which has grown to 1,249 members with a Sunday school enrollment of 946. Sunday school attendance, records show, has had an average net increase of around 200, the average now being about 550.

In leaving the church Dr. Carpenter commended the spirit of the members in releasing him for denominational work and especially for revivals in mission points.

"For two years," he said, "when I was superintendent of evangelism in Arkansas the deacons said we had the best half-time church in the state. The members never grumbled nor growled about releasing me for such activity, but carried on the work of the church."

On the train coming to Atlanta Dr. Carpenter said he had talked with per-

haps thirty men in uniform — lieutenants, privates, marines. He asked each two questions: "What can we do to help the men religiously? How can we do it?"

"Without exception," he commented, "they made it clear that they were hungry for gospel preaching. One man said, 'Our chaplain takes off his coat and preaches. We like that.'"

Dr. Carpenter was converted, ordained and sent out by the First Baptist Church of Mangum, Okla. He was also married there. He and Mrs. Carpenter have no children.

In addition to the superintendency of evangelism Dr. Carpenter has served Arkansas Baptists as member of the state mission board, president of the Arkansas Baptist Assembly, president of the board of control of Jonesboro Baptist College, and member of the state committee on missions and evangelism.

Poster Inside

THE inside pages can be used as a poster. Nothing stirs the people, enlists their prayerful interest, and loosens their purses like that which reaches them through the eye. Brother pastor, put these two inside pages in a prominent place in your church vestibule or auditorium. Thank you!

750,000 Boys Away From Home— Let's Give Them Spiritual Support

TODAY in training camps in the South are 750,000 boys — sons, brothers, husbands. They are away from home. They are meeting sacrificially an emergency. More serious than any military danger, may become the spiritual crisis if these boys away from home are not cared for by an adequate religious program.

These boys are from our churches, and our churches, through the denominational program, must minister to them.

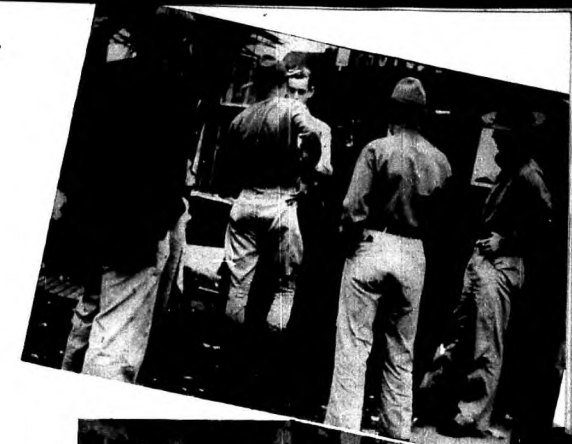
Each man of the 750,000 sorely needs at this moment all of the spiritual benefits of church life—fellowship, worship, Christian activity through training and study.

Only the chaplains and the church away from home—the church near the camp—can supply that greatly needed help.

But too often that church—like the one pictured below—is wholly inadequate.

The church pictured—at Starke, Fla.—was ample enough for a town of 2,500, but now the civilian and soldier population (Camp Blanding) have grown to above 20,000. This is only one of 120 training areas in the South.

Workers and better physical equipment are needed in the churches near the camps. Both can be supplied through the Southern Baptist Emergency Offering on July 27.



Photos at top and left by U. S. Army Signal Corps



Photos at right and lower right by U. S. Army Signal Corps



Camp Calls

Pastor Lightfoot Sends Urgent S.O.S. From Camp Blanding

A CIVILIAN population which has trebled and a soldier population now ten times the normal civilian population—that is the story in figures of the staggering growth in a few months of Starke, Fla., and Camp Blanding.

But there is another story not told in figures—a story of a struggling little church and her noble pastor heroically trying with limited facilities to meet the spiritual needs of the incoming thousands.

That other story is graphically related, week by week, in throbbing appeals from the pastor, Rev. A. E. Lightfoot. Here are the burning paragraphs, just as he wrote them to the Home Mission Board:

January 20, 1941.

The evangelistic possibilities at Camp Blanding are great, and a splendid opportunity awaits us if something can be provided closer. While property is in demand and brings high prices, I have reason to believe that a site could be obtained just outside the camp itself which would make an excellent site for a tabernacle or tent.

