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"SPEAKING THE TRUTH IN LOVE" ☆ ☆ ☆ JOURNAL TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION

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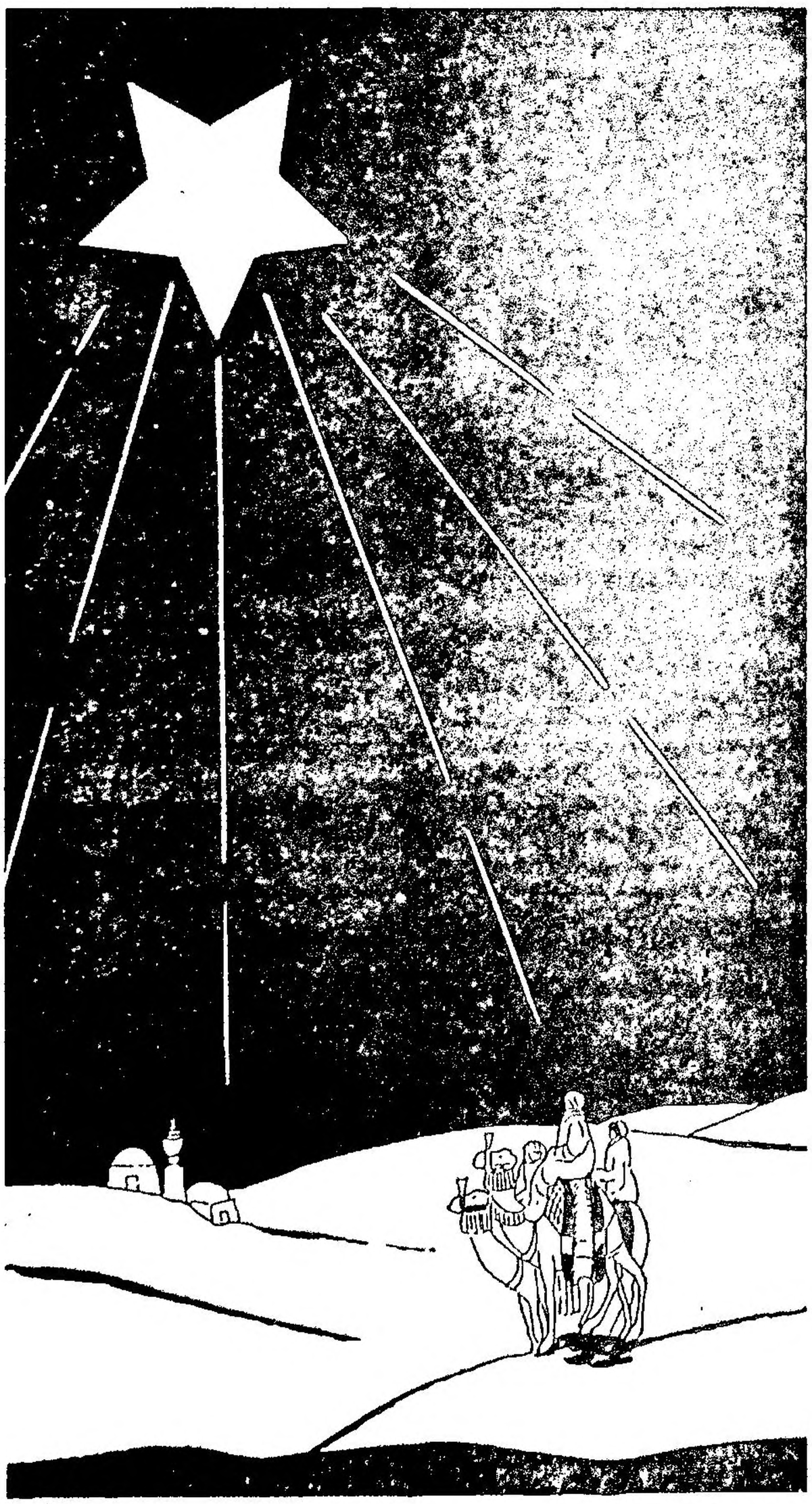

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the King, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, where is He that is born King of the Jews? For we saw his star in the East, and are come to worship Him. . . . And they went their way; and lo, the star which they saw in the East, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. And when they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And they came into the house and saw the young Child with Mary his mother; and they fell down and worshipped Him; and opening their treasures they offered unto Him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. Matt. 2:1-2, 9-11

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What Does Christmas Mean?

"What kind of Christmas are you going to have?" So we ask one another as we meet. You *are* going to have Christmas, but it can be one of several different things. That word "Christmas" means a *variety* of things.

Christmas is a date on the calendar. It recurs each December 25th irrespective of how we feel, what we think, or what if any preparation we make for its coming. We neither bring nor prevent its arrival. The calendar brings Christmas.

But in a sense that is a reversal of fact. The fact is, Christmas brings the calendar—time marches on from the event which Christmas dates. The ancient Hebrews reckoned time by the reigns of their kings; the Roman world by its emperors and their subordinates. So we read in Luke 2:1 ". . this was the first enrollment made when Quirinius was governor of Syria."

Then was One born in Bethlehem's stable and laid in a manger and all time was re-reckoned. "The hinge of history was fastened to the door of Bethlehem's stable." At that birth, time turned a corner so significant that you can't sign a deed, make a note, write a letter, or read a newspaper without indirectly confessing that "Christmas" has come—a date in time from which men get their bearings in time.

Christmas too is a festival, a holiday season of which we are reminded long in advance by such prods as, "20 Shopping Days Left Till Christmas." Over the stores a metamorphosis comes through green wreaths, red bells, tinsel, Santa Clauses, holiday merchandise, bundle-laden shoppers, tired clerks. Long queues of people wait at post-office windows; postmen plod wearily under bulging mail sacks. Generosity and shrewdness elbow one another at store counters. Money is made and money is spent. So much so that Thanksgiving Day has been shoved a week ahead to prolong this spending splurge. Its the American economy's biggest annual shot in the arm. We are getting a lot of commercialization's finger prints smudged all over a once-lovely Christmas. Materialism makes some people completely miss this day's real significance.

Christmas recounts a mighty event. It reminds us that into the world's darkness has come a saving light. "And when they saw the star they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. They came . . fell down and worshipped him; and opening their treasures they offered unto him gifts; gold and frankincense and myrrh." (Matt. 2:10-11)

Ours is still a dark distressed world, but Christmas would make us realize that Light has come. It shines in our hearts. It throws into bold relief great truths.

It is light on God. He is revealed as the Father who cares. We are not left to stumble in despair; we are not abandoned to doom. God cares.

It is light on man. The Son of God became Son of Man. He was born a babe in Bethlehem. You are of infinite worth to God. All men everywhere are precious in his sight. The Incarnation stamps priceless value on every human being in the world.

It is light on the meeting point of high and low, rich and poor, humble and great, all ages, all classes, all races, all peoples. Lowly shepherds and learned men came and worshipped. In Christ all can meet for the achievement of their true worth.

It is light on life and immortality. There is a world beyond and above. It breaks upon this sinning, sorrowing world at Christmastime. It is a world of wonder, beauty, harmony, joy and peace. The song of the angels reminds that peace is to men of good will.

It is light on the greatest thing in the world—Love. Herod's fear and hate could not exterminate it. Love survives now despite the havoc of war.

Because of the real meaning of Christmas and that which followed from it we can have hope. God invaded this world in the person of Jesus. It is true there was no room for Him in the inn. Sin has ever tried to crowd out and to prevent God. But God came in His Son. They tried at last to crowd him out on a cross. The manger led at length to Calvary where He was crucified. They thought they had put an end to Him. But He put a new beginning to human life. He conquered sin, death and the grave.

We seem to live in a world where we cannot have the crib without the cross. Mothers cradle children. Evil puts them on crosses. Somehow we can't consider *Christmas* apart from the *cross*. Crosses multiply on Korean battlefields and all around the world. Our hope is to see that Jesus Christ in love took his cross and conquered on it that the babes now in the cradle might be saved from the sin that fills the world with new crosses.

Christmas means that Jesus waits to be born in every heart.

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A Child's Thought

If I had lived in Bethlehem
That far-off Christmas Day,
I might have seen the lowly shed
And manger where He lay.

I might have loved the precious Babe,
Soft sleeping on the hay,
While Mary leaned above His cot
And watched Him as He lay.

I might have touched His tiny hand
And stood at Mary's knee,
Not knowing He was Christ the Lord
Who came to die for me.

