

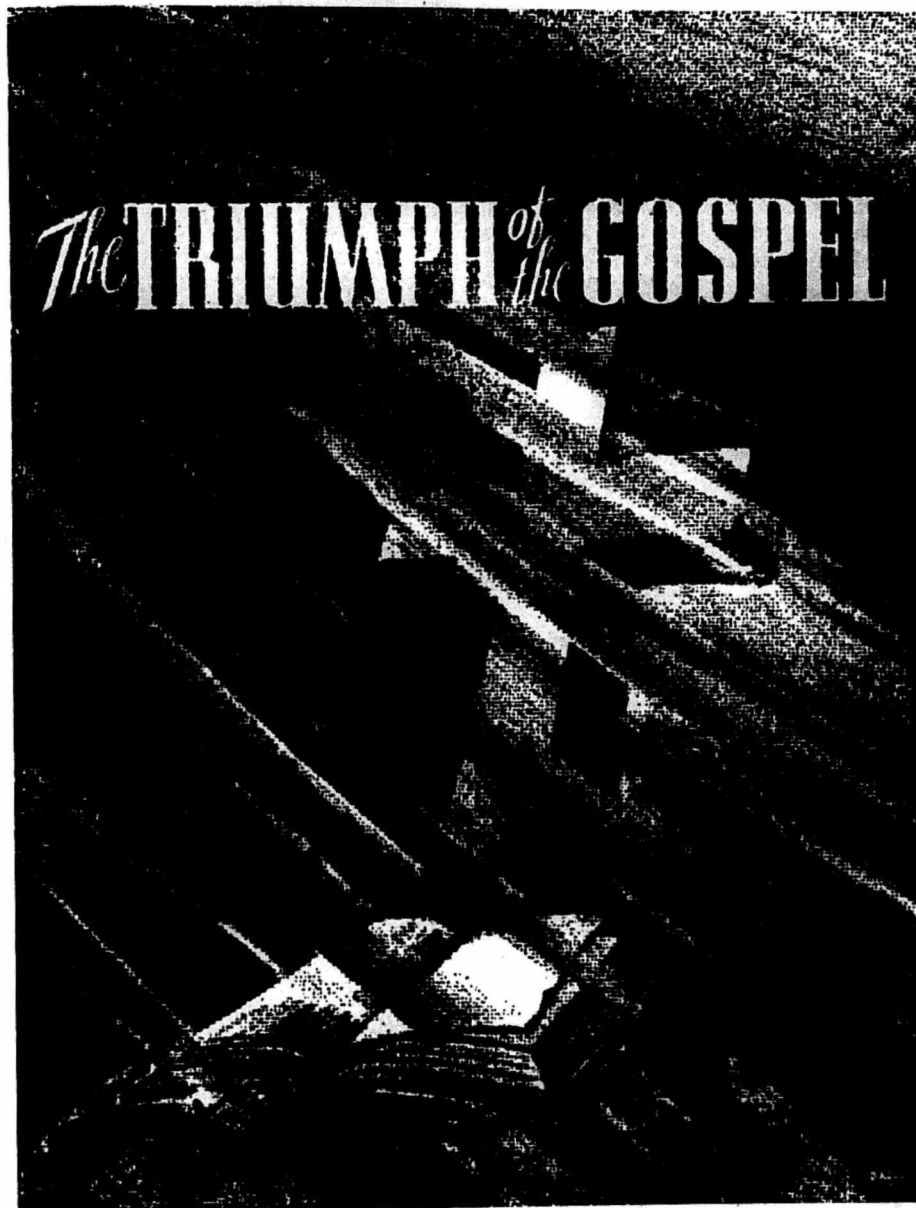
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Royal Service



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Editorial

"NOT YOURS but YOU"

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

It will be remembered that formerly there were listed, in the *Plan of Work* of Woman's Missionary Union, six *Chief Aims* one of which was *Enlistment*. More recently it has been deemed expedient to consider enlistment as fundamental in each of the chief aims. The purpose of this missionary organization is now expressed as: "To enlist the women and young people in prayer, in study, in tithes and offerings, in missionary education of young people and in community missions". Through these channels the missionary motive finds expression.

October has long been regarded as the time for special enlistment efforts. It is good to establish habits if they are good habits. In the month of October vacations are over, schools have begun, routine manner of life has been reestablished, the churches are revived and enlistment in Christian activities is the order of the day. October is a good time for emphasis upon the vital phases of W.M.U. life and for seeking the varied talents of the women and young people of the churches for the cause of missions so basic in the Lord's plan for extending His Kingdom.

Seldom if ever in the life of the Union has enlistment in its aims and activities been so important and so difficult as now. It is the more important because so many people are removed from their accustomed places and manner of life. They need the steadying influence of the missionary organizations to which they have been accustomed. Concentrated in certain areas, the churches near these areas are burdened with the responsibilities and opportunities this influx of population brings upon them. Added to this difficulty there is placed upon one's time and energy the extra demand of worthy work such as Red Cross, bond drives and social service to soldiers. Each of us must resolve to multiply ourselves to meet the needs of our day, remembering always to put "first things first". Unless the advancement of the Kingdom of God moves with the assurance of the Four Freedoms we shall face a sorry post-war world. Because God works through individuals we must make of ourselves and of our fellow-Christians fit channels for the expression of His will and work in the hearts of men.

When Woman's Missionary Union was entering upon its third decade the revered president, Miss Fannie E. S. Heck, presented the items she considered vital to a surviving, serving organization. The first of these was "a field in which the work it undertakes to do is needed". She referred to the world-field but she concentrated upon southern Baptist womanhood and youth as the field in which the work of the Union was needed: "I confidently assert that they need the Union", she said.

Now as then the chief reason for the most intensive enlistment efforts is that the women and the young people of our churches need that which the Union offers for their personal life-enrichment and as an avenue for the expression of their Christian impulses. The truest, most productive enlistment-approach is "we seek not yours but you". When the person is won, possessions of every sort will be enlisted also.

For a Debtless Denomination

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

On the HOME STRETCH

By Walter M. Gilmore, S.B.C. Publicity Director

At long last we are in sight of a most glorious victory—the payment of all debts on the agencies of our Southern Baptist Convention. We have come a long way during the past ten years when these debts had pyramided to more than \$6,500,000.

But, thank the Lord, we are now on the home stretch. Victory is within our grasp, provided we continue to stretch every nerve and do our level best. But it will not be easy. It has not been so far.

At this stage of the game (*August 1*) the aggregate indebtedness stands at approximately \$375,000, a mere bagatelle as compared with the original. And yet the raising of that much money for debts is no before-breakfast job. It will require the concerted efforts of all of us from now till the end of 1943 to complete the task.

Ordinarily optimism is a winning quality. Yet if it causes one to let down in effort, it is a dangerous factor. Just now our military authorities are warning us against a false optimism because of our successes on all battle-fronts. According to them, our recent military victories have caused a slowing down of production on our home-front. The tide of battle could easily turn. We shall not be safe till the last battle has been fought and won.

Now that both the Foreign and Home Mission Boards are out of debt and the debts on our three Theological Seminaries and the Southern Baptist Hospital are fast dwindling, there may be a disposition on the part of some to relax. But our present advantageous position should spur us on with increased energy and determination to complete the job while we can.

What a tonic to our Baptist morale this victory will be! We have needed something like this for some time. It will be the moral equivalent of a great military victory. It will send us on our way rejoicing with renewed courage as we face the new day of unparalleled opportunities and responsibilities.

When the history of this period of our Baptist life is written, unmeasured praise should be given to our W.M.U. organizations for the substantial help they have rendered in making this victory possible. We are confidently expecting them to continue their present tempo.

Since May 1, 1942, southern Baptists have paid on their debt over \$1,300,000. Since January 1, 1943, they have paid over \$750,000. The balance of the south-wide debt (as of *August 1*) is as follows: Baptist Bible Institute, \$5,461.50; Southern Seminary, \$61,148.63; Southwestern Seminary, \$42,467.53; Southern Baptist Hospital, \$20,000.00; Convention Note (*Education Board etc.*), \$245,588.07; total, \$374,665.73. (*By Aug. 24 the hospital debt was paid!*)

At the present rate of receipts from the Hundred Thousand Club, according to the closest calculation of Dr. J. E. Dillard, we are going to be short of our goal (*Concluded on Page 30*)



At SOUTHWIDE B.W.C. CONFERENCE

THE second southwide conference promoted by Woman's Missionary Union for members of Business Women's Circles was held at Ridgecrest, August 4-11, 1943, at the same time three other conferences were in session: S.B.C. Home Missions Conference, Editorial Conference of the Sunday School Board and the Baptist Brotherhood Conference. Of the total registration of more than 600 for the four conferences 265 were enrolled in the business women's conference. The registration by states for the B.W.C. Conference was as follows: Virginia first with 60, North Carolina second with 35 and Florida third with 32; Alabama 26, Arkansas 7, District of Columbia 5, Georgia 18, Illinois 4, Kentucky 6, Louisiana 5, Maryland 4, Mississippi 11, Missouri 5, Oklahoma 1, South Carolina 20, Tennessee 21, Texas 5.

