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No. 19



Kentucky Baptist Hospital Day on
Mother's Day, Sunday, May 9

Gleanings From The Field

The present address of Missionary A. L. Gillespie is Seinan Jo Gakuin, Kokura, Japan. He was formerly pastor at Owenton, Ky., and Student Secretary in Kentucky.

William Jones, student in Georgetown College, Georgetown, Ky., has been called as pastor of Spears Mill Baptist Church, near Paris, where he succeeds Pastor M. L. Putnam. Spears Mill has 82 members on its roll.

E. C. Sisk is moving from Knoxville, Tenn., to 302 Dawson Lane, Lebanon, Tenn. He has become State Stewardship Worker for the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. Formerly he was Field Worker in the Southern Region of Kentucky.

The First Church of Shreveport, La., has voted unanimously to proceed with the erection of their new \$400,000 Educational Building. The Church has \$312,000 on hand for that purpose. Pastor M. E. Dodd completed his thirty-sixth year with them on March 28.

Pastor Lucius M. Polhill of the Deer Park Church in Louisville recently conducted a revival in Mobile, Ala., with the West End Church, H. H. Harwell, pastor. Music was led by William Carlson, of Mobile, and Southwestern Seminary. There were 14 additions to the membership.

After a fruitful pastorate of more than five years Harry L. Carter has resigned the First Baptist Church at Scottsville. During his ministry an all-time high has been achieved in membership, contributions have more than doubled, mission gifts have about quadrupled, and the church property has been extensively improved.

Pastor Wayne Dehoney, First Church, Pineville, Ky., recently completed a two weeks' revival with Pastor Fred Tarpley at the Donelson Baptist Church, Donelson, Tenn. Joe Camberon led the music. There were 57 additions, 48 for baptism and 9 by letter. This revival was a part of the simultaneous campaign for the Nashville Association in which 44 churches participated.

Francis R. Tallant, pastor of the First Church of Jellico, Tenn., did the preaching in a youth revival in Emmanuel Baptist Church of Charleston, W. Va., where James Horton, formerly of Knoxville, Tenn., is the pastor. The young people filled the choir and had charge of the services of one week. There were 60 decisions—41 conversions, 1 by letter, 2 by statement, and 16 rededications.

Miss Edna Eaves, Library promotion

worker with the Baptist Book Store, in Louisville, spent a week with the First Church of Paris, Ky., helping them set up a new church library. Pastor John H. Whitt says, "She did a good job, and our people responded in a splendid way." They now have 500 books with which to begin their library, which was dedicated on March 28. Open House was held on that day and 100 people visited their library.

Mr. and Mrs. Roman Fry have returned to Louisville after a few months in Ft. Meyers, Fla. Mr. Fry had a heart attack shortly after the first of the year, and has spent this season recuperating. He is now much improved, and is hoping to continue his rest here before becoming too deeply involved in work again. He is a Deacon, and for ten years has been Superintendent of the Sunday school at Clifton church. Prior to that he was for ten years superintendent at Grace Sunday school.

The Indiana Baptist Ministers' Council held a spring conference at the Woodruff Place Baptist Church at Indianapolis during April 12-14. Dr. E. F. Estes, pastor of the West Broadway Church of Louisville was the evening speaker on the first night, and at each of the succeeding sessions. Other speakers included Dr. J. M. Horton, Executive Secretary of the Indiana Convention; Clayton M. Wallace, of the Indiana United Dry Forces; J. F. Rake, Evansville; L. E. Olson, Ft. Wayne; M. L. Robinson, Logansport; and Walter Hand, Shelbyville, Ind. Also on the program were Messrs. R. H. Linstrom, A. N. Corpening, Harold Gray, Stanley Dodgson, Owen Miller, and Ray Crawl.

Charles W. Koller has just completed his tenth year as President of Northern Baptist Theological Seminary of Chicago. He came to them from the pastorate at the Clinton Hill Baptist Church, Newark, N. J. Much of the property has been renovated and three additions have been made to Northern's properties in those ten years. These include the Mabel White Hall, a beautiful old stone residence which accommodates 29 women; the purchase of a 21-apartment building, now called Koller Hall by the Trustees in honor of their president; and Hammond Hall, given by the First Baptist Church of Hammond, Indiana. A new chapel is now being planned. Dr. and Mrs. Koller spent a few days in Louisville recently.

Georgetown College alumni dinner, held in Room B of the Central Y. M. C. A. during the course of K. E. A. in Louisville recently, was attended by more than 70 former students. Supt. Porter Hopkins, '07, of Somerset,

was toastmaster. Short talks were made by Supt. Redding of the Frankfort schools; Pres. Paul L. Garrett of Western Kentucky State Teachers' College, Mrs. Eschew, daughter of the late Arthur Yager, one-time president of Georgetown and later Governor of Porto Rica; Dr. Henry Mitchell, Covington; and Dr. Harper Gatton, Madisonville; and President Samuel S. Hill. Music was furnished by Prof. W. B. Anders of the Voice Department of Georgetown, accompanied by Ray Childress.

Central Baptist Mission Has Great Day March 28

LOUISVILLE, Ky., March 28.—This was the greatest day in the Sunday school attendance in the history of Central Baptist Mission. The Monthly Workers' Conference was held yesterday, and was combined with visitation day. Workers made 224 contacts, visiting absentees and prospects, and inviting whole families out to the mission. The goal was 250, and the attendance reached 253.

Following the practice for almost three years they had their quarterly Rally Day Revival, and Dr. E. F. Estes spoke to the Juniors, and Pastor John Havlick delivered the message to the Intermediates, young people and adults. There were 32 public professions in the Sunday school, and three more in the worship service. Eight of those making professions in the Sunday school united with the church, making 11 new members and two rededications.

Pastor Towell spoke on "The Living Christ," to the crowded chapel which simply would not hold all of the people who had come. The last of April we will need 17 teachers. Will you join us in prayer that the Lord of the harvest will send laborers into the field? Now is the time for all good Baptists to come to the aid of their mission.—V. J. McNabb, Sunday School superintendent, 1069 Cecil, Louisville, Ky.

WESTERN RECORDER

127 E. Broadway, Louisville 2, Kentucky
Published Weekly by the
GENERAL ASSOCIATION OF BAPTISTS
IN KENTUCKY

The purchasers of The Western Recorder,
The Baptist World and The
Kentucky Mission Monthly

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Entered as second-class matter at the Post-office in Louisville, Ky., acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1108, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized January 30, 1920.

Individual Subscription, \$2.00 per year, payable in advance. Single copy 5c; church budget rate \$1.00, family plan \$1.25 per family per year; teacher and officer \$1.50 per year, payable monthly, quarterly or annually in advance. Send both name and address with renewal or subscription.

WESTERN RECORDER

Editorials

Warning All Big Hearted Baptists

There is unmistakable evidence that a begging racket is being carried on against big hearted members of Baptist churches.

In some way, African natives (mostly young people), have secured the names of individuals over here, to whom they are writing, asking for money and different kinds of presents.

Not infrequently they represent themselves as needy Christians wishing to prepare for extended Christian service. One young man represented himself as a girl and even sent his sister's picture along as his own.

It is a master-appeal and almost always gets results. Considerable money and presents have been sent over. We have had handed us some of the letters received by a prominent layman in Kentucky. He himself had sent money before he realized the appeal was a fraud.

We have called attention to this before in the *Western Recorder*, and for the sake of all, repeat again: No requests from individuals for money or gifts should be granted. Genuine needs will be made known through the missionaries on the field over there. Money and gifts of any nature should be sent through the Foreign Mission Board, or direct to the missionaries.

There is a well authenticated case of one young man who has been sufficiently successful in his begging to set himself up in business on the money given him to train for Christian service. Africa, like America, has those who will go to any extreme, even flying the Christian flag, to gain something for themselves. Let's keep our hearts big and give through the channels that are open to those actually in need.

They Lower A Church Building Into Grand Canyon

Religious News Service reports that a church building will soon be lowered—piece by piece—into the lower reaches of the Grand Canyon, where it will be used by an isolated tribe of Supai Indians.

The lowering will be accomplished by the use of a helicopter which will pick up the sections of the building on the rim of the Canyon, and fly them down between rugged, towering cliffs, to the Indian village and its approximately 250 inhabitants, where it will be re-assembled. The building was donated by a Phoenix steel construction firm.

According to tradition, the Supai Indians, were driven to the sheltered walls of Cataract Canyon (situated at the lower end of Grand Canyon) in a desperate retreat from the Apaches.

What a lesson for our churches! The people out there are taking a religious program to the people *where they are*. There are those who are living in "Grand Canyons" all about us—cut off by circum-

stances and by barriers, away from the beaten paths and out of touch with our comfortable church buildings—and they ought to be reached. They will not be reached by merely opening our churchhouse doors and hanging out a welcome sign. It takes more than a welcome mat to overcome some of the barriers which exist between the local church and the unreached territories. If helicopters are being used to lower a building into the Grand Canyon, surely our churches can reach out to the uncontacted neighborhoods about them, with a program of worship and soulwinning, even erecting and paying for a house of worship if that be necessary.

