

ROYAL SERVICE



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Editorial

A NEW YEAR and a RULE of LIFE

Mrs. F. W. Armstrong, President W.M.U.

A VERY familiar passage of Scripture is II Corinthians 5:14. Dr. Moffatt translates it: "For I am controlled by the love of Christ". Thus the great apostle sets forth the Christian's rule of life. Facing a new year of Christian living and service these words are as a link binding the members of Woman's Missionary Union to the watchword adopted for 1943. Only in such measure as its individual members are controlled by the love of Christ can the organization be instrumental in fulfilling the purpose expressed in the prayer, "That all the kingdoms of the earth may know that Thou art the Lord, even Thou only". In this new year Christians, controlled by the love of Christ, could make a new world.

The life of the Apostle Paul is a telling illustration of this avowal. What else could have driven him, in journeyings often, in perils of robbers, of waters, of the city and wilderness, of his own countrymen, of false brethren, of the heathen, suffering weariness and pain, in watchings often and in fasting, in hunger and thirst and in cold and nakedness? What else could have led the once vacillating Peter and the timid John to stand boldly before their accusers declaring, "We cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard"? How else than completely controlled by the love of Christ could William Carey have risked disfavor in fervently urging upon his fellow-ministers the obligation of carrying the Gospel to the heathen or in enduring the hardships and long delay in winning his first converts? What other power could have driven and sustained David Livingstone through countless jungle fevers to his death finally in the swamps of the Congo? What else could have enabled Lottie Moon to labor tirelessly in north China through self-deferred furloughs and the pangs of famine? Surely naught else but this compelling power of the love of Christ could have fortified the modern heroes of the cross who braved every difficulty, enduring persecution and pain and prison that they might comfort and uphold their fellow-Christians and continue to win others to faith in the Lord Jesus.

Controlled by the love of Christ, directed by the Spirit, timid Baptist women were made strong, despite opposition, to organize in 1888 Woman's Missionary Union. Who follows in their train? The same controlling love, the same guiding Spirit can make of its multiplied membership today a mighty leavening power for the Kingdom of God. Hearts and lives, yielded to His will, are the only adequate answer to today's pressing world call. Countless illustrations of Christ's use of dedicated lives are an inspiration to like devotion. How shall you and I meet in this new year the limitless opportunities for clear Christian witness and for individual and organizational missionary service? In the words of a great teacher we are admonished: "Live the trusted life. Be greedy for responsibility, invite burdens. Count duty the voice of God and obey without exception its first call!"

Watchword for Year

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION WATCHWORD for 1943

Dr. Edward A. McDowell, Professor at
Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

"Now therefore, O Lord our God, save us from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that Thou art the Lord, even Thou only!" *Isaiah 37:20*

THESE words are from the prayer of Hezekiah, king of Judah, uttered when he and his people were confronted with a serious national crisis. Particularly suggestive of the proper course for our own nation in the present crisis is the conduct of the good king of Judah. In Judah's time of trouble Hezekiah sought the help of Jehovah, and the burden of his prayer was that in the deliverance of the nation from its peril God would be exalted and His name magnified in the earth.

Judah's peril was similar in many respects to the peril America now faces. Sennacherib, king of Assyria, a mighty conqueror, had invaded Judah. The fortified cities of Judah had fallen and only Jerusalem remained unconquered. Sennacherib had dispatched Rabshakeh with a great army to conquer Jerusalem and, while this army was encamped outside the city, Rabshakeh conducted a shrewd and energetic propaganda campaign designed to secure the surrender of Jerusalem without a siege.

In the face of the threatening might of Sennacherib's army and confronted with the dangerous possibilities of Rabshakeh's lying propaganda, the good king Hezekiah sought the help of the Lord. He himself went to the house of the Lord (*Isa. 37:1*) and dispatched representatives to Isaiah to seek counsel and comfort from Jehovah's prophet. In the course of his efforts to secure the surrender of Jerusalem Sennacherib sent a letter to Hezekiah bristling with threats concerning the fate of the city. Upon receipt of this letter the king again went to the house of the Lord and there poured out his soul to God in a remarkable prayer. In this prayer he reveals that Rabshakeh's efforts have failed and that his faith in Jehovah is unshaken—Jehovah is God alone of all the kingdoms of the earth (*Isa. 37:16*). Hezekiah asks for deliverance but he wishes deliverance for no selfish reason: he desires preservation of his nation "that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that Thou art the Lord, even Thou only!"

The people of the United States and their leaders would do well in this hour of crisis to follow the example of good King Hezekiah. We should realize that a nationwide turning to God is long overdue and that we must seek the help of God and the counsel of God's prophets in this time of peril. We should see, as Hezekiah saw, the necessity and value of prayer. And above all we must desire the preservation of America, not that we may continue to prosper materially and enjoy the good things of life, but that our preservation may enable all the nations to know that our God and He only is Lord. If we pray for victory in this war it must be a prayer based upon the unselfish desire that America may be used when peace comes to spread the knowledge of the God of our Lord Jesus Christ to the ends of the earth.

Stewardship Suggestions

Southwide Stewardship Chairman, W.M.U. Promoter for a Debtless Denomination:
Mrs. Carter Wright, Alabama

A GOURD VINE versus NINEVEH

WHEN southern Baptists met in San Antonio last May, world conditions had so changed that the Convention voted to abandon the easy-to-reach goal, "A Debtless Denomination by 1945", and to use instead, "Out of Debt for a World Program". Compulsion is upon us to get ready for post-war conditions.

Now, just how soon will southern Baptists pay their southwide debts which should shame us and which do hinder us? Will it not be in direct ratio to our evaluation of a "World Program"?

This "World Program" is no new plan. "The Bible from start to finish is inspired with a world vision, is energized with a world vision and marches to a world goal". Hundreds of passages in the Old Testament (*among them our 1943 watchword, Isaiah 37:20*) as well as many passages in the New Testament tell of the yearning of God the Father and of Christ our Savior over a lost world.

"Go ye into all the world" was Christ's final and supreme command to His blood-bought Church. Redeemed men and women were to be His messengers. A tenth part, at least, of the money in the hands of His Church would furnish ample means for world evangelization.

How then can we account for the fact that after nearly two thousand years the majority of the people of the world have never heard of God's redeeming love? Probably the answer can be summed up in one word—indifference—born of selfishness.

A good illustration of this is found in the last chapter of that great little missionary book, *Jonah*. As we read the first three chapters, we get on very well with our conscience. "If God had called us to go to Nineveh, we would have gone" (???) at least one out of eleven thousand of us as southern Baptists! We feel a righteous indignation against Jonah when he was actually displeased when repentant Nineveh was spared. Southern Baptists would be glad if China and Japan and Africa—in fact, if all the world—could be saved provided it did not cost us too much.

In the latter part of the fourth chapter we come upon a lesson we all need more or less. God is tenderly showing His disobedient children the root cause of their sin. You recall how God had "prepared" a gourd vine, miraculously quickening its natural growth, to form a booth to protect Jonah from the fierce rays of the Asiatic sun. This "gourd" was the beautiful Palma Christi "which grows luxuriously, forms a dense shade but quickly withers when injured". A little worm injured the vine and it died quickly. Then was Jonah greatly perturbed and resentful. The merciful Heavenly Father is saying in substance: "Jonah, behold your exceeding selfishness! You are grieving over a dead gourd vine because it gave you comfort; and yet you cared nothing for the six hundred thousand immortal souls in Nineveh doomed to eternal death!"

This seems to be a type-study—the gourd vine being typical of the temporal, transient, material things that minister to our convenience, comfort and pleasure; Nineveh being typical of the vast heathen world dying without God. Now about which are we more greatly concerned? Over which do we fret and grieve? In which do we invest our money?

Some years ago a southern Baptist leader said: "The indifference of southern Baptists, as a group, to Christ's World Program is not only a disgrace but a tragedy". The prayer that the Church needs to pray above all others is: "Give Thy followers a heart like Thine. O compassionate Christ!"

When will we ever realize that our little "gourd vine" will sooner or later be cut down by the inevitable "Conqueror Worm" (as Poe gruesomely terms death) and only that will live eternally which we have invested in God's World Program? Doubtless this is one of the lessons God is trying to teach us in these tragic days. The sooner we learn it, the better for us as well as for His World Program!

For a Debtless Denomination

Southwide Stewardship Chairman, W.M.U. Promoter for a Debtless Denomination
Mrs. Carter Wright, Alabama

GOOD NEWS for the W. M. U.

J. E. Dillard, S.B.C. Director of Promotion

SOUTHERN Baptists for the first time in many years are facing financial freedom. The old southwide debt of more than \$6,000,000 was in October only about \$1,200,000. *With a united and determined effort southern Baptists can be debt-free in '43.* Every member of every W.M.U. organization must rejoice in this good news because of the part the W.M.U. has had in bringing it about.

The W.M.U. to the RESCUE

When all our agencies were overwhelmed in debt and in danger of losing their work, the W.M.U. came to the rescue. I don't see how our mission boards could have carried on at all had it not been for the help of the W.M.U. through its Lottie Moon Christmas and Annie Armstrong Offerings.

When the debt crises came in 1933 and some of our agencies were actually defaulting on interest as well as principal and our creditors were threatening legal proceedings to throw us into bankruptcy in that dark hour the W.M.U. Executive Committee came to the relief of the denomination. It joined with the Executive Committee of the Convention in recommending the Baptist Hundred Thousand Club.

We never got the full 100,000 members but we did get enough to restore our morale, reestablish our credit, save our institutions and refinance our debts at a lower rate of interest, thereby saving many thousands of dollars to the denomination. The W.M.U. deserves great credit for the help rendered in a crucial time.

(Concluded on Page 27)

ANOTHER LIFT

Southern Baptists set as their goal a *Debtless Denomination by 1945*, the Centennial of the Southern Baptist Convention. But we found it difficult to sustain interest in this debt-paying effort. Some grew careless, some forgetful, many let their memberships in the Club lapse. Some pastors and leaders busy about local and state debts failed to do anything much or at all about the southwide debt. In spite of every effort the S.B.C. Executive Committee could put forth it looked as though we would not be able to reach our objective. It was then that the W.M.U. came to our help again. At the Baltimore Convention in 1940 the W.M.U. announced it would try to raise \$1,000,000 of the \$3,000,000 still due on southwide debts. The result of this generous act was to fire our people with a fresh determination to get out of debt by 1945. And the W.M.U. has been and is making good on its promise.

SEEING IT through

Now comes the war. Everything needs to be gotten out of the way. Debts need to be paid now. People everywhere are saying it is now or never. We must be out of debt for a world program when the war is over. So we have moved up our goal from '45 to '43. And we are saying "Debt-free in '43. Count on Me!"

