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HOME MISSIONS

A Publication of
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NOVEMBER
1958

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Vol. XXIX No. 11

O GIVE THANKS
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MY CHURCH

By Courts Redford

IT IS POPULAR to belong to a church. It is good business. It is socially correct. It adds to one's prestige. Sixty-three per cent of our population belongs to some church, synagogue, or other religious group.

People are advised to join the church in order to find good friends, get a new start in life, or to keep out of trouble. They go to make good business contacts, to get their children in nursery or kindergarten, or to get good musical or social training. To some it is a fellowship club, to others a symbol of respectability, and to still others a place of refuge.

Thousands of people have membership in a church who seldom, if ever, attend. They have no active part in any of the spiritual activities of the church. They do not read the Bible, they do not tithe, they do not pray, they bear no Christian witness, they use none of their talents for the glory of God. They live for years in a community without moving their church letters from some faraway place. Yet they speak of "my church."

One wonders what the term "my church" means to such people. What influence does the church have in their lives? What blessings does church membership bring to them? How does the church help them to serve the Lord?

As one ponders over such inquiries, the important question comes to each of us, "What does 'my church' mean to me?"

One lady expresses her love for her church because it was there she found the Lord. For her "my church" and "my Lord" were very closely related.

There is surely no place in the membership of a church for one who has not accepted Christ as Saviour. It may indeed be a place of training and nurture for the child and the unbeliever, but only he who has accepted Christ and has been baptized has a right to church membership.

My church is a steward of the mysteries of God. It has the responsibility of keeping the gospel pure. It not only teaches me God's Word but it encourages me to appropriate it to my own life. It helps me to become a living epistle that may be known and read of all men.

My church is a training ground for Christian service. Paul said that "God hath set the members, every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him". Each of us has a place of service. It is a God-given place. My church should help me to find that place, to train for it, and to fill it acceptably in the Master's service.

My church is a place of Christian fellowship. The writer of Hebrews suggests that we should not forsake the assembling of ourselves together to exhort one another to good works (Heb. 10:25). It is an inspiration to have fellowship with great Christians. It helps to sing the gospel songs and hear the proclamation of God's Word. My church provides me with spiritual food.

My church provides me a channel through which I may best serve the Lord. The first position I ever had in my church was that of Sunday school secretary. I could not speak plainly but I could keep records. Had it not been for this first opportunity to participate I might never have had the courage and faith to undertake other tasks. There is some place of service in the church for every member and it is his responsibility to try to find that place.

My church provides an avenue of co-operation through which I may join others in doing kingdom tasks which I cannot do by myself. Through my prayers, my money, and my influence I may join others in preaching, teaching, and healing among all people at home and abroad.

My church gives me an opportunity to join others of like mind and purpose in upholding the causes of righteousness in my community and throughout America and the world. I may thus multiply my influence in molding public opinion and effecting social righteousness.

My church gives me splendid opportunities to witness for my Lord. I may through the church organizations find such opportunities as the Sunday school, the Training Union, or the Brotherhood, but I may also find privileges of witnessing through visitation, revival services, and everyday contacts.

My church encourages me constantly to reach Godward. Through the preached word, and Christian fellowship, and united prayer, my mind and heart are fixed on Christ. I love the great Christian hymns and songs. I learn choice passages of Scripture. I share the burdens and victories of other Christians. I grow in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Suppose you take inventory to see what your church means to you. Have you given the church its rightful place? Are you loyal to it? Do you properly represent it and its founder in your everyday walk?

For the sake of my Lord, I want to give my best to my church.

SWEET POTATOES FOR THANKSGIVING

by Louise Whitmire Propst

THE NOVEMBER air was filled with talk of Thanksgiving—turkey, cranberry sauce, mincemeat, pumpkin pie.

At the mission, we were busy helping the children with last minute preparations for the Thanksgiving day program. Their parents would come and hear them recite the story of the coming of the Pilgrim fathers, the dangers they encountered, and the first Thanksgiving.

A newspaper boy came to the mission door, clutching in his hands three sweet potatoes.

"I just *love* baked potatoes," he said, "and since tomorrow is Thanksgiving I bought these three for my brother and me, but we don't have a stove at home and I was just wondering if you would bake these potatoes for me here at the mission."

My heart rejoiced at the privilege of obliging this young friend, whom I knew only vaguely. As the potatoes baked, we became better acquainted. Never before had I known the burden on his shoulders. He came from a broken home. It was his responsibility to make a living for himself and his younger brother. Their mother was so engrossed in sinful living that she had no time for her home and two children. The children saw her only when she came home late at night, and when she left early in the morning.

The newsboy had gone through much hardship in his 12 years of life—polio, poverty, insecurity, financial responsibility of buying clothes and a little food for himself and his brother, and paying his own school expenses.

"I have to stay in school," he said. "I want an education more than anything else."

Out of baking three sweet potatoes for this boy, a glorious story began. He enrolled in the Boys' Bible Class at the mission, where he was saved. Immediately he began to grow in his Christian witness as he stood before the boys to tell them of his new-found joy in Jesus. He grasped the teachings so rapidly that soon he could challenge others with his Bible knowledge.

The boy was burdened to see his mother saved from her wicked ways. On Sunday mornings he read the Sunday school lesson to her before he left for Sunday school. At church he performed many small tasks others failed to do. His spirituality was deep. His favorite hymn, "Bring Ye All the Tithes into the Store House," was one he practiced in his own life.

God did not let the faithful witness of this determined youth go unblessed. In time, his mother was saved. She secured a respectable job, and now is a Sunday school teacher herself. The younger brother is also a Christian—the home is united in the Lord.