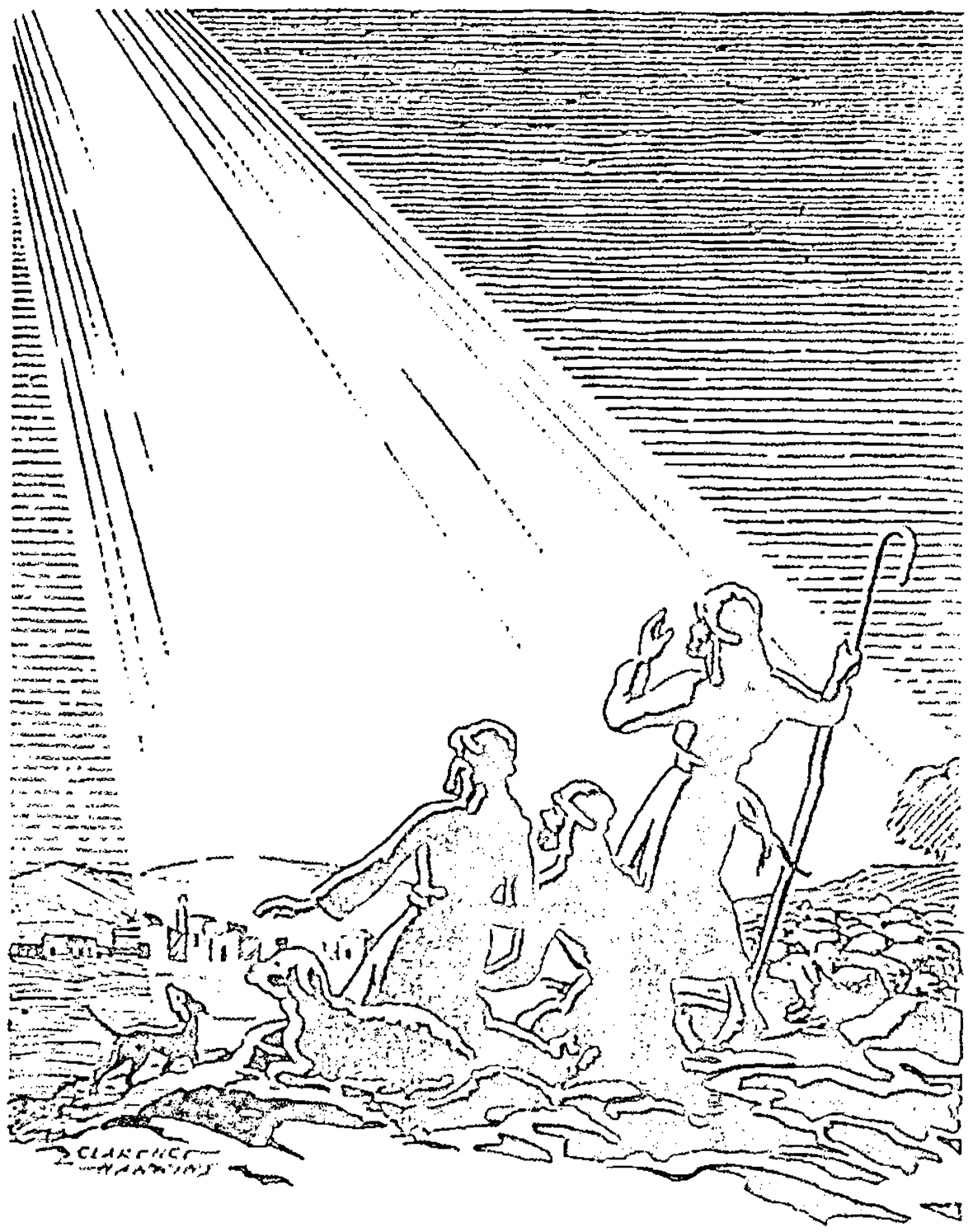
—*Colin Pamplins*

GREETINGS FOR CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR FROM THE BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR STAFF

Richard N. Owen, Editor; Fred W. Noe, Business Manager; Mrs. George Lanuom, Secretary; Helen Wilkerson, Bookkeeper.

As is our custom there will be no issue of the paper December 28 (the week in which Christmas comes) so we will be coming your way again January 4, 1951.

The Hopes of MEN



What is here set forth was prompted by ee statements. First, one by a twenty-r-old lad who said with some bitter-s, "Who can plan anything now?" Sec-l, the remark of a man now retired o wistfully said, "Before 1918 we uld make our plans and then count on them." The third statement was de by Dr. George A. Buttrick, keynote aker at the Mid-century White House nference on Children and Youth, held first week in December. Dr. Buttrick, mmenting on the oft-quoted phrase, ildren are the hope of the world," yly remarked, "this might be so, if y did not have to live with grown-s."

These comments disclose the uncertain-s marking life in our warring world. many hopes, dear to the human heart, ve been crushed. The sense of frustra-n tempts many a young person to con-ude that there is no value in planning e's life or in relying upon much of ything. The bewildered attitude of many st the meridian of life is that the dread certainties of today's world are so many at only confusion prevails.

But we cannot turn the clock back to at world now gone in which one might ppily count upon a certain sense of der and security making it possible to ise a family, educate one's children and an a life.

Dr. Buttrick reminds us that after the first world war a cartoon appeared showing our planet with blackened eyes, bandaged head, a torn ear, and a bayonet run through it like a skewer. That cartoon was entitled "Graduation Present." Any cartoon to depict the present might well show an almost dismembered world above which an Atom Bomb hung by a thread.

Somehow we cannot think of Christmas realistically without thinking of the cross. Even before the cross the Christ child's life was threatened by murderous Herod.

Somehow we must come to a vital faith in God, who rules and overrules now for the good of His children. The judgment of God is upon our world, a world where it is so difficult to raise children in the right.

We need to look at what God has done on that Hill of Calvary and renew our faith in Him despite all of the things that seemingly break our hopes. We need to *plan*—but we *must* plan according to *God's blueprint*, the Bible.

We should learn to *hope*, but let us no longer *misplace* our hopes. We can very well think of children as the hope of the world provided we grownups will humbly give ourselves to the *direction of God's spirit* that the children of the world may from their earliest years give themselves to the Mastery of Jesus Christ the Lord.

SHOW US THE WAY . . .

I wish that we had not missed the way that led to peace,
And that from war and turmoil we might find surcease;
That men might learn to live and work in such a way
That none need fear aggression; or the bitter play
Of one against another.

That all might share the blessings of this wondrous world,
Make give and take the keynote—not a gauntlet hurled
To challenge those who want to live in harmony,
Free from the threat of war and its grim tyranny
O'er weak and helpless brother.

Some how, somewhere, dear Lord, there is a way;
Give us wisdom and the strength to speed that day.

—Louise Mae Hogan in "Quote"

CHRISTMAS *and Human Limitations*

by W. R. Cullom

Limitations! Who is not conscious of them? Who is not *strongly* conscious of them? They tell me that the new born human infant is the most helpless of all the newborn creatures. How fortunate that the child comes into the world without intelligent consciousness of his extreme weakness.

Were you ever tempted to wish that you might have remained in that blissful ignorance? Surely such a cowardly attitude would be thoroughly unworthy of a child of the King. And yet, without Christmas, and especially without what the Author of Christmas brings to the human race I am not at all sure but that such might not well become the wish of every human being when he grows to be strong, when his impulses assert themselves in their maturity, when he comes to see and know his own inadequacy for meeting and dealing with all that is in him and all that is about him.

God has graciously spared me to live out the expectancy of a normal life as this was seen by the Psalmist in his day (Psalm 90:10). The same God, in his goodness and mercy, has carried me on for almost fourteen years beyond that normal limit. But in spite of all this, I am often reminded of a remark that my mother made to me when she was about 75 years of age. It was this: "Son, it seems to me sometimes that the devil will get me now, before I die." Knowing her beautiful, unselfish spirit as I did; and knowing the devoted Christian life that she had lived, I laughed at her. But back of my laugh and down beneath my laugh was a knowledge—an unmistakable knowledge—of what she meant.

People have often said to me that they would like to be Christians and would make the surrender to God that is essential to such an experience except for one thing: they were afraid they "could not hold out." I don't generally say all that I think to such a person. If I did it would be this: "One of two things is true of you: (1) either you are acting the coward and trying to dodge the issue; or (2) your place is in the home for imbeciles or in an institution for the insane." No: the older I grow, the more strongly does it become a settled conviction with me that in my own strength I shall never be equal to the task of facing and dealing with the issues that life is sure to bring to me. A favorite hymn book in the church that I attended as a boy was called *Gospel Hymns*. In it was a hymn that was written by Mrs. Annie Hawks when I was five years old (1872). It runs thus:

"I need thee ev'ry hour . . ."

If I were going to be rigidly literal I would amend one word in that hymn: instead of the word "hour" I should name the smallest possible fraction of time. And of course Mrs. Hawks meant just that.

If my experience is not in harmony with that of other Christians, I can't help it: such is certainly my own. With such an experience one can readily understand my feeling as to the one who says, "I'm afraid I can't hold out."

So far in this discussion no specific limitations have been named. To elaborate here would be impossible: their name is legion. For example, we are all *sinners:* We are sinners by nature; we are sinners by long and repeated practice; how many and what awful limitations are to be seen and dealt with in this field. We are all subject to *sickness* and *disease* of many varieties; our limitations here are too numerous and too grievous to think of trying to mention them. We are all possessed of *emotions:* in this field we are met by sorrows, anxieties, cares, disappointments, and distress of a thousand kinds.

It is clear that living is an upstream business to those who would fulfil the ends for which they were made. Those who fail to find and follow the purpose for which they were made bring on themselves trouble all along the line, and awful disaster in the end. So that whatever we do or fail to do, we shall be reminded of our limitations from the cradle to the grave. And whichever way we go, we shall find ourselves over and over again ready to cry out with Simon Peter when the waves were about to engulf him. "Lord, save or I perish!"

But what has all this to do with Christmas? Alas, that this question should be raised when for nearly 2000 years the original Christmas message has been echoing from the fields around Bethlehem of Judea: "Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:10-11). And from that day to this men have been hearing his voice as he says, "Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke easy and my burden is light" (Matt. 11: 28-30). And not only have they heard but they have come and keep coming Nor has anyone come to him yet to b disappointed.