Although as W.M.U. representative I acted as conference director, the executive secretaries of the state Unions cooperated in every possible way and were really responsible for the success of the conference, the fine attendance and splendid conference periods. Fourteen of these secretaries were present: Mrs. R. S. Marshall, Ala.; Mrs. C. H. Ray, Ark.; Mrs. J. G. Yaden, D. C.; Miss Louise Smith, Fla.; Miss Janice Singleton, Ga.; Miss Josephine Jones, Ill.; Miss Mary Winborne, Ky.; Miss Hannah Reynolds, La.; Miss Frances Traylor, Miss.; Miss Mary Currin, N. C.; Mrs. Berta K. Spooner, Okla.; Miss Vonnie Lance, S. C.; Miss Mary Northington, Tenn.; Miss Blanche S. White, Va. There were also five state W.M.U. presidents attending the conference.

The B.W.C. discussion period was held each morning from 9 to 10:30, after which the members attended the Home Missions Conference. The theme for the B.W.C. Conference was "Come Women, Christ Proclaim".

The first day Miss Reynolds and Miss Traylor led in a discussion of enlistment, organization and magazines. Mission study was presented the second day by Mrs. Una R. Lawrence, southwide mission study chairman, and Miss Thelma Brown of the Sunday School Board. A community missions playlet—"Committed

to Missions" by Mrs. John Hathaway of Illinois—was presented Saturday under direction of Miss Jones.

A high peak of the conference was the address Sunday afternoon by Miss Kathleen Mallory, executive secretary of W.M.U., her subject being the theme for the week: "Come Women, Christ Proclaim". Preceding Miss Mallory's address the Margaret Fund students on the Ridgecrest staff were introduced.

Monday's conference concerning tithes and offerings was led by Miss Singleton and Miss Lance. On Tuesday, the last conference period, Miss White presented with the aid of the Virginia delegation a model B.W.C. program.

Miss Alma Hunt of Roanoke, Va., made a definite contribution as director of recreation by planning hikes, banquets, camp-fire services, games, parties. Miss Hunt has served at Y.W.A. Camp in the same capacity and knows how to make attractive plans.

It was good to have Miss Juliette Mather, W.M.U. young people's secretary, for part of the conference also. She was gladly heard at a camp-fire service and in conference.

In expressing their appreciation of the week's fellowship some said they were most grateful for the opportunity to learn about home mission work and home mission needs; others, that they were glad to know more of Business Women's Circle plans and methods; and others, that all the program had inspired them to go home and work harder in their B.W.C. and to get more to attend the B.W.C. Conference in 1944 which is now scheduled to be held during Foreign Missions Week.—Miss Mary Christian

UNITS for MAIL DELIVERY in CITIES

POST-OFFICE authorities are notifying or have notified city residents as to the mail delivery unit to be affixed to their respective addresses so that mail may be delivered more promptly to them. Accordingly the W.M.U. headquarters office in Birmingham has been duly notified that its mail delivery unit is 3. The last three issues of this magazine called attention to this on their pages 2 and 3. See also pages 2 and 3 of this issue. Thus it will be realized that all communications as to this magazine for subscriptions, renewals etc. should have the unit 3 after Birmingham. This is also true concerning the young people's magazines—World Comrades and The Window of Y.W.A.—and as to orders etc. to the W.M.U. Literature Department and as to letters etc. to any who receive their mail at the Birmingham headquarters office. Therefore, for the three magazines, the Literature Department and the workers at the office please use respectively the following address:

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Birmingham 3
Alabama

Another great favor will be genuinely appreciated, namely: the notification of mail delivery units from those who are sending in new subscriptions or renewals to this magazine or to the ones for W.M.U. young people. Please also be mindful each time that your mail delivery unit is put on your every communication to the Birmingham headquarters office of Woman's Missionary Union, even as you will remember to put the unit 3 on any such card or letter to the Birmingham office.

Book Reviews

Miss Willie Jean Stewart, Tennessee

The SILENT BILLION SPEAK: Frank Laubach; Friendship Press, 1943; Pages 201; Price 60c and \$1

ONE of the most exciting advances in the missionary as well as the educational world, in this generation, has been Doctor Laubach's invention of phonetic reading charts by which illiterates can be taught to read in an amazingly short time. In language after language in the Philippines, in India, in Africa and even in China his charts have made it possible for youths and adults to learn to read in anywhere from three hours to six weeks. And by his plan of getting each person who learns to teach another, the darkness of illiteracy is rolling back for thousands and even hundreds of thousands with unprecedented speed. It is impossible to overestimate the force for good and evil thus unleashed.

This book is Doctor Laubach's own

story of the spread of this movement from the first experiment with the Moro's in the Philippines to the phonetic languages of all the world. It is more than that. The missionary's boundless enthusiasm plus his simple and child-like faith in God and dependence on Him give his book a devotional value quite apart from the marvelous tale he has to tell of the opening of blinded eyes in country after country. Indeed it is this quality which saves the story of the similar triumphs of literacy everywhere from becoming almost monotonously repetitious as the author sweeps one on from one success to another in all the eastern world. His book is one to read with the heart; its implications one must ponder with the mind. (See following suggestions for teaching this 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

The SILENT BILLION SPEAK by Dr. FRANK LAUBACH

Mrs. J. L. Barrett, mission study chairman of Louisiana W.M.U., offers the following suggestions:

THE story of the great struggle that is going on in the emancipation of illiterate millions presents a challenge to America that must not be ignored. The aim is to awaken Christians to the mighty factor literacy plays in the building of the Kingdom.

As book is read, mark striking sentences and the Christian experiences of the author. Plan devotional periods. Read book again, following author's course on a map and choosing outstanding steps of progress. Note fine human interest stories.

Read first chapter of "The Book We Teach" by Weatherpoon. Large missionary map of the world, picture-maps of Philippine Islands, India, Africa, Life in India Panels (four posters) can be ordered from Baptist Bookstore. Write American Bible Society, Park Ave. on 57th St. New York, for posters and pamphlets on the world's need and the distribution of Bibles.

Pray much in preparation and presentation. Begin each class with prayer for guidance.

Chapter I: After the Silence of the Centuries
Devotional Period: The Mission of Christ—Luke 4:18

Write illiteracy figures on blackboard. Note upward curve. Discuss increased population in Africa and Asia and the awakened desire to read.

Present chart with pictures showing the ministry of Jesus; Gannet-graph may be used. Show the teaching of illiterates as "Love in Action" and how it promotes spread of Gospel; call attention to forces that brought about the open Bible.

Compare literacy of America with other nations. Have dialogue, two women impersonating Gandhi and the author. Discuss Dr. John R. Matt's statement, "The alphabet is the most dangerous weapon ever put in human hands".

Chapter II: A Literacy Campaign from the Inside
Devotional Period: Right Choices Made by Bible Characters
(Class Participation)

Previous Assignments: Dr. Laubach's choice; the "Moros"; Dr. Laubach becomes "color blind"; manifestations of God's leadership; methods in winning love for Christ and himself; teaching the Moros to read

Chapter III: "Each One Teach One" Idea Spread
Devotional Period: Instances from Scripture of Personal Soul-winning
(Class Participation)

Friendship Charts—Assignment. Discuss rapid progress in teaching illiterates, also discuss advantages of student teaching others. Make application, using intensive and extensive growth of the Kingdom in parables of leaven and mustard seed—Matt. 13.

Decide key-word of success. Discuss qualities of love, writing on blackboard as named—I Cor. 13.