The newsboy who clutched his Thanksgiving dinner of three sweet potatoes is now a senior in high school. He is eagerly looking forward to attending college on a scholarship which he won.

For what shall we give thanks at this Thanksgiving season? Surely for the freedom-founding fathers who weathered the stormy seas and perils on the shores of this unsettled land. But most of all, let us give thanks for a Saviour who suffered the sins of all the world, and died, that whosoever would come unto him might have freedom and power through the Holy Spirit.

HOME MISSIONS

A publication of the HOME MISSION BOARD OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

JOHN CAYLOR, *Editor*

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From the Pen of John Caylor

I Will Surely Give

JACOB ARRIVED at Bethel, tired, sleepy, insecure. He rested in the Lord. What a peaceful sleep when one lies down in full commitment to the Lord. His dreams will reveal that he is in the house of the Lord and at the gate of heaven.

Rested and reassured, Jacob "rose up early in the morning, and took the stone that he had put for his pillows, and set it up for a pillar." Even the pillow of rest for the weary saint becomes a pillar of testimony that "the Lord is in this place." In gratitude for the security of rest in the Lord, God's child should make his vow every morning. So "Jacob wowed a vow." Commitment to rest and security in the Lord leads to daily commitment for the Lord.

Jacob made a decision. Since the Lord was with him, and would be with him, would keep him in the proper way, and would give him bread and raiment, and see that he would return again in peace to his native land, then Jacob would declare, "The Lord be my God." What else can one say? In response to the goodness of God, in appreciation for his mercy and salvation, the Christian must declare that the Lord will be his God and that Christ will be his example. A declaration to worship the Saviour and to obey his commands will be the daily vow of the Christian.

The pillow of rest becomes a pillar of declaration. The Christian's daily life is a testimony to the goodness of God. Our generation is unusually blessed of the Lord. Jacob's plenty consisted of food and raiment; ours is the abundance of luxury. Not only do we have food, we have our choice. A sufficiency of raiment is but the minimum; we have fine clothing. Like Dives, the average American "fares sumptuously every day." He lives in a palace, enjoys the luxury of modern conveniences, chooses the best of everything, and lives more sumptuously than kings of a hundred years ago. Prosperity is our common lot.

As Jacob recognized the giver of life and sustenance, so Christians today ought to be genuinely grateful for the abundance of life. Since Jehovah will be our God, and in gratitude for all he has provided for us, we should declare openly that the Lord is our God.

After Jacob's first vow that the Lord would be his God, he made a pledge: he would give the Lord a tenth of all the Lord gave him. The average American has made a pledge to the realtor that he will pay for the house he lives in; he has pledged the water department, the electric company, the telephone company, the gas company, and the sanitary department that he will pay monthly for services rendered. He has pledged the automobile dealer and the furniture store that he will keep on paying for materials purchased; he has committed himself to his employer for a daily routine of work. He has vowed a vow.

The average Southern Baptist church is now in the midst of its stewardship emphasis. The budget committee, selected by the church, has submitted a proposed budget. A stewardship emphasis program is now in progress. The pastor is preaching on tithing and stewardship. Sunday school teachers, Training Union directors, and deacons are emphasizing personal stewardship. The Brotherhood is undergirding the financial program of the church. Woman's Missionary Union is calling attention to literature on stewardship. Everybody is interested in kingdom enterprises. It is time for every member to make a vow.

As the unified church budget is presented, every church member should make a pledge to tithe through his church the blessings the Lord showers upon him. "If all our members should tithe," is being said over and over again. Instead of saying, "If all our members should tithe," it would be in line with Jacob's experience if we could say, "Since all our members tithe we can greatly enlarge the activities of our church, increase the percentage going through the Cooperative Program to all Convention causes, and the Lord's work will greatly prosper." The blessings of tithing are not all on the side of the church and Convention causes supported by the church. The greatest benefit comes to the individual tither who commits himself and his possessions to the Lord. "Surely the Lord is in this place."

RICHMOND CHINESE PRESENT UNUSUAL SERVICE

W.M.U. Circle Theme Program

by Paul Crandall

"IT TOOK ME a long time to realize that I really needed Jesus and to open my heart to receive him . . . but soon I found myself going to Sunday school regularly and I began to understand more and more the teaching in the Bible, and this person called Jesus. The happiest day came when I received Jesus into my heart and the memorial day finally arrived when I was baptized in April, 1957. My heart was filled with joy and hopes . . ."

The 500 persons in the congregation were filled with joy as attractive Ping Chin told her story of "Why I Believe in Christ as my Saviour." Most of them knew that in 1957 when Ping Chin came to live in Richmond, Virginia, from Hong Kong, she could not speak English. Just a few weeks after her arrival she suffered the loss of both lower arms in the ironing machine of a local Chinese laundry.

Through the love of new Christian friends and the interest of the Chinese worker of the Richmond Baptist Association she was soon part of the local Baptist community. The best of medical care was arranged and the long patient training of the use of her artificial arms provided by a Baptist church gave her reassurance and confidence. Then Christ came into her heart!

As she bore her testimony at a unique service held in Richmond at the Grove Avenue Baptist church one Sunday evening in the early summer of 1958 she went on to say:

"Those months after the accident I lived in agony, because I cannot understand or talk English well. I began to doubt all the things I heard about God who is supposed to be so kind, loving, and understanding . . . I refused to see any of my friends, but still they continued to come. Finally I broke down and received them. They asked me to go to Sunday school with them many times, but I turned down the invitations, because I still did not believe there is a God.