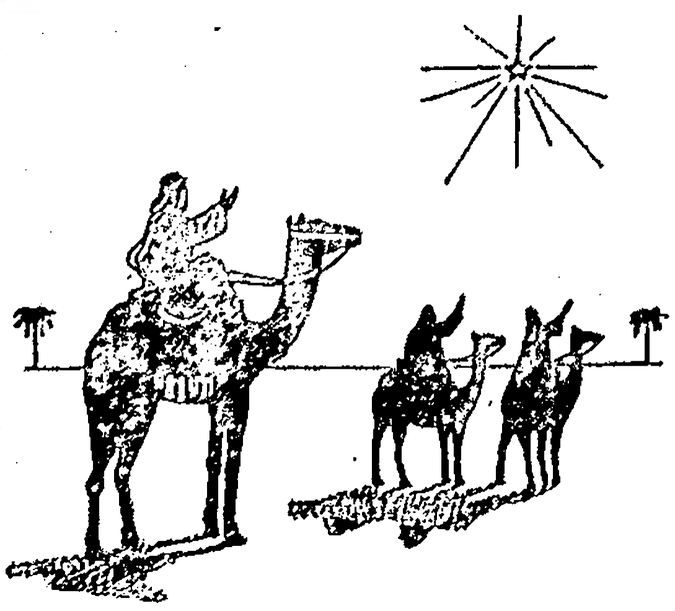
A great Chinese Christian, Dr. T. C Koo, was traveling in England and came in touch with one of the world's noted professors of comparative religions. Th professor asked Dr. Koo if he would te him what it was that led him to renounc Confucianism to become a Christian. Th Chinese leader's reply was this: "Con fucianism is a great system of ethics, goo as far as it goes, but I find in my soul hunger for a fellowship that is personal and satisfying. I cannot find this in a me external system. I turned to Hinduism to find there that all is god and nothing is personal. This too leaves my soul hun gry. I turned to Mohammedanism to fin a god who is personal, but he is so fa away that I am still left without fellowshi I turned to the West to find that the *things* are in the saddle—banks, factories offices, railroads and such like. I finall turned to the New Testament and found Jesus the Saviour. He gave me a satisfy ing view of God as the Heavenly Father he gave me a satisfying view of man : one who bore the image of God, and who therefore is my brother: he gave me a most satisfactory view of property : something that we can use in serving God and in helping our fellow men; he gave me a most wholesome and satisfying con ception of life as our opportunity for en richment, for growth, for usefulness. I accepted Jesus as my Saviour and Lor and have found and am finding in his fellowship and in his service a joy and blessing that I could not otherwise imag ine. And so, professor, I propose to go on with this fellowship and in this service through time and through eternity. The further I go with it, the better it becomes This, sir, is why I became a Christian and why I hope to remain a Christian for ever."

When the One who gave us Christmas is the One who does all this for us can one ask further as to what is the connection between Christmas and the matter of human limitations. Instead of raising this question, I shall turn to my task singing as I go,

"My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.

LET US FREELY GIVE

by Ernest W. Forstner



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Each Christmas time, a remembrance that is constant with me becomes more vivid, as I return in spirit to that beautiful Lord's Day over fifty years ago when as a lad of eight I saw in Christ the Great Physician, who gave me perfect peace and joy that have never dimned over the years. I saw in Him the only answer to the needs of a sin-sick little fellow, eternally lost, under the Adamic blight. As a great congregation softly sang, "The Great Physician now is near, The sympathizing Jesus, He speaks the drooping heart to cheer, OH! hear the voice of Jesus," I quietly slipped from the pew and walking down the aisle I confessed Him as my Saviour, Lord and Master.

If it were in my power to bestow a gift upon each individual in the great multitudes that will go about the "celebration" of Christ's birthday without His presence in their homes, or in their hearts, it would be to tell them in the best way that I know how of my lovely Saviour who came from God on that Holy Silent Night, there in the verdant hills of Judea to walk this earth as man, and God, in humble service to all men, living as He did the only perfect life ever lived, even though rejected by His own, spurned, ridiculed, and deserted by all but a little group of His disciples.

I would ask them to contemplate with me the Babe in the manger, the mother, the faithful Joseph, the Shepherds, the wise men, and yes, the little beast of burden. I would read to them from the Word of God how it was that the Babe grew to manhood and went forth in His ministry, The Son of Man—The Son of God. I would read to them from His teachings, of His healing, His temptations, His sorrows and His joys.

I would show them my lovely Lord as He instituted the Lord's Supper, as He suffered and prayed in Gethsemane, as Judas' kiss of betrayal was upon His cheek.

I would read with them of His load of the cross, yes, and how He bore too the load of a world's sin, my sin, and theirs, and men of all ages, as He ascended the hill outside of Jerusalem to the summit of Golgotha, amidst the jeers of His own mingled with the mockery of the legions of Rome.

I would show them the two crosses already in place. The two thieves writhing in their dying agonies. And the third cross, and upon it, the spotless Lamb of God.

We would read of His last words of concern for His mother, of His prayer for forgiveness of those who crucified Him, and hear His anguished cry as God Himself could no longer stand to witness the tragedy and turned away, and our lovely Lord, without sin, gave His life as a sinner; "My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken me?" We would stand in awe as the heavens were darkened, the thunder rolled, the lightning flashed, the earth quaked, graves were opened and the veil of the Temple was rent in twain from top to bottom.

I would lead them through the Word to another scene, to an open tomb, and have them hear with me the voice of the angel; "He is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him." I would picture to them the Risen Lord and the few faithful disciples at Mount Olivet. We would listen as He instructed His disciples, and ascended to the Father in Heaven. I would bid them listen to the promise: "This same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven."

This is the story of Jesus and His love, the only answer to the needs of a sin sick world. Within it is the true meaning of Christmas, as I have known it for over fifty years, and as every redeemed child of God knows it and looks to that great and glorious morning when Christ returns; not as the Babe of Bethlehem, not as the lowly Nazarene, not as the betrayed of Gethsemane, not as the condemned Master before Pilate, not as the disfigured, crucified Christ of Calvary, but as the risen, ascended, King of Kings, and Lord of Lords!—To receive His own to be with Him for ever and ever.

This gift would I give to all who weep, to all who mourn; to the widow, the orphan and all that are weary, facing each day in the feeble strength of the flesh; to the bewildered, the dismayed, and those ill in mind and body; to the self-righteous Pharisee, and the sin-stained publican. Christ Jesus loves all and cares. He is the Great Physician who will receive, redeem, and heal, and fill every heart today with His everlasting peace and joy. Accept Him, turn your way His way, and really know a MERRY CHRISTMAS!

"Freely ye have received, freely give" (Matthew 10:8)

Do Not Be AFRAID Any More!

by Albert McClellan

This crazy world of ours seems headed downward to its doom. The restless hordes of Asia, numbering 1,428 million, or nine times the population of the United States, threaten to wreck Western civilization. These hordes remind us of another horde that did wreck the Hellenic or Greco-Roman civilization.

The knock-out blow came in the fifth century when the proud invincible Roman Empire was ground into dust. Hordes of Vandals from Northern Europe pushed into the Roman provinces to bring miserable and shameful death to the 800-year-old empire.

The Vandals were an earthy nomadic people who carried their families with them to war. They were like great herds of human cattle driven by shepherd masters.

MYSTERIOUS AWE!

When finally the Vandals swept into Rome two things happened: (1) They sacked the city and took its citizens into slavery. (2) They developed a mysterious awe for the churches.

As if by miracle, the churches were preserved from the torch. Moreover, as if by another miracle, the churches were set aside as islands of security. Any Roman seeking refuge in a church would not be killed or taken captive. It was not uncommon to see the rough Vandal soldiers leading Romans to the churches to keep from taking them into slavery.

Even so, Rome fell, the empire disintegrated, and the once supreme Hellenic civilization vanished. Doom had come. Art and culture lay in ruins. By the seventh century the ever proud Latin language was heard no more. A pall of gloom settled over the earth.

But through the gloom there shone many mountain peaks of glory, two of them quite noteworthy.

TWO PEAKS OF GLORY

One of the peaks: Christianity did not fall with the Hellenic civilization. It emerged stronger than ever. The age that produced the Vandals also produced the greatest religious figure from Paul to John Calvin. He was Augustine Hippo, whose system of theology, much the same as that of Paul's, created the vocabulary that stands at the heart of the interpretation of Christianity today.

Augustine wrote a book called *The City of God* to show the Christians of his day that the kingdom of Christ is greater than any earthly kingdom. In a fiery sweep of God-inspired rhetoric he made Christians see that in losing their property and citizenship they had lost nothing. Keeping Christ they had kept all. He finished *The City of God* while the Vandals were storming the gates of Hippo. He met his own martyrdom with the same hilarious and extravagant faith he had written into his book.

> THOU WILT KEEP HIM IN PERFECT PEACE, WHOSE MIND IS STAYED ON THEE: BECAUSE HE TRUSTETH IN THEE.

Another mountain peak of glory that shone through the gloom was the astonishing preservation and subsequent use of the Bible. The uneducated Vandals destroyed the great libraries. Books were burned or thrown to the winds. The old classics vanished. Teachers were murdered or enslaved. Human knowledge sank to a new low.

The Vandals had done the most thorough job of wholesale destruction of culture in human history. They had destroyed everything except the one book more powerful than all the others combined. Tenney Frank says in his book, *History of Rome*, "The Bible alone remained to carry on the tremendous task of re-education." God's book became the primer of the Western civilization that still stands, the one today that is being threatened by the new Vandals.

