

HOME

Southern Baptist

MISSIONS



JANUARY
1954



XXV No. 1

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NEW

HOME MISSION BOOKS

about

"WITNESSING TO OUR NEIGHBORS OF MANY TONGUES"

1954 HOME MISSION SERIES
FOR STUDY BY THE WHOLE FAMILY

For Adults

IN EVANGELINE'S COUNTRY



For Young People

THE NEW ORLEANS STORY



For Intermediates

THE WORLD IN HER HANDS



A thrilling, romantic story of Baptist mission work among the French-speaking people of Louisiana. The author includes a history of beginning efforts and a picture of present activities and methods of approach to the work as directed by the Home Mission Board. (22h) Paper, 50c

This book tells how Baptists have carried out the objective set for the Home Mission Board in 1845—to establish the Baptist cause in New Orleans. Dr. Corder relates vividly the difficulties encountered and the victories gained, as well as the present status of the work. Adults, too, will enjoy this book. (22h) Paper, 50c

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For Juniors

CHATTING WITH THE CHEWS



For Primaries

THE LITTLE BOAT FAMILY



For Teachers

OUR NEIGHBORS OF MANY TONGUES

By John Caylor

This source book will supply the needs of teachers seeking background information on all the 1954 Home Mission Books. Includes lesson plans and teaching helps. (22h) Paper, 50c

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THE STORY of the good Samaritan as recorded in Luke 10:30-37 is one of the best known and best loved stories of the Bible.

A wayfaring man fell victim to thieves. A priest and a Levite passed him but the Samaritan, of whom one would ordinarily expect little help, saw him and had compassion on him and took care of him. When the Samaritan found it necessary to leave, he gave the innkeeper two pence and said unto him, "Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I am come again, I will repay thee." The Samaritan had three characteristics that Southern Baptists need today.

1. **He saw with his heart.** The priest saw the wounded man but passed by. Doubtless he excused himself because of the call of other pressing duties. The Levite also saw him, and even examined him, but passed on, perhaps to remind proper authorities of their obligations for such cases.

The good Samaritan was different. He had compassion. He saw with his heart. The wounded man was more than the unfortunate victim of social evils; he was a suffering, lonely man in distress.

Many of our people are so concerned with social needs and with social mechanics that they fail to see the hungry hearts of individuals. They pass by the Negro who is lonely and friendless. They leave the beggar, the drunkard, and the wayward man or woman for the "proper authorities" to look after. The lost individual is the responsibility of "the church." The Indian, foreigner, unchurched, and unevangelized are the responsibility of some "mission board."

Such a Christian sees only with his eyes. He acknowledges no responsibility. He knows no pangs of conscience. He does not care.

2. **The good Samaritan served with all his might.** As far as we know he had no special abilities or talents. The things that he did for the man were services that any normal person might render. He might have passed by wishing that he were a doctor with more adequate ability to serve. He could have left the man while wishing for a comfortable litter on which to transport him to the inn.

his influence. He will serve with all his might.

3. **The good Samaritan cared with his pocketbook.** The limit of his personal ministry became the opportunity for him to extend that service by means of his wealth. Money was to him the expansion of his personality. What he could not do personally he could and did do through others.

That is the very essence of missions. When the Christian finds a need which he cannot meet personally he says to another, "Take care of him . . . and I will repay you."

The Home Mission Board is your innkeeper. Through this agency you can care for the underprivileged, the person behind social and religious barriers, the unchurched and unevangelized, the foreigner in our midst, the migrant on our highways, the Negro, the deaf, the Jews, the isolated, and the neglected. By means of your wealth, channeled through the Home Mission Board, you are saying to 913 missionaries, "You take care of him . . . and I will repay you."

You can be a good Samaritan and a good neighbor by extending your influence and your witness to the uttermost recesses of the states and territories served by your Home Mission Board.

You can see with your heart.

You can serve with your might.

You can care with your pocketbook.

And you, as the good Samaritan, will receive the commendation of your Master and the gratitude of your fellowman.

Be a good Samaritan and a good missionary, too.

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By Mario Rudaly Sadler



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By Courts Redford

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His glory is in the fact that he used what he had. Someone has said that it is not our ability or inability that matters, but our availability. God can make much of little when it is wholly dedicated to his service. What we have plus what God can do with it is enough.

The ordinary person who has a compassionate heart and a consecrated hand can always render an acceptable service.

Every Christian should be busy in witnessing for his Lord as far as his personal testimony will reach. Every Christian should be a missionary within the total realm of his influence. He will serve with all his might.

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NEWS

New State Convention

Plans are completed for the organization of the Ohio Baptist State Convention at a meeting at the West Hamilton Baptist Church, Hamilton, Ohio, January 8, 1954.

At least thirty-four Ohio churches are expected to send representatives to the organizational meeting. These thirty-four churches are members of the White Water Baptist Association which has been affiliated with the General Association of Kentucky Baptists. Representatives from this group as well as all Southwide agencies are invited to participate in the meeting.

Headquarters for the new convention is expected to be at Dayton, Ohio. It will be the first new state convention to be organized out of churches co-operating with the Southern Baptist Convention since 1949 when the Oregon-Washington group came into fellowship with Southern Baptists.

Michigan Churches Meet

At the second annual meeting of the Motor Cities Association held at Flint, Michigan, recently, five new churches were admitted. This brought the total of churches associated with the group to nineteen.

One of the five churches coming into the association was the Solid Rock Baptist Church of the capital city of Lansing, Michigan. This church had been constituted only ten months but reported 131 members and had given during the ten months of its existence \$15,800.00 in offerings.

Western Churches To Have Conventions

Plans are being made for two regional conventions to be promoted by the Arizona Baptist State Convention. The first will be held in Denver, Colorado, on May 2 and 3 and the second at Salt Lake City, Utah, May 5 and 6, 1954. Members of Southern Baptist churches in these two states and surrounding states are expected to attend and it is hoped Southwide agencies will have representatives. The conferences are planned by

State Secretary Willis J. Ray and his headquarters staff in Arizona.

Iglesia Bautista Jerusalem

Late in the fall the Jerusalem Baptist Church (Spanish-speaking) was dedicated in San Antonio, Texas, on property which some time before had been "improved" for a liquor store. Residents of the community protested against the sale of liquor in the neighborhood but rejoiced when the five-year-old church of two hundred members entered its \$18,000.00 meeting-house under the leadership of Rev. Eulogio L. Garza.

City Mission Conference To Meet in Nashville

The program for the tenth annual Southwide City Mission Conference has already been planned. The conference will be held at Belmont Baptist College in Nashville, Tennessee, February 22-25, 1954.

A new feature of the meeting this year will be that all superintendents of city missions will be speaking in the churches of Nashville on the Sunday prior to the meeting.

New Buildings in Panama

Appropriations for the construction of two new churches in Panama were made by the Home Mission Board at a recent meeting.

An appropriation of \$40,000.00 was made for the construction of the Calvary Baptist Church and another of \$36,000.00 for the construction of the Redemcion Baptist Church, both in Panama City, Panama. The Calvary Church will be used by the West Indian or Negro congregation and the Redemcion Church will serve the Panamanian congregation.

Do You Know Your Denomination?

Sunday, January 24, has been designated as "Know-Your-Denomination Day." A new book is available for those who wish to get acquainted with the Southern Baptist Convention. Dr. W. W. Barnes, of Southwestern Seminary, has written *The Southern Baptist Conven-*

tion 1845-1953. The Broadman Press is releasing the book on January 12 and this new volume of Baptist history should be in every Baptist library, home, church, or college.

Important Date

A date which should be of great importance in the life of most churches of the Southern Baptist Convention is April 19-25, 1954, the week set aside as Jewish Fellowship Week. Rev. Frank Halbeck, Field Worker in the Jewish Department of the Home Mission Board, urges all churches to plan immediately for the observation of this week of emphasis which should afford a real opening into Jewish homes.

Chinese Youth Honored

At services in the Chinese Baptist Mission in Phoenix, Arizona, Shirley Tang was recognized as Queen Regent and Edwin Ong as Ambassador recently. They are thought to be the first two Chinese youth in the United States to receive these ranks.

Other young people in the mission were awarded recognition for various ranks in the Royal Ambassador and Girl's Auxiliary program in keeping with the work which they had finished.

This was the fourth coronation service for Girl's Auxiliary in the Chinese mission and according to G. Lawrence Stanley, missionary, reached an all-time high in missionary education achievement.

Southern Baptist HOME MISSIONS

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SOUTHERN BAPTIST HOME MISSIONS

From the Pen of

John Caylor



THE NEW YEAR BECKONS

THE JANUARY issue of the twenty-fifth volume of *Southern Baptist Home Missions* presents a new masthead and a new feature. For twenty-four years Dr. J. B. Lawrence has been editor of the magazine and for twenty-five years, secretary of the Board. The assistant executive secretary, Dr. Courts Redford, has become executive secretary of the Board. Instead of serving as editor of the magazine he will contribute a page of promotional material in each issue. He chooses in this way to have a heart-to-heart talk with the readers instead of expressing himself more formally in an editorial. So under the caption of "The Good Samaritan Was a Good Missionary," the first expression of the new secretary finds its place in this issue of *Southern Baptist Home Missions*.

At Dr. Redford's request the managing editor now carries the title of editor and offers herewith his first editorial page.

While the new editor and the new secretary have new titles they are at the same old stand seeking to make their contribution to the Advance Program of the Home Mission Board.

Editorial policies of the magazine are not changing. The missionaries, the staff, and our readers are working together in the promotion of home missions. What we can do to serve one another is not only our task but our privilege.

To Dr. Redford, our new secretary, we pledge our prayers, our allegiance, and our full support in the knowledge that he is God's man for our leader in home missions. His knowledge of the field, his experience and observation, his personal consecration, and the high esteem in which he is held by Southern Baptists qualify him for effective leadership in the great work of home missions.