Baptist Courier In Error

It is not an uncommon thing for a newspaper to make a mistake. It happens to the best of them, even a Baptist paper. Now and then, even a good *man* will make a mistake.

In the March 18 issue of *The Baptist Courier*, South Carolina, there appeared a News Letter which was credited to the Baptist World Alliance. This error, because of the content of the letter, caused a good many people to raise questions concerning the Baptist World Alliance in general.

As a matter of fact however, the News Letter was not from the Baptist World Alliance, but from the *World Alliance*. There is a great deal of difference. The *World Alliance News Letter* is sent out monthly to all members of the World Alliance and to a good many who are not. It is published by the "Church Peace Union and the American Council of the World Alliance for International Friendship Through the Churches." It comes to many of our Baptist papers on the complimentary basis.

There were several items in the *News Letter* which caused readers of the *Baptist Courier* to raise their eyebrows. The statements causing the greatest concern, were: "Christians may believe that Christianity has a unique revelation of God through Christ Jesus. But we must never forget that God has not left Himself without a witness among any people. Therefore the Christian revelation is 'one among many.' The 'many' include Buddhism, Islam, Shintoism, Confucianism, Zoroastrianism, Taoism, Hinduism, Jainism, Sikhism, and Judaism—mother faith of Christianity and joint source of the Hebraic-Hellenic heritage, the well-spring of Western Democracy.

"No matter how widely these faiths may vary in their interpretation of life, they all seek an intellectual and spiritual explanation of human existence. They all give us a sense of belonging, a 'togetherness' one with another. They aspire to that Divine Reality which alone is worthy of supreme devotion, the First Cause and Ultimate End of existence on which man's life depends. All make a moral demand on the individual, a final source of moral obligation."

Had the above statements come from the Baptist World Alliance, it would have been "worry time" indeed. In all probability the article was accidentally "passed" and sent on to the press with the thought that it was from a Baptist source and all right. We just don't believe that the *Baptist Courier* would have printed it if it had been read before. It was a tragic mistake.

But back to the News Letter. This, though a good

bit more extreme than some of the others, is a sample none the less of the position which supposedly Christian men will take in order to bring about a so-called spiritual rapport between the religions of the earth. It seems not to matter to them what they lose; the whole obsession centers around what they think they gain by placing all faiths in the pan and mixing them into one glorified omelet. What compromising cookery that is!

Christian Education Is The Answer

(Guest Editorial)

By DR. HERBERT C. GABHART
Williamsburg, Ky.

As I see the ever-increasing number of young people return from secular institutions of learning with their faith torn into shreds and their ideas of morality reaching up to touch bottom, likewise, I see clearly the ever-increasing need of Christian education.

It is absolutely ridiculous for us to think of a bright future which will then be in the hands of the

youth of today, when we see young people by the thousands coming out of halls of learning with their various degrees but without any degree of Christian approach to the problems of life. Now that the Bible is outlawed in public schools, Christian colleges must "stand in the gap and make up the hedge."

Kentucky Baptists have a right to be proud of their Christian schools. In these schools they have not only investments in material things, but untold investments in lives and principles. The need for our schools is more acute than ever. We need them far more than they need financial support. Because, however, we need them so sorely, we must supply their needs materially so they can supply our need of good Christian schools.

The offering for Christian education is not just another offering. It is an opportunity for investment with dividends accruing increasingly. Let another depression come, and every dollar invested in our Baptist schools will be at work producing results not with the dollar mark upon them but results with the mark of eternity stamped through and through.

Let us give until God stops giving to us!

Highlights of Uniform Crime Reports for 1947

In releasing the annual bulletin, Uniform Crime Reports, for 1947, J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, pointed out the following pertinent facts:

►A serious crime occurred every 18.8 seconds in 1947. The year witnessed an estimated 1,665,110 crimes of felonious homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny and auto theft. In addition, lesser offences not tabulated in Uniform Crime Reports accounted for several million additional law violations.

►The extent of crime followed for the most part crime rates in 1946, which reached a high peak since national crime statistics were first tabulated in 1930.

►Crimes in rural areas increased 7.1% over 1946, with the crimes of rape increasing 14.7%, burglary 13.7%, aggravated assault 10.9%, larceny 10.6% and robbery 1.9%. The following rural crimes showed declines: 15.1% for auto theft, 3.7% for murder and 0.9% for negligent manslaughter.

►Crimes in urban areas declined 5.1% with decreases being recorded for the crimes of auto theft 20.7%, negligent manslaughter 8.9%, murder 5.9%, robbery 5.5%, burglary 3.7%, and larceny 2.3%. In urban areas the crimes of aggravated assault increased 3.3% and rape 2.9%.

►Cities with 100,000 inhabitants or more, however, reported a higher ratio

of crime than smaller communities in 1947.

►Compared with the pre-war averages of 1938-41, in 1947 murder increased 15.4%, Burglary 15.3%, robbery 14.6%, larceny 2.6%, negligent manslaughter 2.1% and auto theft 1.9% in urban areas.

►The 1947 Uniform Crime Reports disclosed a national average of 6.12 felonious homicides for each 100,000 inhabitants, while there were 59.6 robberies, 72.2 aggravated assaults, 389.8 burglaries, 961.2 larcenies and 182.1 auto thefts for each 100,000 inhabitants in the reporting areas.

►More persons were arrested and fingerprinted in 1947 than in any other year on record. The FBI received and recorded 734,041 arrest records in 1947, representing an increase of 13.7% over 1946.

►The arrests of women accounted for 75,391 of the records tabulated, or an increase of 9.7% over 1946.

►The arrests of males increased from 576,689 in 1946 to 658,650 in 1947, or 14.2%.

►Boys and girls under 21 accounted for 16.1% of all arrests. Arrests of boys under 21 increased 10.5% over 1946, while arrests of girls under 21 declined 6.6%. The arrests of girls in 1947 exceeded by 30% such arrests in 1941.

►Of the total number of persons arrested 55.4% had records of prior arrests.

►The 734,041 arrest records revealed

that 536,695 were white; 187,781 were negroes; 6,040 were Indians; 243 were Chinese; 154 Japanese; and others totaled 2,948.

►Mr. Hoover attributes present-day high crime rates to numerous factors:

(1) A failure on the part of too many citizens to assume the responsibilities of citizenship. Too frequently, law enforcement agencies are not provided with adequate facilities, funds and trained officers.

(2) The juvenile delinquent of the war years is becoming the hardened criminal of today. They provide the recruits for the formation of gangs following in many respects the pattern of the early twenties.

(3) Home life has deteriorated and in too many instances homes are merely places of living and not places of learning.

►Real reduction in present-day crime rates will not come until every adult recognizes his responsibility to youth and his responsibility as a citizen. In these days of uncertainty the American people must realize that if we are to be strong internally every effort must be directed toward the goal of making the people of this nation more law-abiding.

HOSPITALITY—I paid a call on a Mexican family in San Antonio, Texas. When I started to leave, the man of the family jumped up, opened the front door, smiled graciously and bowed politely.

"Thank you," I said.

"It's nothing," he assured me. "It would make me so much happier if I were opening the door for you to enter."
—J. Willard Ridings, *Your Life*.

Western Recorder

✦ ✦ ✦ *"Earnestly Contend for the Faith
Once for All Delivered to the Saints."—Jude 3.*

Vol. 122

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY, MAY 6, 1948

No. 19

The Nature and Function Of the Church

By W. T. CONNER, Professor of Theology
Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
Ft. Worth, Texas

WHEN I was a boy, I attended the Saturday afternoon conference of the country churches to which my father and mother belonged. I got some impressions from these country churches and the preachers who ministered to them that I will never get away from. As a matter of fact, I think our present-day pastors and churches can learn something from these old-time preachers and churches.

In the Saturday afternoon conferences, one of the first things on the order of business was to inquire into the fellowship of the church. If the fellowship of the church was broken, the church would not observe the Lord's Supper until fellowship was restored. It may be that as a formal matter, this idea of fellowship was overdone. As a matter of real concern, I think it was not overdone. Fellowship is the main thing in a church of the New Testament type.

A church is an institution that is recognized by the state and by modern society. In relation to the state and society, it must be organized. But as a divine institution, it is not so much an organization as it is a fellowship. Men are brought into fellowship with God in Christ and as a result of this fellowship with God in Christ, they come into fellowship with each other.

Regenerated Membership Emphasized

It is therefore not an incidental matter that Baptist churches have emphasized the doctrine of a regenerated

church membership. A man may join an organization, but he is not really a member of a New Testament church unless he has been brought into fellowship with God and thus brought into fellowship with kindred spirits in Christ. This is what I have in mind when I say that a New Testament church is not so much an organization as it is a fellowship.