Chapter IV: A Literacy Tour across Southern Asia
Scripture Lesson: Matt. 28:19, 20

Discuss difficulties, dangers, possibilities and needs of literacy progress in Asia. Lecture, impersonating Dr. Laubach, tracing tour on map

Chapter V: Around the World and Back to India
Scripture Lesson: II Timothy 2:15

Write sentence, each word on separate card: "With knowledge comes understanding and with understanding come wisdom and love". Presented by eleven women in line

Discussions: Effect upon America and results from report of enormous illiteracy in China and India; story of key-word methods compared; introduction of picture-word-syllable method. The value of literacy: (a) in churches, (b) in the distressing food-problem of India, (c) in release from burden of debt, (d) jobs available for educated, (e) in overcoming caste system. The effects of illiteracy in America

Chapter VI: A Fifty-day Adventure in East Africa
Scripture Lesson: John 8:32; Prayer

Picture map-study. Bondage of women discussed. Lecture

Chapter VII: The India-wide Campaign for Literacy
Scripture Lesson: Isaiah 41:5

Discuss progress of the work. Conferences. A work of love among people from prisoners to princes

Chapter VIII: Literacy and Good Neighbor Policy
Scripture Lesson: Mark 12:30, 31; Matt. 7:12; I Cor. 13:8a

Discuss America's future status and responsibility. Ask for examples of the United States as a good neighbor. Use American Bible Society poster, "The Book of a Thousand Tongues". Show that vital and permanent work is established only where Scriptures are given people in their native tongue. Present Home and Foreign Mission Day poster of 1943 from Baptist Sunday School Board, entitled "Entrusted with the Gospel". Prayer

Society Methods

A FORWARD-LOOKING EYE

“**B**UT Daniel purposed in his heart” and God overcame every difficulty that was placed in his way and Daniel kept that purpose. Today Christian women everywhere should realize their sacred responsibility and be firm and loyal in their definite purpose of carrying forward a great missionary program for a lost world.

If women are content to sit idly by and worry about the disturbed and restless world, rationing of food and gas and other handicaps, the progress of the work will be hindered or greatly retarded; but if we purpose in our hearts as Daniel purposed and if we have the faith of Moses who went out “not knowing whither he went” but only whom he followed, we too may have to limit activities but time may be spent in tarrying for spiritual growth and power. We can be ready for anything if we have been faithful in everything.

Fifteen years ago the writer visited many rural churches in Kentucky and most women came in buggies, on horseback and even in wagons; there were few cars. Many women walked miles over trails and dirt roads and they were never in a hurry to leave the “House of the Lord”. Certainly more interest and spiritual power were manifested than now. We need to look back and learn wisdom today from the challenges and examples of yesterday.

In town or city churches, the gas rationing need not interfere as much with activities as in rural churches. We can bicycle or walk and enjoy God’s great outdoors. We can combine meetings with the same results—two meetings can be held one afternoon or have more all-day meetings and plan a ses-

sion for the Executive Board, one for a circle meeting and some phase of community missions, such as prayer services for the lost or sewing for charity. What a day of blessing this could be and how much you can accomplish! Circles may meet in localities where the largest number of women may be reached. Business women will select a downtown center, such as the Y.W.C.A. if no church is thus located.

Plan associational and regional meetings in central locations where there are busses and train service. If those facilities are limited, the pastors will be glad to take the leaders of organizations to the meetings. Where there is a will, a way will be found.

May holy inspiration give us vision, even though at present it may be limited and imperfect. May our dreams not be of a golden age in the distant past but of a golden age to be. May Woman’s Missionary Union have a “forward-looking eye”.—*Mrs. Cecil Brown, Ky.*

THE MEETINGS MUST GO ON

“**T**HEY that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint”. For many years we have been running to and fro to meetings; now we must walk and not faint! If we are really waiting on the Lord, we will be willing to walk and not faint in our efforts to serve Him.

Ours has been the easy path, for we have driven from place to place; now that the way is hard, are we willing to prove that we have waited on the Lord and are ready to serve Him faithfully? There are plans that we can follow that will simplify our meetings and yet not compromise.

All of the young people’s organizations except the Y.W.A.’s. can meet at the church on the same day. At the close of school have all to come to the church-house for the meeting.

Missionary evening in the churches is most satisfactory, especially in the country. The laymen, the women and the young people all come together. The organizations take turn in holding the devotional services and then go apart for the programs. Family night saves the gas.

“Church School of Missions” is a worthwhile plan when all the family study missions on the same evening. Prayer meeting night is an ideal time to have such a school. It will increase the attendance at prayer meeting and not multiply the number of services. The pastor will be in charge and will lead a devotional service and then all will go to the classes where the books on missions are taught.

Many societies are now meeting once a month for all day instead of holding an hour’s meeting each week. At 9:30

the Executive Committee meets. At 10:30 the circles hold a brief business meeting. At 11 A.M. the monthly missionary program is given. A “pot luck” lunch is served and in the afternoon the business session is held. It is not ideal to have all of these meetings in one day but during these strenuous times it can be done.

The W.M.U. associational meeting should be held quarterly. Expect a good crowd and plan for it. Surely we can conserve enough gas to go to an associational meeting once a quarter! If we truly are “waiting on the Lord” we will put Him first and will attend services in His name instead of wasting the gas on meetings that are not building the Kingdom of God.

Over the radio we hear: “Work, fight, give. Make democracy live”. We say we must work harder than ever before to keep up the morale of our members. We must fight indifference, covetousness, selfishness. We must give of our time, talents and tithes to make Jesus Christ live in this war-torn world.—*Miss Mary Northington, Tenn.*

AN APOLOGY

In the July issue of this magazine an error was made in listing the churches that each maintained an A-1 Full Graded W.M.U. in 1942. The error concerns the splendid record made by the North Broad Church at Rome, Georgia. That church has consecutively maintained the A-1 Full Graded Union three more years than were indicated for it in July ROYAL SERVICE. Therefore, please, change the 2 by its name to a five 5.

MANY THANKS!

Heartly gratitude is felt toward the many friends who are heeding the request as to money-orders in subscribing or renewing for *Royal Service* or for the W.M.U. young people’s magazines.

Because of modern mailing devices it has become increasingly difficult to dispose of stamps sent in payment for these magazines and other material ordered from 1111 Comer Bldg., Birmingham 3, Ala. Please consult page 3 of this magazine as to how best to remit; it is stated there that money-orders are preferred for ROYAL SERVICE remittances or for any order amounting to as much as 50c.

Stewardship Suggestions

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

MY BUNCH of KEYS

"And I will give unto thee the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven"—Matt. 16:19a.

A KEY is a symbol of power and authority. Our belief is that Jesus, in the words as quoted above, was not committing to Peter final decisions as to souls but the "key" by which Peter could open the door of Christian opportunity as Peter did to Israel at Pentecost and to the gentiles in the home of Cornelius. Not only to Peter but to all true believers Christ has entrusted these keys.

"Keeper of the Keys" was the title given of old to that trusted steward who had in his charge the keys to the vaults wherein were kept the king's treasures. It was a place of great responsibility; but it pales into insignificance compared with that greatest of all responsibilities ever committed to mortals—Keepers of the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven. You have your bunch and I have mine; each of us has the same kind of keys. Let us look at them.

Here is a key marked *Talent*; another, *Time*; a third, *Influence*; a fourth, *Kind Deeds*; a fifth, *Money*; and the master-key, *Love*. These are the keys by which we can open the door of the Kingdom and entreat those outside to enter. If we are daily using these keys, then we can pray sincerely: "Thy Kingdom come!"

Let us look particularly just now at that fifth key, a mighty key, *Money*. To "open the door" and thus extend the Kingdom of God requires a vast

amount of money; therefore, Christ placed in the hands of His Church millions of these money-keys. If we have failed to use them through selfish hoarding, their "rust" will testify against us in that final day; or if we have melted these really sacred "keys" into coins for our own use it will be all the worse for us at the judgment.

It was during the Home Mission Week of Prayer. That afternoon the women listened to an urgent appeal for more missionaries to be sent to the Indians and the foreign-speaking people in our midst. Several women prayed that "more of these people might be brought into the Kingdom of Heaven"; but those same women went from that church carrying in their purses the "keys" that would have opened the door of opportunity for at least some of those Indians and foreign-speaking people.

Before leaving Africa for her furlough one of our missionaries went to see a fine Nigerian Christian boy who was slowly dying from tuberculosis. When asked if there was anything he needed, he held up his Bible and said: "This is all I need! When you get to your country, thank the one who sent me this Bible that told me how to be saved!"

Don't you hope it was your money that bought that Bible? God will know. If at the "Gate" there are some who greet us and say, "Your keys opened the door for me", then one of Heaven's highest joys will be ours.