INDESTRUCTIBLE CIVILIZATION

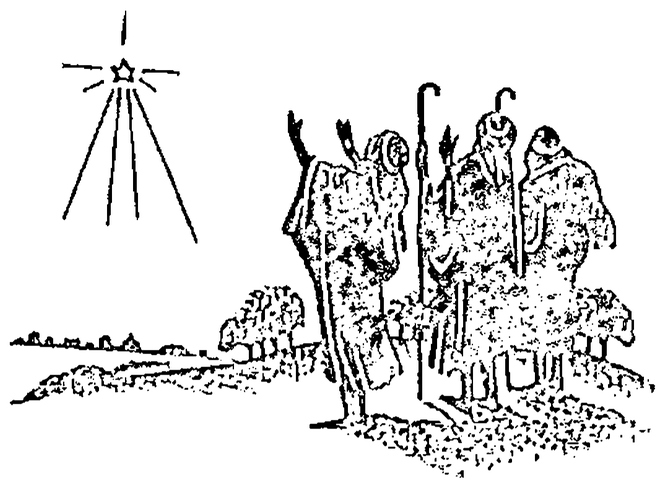
These two peaks of glory should assure our quaking hearts of one undying truth. This is it: God has a civilization of his own. It transcends earthly civilization. Its capital city is the New Jerusalem. Its ruler is the King of kings. God's civilization continues from generation to generation. It cuts across national lines. It strikes down the barriers of speech differences. God's civilization will rise above and capture whoever presumes to capture it. God's civilization can have no permanent enemies. God's civilization knows only one authority, the authority of love. It knows only one power, the power of the Gospel. Citizenship in God's kingdom is free to all who will accept. It is already paid for with a price. And what a price!

John the Apostle faced doom in his day. His world was crumbling. He was banished to a rocky island to die. He was afraid. When terror and trembling seized him and horror folded him round, he caught a vision. What he wrote down about that vision comforted Augustine in his day and it can comfort us in ours.

John saw One like the Son of Man. . . long garment. . .golden girdle. . .hair white as snow. . .eyes as a flame of fire. . .feet like fine brass . . . countenance as the sun . . .

John was stunned. The glory was too much for him. He fainted. The Son of Man then laid his right hand on John and said to him, "Do not be afraid any more. I am the First and the Last; yea, the ever-living One. I once was dead, but now I live forever and ever. I carry the keys of death and the underworld."—(Rev. 1:17 CBW)

Before BETHLEHEM



by L. D. Kennedy

Jesus existed before He was born in thlehem. He, like the Father and the ly Spirit, has been from all eternity. though this is a familiar teaching in : Bible, many of God's own people ve given little thought to it. The Lord ealed this truth that it might serve to atly undergird the faith of His children. oreover, a knowledge of it is necessary : one to see very deeply into the fathom- s mysteries of God's grace.

Hear John's testimony to the pre-ex- ence of Christ, who is the Eternal Word ir., "Logos," Expression of God). *"In e beginning* was the Word and the ord was with God, and the Word was od. The same was in the beginning with od. All things were made by him and thout him was not any thing made that is made." (John 1:1-3). Then in the th verse of the same chapter, John arly speaks of the Incarnation (i.e., the e-existent, eternal Son taking upon imself flesh or a human body): "And e Word was made flesh and dwelt among , (and we beheld his glory, the glory of the only begotten of the Father,) ll of grace and truth."

Paul in Colossians 2:15-17 states that sus Christ who created everything, ex- ed Himself before creation: "Who is e image of the invisible God, the first- rn of every creature: for by him were l things created, that are in heaven, and at are in earth, visible and invisible, hether they be thrones, or dominions, principalities, or powers; all things were created by him, and for him: and *he is before all things* and by him all things consist." This great truth is further set forth in Hebrews 1:1-8. In these verses it is worthy of note that the Father addresses the angels as spirits but His Son as God!

John the Baptist was born of his mother, Elizabeth, about six months before Jesus was born of Mary. Yet "John bare witness of him and cried, saying, This was he whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: *for he was before me.*" (John 1:15).

Jesus, himself, plainly preached his pre-existence: "Before Abraham was, I am." (John 8:58). "For I came down from heaven." (John 6:38). In the Garden He prayed, "And now, Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was." (John 17:5).

Nebuchadnezzar did not fully understand what he was saying perhaps, but he spoke a profound truth in Daniel 3:25: "He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt: and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God." When Nebuchadnezzar cast the three Hebrew Children into the fiery furnace, he did not take this Fourth Man, the Eternal Son of God, into account. Likewise the modernists of today who are discounting and discrediting the deity of Jesus shall some day dreadfully realize the peril of *not* worshipping Jesus!

A Prayer for Peace

Dear God, we come on bended knee,
Bowed down before thy face,
We ask of thee most tenderly,
To save us by Thy grace.

Dear Lord, how hard the fight has been
And bitter are the tears,
The wounds that only Thou hast seen
Are more than we can bear.

Our finite minds have sought a way,
To banish war and fear,
But we like sheep have gone astray,
And need Thy tender care.

In childlike faith we come today,
Protect us by Thy power,
For Thou alone canst know our need,
In this, our darkest hour.

Lord, give us minds of one accord,
That war and strife may cease,
That men may worship thee again,
In everlasting peace.

Leslie Garrett

Western Springs, Ill.

A Christmas Gift

As long as mortals have the nerve
To pray for things they don't deserve;
As long as conscience has a stain,
The prayers of men will be in vain.

So humbly, Lord, we ask of Thee
That princely gift—sincerity.
And may we use it through life's span
To build on earth a better man.

And should we crave for gifts more royal,
Please make us, God, a bit more loyal,
That we may give to those we serve
A measure full as they deserve.

And make us rich with eager zest
To give our work the very best,
To know the wheat, reject the chaff,
To have the nerve to stand the gaff.

O Lord, in mercy intervene
To keep our hearts both young and clean,
The will to give a man a lift:
Make this, O God, our Christmas gift.

ROY F. SOULE in *Nuggets*

Next Sunday's Lesson

by O. L. RIVES, Professor of Religious Education, Carson-Newman College

Lessons based on International Sunday School Lessons; the International Bible Lesson for Christian Training, copyrighted by International Council of Religious Education

The Savior Is Born

TEXTS: Luke 2:1-20; Philippians 4:4-7 (Larger)—Luke 2:1-16 (Printed)—Luke 2:10-11 (Golden).

One of the finest writings of Bruce Barton is his "Another Boy" which appeard in *Collier's* Magazine some years ago and which has been reproduced a number of times. It is not given here, due partially to space limitations, but it constitutes an excellent approach to the study of the Christmas lesson. John Milton's poem, "On The Morning of Christ's Nativity," also furnishes an excellent approach to the same and should be read by way of intellectual and spiritual preparation.

Submission and Sojourn (Lu. 2:1-5)

The authorities at Rome had ordered the taking of a census and the law-abiding Joseph and Mary found their way to Bethlehem for that purpose. Upon arrival they found the little town crowded and lodged in a stable. But they perhaps did not mind for they were accustomed to limited accommodations and had known little of life's luxuries. They had royal blood flowing in their veins, to be sure, but theirs was also a truer nobility of honest work and obedient spirit. It was a long journey but they made it apparently without haste and with safety. The quiet and sturdy couple thus become a worthy example of submissiveness as they wend their way to the city of David and sojourn there until after the greatest event of all time, the birth of the Savior, occurs.

Simplicity and Sublimity Lu. 2:6-7)

The Savior entered this world exactly as all others have entered it, by being born of a woman. It was simplicity itself, if one concedes that human birth is simple (and the writer of these notes does not so concede). But in many respects it happened without notice or fanfare. At the same time it was the most sublime entrance of which the human mind can possibly conceive. "The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us," wrote the inspired Apostle (Jn. 1: 14). In this glorious event heaven touched earth, the supernatural mingled with the natural and in the process opened the way for sinful men to repent and believe upon Him and thus to become the sons of God.

Sign and Song (Lu. 2: 8-14)

"Fear not," said the Angel to the abiding shepherds. A cold and calculating materialism would scoff at the idea of angels but one who has seen a baby smile in its sleep cannot do so. To these hardened but warm-hearted men of the out-of-doors (such men hear and see things denied to other men) there was given the sign of swaddling clothes and a manger. And suddenly there was singing. The Christian religion is a religion of song. This one has been called, "The Gloria in Excelsis." Elizabeth sings to Mary when Mary visits her to tell her about the approaching birth of Jesus and Mary sings to Elizabeth in return. Zacharias sings when John is born. The aged Simeon sings in the Temple when he takes into his arms the Babe. On the way to Gethsemane, after the institution of the Lord's Supper, Jesus and His disciples lifted up their voices in song (Mk. 14:26; Mt. 26:30). Paul and Silas in jail at Philippi, with their feet in stocks and their bodies stinging from many stripes, at the midnight hour "prayed and sang praises unto God" (Acts 16:25). John characterizes heaven as a place where "they sung a new song" (Rev. 5:9).

Seeing and Saying (Lu. 2:15-20)

The evidence of Jesus' birth was indisputable. The shepherds came "with haste" and saw the wondrous sight with their own eyes. "Seeing is believing," we hear it said but it is also true with the faithful that "believing is seeing. Those with childlike faith in Him can see an then say as did these shepherds of old. "Com and see," Jesus will say later to His would-b followers (Jn. 1:39). He continues to say th same thing today. He always welcomes hone questioning and seeking.

Significance and Suggestion (Phil. 4:4-7)

This passage begins with the word, "Re joice." The reason is, "The Lord is at hand (v. 5b). The Babe became a Man and b means of the cruel death on the Cross H became the world's Savior, its only Savio Those who know Him in the forgiveness c sins and thus have the indwelling of the Hol Spirit can truly say with Paul, "The Lord at hand." The consciousness of this tremen dously significant fact can give to us, just as did to him, a peace "which passeth all unde standing." And such a peace "will be a ga rison to guard your hearts and minds in Chri Jesus". (v. 7, Weymouth's Tr.). This is the peac announced by the Angelic Choir, actual an real in a war-torn world.

The Young South

Less than a week until Christmas! As I write this, I wonder if you will find time to read it!

