

Royal Service

SUCCESSOR TO OUR MISSION FIELDS

VOLUME XXII

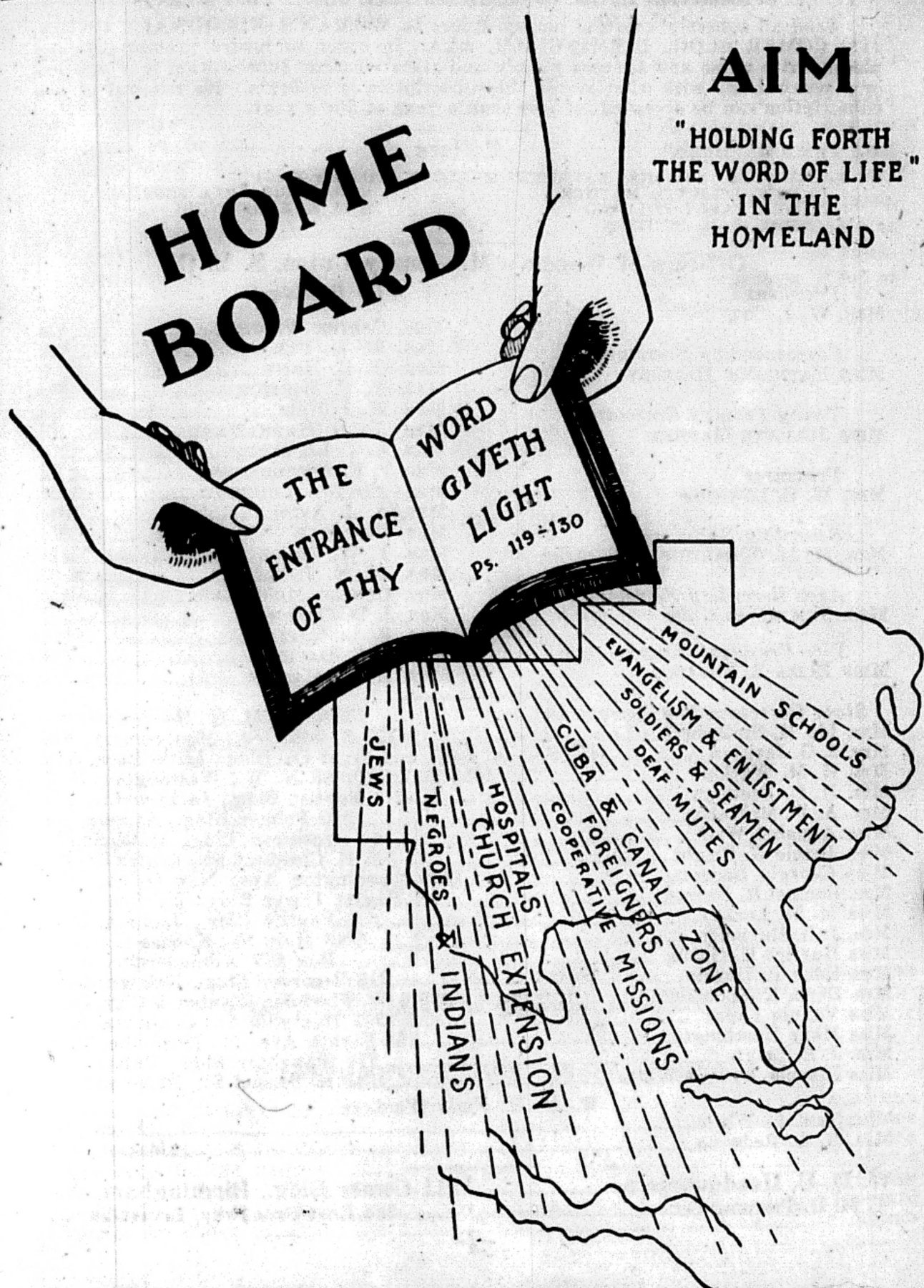
MARCH, 1928

NUMBER 9

HOME BOARD

AIM

"HOLDING FORTH
THE WORD OF LIFE"
IN THE
HOMELAND



WEEK of PRAYER for HOME MISSIONS—March 5-9 Inclusive

Royal Service

ROYAL SERVICE, successor to *Our Mission Fields*, is the official organ of Woman's Missionary Union, Auxiliary to Southern Baptist Convention. Published Monthly—No Club Rates

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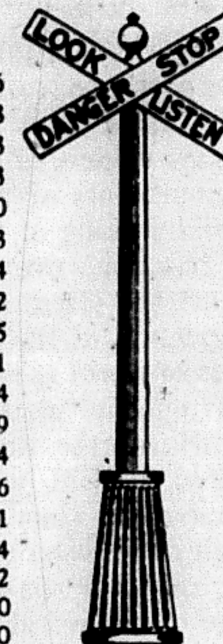
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If there is a red mark in this corner, then the "signal" means that your subscription expires with this issue. Please renew as soon as you see this red mark. See directions at top of page 2.

Monthly Missionary Topics for 1928

Jan.—World Missionary Movements	July—Perseverance of Japanese Baptists
Feb.—Our National Dangers and Opportunities	Aug.—Activities of South American Churches
March—"Far above Rubies"	Sept.—Family Affairs
April—European Missions	Oct.—Where Our Money Goes
May—Woman in Missionary History	Nov.—Coveted Mexico
June—A Baptist "Palaver" in Africa	Dec.—What of China?

SUGGESTED LEAFLETS—Supplement to Program MARCH—"Far above Rubies"

	Cents
A Religion of Power.....	3
Empowering for Soul-Winning.....	3
Men of the Burning Heart.....	2
Sin and Sacrifice.....	2
The Soul of Evangelism.....	3
Twelve Reasons Why a Christian Should Be Happy.....	2
Two Men at a Shot.....	3

When stamps are sent in payment for leaflets or ROYAL SERVICE kindly send, as far as possible, those of the two cent denomination, allowing one or two cents for postage on leaflets, to W.M.U. Literature Dep't., 1111 Comer Bldg., Birmingham, Ala.

BOOK REFERENCES—Program Helps

Women and Stewardship.....	Pierce
Holding the Ropes.....	Brain
Missionary Methods for Church and Home.....	Cronk
New Paths for Old Purposes.....	Burton
The New Challenge of Home Missions.....	Allredge
Getting Things from God.....	Blanchard
Purpose in Prayer.....	Bound

The WORLD in MINIATURE

Mrs. W. J. Cox, President



HE human heart has an insatiable yearning for the world. This craving is seen in our partly concealed interest in humanity. In any group of waiting people this is easily sensed. Despite the looks of bored indifference, aloofness evidenced in reading or repose, each individual is vibrant to the movements of the others. It is further seen in a nation's habit of avid seeking of the morning paper. We want to know what the world has done over-night. The clerk, the mechanic, the statesman, the housewife wants the latest news of the world. We are apologetic if we are ignorant of the happenings of the day. There is no continent where this longing for touch with the whole world is not felt in varying degrees.

When Stanley found Livingstone in the forests of Africa, the first question asked by Livingstone was: "How's the world getting on? Tell me the general news". Personal letters waited, unread, while Livingstone in the African jungle listened for hours to the marvelous story of the world's progress in invention, science and government. Stanley refreshed the soul of the exile with this stream of news. Livingstone said over and over again: "You have brought me new life!"

This thirst for knowledge of the world is God-given. Only the Infinite in us explains this craving for things so vast.

In this complex nation we find a glorious Christian opportunity in the world in miniature at our door. The south with its increasing foreign population—the Italian, the Cuban, the Mexican, Jews, Indians, deaf mutes, seamen, negroes, its mountain challenges, its city problems, the throngs of unevangelized and unenlisted people, inadequate church facilities, Cuba and Panama—all these bring the world in miniature to our door. It is at your church-door and mine. The mission program of each church offers local work, state work, home work, foreign work. If the country church does not have these problems they are your neighbor's problems, thus indirectly yours.

In the observance of the Week of Prayer for Home Missions by the Woman's Missionary Union, we seek a deeper consciousness of our responsibilities and opportunities. Surely each society, wherever practical, will plan to observe the entire week, March 5-9 inclusive. We need to look beneath this yearly Union policy and catch the deep significance of this annual custom. We are strangely in danger of being in bondage to habit. We need to solemnly recall that God knows WHY we pray and give. Out of hearts fragrant with love and ardent in service we would meet together to pray, study, give. These hours of prayer and study should reveal that human enterprises alone can never save the world. Our organizations, boards, gifts are useful means for the salvation of the world only when used by the Holy Spirit. Is this not a powerful appeal for real intercession? What a blessing will be poured out upon the work and agencies of the Home Mission Board if we truly pray, work and give in an acceptable spirit. All about us He has placed His needy ones—He offers the world in miniature at our door.

RIDGECREST, N. C., June 15-22, 1928

Eight days in the mountains for U. M. A. and R. A.

Two separate camps—finest speakers—best of good times!

W. M. S. Week of Prayer Programs

on

Home Missions

March 5-9 Inclusive

MONDAY

SUBJECT: The Jew

PIANO SOLO: "My Jesus, I Love Thee"

HYMN: "Jesus Calls Us"

PRAYER by PASTOR that week's program may persuade many to try to win others to Christ

REPEATING of Three Watchwords:

Thy Word have I laid up in my heart that I might not sin against Thee.—Psa. 119:11
The Master is come and calleth for thee.—John 11:28

Ye are seen as lights in the world, holding forth the Word of life.—Phil. 2:15, 16

PRAYER that the members will realize that Christ said: "Ye are the light of the world"

DEVOTIONAL: Use of the Bible in Bible Times as a Means of Public Worship: Deut. 4:5-8, 12-14; 5:1-24; Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8 (Endeavor to show home mission application of these Scriptures.)

HYMN: "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord"

LEAFLET: The Revealing Power of the Word

TALK: "To the Jews First"—Romans 1:16

LEAFLET: The Jews for the Messiah

PRAYER for Mr. Gartenhaus and all who seek the salvation of the Jews

HYMN: "Only Trust Him"

LEAFLET: The Jew Coming into His Own (Order leaflet for 3c from W. M. U. Literature Dep't., 1111 Comer Bldg., Birmingham, Ala.)

SENTENCE PRAYERS for: (1) unprejudiced attitude toward Jews; (2) realization of their lost condition without Christ; (3) feeling of responsibility for witnessing to them; (4) desire to meet this responsibility under the Spirit's guidance

HYMN: "Take the Name of Jesus with You"
READING of APPEAL from Home Mission Board

TALK: The Significance of the Week's Poster (See page 1.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS of Week's Meetings
REPEATING in Unison: Scripture Verses on Giving: Jesus said:

They have no need to go away: give ye them to eat.—Matt. 14:16

Give unto them for Me and thee.—Matt. 17:26, 27

Give and it shall be given unto you.—Luke 6:3, 38

It is more blessed to give than to receive.—Acts 20:35

Freely ye received, freely give.—Matt. 10:5, 8

LORD'S PRAYER in Unison

TUESDAY

SUBJECT: The Indian, the Negro

PIANO SOLO: "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot"

PRAYER by PASTOR that southern Baptists will be real missionaries to these underprivileged people

HYMN: "Sweet Hour of Prayer"

DEVOTIONAL: Use of the Bible in Bible Times as a Guide in the Home: Deut. 4:1, 2, 9; 6:4-9; 1 Kings 2:1-3; Acts 16:25-34; II Timothy 1:3-14 (Endeavor to show home mission application of these Bible references.)

LEAFLET: "The Keeping Power of the Word"

PRAYER for Indians and all Christian work in their behalf

REPEATING of Three Watchwords (See Monday's program.)

HYMN: "Jesus Calls Us"

PRAYER that the week's program may persuade many southern Baptist women and young people to heed the "call"

TALK: "Despise Not One of These Little Ones"—Matt. 18:10

LEAFLET: That Green Carpet (Order leaflet for 4 cents from W. M. U. Literature Dep't., 1111 Comer Bldg., Birmingham, Ala.)

PRAYER for: (1) all negroes in south; (2) Christian workers among southern negroes; (3) Inter-Racial Commission; (4) negro Christian leaders; (5) S. B. C. work among negroes, including Theological Seminary in Nashville, Tenn.; (6) W. M. U. work with and for negroes in local communities

SCRIPTURE READING: Mark 7:31-36
PRAYER for deaf-mutes and all Christians working for them

ANNOUNCEMENTS concerning Week's Program

TALK: Why Have a Thank-Offering for Home Missions?