(See also pages 5 and 34.)

Calendar of Prayer October, 1943

Mrs. W. C. Henderson, Arizona

Who work are ennobled by the dignity of missions. Believe it, live it, glory in it—we are children of a King, laborers together with God. And it is not being laborers that ennobles, it is being together with God.—Fannie E. S. Heck by Mrs. W. C. James

1—FRIDAY

xxRev. and Mrs. E. L. Hill, Canton, xxj*Miss Annie Pender, Sun Hing, China, evangelistic work; also annual meeting of W.M.U., Washington, D. C., Oct. 1
Great is our God and of great power: His understanding is infinite.—Psa. 147:5

2—SATURDAY

Founders' Day of Women's Missionary Union Training School, Louisville, Kentucky
We would see Jesus.—John 11:21

3—SUNDAY

That Baptists in all parts of the world may be true to the witness of God's Word
Ye shall be witnesses unto Me . . . unto the uttermost part of the earth.—Acts 1:8

4—MONDAY

Rev. and Mrs. F. Montero, Kingsville, Rev. P. Flores, Carrizo Springs, Texas, evangelistic work among Mexicans
Seek the Lord and His strength, seek His face continually.—1 Chron. 16:11

5—TUESDAY

Baptist believers in Japan
Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established.—1 Chron. 20:20

6—WEDNESDAY

Rev. and Mrs. R. E. Johnson, Rev. and Mrs. A. J. Terry, educational-evangelistic work, Victoria, Brazil
O Lord of hosts, blessed is the man that trusteth in Thee.—Psa. 84:12

7—THURSDAY

11Miss Minnie Berry, evangelistic work among mountain folk, Scottsboro, Ala.
Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He would send forth laborers into His harvest.—Luke 10:2

8—FRIDAY

xxRev. and Mrs. G. A. Carver and xxjMiss Lila Watson, Shanghai, 11Miss Annie Sandlin, Shiechow, China, educational-evangelistic work
The day of the Lord cometh.—Joel 2:1

9—SATURDAY

Rev. and Mrs. A. Corujedo, Matanzas, Rev. and Mrs. F. J. Rodriguez, Calabazar, Cuba, evangelistic work; also Daniel and Mirra Corujedo, Gertrudis and Raul Rodriguez, Margaret Fund students
Rejoice because your names are written in Heaven.—Luke 10:20

10—SUNDAY

Dr. and Mrs. T. N. Johnson and Mrs. S. J. Townsend, emeritus missionaries from China
Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.—Matt. 5:8

11—MONDAY

Rev. and Mrs. J. J. Cowart, Miss Edith West, evangelistic work, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.—Gal. 3:26

12—TUESDAY

Women's Missionary Union of Mexico
Follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, meekness.—1 Tim. 6:11

13—WEDNESDAY

Rev. J. F. Johnston, Miami, Rev. H. M. Lechty, Jacksonville, Rev. C. Walker, Tampa, Florida, evangelistic work in special city missions
Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established.—Prov. 16:3

14—THURSDAY

xxDr. and Mrs. R. F. Ricketson, xxRev. and Mrs. J. B. Hippa, educational-evangelistic work, Shanghai, China
Come on to hear Thy loving kindness in the morning; for in Thee do I trust.—Psa. 143:8

15—FRIDAY

Rev. and Mrs. V. T. Yearwood, Rev. F. H. Lintne, Rev. J. Prado, evangelistic work, Ancon, Canal Zone; also Marie Yearwood, Margaret Fund Student
A man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ.—Gal. 2:16

Calendar of Prayer for October

16—SATURDAY

Rev. and *Mrs. J. B. Adair, educational-evangelistic work, Lagos, Rev. and *Mrs. I. N. Patterson, evangelistic work, Abeokuta, Nigeria
The Lord hath been mindful of us.
—Psa. 115:12

17—SUNDAY

That the laymen in our churches shall assume their responsibilities even more seriously than they are now doing
The Lord is a God of knowledge and by His actions are weighed.—1 Sam. 2:3

18—MONDAY

Dr. J. W. Shepard (white), educational-evangelistic work to the Negroes, Dr. B. L. Lang, educational-evangelistic work to his own Negro race, New Orleans, La.
Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom.—Col. 3:16

19—TUESDAY

Rev. and Mrs. A. E. Hayes, educational-evangelistic work, Recife, Rev. and *Mrs. C. F. Stapp, evangelistic work, Paratyba, Brazil
He that is perfect in knowledge is with thee.—Job 36:4

20—WEDNESDAY

Annual meeting of Maryland W.M.U., Baltimore, Oct. 20-22
That the abundant grace might, through the thanksgiving of many, redound to the glory of God.—II Cor. 4:15

21—THURSDAY

Rev. and Mrs. O. T. Lewis, Uvalde, Rev. and Mrs. S. P. Mirles, Del Rio, Tex., evangelistic work among Mexicans; also Lydia and Sarah Mirles, Margaret Fund students
That they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.—II Tim. 2:10

22—FRIDAY

*Mrs. R. E. Chambers, educational-evangelistic work, *Mrs. Lucy Smith, mercantile-evangelistic work, Shanghai, China
Only be thou strong and very courageous.
—Josh. 1:7

23—SATURDAY

Rev. and Mrs. J. B. Parker, Raton, Rev. and Mrs. C. Hill, Alamogordo, New Mexico, evangelistic work among Spanish-Americans; also Carroll Parker, Margaret Fund student
We are created in Christ Jesus for good works.—Eph. 2:10

24—SUNDAY

That the practice of tithing may increase among members of Woman's Missionary Union
The statutes and judgments . . . that ye may learn them and keep and do them
—Deut. 5:1

25—MONDAY

*Rev. and *Mrs. W. W. Enste, Rio de Janeiro, Rev. and *Mrs. A. B. Christie, Petropolis, Brazil, educational-evangelistic work; also William and Noble Enste, Margaret Fund students
Blessed are they that have not seen and yet have believed.—John 20:29

26—TUESDAY

Rev. B. E. Moore and Dr. J. A. Sharpe, educational-evangelistic work to their own Negro race, Baker, La.
Lift up thy voice with strength: lift it up, be not afraid.—Isa. 40:9

27—WEDNESDAY

Rev. and *Mrs. V. Koon, *Miss Grace Wells, evangelistic work, Honolulu, T. H.
The Lord will come with strong hand and His arm shall rule for Him.—Isa. 40:10

28—THURSDAY

Rev. and Mrs. C. H. Rine, McAllen, Rev. I. Peres, Batrop, Texas, evangelistic work among Mexicans
Walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us.—Eph. 5:2

29—FRIDAY

*Miss Alma Graves, Iwo, *Miss Margaret Marchman, Abeokuta, educational-evangelistic work, *Miss Mildred Smith, medical-evangelistic work, Iwo, Nigeria
Thou art a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness.—Jonah 4:2

30—SATURDAY

*Rev. and *Mrs. G. W. Strother, evangelistic work, *Mrs. Harriette King, educational-evangelistic work, Pochow, China; also Miriam Jean Strother, Margaret Fund student
The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, to depart from the snare of death.
—Prov. 14:27

31—SUNDAY

That a great Holy Spirit revival shall come upon God's people
Wilt Thou not revive us again, that Thy people may rejoice in Thee?—Psa. 85:6

†Attended W. M. U. Training School
*Attended Southwestern Training School
†Attended Baptist Bible Institute
*On Furlough
†Former Margaret Fund Student

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.

TOPIC: The Witness of the Word—Isa. 55:11, 12

"Break Thou the Bread of Life".

1st Day—Psa. 1:1-6; Isa. 51:4-8
2nd Day—Psa. 18:1-4, 30-35; Jno. 15:12-17
3rd Day—Psa. 119:17-32; Matt. 7:21-27
4th Day—Psa. 119:33-48; Ex. 20:1-7
5th Day—Psa. 119:49-56, 66-72; Ex. 3:1-6
6th Day—Psa. 119:73-88; Dan. 2:19-23
7th Day—Psa. 119:89-104; Acts 17:24-29

"Thy Word have I hid in my heart".

8th Day—Psa. 138:1-8; 99:1-9
9th Day—Jer. 15:16; Matt. 5:33-37
10th Day—Acts 4:23; Jno. 4:21-26
11th Day—Phil. 2:1-16; Ex. 20:8-11
12th Day—Phil. 3:7-14; Mark 2:23-3:6
13th Day—Phil. 4:4-9; Isa. 58:13, 14
14th Day—Psa. 150:1-6; Ex. 26:21-30

"Every word of God is pure".