REDEEM THE TIME

The first of the year is a time of taking stock and making plans for the future. Resolutions are made and sometimes broken.

In the beginning of a new year it is worthwhile to consider the meaning of time. In God's economy there is only now. The time of salvation is now. The time of making and keeping resolutions is now. The past is history. Successes

achieved may be the means of inspiration for greater endeavor. Failures recorded must be forgotten and in their place must be greater determination to succeed.

When Paul spoke of redeeming the time, he suggested the means. Christians are to walk circumspectly. That is not a matter of past achievement but of present action. It is not a plan for the future but a course of action for the present. The Christian's walk is to be straight in forward direction as well as upright in respect to Christ. He is not to cast a shadow but a reflection.

When the Christian walks circumspectly under the light of the Sun of Righteousness he is making manifest the light of Christ. Of such Paul declares "now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light."

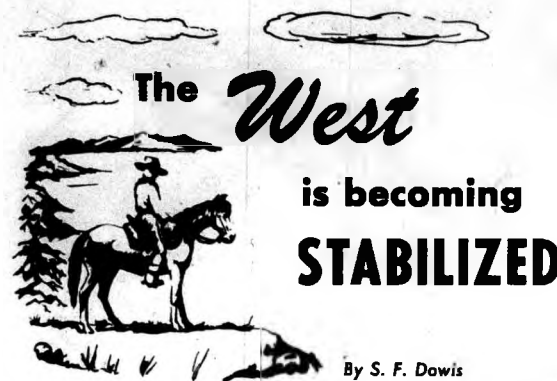
Likewise the Christian is to have no fellowship with the works of darkness. It is as important to shun evil as to walk in the light. Fellowship with the saints who are busy in the work of the Lord has its counterpart in the negative of refusing to fellowship with the workers of iniquity. This, too, is in the present and, according to Paul, will help the seekers to understand "what the will of the Lord is."

Whatever our missionary achievements were in 1953 they should be better in 1954. The time for improving the missionary emphasis and enlarging the missionary endeavor is now. The time to enter new fields and spread the gospel where the message has not been heard is now. The only time which is ours is the present. Yesterday is gone; tomorrow will not come; today is the day to start.

The Home Mission Board has a glorious history. Its missionaries have preached the gospel, led in the constitution of churches, promoted stewardship, evangelized, organized, and inspired multitudes. The record is inspiring but the task unfinished. The challenge of a new day is upon us every day.

How shall we redeem the time? The answer is individual and immediate. An organization cannot do our work. Tomorrow is not the time to begin it. I, only I, can do the task which the Lord has given me.

The challenge of the world is fresh upon us today. A sinful world must be redeemed. The call of the Lord is coupled with the need of the world to furnish motive for our concern. Walking circumspectly in the light, shunning the works of evil, and giving impetus to impulse is redeeming the time. This is God's will for us today.



By S. F. Dawis
Secretary of Co-operative Missions Department

A RECENT visit to the state conventions of Oregon-Washington, California, and Arizona revealed an encouraging trend toward stabilization in all phases of the work within these states. This stabilization is seen not only in the leadership going to the states, but in the growth and development of leadership already in the state conventions. It is seen also in the wisdom exercised in their denominational planning and state convention programs.

The Oregon-Washington Convention met in Seattle, Washington, in the University Center Baptist Church. This church is to be the home of the Bible Center for the Oregon-Washington Convention. It is near the campus of the University of Washington. The Center is to be a branch of Baylor University with its work accredited there. Plans were made also to work out a similar Bible Center adjacent to the University of Oregon as soon as possible. This procedure seems to be wise for young states. It enables them to serve their own ministerial and other denominational students through a center, rather than building a college.

The Oregon-Washington Convention also adopted one assembly ground at Mount Baker, Washington, instead of supporting two assemblies. In addition it is undertaking associational camps promoted by the associations.

The convention received into its fellowship thirteen new churches, one of which is located in British Columbia. The reports from Sunday school, Training Union, Woman's Missionary Union, and Brotherhood were most encouraging. The convention adopted a total

budget of above \$155,000.00 for 1954. Dr. R. E. Milam, the state executive secretary, has associated with him a secretary of evangelism and Brotherhood, superintendent of missions, office assistant and editor of the paper, besides the general missionaries and missions pastors. These make a strong, aggressive force, and are loyal to the denomination and the work.

The California Southern Baptist Convention, which met at Santa Barbara, showed progress in every phase of its work. This convention reported a total of 396 churches and twenty-four associations for the year, which was an increase of forty-eight churches and four associations over the former year. The California Convention voted to accept California Baptist College as of June 1, 1954, and named the directors for the operation of the college. The convention also voted to proceed with the establishment of a Children's Home and elected a director to begin his work in this field of service. In addition to a Baptist Foundation for the State of California, these brethren adopted a co-operative budget of \$325,000.00 for 1954. They authorized the employment of fifteen general missionaries for their state and set a goal of 400 missions for 1954, equivalent to one for each church in the state. Secretary S. G. Posey is leading Southern Baptists in California in a great way and they are unitedly standing behind him and the program. They also adopted a five-year program of advance, which includes missionary work, new churches, Co-operative Program goals, participation in world missions, and a state department of work to meet the

needs of their people.

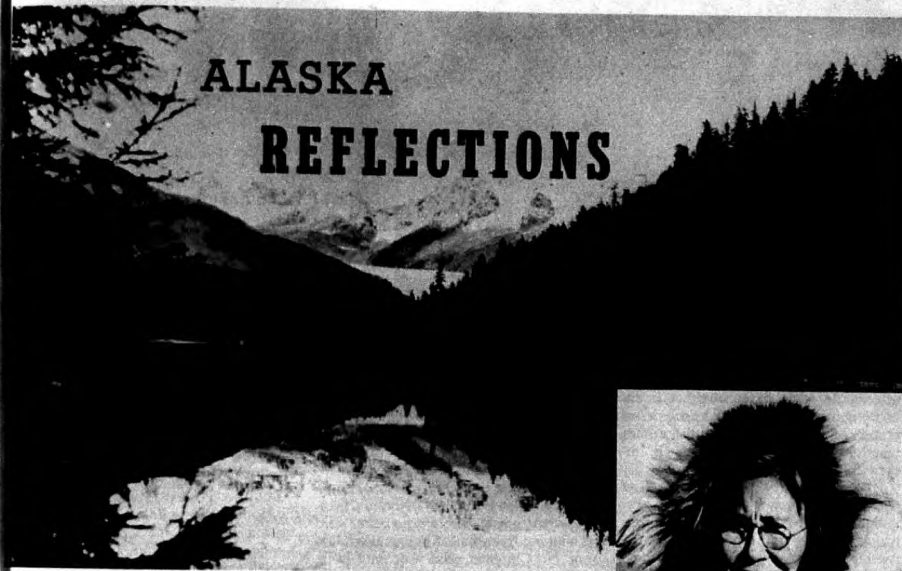
The Arizona State Convention met with the First Southern Baptist Church in Tucson, Arizona. This small state convention sponsors work in eight other states in the central northwest including Utah, Nevada, Idaho, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota. There are churches in all of these states now co-operating with the Arizona State Convention. They reported an increase of four associations in the past year and a gain of forty churches, which gives a total of 155 churches, about one-half of which are in the state of Arizona and the others in the other states working through the Arizona convention.

Arizona has done a noble thing in promoting the work in these other states and has given not only of time and talents, but of its own funds for the support of the work. It has paid off well and the work is growing rapidly. The Arizona brethren plan to organize two regional conventions — one in Colorado for the states in that area, consisting of Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota; the other in Utah, consisting of Utah, Idaho, and Nevada. In these regional conventions, which will meet in the spring of each year, Arizona proposes to bring all Southwestern and state workers so that the people in those sections may know them and be acquainted with the Southern Baptist program of work.

Through the aid of the Home Mission Board the Arizona State Convention supports three general missionaries in these states, and they are doing a wonderful work. Arizona adopted a budget for the coming year of above \$307,000.00. A convention with 155 churches adopting a budget of \$307,000.00, one realizes, must call forth heroic service and giving. The Arizona Convention also supports Grand Canyon College, which is rendering a valuable service to that section. Arizona Baptists have all the departments of the denominational set-up in their state office.

I have been visiting these state conventions for ten years, or as long as some of them have been in existence, and am impressed with the fact that they are more stabilized and sanely aggressive now than they have ever been. They are loyal to the denomination in every respect and lead Southern Baptists in per capita giving and baptisms. Their is a great pioneer field of service and they are accepting the challenge as true pioneers, making the sacrifices, remaining steadfast for the accomplishment of the task.

SOUTHERN BAPTIST HOME MISSIONS



"We continue to reflect like mirrors the splendor of God . . .
(2 Cor. 3:18 Williams).

By L. O. Griffith
Director of Promotion

Home Board Photos

LOOK DOWN in Alaska streams and you will see the mountains, trees, and glaciers. View the ten-year period of Southern Baptist work in Alaska and you will see the clear reflection of the glory of God.

I was privileged to tour Alaska with Harold Dye during September, 1953. I beheld reflections that gave a perfect image of all that was near in almost every lake, bay, and river. As charmed and fascinated as I was with these reflections I was more thrilled by the spiritual mirrors in Alaska. I saw the results of the work of Southern Baptist Chaplains Foster, Dodge, Halsell, and others who laid the foundation for Southern Baptists in Alaska. Chaplain Aubrey C. Halsell held the revival in Anchorage from which came the nucleus of the First Baptist Church. The First Baptist Church celebrated its tenth birthday September 10, 1953. It has a

membership of 890, gave last year \$68,089.74 to all causes, \$15,885.52 to missions, and baptized 103.

I visited the fourteen churches and eight missions. In most of them I saw the results of the gifts of Southern Baptist churches of from \$5,000.00 to \$25,000.00 for their building programs. Also, many of the pastors' salaries had been paid or were being paid by Southern Baptists through the Home Mission Board.