REPEATING in Unison: Scripture Verses on Giving (See Monday's program.)

HYMN as Benediction: "Jesus, Keep Me near the Cross"

WEDNESDAY

SUBJECT: The Foreigner

PIANO SOLO: "America the Beautiful"

PRAYER by PASTOR that W. M. S. members may through Christ be freed from racial prejudice

DEVOTIONAL: Use of the Bible in Bible Times by Way of Illustration: Luke 3:2-6; Matt. 4:12-17; 12:15-21; John 12:37-43; Acts 2:16-28; 8:26-39 (Endeavor to show home mission application of these Bible references.)

LEAFLET: The Appeal of the Word
PRAYER for all in the south who do not have access to the Word of God

REPEATING of Three Watchwords (See Monday's program.)

HYMN: "Jesus Calls Us"

LEAFLET: In the Open Country (Order leaflet for 3c from W. M. U. Literature Dep't., 1111 Comer Bldg., Birmingham, Ala.)

PRAYER for Dr. Ellis Fuller and all evangelistic and enlistment work of Home Mission Board

HYMN: "Let the Lower Lights Be Burning"
PRAYER for Seamen's Institute at Jacksonville, Fla., and for all other Christian work among seamen and soldiers

LEAFLET: The King's Message

TALK: "No More Strangers and Foreigners"—Ephes. 2:19
PRAYER for Dr. J. W. Beagle and all Christian work for foreigners in the south
HYMN: "My Country, 'Tis of Thee"
TALK: Reasons Why the Thank Offering Should Be Generous
ANNOUNCEMENTS concerning Subsequent Meetings
REPEATING in Unison: Scripture Verses on Giving (See Monday's program.)
HYMN as Benediction: "Oh, God, Our Help in Ages Past"

THURSDAY

SUBJECT: The Island, the Canal

PIANO SOLO: "Savior, More than Life to Me"
PRAYER by PASTOR that offering may be in keeping with needs as set forth in week's program
HYMN: "Jesus Calls Us"
REPEATING of Three Watchwords (See Monday's program.)
TALK: How to Make a Thank-Offering
DEVOTIONAL: Use of the Bible in Bible Times as Explained by Jesus: Matt. 4:1-11; 13:14-15; 21:12-16; Luke 4:16-21; 7:24-28; 24:13-32 (Endeavor to make home mission application of these Scriptures.)
LEAFLET: The Transforming Power of the Word
PRAYER that the week's program may lead many to distribute the Scripture
HYMN: "I Love to Tell the Story"
LEAFLET: Typical Cuban Fields of Labor
SENTENCE PRAYERS for: (1) Dr. M. N. McCall and his co-workers; (2) native Christians in Cuba; (3) churches and schools in dire need of equipment; (4) unevangelized in Cuba; (5) Baptist work for Cubans in Florida
TALK: "The Isles Shall Wait for His Law"—Isa. 42:4
LEAFLET: The Woman Who Knew What She Wanted (Order leaflet for 3c from W. M. U. Literature Dept., 1111 Comer Bldg., Birmingham, Ala.)
PRAYER for S. B. C. Work in Canal Zone
HYMN: "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"
ANNOUNCEMENTS concerning Friday's Meeting
PRAYER for Dr. A. J. Barton and Church Extension Dep't. of Home Board
REPEATING in Unison: Scripture Verses on Giving (See Monday's program.)
HYMN as Benediction: "Make Me a Channel of Blessing"

FRIDAY

SUBJECT: The Mountaineer

PRAYER by PASTOR that the society's offering will be acceptable unto God

HYMN: "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"
DEVOTIONAL: Use of the Bible in Bible Times as Given in the Roll-Call of the Faithful: Hebrews 11:17-12:3 (Endeavor to make home mission application of these Scriptures.)
LEAFLET: The Infinite Attraction of the Word
PRAYER that all W. M. U. members may know and teach that there is power in the uplifted Christ
HYMN: "He Lifted Me"
LEAFLET: The Missionary Influence of the Mountain Schools
SENTENCE PRAYERS for: (1) Dr. J. W. O'Hara and his co-workers; (2) all Christian mountain schools; (3) all mountain boys and girls; (4) unevangelized people in the mountains
LEAFLET: The Happiest Person I Ever Knew (Order leaflet for 3c from W. M. U. Literature Dept., 1111 Comer Bldg., Birmingham, Ala.)
TALK: "When an Ensign Is Lifted Up on the Mountains"—Isa. 18:3
RE-READING of APPEAL from Home Mission Board
LEAFLET: Did It Mean Anything to You?
REPEATING of Three Watchwords (See Monday's program.)
HYMN: "Jesus Calls Us"
SILENT PRAYER
PIANO SOLO: "My Jesus, I Love Thee"
REPEATING in Unison: Scripture Verses on Giving (See Monday's program.)
INGATHERING of OFFERING
Mizpah Benediction

SUGGESTED PROGRAM for WEDNESDAY EVENING

by

GRADED W. M. U.

Pastor Presiding

SUBJECT: "Through Samaria"—John 4:4
MUSIC of Evening in Charge of Y. W. A's.
DEVOTIONAL by G. A's. (Use "Bible Exercise" from G. A. program.)
PRAYER by G. A. Counselor
EXPLANATION of Home Board Situation by R. A's. (Use R. A. program for this.)
PRAYER by R. A. Counselor
DEMONSTRATION by Sunbeams (Use Sunbeam program for this.)
PRAYER by Sunbeam Leader
TALK by W. M. S. Member: Home Missions. Why and by Whom?
REASONS for the Thank-Offering (Let W. M. S. member, preferably the president, make this talk.)
PRAYER by Y. W. A. Counselor
HYMN: "America the Beautiful"
REPEATING in Unison: Scripture Verses on Giving (See Monday's program.)
BENEDICTION by Pastor

Pages 5-6 are perforated so that they may be removed without injury to the rest of the magazine, thus increasing the number of programs for use in observing the Week of Prayer. For list of priced leaflets see page 22.

Remember also two other special days for prayer:
 Sunday, March 11, and Thursday, March 15.



PATTEN HOTEL, Chattanooga, Tenn.

Headquarters for
 Southern Baptist Convention
 and
 Woman's Missionary Union Annual Meeting
 May 14-20 Inclusive

CONVENING in CHATTANOOGA



THE Southern Baptist Convention is not new to Chattanooga, neither is Chattanooga new to southern Baptists. Our city, famed for its hospitality, like the Baptist denomination, has made rapid strides, and the delegates and visitors, who attended the Southern Baptist Convention in this city in 1921, will hardly recognize the city of today when compared with the convention city of seven years ago. We are proud of our city, of our denomination and of our facilities for entertaining such a large body as the Southern Baptist Convention. Every facility will be enthusiastically extended to our guests at the May convention.

Seven years ago we were compelled to hold the W. M. U. meeting in the First Baptist Church while the general convention was held in the old Billy Sunday Tabernacle some distance away. The 1928 convention and all of its departments will be held under the same roof. The city has recently completed and equipped a beautiful memorial auditorium which has been dedicated to the boys of Chattanooga and Hamilton County who gave their lives in the great World War. This building has at least three separate and distinct convention halls available, besides the main auditorium which has a seating capacity of 6,000. In this beautiful building all the convention sessions including those of our W. M. U. will be held. The W. M. U. of the Chattanooga churches will be the official hostesses of all the women's activities of the convention.

An important phase of the women's work of the Ocoee Association has been the erection of a \$30,000 Good Will Center, which is located in the heart of the industrial section of our city. Miss Nell Bullock, who is well known throughout the realm of southern Baptists, is the director of this Good Will Center and through her untiring devotion we have taken first place in Christian social service work in Chattanooga.

The floodgates of our hospitality will be thrown open to our delegates and visitors. We have ample hotel accommodations and our homes will be opened to take care of those unable to secure hotel reservations. The Hotel Patten, a noted hostelry, will be the official convention headquarters, and its spacious lobby and mezzanine will be the center of convention activities (see page 7). The new Read House, recently completed and luxurious in its furnishings will be the home of many of the convention visitors. In addition to these there are several modern first class and conveniently located hotels, whose doors will welcome the 1928 Southern Baptist Convention.

Many are the historic sights of our city. They include Chickamauga Park, Lookout Mountain, Signal Mountain, Missionary Ridge, Orchard Knob and the National Cemetery where 18,000 of our heroic dead lie sleeping.

Baptists will not be alone in welcoming and entertaining the convention. Chattanooga is a city of churches whose spires reach high, proving that we are a God-fearing people. The other denominations will join whole-heartedly in extending a welcome to the convention delegates and visitors.

The women of the Baptist churches of Chattanooga know no greater joy than the anticipated pleasure of entertaining the Baptist women of the south. As general chairmen for the W. M. U. annual meeting we extend to all the women of our denomination a most cordial invitation to come to Chattanooga for the convention May 14-20, and we want you to know that we will do everything in our power to make your visit pleasant and profitable to the work of our Lord.

Mrs. Will Shepherd, *Chairman*
Mrs. F. C. Bickers, *Vice Chairman*

Calendar of Prayer

March, 1928

Prepared by Mrs. W. H. Gray, Alabama

THERE is a place of quiet rest,
Near to the heart of God:
A place where sin cannot molest,
Near to the heart of God.

Jesus, blest Redeemer,
Sent from the heart of God,
Hold us, who wait before Thee,
Near to the heart of God. —McAfee

Topic: "Far above Rubies"

1—THURSDAY

Pray for Miss Grace Clifford, Fairfax, Oklahoma, worker for twenty years among Indians (see page 35).
For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.—Matthew 11:30

2—FRIDAY

For Rev. and Mrs. I. N. Patterson and Mrs. W. T. Lumbley, evangelistic and educational service, Abeokuta, Africa
Seek ye out of the book of the Lord and read.—Isaiah 34:16

3—SATURDAY

Remember Rev. and Mrs. G. H. Lacy, director of schools for young men, Saltillo, Mexico.
They that trust in the Lord shall be as Mt. Zion.—Psalm 125:1

4—SUNDAY

Pray for the Spirit's presence in societies preparing to observe Week of Prayer for Home Missions, 5-9 inclusive.
Quench not the Spirit.
—I Thessalonians 5:19

5—MONDAY

Pray that wisdom and strength be granted Dr. B. D. Gray, corresponding secretary of Home Mission Board.
The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.—Proverbs 9:19

6—TUESDAY

For North Carolina W. M. U. annual meeting, Asheville
I will be your God, and ye shall be My people.—Jeremiah 7:23

7—WEDNESDAY

For Miss Mary Kelly, Christopher, Illinois, work among foreigners
Be of good cheer.—Acts 23:11

8—THURSDAY

Pray that the home base be strengthened by more voluntary workers enlisting in Woman's Missionary Union.
Faithful is He that calleth you, who also will do it.—I Thess. 5:24

9—FRIDAY

For Rev. and Mrs. Norman F. Williamson, field work, Kumamoto, Japan
Be not afraid but speak and hold not thy peace.—Acts 18:9

10—SATURDAY

For Rev. and Mrs. Ehrhardt Swenson (on furlough), evangelistic service, Bahia Blanca, Argentina
I will not leave you comfortless; I will come to you.—John 14:18

11—SUNDAY

That southern Baptists may by prayer and fasting prepare for the southwide associational meetings on Thursday, the 15th
Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.—Exodus 20:8

12—MONDAY

Pray for work at Wuchow, South China, remembering Dr. and (on furlough) Mrs. George W. Leavell, Stout Memorial Hospital.
What time I am afraid, I will trust in Thee.—Psalm 56:3

13—TUESDAY

Ask for power for winning souls to Christ for Rev. and Mrs. Jas. McGavock, Santiago, Chile.
My grace is sufficient for thee.
—II Corinthians 12:9

14—WEDNESDAY

For workers among Cubans, Tampa, Florida, Miss Maud McCalip and Mrs. Emily Black
The sower soweth the Word.
—Mark 4:14

15—THURSDAY

For Rev. and Mrs. John Mein (on furlough), Maceio, Brazil, evangelistic and school work; also for southwide associational meetings
The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear.—Hebrews 13:6

†Attended W.M.U. Training School

Calendar of Prayer

March, 1928

There is a place where Jesus sheds
The oil of gladness on our heads;
A place of all on earth most sweet:
It is the blood-bought mercy-seat.

There is a scene where spirits blend,
Where friend holds fellowship with friend:
Though sundered far, by faith they meet
Around one common mercy-seat.