15th Day—Prov. 30:5-9; Luke 13:10-17
16th Day—Isa. 40:8-13; Jer. 17:24-27
17th Day—I Sam. 9:1-13; Psa. 84:1-4
18th Day—I Sam. 9:14-27; Eph. 6:1-4
19th Day—I Sam. 10:1-14; Col. 3:12-21
20th Day—I Sam. 10:15-27; I Chron. 29:16-19
21st Day—I Sam. 12:13-25; I Tim. 5:1-4

"Thy Word is truth".

22nd Day—Jno. 17:1-13; Luke 2:41-51
23rd Day—Jno. 17:14-26; 19:23-27
24th Day—Jno. 18:1-21; Prov. 1:7-16
25th Day—Jno. 18:22-40; Lev. 10:1, 2, 8-11
26th Day—Jno. 19:1-22; Prov. 31:1-5
27th Day—Jno. 19:23-42; Luke 1:13-16
28th Day—Jno. 20:1-18; Judg. 13:8-14
29th Day—Jno. 21:1-25; Dan. 1:8-20
30th Day—Jude 1:19; Rom. 13:8-14
31st Day—Rev. 1:1-3, 8; I Pet. 4:1-6

"Pray Ye"

Giving thanks that "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son"—John 3:16

Praise God that "every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father"—James 1:17

Pray that every Christian will realize and rejoice that "it is required in stewards that a man be found faithful"—I Cor. 4:2

Give thanks for such Scriptures as: "Thou shalt not covet", Ex. 20:17; "Put to death . . . covetousness which is idolatry", Col. 3:5; "The tenth shall be holy unto Jehovah", Lev. 27:32; "Freely ye received, freely give", Matt. 10:8.

Questions in this magazine, from the American Standard Edition of the Revised Bible, copyrighted by the International Council of Religious Education, are used by its permission.

Bible Study

Bills Broadus Robertson, Kentucky

TOPIC: GOD'S SPOKESMEN—Isa. 6:1-10; Jer. 1:1, 6-10

THE conviction of bearing a message from God transforms a man. We can faintly guess what a prophet must feel, from the deep joy of receiving a message from His Word in our own hearts or from the treasured certainty of a providence in our lives. Yet Moses was not the only one who resisted a call to be God's spokesman. Jeremiah almost outdid Moses in feeling unequal to the task. He came of a family of priests and was perhaps the youngest of a large family. Formed in his mother's womb to be a prophet? "Ah, Lord Jehovah, I know not how to speak, for I am a child!" Because he was really afraid, God promised him courage and deliverance—yea, power over nations and kingdoms, all from the consciousness of God's presence and God's touch upon him. Then immediately one object lesson follows another, with the interpretation, till the young prophet is bidden to gird up his loins, arise, speak, be not dismayed, for he is now fortified against all kings and princes, priests and people who may attack him. We find no more fear in Jeremiah, not even when he is lowered into a deep miry dungeon; he just waits till God sends him a friend. And when the king asks his counsel, he gives it to him straight. There are tears a plenty in his book but they are for his dear nation's sins and sufferings.

Yet God's spokesmen retain their individuality. Amos is a herdsman and like David he notices night and morning, the stars (he knows Orion and the Pleiades), the wind, flocks and pastures. Micah lived in Judah and to him is given the wonderful prediction of the Messiah's coming out of little Bethlehem and also of the many nations coming to learn of God and to walk in His paths. Zephaniah, descendant of King Hezekiah, condemns princes and poor men alike for indifference to God. Joel is very poetic, even in describing a plague of locusts. Habakkuk is a poet too and sets us a wonderful example of going up on his watch-tower, after he has prayed, to wait for an answer. Hosea, through his distressing marriage, becomes an object lesson himself of God's forgiving love. Ezekiel, in far Babylon, is told strange things to do to catch the eyes and the ears of the exiles and has dreams useful to him and to them. In every prophet we see grief and courage, warnings and hope and always a growing sense of God's greatness and goodness. (Even rebellious Jonah finally learns what pity is.)

Most beautiful of all is Isaiah's experience. A vision of God's glory, of the seraphim who praise Him and cry, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts"—these overwhelm Isaiah with a sense of sin, his own and his people's. The angel cleanses his lips with a coal from the altar, saying: "Lo, thy sin is forgiven". Then when God calls for a spokesman, Isaiah can answer: "Here am I, send me!" No wonder he could understand God's ways and see His glorious plan to save this world!

For Bible study topics for W.M.U. in the calendar year of 1944, see page 36 of this magazine.

Circle Program

EXPLANATORY **N**OTE: It is believed that circles will profit by using 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 3, 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 20, Virginia; *Southern Baptist Home Missions*, 25c a year from Baptist Home Mission Board, Atlanta 3, Ga. (See also page 41 of 1943 W.M.U. Year Book and page 18 of this magazine.)



CIRCLE PROGRAM TOPIC:

BUILDING a BAPTIST BROTHERHOOD

Devotional Theme: "Not with eyeservice as men pleasers but as the servants of Christ doing the will of God from the heart"—*Ephes. 6:6*. "That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works"

—11 Tim. 3:17

A Man-sized Job (See October issue of *Southern Baptist Home Missions*.)

Men Wanted (See October issue of *The Commission*.)

Indian Man—Jesus Man (See October issue of *Southern Baptist Home Missions*.)

Lay Preachers in Nigeria (See October issue of *The Commission*.)

Current Missionary Events (See page 35 of this magazine.)

Bibles by the Parcel (See October issue of *World Comrades*.)

Blessed to Give (See October issue of *The Window of Y.W.A.*)

From Our Missionaries (See pages 32-33 of this magazine.)

Business Women's Circles

Prepared by Miss Dixie Nicholson, Ga.
Student in Missionary Education Course II
W.M.U. Training School, Louisville 6, Ky.

Poster: In the center of white poster-paper draw a long line of books, making those at the left smaller. Enlarge the books as you sketch from left to right, printing the names on a few—for instance, "Gone with the Wind", "The Citadel", "In His Steps" and "Pilgrim's Progress". Proper perspective will make the Bible the largest book on the poster. Print in bold letters, "Why is the Bible the best-seller of the ages?" Also print the date, time and place of meeting.

Invitation: Cut a large question-mark out of black construction-paper. In white ink print the words: "Do you want to know the amazing story of the greatest book in the world? Come and see at B.W.C." Then give date, time and place of meeting.

Room Arrangement: Set up one table (or more, if desired) to provide the atmosphere of a busy cafeteria. Food will make the scene more realistic. Three young business women are seated at the table, spending their lunch hour together. Two of these women are devout Christians. The third is sincerely interested in Christianity.

Presentation: One of the Christians opens her purse and the non-Christian notices her New Testament. She asks: "May I ask you a personal question? I've noticed that you seem to treasure your Bible. Tell me, do you love your Bible? What is the secret of its power in your life?" Informally,

the material on the topic, "The Missionary Word", is given by her friend (for this and other program material see pages 20-27). Then the inquirer asks: "I've often wondered how the Bible came to us in its present form. Do you know anything about early translations?" The other Christian relates material in "Romance of Bible Distribution". A friend from the office drops by to speak to the group and is drawn into conversation when asked the question: "Every conceivable force of persecution has been brought to bear upon this Book; how has it been able to maintain its position as the best-seller?" She gives the information found in "Romance of Bible Distribution". Again the non-Christian asks: "To what use do you Christians put your Bible now that you have it intact?" The first friend tells her how "Witnesses Use the Word". The unbeliever says: "Just one more question, please. Is the Bible real to you today? Does it give a message that can be lived today?" The second Christian reassures her in the message of "Today's Demand for the Word". The unbeliever says: "If the Bible can do such things as that today, I am going to know more about it. How should I begin to study this Book?" The friends give her definite helps concerning Bible study and the program ends as the four friends are reading the Bible. They remain in their places while the "Meditation—The Bible Speaks" is read to the accompaniment of "Tell Me the Old, Old Story".

For picture and report of Southwide B.W.C. Conference at Ridgecrest, see pages 6-7 of this magazine. See also financial report on page 34.