We are having remarkable success with the soldiers, and finding the chaplains quite cooperative. We are attracting a number of soldiers for services and have had about forty already by letter and baptism.

March 15, 1941.

Our deacons and trustees realize, as I do also, that it is impossible to adequately take care of the fast-growing situation alone. We all realize that our working force and facilities, to say nothing of our experience, is inadequate to take care alone of the great growth we expect. We have had thirteen more additions in the past ten days.

April 20, 1941.

In the last few days there have been some rapid developments.

The Y. M. C. A. is spending \$30,000 here in repairs to a place and in placing a staff of four workers here just to give entertainment to the boys. The state has a staff of six workers in the American Legion Hall providing supervised recreation. The Methodist Board has given their church here \$2,500 for a recreational building. Today I learn that the Catholics

are planning a chapel and recreational building.

Our facilities are taxed to capacity. We might have squeezed in fifteen more people last Sunday.

Seventy per cent of the 155th Infantry are Baptists. A great per cent of the civilian group in the camp are Baptists.

May 21, 1941.

Our situation is getting a little better. The mud is settling, and we can feel a steadiness in the increase now. The town is growing, and an investment by the Catholics to the amount of \$75,000 tells of their judgment in the matter.

You will pardon undue impatience in this matter, but these great Baptist boys here and their friends who are moving in daily are near my heart and are very worthwhile. I am anxious that we not lose them and can see how the army life is working a change in many already.

May 26, 1941.

New homes are being built. With the new homes there will be new people coming to town. If as many Baptists come in proportion as there are Baptists in the camp, we may reasonably expect a good growth in our church. The school authorities have a bill in Congress, which has passed the House, to build additional school facilities to the amount of \$200,000.

It appears that we need the following to meet the needs decently and adequately:

First, we need some sort of adjustment in our building so that we may adequately challenge Baptists and others who are coming in to unite with our church and all of its organizations.

At the evening hour we are serving with joy up to 200 soldiers. More would come with more attractive and adequate facilities.

We need modest facilities for recreation and social activities, and certainly rooms for training union activities. We would need also a small religious library to which periodicals would be made available for our Baptist men.

Further there is needed at least a couple who could contact and attract the working group and civilians connected with the camp and also the officers' families located near the town and on the lake.

June 9, 1941.

If you really seriously want us to do a real job in behalf of the soldiers



Rev. A. E. Lightfoot

in camp, and the Baptist people who are flocking in, we petition you for buildings of such nature as to attract and serve those who are our responsibility here, requiring a minimum of \$15,000. This is modest in view of the needs and what others are doing.

June 24, 1941.

One of the things that has challenged me most in connection with these boys has been their expressions of gratitude in prayer. They are constantly thanking God for what the church means to their spiritual lives, and they tell me frankly that they need it.

One boy said to me, "Preacher, you'll never know how much it means to us boys to have a church where we can keep up the normal life as we knew it back home."

I do not exaggerate when I suggest that we have had at least 1,000 men from the camp in church or training union at least once during the last quarter. My deep regret has been that our church is unable at its best to provide what these boys need.

Strictly Religious

WE must keep our Baptist work separate in our thinking. The program planned by the Home Mission Board is a religious program. We plan to work in the camps in cooperation with the chaplains, and on the outside of the camps we plan to work in cooperation with the Baptist churches contiguous to the camps. Our work is distinctly and purely religious.

All-Out Evangelism During Complete Emergency

By

ROLAND Q. LEAVELL

and trust the Lord Jesus Christ! We must have all-out evangelism.

Arsenals of Christianity

The Home Mission Board and the 25,259 Southern Baptist churches must be the "arsenals of Christianity" in the battle for character in the camps. The Home Board is going to the very limit in trying to "Carry Christ to the Camps."

The churches can "Carry Christ to the Camps" by generous contributions to the Southern Baptist Emergency Appeal. This money will provide equipment and workers for evangelism in strategic locations near the 120 camps in the Southland. There are at least two hundred Baptist churches near these camps which must have our aid in meeting their evangelistic opportunities.