—Stowell

Topic: "Far above Rubies"

16—FRIDAY

That knowledge may become wisdom in Southwestern Training School, Ft. Worth, Texas, and Baptist Bible Institute, New Orleans
My doctrine is not Mine but His that sent Me.—John 7:16

17—SATURDAY

For Miss Willie Kelly and "Old North Gate Church", Shanghai, China
For Thou hast been a shelter for me and a strong tower from the enemy.—Psalm 61:3

18—SUNDAY

Pray for a spiritual awakening throughout our land.
Save us, O God of our salvation.—I Chronicles 16:35

19—MONDAY

Ask for blessings upon city evangelistic work of Rev. and Mrs. P. W. Hamlett, Wusih, Central China.
And ye are witnesses of these things.—John 24:48

20—TUESDAY

For *Miss Minnie McIlroy, Buenos Aires, Argentina, in publication work
For even hereunto were ye called.—I Peter 2:21

21—WEDNESDAY

For Rev. and Mrs. D. W. Herring (on furlough), missionary pastor, Chengchow, Interior China
And I will proclaim the name of the Lord before thee.—Exodus 33:11

22—THURSDAY

For Mrs. J. S. Cheavens in work for Mexico
For He careth for you.—I Peter 5:7

23—FRIDAY

For Rev. and †Mrs. C. A. Leonard, Harbin, North China, evangelistic and educational work in Manchuria
For I am the Lord: I change not.—Malachi 3:6

24—SATURDAY

For Rev. and Mrs. A. B. Christie, Petropolis, Brazil, as they seek to win souls and teach
To him that overcometh . . . I will give.—Rev. 3:21

25—SUNDAY

For International Missionary Conference, meeting in Jerusalem, Palestine, March 24-April 8
My words shall not pass away.—Matt. 24:35

26—MONDAY

For Rev. and Mrs. W. E. Entzinger, editorial work, Bello Horizonte, Brazil
 . . . And teach thee what thou shalt say.—Exodus 4:12

27—TUESDAY

For Alabama W. M. U. annual meeting, Judson College, Marion
Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.—Colossians 3:16

28—WEDNESDAY

For Rev. and **Mrs. W. C. Taylor, educational work, Pernambuco, Brazil
 . . . And I will be with thy mouth.—Exodus 4:15

29—THURSDAY

That Christians regard their citizenship
Tribute to whom tribute is due.—Romans 13:7

30—FRIDAY

For Mrs. S. L. Ginsburg, Sao Paulo, Brazil, evangelistic service
Thy testimonies also are my delight.—Psalm 119:24

31—SATURDAY

For Rev. and Mrs. J. L. Galloway, evangelistic service, Macao, South China
For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous.—I Peter 3:12

†Attended W.M.U. Training School

*Attended Baptist Bible Institute

**Attended Southwestern Training School



"PRAY YE"



SOUTHERN BAPTISTS CALLED to PRAYER



PRAYING HANDS

From Painting by Durer
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HEARTILY did the S. B. C. Executive Committee, at its meeting in Nashville on January 11, vote to ask southern Baptists to be much in prayer especially on Sunday, March 11, and on Thursday, March 15. The hope is that on that particular Sunday thousands of southern Baptist ministers will preach on prayer and its power to give release to the debt-burdened Boards. Essential as such sermons are, it is also hoped that hundreds of thousands of other southern Baptists will join with the pastors in keeping that Sabbath day holy through prayer and fasting. Many still remember the power which came during the 75 Million Campaign because of its emphasis on prayer and fasting. It was certainly necessary then—just now it seems even more essential.

On that Sunday and also previously attention is to be called to the associational rallies to be held simultaneously throughout the south on Thursday, March 15, for further prayer and conference on denominational interests. This is not a W. M. U. undertaking but, as stated above, is promoted by the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention. However, the purposes are so in harmony with Union ideals that it goes without saying that W. M. U. members and organizations—both local and associational—will aid their pastors and general associational leaders in

every possible way to the end that as many women and young people as possible may attend the Sunday and Thursday services, though the programs may not depend upon them. Following the W. M. U. Week of Prayer for Home Missions seems Providential.

All the more important is it, therefore, that W. M. U. members and organizations continue to be much in prayer. The hope is that this extra time for prayer may be given at the regular circle or society meetings, either by commencing earlier or closing later. Please give thought for prayer along the following lines, if so guided by the Spirit:

Thanksgiving that southern Baptists have been called to prayer and fasting on Sunday, March 11

Thanksgiving that every association in Southern Baptist Convention is called to prayer and conference on Thursday, March 15

(Concluded on Page 29)

FAMILY ALTAR

TOPIC—Christian Joy

Prepared by Mrs. W. H. Gray, Alabama

The books of men have their day and grow obsolete. God's Word is like Himself—"the same yesterday, today and forever"—*R. Payne Smith*

Holy Scripture is a stream of running water where, alike, the elephant may swim and the lamb walk without losing its feet.—*Gregory the Great*

The Joy of Forgiveness

Thursday, 1st

I Thessalonians 1:2-10

Friday, 2d

I John 1:9; 3:1, 2; 4:4-8

Saturday, 3d

Psalm 103:1-13

Sunday, 4th

Psalm 105:1-4; Mark 1:40-45

Monday, 5th

Psalm 13:1-6; Revelation 1:4; 22:7, 14

Tuesday, 6th

Luke 7:37-47

Wednesday, 7th

Luke 13:10-13; 10:17, 21-24; Acts 3:1-10

The Joy of Perfect Peace

Thursday, 8th

Numbers 25:12; Revelation 5:1-5

Friday, 9th

Psalm 13:5, 6; Romans 5:1

Saturday, 10th

Psalm 125:1-5; 128:1-6; Galatians 6:6

Sunday, 11th

Psalm 23:1-6; 25:13, 14; Ephesians 6:14-16

Monday, 12th

Psalm 37:1-11; II Timothy 4:8

Tuesday, 13th

Isaiah 26:3, 4; Colossians 3:15-17

Wednesday, 14th

Numbers 6:24-26; James 1:2-4

The Bible—the help, the guide, the balm of souls perplexed!—*Arbutnot*

There are no songs comparable to the songs of Zion, no orations equal to those of the prophets, and no politics like those which the Scriptures teach.—*Milton*

The Joy of Salvation

Thursday, 15th

Psalm 4:7, 8; Isaiah 32:17, 18; II Corinthians 7:4

Friday, 16th

Habakkuk 3:18; Isaiah 35:6, 9, 10

Saturday, 17th

Psalm 27:1-14

Sunday, 18th

Philippians 3:20, 21; 4:4-9, 19, 20

Monday, 19th

Psalm 149:1-5; John 17:24-26

Tuesday, 20th

Isaiah 2:3, 4; John 16:26-33

Wednesday, 21st

Jonah 2:9; Psalm 118:19-24

The Joy of Service

Thursday, 22d

Isaiah 56:7; Ephesians 1:15-23

Friday, 23d

Psalm 37:39; Mark 11:8-10

Saturday, 24th

I Thessalonians 2:19, 20; 3:9

Sunday, 25th

Colossians 1:9-17, 24-29

Monday, 26th

Acts 12:11-17; Revelation 7:15-17

Tuesday, 27th

Romans 12:10-21

Wednesday, 28th

I Chronicles 12:38-40; I Thessalonians 1:6, 7

Thursday, 29th

Ezra 6:22; Philippians 2:5-11

Friday, 30th

Deuteronomy 11:27; Matthew 5:1-12

Saturday, 31st

Acts 21:19, 20; Romans 11:33-36

BIBLE STUDY

TOPIC—Christian Joy

Hymn: "Lead On, Oh King Eternal"

The Kingdom of God is the reign of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Ghost, Rom. 14:17. Joy is a result of salvation, Num. 21:17; of atonement being made, Num. 21:8, 9; John 3:14, 15; Romans 5:11.

I. *The Joy of Forgiveness*: Isaiah 61:10, 11; Rom. 15:13; II Cor. 5:17-21; Col. 1:19-23. Such joy is enough to make anyone sing. The belief in the death of Christ for the sinner works in him a thorough change toward God from enmity to love and trust, Isa. 32:17; James 3:18; John 10:10, 27-29. Faith, with peace and joy, is the bond of a holy concord and union, the support and foundation of a pious joy. "The power of the Holy Ghost" means that all our blessings are the gifts of Divine goodness, the spirit of holiness, love and consolation working in the believer producing faith, hope, joy, peace, Rom. 14:17.

II. *The Joy of Perfect Peace*: John 15:11; Isa. 55:12. Joy and peace are nearly always mentioned together, Gal. 5:22; John 16:24. This joy is that which Christ Himself possessed in the consciousness of His love towards the Father and of the love of the Father towards Him. The brightness of that joy filled the darkest hours of Christ's human life and He wills that His servants should have this light which is the consciousness of God's love as part of their true life, joy which no sorrow should ever overcome. Jesus here gives the true source of peace, John 14:27: His own peace which is the source of joy, the very joy which was the light of his own heart. This joy came from the never failing source of the Father's presence with Him, John 16:32.

III. *The Joy of Salvation*: Isaiah 12:3. "If any man thirst let him come unto Me and drink", John 7:37, 38. Christ is the well of salvation and His invitation is for every one to drink of Him. All have a thirst in the heart which all the rivers of the world cannot quench. "If thou knewest the gift of God"—Jesus would have given to the woman the living water, cool as snow, clear as crystal, pure as the love of God, John 4:10. We may all drink of this well, our Lord Jesus Christ, of His fulness of joy all may receive in the way of salvation, His spirit, His nature. "The joy of salvation", Ps. 51:12, arises from being saved in the Lord; none but God can give us this joy, for it follows pardon and purity, and conscious of weakness we must seek to be kept by a power superior to our own. The royal Spirit, whose holiness is able to make us walk with our King in all uprightness, will do so if we seek His gracious upholding. Joy greatly aids holiness.

IV. *The Joy of Service*: Ps. 100:2; John 11:28; 2:5. We must give the message of salvation to dying souls, I Cor. 3:9-23. Here we have Christian service and its reward. When we do all to the glory of God, it will be all gold, upon the foundation of our faith, Jesus Christ, II Cor. 5:14, 15, and if we live wholly for Him, our actions will also become all silver and will be rewarded when Jesus comes. The precious stones, with their bright scintillations and radiations, represent the work of the Holy Spirit, Daniel 12:3. How beautifully and expressively they speak to us of what the Holy Spirit is ever willing and ready to do in the life of each one of us! When we live by the guidance, through the power and under the love of the Spirit then everything we do, say and think will become as precious stones, Phil. 3:13, 14. The apostle speaks of dead works, Heb. 6:1; 9:14. Much of our Christian work is an accumulation of dead works with no fruit for God. Let us give ourselves whole-heartedly to Jesus Christ.—*Mrs. James Pollard*

WITH the PROGRAM COMMITTEE

WHAT shall be the object of the Program Committee in preparing this meeting? Shall it be to have a beautiful program beautifully rendered? Certainly this should be one object. This may be easily done by using the material offered on pages 15-22, 24-29.

"More Precious than Rubies" is in itself a beautiful subject. The thoughts given are beautiful and beautifully expressed. Just to read through the pages brings an uplift of heart. The program might easily be made up of readings from this material. The committee should have at least two copies of ROYAL SERVICE to cut up and use. These clippings may be enclosed in red paper to represent rubies but they should be given out some days before the meeting so those who read may become familiar with them and thus make the meaning clear. If the women can be induced to talk instead of read, so much the better.

These clippings will be: 1—The Precious Ruby, *Introduction*; 2—Rubies of Great Price, *Church Membership*; 3—Adorned with Rubies, *Personal Service*; 4—Gems for His Crown, *Soul-Winning*; 5—The Key to the King's Jewel Chest, *Prayer*; 6—Giving Our Rubies, *Money Gifts*.

It will be noted that rubies are received as well as given. In *church membership* the blessings are upon those who earnestly listen and faithfully work. The question may be well put: "What are the greatest blessings I have received through being a member of the church?" Then comes the question: "What treasures have I added to the life and-work of the church?" In a small society or circle meeting these questions might be asked, the first to be answered in turn by each member, the second to be answered silently in each heart.

Personal service comes next, and the society's record along this line may be brought out. While the acts of neighborly kindness may be rubies for personal adornment, only those done in the name of the church can adorn the society. No doubt all feel that we have too long played at this work. The Program Committee should consult with the society president, the chairman of the Personal Service Committee and others. This consultation should result in some definite, planned work for the community. It should be a ruby worthy of our King.