As usual the W.M.U. enters enthusiastically into the new effort to speed up. Several things are being urged:

1. That special prayer and plans be

Book Reviews

Miss Willie Jean Stewart, Tennessee

PIONEERING with CHRIST in CHILE: Agnes Graham, Broadman Press, Nashville, Tenn., 1942; Pages 160; Price: Cloth 75c, Paper 50c

IT is hard to think of any question about Chile or our Baptist work in Chile that this book does not answer, in part at least. In fact, the very wealth of its information is its greatest weakness. Often the forest is obscured by the trees—the interpretation of both the people and the work itself by the multiplicity of detail which has not been drawn into focus so that one may say with certainty: this is Chile, this is the Chilean, this is the work, as the author sees them. One has the feeling that the author is too close to her subject to see her data in integrated relationship to her entire field and the whole work.

This may easily be true because Miss Graham has been in the thick of the all-too-inadequately manned work in Chile

ever since the day of her arrival on that field. It is heartening to find that one so busy has found opportunity to study so widely and one cannot find it in the heart to be critical of the fact that she has not had the time for the contemplation necessary to a more adequate digestion of her materials.

The book is divided into five studies as follows: History and Religious and Social Background; Evangelical Pioneers; The Development of Baptist Churches and Auxiliary Organizations; The Allies of the Churches (including Christian Education and the Education Board); The Allies of the Churches (including Theological Schools, Unfinished Tasks and New Projects now under way or projected). (See also the following suggestions for teaching the book.)

Any books reviewed in this magazine may be ordered from State Baptist Bookstore. The price of each book is quoted with its review.

For Studying the Book

PIONEERING with CHRIST in CHILE

Mrs. J. S. Farmer, president of North Carolina W.M.U., offers the following suggestions:

TEACHER'S PREPARATION

1. "The first step is the leader's preparation of herself, the spiritual preparation which comes through prayer coupled with a whole-hearted love for God and one's fellowmen" (Quoted from Miss Nan F. Weeks). Thou that teachest another, teachest thou not thyself? Romans 2:22
2. Read straight through the book once.
3. Read all the parallel books suggested, if possible.
4. Read through the book again, pencil in hand, underscoring, adding marginal notes gleaned from your parallel reading.

5. Study each chapter thoroughly, making it your own.
6. Decide on assignment to be made, prayerfully fitting the assignments to the talent and mental ability of the women.
7. By every means possible become thoroughly familiar with Chile, "the pleasantest country in South America, bar none" (Gunther).

Supplementary Material

Picture-sheet of work in South America and booklet, "The Victory That Overcometh", may be had from the asking from the Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Virginia. Also

get Album of Southern Baptist Missionaries, price \$1 from Baptist Bookstore serving your state

Books

- "Inside Latin America" by John Gunther, Chapter 16
 - "Meet the South Americans" by Carl Crow, Chapter 11
 - "Land of the Southern Cross" by Muirhead
 - "Gospel Triumphs in Chile and Argentina" by J. L. Hart
 - "Sharing with Neighbor America" by W. C. Taylor, Pages 34-44, 97-98
- (The last three books are S.B.C. mission study books; copies can probably be found in your church library. The first two named may be had from the public library or purchased from the Baptist Bookstore.)

National Geographic Magazines

- August 1916, pp. 121-142
- September 1922, pp. 219-273
- January 1915, pp. 57-71
- May 1931, pp. 595-636
- March 1930, pp. 261-325
- February 1929, pp. 148-215

Posters

A picture of "The Christ of the Andes" with the inscription beneath it (page 30 of the text-book).

The "Friendship" picture at the top center of sheet from Foreign Mission Board, enlarged and colored, would make a beautiful poster.

On an outlined map of South America illustrate some of the "nicknames" of Chile. Adorn it with a lace edge; depict the colored embroidered flowers that Miss Graham sees in it. On the poster write the long list of names descriptive of the country, gathered from your parallel reading. Use a shoe-string to hang up poster.

A seventh grade student will be interested in making a "product" map of South America.

A map of the United States with Texas, also the eight middle Atlantic states, will show the area of Chile in these two comparisons. Use colors.

A big poster, showing the names of the present S.B.C. missionaries in Chile with the date of appointment and native state of each, with the pictures of Chilean work from the Foreign Mission Board's picture-sheet, will be a useful addition.

CLASS SESSIONS

Study I

Hymn: "Peace, Peace, Wonderful Peace"
Scripture: Isaiah 9:2-7

Prayer that the Holy Spirit may guide in the study

The first study, divided into two parts, is long and a bit difficult. The teacher must get it well into her own mind and skillfully guide the discussion lest the class become lost in a maze of details.

Begin with a discussion of the "nicknames" of Chile, using the poster and going from this into a broader discussion of the geography of the country. Briefly outline the history and fully discuss national characteristics. Aim to make the people of Chile really live for the class.

Use the latter part of the period in a lively discussion of Roman Catholic countries as mission fields. Call for assignments already made

Study II

Hymn: "Ye Christian Herald, Go Proclaim"
Scripture: Matthew 28:18, 19, 20

Prayer of thanksgiving for the pioneers of the faith who witnessed for their Lord in Chile. Petition that we in our own lives may match their courage and faith.

Endeavor in this study to realize the leading of God's Providence in the early beginnings of evangelical preaching in Chile and to arouse admiration for faith and fortitude of pioneers. Begin with a discussion of James Thompson. Call for assignments from "Gospel Triumphs in Chile and Argentina" (pages 79-81) and "Christ in the Silver Lands" (pp. 29-31). Discuss the "Lost Opportunity". Compare with the "Lost Opportunity in Japan". Emphasize the hopefulness of renewed opportunity in Chile through the "Good Neighbor Policy". Narrate facts of Trumbull's contribution to evangelical progress; tell the tragic story of Capt. Allen Gardiner. Sketch the early life of W. T. MacDonald and discuss organization of the Baptist Union. Have life of several Chilean pioneers briefly sketched.

Study III

Hymn: "The King's Business"

Scripture: I Cor. 3:4-15

Prayer that God's name may be glorified through our organized work in Chile

Show how the organized work in its various phases has been a development, just as in our own land, not superimposed artificially. A careful study of the "Romance of the Chilean Baptist Mission" (Chapter VI in "Gospel Triumphs in Argentina and Chile") will greatly aid the teacher in presenting this study.

Study IV

Hymn: "Wonderful Words of Life"

Scripture: II Timothy 2:15

Prayer for faculty and students in our school in Temuco

(Concluded on Page 33)

Training School

Miss Carrie U. Littlejohn, Principal, 2901 Lexington Road, Louisville, Ky.

FLORIDA MEMORIALS

I WISH Florida friends could stand with me at the second floor, north end of Broadus Hall. I could show them two choice bedrooms in which they have invested their contribution to the new building. Room 227 on the right catches our attention. Its appearance is immediately pleasing. Its three windows, two of them looking east, let in a flood of sunshine. These east windows not only let in the morning sunshine but they also frame two exquisite views of the famous old beech trees on the Seminary campus. The window looking north leads the eyes across the rolling hills of the back campus to the Crescent Hill community almost completely concealed by the trees that line its streets. Through this room the Florida W.M.U. is honoring Mrs. B. W. Blount who served on the Training School Board of Trustees for twenty-nine years.

Just across the hall is room 242, honoring Dr. Jennie L. Spalding, the corresponding secretary of Florida W.M.U. for eighteen years. Going into the room in the late afternoon one would like to stand at the west window to enjoy a beautiful sunset or look out over the Armstrong Terrace and visualize the formal garden for which Florida women have been making special offerings since the building fund was completed. The north window affords a back campus view with one of our majestic willow trees and a colorful maple in the foreground.

Practice room No. 2 in the Music Hall has been taken by Florida W.M.U. to continue the memorial established in the former building to Mrs. N. A. Bailey, the first corresponding secretary of Florida W.M.U. Perhaps the zeal-

ous young music student will gather inspiration by occasionally pausing in her practice to stand at the north window and study the gnarled old cherry tree and the graceful young willow or dream of the old south as she looks down over the formal garden.

ILLINOIS MEMORIALS

THE W.M.U. of Illinois took great pride in investing its contributions to the building fund in a bedroom on the faculty hall and in five windows. The designation for the bedroom honors one of the state's choice daughters, Miss Wanda Lynch, who graduated from the Training School in 1933. As a student she was deeply interested in work with underprivileged people and later helped the Illinois W.M.U. establish a number of Good Will Centers in foreign areas. For three years she served as the Good Will Center director in the Training School. One of her finest contributions to the work was the writing of a manual used widely by Good Will Center directors and the teaching of a class in club leadership in the Training School.

The five windows honor: Miss Ruth Ford, medical missionary to China; Mrs. Julia Scott, beloved worker in Illinois; Miss Mary Kelly, home missionary in Illinois; Mrs. Maude Hathaway, W.M.U. executive secretary of the state; and the W.M.U. of Winstanley Baptist Church. The windows selected are on the main corridor, first floor. Four looking south command a marvelous view of the inner court, front campus and beautiful Cherokee Park across the highway. The fourth one overlooks the grassy lower level of the terrace on the north side.—Miss Carrie U. Littlejohn

Calendar of Prayer

January, 1943

Mrs. W. C. Henderson, Arizona

SOMETIMES the world slumbers, sometimes it shakes in the earthquake of remaking. Empires rise and fall. The earth shakes with the tread of nations pressing forward. Whither? He who would help shape them must be fearless, self-sacrificing, heroic. Without our will we are set for such a time as this.

—Fannie E. S. Heck by Mrs. W. C. James

1—FRIDAY

Nation-wide prayer as requested by the nation's president; also that members of Woman's Missionary Union may bear worthy Christian testimony in today's world

That all the kingdoms of the earth may know that Thou art the Lord, even Thou only.—Isa. 37:20

2—SATURDAY

Mrs. F. W. Armstrong, president of Woman's Missionary Union

Thou, O Lord, art a shield for me; my glory and the lifter up of my head.—Psa. 3:3

3—SUNDAY

Dr. and Mrs. R. F. Elder, Dr. S. M. Sowell, emerita missionaries from Argentina

Thy loving kindness is before my eyes; and I have walked in Thy truth.—Psa. 26:3

4—MONDAY

xxDr. Ethel M. Pierce, Miss Sallie James, medical-evangelistic work, Yanchow, China. The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous and His ears are open unto their prayers.—1 Pet. 3:12

5—TUESDAY

Rev. and Mrs. F. Morales, evangelistic work, Miss Gladys McLanahan, educational-evangelistic work, El Paso, Texas. He which converteth a sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death.—Jas. 5:20

6—WEDNESDAY

Miss Kathleen Mallory, executive secretary of Woman's Missionary Union. Give, therefore, Thy servant an understanding heart.—1 Kings 3:9

7—THURSDAY

Rev. and Miss A. R. Dalley, xxRev. and Mrs. T. L. Nash, evangelistic work, Barranquilla, Colombia. Go thou and preach the Kingdom of God.—Luke 9:60

8—FRIDAY

xxRev. and Mrs. W. E. Craighead, Bucharest, Romania, Miss M. J. Beington, Bar-

celona, Spain, evangelistic work; also Albert B. Craighead, Margaret Fund student