But maybe your rush of Christmas preparation is over. Now you are just waiting, all a-tingle, for the BIG DAY! You've probably checked your list many times, to be sure you haven't overlooked someone. Your gifts are wrapped and delivered, or waiting under the tree.

In this last-minute check-up, look at your list once more. Does it include someone who might be a bit lonely this Christmas—a shut-in, someone sick perhaps? Do you know someone whose son is in Service and cannot be home for Christmas? Is there an old person in you neighborhood or church who will not hav loved ones to brighten Christmas for them Is there a friend near by who must spen Christmas away from home?

Have you already sent Christmas cards loving messages to these people? Or could yo do so now? Better still, could you take them tiny gift—perhaps some candy or a piece cake, or a jar of something you canned th summer?

For some of these you may make gift ce tificates. On a card or sheet of paper pri something like this:

This Christmas Gift Certificate

during the month of January
entitles the bearer,

.....
(person's name)

to

one hour's reading each week

Signed: .....
your name

Christmas, 1950
(Christmas seal)

Of course the gift will depend upon the need of the person to receive the certificate. It might be an errand, or some ironing, or baby-sitting, or most anything else.

Sometimes we call gifts like these—to friends in need, to sick or lonely people—"inasmuch" gifts. Do you know why? Read Jesus' words in Matthew 25:40 and see if you think that is a good name for such gifts?

I hope you will find at least one person to whom you can give an "inasmuch" gift. It will add much to your own Christmas joy. It will help to explain that happy, good feeling inside you as you join your family around th Christmas tree and sing Christmas carols an listen to the familiar Christmas story in Luk 2:1-16. You will feel like saying a speci thank-you for Christmas when you bow head for the Christmas prayer.

I'd like to peek in on your family at happy time. I'll be thinking of you and ing you joy, not only for Christmas Day for all the days to come.

Your friend,

AUNT POLLY

Woman's Missionary Union

MRS. SAM HOLLOWAY, President
MISS LAURA FRANCES SNOW
Young People's Secretary

MISS MARY NORTHINGTON, Executive Sec'y Treas.
MRS. DOUGLAS GINN
Office Secretary

The Christmas Annual

by Grace Noll Crowell

God sets a Christmas annual on His sill
And lets it shed its radiant silver light,
That watchers on the lowland or the hill
May see it blooming every Christmas night.

Its petal-tips are lovely silver flame,
Its heart, white fire, that will never dim.
It is Christ's own memorial—when He came,
It first bloomed on the heavenly sill for Him:

A wonder-flower, tended by God's hand,
Lest we forget His symbol and His sign.
For every people and for every land
This flower will forever bloom and shine.

It is God's Christmas annual, I know,
Though some who have beheld it from afar
Do not believe—they watch its steadfast glow
And say: "It is a star."

—Exchange

Greetings

Cordial Christmas greetings from the W.M.U. Department.

MARY NORTHINGTON
MRS. DOUGLAS J. GINN
LAURA FRANCES SNOW
MRS. JAS. L. BURRIS

My Trip Through the West

(concluded)

It was a privilege to attend Thanksgiving services at Golden Gate seminary at Berkeley, Cal. They now have about 170 students. This seminary was received by the Southern Baptist Convention this year. It will prove a blessing to this territory where trained leaders are needed. Southern Baptist churches are being rapidly organized—averaging one a week.

Everywhere we met people from Tennessee, Oklahoma and Texas. They are Southerners and want to be in a Southern church. Many organize in homes—but they grow rapidly. Truly, California Baptists are suffering from growing pains. This will be a great Baptist state some day.

Two days before my engagements were over, a message came saying my brother-in-law, Arch Rollow, had died, so I flew home from San Francisco. It is wonderful to be able to fly home in a few hours when it is necessary. I reached home November 29th in time for the funeral. I am grateful to Tennessee W.M.U. for the privilege of witnessing in the far West.

Books

FIFTY YEARS OF PROTESTANT THEOLOGY—by Carl F. Henry. W. A. Wilde Co., 1950.

The author traces the tides of liberalism that swept Europe, and subsequently America, dominating almost all the theological text books and capturing most of the chairs of theology. Modernism corrupted its own foundations offering "a Christianity without atonement, without Christ's diety, without the triune God, without heaven and hell—indeed, a 'Christianity' without anything distinctively Christian, for even its picture of Jesus was a little better than a blur."

Dr. Henry does not exalt fundamental evangelical progress in the moment of liberalism's decline. Indeed, he points out that "evangelicalism has missed a great opportunity to present Biblical theology vigorously to this era."

Baptist ministers, particularly students whose work will influence the coming generation, should consider the studied appeal of this book.

James Canaday

J. H. JOWETT—Fleming H. Revell Co., New York 10, N. Y. $2.25. 255 pages.

Here are sermons which even through cold print break upon you with heart-appealing warmth and loveliness. The privileged reader comes from these pages awed with the sheer wonder of Christ and his gospel. King George termed him "the greatest preacher in the English speaking world." This is Volume V in "Great Pulpit Masters."

R. N. O.

Lumber "Cast On the Waters" Builds Church

PORTLAND, Ore. (RNS)—The little Oregon fishing village of Charleston, near the entrance to Coos Bay, will soon have a new church, because of a shipwreck there six years ago.

It was early in 1944 that the lumber schooner George Olson hit the rocks near the north jetty while outward bound and drifted back into the bay to ground on Guano Rock. The deckload of lumber was jettisoned and salvaged.

After two attempts to salvage the ship, she was towed across the bar and cast loose north of the entrance, to drift ashore a mile north of the bar. Storms did their work on the hull, and it broke up to spill the lumber from her holds onto the beach.

Then the Charleston residents went to work. John Porter had been conducting services in the school gym, and he saw in the lumber "cast on the waters" a chance to obtain material for the start of a church.

It took the people about a year to work the timbers across the sand spit to the bay. From here they were rafted and towed over to Charleston, where construction started.

The structure was framed and exterior building paper and roof applied. Then it was partly finished inside to allow the holding of services.

Charles Lyman took over the pastorate four years ago. He attended Western Baptist Theological Seminary in Portland and devoted his spare time to work on the church. Mr. Lyman now works a night shift at a plywood plant. Daytimes, he works on the church when not sleeping.

Each Wednesday a work party is held for church members, men and women. First job was to apply shingles to the end of the parsonage, so the Lymans would have additional space in the upper story for their family of three. At present shingling on the main building is under way, and windows are being added to the unfinished portions.

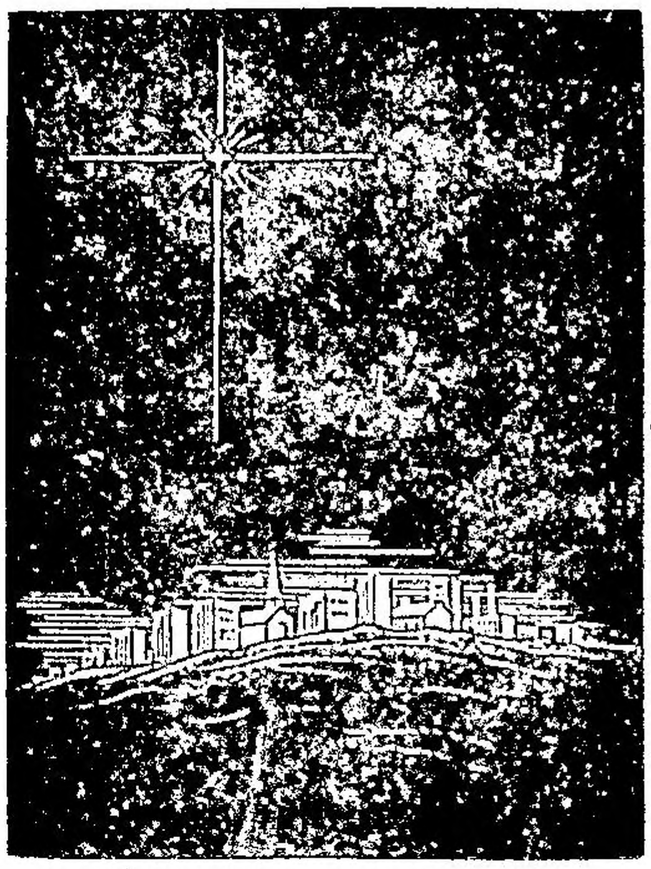
BUFFALO, N. Y.—(RNS)—A young mother's concern for "our children and the whole world" has touched off an area-wide prayer appeal under the auspices of the Council of Churches of Buffalo & Erie County. At the same time 80 Protestant clergymen issued a statement opposing use of the atomic bomb.

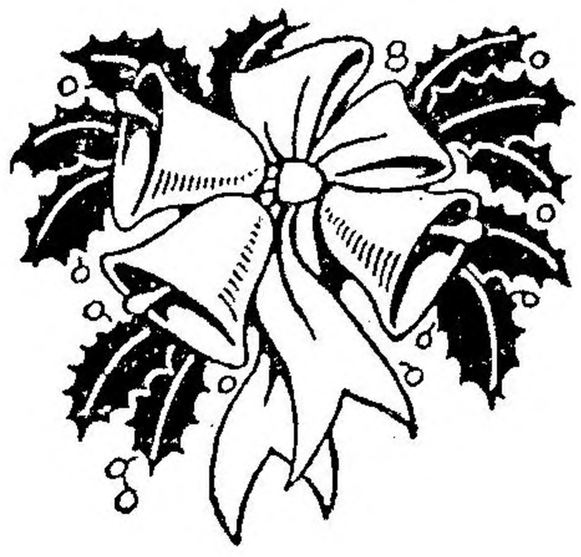
The prayer appeal was suggested by Mrs. Clarence R. Crosby, a Methodist woman, mother of two small children and wife of a World War II veteran.