Soul-winning is another point in which we stand condemned. How many really know how to talk to the unsaved? How many lead lives that speak daily of a desire for the salvation of others? Would that through this program every society might be aroused to this greatest work.

Prayer is constantly brought out in our meetings, yet how many have been developed into devoted intercessors? The Program Committee should not be satisfied with a mere talk or reading on this subject. Every effort should be made to have the women pledge themselves to prayer. Sentence prayers should follow the presentation of this subject. Where the women are not trained for this, use written prayers of praise and thanksgiving from the Bible. Select some special need of the society, church or community and ask each woman to pray for that every day until the next society meeting. "Test Me, try Me, prove Me, saith the Lord!"

Money gifts—this is the easiest gift. We need to enlarge it, surely, but this enlargement will be so much a result of the other things that it need not be given great stress in this program. However, a report of the gifts of the society would be suitable here, also the standing of the state Union in regard to its quota. A

(Concluded on Page 29)

The programs given month by month present the present-day conditions in our home and foreign mission fields. Societies just beginning mission study or those wishing to review past history of any subject treated will find what they desire in the mission study books, a list of which will be furnished, on request, by Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Va. For a few cents leaflets suggested in this number can be obtained from W.M.U. Literature Department, 1111 Comer Building, Birmingham, Ala. See also book references on page 3.

Prepared by Mrs. C. D. Creasman, Tenn.

"FAR above RUBIES"

Hymn—Oh Worship the King

Bible Study (See page 13.)

Prayer for God's Blessings on This Meeting

Personal Service Period

Hymn—He Is So Precious to Me

More Precious than Rubies

Acres of Rubies

Rubies of Great Price

Hymn—Faith of Our Fathers

Prayer that the Number of the Quietly Faithful May Be Increased

Adorned with Rubies

Gems for His Crown

Prayer for the Salvation of the Lost around Us

The Key to God's Chest of Jewels

Using the Key

Giving Our Rubies

A Worthy Woman

Hymn—Have Thine Own Way

Closing Prayer that We May Have an Abundance of Wisdom Which Will Make Us Worthy Women

MORE PRECIOUS than RUBIES

SOLOMON was the wisest of all men. He showed his wisdom in his youth by making a wise choice. When God said to him, "Ask what I shall give thee", he answered, "Give Thy servant an understanding heart". God, pleased with his choice, said: "I have done according to thy word; lo I have given thee a wise and understanding heart: so that there hath been none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee". God kept this promise, so that we are told that Solomon was wiser than all men: "And there came of all peoples to hear the wisdom of Solomon from all kings of the earth, who had heard of his wisdom". We listen, then, as to one who speaks with authority when the wisest of all men says of wisdom:

"She is more precious than rubies: And none of the things thou canst desire are to be compared unto her".

Job makes a similar statement saying, "Yea, the price of wisdom is above rubies".

The ruby is the most precious of all gems. Not even the diamond is so highly prized, for rubies perfect in color, transparency and freedom from flaw are much rarer than good diamonds. The rarest rubies are found in the east, the most valuable, those of pigeon-blood color, being found only in Burmah. Rubies seldom weigh more than eight or ten carats, but it is said that a certain king of Ceylon once owned a ruby which was a span long, as thick as a man's arm and without a flaw. Another king offered a city for it, but his offer was refused. Some commentators think that Solomon's rubies were corals or perhaps pearls. That may be so, but it is easy to believe that among the riches of Solomon were some of these priceless eastern rubies and that he considered them the most valuable of all his possessions. So when he wanted to give an estimate of wisdom he thought of these rare and priceless

gems and said, "She is more precious than rubies".

Not many of us can possess a real ruby, certainly not one of the rarer, larger ones. But all of us may possess that wisdom which is more precious than rubies. It is ours for the asking, for we are told, "If any of you lacketh wisdom let him ask of God who giveth to all liberally and upbraideth not, and it shall be given him". We are all busy today getting things, getting jewels and garments, houses and lands, automobiles and other things which we consider desirable to make us happy. How many of us are trying to get this most valuable of all possessions—an understanding heart? We need to heed the words of Solomon as he says: "Wisdom is the principal thing, therefore get wisdom; yea with all thy getting get understanding".

What is this wisdom upon which wise men place such a high estimate? David answers that question for us, saying: "The fear of Jehovah is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all they that do His commandments". So this wisdom, whose price is far above rubies, begins in loving fear of God, and grows as we obey His words and do His will. Some one has said, "Wisdom consists in knowing what to do". A more correct statement is that wisdom consists in knowing what God wills for us to do. God promises to give us such wisdom if we ask Him for it.

ACRES of RUBIES

THE story on which Russell Conwell based his famous lecture, "Acres of Diamonds", is a familiar one. It tells of a man who was happy and contented on his little farm until he heard that there were such things as diamonds. Then he became dissatisfied with what he had and, consumed with the desire to possess these precious jewels, he sold his little farm, left the home in which he had been so happy and started out on his quest for diamonds. Among many mountains, along many streams, in many lands for many years he

searched but found no diamonds. At last with hope abandoned, strength depleted and money gone, he wandered back to his old home and learned to his amazement that the man who had bought his little farm had found there acres of diamonds.

The lesson in this story is obvious. The riches of life are not to be found in some far-away place but are right around us. The ground on which we stand is holy ground, made holy by the opportunities for service which God has placed there for us. If we have that wisdom which is counted more precious than rubies we will realize that all around us are acres of rubies of opportunities which, if utilized, will make our lives rich. Those who are counted worthy of doing the greater tasks beyond are those who are found doing faithfully the little tasks close at hand. When Christ commanded His followers to carry the Gospel into all the world He said plainly, "Beginning at Jerusalem". It is the task of some to carry the light of Jesus into far-away places, but a larger number must keep the home fires burning, remembering that "the light that shines farthest shines brightest at home". A few are called to go to distant lands to search out the gems hidden there, but most of us must find our acres of rubies right where we are.

RUBIES of GREAT PRICE

MEMBERSHIP in a church places a person in the midst of acres of rubies, for the church furnishes rich opportunities for service. Church members have been divided into three classes: the Carelessly Indifferent, the Spasmodically Enthusiastic and the Quietly Faithful. *The Carelessly Indifferent* are those whose names are on the church roll but who care nothing about its program of work and take no part in its activities. *The Spasmodically Enthusiastic* are those who at the revival season or when there is some especially interesting occasion on hand become very enthusiastic, and it seems that they are going to do wonders but,

when things become normal and the humdrum work must be done, the fire of their enthusiasm dies down and they become dead coals until a fresh wind of interest fans them into a flame of activity again. *The Quietly Faithful* are those who are doing with their might what their hands find to do, who are loyal in season and out of season, who work when the sun shines and when the storm clouds lower, who are faithful in the performance of every duty to which the church calls them. They see the rubies of opportunity around them and are making the most of them, thus laying up for themselves treasures in Heaven. It is the *Quietly Faithful* who are found in their places at all the church services, prayermeetings included. It is the *Quietly Faithful* who teach the Sunday school classes, lead the missionary organizations, take part on the missionary programs, help serve the church suppers and do all those other tasks which are so important in the church's program of work. It is the *Quietly Faithful* who bring into the "store house" each Sunday their tithes and freewill offerings, thus helping with the support of the local work and of all missionary causes. A layman outlined the duties of the *Quietly Faithful* when he said that church membership meant to him: praying, paying, plodding and persevering.

It is said that in some parts of China when a person presents himself for membership in the church, the question is asked, "Do you come as a guest or a host?" They want to find out whether he comes merely to be waited on and served as a guest, or if he comes expecting to enter into the work of the church and help to serve others. Alas, we have entirely too many guests among our church members. Which are you: a guest or a host? Do you belong to the class of the *Quietly Faithful*? Are you praying, paying, plodding and persevering? Are you wisely making the most of the rubies of opportunity which the church provides?

Those who are doing day by day

their little part of the Master's work in a faithful, earnest, consecrated way, are

the rubies of great price in His Kingdom.

What kind of service would your church do,
If every member were just like you?

ADORNED with RUBIES

KIND deeds are jewels which adorn the life. Through personal service our women have the opportunity of adorning their lives with jewels far more precious than all the rubies of the world. The two words "personal" and "service" are beautiful words and rich in meaning when placed together. The word service means labor done for another, and when the word personal is placed before it, it means labor done by one person for another person in a very intimate and tender way. The man in the gutter is a person, the woman in the sick bed is a person, the hungry child by the wayside is a person, the stranger in a strange land is a person. You, too, are a person, and if in the spirit of love you stoop to lift the man from the gutter or touch with a sympathetic hand the woman on the sick bed or give food to the hungry child or extend the hand of friendliness to the stranger then your personality touches these other persons, and you have done personal service.

The world today needs the personal touch. We are too much inclined to want to do all of our service by proxy. We depend on missionary boards, the associated charities and paid church visitors to minister to the needy, while we content ourselves with merely touching our pocketbooks occasionally. Such should not be true. "The heart must be touched until the eyes melt into a sympathetic glow and the will energizes the entire personality in personal service." Jesus did most of His work through the personal touch. The blind felt His touch and went away seeing. The filthy, unclean leper learned the joy of His healing touch. Little children felt the touch of His hands on their heads in blessing. Peter, sinking in the sea, felt the touch of His assuring hand and walked in safety on the

water. VanDyke says, "A Christian life is not an imitation but a reproduction of the life of Christ". We can reproduce Christ every day in our own lives as we go about doing good, giving the personal touch to the needy. If we have the wisdom whose price is far above rubies we will search for the acres of rubies around us in the lives of those who need our loving touch. The sick, the poor, the stranger, the sad we have always with us, and every opportunity to serve them is a precious ruby which we may take for ourselves and thus adorn our lives with loving deeds.

"LOVE has a hem to its garment
Which reaches the very dust.
It can touch the stains
Of the streets and the lanes,
And because it can it must.
I ought to bend to the lowest,
I ought and, therefore, I can.
I was made to the end
That I might descend
In the steps of the Son of Man."

GEMS for HIS CROWN

ONE test of wisdom is soul winning, for we read in Proverbs 11:30, "He that winneth souls is wise". If the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom, then the winning of souls must be the culmination or the highest form of wisdom, for surely nothing can be wiser than bringing lost souls into saving knowledge of Jesus. Once a vessel out at sea saw another vessel with sails gone and mast broken. Though there were no signs of life upon it, a boat was lowered and sailors were sent to investigate the disabled ship. On the deck they found one man, emaciated and unconscious but still alive. They took him to their own vessel, and when they had restored him to consciousness and his lips began to move, his first whisper was, "There is another man". Saved himself, his first thought was for the other man who

was still lost. It is the natural impulse of the person, who finds salvation in Christ, to think of others who are lost and long to see them saved also. All around us are lost souls, jewels whose price is far above rubies, sunk in the mire, tarnished with sin, and it is our task to find them, polish them with God's love and make them fit gems for His crown.

Stanley Jones, in "The Christ of the Indian Road", tells us that he once asked a man: "Do you want to know about Christ?" "Yes", answered the man, "but I do not know how to go to Him. I need someone to introduce me to Him". What a shame that, with millions of professing Christians in the world, any man or woman should cry in vain for someone to introduce him or her to Jesus! Perhaps there are, even near to us, people who long to meet Jesus, but have no one to introduce Him to them. What greater joy could any Christian have than to introduce Jesus to a sinful soul! That should be the one aim of all our work. Someone has said, "We should have a passion for souls, not merely a profession". How pitifully small the results of our work along this line! All of the co-operative churches of the Southern Baptist Convention, with a membership of 3,616,924, reported last year only 193,279 baptisms, or an average of one baptism for every 18.7 members. 7622 churches reported not one baptism for the whole year.

A W. M. U. field worker in one of our states won last year one hundred and five souls to Jesus. She did it as she taught mission study classes, spoke in district and associational rallies and mingled with the young people in various places where she worked. She did it because in her soul was a passion for the salvation of the lost. Suppose every southern Baptist had won as many last year: everybody in the United States would have been saved, and some would have been compelled to go into Cuba, Mexico or some other land to complete their quota. Perhaps in the complexity of our organization and the multiplicity

of our plans we have lost sight of the main thing for which we work. If so, we should consider again the deep, underlying purpose of our commission and should realize that the one aim in all our organization and in all our planning is to save the souls of lost men and women. Like Andrew let us find our Peter and bring him to Jesus. Like Philip let us bring our Nathaniel to the Savior. Like the woman of Samaria let us proclaim to a city of lost people that we have found Him who came to seek and to save that which was lost. So shall we save from the mire of sin the precious rubies of human souls, that they may shine forever as gems in the crown of our King.