Program Plans

Prepared by Miss Lou Demie Segers, Georgia
Student in Missionary Education Course II
W. M. U. Training School, Louisville 6, Ky.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Poster: Place a picture of an open Bible in the upper left corner of a large white poster. From it, let rays of light extend to a large picture of the world placed in the right side of the poster. Have as the title, "A Word for All". Announce the time, place and date for the meeting.

Personal Announcements: On a postal card place in the upper left corner a picture of an open Bible and in the upper right corner a picture of Jesus. Beneath may be written, "Let us pause to hear how God has expressed His 'Word' to the people of the world". Other details as to time, place and date of the meeting may be added.

PREPARATION

On tables in the room place as many translations of the Bible as can be secured. You should be able to find a copy of the *King James Version*, *American Standard Version* and some modern translations such as *Goodspeed*, *Weymouth*, *Moffatt*, *Montgomery*. Perhaps you can secure also a display of the many languages in which the Bible has been written and other interesting articles concerning your program. (For program material see pages 20-27.)

PROGRAMS

Use folded programs. The outside can be

made to look like our Bible. On the inside print the program in outline (see page 20).

To lend atmosphere in presenting the program the person in charge could dress in a robe to represent the "Spirit of the Bible". After her introduction to the group she would utter her Missionary Word. The "Spirit of the Bible" is keenly aware of the fact that she has friends that know the adventures of her life. She calls on a friend to tell what a thrill came to her heart when she read the *Romance of Bible Translation*. This phase of the program should be such an eye-opener that gratitude must be expressed for the story and its meaning to us today. This "Spirit of the Bible" will have shared with someone else the *Romance of Bible Distribution* and calls for her to tell to all the exciting stories. Have the next part previously planned in such a way that the lady will appear to want to speak spontaneously about how she has heard of the *Witnesses' Use of the Word*. She is so enthusiastic about the Bible that she reads the words of the hymn: "Holy Bible, Book Divine". Here the "Spirit of the Bible" comes forth with a heart-searching question, "What Is Today's Demand for the Word?" Someone responds with a heart that is on fire for the spread of the Gospel. The closing moments of this program should be a time of meditation and consecration. While an instrument is softly played, let the "Spirit of the Bible" tell the story of how the Bible Speaks. Close with the hymn as suggested and prayer.

For 1944 monthly missionary topics for W.M.U. programs, see page 36 of this magazine. See also financial report on page 34.

Program Material

Mrs. C. D. Crenshaw, Tennessee

THEME for YEAR: The Christian Witness in Today's World—

Isa. 43:10, 11

TOPIC for MONTH: The Witness of the Word—Isa. 55:11, 12

Hymn—I Love to Tell the Story

—Watchword for Year

Bible Study—God's Spokesmen—Isa. 6:1-10; Jer. 1:1, 6-10 (Page 16)

Prayer that God may speak through us to a lost world

Hymn—Wonderful Words of Life

The Missionary Word

The Romance of Bible Translations

Prayer thanking God for the translations which brought the Bible to us and to millions of earth's people

The Romance of Bible Distribution

Witnesses Use the Word

Hymn—Holy Bible, Book Divine

—Today's Demand for the Word

Meditation—The Bible Speaks

Hymn—Tell Me the Old, Old Story

Prayer that as faithful witnesses we may do our best to give the witness of the Word to the whole world

The MISSIONARY WORD

CHRISTIANITY is the religion of a book—"the all sufficient, all comprehensive, all powerful, all mighty Word of the all loving God for all people". The world has many books but only one which came from Heaven. "This book not only contains the words of God but it is the Word of God. It is not just a good book—or a better book—but the best book".

God speaks through two Words: the Word Incarnate, His Son of whom it was said, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God", and the written Word which was given to witness of the incarnate Word and to make Him known to the world. The Bible is a missionary book not just in part but in its entirety, every word inspired by God to reveal His redemptive purpose for mankind. In the Bible are found the message, the method and the means of missions; the purpose, the program and the power of missions; the why, what, where and how of missions. The historians of the Bible told of the preparation for and the beginning of missions; the priests of the Bible typified missions; the poets of the Bible sang about missions; the prophets of the Bible foretold missions; the apostles of the Bible proclaimed missions. The Bible tells of God the Father who planned missions, of Jesus who lived and commanded missions and of the Holy Spirit who empowered missions. All the world is in all the Word, and it is the supreme duty and privilege of Christian witnesses to give all the Word to all the world.

In a world of darkness "the entrance of His Word giveth light".
In a world of bitterness His Word is "sweeter than honey and the honeycomb".
In a world of strife His Word is the "sword of the Spirit".
In a world of sin "the law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul".
In a world of change and decay "the Word of the Lord endureth forever".

The ROMANCE of BIBLE TRANSLATIONS

THERE is no more romantic and heroic story among the chronicles of men than that of Bible translations. No other book has been translated so often or into so many languages. Today the Bible is printed in a thousand languages and dialects and nine-tenths of the earth's two billion people can read its words in their own tongue. This in itself proves that the Bible is a missionary book, for only the missionary motive could inspire so many translations of so large a volume, involving so much thought and work, time and money.

Ancient Translations—Bible translations began in the third century before Christ with the Septuagint, which was a translation of the Old Testament from the original Hebrew and was accomplished by seventy Jewish scholars in the city of Alexandria. The New Testament was originally written in the Greek, so with the Septuagint the early Christians had both the Old and the New Testament in Greek. "With the rapid spread of Christianity during the first three centuries there arose a demand for the translation of the Scriptures into the mother tongue of races that received the Gospel". So the Bible was translated into the Syrian, Armenian, Coptic, Latin and other languages. The most famous translation of the Bible during the early centuries of Christianity was that by Saint Jerome into Latin, which is known as the Vulgate. For more than twenty years in a cave in Bethlehem did Jerome work on this translation which was the only Bible generally used in Europe during the Middle Ages; it was the text from which the first English translations were made. A most interesting early translation of the Scriptures was that of Ulfilas into the tongue of the Goths. These warlike people of northern Europe had no written language and no books. Ulfilas invented a written language and gave to them their first book, a translation of the Bible written in silver letters on purple vellum. The roving tribes of Goths and Vandals considered this their chief treasure and carried it with them on their wanderings through Europe. A fragment of it is preserved today in a university in Sweden.

English Translations—The first to translate the Bible into English was John Wyclif. He gave forty years to this titanic task, finishing the work in 1384. There was no printing press at that time so all copies of Wyclif's Bible had to be made by hand. There was fierce opposition to the translation, for the leaders of the Catholic church of England were violently opposed to the common people having the Bible in a language which they could read. So, the Wyclif Bible was banned, those possessing copies were hunted down as if they were wild beasts and some were burned with copies of the book hung around their necks.

About two hundred years later another English translation was made by William Tyndale. There was still so much opposition to an English version of the Bible that Tyndale had to leave England and, as an exile in Hamburg, Germany, in poverty and distress and amid constant danger he worked at his translation. By this time the printing press had been invented; so, when the translation of the New Testament was completed, Tyndale had an edition of three thousand printed and began sending them to England. There was a rushing demand for the Book by the common people that they might read it and by the ecclesiastics that they might burn it. The Bishop of London finally bought all the remaining copies of the

first edition and burned them, thinking he could stop their circulation. But Tyndale just used the money to bring out another large edition, and the sale of the Testaments went on. Finally Tyndale himself was burned at the stake, crying out with his last breath: "Lord, open the King of England's eyes". That prayer was quickly answered for in three years there were three other English translations of the Bible, all based on Tyndale's work, and in every parish church in the land was a Bible accessible to the people. And in less than a hundred years a king of England, James I, authorized a revision of the Bible on which fifty-seven scholars worked for five years, finishing in 1611 the Bible translation best known in the English speaking world, the King James (or Authorized Version). Many other English translations of the Bible have been made in recent years, the best known of which is the American Revised Version.

Modern Missionary Translations—The history of modern missions carries stories of numerous translations of the Bible. At the beginning of the modern missionary era the Bible had been translated into only twenty-eight languages so the many translations of today may be attributed to the missionary spirit of the age.

William Carey made or edited thirty-six translations of the Scriptures, six versions of the entire Bible and twenty-three of the entire New Testament. Adoniram Judson gave twenty-one years to the translation of the Burmese Bible. Well known is the story of the preservation of the precious manuscript in a pillow on which Judson slept while in prison. Robert Morrison gave sixteen years to the making of a dictionary containing forty thousand words and then translated the Bible into the Chinese language. It is interesting to know that an unknown Catholic missionary had translated a part of the New Testament into Chinese and his forgotten manuscript was discovered by Morrison in the British Museum. With the help of a Chinese man living in London, Morrison made a complete transcribed copy of this New Testament which he carried with him to China; this helped him greatly with his work of translation. Long before the opening of Japan to the world, August Gutstaff received into his home in Macao, off the coast of China, some Japanese refugees, learned from them the Japanese language and made a Japanese translation of a portion of the Scriptures. Missionaries have translated the Bible into 100 of the over 800 varieties of human speech in Africa.