"It seems to me that if everyone prays for peace and divine guidance of our leaders something is bound to happen," she said. "Many miracles have come through prayer."

Sunday School

JESSE DANIEL, Secretary





Mrs. James B. Dotson, formerly Miss Gladys Longley, though now gone from our Department, would like to share in our Christmas greeting.

"Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people." Luke 2:10.

I heard the bells on Christmas day
Their old familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet the words repeat
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

And thought, how, as the day had come,
The belfries of all Christendom
Had rolled along the unbroken song
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

And in despair I bowed my head:
"There is no peace on earth," I said:
"For hate is strong, and mocks the song
Of peace on earth, good will to men."

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep
"God is not dead, nor doth He sleep;
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail,
With peace on earth, good will to men."

Till, ringing, singing on its way,
The world revolved from night to day,
A voice, a chime, a chant sublime,
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Our Sincere

Good Wishes

for a

Merry Christmas

and a

Happy New Year

Jesse Daniel — Mrs. William B. Frey

Oleta Meek — Mrs. Jeanne Cathey

Training Union

CHARLES L. NORTON, Secretary

Season's Greetings

from the

Training Union

We are grateful for all the blessings which have been ours through this past year. We rejoice in the progress which has been made in the program of Training Union work. We would like to take this opportunity of saying thank you for your fine co-operative spirit. May the peace and true spirit of Christ be with you during the Christmas season and through the days to come.

CHARLES L. NORTON
MARY ANDERSON
ROXIE JACOBS
DORIS BROWN

East Tennessee NEWS

by Lloyd T. Householder

Dr. Harley Fite, president of Carson-Newman ollege has been made a member of the Naonal Commission on Teacher Education and rofessional Standards. He has also been made member of The Legislative Committee on ertification Standards of the Tennessee Eduational association.

November 26, Dr. Henry J. Stokes, pastor irst church, Knoxville, was guest preacher at irst church, Savannah, Georgia. This is Dr. tokes' home church, and the occasion was he observance of the 150th anniversary of the hurch.

Dr. Ramsey Pollard pastor of Broadway hurch, Knoxville, is assisting Dr. J. D. Grey nd First church, New Orleans, in a revival.

"M Night" was observed all over East Tenessee on Monday, December 4. In Chilhowee ssociation the meeting was held at First hurch, Maryville, and the speaker was Mr. eonard Wedel, of Nashville. In Knox county ev. Raymond DeArmond was speaker in a neeting at First church, Knoxville. In Jefferon association the meeting was held at First hurch, Jefferson City.

Dr. Peter Lee of China, was the preacher at he morning service November 26 at First hurch, Jefferson City. Dr. Lee's daughter is a student at Carson-Newman college. Recently Miss Imogene Hawks of Galax, Virginia, a student at the college dedicated her life to world missions in a service at the church.

During the week of December 4, Charles S. Bond pastor of Central church, Fountain City, conducted a revival in the Methodist church of his home community in Georgia.

Rev. Walter Warmath, pastor of Fifth Avenue church, Knoxville, was guest preacher in a gracious revival at First church, Morristown, during the week of November 26. A. Hudson Hicks is pastor of this good church.

Rev. Robert Tarzier, director of the Nordic Mission in America, was guest speaker at McCalla Avenue church, Knoxville, Sunday morning, November 26.

White Pine church, Roland C. Hudlow, pastor, has adopted plans, and launched a Building Fund campaign for the erection of a new education building. The plans call for the building of a sanctuary later.

Due to the unusually bad weather on November 26, First church, Maryville, did the unusual, and conducted its services by radio. The Pastor, James M. Windham, taught the Sunday School lesson in the morning, then with the assistance of the church choir, conducted the evening service from the studio of Station WGAP. The pastor reports encouraging results.

Pastor A. Douglas Aldrich reports a very fine revival in First church, La Follete, October 30-November 8th. Rev. James E. Byler, Pastor of First church, Fort Myers, Florida, was the preacher, and Eddie Nicholson of Carson-Newman college was the singer. Twenty-seven were added to the church, 17 by baptism and 10 by letter.

First church, Rockwood, dedicated a set of Vibrachimes December 4 to the memory of Wilburn C. Snow, a recent casualty in the Korean war. Wallace Carrier, pastor of the church, speaks in glowing terms of the worth of this young man to the Lord's work in his church. He had been on active duty only two weeks when his plane was destroyed by a typhoon in Japan. His wife, parents, one brother and two sisters survive him.

Pastor William M. Grogan was the preacher in a gracious revival in his own church, First, Greeneville, during the week of October 22-29. The music was in charge of Preston Lawrence of Jefferson City. The meetings were attended by large numbers of people, and resulted in a large number of additions to the church.

Rev. H. E. Conatser has been pastor of First church, New Tazewell, for one year. During this year there have been 90 additions to the church, the Sunday school enrollment has increased 100, three new departments have been organized, and for the first time the Sunday school has been standard. In addition to these achievements, the church has built a brick Pastor's home costing $9,000.00.

Rev. Robert Tarzier was the speaker at a service at Rogersville church, on Wednesday evening, November 29. Hobart Ford is pastor. All who hear Brother Tarzier are inspired by his account of "Life Behind the Iron Curtain."

Chilhowee association conducted an Evangelistic Conference at Everett Hills church, Thursday night, December 14. The scheduled speaker was Raymond DeArmond, pastor of Sevier Heights church, Knoxville. Knox county Baptists scheduled a similar conference at Broadway church with speakers R. E. James, E. L. Williams, Dr. C. C. Warren, Dr. R. G. Lee and Dr. Ramsey Pollard. Reports come from all sections of East Tennessee concerning the increasing interest in the Simultaneous Evangelistic campaign of Southern Baptists to begin Easter Sunday.

On December 4, First church, Chattanooga, Carl Giers, pastor, had a "Parental Dedication of Little Children Service. "The purpose of the service was to commit parents to a dedication of their children to the Lord, and to pledge their best effort to surround their children with christian influences that would help them to become christians. A little unusual in a Baptist church.

Dr. J. R. Johnson, of Jefferson City, has just completed ten months as supply pastor of Venable Street church, Richmond, Va., where he was pastor from 1909-1920. During this supply period he was able to carry on such an active program of evangelism and enlistment that additions equalled those of the previous year when the church had a regular pastor. Dr. Johnson is a former pastor of First church, Maryville, and went from this church to become Professor of Bible at Carson-Newman college. He looks forward to more work among the churches.

Plan Home Missions Expansion

ATLANTA, Ga.—(RNS)—A budget of $1,450,000 was adopted by the home mission board of the Southern Baptist Convention at its annual sessions here. This is a $70,000 increase over last year's budget.

The budget was voted after Courts Redford, assistant executive secretary, told the board that it needed 1,025 missionaries in the next five years.

Mr. Redford said that Southern Baptists have "grown almost three times as rapidly as the population, with two-thirds of the Baptists of the world living in our Convention territory."

Southern Baptist home mission goals for the years 1950-55 include doubling the number of churches in outposts, adding 180 mission stations in language fields in the United States, and enrolling a total of 5,000,000 in mission schools.

It was reported that the board currently has 775 missionaries and 281 part-time workers on its rolls.

The Rev. S. F. Dowis, representing the cooperative missions department, reported a "good year" in city, rural, western, and mountain missions.

He said that the rural church program is "taking hold rapidly through the entire South," and that a total of 110 mission stations and 69 churches were established in Western states last year.

A department of evangelism report said that a total of about 400,000 baptisms was expected to be recorded by the denomination in 1950. Such a figure would set a record for the fourth successive year. The 1949 total was 334,862.

Guy Bellamy, reporting on the board's Negro work, said that "leaders, white and colored, tell me that the best way for us to help the Negroes is to help train their leaders, who can do far more with their own people than we can do ourselves."

The chaplains commission informed the board that 259 Southern Baptist clergymen are serving as military chaplains in the Pacific theater, Europe, the Caribbean, Alaska, and the United States.

Student Department

ROGERS M. SMITH, Secretary

MISS MARJORIE HOWARD, Office Secretary

The Department of

Student Work

Wishes You a

Merry Christmas

and a

Happy New Year

ROGERS M. SMITH, *State Secretary*

MARJORIE HOWARD, *Office Secretary*

BEULAH WINGO, *East Tennessee State*

FLOYD H. NORTH, *Nashville*

MARGARET DUNCAN, *U. T. Jr. College*

GRIFFIN HENDERSON, *Knoxville*

AGNES MAHONEY, *Tennessee Tech*

DOROTHY McNEESE, *Baptist Hospital, Memphis*

Brotherhood

E. N. DELZELL, Secretary

BERNICE BROWN, Office Secretary — 149 6th Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn.

Christmas Greetings

The Brotherhood Department sends Christmas Greetings to all the Brotherhoods and to each individual member of the Brotherhoods in the state.

Matthew 2:2

"We have seen His star in the East and are come to worship Him."

As the wise men of old saw the star in the east and came seeking the babe of Bethlehem who was to be the Saviour of the world, so do we come seeking to serve that same Saviour through serving you.

John 1:9

"That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world."

Season's Greetings

E. N. DELZELL,
Brotherhood Secretary

BERNICE BROWN,
Office Secretary

Every Baptist a Tither

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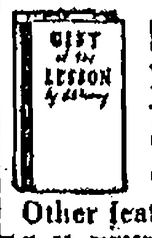

Edited by John W. Bradbury

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37 Million Americans Disfranchised on Liquor

CHICAGO, Ill., 00,—Approximately 37,595,000 American Citizens in 1,111 counties out of the nation's 3,069 are now denied the right to vote on the question of permitting or prohibiting the sale of all Alcoholic Beverages in their respective communities, declares the American Business Men's Research Foundation, in a statement issued from their Chicago head quarters.