PRAYER the KEY to GOD'S CHEST of JEWELS

CCOURTLAND MEYERS, in his wonderful little book, "Real Prayer", says: "If prayer is anything it is everything; if it is true it is the greatest truth. One of the world's renowned scientists has recently declared that prayer is the mightiest force in the universe and that the Christian world is blind to this fact. . . . The humblest heart lifted up brings the power of the eternal down. The stammering tongue and faltering voice can make things move at the center of the universe". Through prayer the Christian has access to the unlimited resources of God, for he has the repeated promises of the Heavenly Father that he shall receive what he asks for, provided the petition is made under the right conditions and in the right spirit and for the right purpose. Prayer then is the key to God's chest of jewels. Through prayer we may have as our own the pearls of His purity, the diamonds of His power and the rubies of His sacrificial love. How strange that, with the key to this chest of jewels in our hands, we so seldom use it, and thus these gifts, which might be ours, are withheld from us. We are powerless when all God's power might be ours. We are sinful when we might have access to His holiness. We are in debt when we have at our command all

of His treasures. We falter along through the years, talking about winning the world to Christ but doing it by very slow degrees, when the immeasurable resources of God's spiritual Kingdom are available through prayer. Dr. Meyers says again: "God's greatest agency for winning men back to Himself is the prayers of other men. . . . God's heart longs for the salvation of men. His own infinite love made the plan of redemption. He gave Christ to die in order to make it possible. His holy spirit is in the earth to work it out, and yet men are essential too. He chose them for this great work. And the greatest part which the man has in it is his believing, persistent prayer".

Knowing that the Kingdom of Christ must come through prayer, the W. M. U. has wisely made plans for the prayer life of its members. If we have that wisdom which is more precious than rubies we will use these plans and thus draw from God's chest jewels to adorn our own souls and to make our lives shine for His glory and for the spreading of His Kingdom. The Calendar of Prayer guides our praying each day and unites our petitions that they may have more power at the Heavenly throne. What a benediction it is to our souls to know that, as we pray, thousands of other women are praying for the same cause on the same day! With what assurance we approach God with the name of a missionary or a definite cause on our lips when we know that the same prayer is rising from the hearts of uncounted women in all parts of our southland! We feel that God, who has promised that if two shall agree in their petitions it shall be done for them, will surely hear the united prayers of a multitude.

The nine o'clock prayer hour is another means of uniting our prayers, as we pray at the same hour each day for the things of the Kingdom. The special seasons of prayer for state, home and foreign missions are sources of great spiritual strength to our women, and each year thousands of dollars pour into the missionary treasury because at these

seasons our women and young people join their forces with the infinite power of God. We would not attempt to estimate the influence of the prayers which are offered at the devotional periods of the missionary meetings each month and of the prayers that rise daily from the hearts of W. M. U. members as, in their private devotions, they invoke God's blessings on our work. Yes, through prayer we have drawn rich jewels from God's chest, but the richest, rarest gems are still there. The key is in our hands. Let us use it that all the riches of God's power may be ours, and that His Kingdom may come and His will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

USING the KEY

IN a certain mission in Japan the water supply was low, and it seemed that unless something was done a water famine was inevitable. The head of the girls' school there appealed to her board in New York for help, but the reply went back: "Funds are scarce, so we can do nothing for you". She then investigated the cost of putting in an artesian well but found that it was more than she could possibly undertake. The water was getting scarcer every day. What could they do? There was only one possible source of help, and that was God. They could draw on His chest of jewels through prayer, and that is what they did. On the evening of December 31, when the water was almost exhausted, the teachers and older pupils met to pray for water, though they had no idea how their prayer was to be answered. Now while they prayed, a man sleeping in Philadelphia was suddenly awakened with the strange impression that someone somewhere was in need of money which God wanted him to supply. The impression was so strong that he could not rest, so, rising from his bed at six o'clock in the morning, he wrote a letter and a check and sent them to the board in New York, explaining what had happened. The check was for the exact amount needed to cover the cost of the artesian well and the piping of the water into the school buildings. Thus God easily sup-

plied the needed treasure when His children used the key of believing prayer. (*Retold from "Purpose in Prayer" by Bounds*)

GIVING OUR RUBIES

THE study of state and home missions reveals the fact that there are other acres of rubies beyond the bounds of our own immediate communities and yet close enough to belong especially to us. There are about eighteen million people in the south who make no profession of religion and are identified with no church. This host of lost people presents an opportunity and an obligation which we cannot lightly lay aside. The Indians on the frontiers, the mountaineers among the coves, the foreigners in the cities, the soldiers and sailors in camp and fort, the Jews in the busy market places, the negroes in the city, town and country side, the sick in the hospitals, the deaf mutes in the land of silence—the lost everywhere—are our acres of rubies to win for Christ.

God has greatly blessed southern Baptists. He has given them material blessings which all the rubies of the world could not buy. The income of the southern Baptists each year is estimated at one and one-half billion dollars. That much money would buy one and one-half million one carat rubies, valued at one thousand dollars each. Surely God gives us this great sum of money that we might use it for spreading His Kingdom. Just a tithe of our income would be one hundred and fifty million dollars each year or the value of one hundred and fifty thousand rubies. That much money given to Him would support our local work in a generous way and make it possible to advance in great strides in all of our missionary projects. One hundred and fifty thousand rubies given to His cause would mean the salvation of thousands of lost souls not only in the home land, but around the world, each soul with a price far above rubies.

Instead of giving one tenth, southern Baptists gave last year only a little over

one percent of their income to the Lord's work. It is estimated from statistics furnished by the government that they spent last year 100 million dollars for luxuries, such as tobacco, candy, ice cream, perfumery and face paint, amusements, jewelry and the like. Comparing that with the forty million dollars, our total gifts for all denominational work, it is seen that for every dollar given to the cause of Christ we spent \$2.50 for the frills and follies of life. How can we spend so much on ourselves and so little for lost people for whom Christ died? We gave for home missions last year only \$535,401.88 and a debt of \$1,608,903 hangs over our Board. Also in each state the gifts for state missions are far too small and the debts far too large. Thus we are neglecting the rich mines of rubies scattered over our own southland.

Dr. Agar says, "Money is a thermometer. It tells the temperature of the soul. When the soul burns with ardent love for God the money goes Heavenward in generous amounts; but when the soul is cold in covetousness and ignorance the money drops into the low places of selfishness and worldly endeavor". That wisdom, whose price is far above rubies, will show us how to use our money in the wisest way. We will see that a ruby given for Kingdom work is worth many rubies worn for adornment. We will realize that by pouring our rubies into the treasury of the Lord we will win for Him those jewels whose price is far above rubies.

A WORTHY WOMAN

IN the thirty-first chapter of Proverbs Solomon describes the ideal woman, and there again we find an interesting comparison of values: "A worthy woman, who can find? For her price is far above rubies". Thus he places the same estimate on the worthy woman as on wisdom. Surely he means to suggest that before a woman can be counted worthy she must have that wisdom from above which is described as being "first pure, then peaceable, gentle, easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good

fruits, without variance, without hypocrisy".

Most of Solomon's description of the worthy woman refers to her faithfulness to her own household, but one verse tells of her work beyond the borders of her home:

"She stretcheth out her hand to the poor;

Yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy".

This suggests that the woman whose price is far above rubies reaches out her hands to minister to a needy world, and surely we are right in drawing the conclusion that by so doing she proves that she has that wisdom which is also more precious than rubies. Does the W. M. U. woman measure up to this description of a worthy woman? Yea, surely,

if she is faithful to the ideals of the W. M. U. Through personal service, soul winning, prayer and gifts she stretches out her hand to the poor and reaches forth her hands to the needy not only in her own community but unto the uttermost parts of the earth.

Each of us would love to be counted worthy in God's sight. Then let us pray earnestly for that wisdom which will teach us to do His will. Let us in that wisdom serve faithfully those of our own household, our own church, our own community, our own state, our own southland and then stretch out the hand of love until we reach lost and needy people everywhere. Thus may we each hope to obtain God's commendation: "Well done, good and faithful servant. You are a worthy woman whose price is far above rubies".

QUESTIONS on PROGRAM TOPIC for STUDY and DISCUSSION

1. Why was Solomon qualified to give an estimate of wisdom?
2. What is the difference between knowledge and wisdom?
3. What percent of our church members are *Carelessly Indifferent? Spasmodically Enthusiastic? Quietly Faithful?*
4. Discuss the power of the personal touch of Jesus.
5. What conditions in our community call for personal service?
6. How may W. M. U. members do more effective work in soul-winning?
7. Why are we so powerless in prayer?
8. What personal experience of answered prayer can we relate?
9. Do southern Baptists care more for luxuries than for Christ?
10. Is the automobile a help or a hindrance to the work of the Kingdom?
11. Is there a connection between Solomon's estimate of wisdom and a worthy woman?
12. How may a woman be worthy?

PRICED LEAFLETS for WEEK of PRAYER for HOME MISSIONS

	Cents
Woman's Missionary Society	
Forget-Me-Nots (<i>Foreign Neighbors</i>).....	3
In the Open Country (<i>Rural Enlistment</i>).....	3
That Green Carpet (<i>Negroes</i>).....	4
The Jew Coming into His Own.....	3
The Happiest Person I Ever Knew (<i>Mountain Missions</i>).....	3
The Woman Who Knew What She Wanted (<i>Cuba</i>).....	3
Young Woman's Auxiliary	
Dreams	3
Royal Ambassador Chapter	
Peter Pole.....	3
Girls' Auxiliary	
Eeny-Meeny-Miny-Mo	3
Sunbeam Band	
Myra's Magic Circle.....	3

(NOTE: Order the above listed leaflets—ordering EARLY, please—from W. M. U. Literature Dep't., 1111 Comer Bldg., Birmingham, Ala.)



COLLEGE Y.W.A.



GRACE McBRIDE Y. W. A. INTERESTS

W. M. U. as a whole watches with sincere interest the development of our Grace McBride Y. W. A's. The busy life of a nurse in training or in institutional service, with all the demands which such a life makes upon her, leaves little time for spiritual expression unless, with fine mother-heart for these choice daughters in service, the W. M. S. makes such possible through a Grace McBride Y. W. A.

Recently a new organization has been perfected at Louisiana Baptist Hospital, Alexandria, with Mrs. J. E. Oliver as counselor. Good news of mission interest comes from other organizations.

A splendidly large group of nurses from the Southern Baptist Hospital in New Orleans entered into the city Y. W. A. mission study week there in November. Had the banner for attendance been awarded for numbers present, it would probably have gone to those nurses, but naturally it was presented on a percentage basis and went elsewhere. Their record was indeed fine.

At the Missouri Baptist Sanatorium in St. Louis the nurses had their own Activities Week. Mrs. R. K. Redwine spent the week in mission study with them.

Memphis Memorial Hospital Grace McBride Y. W. A. is always keenly alert in every respect. Their posters of invitation are especially well done.

Kentucky Baptist Hospital in Louisville is welcoming as hostess Miss Sallie Priest, who for over twenty years was a missionary in Shanghai, China. She will, of course, be a great help to the Grace McBride Y. W. A. in Louisville.

Georgia Baptist Hospital (*Atlanta*) girls organized with unusual enthusiasm last fall. They are now enjoying their programs much.

Nurses of the Birmingham Baptist Hospital were happily entertained on Christmas Tuesday by the Business Women's Circle of First Baptist Church. Over sixty members of the Grace McBride were present.

What about the nurses in the hospital in your city? Have you interested yourself as a W. M. S. in them? There is organization material for you at your state W. M. U. headquarters. Talk over the matter carefully with the superintendent of the hospital and with the director of nurses, point out the value of lifting one's eyes to the fields and of expanding one's heart in devotional moments as well as relaxing a bit in social amenities. After such a conference, no doubt the hospital management will welcome your fostering care for its nurses. Here is a Ruby Anniversary opportunity indeed but here also are young women peculiarly needing the strong uplift of Y. W. A. ideals, the urge of the drawing power of Christ Jesus through their own missionary organization. Will your society care for them?