The main thing about a man or an institution, especially a religious institution, is its spirit. And the spirit of a New Testament church simply cannot be in the hearts of people that do not know Christ as Saviour and Lord. So the idea that is so prevalent in the world today that a church is primarily a religious organization is not in accordance with the New Testament.

Organization Expresses Fellowship

A church is not simply an organization that men have brought into existence with religious ends and purposes in mind. There are plenty of good religious organizations that do not have the heart of a New Testament church in them. There is something eternal in the nature of a church—something that does not belong to time. A New Testament church exists in history but it is supratemporal in its nature. It comes from God. It is God's creation rather than man's organization.

I recognize that organization is a necessity, but we should be careful in all

our organized efforts both in the local church and out beyond the local church to keep in mind the essential nature of the church. Organization should be for the purpose of expressing and developing the nature of the church as a fellowship. When organization gets in the way of expressing this fellowship it should be either done away with or modified to conform to the nature of the fellowship of the church.

Our age is one that puts the emphasis on practicality. *But in our church life I am afraid that we are sometimes so practical that we are not practical. We are subject to the temptation of letting the spirit and methods of the world, especially of the business world, dominate our church life. We want efficiency; we scramble for efficiency. We want big numbers. We sometimes seem to think that numbers and business efficiency are the main things. Here is a subtle temptation against which we need constantly to be on guard.*

Nature of Church Determines Function

The nature of the church determines its function. Its nature is a fellowship and its primary function is that of worship toward God. We need to keep in mind the divine relation of the church as the primary one. It is God's church. The church according to Paul is the temple of the Holy Spirit. The word that he uses for temple here did not denote the whole area of the Jewish temple, but the inner sanctuary made up of the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place. It denoted the place where God met his people; where he received their prayers and their worship; where we responded to the worship of his people. One would not care to say anything against church efficiency in social matters, in evangelism, in missions, but here again is a place where we can be so practical that we are not practical. *If we do not keep in touch with God in genuine worship, we will lose real efficiency in these matters!*

A church should function to relieve social need, to spread the gospel at home and abroad, but it will not do these things unless the power of the Spirit of God is resident within it. Nor should we make the mistake of trying to cultivate God's fellowship for the sake of efficiency in the things that we do.

(Continued on Page 14)

The picture on Page 1 of this issue is that of Mrs. W. C. Boone, wife of Dr. W. C. Boone, General Secretary-Treasurer of the Executive Board of the General Association of Baptists in Kentucky. She symbolizes motherhood in the hospital appeal.

FRIENDSHIP—A homemade friend wears longer than one you buy in the market.—Austin O'Malley, *Woman's Home Companion*.

Meeting the Needs of Growth and Change

By G. S. DOBBINS

IN THE beginning of our American history, Baptists were organization-shy. Well might they have been, for the memory of persecution at the hands of the hierarchy and the establishment was fresh and bitter. Soul-liberty and the independence of the churches were highly prized ideals. Yet organization was necessary to the functioning both of the local church and of the churches as a body.

The Sunday school suited our needs for a teaching agency. Woman's Missionary Union developed as an effective means of channeling the concern of our church women for missions. The Training Union afforded a necessary and well adapted plan for training in church membership. The Brotherhood came as a logical program for the enlistment and utilization of the men. These agencies of the churches required promotion and guidance through corresponding Convention Agencies—Home and Foreign Mission Boards, the Sunday School Board, Woman's Missionary Union and Brotherhood headquarters.

Not unnaturally, the church organizations grew up independently. From the beginning, each agency made its plans and provided materials with little reference to the other agencies. At first this presented no great difficulty, but with the growth in numbers and the development of complex church and denominational life, inter-dependence came to be as needful as independence. Lacking this inter-dependence, the program of our churches has tended to develop conflicting interests and activities, to become wasteful of time and energy and to make excessive demands upon pastor and inner circle of leadership. The plea for relief from overburden of complexity and duplication has come from many quarters, including churches both large and small.

The Committee on Church Organizations was appointed to study the need for better co-ordination and correlation and related problems. Its studies have been made chiefly from the standpoint of the churches, never with any thought of giving direction to the headquarters agencies. Joint meetings of the committee with representatives of the agencies have been informing and helpful. That there are points of tension and difficulty was at once recognized. The Committee assumed always that responsibility for making detailed changes must rest with the agencies themselves. The Committee then conceived

its function to be that of bringing discovered needs to the attention of the Convention, with recommendations concerning certain special areas of difficulty.

Many churches are seeking and finding unification of the program around a table through the pastors' cabinet or church council. Representatives of the several agencies agreed to follow this local church plan in a similar conference, which will meet at least annually and as much oftener as may be necessary, to work out problems at headquarters in much the same fashion as they must be worked out when they reach the churches.

Such correlation at the top gives promise of great value in aiding the pastor and his people to make further correlation at the local church base.

The Committee canvassed many needs

New Pastor At Bruner's Chapel Baptist Church

HARRODSBURG, Ky.—Rev. John G. Hicks has assumed his new duties as



Pastor John G. Hicks

pastor of the Bruner's Chapel Baptist Church, near here. Bruner's Chapel is the largest rural church in Mercer County. In his new work he succeeds Rev. Thomas V. Wells, now at Maryville, Tenn. Mr. Hicks is a graduate of Wake Forest College and the Southern Seminary. He has been pastor in Liberty and Spencer, N. C.

and possibilities as these came from the pastors and other responsible church leaders. From the many needs, a few were lifted out for special discussion and recommendation. The recommendations do not carry with them arbitrary demand for immediate application, but seek to stress urgent needs that should be given careful consideration in the proposed conferences of agency representatives with a Convention committee. The problems involved are not problems of failure but of success. A primary aim is to secure more vital and effective teamwork among the several agencies, which then will be reflected in correlation and co-ordination of the plans as they are intelligently and efficiently carried out by pastors and people.

The report of the Committee follows. The Committee, on its own behalf and on behalf of the boards and agencies involved, invites comment and correspondence as an aid to further study of the problems.

[The condensed report of the Committee follows.—Editor.]

Condensed Report Of Committee On Church Organizations

Re-appointed for further study after its report of progress at the St. Louis Convention, the Committee on Church Organizations pursued intensive and extensive investigation to discover actual problems and needs of the churches in the matter of better correlation and co-ordination of the purposes, programs, and activities of the several organizations which make up in large measure the working forces of our churches. Meetings with representatives of the Sunday School, the Training Union, Woman's Missionary Union, the Brotherhood, the Home Mission Board and the Foreign Mission Board were held on several occasions during the year. These conferences brought together those responsible for providing literature, calendars of activity, promotional plans and standards, together with pastors and educational workers with a view to detailed examination and discussion of plans of each of these agencies as they were related to one another and to the local churches. Heretofore no one of the boards or agencies had possessed authority to call the others together for such conference. The results were significant and fruitful.

Out of these joint conferences came a list of felt needs, which were discussed at length. The Committee made certain recommendations for consideration by the agencies, first in separate groups, then in combined group conferences. Among a number of matters needing consideration, the following were then lifted out for special recommendation to the Convention, condensed to brief statement:

(Continued on Page 15)

Kentucky Baptist Training Union Has 3,000 in Attendance At Convention In Bowling Green

Reported by MRS. E. N. PERRY, Richmond, Ky.

BOWLING GREEN, Ky., April 16.—"Follow Me" was the theme for the fifty-second annual Kentucky Baptist Training Union Convention here during April 14-16, 1948. The Scripture used throughout the sessions and from which the theme was taken was, "And he said unto all, if any man would come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me" (Luke 9:23 ASV). The theme song was, "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross."

From the length and breadth of our great state, from the wooded hills, from the rural scenes of the valleys; from the broad expanses where Kentucky lifts her head among the Cumberlands to greet the rising sun, to the mid-western flats where she bathes her feet in the Father of Waters; from her zigzag course by the still waters of the Ohio's softly winding stream to the sunny knobs of Tennessee, came 3,000 representatives of our Baptist Training Unions, to gather information and inspiration that will help them to "Follow the Christ in more glorious Christian living."

Our genial and consecrated president, Harold D. Tallant, Madisonville, presided at all sessions in a most acceptable manner.

Each session began with a musical meditation with Mrs. Nell Dickey Bowen at the organ. This was followed by heart stirring, heart lifting messages in song led by that great master of music, B. B. McKinney. Mrs. Nell Dickey Bowen and Charles Lively of Bowling Green were pianists; Miss Margaret McKercher, Louisville and Mr. Rumsey Graham of Madisonville were violinists; and Mrs. David M. Hughes, Newport, was vibraharpist. Can't you just hear Dr. McKinney say, "If you must whisper, whisper a prayer. There is no difference between talking through a song and talking through a prayer." Each song service really praised Him and led each one in the great audience into a spirit and attitude of worship.