I saw men in the military from the States volunteering many hours of service to erect church buildings. I saw Alaska churches mothering missions. The First Baptist Church of Fairbanks, Orland Carey, pastor, had sponsored the new mission at North Pole, Alaska, for two years. Recently the mission was constituted into the First Baptist Church of North Pole as a self-supporting church. I saw the love of Christ ex-



Freeda Goodwin, the first person coming for baptism at the mission at Kotzebue, Alaska.

pressed by the First Baptist Church of Fairbanks as it guided its Negro members into forming a church of their own — the St. Johns Baptist Church with Robert Jackson as its first pastor.

In the native mission at Anchorage, sponsored by the First Baptist Church at Anchorage, Felton Griffin, pastor, I saw a number of Eskimos listening to the gospel. At Fairbanks I saw the native church under the leadership of John Dickerson reaching out to take the gospel to many of our Eskimo friends. Crossing the Arctic Circle, we were privileged to visit Kotzebue, Alaska, where Dick Miller is our missionary. This largest Eskimo village in Alaska was the first place where Southern Baptists established work beyond the Arctic.

Continued on Page 20

January, 1954

By John Caylor

W.M.U. Circle
Theme Program

Ignorance is not a virtue; it is a tragedy. In some cases surely it is sin to be ignorant. In law ignorance is no excuse for violation. In Baptist circles ignorance concerning missions is inexcusable.

And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now . . .

Baptists should know the world in which they live and God's plan for the redemption of that world. Only informed Baptists can be inspired Baptists so all of us should seek fullness of information in order that we may have fullness of expression in the Christian faith.

Knowledge of Salvation

Paul in preaching to the Corinthians said that God once winked at man's ignorance but that "now he commands all men" everywhere to repent. There is enough knowledge in nature to make man turn to God in awe and respect. There is enough knowledge in an enlightened conscience to demand repentance from sin and turning to God for newness of life. It does not require much knowledge for a man to become a Christian, but it requires all the knowledge man has. Neither does it require much of a man to become a Christian, but it requires all the man there is. The plea of ignorance is not an answer to the plight of the sinner.

Enlightenment for Service

The first impulse of a newborn soul is to lead another to Christ. Usually the first words a new Christian wants to say are those used by Andrew and Philip when they followed Christ, "We have found him." Christians then should inform themselves concerning world conditions and the need of a sinful world for a Saviour.

Paul suggested "all men" as being responsible toward God. This does not mean that all men will be responsive to the gospel when they hear it, but the Christian's responsibility is to make the message available to the whole world.

There is the matter of personal soul-winning which is the duty of every Christian young or old. There is no better way of winning than that of personal witnessing. No Christian need wait until he is enlisted by an organization to do a particular job in soul-winning. The opportunity is always at hand.

Besides the need of men and the impulse of an enlightened conscience which demand the winning of the world to Christ, there is the divine command to give the gospel to the whole world. There is no limit to the responsibility of the Christian.

Fellowship in the Gospel

There is no need for Baptists to be ignorant of the needs of the world and the program of Southern Baptists to meet those needs. In the pulpit, in the pew, and in the home there is fellowship in the gospel through the spoken word, the organized effort, and the printed page. Besides the services of worship, teaching, and training there is the missionary emphasis of Baptist literature designed to awaken the interest of readers in world-evangelization.

Woman's Missionary Union has pioneered in missionary instruction and is still far in the lead among the church and denominational organizations in the promotion of missionary endeavor. Crystallizing the emphases of monthly circle and program meetings are the publications of WMU. Graded periodicals give the missionary challenge to the

full constituency of Woman's Missionary Union. All the publications should be in all the homes where the age groups are found.

Reading Baptists Are Co-operating Baptists

Both the Foreign Mission Board and the Home Mission Board have their own mission journals, the *Commission* and *Southern Baptist Home Missions*. With special emphasis on missionary education and information these magazines have a wide reading but many others should be subscribers to them. In each state is a state Baptist paper which is replete with information concerning missions — home, foreign, state, and associational. Every Baptist ought to seek information about the whole program of Southern Baptists.

Besides the literature which promotes home and foreign missions through missionary publications there is a growing interest among the leaders of all Southern Baptist agencies and a wider participation in missionary promotion. Practically every publication of the Sunday School Board has missionary emphasis in it. *The Brotherhood Journal* seeks to give the whole picture of missions.

There is no reason why any Baptist should be ignorant concerning the missionary challenge and program of Southern Baptists. The information is so fully presented that those who run may read.

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SOUTHERN BAPTIST HOME MISSIONS



1954 GOAL
for
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Suggested Allocations

Field Work	\$ 15,700.00	Rescue Home, Emergency Home, Child Placement Center	15,000.00
Irene Chambers—General Field Work		Additional Support for Language Groups	25,000.00
Bertha Wallis—General Field Work		Negro Work	90,000.00
Vena Aguillard—General Field Work		Negro Centers	
Mrs. Noble Y. Beall—Good Will Center		Teacher Missionaries	
Margaret Fund	18,000.00	Negro BSU Work	
Salaries and Operational Expense—		Negro Evangelistic Department	
Language Groups	279,300.00	Student Mission Program	50,000.00
Spanish	\$134,000.00	Scholarships	18,500.00
Indian	89,300.00	Spanish	5,000.00
French	18,000.00	Negro	5,000.00
Italian	9,000.00	Indian	2,500.00
Chinese-Japanese	20,000.00	Cuba	5,000.00
Russian	3,000.00	Other minorities	1,000.00
International Center	1,000.00	Jewish Work (2 workers)	5,000.00
Deaf	5,000.00	Migrant Work (3 couples)	15,000.00
WMU Field Workers	7,500.00	Evangelistic Field Work (Kan., Ark., Ariz., La., Wash.-Ore., D. C., Ill., S. C., Miss., Ky.)	25,000.00
WMU Indian		Pioneer Missions—Including Ranch Ministry	10,000.00
WMU Spanish—2		Missions in West and Other New Areas (39 workers: Ariz., N. M., Calif., Wash.-Ore., Kan., Northeast Area, Other Western States)	30,000.00
Youth—Spanish		Help Establish Pastors in New Fields (Ariz., N. M., Calif., Wash.-Ore., Kan., Md.)	40,000.00
Cuba—Salaries	90,000.00	WMU Promotion of Missionary Education in the West and New Areas	10,000.00
Cuba—Camp Work	2,500.00	Youth Centers in Outposts—Currently Used in Cuba	3,000.00
Cuba—WMU Work	1,200.00	Mission Literature	
Panama—Canal Zone	20,000.00	Negro Woman's Auxiliary, National Baptist Convention	500.00
Alaska	30,000.00	Other Racial and Language Groups, etc.	2,500.00
Good Will Centers	60,000.00	Institutes and Conferences	
New Orleans—River Front:		GWC, Kindergarten, Minority Groups, WMU Groups	5,000.00
Rachel Sims, Toledano, Carver Center (11 workers)	\$ 22,500.00	For Operation	\$868,700.00
New Orleans—Friendship House (3 workers)	5,000.00	To be allocated and submitted for approval in May	31,300.00
Baltimore—Kathleen Mallory (3 workers)	5,000.00	Total Allocation	\$900,000.00
Gough Street (2 workers)	2,500.00	All over and above the \$900,000.00 is allocated for the Church Extension Loan Fund for New Areas.	
Alabama—Ensley (2 workers)	3,500.00		
Florida—Tampa (2 workers)	4,000.00		
Key West (2 workers)	3,000.00		
Miami (3 workers)	4,500.00		
Georgia—Macon (1 worker)	1,500.00		
Illinois—Granite City (2 workers)	3,500.00		
Christopher (1 worker)	1,500.00		
E. St. Louis (2 workers)	3,500.00		

January, 1954

9

Dear Nat:

THERE is one thing we definitely have in common (among other things) and that is an aversion to letter writing since we both do as little as possible. Even so, as you know, it is way past time we were putting each other's address to good use.

Mother has probably kept you informed as to my whereabouts and activities but even so, I will tell all. So pull up a chair!

I, too, have just graduated from school, only it was a little different from yours — the main purpose of your school is in a sense to teach the students how to save lives, while the school I attended teaches how to destroy them. But regardless of how much we realize the wrong of it and detest it, still with the current world situation the way it is there is no other choice, and until human nature is changed and people's moral standards are raised considerably it will remain necessary.

The highest goal to which man can devote his life is the imparting of knowledge and the raising of moral standards based upon learning, integrity, and the teachings of Christ — the greatest single code for living ever written. If only the multitudes could grasp it fully, accept it, and live it, men like myself would not need to attend schools of war.

If a man has three things in his life he will not need to look for happiness, the full life, or the many other things we humans are continually seeking. I call them the three "I's"—LOVE, LAUGHTER, and the LORD. Each in itself encompasses a large part of living, but all together they constitute the whole. I could be wrong, but I think not.

I did not intend this letter to be so serious, Nat, but I get these moods occasionally, so think nothing of it.

Oh, by the way, I know it's a little late, but "CONGRATULATIONS" on your graduation and all the luck in the world! Thanks for the invitation. I wish I could've been there, but I couldn't quite get the army to see it my way when I told them I needed a short leave and a plane to fly me home. (They're so narrow minded sometimes).

Nat, I definitely hope that you are able to avoid spending any of your life over here or anywhere in the army for that matter. The experience might help you or it might harm you depending upon your own mental attitude, but in either case it would not be particularly enjoyable. I have learned many things that I could not have learned so well elsewhere, but in many ways it has been difficult, particularly concerning the separation from my wife. Even so, they say that almost anything worth having costs a good price, and who am I to argue the point? It is an experience I'm glad to have had, but would not care to go through again.