Their organization cannot be as pretentious as that of a Y. W. A. in a church for there will be but few moments to spend in preparation and thought for its activity. Often the program will need to be provided in part at least by the local Y. W. A. or by some animated speaker, but encourage the nurses to want to do their own program as much as possible. Help in planning and providing of material will achieve to this end. Always add a social feature to the meeting. Let it be held in a home if possible, automobiles being sent if the distance is great, because nurses' feet have been endless distances along hospital halls on any given day. Some of the nurses will have belonged to G. A's. and Y. W. A's. at home but to many the field of missionary information and endeavor will be entirely new. Let the W. M. S. concern itself in ministering to these who so gently minister always.



Y.W.A. PROGRAMS



Material found in the general program on pages 15-22 as well as other items in this issue will be quite helpful to supplement the following programs. It is hoped it will be freely used in this supplemental way. The leaflets suggested on page 3 will also prove attractive additions.

FIRST MEETING

TOPIC—The World's Richest Woman

Hymn—Oh, the Riches of Love in Christ Jesus

Prayer

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 31

"Far above Rubies"?

Her Portrait

Her Beauty

Her Prominent Features

Her Clothing

Admired by Kings

Sentence Prayers

Discussion of March Week of Prayer and Thank-Offering for Home Missions

Hymn—America

Announcement Poster

Print on cardboard:

The World's Richest Woman

Her portrait will be displayed, her prominent features, beauty and clothing will be discussed at

Y. W. A. Meeting

Time

Place

"Far above Rubies"?

"YOU must be mistaken, my dear, for there are no jewels so rare and consequently so costly as rubies. Did you know that the ruby is the most precious of all jewels, including the diamond, and the rarest ones are found in the orient? The King of Ceylon once owned a very large one—several inches long and as thick as your arm. For this he was offered a city but refused it. So you see that you must be mistaken about any jewel being far above rubies!" Ann goes without a word and brings to Jane the words of one whom the Lord said was wisest of all men. These are his words: "A virtuous (or worthy or resourceful) woman, her price is far above rubies".

-24-

We are told that probably when Solomon was trying to estimate the value of a virtuous woman, he had his servants bring before him all of his treasures—each one separately. We believe he knew what treasures were because he had many costly jewels—pearls, corals, diamonds and rubies. One by one, he had each treasure held before him until he came to the glowing ruby. He considered well as he gazed long and it was then that there came from his lips the words: "Her price is far above rubies".

Her Portrait

THIS woman's portrait is given to us in Proverbs 31. Read it carefully. Solomon gave us this picture through King Lemuel, whose mother was perhaps an artist and had painted for her son a picture of a virtuous woman as Solomon or maybe her own mother had taught her. It is a picture of woman's honorable position in Israel, for it would not have been a possible picture of woman in eastern countries where she was a slave only. It must be about equally removed from the ancient world and the modern idea, for a picture of either would be incomplete without the other.

Her Beauty

JAMES, the actress, says: "Beauty is a thrilling force. It is like electricity. Some women are charged with it and it illumines everything they do". She is very probably referring to surface or physical beauty but she is in truth giving the description of that mysterious inner beauty, which is only of the soul—a beauty not of the physical.

The beauty of the woman described in Proverbs 31 is not surpassed even by portraits that hang in the greatest art galleries or by the statues of the goddess of beauty. Her radiance is like that of the sparkling ruby which can-

not be hid even in the dark—"her candle goeth not out by night". Though she may have had just an ordinary body as the temple of her spirit, it must have been lighted, radiant and consequently beautiful. The International Standard Encyclopaedia says: "Beauty is a messenger of and from God". This woman of true beauty did not pervert hers but used it as a messenger of God. The true beauty of her soul shone through the gentle light of her eyes, the wisdom of her lips and the service of her hands. Such beauty cannot be surpassed.

Her Prominent Features

THIS woman who was to be compared to the sparkling purity of a ruby was "virtuous". Unfortunately this word has been narrowed perceptibly until today we give it the exclusive meaning of moral purity. We are told that we must give it a much broader interpretation if we are to understand all that the wisest of all men meant when he described a "virtuous" woman. The word formerly meant: force, strength, valor and excellence. We judge so when we take into consideration the whole picture of this "resourceful" woman.

In Shakespeare's King Lear we find a suggestion that the word virtue had a larger meaning than now. He says: "Trust in thy single virtue, for thy soldiers have in thy name took their discharge". The word was also used in the sense of a mighty work. Wycliffe translates Matthew 11:20 to read: "Many virtues of Him were done", meaning many miracles or works were done. Thus we see that it was the woman of "complete fitness and good works" who was said to be "far above rubies".

One of her most prominent features was energy. There seems to have been an unfailing spring of activity, the finishing of one task meaning the beginning of another. We often excuse ourselves for engaging in certain unbecoming activities by saying that we needed to work off surplus energy. What powers we could be if all our energies were used for purposes that

were in the mind of God when He gave us energy. The modern woman is certainly energetic but how often are her energies turned away from God.

The one described by Solomon was not only an energetic worker but she was also an able one. She was capable and systematic and was a woman of good judgment. She was wise and made good use of her wisdom. The woman who is compared with rubies is wise because she makes the wise choice that Solomon made, which was "to have an understanding heart". It is an easy thing to keep busy but we should apply wisdom to direct our energies and activities to the right goal. How many capable young women there are today who do not apply judgment and wisdom in the use of their capacities! How many Y. W. A. members who are wonderfully capable are wasting their ability on worthless activities, forgetting from whence cometh their strength and vigor!

Another prominent feature of the Hebrew heroine was her spirit of willingness. It is said that she toiled willingly. We might interpret that to read: "with a will" or "with a purpose in view". That which was willingly done for her household must needs be done for the whole world. What is needed more today than young women with right purposes—or better, purposes according to God? Our greatest failures often come because of wrong purposes. The fear of God gave to this woman a right motive, a right conception of her full duty. She knew that faithfulness was expected of a servant of God and that true faithfulness consisteth not so much in the things done as in the spirit with which they are performed.

May we learn in our Y. W. A. organizations to

Yield our energies

Work with a purpose

Apply our abilities.

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Her Clothing

HER clothes were of purple and silk we are told. Such garments were very extraordinary in those days and were rarely worn except by royalty. But we are also told that strength and honor clothed her and that "she girdeth her loins with strength". Even today this is indeed a super-garment worthy to be worn by king and queen, prince and princess. We often hear that "clothing cannot make a person" but we might notice that the kind of clothes worn by this woman made her the wonderful woman she was. It is said: "If honor be your clothing, they will last always and into eternity, but if your clothing be your honor they will soon wear thread-bare".

Through prayer and Bible study we wear garments of royal beauty. Such garments of strength and honor will be the making of us and the leading of others to Him. Without prayer and the study of His Word our garments will become thread-bare.

Living every day in conscious fellowship with the Unseen this woman, who is to be compared with rubies, offers up an incense which fills her garments with strength, dignity and honor and sends out from her daily life a constant blessing through service.

Since March calls for a special season of prayer and thank-offering for home missions, may we remember that such participation will help to clothe the whole of our southland in robes of royal beauty. As we pray daily, following the Calendar of Prayer (pages 9-10), let us rejoice in the privilege of helping to weave strength into the "garments" worn by our missionaries. Prayer releases a force which is necessary in God's Kingdom work and our failure to pray withholds a force, thus locking the doors of progress and victory.

Admired by Kings

THE story goes that King Lemuel's ability to describe in such accurate detail this picture painted by his mother shows that he had gazed long at her prominent features. His enthusiastic

description would suggest that he had acquired a distaste for all qualities which fell short of hers. May we come to have a distaste for anything less than the complete fitness of a woman whose price is "far above rubies". As the world daily paints portraits of us may it be able to portray only such features as are admirable in the sight of the King of Kings.

SECOND MEETING

TOPIC—Y. W. A. Housekeepers

Y. W. A. Hymn—O Zion, Haste

Scripture—Proverbs 31 (as for first meeting)

Prayer that we may become as this "virtuous woman"

A Good Housekeeper

A Housekeeper's Time

"She Considereth—and Buyeth"

A Modern Parable

"She Looketh Afar"

"A Steward . . . Faithful"

Sentence Prayers

Discussion of Thank-Offering for Home Missions

Hymn—To the Work

Announcement Poster

Print on cardboard:

Y. W. A. Meeting

Time Place

Subject: "Housekeepers"

Is God's plan for every woman to be a housekeeper? Come to Y. W. A. meeting and help discuss this subject.

A Good Housekeeper

THIS woman whose portrait we have studied was a splendid housekeeper. It is said of her: "She looketh well to the ways of her household". We may feel that housekeeping is not an unusual calling, that it is work which can be easily and well done by any one but this is a mistaken idea. This Hebrew housekeeper was cautious, systematic and forward looking in her daily routine.

While most Y. W. A. members are not responsible for a household in a physical sense, it is nevertheless true that spiritually speaking every Christian is a housekeeper in the Kingdom

of God. We are told that our "bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit" and do we not have control over our bodies? Are they not dwelling-places?

Then there is another way in which all Y. W. A. members are housekeepers, for Dr. Walter Johnson in his new book on stewardship says: "The word in the Greek New Testament for stewardship is 'oikonomia' or household management in the absence of the master of the house". He suggests that if we make that word "oikonomia" conform to our English it would be "economia"—keeping house for God. It carries with it the idea of a family—father, children, brothers, sisters—all its material goods used in love for the good of all and to please the father. Indeed, the whole world of races is but one big family of children, brothers and sisters, with God waiting to be honored as Father. So in reality every Christian is a steward and, therefore, a housekeeper for God.

A Housekeeper's Time

A HOUSEKEEPER'S time is a big problem. It is said of the housekeeper in Proverbs that she arose early before day and that she toiled into the night—"she eateth not the bread of idleness". Over and over perhaps she did the same things but because there was a new need she found a new joy in so doing. Do we in our housekeeping for God always find joy in doing over and over the same things because the need is ever present?

The modern girl doesn't usually eat the bread of idleness but to be busy about things which are not worthwhile may be worse than eating the bread of idleness. Also, it is possible to allow worthless things so to fill our time that we have none left for the things we would really love to do. "A girl was approached by her good genius with two baskets on her arm. One she held out before her. In it were love, intellectual power, good health, worthy friends and, best of all, an upright character. 'Help yourself', she said, but the girl stood irresolute and finally reached toward

the other basket and began grabbing good looks, wit, social position and other things. When finally she turned to pick up character and friends she found she had no room for them". So it is with our time: it cannot hold everything.

We need time to think and meditate. Jesus by His example taught us the need of meditation. The English novelist Maxwell says: "Modern life with its hurry and whirl seems to have banished leisure, poise and serenity of outlook". James Truslow Adams, historian and author, says that it would be a good idea to muffle every telephone, stop every motor and halt all activity for an hour some day to give people a chance to ponder for a few minutes on what it is all about, why they are living and what they really want.

If we are good housekeepers we will use our time systematically and will provide time for thought and growth. We will also provide time to do God's work. Hands that are diligent in supplying the needs of the household must be, as Solomon describes, also "stretched out with alms to the needy". Shall we forget that there is the big family of the whole world waiting for our deeds of personal service and love? Some one has said: "Pity and charity find their homes in the heart of woman but if woman's hands are too busy 'holding the spindle' to hear the cries of misery they have lost their glory".

Then there is the big work of God's Kingdom advancement which needs our time and all our strength. May we realize that time is God's gift and may we return it unto Him filled with profitable service which will advance His Kingdom.

"She Considereth—and Buyeth"

THIS splendid Hebrew housekeeper watched for every opportunity that would mean gain for her household. It is said that the same opportunity never presents itself but once. It is always a new one. Henry Ford says: "A generation ago there were a thousand men to every opportunity. Today there are

a thousand opportunities for every man". Jesus taught us by the parable of the talents that we are to look for opportunity—consider, buy it—and make the most of it for God's Kingdom. When an opportunity is used for Him our abilities and capacities are made larger and the next opportunity is greater. Thus God promotes us.

A Modern Parable

JESUS called Y. W. A. girls to Him and delivered unto them talents. Unto some He gave many, unto some several and unto still others He gave one. Since they were all gifts from His hands, He expected them to develop and use them for Him. Some of the girls to whom He gave many talents began to glorify God in the use of them, likewise some to whom He gave several talents. But a girl, to whom He gave one, failed to make any use even of that one. Every time she was asked to use her talent she would refuse and would keep it hid.