Dr. Harold J. Purdy, pastor of the host church, bade us "Come In." He, the local committees, and every member of that great church truly did everything in their power to make the visitors welcome, comfortable and happy.

Miss Christina Stokmann, manager of our Baptist Book Store, urged all present to "Follow On" by building better

programs, to "Follow On" in our home reading, in our fun time, and suggested aid in following, such as *Christ and the Fine Arts*, *Streams in the Desert* and *Fun Encyclopedia*.

How to Do It was the subject for simultaneous conferences conducted for every phase of Baptist Training Union work. Out of state leaders for conferences periods were: Mrs. Emmett Golden, Nashville, Story Hour; Mrs. J. E. Lambdin and Miss Roxie Jacobs, Nashville, Junior; Mrs. J. A. Howard, South Carolina, Intermediate; Mr. R. Maines Rawls, Nashville, Young People; Dr. Clay I. Hudson, Nashville, Adults; Dr. W. L. Howse, Texas, General Officers and Dr. J. E. Lambdin, Nashville, Associational Officers. Over 900 people found their way into these conferences.

Additional leaders on Friday who assisted in Life Interest Conferences were: Dr. Gaye L. McGlothlen, Nashville, *It Takes a Heap O' Livin'* (for married people only); Dr. Rollin S. Burhans, Louisville, *In The Evening by the Moonlight* (for single people only); Rev. W. Neville Claxon, Missionary Appointee for Africa, *Finding God's Will For My Life*; Dr. B. B. McKinney, Nashville, *Music With McKinney*; Rev. James Monroe, Louisville, *Something to See*; and Miss Edna Eaves, Louisville, *From Cover to Cover*.

On Thursday evening, Mrs. J. A. Howard, State Approved Worker for Columbia, South Carolina, conducted the State Intermediate Sword Drill. Participants were winners of the 1947 Regional Drills. Miss Dorothy Boston, Henderson, was named winner and will represent Kentucky in the Southern Intermediate Sword Drill at Ridgecrest, North Carolina, in July. Second place went to Miss Mary Beth Stanley, Arlington. Miss Betty Jean Brock, London, was awarded honorable mention. Others participating in the contest were Misses Annelle Birdwhistle, Lawrenceburg; Juanita Whalen, Lexington; and Anne Nita Singleton, Waynesburg.

Mrs. J. E. Lambdin, Nashville, Junior and Intermediate Editor, Training Union Department, conducted the State Memory Work Drill on Friday morning. A most unusual thing happened in that all eight participants had perfect scores and as awards the entire number will be sent to the State Training Union Assembly at Clear Creek Springs, Pine-

ville, Kentucky, August 7-13. Those taking part in the memory work drill were: Donald Reed, Louisville; Dale Stapleton, Covington; Tommy Craft, London; Mary Ann Hinckle, Paducah; Louise Jones, Murray; Gloria Plymale, Madisonville; Nancy Jane Schwerdtfeger, Henderson; and Virginia Mae Taylor, Owensboro.

William Hill Reid, Richmond, was declared the best speaker of the State Young People's Speakers' Tournament and will represent Kentucky in the Southern Tournament at Ridgecrest, North Carolina, July 15-21. His subject was, "Let Your Light so Shine." Miss Loanne Lett, Henderson, was second. Other participants in the tournament, conducted by Mr. R. Maines Rawls, Nashville, were Misses Mary Ward Moore, Hamilton, Ohio; Peggy Troxel, Ashland; Ann Holt, Bowling Green; Jacquelyn Day, Williamsburg; and Mr. Joe Jennings, Lawrenceburg.

And Jesus Said was the pageant cleverly written by Miss Ava Albro of the State Training Union Department, Louisville, ably directed by Mrs. Harold J. Purdy, Bowling Green, and presented by the Baptist Young People of Bowling Green. Through song, reading, action and posters the audience was reminded of Christ's words, *Follow Me* and encouraged to join in the Bible Reading Crusade, to pray daily, to wage continual war against beverage alcohol, to go to Ridgecrest and Clear Creek Springs, to attend the Regional meetings in 1948 and challenged: "When we survey the cross of Christ, His sorrow and His love, how can we do aught else but give Him 'Our souls, our lives, and our all.'"

I Will Follow On was the subject of personal testimonies given by Miss Wyldine Williams, Berea; Mr. Charles Wortham, Winchester; and Rev. W. Neville Claxon, Louisville. Each of these had previously dedicated their lives to full time Christian Service. Mr. Claxon, who, with Mrs. Claxon and their young daughter, goes soon to Africa, was presented with a love gift of \$164.00 which was given by those who were in the conferences on Friday morning.

Banquets are always an outstanding feature of our Training Union Convention. Mr. Harry Hollis, of Paducah, and Pastor D. E. Jones, Valley Station, were in charge of the Adult Banquet on Wednesday. Misses Maurita Morris and Grace Morehead arranged the banquet for that great host of Intermediates. Miss Ava Albro planned and presided at the Story Hour Leaders' Luncheon and Mr. Howard Peters and President Harold D. Tallant were in charge of the Young People's Banquet. All banquets were at the Mansard Hotel except one; The Young People met at the Methodist Church.

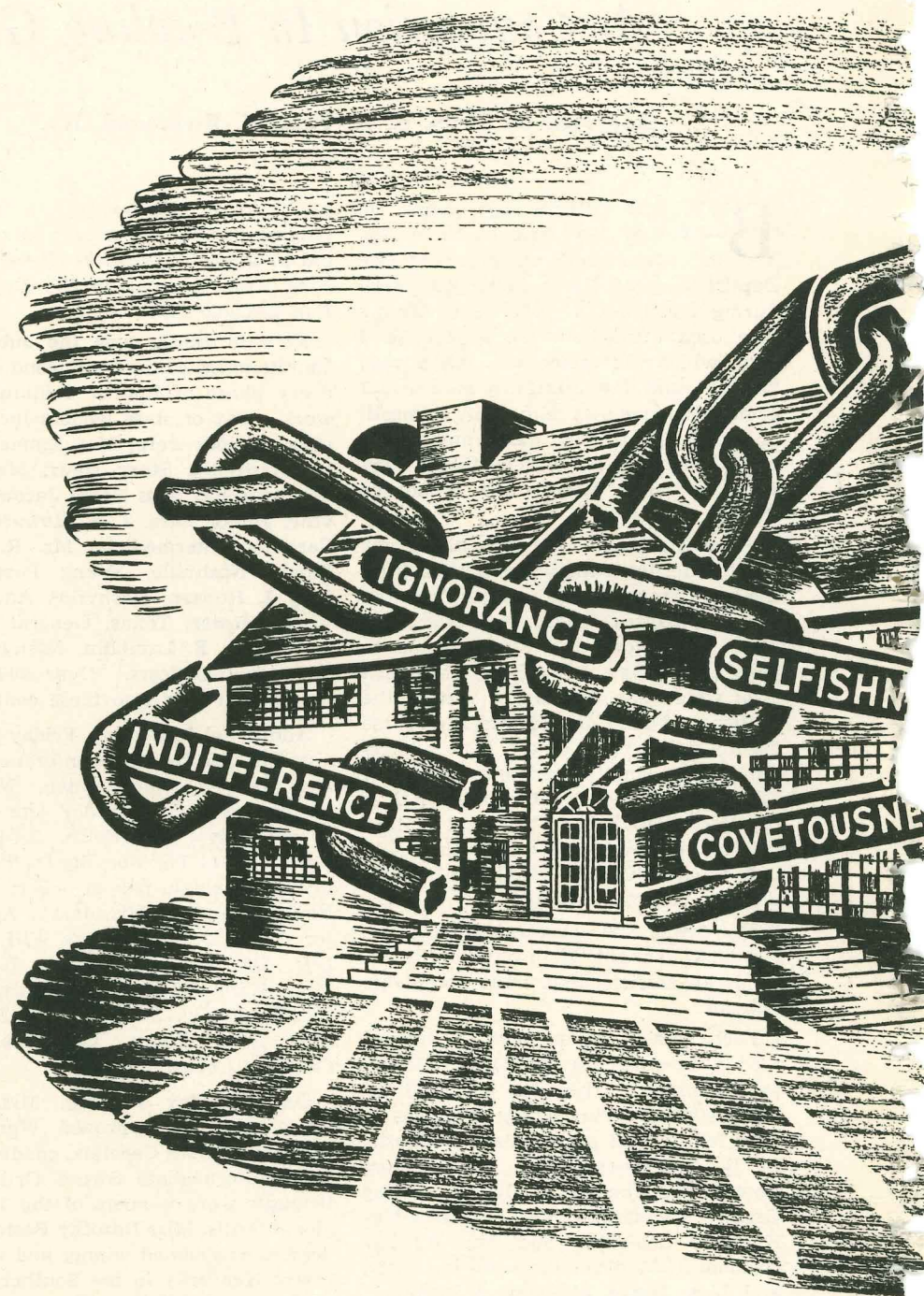
(To be Continued)

MAN—Vulnerability—Man is the only animal you can skin more than once.—*Fenestra Salesman.*

OUR BAPTIST COLLEGES HAVE SUFFERED LONG ENOUGH.