But if you do have to come in, don't resent it, or fight it, for you are simply fighting yourself. Come in willingly, ready to do whatever you are told and do it the best possible. You will find it quite different from your expectations, and you'll find many things wrong, but keep in mind what a terrific (I suppose that's the way you spell it) number of people there are in the army and what a terrific (that word again!) job the army has to do, and you will see that it doesn't do

too bad a job considering. Oh, you'll get mad and gripe, but that's natural and to be expected—but never let it go any further than that—don't fight it. If you can do something to change the situation, then fine, but if not, then keep in mind that time will set all things to rights, and what is overwhelming today will be insignificant (get a dictionary!) (get me one too!) tomorrow. It's funny but it almost always works.

Also, you will meet every kind of person imaginable—good, bad, and indifferent—so be friendly with all, but choose wisely those you would know well. You probably know as well as I do how great an influence friends, good and bad, can be. There are lots of swell guys, but few with any depth of character.

There are many who let the influence of the army surroundings change and degrade them, but they were not much to begin with. The army is a great one for robbing a man of his individuality, but don't let it. Be a part of the whole group—by all means be one of them and obey all orders, but still be yourself, retain your individuality in thought and action. Don't change to be one of them when what you have is so much better. Rather attempt, through staying as you are, to influence their thoughts and actions. It will work.

Many times when I've finished asking the blessing over my tray before eating (as is my habit) someone sitting near has remarked to me, "I've been in the army two years (or some length of time) and that is the first time I've ever seen anyone do that!" or "You're a Christian aren't you?" Never has anyone laughed or been irreverent. Some even bow their heads. They notice and respect the man who doesn't smoke, curse, drink, pass on dirty jokes—one who respects the sanctity of womanhood, respects the rights of his fellow men, attends church, reads his Bible, and communes with God. So you see all you need do is continue as you've been. Keep in mind, too, that you are serving the greatest country in the world, and that it is a privilege!

Oh, at times it isn't easy, I grant you, but certainly never so difficult as to make one change for the worse in his thoughts and actions . . .

I don't write often, when I do the letters are certainly long enough. WOW! This can't go on much longer!

As you probably know, Peg is fine; still keeping busy and missing me as I am missing her. This is hard for her, and for that I am sorry. But certainly if others have endured it so can we. But that knowledge hardly makes it any easier.

Probably by the time this reaches you, Rita will have returned, and you can tell her "hello" and "best wishes" for me. Also, if you wish (and I'm certain you do!) you can kiss her (just once!) for me—though I would much rather do it myself.

Anyway, I don't have to tell you that you are a fortunate fellow where Rita is concerned and she is just as lucky where you're concerned.

Both of you should keep in mind that the height of man's mental and spiritual emotions is LOVE—in all its many aspects. Love of parents for their children, love of children

Continued on Page 20



A letter of advice written by a young Baptist boy, Charles Frank Pendleton, on the front lines in Korea to his younger brother who faces possible induction into the armed forces and also is about to be married. The brother who wrote the letter was killed in service a few days later.

You CAN reach the Jew!

By Maurice Fain, Pastor
First Baptist Church
Miami Beach, Florida

ALMOST CERTAINLY there are numbers of Jewish families living near you. Do you know them? Perhaps they are new Americans who have come to the United States after years of persecution in Europe. Perhaps they have come from huge centers of Jewish population like Brooklyn or Philadelphia where they came into little contact with Gentile customs. Perhaps they are older Jewish couples who cannot even read or write English. People with these barriers and others to overcome are likely to feel a hesitancy in getting acquainted with strangers.

The Jews are proud of their background in spite of rising waves of persecution and prejudice against them. They feel a very close kinship with all Jewish traditions and symbols and like to identify themselves with Hebrew success in any field. Family ties are very close, and religious customs are almost always an integral part of family life. The sensitivity of Jewish people is well illustrated in many ways. They quickly arise to defend minorities or to sponsor movements of brotherhood. One current zeal of almost all Jewish people is their intense interest in the new state of Israel.

They are a lovable people, generous and emotional, usually good and thoughtful neighbors. They always react favorably to treatment of kindness and equality. Through a manner of utmost tact and genuine friendliness, the Jew is easy to know.

As to religion, Judaism is usually divided into three categories. Orthodox Jews are very strict in religious observances. They always walk to the synagogue and require rigid obedience to dietary or kosher laws. They are still looking for a personal Messiah.

Conservative Jews are usually less

strict in observance but cling to tradition. Religious instruction is carried out diligently. They are a progressive group who have only broken the most binding shackles of their religion.

Liberal Jews are just what the term implies. They hold to the principles of Judaism but have abandoned many customs. Men no longer wear hats in the synagogues, for example. Their idea of God is rather close to that of the Unitarian.

Common Misconceptions of Christian and Jew

It is a tragic thing when misconceptions of another's background and faith prevent effective witnessing on the part of the Christian. However, there are very few Christians who do not have some serious misconceptions about Jewish people. One man who had been a Christian a long time was quite surprised to learn that not all Jewish people are religious. The truth is that comparatively few Jewish people are affiliated with the synagogue. This is true even more in a large center of Jewish population like Miami. One Jewish electrician said some time ago, "I am Jewish but not in religion." This is more the practice than the expression. Some Jewish young people have turned to atheism and other "isms" that are always ready to enter where there is a spiritual vacuum.

What many Jewish people consider to be religious life would probably be classified as culture by the Christian. The Feast of the Passover is surrounded by much folklore and wine drinking. Its religious emphasis has been lost to a great many. Few Jewish young people seem to believe in immortality.

Another common misconception is the idea that all Jews are rich. While it is true that many Jewish people are very

prosperous, one will also find that many of them are laborers, clerks, milkmen, laundrymen, etc. Some have come as refugees from Europe and have a hard struggle to earn daily bread. Figures of labor unions in New York City reveal that "a quarter of the union carpenters of New York City are Jews; a fifth of the electrical workers; nearly half the painters and paper hangers; half the plasterers; nearly half the plumbers and steam fitters; more than half the sheet metal workers." This statement would not be altogether true of Greater Miami because it is primarily a tourist haven, but Jewish people take their places in every walk of life here.

There are those who say that Jewish people cannot be reached for Christ. Yet it has been done and is being done in many instances. It will be done in the future if Christians will be faithful in their witness.

However, there are some misconceptions that Jewish people have about Christianity. These must be broken down by patience and understanding. Many of European background and from large centers of Jewish population have only one conception of Christianity — namely, Roman Catholicism. One high school girl said some time ago that she had always thought Protestants to be about the same as Catholics but not very religious. This is a tragic misconception, for in the past the Catholic Church has been a source of much persecution. Jews in Spain were at one time forced to profess Catholicism or leave the country. Perhaps it might be well in witnessing to point out that Baptists have always been champions of religious liberty.

Jewish people in general do not make any difference between the term "Christian" and the term "Gentile." To many all Gentiles are Christians. It must be tactfully pointed out that one becomes a Christian only by personal faith in Christ. This will take patient witnessing, for to many Jewish people religion is institutional rather than personal; it is observance of special days rather than vital faith.

Methods Employed by Others

Many people from many religious groups are waking up to the responsibilities and privileges of Jewish evangelism. Most of the work done heretofore has been by those with definite interdenominational tendencies, and in some cases various cults have carried on a successful work. The average Baptist may be surprised to learn that many Jewish people have turned to Christian Science,

Seventh-Day Adventists and Jehovah's Witnesses are also making their bid.

A Practical Program for a Baptist Church

Although all of the above methods have some merits, it is easily seen that none tends to bring Jewish converts into a permanent relationship with a local church. Rev. Frank Halbeck, field worker for the Department of Jewish Evangelism of the Home Mission Board, presents a challenging plan of work in his pamphlet, "A Program of Jewish Evangelism."

The organization of a local church program should include a central committee to keep the work before the entire church body. Its special duties would be to keep a file of Jewish families discovered during regular census, to direct visitation in Jewish homes, to encourage church members to invite Jewish friends to the regular services and social affairs of the church, and to gather and distribute an adequate supply of literature to Jewish people including the New Testament.

One opportunity which the Home Mission Board suggests each year is the Jewish Fellowship Week. The week of April 19-25 has been suggested for 1954. This special week of emphasis affords a real opening to Jewish homes. As part of the activities, Jewish friends are usually special guests at the Sunday morning service at the close of the Jewish Fellowship Week. However, it is not a success if the plan of salvation is not presented graciously and tactfully. It must not become a compromise service. Social affairs such as teas, receptions, and musical programs may be given for Jewish people during the week to advertise the Sunday services and to promote a new feeling of understanding between individuals.

Your church may be able to add many new activities to this suggested program. Your help is needed and original ideas of methods can be shared with other churches.

Witnessing Is Your Privilege

"What then is my personal responsibility?" one may ask. What can one person do to begin work at Jewish evangelism? These few suggestions may help.

1. Rid yourself of all prejudice. Have you ever said or thought critically, "That's just like a Jew" or "That's the Jew in him"? Do you ever enjoy or even smile at jokes which defame Jewish people? Have you ever been guilty of feeling just a little superior to a Jewish

person? These are often signs of deep-rooted prejudice which may have come unconsciously into our lives. Pray that you may look at each Jewish person as an individual.

2. Cultivate real friendship with Jewish neighbors. Do you ever say anything beyond a passing "hello" to your Jewish neighbors? Possibly you find it hard to discover common interests. But a gradual cultivation of sincere appreciation of them will establish a warm relationship. And when you know them, you love them!

3. Dare to witness. If Jewish evangelism is on your heart, you will feel the need and the opportunity to witness. There is no other way. Dare to tell the love of Christ in a loving, winning way to those who need it most. Pray long, wait patiently, plan diligently, and witness boldly to your Jewish friends.

In 3,000 *Illustrations for Christian Service* by Walter B. Knight, we find the following incident:

"It is told of Count Zinzendorf that one morning he met a Jew, Rabbi Abraham. The pious Count stretched out his hand and said, 'Gray hairs are a crown of glory. I can see from your head and the expression of your eyes that you have much experience both of heart and life. In the name of the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, let us be friends.'