"But they were persistent and finally I agreed to go out of being polite and because of their interest I went

A quartet sings "Follow Me," as Richmond Chinese gather at the Grove Avenue Baptist Church, Richmond.

Young Woo Ping Chin

back again. My Christian life has just started. As I look ahead I find the road to be winding and rough. I know it will be hard and I shall need guidance, faith, and prayer. But I know I can now always look up and turn to Jesus. He is always near to comfort and help me. In your prayers tonight, please remember me and pray that I may learn to be a good Christian."

Ping Chin gave her testimony at an unusual service led by local Baptist Chinese for a white Baptist church congregation.

The service was planned by William Ligh, Chinese worker for the Richmond Baptist Association city mission staff; Rev. Lawrence Bradley, pastor of the Grove Avenue Baptist Church; Rev. Paul E. Crandall, executive secretary of the Richmond Baptist Association; Mrs. M. Theron Rankin, former missionary to China and regular speaker at the once-a-month service of the Chinese Baptist Congregation; and Mrs. Jesse Wood, member of Grove Avenue Baptist Church, and a long-time friend of Richmond Chinese.

Very fittingly, the service came on the opening Sunday night of the "Week of Prayer for City Missions," sponsored annually by the Richmond Baptist Association.

The sermon was preached by Dr. A. T. Chang of the Christian Children Fund, whose International offices are located in Richmond. Dr. Chang received most of his primary education in missionary schools in China. Speaking on the "True Christian Life," he said: "The United States would not have to lose its leadership in space discoveries and other scientific achievements but should be always watchful not to lose its leadership in Christian faith."

As Mrs. Rankin, widow of the beloved Dr. M. T. Rankin, late secretary of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, led the benediction, there came again the deep sense of awe occasioned by the certainty that one had been in the presence of the Living Christ in an hour of memorable worship.

Preparing for the special service are (left to right) Mrs. M. T. Rankin, Mrs. Jesse Wood, Rev. Lawrence C. Bradley, and William Ligh.

A scene from "This Old House," one of 13 new dramas in the "This is the Answer" series for TV, produced by the Southern Baptist Radio-TV Commission. On the subject of hypocrisy, it will be the first film shown on TV next year in connection with Televangelism.

TELEVANGELISM

an opportunity and a challenge

by Clarence Duncan

TELEVANGELISM! Have you heard the word?

It is a project designed to provide you and every Christian an opportunity to have a vital part in the 1959 Evangelistic Crusades.

Televangelism will implement our Lord's Great Commission in a new way.

First, the heart of the individual will be stirred by watching a television drama depicting his area of spiritual need. Then, the visitor present for the showing will give personal follow-up to the message of the film.

Televangelism isn't just a promotional "gimmick" conjured to advertise Southern Baptists, "This is the Answer," on TV, the revival crusades, or anything of the sort. It *is* a plan which can be taken advantage of by all Christians as they seek to contact the lost.

Your personal problems may be small, but the letters received daily by Southern Baptists' Radio and Television Commission indicate that thousands of individuals have big trouble, for which *they* have no cure.

A lonely mother in Connecticut—a displaced Southern Baptist—writes in a tragic outpouring of remorse and misery: "Is there really any true Christianity left in the human race like I saw signs of in your TV program today?"

She then recounts a marriage made up of threats and physical violence. "My oldest girl was driven to suicide by my husband, and now my 16-year-old is in a reformatory. My other children bear the indelible marks of state homes. They have had the benefit of no spiritual influence."

Two Problems Considered

The Evangelism Department of the Home Mission Board, headed by Leonard Sanderson, and the Radio-TV Commission, directed by Paul Stevens, are working in close co-operation to make this one of the most meaningful undertakings of the denomination.

One of the biggest problems of the Radio TV Commission has been its inability to "follow-through" after one of the TV dramas had paved the way to conversion or life renewal by pointing a man or woman to Christ. As powerful as the presentation of God's message is on TV, there is still the lack of Christian fellowship to encourage the viewer to yield to Christ.

The right approach to his prospect is often the most difficult problem with which the church visitor has to cope and it can result in offending or driving the lost person even further away.

These two problems are taken care of by the blending of denominational forces. And dealing with problems is a basic purpose of Televangelism.

Starting on Sunday, January 4, 1959, a completely new series of 13 "This is the Answer" films will be shown. Each film will deal with something that hinders a person from accepting Christ or from living the Christian life.

A four-page folder has been prepared for each of the films. The visitor will have studied this material prior to making his visit, and decide what he will say and what his prospect needs, to make a decision for Christ, or to receive an invitation to attend church.

Closing the Transaction

Christians should be just as quick and efficient as the biggest and best of the auto makers and soap sellers, as they seek to tell important news to the world—the good news. The visitor or the preacher will complete the "transaction."

The TV films will be scheduled only on Sunday afternoons, the same film for each area. In as many associations as possible, a radio-television representative has been selected and will handle the extremely important details of encouraging local churches to participate in the visitation program.

The Plan

The telecasts will run every Sunday from January 4 through March 29 during the 13-week period. After that another entire re-run on 100 different stations is planned, which may carry the project through to spring.

Televangelism will be an unforgettable experience for anyone who takes part in it. The watching of even a single drama in the "This is the Answer" series can provide spiritual refreshment for both the Christian and the non-Christian.

This letter from a woman in Indiana is typical of those received from many Christian viewers:

"I see your program each Sunday and am often moved to tears because of the spiritual impact upon my own mind. I'm made to realize that far too many times my weakness is much the same as those portrayed in the lives of the characters in the program . . . and that Christ is the answer to my needs, too, as well as the needs of the whole world."