Stand thou still awhile that I may show thee the Word of God.—1 Sam. 9:27

9—SATURDAY

Rev. and Mrs. S. Hebert, Miss Hallie Gunter, educational-evangelistic work, Acadia Academy, Church Point, La. He that overcometh shall inherit all things.—Rev. 21:17

10—SUNDAY

Mrs. L. M. Duval, Africa, Mrs. G. L. Phelps, Home Mission Board, emerita missionaries

I will remember the works of the Lord; surely I will remember Thy wonders of old.—Psa. 77:11

11—MONDAY

Annual meeting of Woman's Missionary Union of Florida, Orlando, January 11-13. We, Thy people, and the sheep of Thy pasture will give Thee thanks forever.—Psa. 79:13

12—TUESDAY

Dr. and Mrs. L. M. Bratcher, Miss Letha Saunders, educational-evangelistic work, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; also Robert G. and Edward B. Bratcher, Margaret Fund students

Ye are blessed of the Lord, which made Heaven and earth.—Psa. 115:15

13—WEDNESDAY

Miss Juliette Mather, young people's secretary of Woman's Missionary Union. He shall give His angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.—Psa. 91:11

14—THURSDAY

xxRev. and Dr. W. M. Gilliland, medical-evangelistic work, Ogbomoso, Nigeria Co., and the Lord be with thee.—1 Sam. 17:37

15—FRIDAY

Dr. and Miss A. W. Yocum, medical-evangelistic work, Rev. and Miss E. Parker, evangelistic work, Pingto, China. The temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.—1 Cor. 3:17

Calendar of Prayer for January

16—SATURDAY

Mrs. W. J. Cox, treasurer of Woman's Missionary Union and of the Margaret Fund
Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God and Jesus our Lord!—II Pet. 1:2

17—SUNDAY

Mrs. A. B. Langston, Mrs. W. B. Bagby, emeritus missionaries from Brazil
O how great is Thy goodness which Thou hast laid up for them that fear Thee! —Psa. 31:10

18—MONDAY

Dr. M. N. McCall, superintendent of Cuban work, Mrs. M. N. McCall, Miss Mildred Matthews, educational-evangelistic work, Havana, Cuba
Behold, my servants shall sing for joy of heart.—Isa. 45:14

19—TUESDAY

Woman's Missionary Union of Brazil
Be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your hearts, all we that hope on the Lord.—Psa. 31:24

20—WEDNESDAY

Rev. and Mrs. P. P. Lide, educational-evangelistic work, Miss Lucy Wright, medical-evangelistic work, Hwanghsien, China; also Robert and Nina Lide, Margaret Fund students
Holding the mystery of faith in a pure conscience—1 Tim. 3:9

21—THURSDAY

Woman's Missionary Union Literature Department, Miss Ethel Winfield, secretary
The Lord gave the Word, great was the company of them that published it. —Psa. 68:11

22—FRIDAY

Miss Evie Barnett, kindergarten work among Italians, Tampa, Miss Elizabeth Taylor, educational-evangelistic work Key West, Fla.
Let the peace of God rule in your hearts —Col. 3:15

23—SATURDAY

Rev. and Mrs. R. C. Moore, evangelistic work, Miss Agnes Graham, educational-evangelistic work, Temuco, Chile; also Anita Moore, Margaret Fund student
Who is he that will harm you, if you be followers of that which is good? —1 Pet. 3:13

24—SUNDAY

Dr. and Mrs. D. G. Whittinghill, Italy, Miss Mary Kelly, Home Mission Board, emeritus missionaries
They took knowledge of them that they had been with Jesus.—Acts 4:13

25—MONDAY

W.M.U. Executive Committee, state W.M.U. executive and young people's secretaries; also state departmental chairmen; semi-annual meeting of W.M.U. Executive Committee and state W.M.U. executive secretaries, Birmingham, Ala., Jan. 25-28

The Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and the patient waiting for Christ. —II Thess. 3:5

26—TUESDAY

Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Wiley, Miss Mary Lucile Saunders, educational-evangelistic work, Shanghai, China; also Louise and Hurdley Wiley Jr., Margaret Fund students

The Lord hath appeared of old saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love.—Jer. 31:3

27—WEDNESDAY

Rev. and Mrs. R. Fragueta, Placetas, Rev. J. M. Sanchez, Vaguelajay, Cuba, evangelistic work, also Israel and Rafael Fragueta Jr., Margaret Fund students
Of His fulness have ye all received and grace for grace.—Jno. 1:16

28—THURSDAY

Rev. and Mrs. H. P. McCormick, Mrs. Eva Sanders, Oghomusho, medical-evangelistic work, also William McCormick, Margaret Fund student
God, being rich in mercy, for His great love made us alive together with Christ.—Eph. 2:4, 5

29—FRIDAY

Woman's Missionary Union of Argentina-Uruguay
Exhort, therefore, that first of all supplications, prayers, intercessions and giving of thanks be made for all men —1 Tim. 2:1

30—SATURDAY

Rev. and Mrs. D. Ruiz, evangelistic work, San Angelo, Miss Gloria Ruiz, educational-evangelistic work, El Paso, Texas; also Ruth Ruiz, Margaret Fund student
A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches.—Prov. 22:1

31—SUNDAY

That the prayer life of Woman's Missionary Union may be greatly deepened this year
When thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and, when thou hast shut the door, pray to thy Father which is in secret. —Matt. 6:6

1 Attended W.M.U. Training School
* Attended Southwestern Training School
† Former Margaret Fund Student
‡ On Furlough

Family Altar

Mrs. W. H. Gray, Alabama

Note: The references in italics are furnished by the "Committee on Improved Uniform Lessons of the International Sunday School Lessons". The references in heavy type are in keeping with the month's missionary topic and with the denomination's emphasis on soul-winning in 1943.

TOPIC: A Witness to the Light

"Testimony"

1st Day—Psa. 89:1, 18; Isa. 9:1-7
2nd Day—Psa. 91:2-16; Rom. 5:1-11
3rd Day—Psa. 116:1-19; 1 Jno. 3:1-8
4th Day—Psa. 117:1, 2; 119:18-16;
Jno. 3:1-13
5th Day—Psa. 121:1-8; Jno. 3:14-18
6th Day—Psa. 145:4-21; Num. 21:4-9
7th Day—1 Jno. 1:10; 5:1-5

"Eye-witnesses of His Majesty"

8th Day—II Pet. 1:16-21; 1 Pet. 1:3-9
9th Day—Jno. 1:1-14; II Cor. 5:14-21
10th Day—Jno. 1:15-28; Matt. 11:25-30
11th Day—Jno. 1:29-39; 4:5-15
12th Day—Jno. 1:40-51; 4:16-26
13th Day—Jno. 2:1-25; 4:27-38
14th Day—Jno. 3:1-21; 4:39-42

"Conscience Also Bearing Witness"

15th Day—Rom. 2:11-16; Jno. 1:35-42
16th Day—Acts 3:1-16; 2:36-41
17th Day—Acts 4:18-20; Matt. 28:16-20
18th Day—Acts 13:29-32; Jno. 5:2-9a
19th Day—Acts 26:12; Jno. 5:9b-18
20th Day—II Tim. 4:1-8; Luke 18:35-43
21st Day—1 Pet. 5:2-12; Matt. 8:28-34

"The Spirit itself beareth witness"

22nd Day—Rom. 8:16-18; Mark 9:27-27
23rd Day—Tit. 3:3-7; Luke 17:11-19
24th Day—1 Jno. 5:1-15; Psa. 103:1-5
25th Day—Heb. 10:15, 16; Jno. 6:8-14
26th Day—Mark 13:1-11; Jno. 6:30-35
27th Day—Luke 11:13; 24:45-49;
Jno. 6:41-51
28th Day—no. 14:1-17; Es. 16:4, 5, 13-15
29th Day—no. 15:26, 27; Num. 11:4-10
30th Day—Thess. 5:19; Isa. 55:1-3
31st Day—Gal. 6:2-10; Psa. 107:1-9

"Pray Ye"

Ascribing all praise to God—the Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Resolving to pray much during the New Year

Interceding for your home, circle, society and church that each will this year glorify God by deeper devotion to His Kingdom

Remember especially the soul-winning efforts, emphasizing personal evangelism, family altars, revival in every church.

Pray for all W.M.U. work in your church—officers and committees of society; counselors of W.M.U. young people; efforts to be A-1 and to increase number of titheers.

Intercede for those responsible for preparing for March Week of Prayer for Home Missions, March 1-5 inclusive.

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Bible Study

Ella Broadus Robertson, Kentucky

FRIENDSHIP

Proverbs 17:17; 22:11, 24, 28; 27:9, 10a, 19

(To Be Recited in Concert after the Leader)

LET us look at these verses, so clear and simple and satisfying. "A friend loveth at all times". A sweet child, learning this for a memory verse, said to her mother: "Isn't Mrs. R. your friend? Because she loveth you at all times!" A cherished recollection! "And a brother is born for adversity". *Sharing* is but the modern word for sympathy. Long ago it was said, a friend doubles a joy and halves a sorrow. We find this sympathy first in the family—one who knows what this grief is to us and loves us the more for knowing; so does a real friend. Perhaps none has matched the experience, but "imagination is the eye of sympathy". Also in joy, where one knows and loves, there is neither envy nor criticism but an answering joy. Parents may well train their children not to criticize each other—against the day when they will need each other.

Proverbs 22:11. What a shining verse! What flower-like faces it calls up, of children and older folk. And a pure heart is an unselfish heart, "at leisure from itself, to soothe and sympathize". No wonder a king, like anyone else, craves such a friend and delights to shower kindness upon him. A friend of one lately passed away wrote: "When I was with her, I always felt: 'This is the way God means for people to be'". Yea, the One who knew human nature best of all said: "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God".

V. 24. One reason for this seems obvious—such a friend means trouble for you! But the reason given is quite different: "Lest thou learn his ways and get a snare to thy soul". In other words, ill-temper is catching! One does not abandon a friend for an outburst of anger, but it makes her less lovable, bringing out qualities unsuspected, certainly not to be copied; whereas one of the joys of friendship is to admire and imitate. Self-control can be learned from example. The "Landmark" in verse 28 might well be even closer to the above, for it is one of the commonest causes of anger between neighbors, wrecking the possibility of friendship. Sometimes one neighbor will even say: "Oh, I don't mind moving the fence back, if it's understood that it was really my land!" Surely family pride calls for a kinder spirit.

Proverbs 27:9. When you ask advice, do you really want your friend's opinion or only her approval? Such a discussion is a test of both friends, but frankness and humility will usually work out a wise decision. And nothing makes for sweeter gratitude. This leads to security (see verse 10a) a friend true and tried—shall we be as dependable? And the deep indebtedness, even for two generations, what a joy to repay it in a time of urgency!

V. 19. Surely this is a saying of David's. The joy of finding some secret thought of our own in another heart is like a sudden reflection of one's face in a pool.