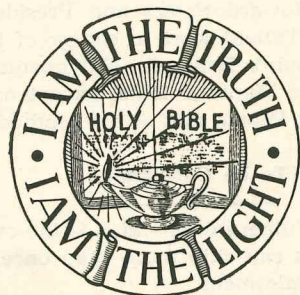


A
Regenerated,
Consecrated,
Educated
man or woman
is the greatest
handiwork of God



Education is the Biggest Business in America Today. Do

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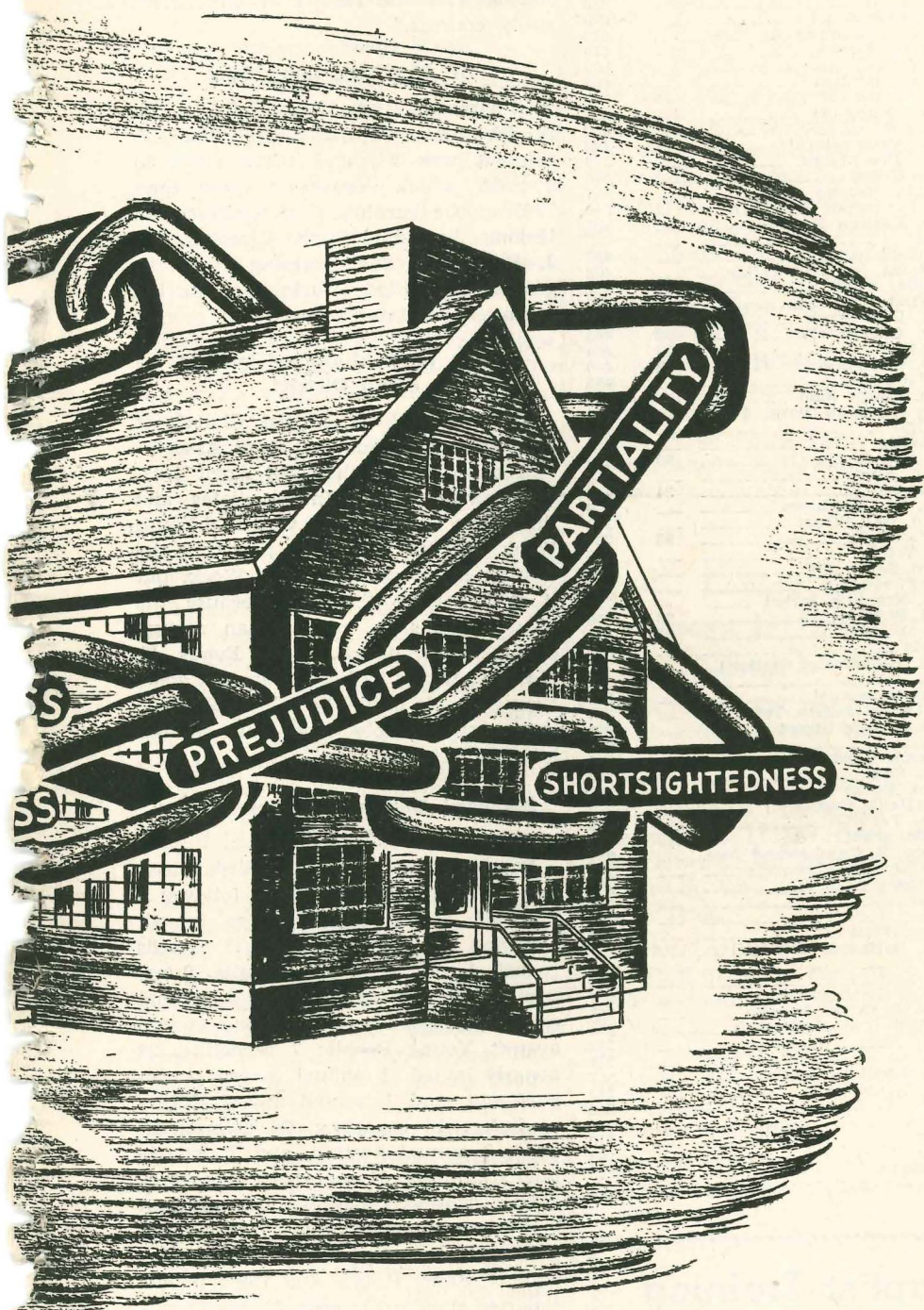


The Basis of Christian Education.

Every Baptist Church in Kentucky Should Ho

See that your church makes an offering and send all fu

UNDER THIS BONDAGE. SHALL WE BREAK THE CHAIN?



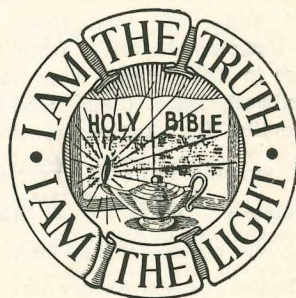
The enemies
of Christianity
believe in
education.
They have taken
up the weapon
we have ignored



Be Foolish and Ignore it. Be Wise and Christianize it.

June 6 will be a step toward this end.

Give a Worthy Part in the Offering on June 6



to Dr. W. C. Boone, 127 East Broadway, Louisville 2, Ky. *The Basis of Christian Education.*

Sunday School Department

W. A. GARDINER,
State Secretary

Sunday School Department

The following have been added to the list of standard Sunday schools: Steubenville, Dawson Springs, Nebo, Louisville Weaver Memorial, Erlanger, Olivet, Island, Oakland, Wasioto.

Great Clinic At Dry Ridge

Lack of space forbids a full work about this great Clinic. In spite of the busy season for farmers we had ninety-eight registered for the all day sessions with twelve churches having training classes at night in addition to the day sessions with the Dry Ridge church. We would like to highly commend pastor G. R. Henson and all the other pastors, associational officers and others who helped.

Liberty Campaigns

This is a little late to report on the enlargement campaigns held in Liberty association with twelve churches co-operating. Missionary J. T. Prater planned for the week of work and did a fine job.

Remember Clear Creek, July 26-30

July 26-30 is the date for the State Sunday School Conference to be held at Clear Creek Springs. Send one or several workers from your church. Write Rev. Marvin Byrdwell, c/o Clear Creek Springs, Pineville, Ky., for reservation.

Sunday School Clinic at Madisonville

We are happy to announce that there is to be a Sunday School Clinic at the First Baptist church in Madisonville July 11-16. The day sessions will be for all Baptists in the Western Region and at night each church in Little Bethel Association that wants a worker may have one to lead in taking a religious census and in teaching a book. We hope two hundred may be enrolled for the day sessions and five hundred for the night sessions in the various churches.

Holly Hall At Clear Creek

We want to call attention to the accommodations in Holly Hall at Clear Creek. The rooms have all been worked over and made attractive. The rates for these rooms are a little lower than those in Kelly Hall. Write Rev. Marvin Byrdwell, care Clear Creek Springs, Pineville, Ky., for reservation.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

APRIL 27, 1948

Church	Missions	Total
Louisville, Walnut Street (3)	196	1,610
Louisville, Carlisle Avenue (2)	210	1,127
Owensboro, First (1)	47	1,027
Lexington, Ashland Avenue (2)	177	966