A New Christmas Story just in time for Christmas giving

WITHOUT A SWORD

by Margaret Randolph Carter

This is the story of a humble shepherd who was one of those "abiding in the fields" on the night that the angel proclaimed the birth of a Saviour. His name was Esram and his story is one of excitement and adventure. *Without a Sword* tells of a magnificent faith that did not fail through long years of waiting for the Messiah to restore the throne of Israel to the Jews. It tells of a victory that was won not by swords but by words and deeds. $2.25

Now . . . at your BAPTIST BOOK STORE

Sunday, January 4

At your Baptist Book Store

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION HOSPITALS OFFER TOTAL CARE

by Chaplain John G. Lambrides

THE VETERANS Administration Hospitals have a program of total care for patients. Total care calls for medical and surgical services supplemented by spiritual, sociological, and neurological services. What a man eats, and what is "eating" the man, are factors in prognosis.

There are 277 full-time chaplains and 348 part-time chaplains of all denominations serving the VA. Of the full-time chaplains, 51 are Baptists. The chaplains serve more than a half million veterans each year.

Newly admitted patients to VA hospitals are greeted by chaplains. Information cards enable the chaplain to gain rapport with the veterans. The cards indicate the religious preference of new admissions. The chaplain's carrying case contains an assortment of devotional booklets and tracts. To each patient is given the appropriate devotional booklet and tract, a beautiful bookmarker, and the scriptural calling card of the chaplain. Testaments and Bibles are given upon request.

The visit to each patient on the eve of an operation affords an excellent opportunity for the chaplain to aid the patient in the preparation for surgery. The veterans are pleased to see their chaplain in the recovery room, as they regain consciousness.

The chaplain is called to minister to seriously ill patients at any hour of day or night. The members of the family, when present, are grateful for the ministrations. One man, however, stated that he appreciated the services of the hospital and the chaplain, but that he had no need for prayer.

Replying that prayer is a part of the total therapy, I said, "I wish for you the very best. God bless you." As I started away, the patient called, "Chaplain, God knows I need your prayers. Pray for me." Tears glistened in his eyes.

The Mount Alto Hospital in Washington, D. C., where I serve, is a research and diagnostic center, and about 80 per cent of the patients are restricted. To reach these patients there is a radio to each bed. The Sunday worship, and the daily devotional services are broadcast from the chapel. The chimes from the chapel call the patients to these programs.

"The Chapel Call," a weekly bulletin, carries special messages in every issue, entitled "Chats with the Chaplain." One patient, inspired by a thought from the "Chats," began to study the New Testament, and went away from the hospital a changed man.

The fear which grips all mankind in one form or another is present in hospitals. The medical team tries to allay these fears. The chaplain is in a strategic position to convey the Spirit-guided messages and scriptural promises, and to offer prayer that the veteran may reach out with the fingers of faith to "touch the hem" of God's garment of healing.

Chaplain John G. Lambrides prays with a patient, Howard Warren Cooke

FORT FOOTE CHAPEL IN NEW BUILDING

by John Caylor

UNDER THE sponsorship of Congress Heights Baptist Church of Washington, D. C., a revival meeting was held in a tent on Fort Foote Road in the outskirts of Washington. Joe and Don Strother and Ken Thornton conducted the services. In September of 1955, a month later, Rev. Carroll Bruce was chosen as pastor of the group. Services were begun in a vegetable stand where the 40 in attendance taxed the capacity of the building. On Easter Sunday in 1956 the group moved to 7100 Fort Foote Road and met in a former feed-house. The new quarters accommodated 70.

The New Chapel Dedicated

Across the street from the temporary meeting place, the mission group secured two and three-tenths acres of land and planned a chapel building. Congress Heights Baptist Church assisted in financing a loan of $40,000.00. The chapel was dedicated in April of 1958. Pastor Bruce and the Fort Foote Chapel report a membership of 81 with Sunday school enrollment at 130 and a weekly income of over $200.00.

These three buildings are reminders of the progress which Fort Foote Chapel has made. The group is now meeting in the attractive building pictured below, right.

THE WORK IN Alaska

an evaluation by J. G. Cothran, *pastor*
Beaverdam Baptist Church
Williamston, South Carolina

IT WAS A delightful privilege to meet and to have fellowship with pastors, denominational leaders, and church people during my visit to Alaska for Denominational Emphasis Week.

In Anchorage we found a most cordial welcome among the brethren. In a fellowship breakfast we were given a glimpse of the work by Pastor Felton Griffin and others. Then it was my privilege to bring the keynote address at the Sunday school convention meeting at Calvary, Anchorage, on August 11.

At First Baptist Church, Palmer, it was my joy to be with the Clifford McConnells whom I had baptized when they were Juniors in the First Baptist Church of Princeton, Kentucky. Later I performed the ceremony when they were married. Clifford made it possible for me to see much of the territory. At the First Baptist Church, Valdez, I met and had fellowship with some very fine people. We met people in Fairbanks, Seward, Cordova, and elsewhere whose fellowship we enjoyed.

My impression of the pastors and denominational workers is that they are among some of the most loyal and capable among us. Men like Watson, Hill, Griffin, McConnell, and Roy Moore can be depended upon. They are not only good leaders but they are safe leaders. The churches will do well to work in close co-operation with those who are recognized leaders in our work there. Serious pitfalls and mistakes can be averted and avoided if this is done.

Wise and careful planning is essential in creating missions, building adequate buildings, and in securing workers. It is still my conviction that a church-centered mission program is the best and the safest. The person chosen to work in a mission should work through and be responsible to the sponsoring church.