Circle Program



EXPLANATORY NOTE: As the bells ring in the New Year, each circle will do wisely to plan to use in its first month a program somewhat similar if not identical to the following. It is urged that every circle make available for its program-participants each of the five magazines used as source-material for this suggested program. They may be secured as follows: *Royal Service*, 50c a year from 1111 Comer Bldg., Birmingham, Ala.; *The Window of Y.W.A.*, \$1 a year from the same Birmingham address; *World Comrades*, \$1 a year from the same Birmingham address; *The Commission*, 50c a year from Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Virginia; *Southern Baptist Home Missions*, 25c a year from Baptist Home Mission Board, Atlanta, Ga. (See also page 40 of 1943 W.M.U. Year Book and pages 16, 17 of this magazine.)

CIRCLE PROGRAM TOPIC

BUILDING for the FUTURE—DEBT CLEARANCE

Devotional Theme—"I am debtor to the Greeks and to the barbarians"—*Rom. 1:14-16.*

"Pray Ye" Suggestions (See page 13 in this magazine.)

A Gourd Vine versus Nineveh (See page 6 in this magazine.)

Why Every Friend of Home Missions Should Be a Member of the Hundred Thousand Club (See article in January issue of *Southern Baptist Home Missions*.)

News Story of the Home Mission Board's Annual Meeting (See "story" in January issue of *Southern Baptist Home Missions*.)

What They Did with Their Looking Glasses (See article in January issue of *The Window of Y.W.A.*)

On Our Honor (See article in January issue of *World Comrades*.)

A Promise Fulfilled (See article in January issue of *The Commission*.)

The Hope of Hawaii (See article in January issue of *The Commission*.)

President's New Year Message (See page 4 in this magazine.)

Current Events (See page 35 in this magazine.)

Business Women's Circles

Prepared by Miss Catherine W. Bates, Ga.
Student in Missionary Education Course II
W.M.U. Training School, Louisville, Ky.

Poster Suggestions: (1) Imagine a line from the upper left-hand corner to the lower right-hand corner of the poster board. Beginning at the upper left-hand corner sketch successively larger figures representing the witnesses through the ages—an Old Testament Prophet, Paul, Carey, Judson, Lottie Moon and a woman of today. These could be in colorful costumes characteristic of the times or they could be in silhouette. Underneath print: "Witnesses through the Ages". At the bottom of the poster board print: "Hear about them at B. W. C." Date..... Time..... Place..... (2) Sketch or cut out a picture of two people in earnest conversation for the center of the poster board. Below the picture place the words "Ye Are My Witnesses". At the bottom of the poster print: "Hear about His Witnesses at B.W.C." Date..... Time..... Place.....

Invitation: Since this is the first meeting of the year, attach a correspondence card to your 1943 purse-size B.W.C. Year Book with the words: "Be true to your best resolutions by loyal attendance at B.W.C. this year. Begin with the very first meeting on 'A Witness to the Light'". Date..... Time..... Place.....

Suggestions for an Effective Program: Place a large globe on a table in the front of the room. Place an open Bible in front of it and lighted candles on either side. Have those taking part prepare carefully so that they can speak without notes and make a gripping appeal that will inspire each one present to action. (For program material, see pages 19-27.)

Presentation of the Program:

Following the devotional period and prayer arouse interest and get the members thinking by a ten-minute "Professor Quiz" using some of the questions listed at the end of the program. The speaker presenting "The World's Need of the Baptist Witness" should have placards prepared (large enough to be read by the entire group) on which are the words: "The Baptist Belief in the Bible", "The Baptist Belief in Liberty", "The Baptist Belief in Democratic Churches", "The Baptist Belief in the Value of the Individual". As she discusses these Baptist doctrines, let her hold them up and then tack them on a bulletin board behind the table with the globe and the Bible or display them on a flannelgraph. The girl giving "The Baptist Witness Today" should point out on the globe the places where southern Baptists are witnessing — Cuba, South America, Africa, China etc. At the close of this part let her display a placard on which is written "Twelve Million" and place it on the flannelgraph just above the placards of Baptist doctrines. As "Send the Light" is played softly, suggest that each one envision in her own mind the change in the darkness of this world this year if twelve million Baptists really took Christ's command seriously and witnessed to the light. After a few moments of meditation let all join in singing: "Send the Light". Close the meeting with an earnest prayer that Christ will enable us to have compassionate hearts, to witness to those around us who are suffering and who are in darkness and to give sacrificially that the light may be carried to the ends of the earth.

TEACHERS TOO!

It was a new venture, a week-end camp late in the fall, for members of Business Women's Circles of the association. But the circles had voted for it. The weather was perfect and the colors in the trees gorgeous. Those who could get away from their work Saturday morning came out early to stroll over the hills. The whistle blew for lunch, the first meal at camp. Not all the campers had arrived but those who were there hurried into the dining room. As one group sat about its table and began talking, the hostess suggested that each tell her name, what place she was from and the work she did. So the introductions began. To the right of the hostess was a very charming lady who told her name and said she was in charge of the baby department in a large department store. Next to her sat her sister who identified herself as a fifth grade teacher in the public schools of their city. From across the table one was heard to say: "Well, how nice to meet a fellow-teacher. I teach the first 'graders' in my city. And next to me here is my good friend who teaches speech in the high schools of our city". "This looks like a teachers' convention", said another, "and I am glad to know you, but I am a graduate nurse". "And I am a secretary in a law office", said another. On the introductions went around the table—there was a dietitian in a hospital, a beautician, a post mistress and two clerks in department stores.

When the introductions had been finished the hostess remarked about the variety of businesses and professions represented at her table and how splendid it was that in Business Women's Circles all came together and learned those of other interests. "Why it works grand in our circle", said the nurse. "Each one of us has a different and unique contribution to make to the circle. When we planned the Year Book for our circle two of the girls who are secretaries in offices down town offered to cut the stencils and run them off. We have a history teacher in the circle and she was asked to be mission study chairman and she is a dandy too, with her historical background and access to current books in her school library. The chairman of the social committee is a teacher of the fourth grade. Each month we have a supper meeting and the table is beautifully decorated to represent the month or something about the program. The chairman has her children in school to make the favors in their handwork periods. They love it too". "Wait a minute", said one of the others. "That sounds 'too perfect' to be true. You will be saying next that you have an art teacher who is your poster chairman, a music teacher who is your music chairman, a clerk in a department store as enlistment chairman, a librarian or speech teacher as program chairman, a nurse or welfare worker as chairman of community missions". "Well, why not?" the nurse replied. "If each of us uses the talents the Lord has given us to live by day by day, surely we will get more joy if we use them in a special effort for Him occasionally, and no better place can be found than in the Business Women's Circle!"

"This is interesting", the hostess commented, "but I am wondering if there is any one group of business women you find more difficult to enlist in the B.W.C. than any other". The fifth grade teacher looked up ready to speak, then seemed to decide against it. "Please", the hostess said, "tell us what you were thinking". "It was just this", the young teacher replied: "I have often heard it said that teachers don't join the Business Women's Circles as readily as others because they have so much studying and planning to do at night and because they think perhaps they won't be in that community another year and because of any number of things, but I certainly have not found that true. I have found that the teachers like to get away from the routine of their work just as any others do and like to have a part in the Lord's work through the B.W.C. Just a cordial invitation is all that is needed, I believe".

(Concluded on Page 33)

Program Plans

Prepared by Miss Dorothy Bracey, Ga.
Student in Missionary Education Course II
W.M.U. Training School, Louisville, Ky.

ANNOUNCEMENT POSTER: In the center of black poster paper paste an outline of blue world made of construction paper. On the world place an outline of western hemisphere made of green paper. Make a lighthouse of yellow and place the base of it on the southland with light rays extending around the world. At the top print in yellow: "Christian Witnessing"; at bottom of world in capital letters: "Spiritual Blackout". These letters may be cut out of paper. Give time, place and date.

INVITATIONS: Cut miniature lighthouse out of black construction paper, using yellow paper for windows. Paste on postal card. Print in black ink: "Is Your Life a Shining Witness? Come to W.M.S." Give time, place and date. This invitation can easily be mimeographed if the group is large. Announce the topic in church bulletin.

PREPARATION: Begin this "spiritual quest" for the New Year with prayer and thorough preparation. If individual programs are desired make miniature lighthouses out of black construction paper, using yellow paper for the windows. Print program on back. The names of those who are on the *Calendar of Prayer* for the day might be included at the end. The room should be blacked out—shades can be drawn or black drapes used. In the front have a lighthouse made out of black paper with windows of yellow cellophane. Use flashlight in the tower. Place white tapers beside cross made of construction paper, open Bible and globe; and put one candle on each side of lighthouse.

PROGRAM: The scene is the

home of an air-raid warden (program chairman) during a blackout. The wardens have come to give a personal report of their work. The chief warden explains that since each representative is a Christian and a member of the missionary organization, they will use their imagination and visualize a "spiritual blackout" which can be made unnecessary only by Christian witnessing. (For program material, see pages 19-27.) The chief warden introduces the program by discussing "Ye Are My Witnesses". He explains that Jesus is the Light of all the world. The lighthouse is lighted. A voice from behind the screen speaks clearly and distinctly on "Witnessing through the Ages". The taper on the left of lighthouse is lighted which is symbolic of the light that has been burning through the ages. The first warden reports on what is being done now—"Christian Witnessing Today". The taper by the cross is lighted. The second warden reports on what needs to be done—"The World's Need of the Baptist Witness". Taper behind the Bible is lighted. The third warden reports on what is being done—"The Baptist Witness in the World Today". Taper behind the world is lighted. With heads bowed use, without accompaniment, the hymn, "Send the Light". The all-clear signal is given as lights in room are turned on. Ask entire group to join in "Meditation" as suggested in program. Light the taper on the right of the lighthouse. The program is closed with sentence prayers that southern Baptists may be faithful and loyal in their Christian witnessing. Keep paramount throughout the program the blackness of sin and the light of our witnessing.

Program Material

Mrs. C. D. Cressman, Tennessee

THEME for Year: The Christian Witness in Today's World — *Isaiah 43:10, 11*

TOPIC for MONTH: A Witness to the Light—*John 1:8, 9*

Hymn for Year—All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Watchword for Year—That all the kingdoms of the earth may know that Thou art the Lord, even Thou only—*Isaiah 37:20*

Bible Study—Friendship—*Prov. 17:17; 22:11, 24, 28; 27:9, 10a, 19 (Page 14)*

Prayer that at the beginning of this year we may dedicate our lives anew to friendship with God and to the task of witnessing for Him to all lost people

Ye Are My Witnesses

Witnessing through the Ages

Hymn—We've a Story to Tell to the Nations

Christian Witness Today

Prayer for God's blessing on every Christian witness in the world today

The World's Need of the Baptist Witness

The Baptist Witness in the World Today

—Hymn—Send the Light

My Fellowship with Suffering Christians

Hymn—Make Me a Channel of Blessing

Prayer that suffering people of the world may find salvation through the witnessing of God's people

YE ARE MY WITNESSES

A WITNESS is one who tells what he has seen or heard or experienced. By the testimony of reliable witnesses facts are attested, truth is discovered and confirmed.