The churches can have their service leagues, which minister to their own young men in the service. They can send each a Bible, the church paper, the state Baptist paper, a subscription to the daily devotional magazine, *Open Windows*, a subscription to *Southern Baptist Home Missions* and *The Commission*, and an occasional post card shower. They can pray daily for the conversion of the lost and the consecration of the saved men.

Parents can write chaplains about their boys. The Home Board and other denominational agencies are offering chaplains their fullest cooperation in working inside the camps.

Revival in the Camps

It is entirely possible that "the revival for which we pray" may come to us from within the army camps. Who knows?

Such a revival happened during the latter part of the War Between the States. In the midst of horrible conditions of immorality, a mighty revival burst out in the Southern army during 1864-65. Over 150,000 soldiers were swept into the kingdom of God, and an equal number of backslidden Christians were restored. Many thousands of them became preachers and missionaries. Christ was then very real in the camps.

May God grant that it may be thus in our camps today!



DISTINCTLY I recall one moonlight night in France in May, 1918. I sat in a trench looking across No Man's Land to the German trenches. I was talking to a sentry about his soul's salvation. He accepted Christ as Saviour that night, and thereby prepared for abundant life here or for everlasting life hereafter.

As our country is planning to call ten million men into military, naval or aviation service within the next five years, this opportunity for leading millions to Christ is offered to our people. We thank God that the Home Mission Board can take over the leadership in soul-winning in the scores of camps among the men in service.

Complete Emergency

"Our nation is in a state of complete emergency," says our President. Indeed we are. In no area of our life is the emergency more acute than in the spiritual. We must "Carry Christ to our Camps." Christian character is our ultimate and only complete defense. For of what value is our army or navy or air force if the characters of the officers and the enlisted men are not Christian? The strength of our forces is no greater and no weaker than the characters of the men.

In the third century no the Chinese built a wall 1,400 miles across their northern border, for security against invasion. It averaged twenty feet high and thirteen feet thick, and had a fortified tower about every one hundred yards.

Yet China was invaded three times within the next one hundred years, and not one time did the invaders scale the wall or attack the towers. They simply bribed the gatekeepers and walked through.

People with character and without a wall are stronger than those with a wall and without character. Our first line of defense today and tomorrow against dreaded foes abroad or the more dangerous foes within is to build Christian character in our young men.

The ten million men who will go into service within the next five years will determine the life of our land, socially, morally and spiritually, for the next generation. These men must be led to Christ, for their sake, for our sake, and for Christ's sake!

All-Out Evangelism

Men in the service are taken suddenly away from the two greatest evangelistic institutions, the home and the church. Bible study and prayer become exceedingly more difficult in a military or naval camp than in more normal life at home. The restraints of family reputation, the constraints of conventionality, and the influences of friends are largely overthrown when one goes into the service. The one power that can hold a young man to his father's God and to his mother's Saviour is Christ in his life.

Often during World War I, while I was in the camps I saw young men living clean and sober lives and making good soldiers. Others were groveling in the muck of drunkenness, vice, profanity, and gambling—the four dreadful demons of army life.

I asked scores of them about their previous experiences. Invariably I found that those who were collapsing in character had never been converted to Christ, while those who stood clean and true were Christians in experience.

The millions of young men of our land must be led to know and love

FINGERS and eyes equal ears. When God said, "This is my beloved son, hear him" he meant the deaf, too. Dr. J. W. Gardner and the Michaels Union make that possible for the deaf of Atlanta.

The Atlanta Journal

"COVERS DIXIE LIKE THE DEW"



THE CONGREGATION of the Michaels Training Union at Central Baptist Church singing "Since Jesus Came Into My Heart." Although silent, the songs are presented in their proper rhythm. The word shown in this picture is "since."

THE LORD'S PRAYER



DR. J. W. GARDNER delivers his sermons in rapid, but clear, sign language that is easily understood by the entire congregation. Single symbols stand for words. He is saying "very."

TWO MEMBERS of the congregation discuss the sermon, while all other eyes watch the minister closely. "Good," says E. D. Ward. "Yes," agrees Mrs. Ward. Whispering never disturbs service.

THE SILENCE and the fact that communication is needed to keep up with the sermon, three children quietly. Little H. E. Wardfield Jr. tells his parents that he is getting "happy."