As this new state develops its natural resources more people will go there. The established churches will reach many of these newcomers. Thousands of servicemen and their families have been and are still in Alaska. They have been reached for Christ. Some lost have been found. Many who were inactive at home have been reached by the churches there. They will go back home to be greater blessings to the churches in which they work.

The future in this vast region is very promising. It should give us occasion for true gratitude to realize that from a very small beginning with some servicemen not too long ago the work has grown until Baptists are the largest in number in Alaska. Instead of one small congregation we now have 34 churches and missions.

It thrilled my soul to worship with a great congregation of people at First Baptist Church, Anchorage, on a Sunday night, with more than 40 in the choir, and to hear a sermon by Pastor Griffin on "Salvation Belongeth Unto God," and to see two grown men come trusting Christ. Following this service it was my delightful privilege to have fellowship in the home of the Griffins with the Watsons present. God has his witness in Alaska!

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AMONG the MISSIONARIES

Dear Sir:

I have just finished reading this month's *Home Missions*, and am completely sold on the necessity of missionary work among our brethren: Latin-Americans, Indians, Jews, and others.

I am a Christian because of the work done by home missionaries among the Latin-Americans in Texas, and, as you probably know, the Baptist faith is spreading among my people with very good fruitful results. My entire family have been baptized into the Baptist church, and my relatives on my mother's side are slowly but surely accepting our beliefs.

We, at one time, were considered Roman Catholics, but we have now become Baptists through the unselfish work of your home missionaries. So, keep up the great work you are doing among the minority groups in the United States.

May God's richest blessings be upon you and your staff as you go forward for Christ.

In Christ,
Frank S. Garcia
United States Army

Man on Verge of Suicide Accepts Christ

On Saturday evening a few weeks ago a middle-aged man called at our home desiring to talk with a minister. He stated that he had been drinking a good bit. He was despondent, and on the verge of suicide. This man was not a Christian. He said that he did not believe there was a God, and that people had created the idea in their minds to make life bearable. He said that all he wanted was peace in his heart.

His concept of the Bible was that it was just a book of contradictions.

During the evening this man came to see something of the true nature of God and the Christian life. His criticism lessened against God, that he had not answered prayers concerning different matters. It was pointed out to him that perhaps now God was able to answer some of his prayers, because of his change in attitude and heart.

Given a Bible and two tracts, the man went home asserting that he would destroy the pills he had been planning to take, and that it would be a long time before he would be drinking again.

The next morning this man professed Christ as his Saviour in the regular church service. The following Sunday afternoon he followed his Saviour in baptism.

—Donald V. Phlegar
Missionary to Spanish-speaking
Calexico, California

Herman Rivera is one of the Spanish-speaking children who began learning English at a Baptist kindergarten.

Mexican Children Learn English in Kindergarten

Herman Rivera is one of the 17 graduates of the 1958 class of the kindergarten at First Mexican Baptist Church, Raymondville, Texas. A total of 71 children were enrolled in the 1957-58 year.

The children are taught to speak English in the kindergarten, and one way in which they learn is through pictures. Herman holds in his hand an example of just one of many kinds of story and picture books used by the students. The children learn from the pictures to speak names of objects in English, enabling them to carry on a conversation and to tell stories in sequence, which prepares them for reading in the first grade.

—NaDean Watkins
Missionary to Spanish-speaking
Raymondville, Texas

Missionary Finds Christians Must Be Different

It was my privilege to talk to a young man who sat by me on the bus as I traveled to my field of service. The conversation soon was changed to the topic of religion.

This young man had been visiting a Baptist church, and a church of another denomination. He said he liked both, and couldn't decide which to join. He said they were similar, and that he could tell there was a big change in his life since he started attending these churches and reading the Bible that was given to him. Whereas he had liked to drink and dance and the like, now he didn't care for any of it. I told him that he had to make his own choice of church and explained to him the difference between the two and the reason one joins a Baptist church. I explained to him the plan of salvation, and he agreed.

Before the trip was over, he remarked, "I have noticed that people who go to your kind of church are different. You are different in the way you talk and act."

I know that my life is far from what I would want it to be for my Christ, but it made me stop and think. Other people are watching us more closely than we care to admit. We must dare to be different.

—Elizabeth Chapa
Spanish Kindergarten
Beeville, Texas

Projector Aids Missionary To French-Speaking

When my brother-in-law asked if there was some need on our field that the church where he served as pastor could supply, we told him of our need for a slide and filmstrip projector.

We felt much good could be done if only we had a projector. Many people could be reached in prayer services held in homes. Many of our Catholic friends will attend prayer services held in homes, but will not attend services at our church. Some have already invited us to conduct prayer services and show some filmstrips in their homes.

A projector could also be used on Sunday evenings in our teaching period. We could show filmstrips on soul-winning, teaching methods, etc., to our church members.

Then one day my brother-in-law wrote to me, saying, "I am so ashamed of myself. I have been concerned about letting my church do something for your mission field, and I had completely forgotten that I have the projector you need in my closet. I very seldom use it, so I am sending it to you to use in your mission work. I feel as Peter must have felt when he asked Jesus, 'What shall this man do?' "

The projector has been received, and filmstrips have been ordered from the Home Mission Board. Who can say how many souls can be reached for Christ by means of the projector supplied by Rev. Eldon A. Byrd, pastor of a Southern Baptist church near Nashville, Tennessee.

Many times we hold within our hands the "rod" that God can use to perform miracles of reaching lost souls.