"The old man had never heard such words from a Christian before. He had usually been saluted by the words, 'Be gone, Jew!' He was struck dumb with wonder. His lips trembled, his voice failed, tears ran down his wrinkled cheeks upon his flowing beard.

"'Enough, father,' said the Count, 'we understand each other.' And from that moment on the two were friends. The Count went to see him in his dirty home and ate black bread at his table. One morning before dawn, as the two walked out, old Abraham said, 'My heart is longing for the dawn. I am sick, and yet I know not what is the matter with me. I am looking for something and yet I know not what I seek. I am like one who is chased, yet I see no enemy except the one within me, my old evil heart.' And then Count Zinzendorf opened his lips and declared the gospel of Christ. He painted a picture of love on the cross, and how that love came down from heaven. He painted in glowing colors how Christ met and died for corrupted humanity that men might become like God.

"As the old man wept and wrung his hands, the two were ascending a hill where stood a lonely church. As the sun

rose and its rays fell on the golden cross on the church spire the cross glittered brightly in the light of heaven.

"See there, Abraham," said Zinzendorf, 'a sign from heaven for you! Believe on him whose blood was shed by your fathers, that God's purpose of mercy might be fulfilled, that you might be free from all sin and find in him all your salvation.'

"So be it," said old Abraham, as a new light flashed on his soul."

Light for the Darkness of Sorrow

OF SUCH IS THE KINGDOM

By
Leila
Tremaine
Ammerman

For those who have lost a baby or young child, this small anthology will bring help in an hour of great spiritual need.

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By J. William Mason, Pastor
First Baptist Church
Crystal City, Texas

CRYSTAL CITY is not much different from many, many other southwestern Texas towns. There are more Latin Americans here than Anglos. Not many people are greatly moved when they look upon this great host of Mexicans. They make up a large part of God's great white harvest field, but often Christians hesitate to witness to them because they do not speak their language fluently. They could do much if they would "pray, therefore, the Lord of the harvest that he would send forth laborers into his harvest."

Of course there is in Crystal City a splendid missionary family. Rev. and Mrs. Silverio Linares and five daughters. These friends are doing a wonderful work in the Mexican Baptist Church, but much more needs to be done and they cannot do it all alone. All of us need to work together.

Some of the workers in the First Baptist Church got a burden on their hearts and started a Mexican mission Sunday school on last Easter Sunday afternoon. The school was started in a vacant building in a section of town far removed from the Mexican church. There are three classes, and Sunday, September 6, there were seventeen present. One of the workers can speak Spanish rather fluently, but recently he asked the boys and girls which language they would

prefer having the lesson in and they immediately said "English."

One Sunday not long ago the pastor was ill at home and one of the little boys from the mission passed by the parsonage singing at the top of his voice: "Little Baby in the manger, I love you!"

He was entirely oblivious to the fact that anyone was hearing him. This incident was worth all the work the pastor and others had done in meeting with these children on Sunday afternoons.

The workers in the mission Sunday school put on a Vacation Bible school for the children and there were sixteen enrolled. The school was held in the late afternoons to suit the convenience of one of the working men.

The pastor and Mrs. Mason found a vacant building in another heavily-populated Mexican section, got permission for its use in the mornings, and went into the community on a Monday morning and announced a Vacation Bible school. They went from house to house where there were children, and invited them to come. Forty-three of them enrolled during that interesting week. A woman of the church, Mrs. J. J. Davidson, prepared "Kool-Ade" each morning and the children really had a good time. They were not too happy when they learned that the school would continue for only the one week!

The Mexican janitor of the First Baptist Church lives in another densely-populated section of town. The pastor knew about the nice backyard he had and that it could be lighted at night. The

janitor and his wife graciously gave their consent for a Vacation Bible school to be conducted there in the evenings. Forty-five were enrolled in this school. Again Mrs. Davidson prepared the "Kool-Ade" each evening. Fred Hartung, who is a new Christian of about two years, is one of the best workers among these Mexicans.

The First Baptist Church also sponsored the Vacation Bible school in the Mexican church where two of the Home Mission Board workers were used. There were seventy-one enrolled in that school. Also a school was sponsored at the Negro church where Rev. R. L. Murray

Continued on page 31



Alonzo singing, "Little Baby in the Manger, I Love You."

SOUTHERN BAPTIST HOME MISSIONS

The HEART of Evangelism

By Charles H. Morris, Pastor
First Baptist Church
Metropolis, Illinois

The Metropolis First Baptist Church baptized 126 converts last year—one baptism for every six resident members.

ON OUR RECENT tour to the Holy Land during harvest season, we were continually reminded by the ever-present watch towers in the fields that God has said, "Son of man, I have made thee a watchman" (Ezek. 3:17). The implications in the continuing verses brought us to sharp remembrance that we stood as a crier of good news and warning to those that are without Christ. The sword of destruction was destined to fall and destroy, but we, as children of God, will stand responsible or free according to the investment of our lives to warn people of the destruction which comes.

We were brought to a realization that those who have had the gospel the longest now seem to be farthest from it, whether it be in Corinth where Paul preached or in Jerusalem which seethed with the impact of newborn Christianity. In analyzing the situation, we are convinced that perhaps it was because they failed to continue witnessing. This brings to mind the question: What constitutes effective evangelism?

Perpetual Power

Jesus said after commissioning the disciples, "All power is given unto me . . . lo, I am with you always" (Matt. 28:18-20). Has this power been withdrawn? No, I think not! I believe that the power of Christ is still available.

Paul asserted "The gospel of Christ . . . for it is the power of God" (Rom. 1:16). Has the gospel been robbed of its power? Has some insidious thief slipped in at night and robbed the Book

of its power? No, I think not! I believe that it is still the "power unto salvation." Where lies the difficulty?

Is it not in a misunderstanding of the truth of this statement? "Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit" (Zech. 4:6). It is true that we receive the spirit of Christ at the time of our conversion, but do we possess the fullness of that spirit? We have him, but does he have us?

For many years the Rhone River rushed madly down from the Alps in Switzerland. It overflowed the land and at times was most destructive. It had Switzerland in its grasp. Then they learned to harness the river. Now Switzerland has the Rhone, instead of the Rhone having Switzerland. Instead of being destructive, it is now useful. Its tremendous power is used to turn the wheels of industry, light homes, and produce gardens. This is not unlike the Christian. We have the spirit of Christ, but does he have us? If we could but realize that it is when he possesses us that we become useful soul-winners, bringing the power of the gospel of Christ to those bound by sin, and the light of the world to those who are benighted by iniquity.

God is ready to give us the infilling of the Holy Spirit. He has not been diminished. For effectual soul-winning we must have this perpetual power in our lives, even as Jesus said we could, "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?"

Prevailing Prayer

The second requirement for effective evangelism is prayer. Jesus said, "Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full" (John 16:24). Our prayer program should be deliberate, definite and decisive.

I believe that God expects us to make prayer as much a part of our daily life as eating a meal when we are hungry. Many of us are powerless because we are prayerless. Someone has well said, "The secret of our failure may well be our failure of secret prayer." God ex-

(Continued on Page 25)



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Boys from Florida Avenue housing project do handwork at the mission.

Save these pictures to use with the 1954 mission study series, now available at your Baptist Book Store.



Mission in housing project on Florida Avenue conducted by workers from the Friendship House.



Leaders at Jackson Center, a mission project of the City Mission Program.



Negro children from crowded River Front section of New Orleans, love to come to Carver Center.



Bethany Baptist Church, which was organized in 1953, first met in this quonset hut which had been used as a laundry. Now has its own building. The mission was started as part of the City Mission Program.



One of our most modern and beautiful mission buildings is Rachel Sims Memorial Mission.

Home Board Photos



Raymond Jee, superintendent of the Men's Rescue Mission which has given a helping hand to more than three-quarters of a million men in its twenty-five-year history.

Men's Rescue Mission, a landmark in the French Quarter of New Orleans, where men who are out of work and in trouble come for help.



Woman's Emergency Home and Baby Placement Center—a refuge for unwed mothers.



Mrs. Allegra LaPrairie, superintendent of Woman's Emergency Home and Baby Placement Center, with one of the babies. Babies whose mothers cannot care for them are adopted into Christian homes.



City Missionary J. C. Wells entering French Quarter Baptist Mission in old New Orleans.



One of the temples built to African idols.

Ten Members but...

By Rev. and Mrs. Nelson Rodriguez
Missionaries at Carlos Rojas,
Matanzas, Cuba

CARLOS ROJAS is a little town of about 3,000 inhabitants and including the surrounding rural areas over 10,000.

Ten years ago Rev. Anibal Espinosa from Jovellanos, the nearest pastor to Carlos Rojas, started missionary work here. In these years twenty persons have been baptized of whom thirteen stay faithful to the Lord. Some of them have moved and actually our church has ten active members.

We came here two years ago and

after winning three souls for Christ, we have at present a group of persons interested in the Lord's message.

In all this country idolatry and paganism are increasing, and in this town it seems that Satan has joined all his forces. In all the island there is not such a small town with so many places of superstition and mistakes.

In some of the suburbs of the town one can find Negroes who practice African customs and religious customs such as witchcraft and spiritism. They

have sanctuaries built to different gods and practice animal sacrifice.

The Lord's work is hard in such a place, but he is blessing us and we have seen how in many homes the chains of slavery are broken.

At present we have three Sunday schools with 100 pupils registered. Also we now have a building bought by the Home Mission Board. We need many other things here but we know the Lord will supply each one and we pray a revival will come among all these people who are so full of sins.



Matanzas Province Baptist Convention which met at Carlos Rojas.



Mrs. Nelson Rodriguez, counselor, and a group from the Girls' Auxiliary.



Rev. Nelson Rodriguez makes a mission call among the Negroes of Carlos Rojas.