ATLANTA'S SILENT CHURCH SERVICE

THERE'S no quieter religious service in Atlanta than the one each Sunday afternoon at Central Baptist Church. No talking as the worshippers come in, no whispering during the sermon, no audible singing, not even any loud preaching. It's a quiet service from beginning to end, because it's the weekly service for the deaf of the Michaels Training Union.

The group, usually around 30, meets each Sunday at 4 for a service arranged by their hearing leader, Miss Anne Lee Owens. Everything is in the sign language—singing, reading the Bible, preaching. They even pray with their eyes open and their hands lifted, for their prayers also are in signs. Occasionally they attend night preaching services to "hear" Pastor Paul A. Meigs' sermons interpreted.

Dr. J. W. Gardner, of Waco, Texas, a missionary of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, comes to Atlanta about once every two months for special preaching services.

—Journal Photo by Tracy O'Neal

August, 1941.

Winning Jews to Christ— A Christian's Privilege and Duty

By JACOB GARTENHAUS

FOR years many individual church members who may have occasionally felt the urge to win their Jewish friends to Christ have dismissed the idea as something beyond human accomplishment. When church canvases have been made many times the Jewish home has been shunned as if it bore the placard of some contagious disease. Thus the Jew has often been pitilessly excluded in all efforts to reach the lost.

In my travels I have found that scores if not hundreds of Jews for years had lived within a stone's throw of the Christian churches, met and mingled daily with Christian people in a business and social way, even intermarrying with them, but as far as their knowledge of the Gospel message was concerned, they might as well have lived in the jungles of Africa. I can recall several such individuals who did not have a better conception of Christianity than the most neglected heathens who have been beyond the reach of any missionary.

When I told one Jewish friend that Christians believe in the same Jehovah as he, he asked, "What about the branding of the cross on Jews when they become Christians?"

"And you, a man of your intelligence who has lived here all these years still believe in such fairy tales?" I asked. "Why, the true follower of Christ is as much opposed to anything that even smacks of idolatry as any Jew has ever been."

Definite Duty to Perform

I opened my New Testament and read to him several passages wherein was the strongest condemnation of heathenism in every form and the strongest defense of monotheism. I wish Christian people could have seen his expression and how quickly his attitude was changed. Oh, my dear Christian friends, if you could but realize the opportunity which lies at your very doors! Let us not be self-complacent and satisfied with a mere contribution to missions, or attendance at a meeting, an occasional prayer. The Great Commission tells us that it is not enough to send the Gospel; we are commanded to GO. Each one has definite duty to perform. Many

Christians have deprived themselves of the greatest joy that can come into their lives by refraining from personally sharing the Gospel with their Jewish friends.

The satisfaction that comes to an individual who has rescued another from drowning or burning to death is not to be compared one thousandth of a time with the joy that comes to the heart of one who has won a Jew to the Saviour. To this many can testify.

I could tell of many blessed experiences of Christian people who at first looked upon the Jew as a hopeless task but who upon earnest and tactful approach had their entire vision changed. Many a Jew who has been

CHRISTIAN AND JEW

Say not a Christian ere would persecute a Jew;

A Gentile might, but not a Christian true.

Pilate and Roman guard that folly tried,

And with that great Jew's death an empire died.

You read a Bible passed to you with age,

A Jew wrote this, and that, and each succeeding page.

The Book where Moses had so much to say,

That law he gave, makes statute books today.

The poet sang of shepherd's care so kind,

Your mother found that Psalm a solace to her mind.

Oh, David wrote for her far better than he knew,

The Lord my Shepherd—written by a Jew.

When Christians gather in cathedral, church or hall,

Hearts turn toward Him—the name of Jesus call.

You cannot persecute whatever else you do—

The race who pare Him—Jesus was a Jew.

—Reprinted from "Heaven of Rest."

lifted from darkness into the marvelous light of the Gospel would still be enslaved by his traditions were it not for these faithful few.

Long enough have we neglected our Jewish friends. If God is speaking to your heart will you not hear His plea in behalf of His people who now more than ever beckon to us with outstretched arms: "Come over and help us." Christ can answer Israel's cry through you.