The claim that Local Option laws in state after state have been crippled or deleted completely under pressure of the liquor trade is says the Foundation Statement, borne out by the fact that the liquor trade press, including that of the brewers and distillers alike, openly boasts of these changes, and in current issues are boldly asserting that they are out to defeat or repeal every law and measure permitting popular vote on the question, whether federal state, or local.

The states which have no provision for local Option at present include: Arizona, California, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Montana, Nevada, N. Dakota, S. Carolina, S. Dakota, Utah and Wyoming. In addition to these, the voters in four states, Georgia, Minnesota, Tennessee and West Virginia, still have the right to ban the sale of whisky from their communities, but not beer or wine.

In most of the others, Local Option has been killed or hamstrung by extreme restrictions, that, according to the Foundation, make it practically impossible to successfully ban retail sales.

Book Reviews

BIOGRAPHY OF A COUNTRY CHURCH by Garland A. Hendricks, Broadman Press, 127 Ninth Avenue, North, Nashville, Tennessee. Copyright 1950. Pages, 137. Price $2.00 cloth.

The transformation of the social, education, economic and religious life of the community by a New Testament Church is an unanswerable argument for the church's existence. That Olive Chapel Church's influence has been the permeating leaven for good in that community is abundantly evident in the interesting account given by the author. Special events and actual names add spice and zest to the narrative. The problems of this church and how they were met and solved should encourage any rural church. Chapter 15, "Perspective," is a fitting conclusion to the biography of Olive Chapel Church. I consider this book a valuable contribution to the painfully small quantity of worthwhile literature now available on Country Churches.

—L. G. Frey

A YEAR OF CHILDREN'S SERMONS by Joseph Anderson Schofield, Jr. W. A. Wilde Co., Boston, $1.75, 219 pp.

This book provides a wealth of material for religious talks for children. These can be used by superintendents, teachers an pastors. It is an excellent book for Vacation Bible school workers.

The stories teach good habits and encourage Christian character. All of these stories are on the children's level and will hold their interest.

Eura Rich

ATTENDANCES AND ADDITIONS TO THE CHURCHES
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1950

Church	Sunday School	Training Union	Additions
Alcoa, Calvary	300	91	—
Alamo	236	82	1
Athens, East	294	157	..
Calhoun	88	—	—
Coghill	48	—	—
Cotton Port	59	63	—
Etowah, East	49	24	—
Etowah, First	247	65	—
Etowah, North	240	89	..
First	471	212	2
Good Springs	90	70	..
Lake View	59	42	—
New Hope	65	35	—
Niota, East	103	47	—
Riceville	88	45	—
Union Grove, No. 2	65	56	—
Herron Chapel	269	64	—
Mission	108	85	—
Brighton	225	134	..
Bristol, Calvary	389	135	1
Brownsville, First	375	88	..
Woodland	125	89	..
Chattanooga, Avondale	651	182	1
Boulevard	836	268	2
Brainerd	490	157	..
Brainerd Hills	99	41	..
Clifton Hill	260	68	1
Concord	259	109	..
Eastdale	392	132	4
East Lake	595	194	2
East Ridge	397	109	5
First	1108	261	4
Highland Park	3515	1133	27
Lupton City	141	119	..
McCarty	62	30	1
Morris Hill	247	132	2
Red Bank	719	207	..
Ridgeview	195	103	4
St. Elmo	326	120	..
Second	223	110	10
Suck Creek	50	52	..
White Oak	355	73	..
Cleveland, Big Spring	234	155	1
Watlsville	40	28	..
Calvary	150	104	1
Rutledge Memorial	58	43	..
Four Point Chapel	15	..	..
Clinton, First	420	94	1
Columbia, First	335	125	..
Godwin Chapel	31	..	..
Second	102	68	..
Cookeville, Steven Street	98	51	..
Westview	145	61	..
Dyersburg, Calvary Hill	177	116	..
First	625	190	1
Eagleville	97	50	..
Elizabethton, First	543	128	..
Immanuel	182	68	..
Oak Street	140	71	..
Siam	224	105	..
Fountain City, Central	606	217	..
Hines Valley Mission	40	..	..
Smithwood	435	186	1
Gladeville	117	27	..
Grand Junction, First	117	62	..
Harriman, South	230	113	3
Trenton Street	410	115	..
Walnut Hill	228	97	..
Hohenwald	100	71	..
Humboldt, First	532	137	..
Jackson, Calvary	497	178	3
First	843	—	3
North	357	114	3
West	865	268	3
Jefferson City, First	573	308	—
Kingsport, First	721	217	2
Greenwood	246	65	5
Fort Robinson	116	80	—
Lynn Garden	400	155	3
Knoxville, Alice Bell	77	42	..
Arlington	381	121	1
Bell Avenue	745	356	9
Broadway	1069	352	1
Churchwell	153	93	2
Fifth Avenue	722	254	1
First	746	119	1
Lincoln Park	605	198	1
McCalla	560	174	..
Sevier Heights	480	219	1
Lake City, First	176	40	..
Lawrenceburg, First	232	148	..
Lebanon, Barton's Creek	75	39	..
Cedar Grove	103	39	..
Fairview	177	88	..
First	489	151	..
Rocky Grove	19	..	..
Lenoir City, First	309	123	1
Nelson Street Mission	25	..	..
Lexington, First	226	61	..
Madisonville, Chestua	49	27	..
Maryville, Everett Hill	307	109	..
First	705	158	..
Maynardville	100	22	..
Medina	171	102	..
Antioch, Gibson County	200	49	..
Memphis, Bellevue	3331	1917	13
Central Avenue	783	280	6
Ellston Avenue	198	69	2
Highland Heights	1124	519	9
Kennedy	184	96	1
LaBelle	706	225	3
Levi	202	121	..
Parton Heights	160	69	..
Sylvan Heights	252	127	3
Temple	1485	340	1
Milan, First	378	78	..
Latham	89	48	..
Millington	226	146	5
Monterey, First	230	64	..
Morrison, Wilson's Chapel	58	57	..
Morristown, First	505	168	..
Buffalo Trail	60	42	..
Northside Mission	30	..	..
Mt. Juliet	106	42	..
Murfreesboro, First	437	98	..
Walnut Street Mission	55	..	..
Barfield	61	44	..
Mt. Herman	97	55	..
Taylor's Chapel	77	32	..
Third	163	70	2
Westvue	436	151	..
Woodbury Road	70	45	..
Nashville, Eastland	513	84	..
Grace	820	440	18
Inglewood	724	190	3
Due West Mission	36	19	..
Madison, First	386	171	59
New Hope	152	98	..
North End	151	111	..
Shelby Avenue	371	115	2
Westwood	92	53	..
Oak Ridge, First	532	89	4
Glenwood	324	109	..
Highland View	232	99	4
Robertsville	336	111	1
Old Hickory, First	530	216	..
Philadelphia	223	46	2
Rockwood, First	295	136	..
Rutledge, Oakland	92	54	—
Savannah, First Church	136	57	3
Shelbyville, El Bethel	101	46	..
Shelbyville Mills	214	87	3
Statesville, Smith Fork	79	45	—
Tullahoma, First	262	65	3
Union City, First	690	118	—
Watertown, Round Lick	166	85	—

CAMP PROGRAM RECEIPTS

Received to October 31, 1950 ..... $117,209.74
Additions during November, 1950 ..... 431.57
Total $117,641.31

"The completion of the camps will depend almost wholly upon the response of Tennessee Baptists to the appeal for funds."

Send Your Gift for This Worthy Project at Once

to the

TENNESSEE BAPTIST FOUNDATION

Norris Gilliam, Ex. Sec'y — 149 Sixth Ave., N. — Nashville, Tennessee

In Memoriam

Hawell

The passing of George P. Hawell, 78, November 4, 1950, was widely mourned. He was a faithful, consecrated deacon and worker of First church, Lawrenceburg.

Brother Hawell came to Lawrence county association from Maury county association, whose treasurer he had been for many years. He had been a deacon for 50 years and personified all that the word implies.

He was revered for his godly life, his acquaintance with the Lord in prayer and daily living.

A great throng from Maury and Giles counties and other places attended his funeral services conducted by his pastor, Bernard Scates and T. Riley Davis of Columbia.

This whole section regrets his passing but he left the goodly heritage of a life that will bear emulation.

The deacons of our church have suffered a great loss; for his presence was an inspiration to us, and we express sincere sympathy to his children and all others in their bereavement.

Chas. W. Vaughan
Chm. of deacons

Bull

In tribute to their beloved pastor, John Noah Bull, who died November 15, 1950, the deacons and members of East Chattanooga Baptist Church in solemn meeting expressed their grief at his departure and their appreciation of his 35-year ministry as their leader.

In their tribute these among other words were spoken:

"His intense convictions, fiery earnestness, his dramatic and oratorical ability, and knowledge of humanity were all powers which he used to turn back the forces of wickedness, and make Christ the master of men. He had thought, studied, and prayed his way through to some great convictions. He was the unrelenting foe of low ideals, comfortable and complacent attitudes.

"His voice is now hushed on earth, but is living still in the hearts of a vast company to whom it brought words of comfort and command."

Books

"The Prophet Micah" By B. A. Copass and Leslie Carlson. Baker Book House; 169 pp; $2.00.

This is a rewarding study of "power by the Spirit. A message for our day." There is a historical resume of prophecy, a comprehensive review of Micah's time and an illuminating presentation of the prophecy itself. Every reader will search his own heart after meeting Micah in these pages and will long to be "full of power by the Spirit."