The Central Sunday school in front of the chapel.

Adult Book—In Evangeline's Country

Filmstrip—*Faith of French Americans*

Tracts

Forty Years in a Wilderness, by Ben Borders
Roman Catholics Cannot Interpret the Bible, by C. K. Rand
Purgatory, Fact or Fable? by C. K. Rand
Is Mary the Mother of God? by C. K. Rand
But I Am a Catholic, by C. K. Rand
Baptist Beliefs

Map of Home Mission Fields

Southern Baptist Home Missions, November, 1953
(Special pictures)

1952 Home Mission Board Annual Report—*The Cross*

Young People's Book—The New Orleans Story

Filmstrip—*Baptists in New Orleans*

Motion Picture—*What God Hath Wrought*

Tracts

Inasmuch As, by Fred Tucker

The Local Church and Its Mission Stations, by J. Perry Carter

Our Church Witnessing in Jerusalem, by S. F. Downs

River Front Missions, by Miss Gladys Keith

Woman's Emergency Home

Roman Catholics Cannot Interpret the Bible, by C. K. Rand

Ask a Catholic, by C. K. Rand

Forty Years in a Wilderness, by Ben Borders

Whose Is the Bible? by W. A. Criswell

Southern Baptist Home Missions, January, 1954
(Special pictures)

1952 Home Mission Board Annual Report—*The Cross*

Map of Home Mission Fields

Intermediate Book—The World in Her Hands

Filmstrip—*East Meets West*

Southern Baptist Home Missions, December, 1953
(Special pictures)

Junior Book—Chatting with the Chews

Filmstrips

East Meets West

Children of Our Homeland

Southern Baptist Home Missions, December, 1953
(Special pictures)

Primary Book—The Little Boat Family

Filmstrips

Faith of French Americans (Script can be adapted for Primaries by teacher)

Children of Our Homeland

Southern Baptist Home Missions, November, 1953
(Special pictures)



Tracts and maps may be ordered free from the Home Mission Board. You will probably have copies of *Southern Baptist Home Missions* in your file, but if not, they may be secured from the Home Mission Board at five cents per copy. Filmstrips and motion pictures may be rented or purchased from your book store.



A FASCINATING MISSION STORY

THE work of the Home Mission Board will come to life as you read *For Such A Time* by Phyllis Sapp, a biography of J. B. Lawrence, retiring executive secretary-treasurer of the Board. The fascinating story of this outstanding Baptist leader will not only entertain but inspire all who read.

This book, just off the press, is being released at the time of his retirement from the Board which he has served for nearly twenty-five years. It is not part of the 1954 mission series, but is recommended for young and old alike who will find it highly profitable reading.

Alaska Reflections

(Continued from Page 7)

As we walked through the little village and heard Dick Miller, who had been there only a short time, call by name almost everyone he met we realized that this type of love and personal interest will bring a good response to the gospel in this village. We were privileged to see the Chugach Baptist Association, composed of churches around Anchorage, in a wonderful meeting of fellowship and extensive plans for the Lord's work. Then it was our high privilege to see the Woman's Missionary Union in its annual meeting making plans for a larger mission program.

We saw messengers and visitors from every church attending the eighth Alaska Baptist Convention which met for twenty-four hours a day for three days. We truly saw the love of God reflected in plans and in their entire program. The First Baptist Church at Fairbanks, Alaska, which was host to the convention, had turned its Sunday school rooms into dormitories; almost all the messengers slept, ate, and attended the sessions of the convention in this church.

The closing service, in which testimonies were given, showed something of the splendor of God as it reflected itself in the lives of individuals in the States and in Alaska. A young man in service was the first to speak. "I came to Alaska two years ago, lost. I'm returning to the States next week to enter school as a licensed preacher."

A layman said, "I checked my religion in Seattle. I was challenged after I got to Alaska to check it out again. I'm not sure, but I think God is calling me for definite Christian service. I am

willing. All I want to know is that he is calling me."

An old man said, "I've been in Alaska more than thirty years. I was cold and hardened by the difficult experiences I had in this north country but tonight I am thankful to God that my heart is warm toward all people."

An Eskimo came forward to say, "I thank God that he saved me through his Son Jesus Christ and that now I'm going to my own people to preach the gospel."

I saw in these Alaska reflections the splendor of our God.

Dear Nat:

Continued from page 10

for their parents, love of friend for friend, and love of a man and woman which culminates in marriage are civilization's highest benefits. It is the latter you are most concerned with at the moment, though many of the attributes of love concern its aspects.

What is this abstract thing called LOVE that has so many real and tangible evidences? Very simply it is the emotional tie between a man and woman. Havelock Ellis wrote, "Love is a synthesis of sex and friendship."

Simply put, yes, that is it. But there is so much that those words encompass—affections, admiration, respect, beauty, trust, patience, and sympathy. The Bible has much to say concerning love. Paul says of it: "Love suffereth long, and is kind; love envieth not; love vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but re-

joiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Love never faileth. Again the Bible says, "He that loveth not, knoweth not God; for God is love."

In order to experience true love, an individual must be able to give as well as receive love. In the degree that love will you be loved. The rewards of love are as great as the efforts contributed to gain it.

Love asks for patience, to develop the arts of pleasing, to explore, understand each other's personality, to learn to give and to take. It doesn't just happen, but rather must have roots and then time to grow.

Physical attraction is important to be sure, but sex alone is not enough of which to build a happy, secure marriage. Day by day living demands the soft, gentle traits of friendship and kindness, patience and loyalty, understanding, laughter, and trust.

True love is a rarity, and bears the characteristics found in rare things. It is kind, and does not alter when it alternates. Nor will it ever die of its own accord; it can be destroyed only by the one it is bestowed upon. So long as the rules of love are not broken, it can weather all earthly things.

Like friendship, love is governed by the law of cause and effect. As long as it is built on a strong foundation of respect and admiration and grows little by little with tiny deeds of kindness cementing it firmly—with consideration for the welfare of both individuals—then your love will live forever faithfully and undying.

So far, Nat, I've written much (maybe too much) about the fascinating subject of love, but very little about the institution of marriage, although the one complements the other.

The basis for marriage should always be TRUE LOVE. Those who are wise build their house—their marriage—on that rock. The holy bonds of matrimony should be entered into soberly, sanely, and with knowledge of what to expect of marriage. For marriage is not a temporary thing, nor is it an individual thing, nor is it an end in itself. It is LIFE and has for its purpose, not the gratification of individual desire, but rather the highest good of the individual and civilization.

The building of a happy, secure marriage based upon LOVE OF GOD and LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER is not an easy task, but it holds such rewards that no other part of life can offer. All my love, Charley.

Out of the Dark

By Juventino Suarez Camps

Convert in Havana, Cuba

This is the testimony of a young Cuban boy, twenty-five years old, who after looking unsuccessfully for physical and spiritual help in both the Catholic and Spiritist faiths, now glorifies God after finding the cure for all his needs in Jesus Christ whom he now claims as Saviour and Lord.

I WAS BORN in Surgidero (a small fishing town on the southern coast of the province of Havana, Cuba). My parents being Catholic, I was trained in that faith from my early youth. Not having a very strong physical constitution, I was always after all kinds of physicians trying to regain my health. I also prayed to all the saints and to the Virgin Mary, but never felt that my prayers were answered. I offered them burned candles and promised to make all kinds of sacrifices, but to no avail. I also prayed to "El Cristo de Limpias" (Jesus under one of the different advocations by which he is adored in Cuba), and always took with me a crucifix which the seller said would bring good luck and protection to whoever wore it.

Although the time passed and I never received any blessing from all my sacrifices, I still remained a Catholic and constantly continued falling more deeply into sin. I hated other people, tried to do them harm, went to all kinds of worldly festivities, and felt no peace or joy in my soul nor health in my body.

Later on I heard of some Spiritist meetings which were being held at my father's home and I started consulting the mediums in the hope of finding peace of mind and health for my body. They told me I had a spirit which needed developing and that I could also be a medium and so I partook of many of their practices but had great fear of letting myself be possessed by any spirit. God's mercy only saved me from this

experience, and after taking the medicines they recommended and the bath of herbs and flowers they prescribed, I still felt worse and so began to think more on my spiritual condition.

I thought I should do good deeds to be saved, so I asked to be admitted into the Catholic associations for young people and started again going regularly to mass. I confessed and communed but never found satisfaction for my spiritual condition. After confession I felt my sins had not been pardoned and had no security of salvation.

One day, while reading a book that had been given me, I found the Ten Commandments and was shocked to find that the second commandment prohibited the adoration of images. I noted the difference between this commandment and the one given in the catechism I had received from the Catholics. Knowing I had disobeyed, I felt I had sinned greatly against my God. I felt great fear and purposed in my heart not to continue sinning in that way if this commandment should be true. So I traveled all the way to the City of Havana to buy a Bible. I bought a Catholic version and was surprised to find in it this commandment and no excuse for the practice of image adoration. I found also that Peter did not let himself be adored (Acts 10:25-26). Neither did Paul (Acts 14:13-15), nor even the angels (Apoc. 22:8-9). I also found that all adoration and service belonged to God.

I still went to the Catholic Church, but did not continue adoring their images and prayed to God to show me a way out of all these errors.

One day as I passed in front of the Baptist church in Batabano, a neighboring town, I was invited to go in and so for the first time heard a message preached by a Baptist pastor. (Rev. Donald Levy was pastor of that church then.) After the preaching he invited those who wanted to accept Christ as their Saviour to stand. I did so, but immediately was frightened at what I had done for I was sure of the criticism that would come, so I immediately left. I had a terrible battle trying to come to a decision and prayed that God would give me strength to obey the truth.

I finally decided I should openly break with the Catholic Church. The next time I went to the Baptist church I attended a BYPU program and the program happened to be about church organization. I learned how the Baptist church worked and liked it.