More than half of my life has been spent in study and work among my people and it has seemed good to the Lord to crown my ministry. I shall count it a great joy to assist anyone desiring to share in this blessed work of giving the Gospel to our Jewish friends.

Literature Points the Way

Our literature has been pronounced by Christian Jewish leaders as the finest for the modern Jew. I shall be glad to send copies upon request. I would call special attention to the tract, "How to Win the Jew to Christ," which every Christian worker among the Jews should have. The sixteen editions which have been published to meet the demands of Christian workers the world over is the best proof of its usefulness. "A New Emphasis on Jewish Evangelization Through the Local Church," contains a plan for the organization of Friends of Israel prayer groups. Surely there are enough individuals in your community who would be interested in organizing such a group. Even if there are only two or three we have the promise of His presence. I shall be glad to hear from you. "Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee."

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Desire to Win Others Shown by Indian Girls After Visit of Workers

REAL opportunity for reaching the Indian tribes where the missionary cannot enter is evident in the work among the young people, as a recent experience of Missionary A. W. Hancock reveals.

When the missionary and his wife visited the government school at Chillicothe they received permission from the superintendent to give the young people an opportunity to make a profession of faith. The response was ready and the Spirit of God worked mightily in the hearts of the students, according to Brother Hancock. Thirteen made professions of faith.

After the service some of the girls asked Mrs. Hancock to come to their rooms for prayer and consultation. These showed heavy burdens for their families who are pagan worshipers.

"These were of the Shawnee tribe," writes the missionary, "and we have known for some time that the Shawnees in the section from which these girls come are without religious work of any sort except the Peyote religion."

These young people are now the hope of reaching their families for Christ.

Three Camps in One City

WE need help. We must have help," writes Dr. G. Kearns Keegan, pastor of the Emmanuel Baptist Church, Alexandria, La., to whose city soon will come approximately 100,000 soldiers.

Already thousands of soldiers are enlisted in the three large camps near Alexandria, and many more will come in the near future.

"We are looking to the Home Board with its great missionary heart and understanding leadership to come over into Macedonia and help us," writes Dr. Keegan. "My church definitely desires to do its part and until further help comes we accept the responsibility."

Dr. Keegan reports that the church's social hall has been opened to soldiers on Saturday afternoons, and the young men of the church are seeking to entertain them and provide for their needs.

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CHINESE FIND NEW OPPORTUNITY

A NEW opportunity of service among the Chinese in El Paso, Texas, has been opened in reaching the Chinese soldiers in training in that city, writes Miss Viola Campbell, missionary.

A program was presented for the soldiers recently, followed by a period of fellowship. Many Chinese men were present who had not been attending church services.

"If we can provide a room here with some games and Chinese papers and magazines we can better reach the boys," the missionary writes. "The gambling places are endeavoring to get them."

Worker Receives Gift For Boys' Work Shop

WHEN a Christian in New Orleans learned of the significant work being done with young boys at the Good Will Center under the direction of Miss Gladys Keith, Home Board missionary, he sent a check for \$100, designating the money to be used to buy tools for a work shop. The missionary felt this a definite answer to prayer.

Immediately Miss Keith began to consider space where a shop could be located. The cost of building such a shop behind the Good Will Center will be more than she had anticipated, but friends in several of the churches have assured her that the shop will be built. Already she has received \$25 on it.

"We have been praying for a shop," says Miss Keith. "No one will ever know how glad we are about it."

Plans for New Civilians

PLANS for enlisting in church activity civilians drawn to the community around Fort Benning as well as the soldiers are already being made by Columbus, Ga., pastors who feel the real urgency of the situation.

"We have purchased a lot near the Fort property," writes Dr. George C. Gibson, speaking for the pastors, "and plan to put up a tent where we can begin preaching immediately."

As soon as a nucleus of Baptists can be gathered the pastors expect to make them charter members of a new church.

New Convert Happy, Returns to Services Bringing Lost Brother

JUST as Andrew brought Peter to Christ after he had found Him, so did a young man on the field moved by Miss Mary Headen, missionary in southern Illinois.

When this young man came to the missionary for help in seeking the way of salvation, they knelt together in prayer and he soon accepted Christ as his Saviour.

"My parents and my brother are not saved," were his first words after arising from his knees.