One day Jesus is coming to get an account of these talents. The girls who have made the best use of them will say: "Lord, behold, I have used my talents and find that I have doubled the number You first gave me"; likewise the second group. The Lord will be pleased and will say: "Thou art faithful and profitable servants and because of it I will make you ruler over many things". But there will be some who will say: "Lord, I hid the talent which You gave me. I couldn't find anywhere to use it". The Lord will be very displeased and will say: "You should have put it to some use for Me. You unprofitable servant, I must take that which I have given you and give it to those who improved upon that which I gave them. You must be cast into utter darkness". How many of your Y. W. A. will be in the last group when Jesus requires an account?

"She Looketh Afar"

SHE looketh afar to see what profitable exchanges she can make. This might easily suggest to us the wisdom of our doing the same. Great advan-

tage do we have over her. Through our dozens of mission study books, missionary magazines and missionaries we look afieid. Surely a woman of today should be embarrassed at not knowing the world and its many complications. As we study mission fields we will consider how to make profitable exchanges. As we follow the Calendar of Prayer and observe the special seasons of prayer, we exchange our prayers for divine force in foreign lands—we exchange our prayers for new faith and courage in the missionaries and native Christians.

When we give our money for missions we exchange it for living jewels. Just as the exchanges brought gain to this woman pictured in Proverbs, even so do the exchanges we make bring wealth into our own households and into all of God's great household.

A Steward . . . Faithful

WE know that this woman, pictured to us by Solomon as being the ideal woman, had many material possessions. We cannot believe that a woman such as she—whose garments were strength and honor, who toiled so joyfully, who stretched out her hands to the poor and needy—could forget that a steward is required to be *faithful in all things*. We read that in her mouth was wisdom—do we not believe that she rendered to God an honest stewardship of all her possessions, including her money?

In reading the Union's history, "In Royal Service" by Miss Heck, one is impressed with the early W. M. U. attitude toward giving. The discussion seemed to have been not upon tithing but upon proportionate giving, which concerns what is left after the tithe has been paid. Dr. Walter Johnson says that we must come to consider the whole amounts of our salaries and incomes if we are to do the task which God has set before us. Another has said: "The test of a Christian is not the tithe but what he does with what is left". We do not give if we merely tithe. The tithe is an honest debt. How far beyond the tithe have you gone? Let us make an offering unto the King.

Do's and Don't's for Y. W. A. Housekeepers

CURRENT magazines are very helpful to housekeepers through their regular columns: "Do's and Don't's for Housekeepers". Y. W. A's. might be helped by a few such suggestions as:

- 1—Don't forget that every Y. W. A. member is as essentially a housekeeper as is her mother or married sister.
- 2—Don't forget that this business is not elective for Christians. When we become Christians we become stewards—"housekeepers for God".
- 3—Do remember that you are to be as diligent in the work of God's household as you would be in your earthly household were you the head of it.
- 4—Don't forget the budget plan which is recommended as being helpful in the use of time and money.
- 5—Do every service as unto God that He may be glorified and your life enriched.
- 6—Don't rob God in tithes and offerings.
- 7—Do remember that it is required in a steward that he be found faithful.
- 8—Don't forget that the tithe is a debt. A gift must be above the tithe.
- 9—Do remember that Christ will ask for an account of your stewardship.

"PRAY YE" (Concluded from Page 11)

- Pray that March 11 and 15 plans may be carefully and prayerfully made by pastors and associational leaders.
- Pray that W. M. U. members and organizations may render all possible assistance in these plans.
- Pray for definite results in enlistment and soul-winning because of observance of Week of Prayer for Home Missions.
- Pray for an abundant Thank-Offering because of the week's programs.
- Remember the Chattanooga committees preparing for the S. B. C. and W. M. U. meetings there, May 14-20.
- Pray for Ruby Anniversary: (1) for 40,000 new members; (2) for 40% increase in organizations; (3) for \$4,000,000.
- Pray for renewed emphasis on tithing.

PROGRAM PLANS (Concluded from Page 14)

talk on the "Ruby Anniversary Aim in Money" might be added. If an offering is taken at the society, use a jewel box to receive it.

In closing, have the thirty-first chapter of Proverbs read, beginning with the tenth verse. Explain that in the original this was an acrostic, each verse beginning with one of the twenty-two letters of the Hebrew alphabet. The oftener the description is read, the nobler stands forth the character of the "virtuous" (*more accurately translated as "resourceful"*) woman.

Now again—What shall be the object of the Program Committee in preparing this meeting? We have seen that it may be a beautiful program but the committee will feel that it has failed unless the results are: 1—More devoted and faithful church members; 2—Steps toward definite personal service; 3—Some effort in soul-winning; 4—More praying members; 5—Enlarged gifts. In securing these results there must be by the committee: much earnest prayer, thoughtful consideration of the special needs of the society, a willingness to spend time in selecting the right women for the different parts, renewed personal consecration.

OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

SERVICE "FAR above RUBIES"

SOMETIMES the W. M. S. is so eager to keep its own Week of Prayer for Home Missions that it forgets to be concerned about developing the prayer interests of its young people. Let counselors be encouraged by the W. M. U. young people's director (*Plan of Work, Article XV, Item 5 on Page 18 of W. M. U. Year Book*) to observe the prayer program suggestions and to gather in the offering among our young people. Few young people will give unwisely but most of them will need the stimulus of some pressure to break through careless, selfish habits of handling money. Do not be afraid to stress the offering if you have really had a prayer program to prompt real giving. The home mission situation must burden the counselor and through her the young people. "One blazing soul sets another on fire!"

March concerns itself with the prayer programs and offering but cherishes also in regular programs a desire to offer service "far above rubies". **WORLD COMRADES**, March number, contains an interesting story entitled "The Personal Service Point". It will be suggestive to all counselors. So will be the following account from an Oklahoma Y. W. A. counselor, Mrs. R. H. Tharp:

"Girls in their teens are sometimes prone to consider personal service a lot of trouble or a necessary evil. Why not

have a good time while we are about the King's Business?

"Y. W. A. girls in Hugo have lovely times when they are hostesses in a 'Cheer-Up Party'. It is an old form of personal service, expressed in a new way. Like an old faded dress which has been freshly dyed and trimmed, it has become more attractive.

"Sunday afternoon is a splendid time to give a 'Cheer-Up Party'; however that matter is entirely arbitrary. All girls, except two or three who bring some food delicacy, are asked to gather garden flowers. They meet in a centrally located place and go 'en masse' to the home of a shut-in or convalescent. A good spiritual yet cheerful devotional is led by a consecrated young woman, several worshipful hymns are sung and a chain of sentence prayers uttered. One result is that the dear invalid feels that an oasis has been brought into her desert dreariness.

"Girls love it! They like to realize that they can really bring joy, happiness and hope into some lonely life. If your girls are losing interest in their personal service work, suggest a series of 'Cheer-Up Parties' in which all the grandmothers of the church are remembered".

Surely these lovingkindness deeds will lead to soul-winning and the development of active Christian characters. Such goals are eagerly sought for our young people.

WORLD COMRADES

Our Monthly Magazine for Young People

Have you made OUR yours?

Look and you will see that yours must have OURS. Put your dollar in and make

World Comrades Yours for a Whole Year

You will each month be glad for the larger vision it will bring to your children, whether in your home or in an organization for the young people, through its

Puzzles and Letters from Chapters,

Stories, Programs for G. A.'s., R. A.'s. and Sunbeam Band

WORLD COMRADES

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Birmingham, Ala.

Subscription price, \$1 a year—Don't delay your dollar!

TRAINING SCHOOL

IMPRESSIONS of a GUEST in HOUSE BEAUTIFUL

WHEN I arrived for this visit to the Training School I had the same experiences I have always had as I approached the building and as I caught my first glimpse of the interior. I am always impressed anew with the stately beauty and rare simplicity of the building, and when I enter its portals the pristine beauty of the entrance hall, the golden glow on the broad marble stairway, due to the sun shining through stained glass, invariably speak to me of the purity of ideals always held before those who are so fortunate as to come under the influence of the school and of the warmth and happiness in the lives of those who would through their aspirations rise to higher living and consecrated service.

I sometimes wonder if it can be my pride in the beautiful structure and my knowledge of the warmth of welcome that awaits me and my love for those who live here that cause me to have a warm glow about my heart, a deeper reverence within my soul and yet an uplift that speaks of joy immediately upon my entrance here. While all this has its influence, yet I cannot believe it is wholly that. I do believe in the actual presence of the Spirit of Power and cannot but believe that the atmosphere is so charged that even one at the door cannot fail to receive an impression that will help one to hold ideals a bit finer and have aspirations that are a bit higher than before.

Each visit I make to the Training School strengthens my conviction that it was conceived in prayer and born of hearts completely surrendered to the Lord—hearts in which the sentiment of the song had full sway—

"Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way!
Hold o'er my being absolute sway;
Fill with Thy Spirit till all shall see
Christ only, always, living in me!"

It was wisdom from above that made possible a building of such beauty, and yet so substantial and usable and a school of such genuine efficiency.

It was prayer and yielded spirits that have given to us such women as those we have had to serve as principals and faculty of the school. It has been prayer and the Spirit-filled lives both of these women and the great mass of the students even to this very day that created and keep alive that life-giving atmosphere so necessary for the young life in training for the Master's service.

"The stranger guest at our school may not see
The forms I see nor hear the sounds I hear;
She but perceives what is; while unto me
All that has been is visible and clear."

Space forbids that I mention by names those whose lives have touched the school in such a way that they have left a fragrance that stirs beautiful memories, sets chords to vibrating that blended produce harmonies which thrill those who live and work and visit here. I would say to the present principal and faculty: "Yours is a precious heritage", and to the women of the south: "Those who have served and gone have wrought well and those who are here today are worthy successors and eminently capable of carrying on".—Mrs. W. C. James, Ky.

MISSIONARY METHODS for CHURCH and HOME

Reviewed by Mrs. Julian P. Thomas, Va.

THE world of mission workers will welcome gratefully "Missionary Methods for Church and Home" by Katherine Scherer Cronk, which comes from the press of Fleming H. Revell and Co. For ten years Mrs. Cronk gave, in the *Missionary Review of the World*, methods, helps and suggestions to missionary workers. These have been gathered and edited by her husband, Dr. E. C. Cronk, always her willing associate in Christian service.

As we read the chapter titles—"Prayer as a Method of Work", "Soul Winning Methods"—we realize that these are not devices merely but real methods founded on a knowledge of the human mind and a deep insight into the spiritual nature of man. The methods are so many and varied one wonders how it was possible for a single person to gather them together and, yet, they are so natural and obvious it seems strange we had not thought of them before.

There is no phase of mission work for which she has not a suggestion. She catches ideas from everywhere and adapts them to missionary purposes. Her readers have the satisfaction of knowing that these are no dreams of an impractical enthusiast but that each suggestion has been tried out, not once but many times, and has proven its value.

From the first chapter, in which she refutes the Lilliputian heresy of "little talks", "little prayers", "little gifts", throughout the book, she takes the ground that the one overwhelmingly important and interesting thing in life is missions. She writes in such joyous strain of missions and missionary endeavor that she carries our minds and hearts with her and makes us long to share her joy in winning others.

She has in some subtle way put into

these methods the glowing personality that those of us who knew her in life will recognize. She possessed to the full that abundant life that her Savior promised to those who would accept it, and she shared its fruits generously and graciously with others. In these methods she gives us so much of her own rich life and experience that one perforce catches the fire of her loving devotion and rises from the reading determined to emulate in some degree her success in the Master's service.

We feel that she has used her own method of prayer for success in presenting these helps to her needy co-workers. Turning over the pages, one discovers something for all—the discouraged missionary president who finds it difficult to arrange a program, the mother who is trying to lead her children to higher ideals, the country church that feels unable to undertake a larger service, the pastor who is endeavoring to arouse his church to nobler aims. Each one of these will find in this well-stocked treasury understanding, sympathy and practical help, all given in a thrillingly interesting style.

We would especially call attention to the suggestions for work with children and young people. The chapter in which "Painless Missionary Instruction" is outlined would prove an untold blessing to many a disheartened worker with children. The chapter on "Eye-Gate Methods" would be a boon not only to workers with children but to those who are seeking to impress groups not accustomed to the use of books. The chapter, "The Sixth Sense in Missionary Training", gives a new slant to an old thought.

Every missionary president in our Baptist constituency would find it helpful to provide herself with a copy of the book. She will do well to read and

study it until she has imbibed its spirit and caught its devotion to missions.

Price postpaid, \$1.50 from Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Va.