—James G. Phelps
Missionary to the French
Cloutierville, Louisiana

"I Sure Want to be a Christian"

"The harvest truly is plenteous," surely applies to the section around Red Lake, Tonalea. There has been no missionary stationed there for two years now, and many of the people are eager to have someone there permanently to tell them the Word of God. Besides, a new government school is to be started there any day now.

At Bible school and evening services there was an average attendance of 48—men, women, and children. People were saved. One 69-year-old lady and four of her children trusted Christ as their personal Saviour. These people had been visited in their camp before, and were witnessed to by means of Navajo records. They were working in Red Lake, and attended every service.

When we went out into the hogans in the afternoon almost everyone thanked us for coming, and wanted us to come back. One man said he had never heard the Word of God before.

One day a 14-year-old girl whom we hadn't seen before came to our trailer and said, "I sure want to be a Christian." Some of her friends had witnessed to her and when she came to the trading post she came to us.

"... *But the Labourers Are Few.*"

The closest missionary is at Tuba City, and he has a full-time job in that community, so there are very few times that he can get to Red Lake. One of the Navajo women said, "I wish you would stay all the time."

What about those people who want to be Christians? What about those who say, "Will you come back?" What about those who have heard about God for the first time and are eager to hear more? What about those children coming to the new school?

Yes, Lord, the people are there. They are ready to hear, and we know you have the persons whom you have called to tell the Navajo people at Red Lake, so we pray that they will answer the call and go tell the news of Jesus to these people who ask so little of the comforts of this world.

—Calvin and Wilma Sandlin
Missionaries to Indians
Tuba City, Arizona

Student Missionaries Mean Much to California

The Student Summer Mission Program of the Home Mission Board has meant much to California through the years. Some of the finest Christian young people of the United States have served in California in the summer mission program. Several, now on the foreign mission field, have served as summer workers here in California.

The summer mission program in California begins with a three-day orientation in Fresno. During the orientation for the summer workers this year 94 of the finest Christian young people brought inspiration and encouragement as well as receiving specific information.

They were from 17 states, 50 colleges, and the countries of Hawaii, Cuba, Panama, and Italy. Eighteen of these young people were on their way to Hawaii for ten weeks of glorious service. At the request of the student department of the Sunday School Board they were here for the orientation period. Twenty were assigned to the language group work and served among the various language groups in California. There were 54 serving in the cities, associations, and mountains of the Golden state.

—Edmond Walker
Assistant Executive
Secretary-Treasurer
SBC of California

These young people met in Fresno for a three-day orientation before going to various places in California and Hawaii for summer mission service.

IT WORKED IN PANAMA

by Isaac V. Perez

Missionary, Canal Zone

DURING HIS one-week stay in Panama and Canal Zone last April, L. D. Wood, co-ordinator of Spanish missions for Texas, casually stated in one of the pastor's conferences, "I have given Isaac Perez two copies of the Guidebook of the Forward Program of Church Finance; after he looks it over he will talk to you about it. This program can be most helpful here also."

It was almost two months before I began reading it, but as I did I became more and more convinced that it would work also in Panama.

The First Baptist Church of La Chorrera, which had a membership of 39 in June, had been unable to meet its financial needs, especially that of Sunday school and Training Union literature for part of 1957 and 1958. When I spoke to the pastor, Rev. Alcides Lozano, this program met with much approval.

The plan was presented to the leadership of the church, and it met with their approval. A calendar of activities was prepared. The five-week program began on July 6, and included study courses, Sunday school lessons, messages, testimonies, filmstrips on stewardship, bulletins, pastoral letters, committee meetings, inspirational supper, pledge day, visitation, and victory day.

On July 13, following the lessons and a message on stewardship, 19 pledged to tithe. The budget was presented and discussed fully on July 18, and the following Sunday the system of numbered envelopes was properly installed. An inspirational supper was held on July 24, and special guests for the occasion were Rev. E. F. Vickers, associate pastor, First Baptist Church, Balboa, speaker of the evening; Rev. R. G. Van Royen, superintendent of missions; and Chaplain John E. Hollingsworth.

Let us now see some of the visible results of this program. The average monthly income from January to June of this year had been $42.18. The new budget for July to December is for $66.67 monthly. The income July 20-August 10 was $96.90. Rev. Lozano states the following: "After seeing how richly the Lord has blessed us, there is a new vision of missionary opportunity, now that we have the means.

"This program has created much encouragement in the finances of our church, and has also been a factor in promoting the fellowship and improving the general attitude of our members. Seeing how much this program has benefited our church, both materially and spiritually, I heartily recommend it to all churches, especially those where the economy and spirituality have languished."

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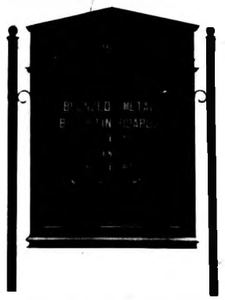

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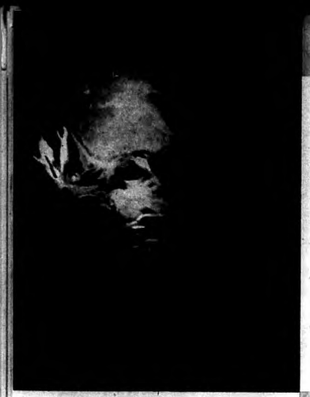

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What my twin headlights saw beyond the curve made every cylinder within me begin to pound. The red clay looked too slippery for travel! I slowed obediently, and tried to follow the driver's wishes, but I could not do it. The road seemed to be everywhere and nowhere all at once, and I realized I was in a muddy ditch with one of my sides resting against a bank.