Covington, Latonia (2)	69	854
Harrodsburg (20)	20	854
Mayfield, First	---	841
Bowling Green, First (1)	29	811
Lexington, Porter Memorial (2)	218	804
Louisville, Crescent Hill (1)	172	786
Frankfort, First (1)	76	781
Lexington, Calvary (1)	27	752
Louisville, Victory Memorial	116	705
Louisville, Baptist Tabernacle	---	680
Owensboro, Third	---	642
Evansville, Calvary (3)	180	636
Somerses, First	---	633
Lexington, Immanuel	---	629
Louisville, West Broadway	---	620
Madisonville, First	---	619
Newport, First	---	609
Henderson, Audubon	---	603
Ashland, Pollard (2)	57	599
Evansville, Grace (2)	178	598
Murray, First	---	589
Paducah, Immanuel (2)	44	586
Louisville, Beechmont	---	562
Lexington, Grace	---	544
Hopkinsville, Second	---	537
Danville, Lexington Ave. (1)	12	513
Louisville, Eastern Parkway	---	501
Greenville	---	496
Paducah, East	---	496
Elizabethtown, Severn's Valley	---	496
Hopkinsville, First	---	492
Corbin, First	---	475
Louisville, Deer Park	---	471
Louisville, Clifton (1)	56	465
Glasgow (1)	28	464
Louisville, Third Avenue (1)	42	460
London, First	---	455
Covington, South Side	---	451
Louisville, Highland Park, First	---	450
Fulton, First	---	428
Campbellsville	---	425
Paducah, 12th Street (1)	99	424
Henderson, First	---	418
Shively (1)	34	415
Louisville, St. Matthews	---	396
Owensboro, Hall Street	---	382
Hazard, First (2)	93	380
Paducah, Trinity	---	375
Owensboro, Seven Hills	---	369
Franklin, First	---	361
Louisville, Franklin Street	---	352
Richmond, First (1)	26	350
Erlanger (1)	27	334
Morganfield	---	332
Beechland (near Valley Station)	---	322
Bellevue	---	320
Henderson, Immanuel	---	305
Crouches Creek (Jellico, Tenn.)	---	304
Evansville, Walnut Street	---	294
Lebanon	---	287
Jellico, Tenn., First	---	285
Louisville, East	---	282
Owensboro, Eaton Memorial	---	277
Fairview (Hall's Gap, Ky.)	---	274
Evansville, Temple	---	269
Hodgenville, First	---	268
Middlesboro, E. Cumberland Ave.	---	264
Paducah, Baptist Tabernacle	---	262
Sturgis, First	---	254
Ft. Thomas	---	250
Versailles	---	249
Mt. Sterling, First	---	227
LaGrange, DeHaven Memorial	---	224
Carrollton	---	240
Mackville	---	239
Sand Spring (Lawrenceburg)	---	237
Owensboro, Crabtree Avenue	---	235
Pleasant Hill (Campbellsville)	---	224
Burlington	---	222
Dayton, First	---	221
Louisville, Baptist Temple	---	217
Louisville, Kenwood	---	214
Owenton	---	212
High Splint	---	212
Dry Ridge	---	210
Leitchfield, First	---	203
Mt. Washington	---	203
Beech Grove (near Perryville)	---	201

Baptist Training Union Dept.

BYRON C. S. DeJARNETTE,
State Secretary

Whitley City-McCreary Co.

During the week of January 19-23 the First Baptist Church of Whitley City, in McCreary County Association, conducted a Training Union Study Course. This was the first since Rev. W. J. Johnson became pastor. The enrolment was 118 and the average attendance was 102. Concerning the results the pastor writes as follows: "There were four conversions during the week.

No doubt this new interest was in a special way responsible for the 33 who came by faith and baptism on the following three Sundays; also there were six by letter and a host came for rededication, a total of 69. So you can see why we here in Whitley City are rejoicing over the results of our recent study courses."

St. Matthews-Long Run

In a recent Study Course held by the St. Matthews Baptist Church the enrolment was 94, and there were 83 awards, which represents more than 75% of the enrolment of the Training Union. According to the Director, Mr. J. B. Reams, the Training Union is growing steadily. During March the average attendance was 114.

Youth Week at Harrodsburg in South District

The Harrodsburg Baptist Church at Harrodsburg in South District Association observed Youth Week April 4-11. There were seven Intermediates and thirty-one Young People who held Youth Week Offices. This is the first time the Church has observed Youth Week, but it will not be the last, because the Church plans to make it an annual event. The pastor, Rev. Evans T. Moseley, writes, "Church reaction good. Young People certainly helped. Perhaps the most valuable week our Church has had yet this year."

Standard Unions and Story Hours for 1947

Requests for standard awards came from thirteen associations as follows: 3 reported and 7 awards were issued; Training Unions: 2 reporting, 5 awards issued, 1 annual award; Adults: 9 reporting, 30 awards issued, 5 annual awards, 1 department and one annual award; Young People: 7 reporting, 20 awards issued, 1 annual award, 1 department, and 1 annual award; Intermediates: 16 reporting, 29 awards issued, 2 annual awards, and 2 departments; Juniors: 11 reporting, 36 awards issued, 6 annual awards, 1 department and 1 annual award; Story Hours: 3 reporting, 6 awards issued; total number Unions, Story Hours, and Departments reported standard in year, 51; total number awards issued 133; total number annual awards issued, 18.

20%-ERS

The following churches have reported a total Training Union Attendance equivalent to twenty per cent of their resident membership:

April 11: Crestwood Baptist Church, Frankfort; Dallasburg; Erlanger; Glenville; Harmony Baptist Chapel, Louisville; Hawesville; Kuttawa; London, First; Lynch; Madisonville, First; Muldraugh; South Elkhorn, Lexington; Steubenville; Victory Memorial, Louisville; Walnut Street, Evansville, Indiana.

April 18: Crestwood Baptist Church, Frankfort; Dallasburg; Wheatley, Ky.; Eastern Parkway, Louisville; Eddyville; Four Mile Baptist Church; Glenville, Utica; Harmony Baptist Chapel, Louisville; Dry Ridge London, First; Lothair, First; Lynch; Madisonville, First; Victory Memorial, Louisville; Walnut Street, Evansville, Indiana; and Zion Baptist Church.

Woman's Missionary Union

MISS MARY P. WINBORNE
Executive Secretary

Sunbeam Focus Week

What an appropriate time to observe Sunbeam Focus Week! It begins with Mother's Day, May 9, and continues through May 15. You will want to do something to recognize the mothers of the Sunbeams on Mother's Day. If it is possible, it would be lovely to have all the Sunbeams sit with their mothers at the morning worship service of the church and have them recognized together. If your pastor thinks it wise, he might even have a special prayer for the mothers of these fine boys and girls.

Throughout the week, you will want to be planning other special activities for the Sunbeams. It is the aim of Focus Week to focus the eyes of the whole church on the Sunbeam organization and its purposes. If the W. M. S. has its regular monthly meeting during the week, perhaps they would like for the Sunbeams to take part of the program to tell some of the things they are doing. You could do many things in a short time—give the Rally Cry for Sunbeams, sing the Sunbeam Song, tell something about what you are doing for Community Missions, present one of the Stewardship Stories, or something else unique that you have done during the year.

Focus Week is an excellent time to plan Mission Study Classes for the Sunbeams. If you haven't studied *Strawberry Road*, by Margaret Hutchinson, this would be an ideal time to do it. Then there are other Mission Study Books which might interest your Sunbeams too, if you have already studied this one mentioned—*My Story Book About the Bible*, by Mabel Neidermeyer, *The Travelling Story Hour*, *Ching Lin*, *Just Like You*, and others which you will find in *The World in Books Catalog*.

This week you will want to do some special Community Missions. Is there a mission church in your community that does not have a Sunbeam Band? Why not share your program with them and perhaps they will want you to help them organize a Sunbeam Band? Then, too, there might be a Negro church in your community which would like to have a Sunbeam Band. Ask your pastor to help you make the necessary contacts to help them start a Sunbeam Band.

Have you visited the shut-ins in your church and community recently? They would like for you to come to see them and have the Sunbeams sing some of their songs for them. Since May is the month of many flowers, they would also like to have you make a May basket

and bring it to them so that they can remember your visit in a more tangible way.

Remember too that there are still many hungry boys and girls in war stricken areas. Many of them will starve to death, if we do not send them food. Sunbeams would like to pack a box for relief and send it to one of the addresses found on page 30 of the April *World Comrades*.

There are so many things that you can do to make Sunbeam Focus Week a very special week in the lives of the Sunbeams of your church. You will be doing other things than the ones I have mentioned. I would like very much to receive a letter from your Sunbeams telling me what they have done during this week.

However, as we observe Focus Week, let's do things that are lasting and let's remember that in a sense every week ought to be Focus Week and that we should always be aware of the needs in our communities and try to meet them.

J. W. Loving Dies In Texas; Is Brought To Kentucky For Burial

GLASGOW, Ky., April 4, 1948.—Burial of John Wheeler Loving, Baptist pastor of Texas, took place today in the Glasgow Cemetery, with Dr. J. E. Dillard, Nashville, Tennessee, officiating. The deacons of the Glasgow Baptist Church served as honorary pallbearers. He died on April 1 at his home in Edgewood, Texas.

Pastor Loving was a son of Sallie A. and R. E. Loving, born December 16, 1860, at Wilmington, in Fluvanna County, Virginia. He was a B.A. graduate of the University of Richmond in the Class of 1884; and a Th.D. graduate of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in the Class of 1896.

He was ordained by the Lyles Church in his native state. In early life he was pastor at Forks of Elkhorn Church, near Frankfort, Ky., at New Castle Church in Henry County, Ky., and the Burk's Branch, Shelby County, Ky. He went to the New Liberty Church in 1888 and 1889; from which place he went to be pastor at Lewisburg Church, North Fork, in eastern Kentucky. Then followed pastorates in Ghent, Ky., and Campbellsville, Ky. He came to Glasgow to be pastor in 1900. In 1901 he married Miss Heiter Dickinson, daughter of Mary Page and Michael Hall Dickinson, of Glasgow. Mrs. Loving, who survives him, was the first president of the W. M. S. of the Glasgow Baptist Church.