Christianity is a religion of witnessing. God prepared the way for the coming of Jesus through the witnessing of many prophets. When Jesus came and was ready to begin His work the way was prepared by John who proclaimed that he was not the light but that he came "that he might bear witness of the light".

Jesus Himself was called the faithful and true witness. He said of Himself: "I am the one that beareth witness of Myself; and the Father that sent Me beareth witness of Me". When Pilate asked Jesus, "Art Thou a king?" He answered: "For this cause I came into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth". "Jesus is the King of witnesses: He is the greatest of all witnesses and superior to every other". Jesus witnessed to all truth, and His testimony is perfect and final.

Even in Old Testament days God placed upon His people the responsibility of witnessing to His truth. Through the prophet Isaiah He said: "Ye are My witnesses . . . that ye may know and believe Me and understand that I am He; before Me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after Me. I, even I, am Jehovah; and besides Me there is no Savior". As Jesus left the world, with His

earthly ministry finished and His death on the cross accomplished, He reiterated the words of the Father, saying to His followers, "Ye shall be My witnesses".

Surely Jesus showed great faith when He left in the hands of a few humble believers the task of making His salvation known throughout the world. They had seen Him live, die and come to life again, and they were to tell others what they had seen. They had heard His matchless words of truth and these words they were to pass on to others. They had experienced salvation through His grace, and they were to tell a whole world this way of life eternal. They had beheld the light, and they were to be witnesses of that light.

This matter of witnessing was made very personal. The responsibility for giving the Gospel to the whole world was laid not upon groups or committees or boards but upon each individual Christian. Each redeemed man was to be Christ's agent in redeeming others. In the command to witness, Jesus said in effect to each man who heard His words on the Mount of Ascension: "I am depending on you. I have no other plan for the salvation of lost people". And through the centuries this message has come down to each individual Christian: "I am depending on you. I have no other plan for the salvation of lost people".

This year we shall give much thought to witnessing as we study twelve programs on the theme "THE CHRISTIAN WITNESS IN TODAY'S WORLD". This brings the matter of witnessing down to the day in which we live and makes it a very personal matter to each of us. As we study these programs we shall hear the voice of Jehovah speaking out of eternity saying, "Ye are My witnesses"; we shall hear the voice of Jesus speaking from the Mount of Ascension saying, "Ye shall be My witnesses"; and we shall see the matchless need and opportunity of being faithful Christian witnesses in today's world.

In years ago men's hearts were stirred,
As through a prophet's voice was heard
Jehovah's high, impelling word:
"Ye are My witnesses".

Again, the apostles' hearts were stirred,
As from Ascension's Mount was heard
The blessed Savior's parting word:
"Ye are My witnesses".

And still today our hearts are stirred,
As down the centuries is heard
The same Divine, impelling word:
"Ye are My witnesses".

WITNESSING through the AGES

AN evidence of God's loving thought for the world is found in the fact that all through the ages there have been witnesses to His truth. "God has never abandoned the world; He has never quenched its lamp of testimony. He might deluge it once with water; He might rain fire and brimstone upon Sodom; He might drown a nation in the sea; He might destroy a generation in the wilderness; He might devour kingdoms and root them up, but never, never would He extinguish the perpetual flame of the testimony of truth". (*Spurgeon*)

There have been periods of crisis in the world's history when it seemed that the light of God's testimony had gone out, but always God has had some faithful witness or witnesses to keep that light shining. At the time when the world was so wicked that God had to destroy it with a flood, Noah witnessed faithfully for God as "a preacher of righteousness". When it seemed that God had forgotten His promise to provide a way of salvation for a lost world, He chose Abraham, a

faithful witness through whom His promise should be kept. When it seemed that His chosen people were forgotten in Egyptian bondage, He sent Moses as a witness of His loving care and power to save. In the times of the judges and kings—when civil wars, idolatries and persecutions brought dense darkness on God's chosen people—there was always a remnant of those who were faithful to Him; and from time to time a Gideon, a Deborah or a Samson or a Samuel stood forth as a flaming witness to the light of God's truth and love, still burning. Later came the fiery Elijah, the eloquent Isaiah, the lamenting Jeremiah, the soaring Ezekiel, the courageous Daniel and the twelve minor prophets each one a witness of light in some crisis of darkness.

Jesus Himself came as a witness of light in a very dark period of the world's history. Under the rule of one great despotic nation, Rome, other nations had lost all their liberties and were virtually slaves. Unbelievable cruelties were perpetrated upon defenseless people by their ruthless conquerors. Even the religions of the different nations had been swallowed up in Roman paganism. Only the Jews had kept their faith in the God of their fathers, and it had been four hundred years since there had been among them a witness strong enough to proclaim the word of God. Then at this crisis, in the fullness of time, according to God's own plan, Jesus the great witness came proclaiming: "I am the way, and the truth and the life".

Since Jesus left the world, delegating to His followers the responsibility of witnessing for Him, there have been many periods of darkness—many crises when it has seemed that the light of Christianity would go out. But always there have been witnesses to the light, calling a world back to a belief in God and His eternal purpose in Christ Jesus.

In those first years after the ascension of Jesus, there were many witnesses eager to pass on to others their Christian experiences. In fact, in those days every Christian was a witness, and the spread of the Gospel was a personal service as individual Christians went everywhere witnessing for Christ; as a result of their witness, Christianity spread very rapidly.

It must be borne in mind that during those first centuries of Christian growth the witness continued in spite of persecution. Everything possible was done, first by the Jews and then by the Romans, to close the mouths of these Christian witnesses. They were imprisoned, they were wrapped in skins of animals and torn to pieces by dogs, they were forced to fight wild beasts, they were crucified, they were set on fire and burned. But all of this did not stop the witness of the faithful Christians. Like Peter and John when arraigned by the Jewish leaders for curing the lame man at the beautiful gate of the temple, these early witnesses said, "We cannot but speak the things which we saw and heard". And so through this persecution crisis did the Christian witness continue.

What persecution could not do, the popularity and prosperity of Christianity almost accomplished; for, when Christianity was made the state religion of the Roman Empire, the personal witness of the individual Christian was almost lost as a method of the spread of the Gospel. The church became a great political organization expanding through force and coercion rather than by the simple testimony and persuasion of those who told of their own Christian experiences. It was many centuries before there was another great period of personal witnessing. However, even in this dark period there were those who witnessed to the truth as they understood it—Ulphilas who carried the Gospel to the Goths; Cyril and Methodius, who were witnesses to the Slavic people of central Europe; Patrick, the faithful witness in Ireland; and later, Francis of Assisi, Raymond Lull, Francis Xavier and others who, with wonderful consecration, bore witness to the light. We can follow this line of Christian witnessing on through the rise of protestantism.

and further, with Martin Luther, John Knox, John Wyclif, David Brainerd, John Eliot, the Wesleys and others, standing out as powerful witnesses.

This brings us to the time in which we live, which is the greatest period of personal witnessing the world has ever known. With the inauguration of the modern missionary movement by William Carey the Christian world entered upon what has become a world-wide program of Christian witnessing. Believers in Jesus have again heard the words of the ascending Christ, "Ye shall be My witnesses", and have attempted to carry out the program He outlined, as they have begun at Jerusalem and have gone into Judea, Samaria and unto the uttermost parts of the world with the blessed Gospel news.

But, even in this period of witnessing there have been crises when the light of Christian witness has burned low. The Revolutionary War and the War between the States in this country, the Boxer Rebellion in China, the World War, the world depression, the spirit of ultra-nationalism in many lands—these and other conditions—have tested the power of the Christian witness. But, no period has been so dark that there have not been Christian witnesses to the light. So we have learned that not floods nor fires nor famine nor pestilences nor war nor depression nor any other earthly condition can stop the testimony of Christian witnesses, who cannot but speak the thing which they have seen and heard and experienced through Christ Jesus.

CHRISTIAN WITNESS TODAY

THE world is in another crisis—a crisis when all the forces of barbarism and atheism and despotism are arrayed against everything good and just and holy. War, horrible in all ages, has reached a degree of terror never known before. Every morning brings its sickening story of destruction, devastation and death. Every night we retire with aching hearts because of the sufferings of the day. The world has never before seen such cruelty, such barbarism, such lack of regard for human liberties and human life. "Life has become so cheap that the forces of evil make no reckoning of the holocaust on sea and land or of the terrible misfortunes visited upon those who are innocent and unoffending".

Christianity also is in another crisis. Nations which were once considered Christian have gone after strange gods or no gods at all. The darkness of atheism, of blatant nationalism, of both indifference and bitter antagonism to Christianity threatens to extinguish the light of Christian faith in many places.

It is a policy of totalitarian governments to force people to believe what the state wants them to believe. We know how for almost a decade there has been in Russia a determined effort on the part of communistic rulers to destroy the power of Christianity. In Germany Christianity has been changed until it is no longer the Christianity of Luther, Oncken and other great German Christians: the Old Testament is declared to be a book of Jewish superstitions, and the New Testament has been rewritten according to Nazi ideas until the God whom Jesus revealed is no longer found there. Emperor worship lies at the foundation of all religion of Japan, and an effort has been made not only to unite all Christian churches into one national organization but also to compel Christians to include in their worship, as a patriotic duty, obeisance to the emperor.

Truly, it is a dark day for Christianity in many countries, but we know that Christianity cannot fail. "The Christian church cannot be bombed out of existence by a blast from the skies nor pushed aside by the satanic manipulations of diplomacy, born of greed, fed by force and nurtured on brutality". Christ is the only hope for the world today as He has been the only hope for the world in every crisis. He only can cure the ills of suffering humanity. He only can bring peace out of this holocaust of strife and bloodshed. He only can turn a world of hate

into a brotherhood of love. He only can give liberty to earth's enslaved millions. He only can save a lost world. And we must remember that He can become known to the world only through the witness of His followers. In this day of crisis He still says to us: "Ye are My witnesses".

We are glad to know that in this distraught day, as in every crisis of the world's history, the witness to God's truth continues. In Russia neither persecution nor anti-religious propaganda has been able to exterminate Christianity. In fact, reports would lead us to hope that Christianity has become a spiritual force never known in Russia before. A new conception of religion has arisen with emphasis on spiritual values rather than on external form. Mrs. Craighead, who for many years was an S.B.C. missionary among Russian people in Bessarabia, says that Bolshevik leaders themselves admit failure in their attempt to destroy faith in God. She says that a recent census questionnaire read: "If you are a religious believer, say so". So many "said so" that the result of the census was withheld. (*The Commission*)

In Germany, too, there are thousands who are loyal in their hearts to the Christian faith. We are told that in 1940 almost 300,000 copies of the Bible were distributed in Germany—in spite of Hitler's effort to make *Mein Kampf* the Bible of Germany.

We know the story of the Norwegian ministers choosing rather to suffer imprisonment than to proclaim religious tenets which they do not believe. Doubtless, when the war is won and the story is told of what is going on today in Europe, we will find that behind this attempted blackout of Christianity have been many witnesses keeping aglow in the hearts of peoples the light of faith in Jesus Christ.