After the meeting I asked the pastor, Rev. Donald Levy, for an opportunity to confer with him about my condition and he immediately helped me to find my way to God. Finally I joined the Baptist church at Batabano and was baptized by Pastor Levy who was my first pastor, counselor, and friend. He guided me in my first steps as a true Christian and showed me how it was necessary to leave all other things so as to serve my Lord and Saviour more perfectly.

The Lord charged my heart from hate to love for all people. I really feel that I have communion with him like never before, even when I most strictly practiced the Catholic faith and I am perfectly sure that my sins have been forgiven by the blood of Jesus and his sacrifice. I enjoy the Christian peace and joy in my heart and the hope of a better and everlasting life in heaven with him.

I thank God for the health he has given me so as to be able to serve him better. I pray the Lord will help me to prepare myself for entering the seminary where I may study to be a minister unto others and to help in leading those who are in condemnation for not knowing Christ as the Way and the Life and our great Redeemer.

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Write for Information . . .

T. L. HOLCOMB, Executive Secretary
Southern Baptist Foundation
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They Grow in Grace

One afternoon several years ago Mrs. Stanley and I went to visit a Chinese home in San Antonio, Texas. We had been told the children had indicated they were ready to start to Sunday school. We had contacted them before and Miss Ollie Lewellyn, our veteran worker, had had contact with the home on several occasions over many years. But conditions were not too pleasant for this little home. The father had died

and the mother was ill. This left Joe and Jimmy, two teen-age boys, Annabel and Willie Mae, young Intermediate girls, little Ollie, a Junior, and sister Mary, in her late teens, alone to care for themselves.

When we first visited them we were not asked into the house. Those beautiful black eyes looked at us through the screen door like those of a startled deer through the leaves of a forest. Gradually the strangeness wore off and the information came that they wanted to come to church.

Many were the problems that confronted these young people as they cared for their mother and themselves. Fortunately, the father had been a good provider and left them enough that they did not have to want for physical necessities. Mary was a good manager and the others had respect for her.

But Annabel, Willie, and Ollie were

the ones who most frequently came to church. Sunday after Sunday they came to the house of the Lord. The one Sunday morning during the invitation two of them came confessing their faith in Christ. A little later the same came. Immediately they began to live as Christians. Reading the Bible each found genuine joy in the Lord.

It was not always easy for them to live for the Lord. The usual enticements of the devil were thrown against them, made even worse by the absence of the parents from the home. But these young women had "purposed in their hearts not to defile themselves with the king's meat," so taking their resolute stand they continued steadfast in the things of our God.

Especially noticeable was their attendance at prayer meeting and Girls' Auxiliary. When a person makes marked advance it is always a matter of interest to note the contributing factors. It was no surprise to the pastor and workers at our Chinese Baptist Church in San Antonio to see the relation of growth in grace of these three girls and their attendance at prayer service and the Girls' Auxiliary meetings.

Time has slipped into eternity, the six years since those three girls stood in front of the audience at the Chinese Baptist Church and claimed the precious promise of eternal life through faith in Jesus. Now they live in California where Annabel, the eldest, is a third-year student in college, Willie Mae has just received her cap in nursing school, and Olive has graduated from

high school, receiving a scholarship. All their faith in the Christ who "loved them and gave himself for them" shines radiant and true.

—G. Lawrence Stanley
Missionary to Chinese
Phoenix, Arizona

We Wanted to Say "Thanks"

There came to one of our Bible schools one day a little Mexican fellow eight years old, who created a great deal of disturbance. He had never heard the story of Jesus before and as we told it day after day, Ramon's interest grew and soon he was constantly there, before and after school, eager to help.

He had never had the privileges which most children have, and Bible school was to him one of the most wonderful things he had ever known. He was a very shy little boy when it came

to expressing himself, and he couldn't put his thanks into words, but he thanked us in his own way—a very sweet one.

On commencement night he came running to me and said, "I brought you a watermelon," and not even waiting long enough for me to say much to him, ran back to play with the other children.

There beside the door lay a big, green watermelon.

—Joyce Taylor
Student Summer Missionary

Family of Nine Won

Recently Rev. Refugio Garcia helped the Mexican Mission pastor at Lockhart, Texas, Brother Lazaro Hernandez, in a revival. It turned out to be an epoch-making event, because during the week there were twenty-seven conver-

Churches throughout the Southern Baptist Convention territory are catching the spirit and starting missions. This is a picture of the ground-breaking service for the mission of the First Baptist Church of Swainsboro, Georgia. The estimated cost of this first unit is approximately \$15,000.00.

This entire family was baptized as a result of a revival at Lockhart, Texas, in the Mexican mission there.



SOUTHERN BAPTIST HOME MISSIONS January, 1954



sions, eighteen of whom were baptized. Among them was the entire Gomez family. Mr. Gomez was a fanatic Catholic and his wife was Presbyterian. But when Mr. Gomez was converted his wife came with him by baptism into the membership of the Baptist church.

Pastor F. N. Pack of the First Baptist Church of Lockhart is to be congratulated, together with the mission pastor and the people for the wonderful revival.

As a result of this revival, the Brotherhood of the First Baptist Church started the construction of a new chapel for the Mexican mission. It will seat more than two hundred and will also have Sunday school rooms, rest rooms, etc. All the carpenter work, painting, plumbing, and etc., is being done by the Brotherhood. Deep appreciation goes out to great missionary churches like the First Baptist Church at Lockhart and for the fine response and co-operation of the mission pastor, Mr. Hernandez.

—L. D. Wood
Spanish Missions Co-ordinator
of Texas



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BOOK REVIEWS

The F. B. Meyer Library, Zondervan Press.

Zondervan has printed in attractive format the F. B. Meyer sermons on *Moses, Abraham, Paul, and David* in \$2.50 volumes. In the devotional series at \$1.95 each are *Some Secrets of Christian Living, Present Tenses of the Blessed Life, The Shepherd Psalm, and Ephesians, A Devotional Commentary*. These are worthy books for the pastor's study and the home and church libraries.

The Church We Love, by Wilbur La Roe, Jr. Cokesbury Press. \$1.25.

Mr. La Roe, a layman, speaks the language of the layman as he appeals to lay men and women to consider the value of the church in spite of its weaknesses. He discusses the layman, the minister, sacrifice, comfort, missions, prayer, the home, friendship, and music in their connection with the church and as a part of the Christian life.

A Protestant Primer on Roman Catholicism, by Angelo di Domenico. Good News Press. \$2.00.

The author is a former Catholic reared in Italy. He served as an altar boy in the Catholic Church but was converted through the ministry of two of his brothers who preceded him to America. For thirty-five years he has been pastor of St. John's Baptist (Italian) Church in Philadelphia. The primer presents a good study of mixed marriages and also points out the difference between Catholic dogma and the truths of the Bible. It is a short but informative book.

Jehovah of the Watchtower by Walter R. Martin and Norman H. Klann. Van Kampen Press. \$1.75.

The statement "a thorough expose of the important anti-Biblical teachings of Jehovah's Witnesses" is well stated. The authors present the history of Jehovah's

Witnesses from the beginning of the cult on down to the present time. The chief value of the book, however, is the fact that the writers take the main teachings of Jehovah's Witnesses and then by scriptural exegesis prove the error of their views. A helpful book for study.

—Paul A. Meigs

Studies in Psalms, by Kyle M. Yates. Broadman Press. 50c.

This study course offered for January Bible study is inspirational and devotional. There is no effort toward the explaining of difficult words. The Psalms are grouped under topical discussions such as "God's High Moral Standards," "Thanksgiving," "The Holy Scriptures," etc., with "Foregleams of the Saviour" as the final group of Psalms. The little volume will be an excellent addition to the library after the January studies.

Church Work in the City, by Frederick A. Shippey. Abingdon Cokesbury. \$4.50.

This is an excellent book on the work of the church in the urban life of America. A key to the book is to be found in the title of the first chapter, "Changing Fortunes of the City Church."

The author then takes up the problems of the city church, diagnosing the condition in each case and suggesting a practical remedy for each condition found. Much information has been gathered, careful surveys have been made, accurate diagnoses have been the result, and the suggested program of remedy is sound and helpful.

—S. F. Downs

English-Greek Concordance, by James G. Baker. Baker Book House. \$4.95.

Baker Book House has released a usable English-Greek concordance. The Greek student will be able to find in idioms he may not remember and the non-Greek student will be able to find word translations that will be helpful.

The HEART of Evangelism

(Continued from Page 15)

pects us to make prayer deliberate, not something tacked on the day like dessert on a meal, but the very vital part of the day. This may mean rising an hour earlier to pray—but it will pay off in souls won to him.

Many times our prayer life is not definite. We pray for "everyone for whom we ought to pray" or "Lord, bless everyone around the world." In checking the New Testament we find that every time Jesus prayed it was a definite prayer.

In the past several months in practicing this in our church prayer meetings, we have seen gamblers, harlots, and the town drunkards won to Jesus. As one man said when consistent prayer was made on his behalf: "I never knew what prayer could do. I could not sleep or eat until I made it right with my God when they began to pray definitely for me." This can be duplicated many times in the experiences of those who have been saved in our church.

It never entered the mind of Jesus but that his prayers would be answered. He arose with the conviction that his Father had heard him. If we meet God's conditions for prayer, why cannot we expect him to fulfill his promises? And he will! God says, "What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them" (Mark 11:24). Decisive prayer also involves our putting legs under our prayers to bring about the results. This brings us to the third phase of effective evangelism.

Personal Persuasion
All praying and little working brings little results in effective evangelism. It has been well said that "we must sit in their chairs if we expect them to sit in our pews." Jesus was a master at the art of personal persuasion. He went where the lost were. It is about seventy-five miles from Jerusalem to Samaria, which entailed about three and one-half days of walking, but he must needs go there to win one woman at Jacob's well and start a revival meeting. He must go from Nazareth to Capernaum and Galilee, a distance of sixty miles, to win the insane man and a soldier. But he went! If we fail to go, we will fail in

winning to Christ.