Richard N. Owen

Pastor Slater Murphy preached in Highland Heights Church, Memphis, in eight days of revival services inaugurating their new sanctuary with 48 additions, 21 by baptism. The music was led by Director Glenn Smith, assisted by leading choirs and soloists of the city. There were also 28 rededications in these services concluding November 26, with the membership as a whole lifted to higher planes spiritually by the pastor's helpful messages.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS

Launch TV Religious Quiz Programs

PHILADELPHIA—(RNS)—A Sunday series of televised religious "quiz" programs, in which teams of teen-age youth participate, was launched here by the Philadelphia Council of Churches.

The Council regarded it as a TV "first," locally if not nationally. It is to be carried indefinitely on Sundays at 2 p.m. by WCAU-TV (Philadelphia Bulletin and CBS chain station). A different group of youngsters, 12 to 15, will match their wits in questions of four principal categories: the Bible, Bible Geography, Church History and Church Music.

Texas Baptists Broadcast Overseas

DALLAS, Tex.—(RNS)—Texas Baptists began a series of short wave broadcasts Dec. 10 designed to promote religion and peace over the world.

The broadcast was over WRUL, powerful station in Boston, one of several used by the Department of State for its Voice of America programs.

Sponsoring the religious series will be the radio and public relations department of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Said Dr. R. Alton Reed, director of the department:

"The only hope in the world is Christ. We want to give the message of Christ. If we can get the people of the world to turn to Christ then there will not be the belligerency and warmongering we have today."

Dr. Reed emphasized that the series has no connection with the Department of State. He pointed out that seventy-five per cent of WRUL's time is taken by the State Department and the remainder is managed by World Wide Broadcasting Corp., private firm that owns the station.

Texas Baptists pay a fee for the weekly 15 minute series. Dr. Forrest Feezor, pastor of First Baptist church, Waco, Texas, and the Baylor Religious Hour Choir were on the first program.

Lord, teach us to pray . . .

Prayer
Is Our MOST URGENT NEED

A New Year—A New Power in Prayer!

Set the exact time for the week of study in your church • Select your teacher • Strive for maximum attendance—and *Pray*

Daily Prayer—in our homes, in our churches, in our businesses—is the way to certain power. You and your church are urged to join with thousands of Southern Baptist churches throughout the Convention in a study of Bible teachings about prayer the first week in January (or week of your choice).

A Convention-wide Prayer Meeting

—is the fervently hoped-for result—a continuous prayer meeting that will fan the sparks of a spiritual awakening and spread the fires of evangelism as preparation is made for the Simultaneous Revival Crusade, March 25-April 8, 1951, east of the Mississippi River.

The Bible and Prayer
By ROBERT G. LEE

—is the guide book for your January theme of study. This dynamic, teachable volume stays right with the Bible and helps us to understand better the supreme emphasis the Bible puts on prayer and the imperative necessity of prayer for Christian living and effective service. (Available at your Baptist Book Store for 60 cents.)

PRAY *for an Inspired Convention-wide Prayer Meeting*

BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD
161 Eighth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn.

A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

Merton Avenue Church, Memphis, Robert D. Cannon, Pastor, has just closed a most successful revival conducted by the Rev. Ralph Kerly, of Hillcrest Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma, formerly of North Jackson Church in Jackson, Tennessee. "Our hearts were blessed and zeal renewed during the series of marvelous messages brought by the Evangelist-Pastor. We had 20 professions, 25 uniting by letter, and 5 by statement. Pray for us that this revival spirit may carry over and we may serve our Lord more faithfully each day," the reporter adds.

Lauren Sprunger becomes Minister of Music and Education at Eastland church, Nashville, January 1, 1951. Native of Ohio, Mr. Sprunger is a graduate of Carson-Newman college, and of Southwestern Seminary where he received the degrees of Master of Religious Education and Bachelor of Sacred Music. He has been with First church, Tyler, Texas, for two and a half years and, previous to this, several other churches in Texas, and the Smithwood church and Deadrick Avenue church of Knoxville, and Red Bank church, Chattanooga.

Hayes E. Owen, Covington, Tennessee, was elected president of Baptist Memorial Hospital trustees, Memphis, November 28. Mr. Owen was vice president and served as chairman of the hospital board's executive committee the past three years.

At this same meeting authorization was given to the executive committee to "take whatever steps considered feasible or practical to relieve the acute shortage of hospital beds in Memphis." Sunporches and waiting rooms are being converted into wards as an immediate measure to meet the critical shortage of patient quarters in this largest Baptist hospital in the world. Mr. Frank Groner is administrator.

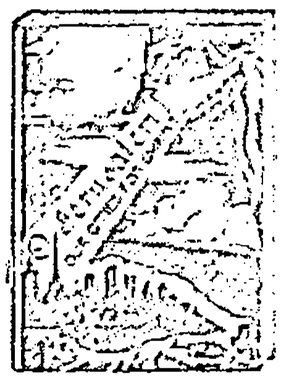
Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. George Ellis Lannom, Donelson, who were married December 2, at the home of Dr. O. W. Taylor, Editor Emeritus of the BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR who was the officiant. Mrs. Lannom, the daughter of Mrs. Mamie Rich, Woodburn, Ky., is well known as the efficient secretary in the BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR office for the past several years. The BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR staff extends best wishes.

The Elora Church, William Carey Association, for this church year adopted the whole Baptist program which includes the Cooperative Program, six point record system, and the BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR in the budget (61 subscriptions). The Sunday school has shown a marked increase both in numbers and efficiency. The Training Union was organized and started October 1 and has made continuous growth since. At the last associational Sunday School Rally every officer and teacher save two was present. At the last Training Union Rally every department in the Training Union was represented, showing that the church is thoroughly sold on the denominational program as well as the church program.

Dr. Olin T. Binkley, member of the faculty of Southern Baptist seminary at Louisville for the past six years, was elected December 7 as president of the Southeastern Baptist seminary to be established at Wake Forest, N. C. Dr. Binkley is a graduate of Wake Forest and Southern Baptist Theological seminary and was awarded the doctor of philosophy degree by Yale university.

The Urban Church Serving Its Community

1951 Home Mission Graded Series

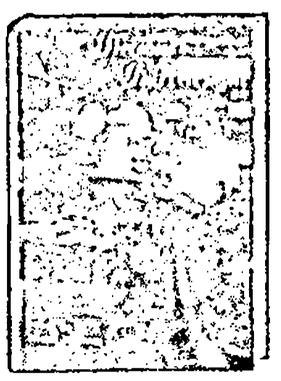


For Adults

O JERUSALEM! .50

S. F. DOWIS

Dr. Dowis sets forth in this book the program of city missions, the opportunity for service in cities, and the methods of reaching the unaffiliated and unreached. The book has valuable charts and statistics.



For Primaries

PRECIOUS IN HIS SIGHT .50

LUCILE A. MANN

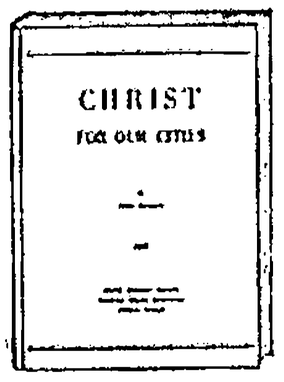
Here is the picture storybook of the Series in which the children see themselves in the various activities in which they can engage.

For Young People and Intermediates

WHISPER OUT OF THE DUST .50

PHYLLIS WOODRUFF SAPP

Mrs. Sapp, through the eyes of a young woman, makes her readers see the city mission work in action as Kay visits Tulsa, Memphis, New Orleans, Houston, and Oklahoma City, and observes the various phases of city mission work.



For Teachers

CHRIST FOR OUR CITIES .50

JOHN CAYLOR

This is the resource book for the Series. It contains background materials and suggestions for class sessions.

For Juniors

EXTRA, CITY EDITION .50

MRS. J. PERRY CARTER

In the running story, newspaper style, the author seeks to acquaint Juniors with their part in city missions. They see a new church started out of a Sunday school begun by children. They see what goes on at a Good Will Center and in the homes of underprivileged people. They learn what city churches can do to help.

An Extra

A PATH OF LIGHT .75 and $1.50

JOHN CAYLOR

Here is a book of eight biographies. The lives of home missionaries are presented by seven different authors. Here are biographies for Forward Steps and the Ranking System.

EVERY CHRISTIAN'S JOB by C. E. Matthews (Soul-winning) Broadman Press—available March 1, 1951.

HUGHES

STEPHENS

HUEY

WILLIAMSON

STALLINGS

Statewide Evangelistic Conference

ten good conference periods

10:05—11:20 A. M.
Tuesday, January 23

Place
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Nashville, Tennessee
January 22-23, 1951

Conferences and Leaders

Chairmen of Evangelism .....D. M. Renick, Memphis

Organizers of Evangelism .....Ramsey Pollard, Knoxville

Music in Evangelism .....Genter Stephens, Nashville

Prayer Preparation for Evangelism ... J. G. Hughes, Memphis

Publicity and Finance in Evangelism .....W. C. Kirk, Nashville

Census Taking for Prospects .. Leonard Sanderson, Lewisburg

Radio in Evangelism .....E. L. Williams, Knoxville

Extension, Highways and Hedges ... J. C. Williamson, Cleveland

Fellowship for Revival Period .....H. J. Huey, Milan

Rallies Preceding Preaching .....J. Earl Stallings, Chattanooga

Each member of the Steering Committee urged to be present. All others invited to attend the conference of their choice. Where the regular member of the Steering Committee is unavoidably absent, let some pastor "plug" for him so the information will be sure to get back to that association.

WILLIAMS

SANDERSON

KIRK

POLLARD

RENICK