In other parts of the world, too, the Christian witness continues. Dr. W. O. Carver, in his recent book, *Christian Missions in Today's World*, says: "The continuance of missionary work during the war now engulfing the world is one of the most necessary tasks and tests of organized Christianity. That British Christians have been able to continue and in some cases able even to extend their missions is a most encouraging proof of the vital reality of their faith. The war is proving the worth and the essential truth of the Christianity planted in Asiatic countries and in Africa by the missionary century. In China and in large sections of Africa baptisms have notably increased in the war years. Self-reliance and resourcefulness in direct relation with God are giving new meaning to the Christian churches in all these lands". Most significant are the influence and progress in China. This is the more significant in the light of the temporary tide of anti-Christian agitation and action during the decade following 1922. In no country in Christendom is empirical Christianity more spiritual, more vital and more influential at the moment.

It is said that when the Norwegian town of Narvik was entered by German troops an old Norwegian general said: "Well, we still have the mountains to live in". So do we still have the mountains of our faith in God to live in during these stressful days. And from those mountains we must as faithful witnesses proclaim to a lost world the Gospel of love, peace and salvation.

THE WORLD'S NEED OF THE BAPTIST WITNESS

WHILE we recognize the value of the witness of any sincere Christian, we feel that as Baptists we have exactly the message which the world needs today. What we believe if accepted and practiced by all of earth's people would heal every woe of humanity.

The world needs the Baptist belief in the Bible. We believe in the Divine inspiration of the Scriptures—that the Bible is God's Holy Word, revealing all

truth and that it is the sole and final guide for the religious convictions and conduct of man. We believe that each man should read the Bible for himself, that no priest is needed to interpret its message, that no intermediary is needed to stand between the soul of man and his God. If the whole world believed the whole Bible as Baptists claim they do, accepted its truths and lived its precepts, then would dawn a day of peace, prosperity, happiness and religious unity for all mankind.

The world needs *the Baptist belief in liberty*. We believe that no man should be a slave to any other man. We believe that each man should have the right to choose what he shall think, what he shall believe and what he shall do provided his thoughts, his beliefs and his actions shall not infringe on the liberties of others. Such personal liberty is what the world needs today and is what the allied nations are fighting to maintain.

The world needs today *the Baptist belief in democratic churches*. Complete separation of church and state is a fundamental Baptist doctrine and is absolutely necessary for the maintenance of personal liberty. Much of the trouble in the world today has been produced by the tyranny of state-controlled churches and church-controlled states. The revolution in Russia against religion came because the only Christianity the people knew was the Greek Orthodox Catholic Church controlled by the ruling class, formal, ceremonial, despotic and in no way satisfying the soul hunger of the people. What Russia needs, and what all countries which have known only state churches need, is the kind of church which Baptists believe in—a church which people join of their own free will because they have been saved by the blood of Jesus and want to follow Him in baptism and serve Him in their daily lives—churches which are democracies, governed neither by the state nor by any ecclesiastical body, churches where the Spirit of God controls and empowers the people to pure living and effective witnessing.

The world needs *the Baptist belief in the value of the individual*. We know that every human personality is precious to the Heavenly Father, that Jesus died to save each individual soul and that every person should have a chance to be saved that he might have the more abundant life in this world and life eternal in the world to come. We believe that no man or woman or child in all the world should be despised or mistreated or neglected or hurt but that all should be loved, helped, saved and developed.

These and other doctrines held by Baptists are what the world needs today. We remember with satisfaction that Baptists, more than any other people, have given to the world its ideals of democracy. Even in the American colonies ideas of liberty were vague; and it was Roger Williams, esteemed by many as a Baptist, who in Rhode Island established the first true democracy in the world. It was the Baptists who were largely responsible for the writing of the Bill of Rights into the Constitution of the United States. It was Baptists who first suffered and died for the four liberties, to preserve which today all Americans are willing to suffer and die.

Surely it is Baptists who must be most zealous in their witness today, when there is danger that those precious things, which the Baptists have given to the world, shall be lost. The more we can permeate the hearts of men with Baptist teaching the sooner will totalitarian ideas be obliterated. The more Baptist churches we establish the more liberty will there be for all the people on the earth.

THE BAPTIST WITNESS IN TODAY'S WORLD

WE rejoice because the Baptist witness is a strong force for righteousness in today's world. Scattered over the world, in more than sixty different countries are Baptist churches, each one a spiritual democracy, made up of liberty loving people, standing for individual rights, worshiping God and working to give the Gospel of Jesus Christ to others.

Of course it is impossible for us to know about the witness of Baptists in many lands today. But we feel sure that in every nation where there is a Baptist body there are some faithful ones who are witnessing to the light the best they can in this day of darkness. When we remember the earnest, strong, sweet spirit of those who represented the Baptists of different countries at the meeting of the Baptist World Alliance in Atlanta in 1939, we feel confident that, whatever of calamity and suffering such Baptists may have experienced, they are still faithful in their Christian witness.

*There comes to us news of Baptist witness in some countries which encourages our hearts. In a recent issue of *The Commission* Dr. Carver tells us that there has come from four million Russian Baptists an appeal to American Christians to pray for the success of Russia in her resistance to the German oppressors. *Time* magazine and other secular sources are responsible for placing the number of Russian Baptists at this rather startling figure. An influential Russian, who is at present a visiting fellow at Yale University, makes the figures even higher, saying that there are five million Russian Baptists. These are indeed surprising statistics, for no one had ever estimated the number of Baptists in Russia at more than two million, and it had been feared that under the repression and persecution of the atheistic Soviet government this number had been greatly reduced in these dozen years since it has been possible to get any reliable information.

Dr. Carver finds two causes for encouragement in this appeal which has come out of Russia. "First, that in its desperate struggle the Russian government is making a great gesture of restoring freedom of religion; second, that they are turning to Baptists as the most hopeful body to use in making an impression on American thought". He goes on to say: "It probably means that Baptists, who have heroically continued their witness through the days of darkness, are the one evangelical body that is known in Russia today as having strength enough to make a hopeful impression".

We know without any doubt that the Baptist witness continues in China in spite of the war and the many changes caused thereby. In Africa, South America, Cuba and in our own land the witness of Baptists not only continues but grows stronger year by year.

Since 1905 the Baptists have had a world organization—the Baptist World Alliance. It must be remembered that each Baptist organization is democratic, that all cooperation is purely voluntary, and yet there is wonderful unity among the Baptists of the world. Dr. James H. Rushbrooke of London, England, is president of the Baptist World Alliance; Dr. W. O. Lewis, now of Washington, is its general secretary. Dr. Louie D. Newton of Atlanta, Georgia, is one of its honorary secretaries, while among its vice-presidents and other officers are representatives of many other nations.

At the time of the aforesaid meeting of the Baptist World Alliance in Atlanta the Baptists of the world had doubled their number since the first meeting thirty years before. Today there are in the world over twelve million Baptists and this does not count those in Russia, so there are probably in all around fifteen million. For each of several past years the known increase has averaged around 300,000. The increase in southern Baptist churches last year was over 200,000 with over 20,000 added to our churches on mission fields.

A good result of the last World War was a better understanding and a closer cooperation among the Baptists of the world. The contacts of Americans with Europeans afforded by the war gave us knowledge of the Baptists of Europe; we learned that, while they were small and suffering groups, they were strong in their faith and in their zeal as witnesses. So, in 1920 the London Conference

was held which resulted not only in a better understanding among all the Baptists of the world but also in a cooperative plan whereby the stronger ones would help the weaker ones.

Let us now hope that at the end of this world war there will be still greater unity among the Baptists of the world and that, with victories won for Baptist principles of liberty and justice, the hearts of all people will be open, ready and eager to receive the message of Baptist witnesses. For such a time let us prepare, that our witness may be clear, firm and strong.

MY FELLOWSHIP with SUFFERING CHRISTIANS A Meditation

(All heads are bowed. "Make Me a Channel of Blessing" is played softly on piano or organ, while the following is read or recited in a slow, clear, thoughtful manner.)

I am thinking of suffering Christians around the world. I am remembering that the hearts of thousands are torn with anguish and that their burdens are almost more than they can bear. Some weep because of sons dead upon the battle field. Some weep because they know not where their sons may be or what of evil or good may have befallen them. Some have seen their little ones snatched from their arms never to be found again. Some have seen their homes fall before their eyes and have been forced to trek from place to place, homeless, hungry, helpless and hopeless. These Christians, my brothers and sisters, are suffering every hardship, every anguish known to the hearts of human beings. They have become the prey of "the arrow that flieth by night and the pestilence that walketh at noonday".

What fellowship have I with these suffering Christians? Does the sorrow which the war has brought to my own heart equal theirs? Do my sacrifices match theirs? Is my spirit as courageous, as hopeful, as Christlike as theirs? What have I done to show my sympathy? What have I done to share their burdens, to ease their sufferings?

Have I remembered to pray for them?
Have I given to emergency relief causes?
Am I making any sacrifices for anybody, anywhere?

In this day of suffering I pray that God will help me to find fellowship with those who suffer more than I and will help me to do something to help them. I pray that, in this day of darkness, God will help me to be a true witness to the light.

QUESTIONS for REVIEW and DISCUSSION

1. What is a witness?
2. Discuss Jesus as the faithful and true witness.
3. How did Jesus show His faith in His followers?
4. Mention some faithful witnesses in Old Testament times.
5. What was the condition of the world when Jesus came?
6. Tell something of Christian witness in spite of persecution.
7. Mention some personal witnesses in the Middle Ages.
8. Discuss the present era as a period of Christian witnessing.
9. Discuss the need of Christian witness in today's world.
10. Mention some Baptist beliefs which the world needs today.

11. Tell something of Baptist witness in today's world.
12. Tell something of the Baptist World Alliance.

REFERENCE MATERIAL

The following list of reference material is the chief source used in the preparation of foregoing program, and credit is hereby given for facts and suggestions derived therefrom as well as for matter quoted in whole or in part. Further interesting material and help may be found in this listed material and in leaflets suggested in this number which may be obtained for a few cents from W.M.U. Literature Department, 1111 Comer Bldg., Birmingham, Ala. See list of leaflets on page 3.

The Window of Y.W.A.	—World Comrades
Southern Baptist Home Missions	—The Commission
State Denominational Papers	
Current Issues of the <i>Christian Herald</i>	
The Course of Christian Missions	Dr. W. O. Carver
Christian Missions in Today's World	Dr. W. O. Carver

For a DEBTLESS DENOMINATION (Concluded from Page 7)

made in every organization to meet this imperative need

2. That every person and organization possible take at least one Centennial Membership of \$100 and that this be paid in full at the earliest possible date to stop interest and insure payment of the southwide debt in '43

3. That, where Centennial Memberships cannot be taken, Hundred Thousand Club Memberships of \$1 a month be taken and that these where possible be paid in advance

4. That all who have taken member-

ships to remain in force till 1945 try to pay all or as much as possible in advance

5. That the *Hundred Thousand Club Day for a Debtless Denomination* be observed February 14, 1943, or on the nearest day possible and that new Centennial and Club members be enrolled on that day and that a special cash offering be taken, each \$12 to count as one Club Membership paid up for the year

If we can get the full 100,000 memberships we shall surely be free in '43. Let's get them.