Missionaries have been willing to make Bible translations to reach even small groups of people. More than one missionary has reduced some language of an island of the Pacific to writing and has given years of toil to translating the Bible into a language that a few hundred or thousands of people might be able to read it. When the manuscript of one of these translations was lost at sea on its way to publication the undaunted missionary, though broken in health, patiently renewed his efforts to retranslate the Word for the people of one group of islands.

Bible translations have been made into many languages and dialects of the American Indians. The first Bible to be published in America was John Eliot's translation for the Mohicans of New England. Two men worked forty years in translating the Bible into the language of the Dakotas. A Cherokee Indian by the name of Sequoyia invented an alphabet for his tribe which was used by missionaries in translating the Bible into the Cherokee language.

Another proof of the missionary nature of the Bible is that it triumphantly stands the test of translation. "It neither shrinks nor fades in the process of translation". In every language it is beautiful and delivers its message with power. It is God's book intended for all people and surely God has guided the missionary translators as they have tried to give its message to every man in his own tongue.

The ROMANCE of BIBLE DISTRIBUTION

THE story of Bible distribution is almost, if not quite, as romantic as that of Bible translation. The missionary impulse to give the Bible to as many people as possible has led to the organization of Bible societies and the building of Bible publishing houses. The two largest and most influential of these are the British and Foreign Bible Society, founded in 1804, and the American Bible Society, founded in 1816. These two great societies have been through the years the friends of the missionary translators and have largely made possible the printing and distribution of their Bibles. There are also many other publishing agencies that have played a large part in the distributing of Bibles to the nations of the world.

The sale of Bibles each year is enormous. Year after year, decade after decade the sale goes on, growing larger and larger all the time. It is difficult to know the total sales of all the Bible publishing companies but, before the war reduced the number of Bibles printed by some of the publishing houses, it was estimated that between thirty and forty million copies of the Bible, New Testament or portions of the Bible were sold each year. The American Bible Society published over eight million copies last year. This makes the sale of "Gone with the Wind" and other best sellers of recent years look small in comparison. One bookseller has said: "You may talk as you will of your multitudinous editions of popular novels, but the Bible leads them all year after year".

Playing a large part in the romance of Bible distribution are the colporters, who give their lives to scattering the printed Word. Writing of the work of these, Mrs. Helen Barrett Montgomery in *The Bible and Missions* says: "No chapter of Christian heroism is more splendid than that which recounts the story of the colporter, humble like his Master and like his Master going about to do good. The colporter is ubiquitous. You cannot lose him. If you ascend to the frozen north, he is there; if you bury yourself in the steamy depths of a South American river forest, he is ahead of you; if you climb the Himalayas and penetrate some high pass in Tibet, you will find his footprints. On his bicycle he hums along the highways of the far west; on his snow-shoes he finds the lumberjacks in the big timber; his trusty Ford is seen skimming over the plains. He paddles down still rivers in an African dugout or packs his Bibles on a Russian sled in the frozen fastnesses of Siberia. These colporters are of all races as well as in every nation. They are the John the Baptists who prepare in the desert a highway for the missionaries".

How can we explain the continued high sales of the Bible year after year? There is only one explanation and that is that the people of the world want it. The hunger for the knowledge of God is inherent to human nature and this hunger is satisfied only in the Bible. Some may scoff at the Bible, they may deny its inspiration, they may cut out portions of it as being impossible but as long as it brings comfort to the sad, peace to the harassed, rest to the weary, salvation to the lost, as long as it gives satisfying answers to questions about God, life, death and the hereafter the Bible will be not only the "best seller" but also the best beloved book in the world.

WITNESSES USE the WORD

S AID Dr. John R. Mott, "The most important single agency in the work of evangelization is the Bible". The Bible is the word of the missionary's witness, the tool of the missionary's work, the weapon of the missionary's fight against sin, the seed which the missionary sows to reap a harvest of saved souls. **The Word Opens New Fields**—Missionary witnesses have found that the Bible is the greatest aid in opening new fields. If they can get Bibles in the hands

of people and persuade them to read them, the way is prepared for the salvation of souls and the building of churches. This is why missionary pioneers almost without exception have set themselves first to the task of translation, realizing that their work could never have any permanent value unless the people had the Word of God.

Many are the stories of how the Bible, falling into the hands of some individual or group of individuals who had never seen it before, has been read and without the aid of teacher or preacher has brought conviction of sin and the conversion of lost people. Many new churches have been established and new fields opened by some such experience as this. The Baptist denomination in practically all European countries started just from the reading of the Bible by the people, with no evangelistic effort from the outside. The Bible itself was the evangelist.

We are told of a family in Brazil into whose hands a Bible fell. For a long time it lay unread on the table. Then the mother died and the father, seeking comfort for his sad heart, picked up the book and began to read it. He found it so interesting that he called in his large family and began reading it to them. Each evening they would gather to hear the wonderful words of the little book. There was no preacher to explain, no one to teach them; but the Holy Spirit operated in their hearts as they read and reread the Book and all were gloriously saved. A Methodist preacher happened to come that way and finding that they were Christian asked if they had been baptized. "No", the father answered, "we want to be but have no one to baptize us". The Methodist pastor said, "I'm an ordained minister and can baptize you". "Thank God!" they exclaimed, "that's just what we've been waiting for". When the pastor reached for a glass of water the father asked, "What are you going to do?" "I'm going to baptize you", was the reply. "Upon your honor, you will not", said the father. "We had that when we were Catholics. We want to be baptized like Jesus in the river as we read in our little book". Sometime later a Baptist missionary and colporteur came that way and found forty people ready for baptism. A church was established which became a great soul saving agency in the community. And it all started with one New Testament.

The Word Builds Strong Christians—In every land the Word of God is the chief means of Christian growth. After people are won to Christ they must read the Bible in order to grow in Christian graces. One describing what the Bible does for the individual says: "If you would wing imagination, stimulate reason, refine the judgment and fertilize the soul until you attain the highest in finest womanhood and the sturdiest in manhood, read the Bible until its truths have dissolved as iron in your veins". Realizing the value of the Bible in Christian growth missionaries strive always to get the Bible in the hands of the Christians and to teach them to read and feed on its message.

Many adults in China, Africa and other lands where education has been neglected, learn to read sometimes even when they are very old that they might be able to read God's Word. In all of our Baptist mission schools the Bible is taught. Short term Bible classes are held in many of our Chinese mission stations, offering opportunities for Bible study to those who cannot attend a full term school.

Our Baptist publishing houses in foreign lands have done a wonderful work in supplying Bibles as well as other literature for the growth of the Christians. For the first time, the Baptist Publishing House in Rio, Brazil, is attempting to print a Bible. It has been prepared by missionaries and native Brazilian Baptists. This work has been undertaken because of the great difficulty of obtaining Bibles in the Portuguese language.

At this time when so many of our missionaries are away from their fields, when churches are closed and Christians are scattered, we can rejoice in the knowledge that many of these suffering Christians have in their possession copies of the

Word of God. We know that this Word can fortify them against temptation, that it can comfort them in their troubles and that at this time, when the preaching of the Word and the assembly in churches may be denied them, they can still feed upon the living Word of God. Food for their bodies may be scarce but if they have Bibles they will not lack for food for their souls.

TODAY'S DEMAND for the WORD

It is reported that when a certain group of German soldiers were captured and asked if they were hungry one of them replied, "Of bread I shall say nothing but of Bibles we have the greatest need". The need and demand for the Bible is greater today than ever before. During these terrible years of war and famine, trial and tribulation throughout the world, there is an unprecedented desire for the Word of God.

In our own land people are buying Bibles in such great numbers that it is difficult to supply them. This great demand for Bibles has been called by the executive secretary of one of our American publishing houses, "An amazing Bible revival", and he explains, "It isn't just a flare-up caused by the war but it is the result of a real spiritual renaissance which has been coming on for some time but has been quickened by the war".