When we go, however, we must go under the leadership of the Holy Spirit. This leadership is promised to us when we depend upon him and we have prayed for the lost. In so going, many times we have found people waiting for us, and even praying that we would come and show them the way to the Saviour. It is easy to win to Christ when the Holy Spirit has done his office work in the unsaved person's heart. But we must go!

Let us remember also that soul-winning is a continual process, not a spasmodic surge. The soul-winner must be consistent and persistent in winning. Dwight L. Moody vowed that he must speak to one unsaved person each day.

No wonder the world attributed to this man the success that he rightly deserved.

Of all the work in the world, the winning of a soul to Christ is the most productive. The Baptist work in the country of Lebanon was started because a Baptist woman in St. Louis, Missouri, led a Lebanese photographer to Christ. Returning to his native land, he began Bible study classes and later, with the aid of a vacationing Baptist minister, a church. Today, many souls are saved and serving in Lebanon because one woman grasped the heart of evangelism.

"Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his ways shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins" (Jas. 5: 20).



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But numbers alone aren't enough. It's the individual people, each receiving a single Gospel and an evangelistic message, multiplied a million times, that make a million meaningful.

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Gospel sound trucks and enlisted the support of evangelistic-minded Christians, The Pocket Testament League has distributed 1 million Gospels in China, 1 million in Formosa, 10 1/2 million Gospels and Testaments in Japan, and now 1 million in Korea.

We believe that God has directed PTL in using these methods to reach millions of individual souls for Christ.

We need your support to continue this work.

Write to: ALFRED A. KUNZ, Executive Director

The Pocket Testament League

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26

I Was sent to the Bayou

By Charlotte Moreland
Student Summer Missionary

IN MODERN AMERICA, the country that proclaims freedom of speech and freedom of worship, many children are being denied the marvelous privilege of education and growth through the love of Christ. This takes place in the Bayou country and on the banks of the Mississippi River below New Orleans.

The people are French-Indian with a mixture of Philippino and Spanish blood. Their business is that of the water. Little shrimp boats line the canals and water areas close to the Gulf preparing to launch out when oyster and shrimping season begins in August. Fish factories or "pogy plants" provide a source of income for many women and a horrible odor for those living close by.

The white population of Plaquemines Parish in Louisiana manifest deep-rooted hatred and bitter prejudice toward these their neighbors by calling them mulattoes and refusing them the freedom of public school education. Today many adult French-Indians know nothing about reading and writing, moral cleanliness, and the sacred value of the Holy Scriptures. Catholics are teaching gambling through bingo parties

held Sunday afternoons next door to our mission and fear to children who are forbidden to read the Bible or attend the Baptist mission school. They threaten disaster to the loved ones. Sin and shame dominate the "Blessing of the Fleet," an occasion just before each new fishing season.

Thank God for the courage and determination of our Baptist missionaries who in the last few years have done much to break down this steep wall of sin by bringing Christ into a forsaken portion of our own United States.

The Home Mission Board has established little one-room mission schools along the river. Before these buildings were erected the kitchens of many homes were turned into classrooms.

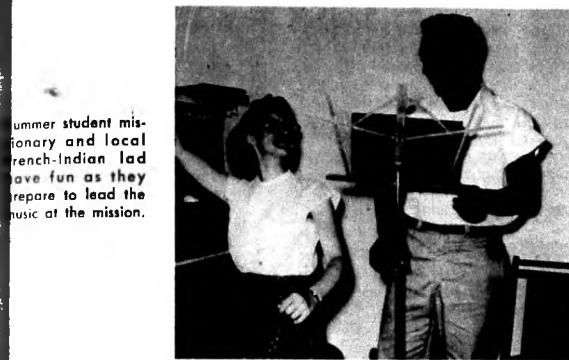
"I want my children to learn like the rest," stated one mother. As we opened little storybooks and turned the pages before the eyes of eager youngsters the mother looked on with intense interest. "I want to learn just like them."

Through simple little books we could turn the thoughts and interests of young learning minds to Christ. The story of the baby Jesus reached the father of the



Every boy likes to make something out of wood, and the French-Indian boys of the Bayou country seemed especially eager for this period of VBS.

SOUTHERN BAPTIST HOME MISSION



Summer student missionary and local French-Indian lad have fun as they prepare to lead the music at the mission.

home when children began to tell the story by reading the pictures. Later we took color books and pictures illustrating the life of Jesus while teaching the ABC's and 123's. By the influence of this kind missionary, homes were made spotless and free from the mud of the river. Little bodies were kept clean, and their clothes were always fresh when before ragged and muddy little ones greeted us.

The first mission services were held in a bar room with ridicule and criticism on all sides. Soon persecution moved the meeting place to an old abandoned garage. Now two mission schools have been erected, each with a very nice apartment for its teacher.

Much fear is still prevalent. On an island some two miles away in the Mississippi River doors were closed to our visits. Friends back on shore revealed that behind these doors were terrified

people hiding under beds and behind furniture. This fear is being chased by love and affection.

Our new friends have hearts of gold and are willing to give us the last thing in their home to satisfy our desires far beyond our needs. In one home we could count five items in the refrigerator and a minimum of furnishing to afford only a mere existence. When reading the story of the woman Mary who poured precious ointment on Christ's head and washed his feet with her hair, we explained that Mary had given the best that she had to Jesus and that is what he expects us to do for him. The thirteen-year-old child responded, "I'll give him our refrigerator." His mother reached into her savings, handed your summer worker a dollar bill and said, "Use it for yourself."

Out on the river bank we met Mr. Jero who testified, "It was many years



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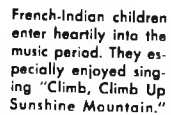
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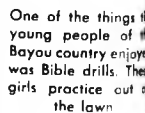


French-Indian children enter heartily into the music period. They especially enjoyed singing "Climb, Climb Up Sunshine Mountain."

ago that Christ came into my life. I am a carpenter by trade and build boats. Many times my helpers would curse me and called me names, but I prayed, "Father, forgive." I don't know how to write my name or read the newspaper, but there is one thing that I do know. The Lord has given me a good mind and I'm going to try to use it the best I can. You can't tamper with the things the Lord has given you. They are good!"

Harold is now eighteen, a consecrated Christian, and leads the music for the little mission. Three years ago he graduated from the eighth grade. His mother said, "I could have sent Harold to New Orleans to high school, but he would have to live with my Catholic in-laws who drink and lead sinful lives. He is better off here at home with his father."

Our little missions are growing now. Many who have turned to Christ are growing in him and looking to their



One of the things that young people of the Bayou country enjoy was Bible drills. The girls practice out on the lawn

ge already, were surprised with Christmas in August. Each little one and many parents presented us with beautiful gifts as tokens of their love. In our last visitation trip before leaving for summer's work behind, many more tokens were given to us. We are going to be eating fig preserves for many weeks to come. One precious lady thrust a lime into the palm of our hand and said, "Remember us."

All the blessings of our summer were filled into one package the Sunday afternoon Brother Johnnie Brigrman planned a dedication service on the subject "Sea of Life." It was held on the pierfront at the boat dock. While the fishermen sat before us in their work clothes and rested their bare feet on the piers, the women and children gathered around the accordion and sang "Shall We Gather at the River" and "Love Lifted Me." As they listened intently to the story of Mark 4 of how Christ calmed the waters, jet black clouds be-

gan to roll around us. Continuing his message to cocked ears on the old weather-beaten logs, Brother Johnnie lifted from his heart a burden for his friends who knew not Christ: "Will your anchor hold in the storm of life? When launching out, can you call believing, 'Jesus, Saviour, Pilot Me?' Do not refuse to heed the storm warnings. The last river to cross leads to the harbor of heaven. Make your call to Christ 'Ship Aho!' "

At these last words the heavy billowy clouds above us spoke no words but parted slightly in front of us to let the sun shine through on our little service. "Ship Ahoy!" sounded clear at the instant the clouds burst with the weight of their burden.

We left our beloved friends of the Bayou country with their voices ringing in our ears, "Come back, come back, teacher. We love you, why can't you stay and be our teacher?"

By A. Frank Belvin

Field Secretary of Indian Work

A SPRING breeze kissed our cheeks as we rumbled up the narrow mountain road. We were going to visit a young Indian lad whom to my memory I had never seen before. He was sick and had been bedfast for a long time. Because the road was so narrow, we passed by his little cabin to a place where the road widened before we could turn around. We stopped in front of the two-roomed log cabin that sat close between the road and a rushing mountain stream. As we entered and stood by the fireplace, we noticed his

...thrust pole and his bow and arrows that lay across the beams of the low ceiling.

On a cot in a dark corner of the other room lay the young man, whose breathing was very heavy. Not so long ago he had been in a hospital; but had left, apparently preferring to die early in the world that had sheltered him in infancy rather than to live long in a world that was new and foreign to him. I stooped and entered the room through the low curt door. For a moment the young man's eyes brightened as he said, "I have seen you before."

For an instant I stood there looking out the little half-window to the now greening hills in all of their beauty, almost as God had left them when he made them so long ago. How grateful I was that people, like these hills, could belong to God, when they heard and accepted the message of salvation. Perhaps that is why his words, "I have seen you before," thundered through my soul like the pounding of an Indian drum rolls through the mountain fastness on a summer evening. I wondered if I had told him the story of God's love.

We talked and prayed, then went on to tell the message to others who sit in darkness. Within two days the boy was gone. When he died, an Indian woman walked down the mountain path, and as she went she called my name. But I could not be found. So the boy was hurried without a minister. Somehow in my imagination I can still hear resounding through God's hills, the voice of that Indian woman as she called my name—and with it, the memory of the words of a fallen tribesman, "I have seen you before."

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(The Carpenters have moved from Ketchikan to Seward since this story was written.)

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