Debt-free in '43 Count on Me!



Our Young People

Miss Juliette Mather, W. M. U. Young People's Secretary

WHAT KIND of YEAR WILL 1943 BE?

DID a new year ever start in the midst of such world agony? And what shall a young people's director or third vice-president do for the young people of her church in such a time?

The very circumstances of hate and destruction must urge all who love the Lord to lead young people more enthusiastically into missionary zeal so that love and freedom to live become possible to a redeemed humanity. Adult failure to carry the Gospel and to be channels of God's Spirit in the past impels us to show young people the better way. Missionary education organizations should do more zealous work in 1943 than ever before.

The Standard of Excellence change to two mission study classes a year will be observed at once and planned for. It will be better to arrange a mission study class every quarter for there is so much to learn about our weary world. Order a Standard of Excellence Wall Chart for each missionary organization in your church and put it up in the organization meeting place or, if your auxiliaries meet in neighborhood circles, mount it so it can be carried from place to place. Be sure to mark it regularly. Appoint a "Keeper of the Standard" if desirable. *Girls' Auxiliary Manuals* have suggestions for variations in such marking.

Study the *Manual* in each organization. Thus new members, new officers, new committee chairmen will all know their part in making their organization all it should be.

Be sure the counselors know what they are setting out to do. The Correspondence Course is always helpful; see page 64 in the 1943 W.M.U. Year Book for details about this. At least let every counselor read *The Way of Missionary Education*, price 50c, and *Telling You How*, price 35c, for the help they will give is immeasurable. *Girls' Auxiliary* and *Royal Ambassador* counselors should study the *Guide*, price 25c, for their respective organization. There is no need for hazy leadership that does not understand the purpose and work of missionary education: material is available which will help every counselor.

Have *Royal Service*, *The Commission*, *Southern Baptist Home Missions* available for each counselor. Her soul should be filled with mission zeal which will overflow in her leadership; these magazines will supplement the definite magazine of the organization. The Woman's Missionary Society will do well to put these in the hands of each counselor as a part of fostering, along with *World Comrades* or *The Window of Y.W.A.* It is quite wrong to think in terms of merely two or three copies of *World Comrades* to one organization or two or three subscriptions to *The Window of Y.W.A.* coming to the counselor or president. Encourage every member to have his or her own magazine. Students have their own books in school; why not in the "school" of the Lord's Kingdom? These magazines make fascinating reading and contain many stories for which there is not time in the hour of meeting but which are so worth knowing. Move away at once from an old idea to the right one of each member with a magazine. Ask the Literature Committee of the W.M.S. to include in her work securing these subscriptions and present the magazine's attractiveness to the mothers of missionary education organization members.

Begin 1943 with prayer and assurance. Thus it can be a successful year indeed.

College Y.W.A.

Miss Juliette Mather, W. M. U. Young People's Secretary

After CHRISTMAS

AFTER this unusual Christmas college young women will be back at school and nurses will be steadily on duty in hospitals, both groups ready to go on more earnestly in Ann Hasseltine and Grace McBride Young Woman's Auxiliary. The "glad tidings of joy for all people" is obviously our only hope to peace and good will among men. In today's world young women seriously yearn for an end to war. Young Woman's Auxiliary is a channel for understanding the full task before Christians. Woman's Missionary Societies near colleges and hospitals can do no better service than help in every possible way to have enthusiastic Young Woman's Auxiliary organizations in them.

If there is an organization in your college or hospital, inquire of its president what your society could do to assist such an organization. What about suggestions and cooperation in community missions? What about supplying an excellent mission study class teacher? What about a friendly interest expressed in visiting the organization members or the meetings? What about inviting the young women into the homes of the Woman's Missionary Society members, individually or for their meetings? Do the girls have their watchword or "Look-Lift" poster framed attractively in their meeting room? The Woman's Missionary Society could secure and present these (price 15c and 25c from W.M.U. Literature Department, 1111 Comer Building, Birmingham, Ala.). Are you expecting a denominational leader or a missionary to visit your church? How can you plan for the nurses or college students to hear and meet this important visitor? There should be genuinely helpful contacts between the fortunate Woman's Missionary Society near a college or hospital and the young women of its Young Woman's Auxiliary.

If no organization has been perfected, begin at once. Talk to the president of the college, to the superintendent of nurses. Know the value of the organization from study of the pages relating to these phases in the W.M.U. Year Book, from reading *The Window of Y.W.A.* Pointing out the importance of such an organization, secure the promise of meeting time as the girls wish it. Talk to some of the most loyal Baptist young women, let them be a nucleus for winning others to come to the very first meeting of Baptist young women. Make this a pleasant and worthwhile time, not purely social but with worship period and missionary interest to indicate what will be the nature of these meetings in the future.

It will likely be that in your community there are some school teachers or nurses or business women or young married women who did belong to Ann Hasseltine or Grace McBride Young Woman's Auxiliaries, who would like to help at first by testifying to the value of the organization in their own lives and then by continued helpfulness. If your community is near a training camp, are there wives who have accompanied their husbands? Get acquainted with them and you will find young women who will be glad to be useful in this or other phases of missionary education; they may be just out of college, wanting something to do with their long days.

We have repeatedly said that colleges held our leaders, that we look to our hospitals for healing. Then let us be sure our leaders have a world knowledge and our nurses an understanding of a wounded world to be bound up, by having excellent Ann Hasseltine and Grace McBride Young Woman's Auxiliaries for these valuable groups.

From Our Missionaries

SHARING CHRIST with the JEW
Rev. Jacob Gartenhaus

IN 1940 the Jewish population of the United States was estimated to be 5,000,000. Of this number some 600,000 may be found within the bounds of the Southern Baptist Convention. Were these people segregated like the other nationalities in a half dozen or a dozen sections of the country the problem of their evangelization could be more easily solved; we could open several centers and place in charge of each a competent worker. But being so widely scattered over 9,816 different communities, within easy reach of Christian churches, they present both a challenge and an opportunity to these churches. And it is most gratifying to know that many of the churches are notably meeting this challenge, thanks chiefly to the faithful women; God bless them.

For the information and encouragement of others, I wish to relate what some of these women are doing to help share the message of the Savior with their Jewish friends. They have organized *Friends of Israel* groups, a plan of service adopted by the southwide W.M.U. as outlined in the leaflet, "A NEW EMPHASIS on JEWISH EVANGELIZATION through the LOCAL CHURCH". After twenty-five years of careful and prayerful study and practical experience, we have found this to be the most satisfactory approach to the problem. All others who wish to enter into this fellowship of the *Friends of Israel* may secure copies of the leaflet from the Home Mission Board, 315 Red Rock Bldg., Atlanta, Georgia.

In one of our cities the *Friends of Israel* are making it possible for hun-

dreds of copies of *The Mediator* to go into the homes of Jewish people. How marvelously the Lord has used this silent witness! The least we should do is to give them its message. The cost of this publication is only twenty-five cents a year, from Rev. Jacob Gartenhaus, 315 Red Rock Bldg., Atlanta, Ga. And we should not discontinue it after the first year. We would not think of recalling a missionary from the foreign field after his first year! Nor are the *Friends of Israel* stopping with that, but they are making personal contacts with those receiving these silent witnesses and report some of the most thrilling experiences.

In another city a member of the *Friends of Israel*, fired by an enthusiasm one seldom finds and with a genuine love for the people of our Savior, has visited a hundred or more Jewish homes and created an interest and a desire to understand more thoroughly the claims of Christ. She is a most welcome guest in every home. No wonder that when I visited that city I found so many open doors and hungry hearts and was besieged for interviews! Why cannot this be the case in your city?

It is my earnest hope and prayer that every community will have a *Friends of Israel* group and that in each missionary society at least one person will be appointed as the key woman, whose responsibility it will be to help keep the fires of interest burning in behalf of "the lost sheep of the House of Israel". It is through such *Friends of Israel* groups that we can hope to reach the ever-increasing numbers of Jewish people. This plan of service can help us meet the great challenge which Israel presents today.

RESPONSIBILITY for FOREIGNERS

ONE day we spoke at a W.M.S. meeting in a church in East St. Louis and quoted Ezekiel 33:8, stating that God will hold us responsible if we do not give the Gospel to our foreign neighbors and other foreign strangers in our midst. After the meeting, a lady came to us very much distressed and asked us if we would go with her to visit some foreign neighbors of hers. They had been living across the street from her for seven years, and she had never visited them nor even talked to them. So she, another W.M.S. lady and I went to call on this family. We prayed as we drove along in the car that God would prepare them for our coming and give us power to witness for Him to them. We knocked on the door and a middle-aged man with a very kind face met us at the door and invited us to come in. After introducing ourselves, he and his timid wife urged us to be seated. The man is Serbian, and his wife is Russian. Both of them were in poor health and appreciated so very much our coming. They said they belonged to the Greek Orthodox Church but did not attend often. We gave them some tracts, read to them from the Bible and explained to them the one and only way to have eternal life. When we suggested that we have prayer, they were pleased, and we all knelt for prayer. They did not make a surrender, but we invited them and their two boys (*who were not at home just then*) to attend the services of the Baptist Church in that community, and they promised to do so. The man wanted to give us a dollar, but we told him we had not come for money but to get better acquainted and be friends and to talk to them about Jesus, the greatest Friend through whom we receive the free gift of eternal life. They both thanked us again and again for coming and urged us to come back. The man followed us to the yard, asking us to come again. Pray with us for their salvation.

Just recently a Mexican family with eleven children moved close to our

House of Happiness Mission in East St. Louis. A good Baptist family that lives across the street and loves the foreign strangers within our midst was friendly to them; the boys in this Baptist home became friends of the Mexican boys. We went to see them and welcomed them into the neighborhood and invited them to the services of our Mission. They are strong Roman Catholics, but the children come to some of our Mission services. Recently the ten-year-old boy was saved at the R. A. meeting. We praise the Lord and want you to join us in prayer for salvation of the whole family.