Unable even to spin a wheel, I waited until someone cut down a tree to put under my wheels. After more mud had been shoveled away, all of us made one last mighty effort to get out. This time I pulled free, and purred contentedly as I felt the good, firm earth underneath again. I think I was as happy as all the people were to be home once more.

I haven't much knowledge under my hood, just horsepower, but I understand that I am only one of many mission wagons of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board. Because of many wagons like me, people can be brought to churches and missions to hear about the Saviour.

The two little girls I was taking home will be grown before their father will be home again. He is serving a long prison term for murder. I am glad I can help these little girls and others hear of Christ who grants forgiveness and love to all who seek him.

There may be some more muddy roads ahead for me, but I know I will go again as long as there are people who want to hear about Jesus.

Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Isbell
Missionaries to Indians
Citronelle, Alabama

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BOOK REVIEWS

Using the Sunday School in Evangelism by Leonard Sanderson. Convention Press. $.60.

From the mission of the church as evangelism, Dr. Sanderson moves into the discussion of the Sunday school as an evangelizing force and gives Bible study, experience, observation, the fruits of research, and the inspiration of dedication to a noble task in the writing of this volume for the Sunday school. All will agree that the Sunday school is a natural in organization, trained personnel, prospects, and organization for the promotion of evangelism. Dr. Sanderson states that the Sunday school is an evangelizing force; it prepares workers and pupils for evangelism; it uses organization and training; it challenges the pastor both with the opportunity and the personnel for soul-winning; and develops soul-winners for the task. In the last chapter, Dr. Sanderson calls for dedication, prayer, and submission to the Holy Spirit for success in the Sunday school's main task, that of winning souls to Christ.

Preacher's Kids' Dad by Cleatrice Ingold Lackey. Greenwich Publishers. $2.50.

Mrs. Lackey opens to her readers the family album and describes the intimate relationships of a minister and his family. A normal family life is interestingly portrayed.

Into a New World by J. Winston Crawley. $.85.

Dr. Crawley writes about an area in which he has spent practically all his ministerial life. Recently he has become the Foreign Mission Board's secretary for the Orient. Southeast Asia is his responsibility for Southern Baptists in administering missionary personnel and service. Dealing with the Philippines, Malaya, Indonesia, and Thailand, Dr. Crawley points us "into the future" with encouragement that "the door everywhere is open to Christian missionaries." This Adult book sets the pace for graded studies in the 1958 Foreign Mission Series.

Echoes from Indonesia by Buford L. Nichols. $.85.

Dr. Nichols has been a missionary in the Orient for 22 years. During the past six years he has pioneered in Indonesia. This veteran missionary in a new field gives young people in the 1958 Foreign Mission Series a study of the opportunities, victories, and challenges of Indonesia. The book is well written and offers a real challenge to youth for missionary service and support.

Temples of the Dawn by Frances E. Hudgins. $.50.

"Licking honey off a thorn" appealed to me as I looked through the Intermediate study of the Southeast Asia Series. If this had not been a quotation from *Reader's Digest* perhaps it would have been the title of the Intermediate book. Thailand is seen through Christian victories in the lives of young Thais. What could be more interesting?

Ming Li by Harriette King. $.50.

The Junior book in the Southeast Asia Series presents Ming Li, Chinese, and Chuck, son of the missionaries, in a series of episodes depicting family life, physical and spiritual needs, rubber plantations, and missionary victories in Malaya. The two boys will be of vital interest to all Juniors.

Carlos and the Green Car by Fern Harrington. $.50.

Carlos is a Filipino. He sees the green car (missionary equipment), a missionary, a Sunday school. He goes to a fiesta; rides in the green car; and decides that when he grows up he wants to be like the young man who drives the green car, leads the singing at meetings, and is so good to boys and girls.

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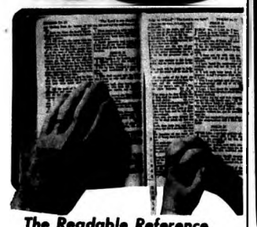

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x *be* such as *was* in her
en at the *first* 1 SK. 15:19
cted the land of 2 Kin. 15:29
l the land of Naph'te-li,
d did more grievously
e way of the sea, beyond
i-lee of the nations.
that walked in darkness
st light: they that dwell
the shadow of 2 Sam. 20:19
hath the light shined. ☆
multiplied the nation,
d the joy: they joy be-

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Home Board Photo
Women at the Kindergarten Conference at Ridgecrest work on a handcraft project.

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The first periods of the conference were spent in studying characteristics of kindergarten-age children. Then there were long periods of observing the kindergarten children in their rooms. Mrs. Bill Damon and Jeroline Baker taught the five-year-old children, under the supervision of Dr. Bradford. Sue McDonald and Bonnye Burnett taught the four-year-old children, under Miss Rives' direction.

In the afternoons, the teachers made decorations for a Christmas tree which the children could make. They learned to write script, use paints on the easel, and to do finger painting and spatter painting.

Next year the Kindergarten Conference will be at Glorieta, New Mexico, during Home Mission Week. Plan to go and take your four or five-year-old to benefit from a kindergarten directed by persons who have had much experience. You will learn more about how to teach the four and five-year-old child.

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He comes to Carson from a year's study at the Menninger Foundation School of Marriage Counseling, Topeka, Kansas. Before that he completed the advanced course at the Army Chaplains School, Fort Slocum, N. Y.

Chaplain Herndon began his military ministry in 1942 soon after his graduation from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky, where he earned bachelor's degrees in divinity and theology.

He also has a bachelor of science degree from the University of Georgia where he has done graduate work in guidance and counseling.