To the next service this new convert brought his brother. He expressed a desire to be saved before he left the church, and after prayer with some of the others he, too, made a complete surrender.

"I now feel a peace in my heart," the brother said.

Together the brothers are praying that soon the parents will come to the services and find the salvation which is theirs.

French Missionaries Find Spiritual Hunger

DURING a revival meeting on the French Indian field near Houma, La., the people showed true hunger for the Word of God.

Rev. Lawrence Thibodeaux assisted Rev. Beckman DeVille, missionary on the field, preaching and visiting in the homes in a section where there had been no work.

"The radiant smiles on the faces of these long neglected people was an indication of the appreciation of the coming of the missionaries into their homes," writes Brother Thibodeaux.

Only one was converted during the meeting, but others became definitely interested, the worker reports.

New Worker Ordained At Impressive Service

A BEAUTIFUL service was that at which Rev. Luke Johnson, newly appointed missionary at Casa Blanca, Ariz., was ordained into the ministry.

The candidate answered practically all questions with Scripture quotations, and as the council filed in to lay hands there were muffled exclamations of joy throughout the congregation, according to Rev. C. F. Felt, missionary in Coolidge, Ariz., who a hundred attended the service.

If 100,000 Baptists Would Visit Tullahoma

PERSONS who know best the needs which have prompted the Southern Baptist Emergency Appeal are the pastors near the camps. Here is a sample of their repeated pleas for help this one from Rev. O. C. Kidd, Tullahoma, Tenn., near Camp Forrest:

"I hope and pray that the Baptists of the South will open their hearts to our crying needs July 27 and that the \$300,000 and even more will come in on that day, and it would if about 100,000 could visit our town and church for one Sunday between now and July 27.

"I am offering my services at my church's expense to appear before any meeting between now and July 27 that would help to increase this offering."

Church Would Sponsor Air Field Worker

A SUGGESTION that his church would sponsor the activities of a young man for work in the air base near Selma, Ala., has come from Dr. John A. Davison, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Selma.

If arrangements could be made for the employment of such a person, Dr. Davison suggests, the church would sponsor his activities and back him in the work. Pastors of Selma are working together in making plans for meeting their responsibility.

Chaplain Needs Literature

A N urgent request for song books, Bibles, books, and other materials comes from Chaplain Marshall G. Mines at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

"Having been assigned to a regiment which heretofore has not had a chaplain, I find myself in need of a great deal of equipment," Chaplain Mines states.

MEXICAN FAMILY WON

A N entire Catholic family of six have recently made profession of faith in the church at Kerrville, Texas, where Rev. E. V. Rodriguez is missionary pastor.

Following a funeral service conducted by the missionary for the older brother in the family, all the members began attending the Baptist church. Now they have accepted Christ as their personal Saviour.

DIRECTORY

THE complete directory of workers of the Home Mission Board is printed on this page each quarter. It was carried in the June issue, and will run again in September.

MEXICAN FAMILY BEGINS CHURCH ATTENDANCE

A N entire Mexican family has begun attending church services after Miss Amelia Diaz, missionary in San Antonio, visited them for three years.

On Miss Diaz's last visit the father said, "I realize that you are teaching the Gospel." He and his family have started to Sunday school and church.

The father's mother, a worshiper of idols, is also interested and has been glad that her son has begun going to church.

"God is blessing this home," Miss Diaz writes. "This man now closes his store and goes to church on Sunday."

A Supreme Opportunity

SOUTHERN BAPTISTS never faced a situation which has in it more of promise or menace than the camp situation which they now face.

These boys in the camps will come back home either with their faith cold and disillusioned as to the interest which the churches back home take in those who are drafted into service, or else they will come back with the spiritual fires burning to a glow in their souls and their hearts aflame with appreciation for the interest and concern which the churches throughout the land have shown in their religious welfare.

The members of our churches now have the opportunity of making or marring the future history of America by what they do for these boys in the camps.

In the next decade or two the entire responsible citizenship of our land will pass through these training camps. During this period we will set a pattern for American civilization.

If the pattern we set looks after the spiritual life of these men in training as well as their preparation for the defense of our country, then these men, with their lives rooted in faith in God, will not only preserve the institutions of liberty, but will also guarantee the establishment of a social order in which righteousness and justice prevail.