We plead with all the men, women, boys and girls of the Southern Baptist Convention to love the dear foreign strangers and help give them the Gospel—your neighbors, the ones you trade with, the ones you work with, those you go to school with, the many throughout America. Please pray much for our House of Happiness Mission in East St. Louis and for our Lincoln Mission in Granite City where we are telling the people of many nationalities that God loves them, that Jesus loves them, that His followers love them. They are interesting and lovable and make wonderful friends. They have suffered much in their native lands and, even before we entered the war, they voiced their appreciation of this country and of American friends. Above all, like us, they need Christ, the great Friend.—*Mrs. Helen Lambert, East St. Louis, Ill.*

MEMORIES from MANCHURIA

THE Japanese decreed that no Chinese preachers could come from other parts of China to Manchuria. But when we left Manchuria to come to the United States in December of 1940 there were four pastors connected with our work there. The Lord says (*in Isaiah 43: 13*) "I will work, and who can hinder it?" One of these pastors whom the Lord raised up on that field in our time of sore need was a man right at "our elbow" so to speak. We had known him for about

twenty years. He was a fine lay-preacher and very active in Christian work in Dairen. He had spent twenty-one years in a British bank but resigned his position because he felt that his health required it. Our two churches in Dairen appointed committees to confer with this man, and the very day that we went to his home to speak with him about becoming pastor of these two churches his bank wrote him a letter urging him to come back to the bank. The bank offered him four hundred yen a month and a "bonus". Previously his salary was two hundred yen a month. In the course of time this man was made pastor, and we left the work in Dairen in his hands in 1940. The Chinese pastor from Mukden, Manchuria, came to Dairen and presided at the ordination of this man. This visiting pastor had already been picked up by the Japanese police and cast into prison. His feet were put in stocks and his hands handcuffed. Of course the man who was being ordained that day did not know when the prison-doors might open for him. Yet he accepted the call of the Lord and these churches and that without one cent of salary. He is really a fine Christian man and his wife is just as fine. She said to her husband when he was facing these questions, "Husband, stay with the Lord's work". This pastor is a splendid preacher and teacher.

There is a fine Christian woman who is known to many as "Mary" and this is in part a story of her life. This Chinese girl belonged to a family of unbelievers. Her father smoked opium and on Mary's fifth birthday her father said: "Mary, let us go to the city and I will buy you a birthday present". Down in the city they met a rich man to whom Mary was sold that day for five dollars. Soon after entering the home as a servant or slave Mary was whipped and cast out after her hands and her feet were tied by her cruel mistress. The following morning passers-by saw the child lying on the ground and picked her up and carried her to the mis-

sion hospital. Blood-poison had set in and her feet and parts of her hands were amputated, leaving nothing but a stub of a left hand and only a part of one finger and a part of the thumb on the right hand. The wounds were healed and Mary was taken to an American missionary in the same city who had a girls' boarding school. This lady in telling us the story said that she first declined to take Mary into her school but, as soon as she had said "No", she felt that she heard the Lord say, "You take Mary into your school", so she said to the people, "Bring her in". Mary finished the course there and became a Christian. She then went to a Bible Training School and from there she went to a position which she was filling with great satisfaction when we left China. Mary does translation work in the *Christian Literature Society for China* at Shanghai. She writes and speaks English. To summarize her rescue: a medical missionary was there to save the little life and so Mary did not go the way of almost countless children in China. The educational missionary was there to receive Mary in the name of Christ and to tell her of Him as Savior and also to train the little mind. A life was saved and now Mary for many years has been serving the Lord truly.

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We had the tent in a small village out from Dairen. Interest and attention were very fine. When using the tent, I like to walk out into the village and get acquainted with some of the women. As I walked along the street of this little village I came to an open window; inside was a woman seated on her brick bed. She was very friendly and told me that her home was formerly in Pingtu. She wanted to go to the

tent but at the time was disabled because of a sore foot.

The tent was folded and moved on. Results had been so good that we rented a chapel in this village. It was near this woman's home. "As many as received Him"—she too became a child of God. After baptism she listened well to the teaching and gave splendid response to questions. Her son and daughter were grown and married. Her husband was in very poor health. With her assistance he came to the chapel and listened, lying in a reclining chair brought in for him. He passed away a believer, as the Chinese pastor thought, though he was not baptized.

Some months later the other husband appeared in the village. Back in Pingtu he also had heard the Gospel and, believing, had come in search of his wife and children. Would they receive him into the family circle again? Years ago when the children were small he had sold his wife—accursed opium the cause—to another man. The new husband had brought her to Manchuria. The wife took the father's question to the children. Would they receive their father back into the home? "No", they said. He had not wanted them when they were small, why should they? The son and daughter were not Christians. The mother was not satisfied. She took the matter to the evangelist living at the chapel. This elderly, gentle man of God advised with her kindly and wisely. Again she went to her son and daughter. "After all, he is our father", they said. So he came home. Some days later after the church service in the city Chinese friends were

calling her by her new name in my presence. Her face flushed, but it was the rosy color of happiness. The husband of her youth had come home to her. They were united in Jesus Christ. Why should she not be very, very happy?—*Mrs. W. W. Adams, Dairen, Manchuria*

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In presenting this chapter use three main topics of discussion:

1. General education situation in Chile
2. Why Christian education?
3. Our own academic school
 - a. History
 - b. Courses of study
4. Religious activities
5. Faculty

Aim: To arouse an intelligent interest in Christian education in Chile

Study V

Hymn: "Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak"

Scripture: Luke 4:16-21

Prayer for theological students in Chile and for all "set for the defense of the Gospel" there

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Having studied their names on the poster and their pictures in the album, all may enter into a season of earnest prayer for S.B.C. missionaries in the "Shoe-string Republic". (See also book review on page 8 of this magazine.)

TEACHERS TOO (Concluded from Page 17)

From around the table there came exclamations, each saying: "Well I thought it was those of my business who were most difficult to enlist!" "Just as I thought", said the hostess; "it is not the business or the profession but the individual herself that determines the amount of interest she has in promoting Kingdom work. So you and I must see each Baptist business woman as a prospective B.W.O. member". There was a general nod of heads in agreement and they heard one say: "Yes, and teachers too!"—*Miss Mary Christian*

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COME, LORD JESUS!

① THOU who wast laid in a manger bed
In Bethlehem long ago!
The world is sick with its maimed and its dead,
With its trouble and want and woe.

Thou did'st come to earth with a wondrous gift;
The angels sang of it then;
A gift of friendship and love and joy,
Of peace and good-will among men.

But alas for the promise of love and peace!
And alas for the souls of men!
The world turned away from Thy proffered gifts,
Turned away again and again.

And the world is torn with trouble and strife
And war and sorrow and sin,
And the cannons' roar drowns the angels' song
With a horrible, horrible din.

O Master, that men would turn to Thy cross
And leave their grasping and greed,
To find even now in Thy wonderful love
The peace that so sorely we need.

Come once again, O Christ of the past,
Of the manger, the cross and the grave,
Of the opened tomb and the Heavenly life,
Our living Lord, mighty to save.

Come once again, in Thy glory and might,
With glittering angel train,
And stand once again on Olivet's mount
And set up Thy glorious reign.

Then shall the promise the angels sang
Come true, and men be free,
And peace and righteousness cover the earth
As the waters cover the sea!

—W. E. Denham, D.D.
Montgomery, Ala.

AVOIDING CONFLICTS as to MARCH 1-5

"Earnest effort by the W. M. S. to guard against the holding of study courses or other activities during the Seasons of Prayer"—
Thus is set forth an established policy and purpose of Woman's Missionary Union. If your church or association is planning to use March 1-5 for emphasis other than that of the W.M.U. Week of Prayer for Home Missions, please promptly endeavor to get all such plans changed so as not to divert attendance upon and earnest interest in this immediate Season of Prayer.

Current Missionary Events

Discussed by Mrs. W. C. James, Virginia

Another distinguished Christian leader and world-famed missionary, Dr. Hendrik Kraemer, of Holland, was recently arrested and along with seventy other Dutch pastors is now (November) confined behind the barbed wire of a Nazi concentration camp. Dr. Kraemer served for twenty years as a missionary in the Dutch East Indies and for fifteen years has been professor of *History of Religions* in Leyden University. He is likewise the author of the remarkable book *The Christian Message in a Non-Christian World*. Turn to your Bible and read the messages he and the seventy who accept the cruelties of a concentration camp rather than support the Nazi conquest of Holland have sent to other churches: Philippians 1:12-14 and II Thessalonians 3:1-2

Because the Nazi occupation government in Norway has prohibited further delivery of paper to the Norwegian Bible Society the printing of Bibles in Norway has ceased, according to a report received by the American Bible Society. Fortunately, however, throughout the past year 90,000 new Bibles were sold in Norway and most Norwegian families now possess Bibles. In proportion to population no country on earth reports so large a distribution of Bibles. Remembering that "the Word is the sword of the Spirit" we need have little fear concerning the sustained morale of the Norwegian people and the ultimate triumph of righteousness and justice.

When the news of the mass evacuation of the Japanese from the Pacific Coast appeared in the daily press many, particularly members of Christian churches, were uneasy because they had in mind concentration camps in Europe. Recently Dr. William P. Lippard, edi-

tor of *Missions*, made a survey of the Japanese camps and in his article—"What Has Happened to America's Japanese?" in November *Missions*—is most reassuring. Surely the effort to give every consideration possible for the comfort and happiness of these people truly witnesses to the Christian spirit which prevails in the hearts of those in charge. Not only has every consideration possible for physical comfort been shown but also full religious liberty prevails. One Sunday at a camp of 19,000, says Dr. Lippard, 3522 Japanese attended thirty-eight church services. That number comprised 251 Roman Catholics, 345 in holiness groups, 1215 Buddhists and 1704 protestants. On the same day, 1652 children attended forty-two Sunday-schools.

Those readers of *Royal Service* who may not have read the article "Strange News" by Dr. Maddy in the November *Commission* will do well to look it up and read it. It is the copy of an editorial entitled "Strange News" published in a daily paper commenting upon the appointment August 12 by the S.B.C. Foreign Mission Board of nine new missionaries. It is heart-lifting.

Interesting indeed is the following from the London correspondent to the *Christian Century*: "A service of an unusual kind was held on the day of prayer in an internment camp on the Isle of Man. Selections from the Psalms were read by a former pastor of the German Lutheran Church. A lesson from Ezekiel was read by a Quaker. Prayers in English and in Hebrew for the king and royal family, ministers of state, members of the forces, for our allies and all who were suffering were offered by a Jewish rabbi. The national anthem was played by a German."

The Presbyterian Church in Brazil, according to *World Dominion*, is one of the strongest and most indigenous of the Christian evangelical groups and in general is now ahead of the Roman Catholic Church in native leaders and ministers. Progressiveness and vitality are to be found in the evangelized churches.

Stewardship Covenant

Recognising, 1st, that I am God's steward, that He has the rightful and supreme claim upon me and my possessions; 2nd, that God said to ancient Israel: "The tithes is the Lord's; it is holy unto the Lord"; 3rd, that Paul says concerning giving: "See that ye abound in this grace also"; and, 4th, that the results of thus honoring God have always been most gratifying, enriching both the giver and the Kingdom:

I, therefore, promise, as a recognition of my stewardship and an expression of my love to God, to lay aside until further notice at least one-tenth of my income for the support of His cause. First they gave their own-selves unto the Lord—*II Cor. 8:5*. Of all that Thou shalt give me, I will surely give the tenth unto Thee—*Gen. 28:22*.

Signed by

(Name)

(Street Address)

(Town and State)

(Society of One Signaling)

Date _____

(Church of One Signing)



For RE-SIGNERS of STEWARDSHIP COVENANT

(For new tithers, secure W.M.S. tither's card from state W.M.U. headquarters. From the same source we to be secured cards for the young people who tithed.)

VOI