Carson's new chaplain earned his glider badge at Camp McCall, North Carolina, then served through World War II in Europe with the 88th. Assignments followed in occupied Germany and Japan.

He won the Bronze Star in Korean action when he served with the 7th Infantry Division in 1950 and 1951.

U. S. Army Photo

Lt. Col. Robert B. Herndon

Chaplain Herndon has been post chaplain at Fort Meade, South Dakota; Camp Youngans, Japan; Fort Campbell, Kentucky; and Fort Clayton, Canal Zone, where he served for three years with the Caribbean Command.

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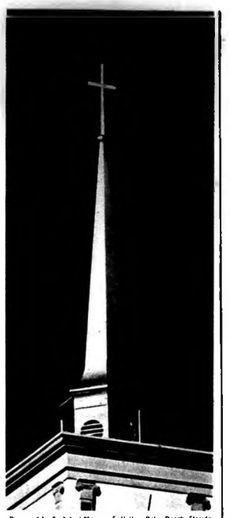

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Baxter, Roger M., Jr.

B. Sept. 17, 1927, Slagle, La. Ed. Horatio High School, Horatio, Arkansas; Ouachita Baptist College, '46-'50, B.A. degree; New Orleans Baptist Seminary, '50-'53, B.D. degree; Navy Chaplains School, '53, certificate. Pastor, Bassett, Texas, '49, '50; chaplain, U. S. Navy, '53-'57; chaplain, Corsicana State Home, '57 to present. M. Ruth Marie Jordon, August 19, 1950. Children: 1 son, 1 daughter. App't. missionary, Spanish Mission Center, San Antonio, Texas, Aug. 11, 1958.

Baxter, Ruth Marie

(Mrs. Roger M. Baxter, Jr.)

B. July 6, 1930, Donaldson, Ark. Ed. El Dorado High School, El Dorado, Ark.; Ouachita Baptist College, '48-'50; Tulane University, '50-'52, BA degree. Worked as sales clerk, New Orleans, La., '49-'52; secretary, New Orleans, '52-'53. M. Roger M. Baxter Aug. 19, 1950. Children: 1 son, 1 daughter. App't. missionary, Spanish Mission Center, San Antonio, Texas, Aug. 11, 1958.

Rogers, Sarah Lou

B. April 21, 1933, Vina, Alabama. Ed. High School, Glencoe, Ala.; Howard College, '51-'55, B.S. degree; Southern Baptist Seminary, '56-'58, M.R.E. degree. Has served as clerk-typist; librarian, clerk-bookkeeper, and public school teacher. Summer missionary with HMB two years; Good Will Centers at New Orleans, La., and Macon, Ga. App't. Good Will Center worker, LaFayette, La., Sept. 4, 1958.

Ossa, Humberto Frank

B. June 10, 1910, Nargana, San Blas, Panama. Ed. High School, Pasadena, Calif.; Pilgrim Bible School, 1921-'25. Served at Mission Night School, Tigre; preacher, Rio Sidra. M. Celina Rivera, March 3, 1933. Children: 4 sons, 4 daughters. App't. missionary to Panamanians, Narzana, Panama, Aug. 11, 1958.

Ossa, Celina Rivera

(Mrs. Humberto Frank Ossa)

B. Aug. 30, 1917, Nargana, San Blas. Ed. Rodalfo Chari, 1927-1932. Served at mission school, Tigre. M. Humberto Frank Ossa, March 3, 1933. Children: 4 sons, 4 daughters. App't. missionary to Panamanians, Narzana, Panama, Aug. 11, 1958.

Rivera, Cornelio V.

B. April 29, 1934, Deming, N. M. Ed. Decatur Baptist College. Has served as baker, worker at motor company, and dish washer. U. S. Air Force, '52-'56. App't. student missionary to Spanish, Bayard, Silver City, Lordsburg, N. M., Aug. 11, 1958.

Warder, Ann Marie

B. Aug. 24, 1931, Russellville, Ky. Ed. Russellville High School; Campbellsville Jr. College, '52-'54; California Baptist College, '54-'56, B.A. degree; Carver School of Missions, '56-'58, M.R.E. degree; Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, '58. Has served as secretary, typist, assistant dormitory hostess, switchboard operator, and clerk. Served as Student Summer Mission Worker, Hawaii. App't. as Good Will Center Worker, Louisville, Ky., Sept. 4, 1958.

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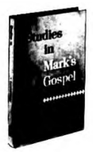

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Four-Star Spanish Mission Is Organized

by L. D. Wood

June 29 marked the beginning of services in the new Spanish mission of the First Baptist Church, Richmond, Texas. The new mission has been officially named Baptist Temple and will hold services in a chapel which has been arranged in the home of the pastor, Rev. Frank W. Johnson, Jr.

The mission-home has been rebuilt out of an old residence owned by the church. It is located on a prominent corner. It will be used for services until the first unit of a permanent building can be erected on the property the church has purchased in the northern part of the city. The new site is made up of over one and one half acres.

The First Baptist Church, under the leadership of Pastor Wade O. Skinner, has been serving Spanish folk who speak English. Realizing the great need of services for the ones who speak only Spanish, the church has moved to form the mission.

Baptist Temple is a four-star mission, with organizations in all phases of church work. The mission will support the Cooperative Program, San Felipe Association, and will apply for membership in the association and send messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention.

The missions committee of the church is planning to make every possible effort to begin study classes for both preschool children and their mothers, and to offer study for all Spanish-speaking adults in reading and writing.

Left W[illegible] O. Skinner, Frank W. Johnson, Jr.

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