Dr. Loving accepted a call to Tuam Avenue Baptist Church, Houston, Texas, in February, 1908. He has also been pastor of Cleburne and Wichita Falls, and of several other churches in the Lone Star State.

All Southern Baptists Urged To Pray For Memphis Stadium Meet

By C. E. Matthews

ATLANTA, Ga., April 30—The committee in charge of preparation for the evangelistic service to be conducted by the Southern Baptist Convention in Crump Stadium, Memphis, Tenn., on Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, May 25, is urging that all Baptists everywhere pray earnestly each day for God's blessings on this colossal undertaking.

The attendance goal for the occasion is 30,000. There will be 2,000 in the great choir, which will be conducted by W. Plunkett Martin. There will be 600 ushers in charge of seating the people. Cavalcades from local churches as far distant as seventy-five miles are coming to the service. A special train will be run from Jackson, Tennessee, carrying people to the service. It is hoped that large numbers of unsaved people will be present. Dr. R. G. Lee will preach and give the invitation for the lost to confess publicly our Christ as Saviour.

If this service is a success, it will encourage Christians everywhere to undertake the unusual in an effort to press the claims of Christ to a bewildered world in this critical hour. In the darkest hours of civilization's history God has always moved upon His people to do the unusual in His name in order that people might know He is God. He instructed Noah to build an ark. He led Elijah to Mt. Carmel to pray down fire from heaven when the world was at its darkest. Jesus sent his 120 true followers to an upper room, where they remained ten days in prayer until the unusual happened and a world realized again that God was on His throne and that His power to turn men's hearts from evil and fear had not changed. Of all times that a demonstration of God's presence and power over all His foes is needed, it is now. We believe He is ready and that the hour for the unusual has struck.

Pray for the committee in charge of preparation for the evangelistic service, for the churches who are working toward an attendance goal, for the great choir, for Brother Martin, and for Doctor Lee.

Herbert C. Cralle, Herbert C. Cralle, Jr.

Herbert C. Cralle Funeral Home

Phone: TAYlor 5223

FRANKFORT & PETERSON AVE.
LOUISVILLE, KY.

The Mother's Day Hospital Offering

By W. C. BOONE, General Secretary and Treasurer

For the past several years "Mother's Day" has been the time when Kentucky Baptist Sunday schools have made an offering to the Kentucky Baptist Hospital at Louisville for their charity fund. Last year this offering, by special understanding, was set aside for the M. P. Hunt Memorial Chapel, which is to be built as a part of the hospital. It is thought that the Chapel Fund is now sufficient for the purpose when building materials decrease in price to the point where the Trustees feel that they can go ahead with the Chapel.

Now the Hospital is asking for another offering this Mother's Day, May 9, for the fund to take care of the hospital expenses of those who are not able to pay. This fund is made available to individuals on an application which is approved by the pastor, Sunday school superintendent, and chairman of the deacons of his church. Many people have been cared for by this fund raised by our Sunday schools.

A word of explanation might be added concerning the two proposed new

Baptist Hospitals, the Central Baptist Hospital at Lexington and the West Kentucky Baptist Hospital at Paducah. The General Association in 1945 approved the efforts to build these new hospitals, with the understanding that no financial obligations were assumed. Baptists and other friends in and near these cities have raised in cash and pledges about a million dollars for these two new hospitals. It is likely that construction will begin on both of them by this summer.

Neither of these new hospitals, however, is yet a part of our Baptist Cooperative Program. The General Association, last fall, appointed a Hospital Commission, and instructed them to set up rules and standards by which any new hospital might become officially a part of our State Program. The Hospital Commission has recently published in the Western Recorder a statement, setting forth the requirements of the General Association for approving new hospitals. The Commission is ready to receive applications, and recommend

them, if satisfactory, to the General Association at its next meeting. We shall all look forward to the time when these two new hospitals will be built and in operation, as an integral part of our Kentucky Baptist Program.

In the meantime, your State Board will continue to receive designations from any of our churches to any of our hospitals, and forward same promptly, giving credit in our reports to the churches for such designated gifts. Offerings for the Central or West Kentucky Baptist Hospitals will be used for building purposes; those for the Kentucky Baptist Hospital at Louisville for Charity.

Let us not forget "Mother's Day" is an opportunity for a special offering to help "heal the sick," according to our Master's commands.

Gifts for hospital work should be sent to the writer, W. C. Boone, Treasurer, Baptist State Board, 127 East Broadway, Louisville 2, Kentucky.

ADVICE—It seems like some people seek advice for the sheer pleasure of acting contrary to it.—*Construction Digest.*



NOW IS THE TIME For Everybody to Help Gather in the Eggs

Eggs are an important item in the diet of growing children. Our Spring Meadows "family" of over a hundred must depend on friends like you all over the state to help gather in the eggs while they are plentiful.

We have adequate cold storage space for an entire year's supply.

BROTHER PASTOR AND CHURCH OFFICERS!

Here is the greatest opportunity of the year to give all the children and all the young people and all the adults a task they will enjoy. All will be made happy by helping dependent children.

Write for empty egg cases, or borrow them locally and we will return them promptly.

SPRING MEADOWS

Sam Ed Bradley, Superintendent

1022 South First Street

Louisville 3, Ky.

A KENTUCKY BAPTIST HOME FOR DEPENDENT CHILDREN

"What is the Unpardonable Sin?"

By E. G. Sisk, Providence, Ky.

IT HAPPENS when a sinner, knowingly, wilfully and maliciously resists the Holy Spirit, until He ceases to strive with him.

This is exactly what happened to those Pharisees in Matt. 12:24-32. They slanderously resisted the Holy Spirit and fought against Him. In such cases their sin is *blasphemy* and they become *reprobates*.

"My Spirit shall not always strive with man." Notice three things in this text: First, the Spirit strives with men; second, men resist the Spirit and third, the Spirit ceases to strive with men.

1. The Spirit does *strive* with men. "When He is come He will *reprove* the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment" (John 16:8). "I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh" (Joel 2:28). "The Holy Ghost fell on all them that heard the word" (Acts 10:44). They were cut in their heart and said, Men and Brethren what shall we do?" The Philippian jailer "came trembling and fell down before Paul and Silas, and said Sirs, What must I do to be saved?" (Acts 16:29, 30).

2. People *resist* the Holy Spirit, "Ye do always *resist* the Holy Ghost: As your fathers did so do ye" (Acts. 7:51). "All day long I have stretched forth my hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying people" (Rom. 10:21). "Ye will not come unto me that ye might have life" (John 5:40). "Today if ye will hear his voice harden not your hearts" (Heb. 3:7). Christ said to Jerusalem, "I would and ye would not" (Luke 13:34). Felix trembled under conviction, but said: "Go thy way for this time" (Acts 24:25). Agrippa said to Paul, "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian" (Acts 26:28). Conviction is the work of the Holy Spirit. Fighting conviction causes men to sin against the Holy Spirit.

BETHEL WOMAN'S COLLEGE

A standard junior college for young women. Transfer, terminal and pre-professional courses. Thorough instruction in small classes by expert teachers. Ideal place for Kentucky girls to spend first two years of college life. Only junior college for girls operated by Baptists over wide area—Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia, Tennessee and Alabama. Moderate rates.

ADDRESS

P. W. JAMES, President
Box 537-R Hopkinsville, Ky.

3. The Spirit *ceases* to *strive*. This is the unpardonable sin. "He that being often reprov'd, hardeneth his neck shall suddenly be destroyed and that *without remedy*" (Prov. 2:1). Some examples: "Ephriam is joined to his idols; let him alone." In Jer. 6: 16, 17, 30 they refused to hearken to the Lord or to walk in his ways so he called them reprobates, "Because the Lord hath rejected them." "Therefore pray not for this people, neither lift up cry, nor prayer for them, neither make intercessions to me, for I will not hear thee" (Jer. 7:16). "God gave them over to a reprobate mind" (Rom. 1:28). Sinner friend, here is "where the lights go out on the road to Hell."

Should we warn them of the greatest

Attention All Individual Subscribers

Watch the Yellow Label on Your Western Recorder

Due to strict regulations on all second-class mail, we shall be hereafter compelled to cancel all subscriptions on which renewal payments have not been received, one year after expiration date on the label. To illustrate the postal law: If a parcel reads "May 1, 1947," that means the subscription is one year in arrears, and that we are compelled by Federal law to cancel that subscription by June 1, 1948, if by that time we have not received renewal payment.

Needless to say, it grieves us to discontinue sending the paper on any given date because we know from past experience that renewal and payment will be forthcoming. However, this is out of our control, and we have no alternative. The Government says we must.