Church Seats 200 — Camp Has 35,000

PLANS for building a larger church and Sunday school plant are in the minds and hearts of the members of the First Baptist Church, Tullahoma, Tenn., nearest church to Camp Forrest which has approximately 35,000 boys enrolled.

Although the church has only about 400 members, the opportunity and responsibility of caring for the boys in their spiritual life is upon their hearts, and they are already giving liberally for a new building. Their present Sunday school quarters will not hold over 300.

Civilian Defense Workers Create Mission Field

PROBABLY one of our biggest problems is the swarms of civilian defense workers that are coming into this community," writes Rev. John H. Garber, pastor of the Hampton Baptist church at Hampton, Va. "Literally thousands of them are coming and thousands of housing units are being built."

Pastors in the communities round about are cooperating in their efforts to meet the problem by contacting as many of the new people as possible and directing them to the churches that are accessible. They are also making plans for mission stations, but they need assistance in making these plans a reality.

Larger Building Needed

WITH thousands of soldiers from Fort Knox, Ky., within its territory and many boys from an NYA camp nearby, the First Baptist Church of Vine Grove, Ky., finds itself in immediate need of a larger building, writes Rev. C. L. Neeley, pastor.

The church is making plans for a new building just as soon as they can secure funds.

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TO the fields in White County, Ark., approximately 30,000 migrants moved during the berry season in 1941. Among these thousands were some 1,250 children too young to work.

Many of these people have lived a wandering life for years — following the harvest fields where work can be found — but to others this experience was new.

Among these thousands of migrant people some are well-born and bred, well endowed physically and mentally, and some know Christ and rejoice in His love. But the larger numbers of them are acquainted with sorrow, suffering, sickness, and strife and unacquainted with the Saviour.

Sowing the Seed in a Trailer

These people need the Gospel. This is a field which is challenging Southern Baptists, and one which the Home Mission Board desires to enter when funds become available.

From Rev. Homer H. King, pastor of the Baptist church at Bald Knob, Ark., comes the report that he and

four other workers this year met the responsibility around them with the limited program of work within their power and means.

"Our program has been three-fold," said Brother King. "First, we opened a migrant center where we sought to care for the small children up to about eight years. The ones who were old enough to learn were taught Bible verses, songs, and stories.

"Second, we made sick visits and dispensed medicines and then sought to follow up the contacts thus made. By this method we were able to enter many tents, trailers, and shacks that otherwise afforded us little or no opportunity.

"Third, we held evangelistic services in the camps."

A Challenge For Reapers

Many experiences gave Brother King excellent opportunities for telling of Christ and His power to save.

"One morning Mrs. King started out of a house trailer with a tiny baby in her arms," he relates. "She noticed that the baby's breath was coming in short gasps. She quickly returned to the young mother who told her that the baby had had those spells all of his life but she felt that Mrs. King could take better care of him than she could.

Berry Pickers' Children at Bald Knob



"Little Eugene's mother met us one morning, asking us to look at the boy's shoulder. The collar bone was fractured. She let us have the boy that day and went on about her berry picking with utmost confidence in our ability to care for the little fellow. "Surely God inspired these people to have confidence in us."

This is the second year that the migrant center has been opened at Bald Knob.

One girl who returned with the migrants this year was won to Christ at Bald Knob last year. However, at the time of her conversion her mother had said that she could not unite with a church and be baptized until she had proved herself for one year. With her this year she had her Testament which she had been given, and it showed that it had been well used. The love of Christ seemed to radiate from her, Brother King says.

The Field Is Migrant, Too

"One night we were on our way to the home of one of the berry growers for an evangelistic service," the

worker continues, "when we saw a group of boys and young men lying on the ground telling stories. I stopped and asked them to come to services. They responded to the invitation. Rev. O. M. Stallings brought a soul-stirring message, and two of these accepted Christ, while six rededicated their lives."

The need and challenge for a missionary who can travel with the migrants is shown by Brother King's statement that just in the middle of the season the price of berries fell and most of the pickers left.

"Our period of sowing had been done, but we could not follow them up for the harvest. Oh, that there were someone else to take the story with them."