The LAND of SADDLE-BAGS

IN "The Land of Saddle-Bags, a Study of the Mountain People of Appalachia", James Watt Raine, head of the Department of English of Berea College, has given us what might well be called "An Appreciation of the Mountain People". With such understanding and real sympathy does he portray these people among whom he has lived for thirty years that he makes us admire with him their sturdy pioneer qualities of honesty, independence and fearlessness and see the charm of their speech and characteristics inherited from the "spacious times of good Queen Bess". In chapter three, "Adventurers for Freedom", he paints in glowing terms their virtues as those of the ideal American. Students of English will find in the chapter on "Mountain Speech and Song" a delightful discussion of oddities of speech retained from Shakespeare's time, as well as a number of quaint ballads of the same period.

The writer closes the story of the causes and continuance of feuds by the assurance that the conditions which made them possible are passing away. Outsiders are entering this region, the mountaineers are becoming educated through "Moonlight" and other schools, industry is coming in, and with it innumerable changes. In view of changing conditions he makes a powerful plea for these people, whose good he has so much at heart, that by education, by religion, by every available means, they be made ready for these changes. He gives many practical suggestions for doing this.

Most heartily is the book recommended as one of the most readable and delightful of recent home mission publications. It is published by the Council of Women for Home Missions and Missionary Education Movement of the United States and Canada. It may be obtained from the Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Va., price \$1.50.

The SPIRITUAL CONQUEST of the SOUTHWEST

WRITTEN with unusual charm is this story of "The Spiritual Conquest of the Southwest", by Dr. J. M. Dawson, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Waco, Texas, and author of many articles contributed to magazines and periodicals. Dr. Dawson has caught the romance of the early settlement of the southwest and imprisoned it in these pages. He makes us see with him the beauty and mystery of this land inhabited by a race of cliff-dwellers with a civilization equal or superior to that of the Aztecs of old Mexico.

We watch with interest the struggle of French and Spanish to conquer the territory and the efforts of the devoted Franciscan brothers, who planted missions everywhere and for a time seemed to have converted the natives to Catholicism. Then comes the story of the entrance of many immigrants from the states into this vast unsettled territory, the abuses of the Mexican government, the defeat of the Mexicans, Texas thus becoming a sovereign state and later being admitted to the Union.

While the Franciscans counted the natives as converts, they had so mixed their religion with pagan rites that the Indians had but a dim idea of what they professed, and it was not until the Methodist circuit-rider and the Baptist colporter came with the Bible in their hands that the southwest, both white and Indian, received religious instruction. All this Dr. Dawson tells, giving many details gathered from the diaries of priests and preachers.

The author is impartial in his recital, recounting the successes of Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian and Disciple, and showing the large part the Home Mission Boards had in winning the southwest. Dr. Dawson brings the story down to the present day, giving a thrilling narrative which will be enjoyed by old and young.

Order from Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Va., paper 75c, cloth \$1.10.



USE OF LITERATURE



USE and MISUSE of LEAFLETS

MANY souls have been won to Christ through the reading of a single leaflet. How often we rejoice to learn what certain leaflets have accomplished! How glad we are to send them in letters far and near!

In W. M. U. leaflets there are stories and incidents of thrilling interest, also information of inestimable value—but many are wasted. I have gone to churches where members complained that they could not find out what became of mission money, whereas all the while there were lying on the table leaflets explaining it. I have seen the most valuable leaflets stored away in churches instead of being distributed. I have even picked them up from the ground where they had been thrown from church windows, and distributed them.

I believe the most effective method of distribution is to separate them in piles, offering only a small variety at a time, and ask the people to choose at the close of the service. Then carry away for use elsewhere all that are not taken. I have often picked them up from pew and floor after they have been passed to an audience. Local leaders ordering can estimate the number needed. Let us use—*really use*—this invaluable material.—*Ida V. Rhoad, Ga.*

PERSUADING to PRAY

I WAS teaching a Bible class at Ridgecrest, North Carolina, to a group of mountain people. To this class came a friend one day bringing her sister with her, to whom she introduced me after the class period. I was led to give her a little tract, "At Wit's End Corner". This was evidently the leading of the Spirit, for the woman had an unsaved son, for whom she had prayed earnestly, but had become discouraged and had about despaired of his salvation. After reading the tract, faith was renewed, and she truly laid hold of God in prayer. At that time her son was with the army in France. Not long afterward she received

a letter from him telling of his conversion and attributing it to her prayers. His conversion had taken place at the very time when she had renewed her prayers for him.—*Miss Rachel K. Sims, La.*

WHY DISTRIBUTE TRACTS?

IT may be that a tract contains a message that will comfort in sorrow, point a soul to Jesus or enlist the unenlisted in Kingdom service. While teaching "Stewardship and Missions" in one of our mountain churches we gave the playlet, "Timothy's Tithe". One of the boys taking a part said he learned his lesson and that for the remainder of his life he would give his tithe.

Some tracts and a two-cent paper-bound copy of John's Gospel were sent to a girl sick in a hospital in Asheville, N. C. By the reading of one of the tracts the girl became convicted of her own lost condition without Christ. She looked up the references to John's Gospel given in one tract and there found the way of life everlasting. Through weeks of suffering she was always rejoicing in her new-found Saviour.—*Della Huggins, N. C.*

CONSERVATION of W. M. U. FREE LITERATURE

WOMAN'S Missionary Union has made it possible for much free literature to be used by those who desire to be more efficient in the Master's service. From the state headquarters packages of literature are sent frequently, and the question comes, "How may this literature be used to the best advantage?"

A successful plan in operation is for each associational officer, especially president and young people's leader, to have a loose-leaf note book into which she may file samples of this literature, year books, manuals etc. In this way the information is where it can be used. When literature is sent to associational presidents and young people's leaders it

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FROM OUR MISSIONARIES



"EBENEZER"

TWENTY years ago today (December 30) I arrived at Pawhuska to begin a work that was altogether new to me and overwhelmingly too big a task for me. When I would have laid down arms and gone home, my Savior's whispered command, "Go, and I will be with thee", was again renewed to me in such a way that I did not dare give up.

Today I stand with bowed head wondering how it could be that our Heavenly Father would smile so graciously upon one so weak in service as I for twenty long years, and yet each year finds me bound more closely to the work assigned me. I have a deeper concern for the lost, a greater joy in service, a sweeter fellowship with my Lord and His people, and when one soul comes out of darkness into light I feel amply repaid for all the trials,

hardships and heartaches of the entire time I have spent in service. While the results have been small, so small compared with many in service, yet in that day when my Savior makes up His jewels I believe there will be such a number of Osages as will add to His glory and will cause all who have made this work possible to know it was not in vain.

Your prayers and words of encouragement through all these years have given me courage and strength to press on. I thank God for the confidence that has been placed in me, for the privilege of service and for friends, for all these His name shall have the glory and by His grace there shall be no faltering unto the end. May God richly bless you in lifting the burdens that rest upon you, and may your heart be made to rejoice by the debt being lifted from our Home Board.—*Grace Clifford, Fairfax, Okla.*

USE of LITERATURE

(Concluded from Page 34)

is for their use while in office. As new organizations are reported to state office literature will be sent. Associational officers can help conserve literature by suggesting that these plans be carried out. If the loose-leaf note books are carefully kept, they are of great help to the leaders and of untold value to their successors.

When a president is to be away for any length of time, it will be helpful if she sends to the office the name of the person to whom literature is to be sent during her absence. Her note book will be appreciated by the substitute.

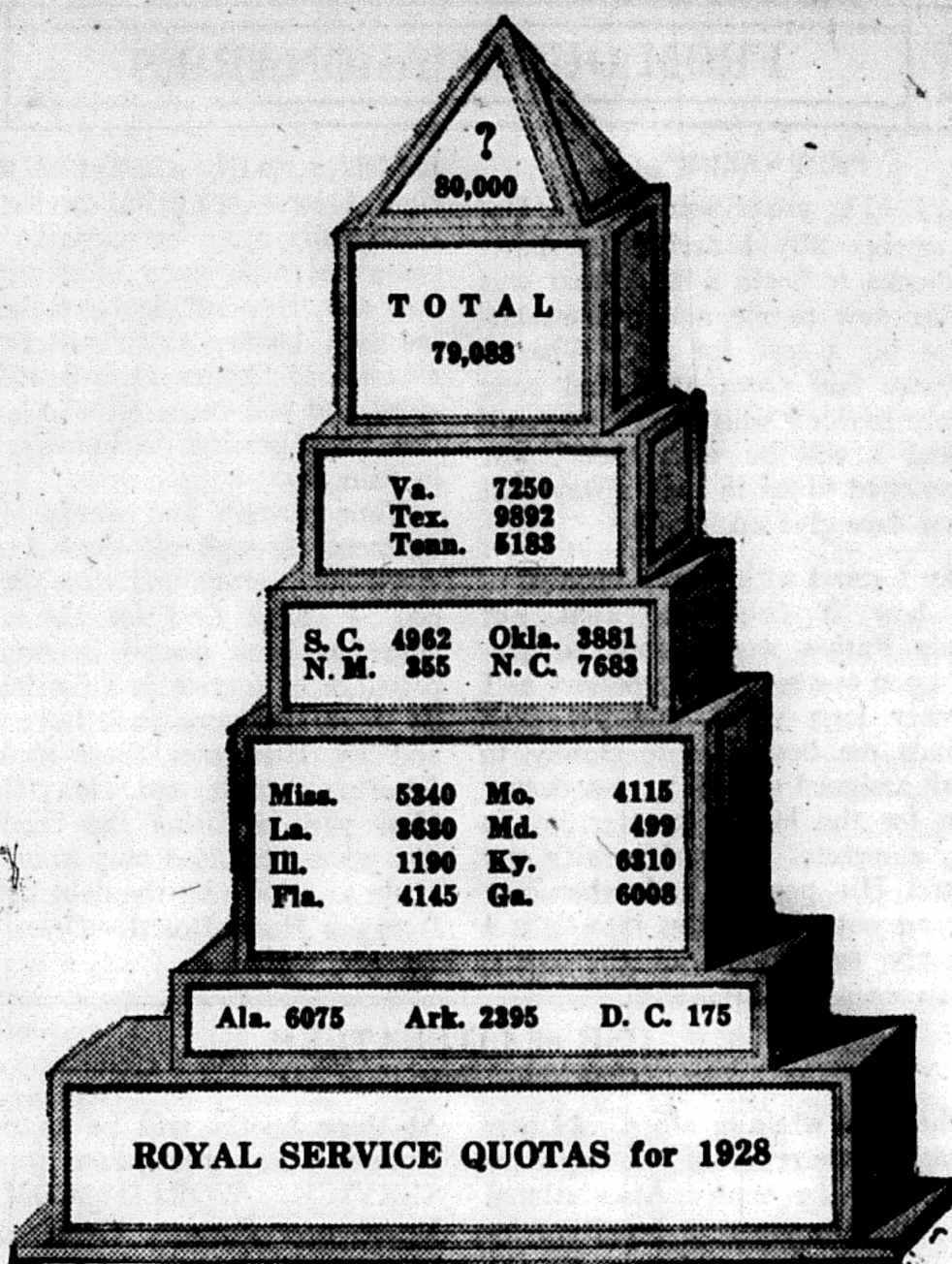
At rallies special attention should be called to the literature and distribution made to those interested in the different phases of the work. This avoids waste and duplication.

A helpful way to display literature at conventions is in attractive booths.

At these booths will be an opportune place to take subscriptions for ROYAL SERVICE, WORLD COMRADES, Home and Foreign Fields and state papers.

In September Home and Foreign Fields an article written by Dr. Hallie Garrett Neal of Mexico reads: "Mr. Neal has found tracts carefully guarded in homes a hundred miles from Toluca that were given out 40 years ago by one of the first missionaries at Toluca. The tracts I have given out have reached homes several hundred miles from here, for some Mexicans make long journeys to come to me".

Shall we strive to make every piece of literature count for the most? Remember that it may render real missionary service.—*Mrs. W. L. Harvell, Fla.*



PYRAMIDS of Egypt have stood time's test. Even more durable is missionary knowledge, which also possesses foundation power, sure and steadfast. Cumulative is such information as furnished in the Union's monthly magazine, **ROYAL SERVICE**, the 1928 state goals for which are set forth on the pictured pyramid. The apex contains a question mark, the query being: "Cannot the year's total not only reach the states' goal of 79,088 but also doubly celebrate the Ruby Anniversary by reaching twice forty thousand—80,000?" It can—if each state does just a little more than is asked of it in the way of renewals and new subscriptions at

50 cents a year from

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