If subscribers are not in position to send the full amount, then they may send a part thereof—say six months' payment. This guarantees that the subscriber will receive the paper without interruption and at the same time keeps us within the bounds of the law.

THE WESTERN RECORDER

sin in the world? In Prov. 1:24-31 God tells us why he "laughs" and "mocks" at those who commit the unpardonable sin. Of that generation who wilfully refused to enter into Cana, God says, "So I swear in my wrath, they shall not enter into my rest" (Heb. 3:7-11). "They that resist shall receive unto themselves damnation (Rom. 13:2). Some examples: Jerusalem, "Behold your house is left unto you desolate," Chorazin, Bethsaida, and Capernaum, "Shalt be brought down to Hell;" Foolish Virgins, "The door was shut;" Before the flood "God shut the door," "He openeth and no man shutteth, and he shutteth and no man openeth (Rev. 3:7).

During my ministry of over 57 years, I have seen many who had committed the unpardonable sin. One morning in our New Testament class in Louisville, Ky., our teacher, Dr. A. T. Robinson, read a letter from one of our missionaries in China who told of old-fashioned conviction there and how many people fell down under conviction and how others spurned the Holy Spirit. He paused a moment, then said "Brethren, I know that spoils some of our theology, but it is true nevertheless." It still seems to be hard for some to harmonize it with their theology. Major Penn has written:

"There is a line to men unseen,
And they may cross its path,
That marks the boundary between
God's mercy and His wrath.

"There is a time we know not when,
A place we know not where,
That marks the destiny of men,
For Heaven or Despair."

MANPOWER FOR CHRIST

BROTHERHOOD BIBLE CLASS

Teacher GEO. E. HAYS, Jr.
Walnut Street Baptist Church
Louisville, Ky.
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The Nature and Function Of the Church

(Continued from Page 5)

The Purpose of Worship and Fellowship

We should cultivate God's fellowship for God's sake and not for man's. We should worship for the sake of worship, not for the sake of harnessing God's power to our plans and purposes. If God's Spirit possesses the church, the church will be efficient in these matters but we should not seek to subject the Spirit of God under our control and direction. We should seek the Spirit of God in order that He may make known to us what the Lord wants us to do and in order that He may give us the wisdom and the power to do His will. The primary will in the church should be the will of God, not the will of man. He should control and direct, and not man.

This means that the only authority resident within the church is the authority of spiritual power and not that of an official priesthood or of any other official class. **The pastor, deacons and other officers in a church have no rightful authority in or over the church except that of spiritual leadership and service. Baptist pastors and other officials should constantly check themselves with this thought.** Baptist churches do not exist for the sake of taking care of Baptist preachers. Preachers should rather remember that they exist for the building up of the church in the Spirit of the Lord.

Two Closely Related Doctrines

There is a close relation in the New Testament between the doctrine of the church and the doctrine of salvation. Perhaps most Baptists would say that one difference between Baptists and Roman Catholics is that we believe in a regenerated church membership. This would hardly be an accurate statement. I have made such statement myself but when I came to think about it, I came to

see that the difference was rather as to what regeneration was and how it took place. I suppose any Catholic authority would say that the church should be composed of the regenerated but he would also say that people are regenerated in the act of baptism.

The Catholic position as I understand it is that even infant children are regenerated when they are baptized by the priest. Regeneration, then, seems to be with them some kind of a transaction which is not a conscious experience. It is something that depends on the ad-

Sunday School Lesson for May 9, 1948

Subject: Ezra Leads a Religious Revival

Lesson Text: Nehemiah 8:1-3; 5-6, 8; 10:28-32

Golden Text: James 1:22

ministration of a "sacrament" by an official priesthood.

Baptists hold rather that regeneration is a conscious experience that takes place when one hears and believes the gospel. We hold that the church is rightly made up of those who have thus heard and accepted the gospel and been renewed by the Spirit of God in their inner lives. Only such, we hold, are competent for membership in a New Testament church.—*Baptist Standard*.

Eighty Per Cent Of South Is Seen As Being Unchurched

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—More than 80 per cent of the people in the South never go to any church, it was estimated here by Dr. J. B. Lawrence, executive secretary of the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. He spoke at Missionary Day exercises at the Southern Baptist Seminary.

Changing social and economic con-

ditions have cut off large sectors of the population from the church, school, and the kind of home conditions conducive to the proper rearing of children, Dr. Lawrence declared.

"We must get out from the walls of our churches and carry the Gospel to the people where they are," he said, explaining that there was a great need for a change of mission methods to minister to 30,000,000 unchurched persons in the South.

"We need large numbers of missionaries who will be willing to live in trailers in migrant camps over the land and be school teachers and ministers in these needy communities."—(RNS).

Dr. Fuller To Speak At Convention Home Service

By Joe W. Burton
Editor, Home Life

Dr. Ellis A. Fuller, president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, has agreed to bring the principal address in the Christian home service on Saturday night of the Southern Baptist Convention in Memphis.

By arrangement of the Convention program committee, the entire Saturday evening session will be devoted to an emphasis on building Christian homes.

Theme for the Saturday evening program will be "Christ Answers Home Needs." Dr. Fuller's subject will be "Save Our Homes or Else."

A two-hundred voice choir from Memphis churches will be directed by C. Lamar Alexander. Other features of the program will include an address by Justice Hamilton Burnett, of the Tennessee State Supreme Court, and a brief illustrated lecture entitled, "A Crusade for Christian Homes."



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Meeting the Needs of Growth and Change

(Continued from Page 6)

1. The setting up of patterns of organization which will take into account the varying sizes of churches, these suggested plans to be incorporated in printed "guides" for pastors and leaders which will seek to bring each church according to its needs and abilities all the essential values of our Baptist program.

2. The devising as soon as practicable of a balanced study course program, cumulative and unified, with interchange of comparable credits.

3. The correlation before publication of plans and calendars of activities, wherever feasible, so as to avoid unnecessary meetings of churches and associations, combining meetings if possible and seeking improvement of quality and fruitfulness of those held.

4. The formulation of a flexible plan of stewardship financing, adapted to the needs of the varied churches, this uniform scriptural plan to be promoted by all the agencies.

5. The holding of definite conference or conferences by representatives of the several Convention agencies and auxiliaries with the Committee on Church Organizations during the ensuing year for further consideration of these and similar problems, the recommendations above to be considered and so far as

possible carried out consultatively report of results to be made to the 1949 meeting the Committee on Church Organizations, by request of the agencies represented in the last joint meeting, to be continued for further study and conference.

Signed by Members of the Committee

Norman Cox
Mrs. A. F. Crittendon
Mrs. Paul Ethridge
Claud Gaddy
J. G. Hughes
John W. Hughston
Walter L. Johnson
Ernest Loessner
Earl Mead
Robert Naylor
E. V. Peyton
Carlton S. Prickett
Melvin Roberts
A. E. Tibbs
G. S. Dobbins, Chairman
J. M. Price, Secretary

As We Go

By L. M. and Mrs. Bratcher

At last we have received the welcome tidings that we are to sail for Brazil on the 21st of May, from the port of New York. It will be a great joy to us to be able to turn our faces back to the work to which the Lord has called us and in which He has so abundantly blessed us through the years.

As we go our hearts turn to our beloved brethren of the Western Recorder and we desire to express our thanks to each and every one of you for what you have done for us during this furlough time. May the Master bless each one of you, and fill your lives with joyous service in His Cause!

We also want to express our thanks to those who have sent the Christmas Cards and Red Cross material and at the same time make a request: Please do not send any more Christmas cards or bandages. These have come in such abundance that we are more than supplied. If some one should desire to send cotton or adhesive tape we can still use some of those. Al-

so if some Society should desire to send a small offering to help pay for packing the material and the cost of shipping that will be in order.

It was a great disappointment that I could not fulfill my appointment with the General Association nor be present at the State W. M. U. meeting. Mrs. Bratcher had the pleasure of being present there.

We shall leave Kentucky on May 16 or thereabout so all letters should arrive in Louisville before that date. Our address in New York will be S. S. Argentina, Moore-McCormick Line, No. 5, Broadway, New York. All steamer mail ought to arrive by May 20. Our address in Brazil will be Box 2844, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

May the Master bless and keep. We ask your prayers for this term of service.

Convention Messengers Secure Cards In Advance

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — (BP) — Messengers who will attend the meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention at Memphis, May 19-23, should secure registration cards in advance from the secretary of their state Baptist Convention, Dr. Joe W. Burton, secretary of the Southern Convention announced.

Burton said that "only those persons duly elected by churches co-operating in the work of the Southern Baptist Convention and who are properly certified as messengers can be received as messengers to the Convention."

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So that more of the acutely ill who come to our doors can be admitted, we ask, in the Lord's name, for a wholehearted response to the Mother's Day Love Offering on May 9. Give that others may live!

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