We are told that in China a great problem of Christian work is the lack of Bibles. A missionary writes: "It has been extremely difficult to secure Bibles in interior China. On every hand people wish to buy the Scriptures, but we must repeatedly reply that we have none to sell. As soon as we are able to get a small supply it is almost immediately exhausted. We sincerely hope that in 1943 a solution of this problem can be found. The difficulty of securing suitable paper makes the printing of Bibles in Free China a major problem".

Mrs. F. Y. O. Ling, W.M.U. secretary for China, gives us a glimpse of the hunger of Chinese refugees for the Bible by quoting some of their statements. One said, "If I only have a copy of your Bible I will be satisfied". Another said, "If you are kind enough I wish you would give me a copy of God's Word before I leave and I will be content and happy in whatever state I will be". Another said, "I want a Bible because it is so precious to me". Still another said: "I want a Bible because it gives me comfort when all of my things are lost, my house burned and my wife and children killed by bombs. If I have a Bible, I will enjoy reading it in time of sorrow and distress".

We are told that in Europe there is a great demand for Bibles. Even in Germany the sale of Bibles last year far surpassed the sale of Hitler's *Mein Kampf*. In every land the people are eager to buy Bibles, and the tragic part of the situation is that there are not enough Bibles to supply the demand. We are told in a recent article in *The Commission* that the famous British and Foreign Bible Society, which has so faithfully and efficiently supplied Scriptures to the world in many languages, now has access to only 37½ per cent of its former paper supply to say nothing of losses due directly to the war. In Norway the entire paper supply has been cut off. Holland and Switzerland are still publishing Bibles but cannot supply all the countries that want to buy them. We can see how this situation has thrown upon the American Bible Society of New York the responsibility of giving the Word of God to a needy and perishing world. This means that this society must depend upon the Christian people of America for continuous and ever-enlarging gifts for the publication and distribution of Bibles to feed all the hungry hearted people in the world. Out of the World Emergency Relief Funds, given by southern Baptists in the year 1942, the Foreign Mission Board gave the American Bible Society over \$33,000 for the publication and distribution of Bibles among Russian prisoners in Germany and among the peoples of the

several Balkan states. "This is a good beginning but represents only a small part of our responsibility in this blessed and divinely inspired work of Gospel evangelization among the nations".

There is a great opportunity today for witness to the armed forces of our own and other lands. "In every conflict in which our country has fought, the American Bible Society has supplied Scriptures to the nation's armed forces. During the War between the States hundreds of thousands of Bibles were distributed on each side. In the first World War the Society's production of military Testaments exceeded two million copies". This great agency is today keeping up its good work of sending Bibles to our armed forces. It is publishing 11,000 copies of the New Testament a day for the army and navy. During a recent fifteen month period 17,184 Bibles, 658,240 New Testaments and 361,466 Gospel portions were sent to chaplains in the army and navy for distribution to men in the services overseas and at home. Besides this Bible ministry to our own armed forces, thousands of copies of Bibles and Testaments have been sent to prisoners of war. We are told that ninety-five per cent of the Scriptures already distributed to war prisoners in Germany have been received and acknowledged. "In many of these camps there are little congregations of converted men, the nuclei for future churches all over Europe".

The hunger of the Russian soldiers for the Word is a challenge to American Christians. A recent copy of *The Commission* gives the following story: "At a religious service held for soldiers in Poland a few copies of Russian and Ukrainian Scriptures were distributed. A soldier pressed his copy to his heart but he could not endure the anguish on the faces of his comrades and finally tore off the covers, dividing the copy among them, a portion to each. Even this seemed too much to possess, and the portions were divided and distributed so that a greater number of men could each possess at least a leaf. Cases were reported where prisoners would fast for several days—which was the greater sacrifice in view of their meager rations—until enough food was collected to tempt some owner of the Scriptures to exchange it".

Surely, in the face of such hunger for the Word as this, southern Baptists and all American Christians should support with generous gifts the American Bible Society as it attempts to give the Scripture to the armed forces not only of our own land but wherever men are perishing for the Bread of Life.

MEDITATION—the BIBLE SPEAKS

("Tell Me the Old, Old Story" may be played as an accompaniment while the following is given:)

When a copy of John G. Paton's translation of the New Testament into Aniwani, one of the many languages of the New Hebrides, was given to the chief of the island, he exclaimed: "Is it done? Can it speak? Make it speak to me. Let me hear it speak". When part of the book was read to him he shouted in ecstasy of joy: "It does speak. It speaks in my own language too! Oh, give it to me!" But when it was given to him and he looked at its pages great was his disappointment as he said: "I cannot make it speak! It will never speak to me". But it did! The chief, though an old man, with painstaking patience learned to read. Then as strangers and children gathered around him he would produce his loved book and say: "Come, I will let you hear how the Book speaks our own Aniwani words".

Yes, the Bible speaks. In many languages it speaks, and the message it speaks is the hope of the world. Only a Christian world can solve humanity's problems. The world cannot be Christian without a knowledge of the Bible. Therefore the Word must speak! It must speak its message of light to dispel the

world's darkness, its message of love to banish the world's hatred, its message of peace to end the world's strife, its message of comfort to ease the world's heartache, its message of salvation to save the world's lost.

The Bible never speaks in vain. It may seem vainly spoken at times but God has promised: "For as the rain cometh down and the snow from Heaven and returneth not thither but watereth the earth and maketh it bring forth and bud and giveth seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My Word be that goeth forth out of My mouth: it shall not return unto Me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it".

As Christian sowers let us plant the seed of the Word in the hearts of all people, trusting God to make it prosper in the thing whereto He sent it. As Christian witnesses let us give the Word to all nations that it may speak its message of hope to a lost world.

QUESTIONS for REVIEW and DISCUSSION

1. Discuss the Bible as a missionary book.
2. Tell about the different translations of the Bible.
3. How do Bible translations prove that it is a missionary book?
4. Tell something of Bible distribution.
5. Tell something of the work of Bible colporters.
6. Tell how the Bible is used by missionaries to open new fields.
7. Tell how the Bible is used to build strong Christian character.
8. Tell something of our Baptist publishing houses in foreign lands.
9. Discuss the hunger of people's hearts for the Bible today.
10. Tell something of the problem of supplying the world's demand for Bibles.
11. Tell of the distribution of the Bible among the armed forces of our own and other lands.
12. Discuss the necessity of the knowledge of the Bible to a Christian world.

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, 1112 Comer Bldg., Birmingham 3, Ala. See list of leaflets on page 3.

The Window of Y.W.A. —World Comrades
 The Commission —State Baptist Papers
 Southern Baptist Home Missions
 How We Got Our Bible.....J. Patterson Smyth
 The Bible and Missions.....Helen Barrett Montgomery
 The Word Overcoming the World.....E. C. Routh

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Our Young People

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

The REAL VICTORY SHIP

ANY victory ships are being launched every week but the ship that will really mean winning the war and the peace is Christian stewardship. Without a real sense of values, an understanding of the fundamental principle of God's ownership and our trusteeship, an allied victory will scarcely be permanent. Is your society doing all that it should in teaching stewardship to young people as well as to women?

Are you ready for your *Church Stewardship Night* program? It should not be merely a program gotten up with the specific idea of public presentation: it should be the climax of the months of stewardship study and activity which have been going on following the suggestions in the leaflet "Education of Our Young People in the Stewardship of Possessions". But if somehow you have neglected this continuous study, you could at least prepare for this *Church Stewardship Night* in a quick "whirlwind" way.

Suggestions are given in the W.M.U. Year Book (page 60) and in the leaflet just mentioned. There are Scripture verses selected and announced in a special folder for Sunbeams; there is a clever arrangement of questions and answers for juniors in another leaflet; these leaflets are free from state W.M.U. headquarters; these questions and an-

swers can be presented after the fashion of the juniors' favorite radio quiz program, following the procedure with as much imitative detail as they wish. Intermediates and Y.W.A.'s. will have short talks on stewardship or Cooperative Program or debt-paying; or they will present posters or plays on these subjects; for plays see list in W.M.U. Year Book or plays in *World Comrades* and *The Window of Y.W.A.*

Prepare an attractive mimeographed program; give adequate publicity to invitation and announcement; provide welcome and usher committees; select hymns about stewardship and giving and have pianist or organist and song-leader ready to begin at the announced time without delay. Using many children and young people from each W.M.U. young people's organization will ensure a good attendance. Your pastor may wish to speak of the *Every Member Canvass* and distribute pledge cards or tithers' cards on that night. This year on *Church Stewardship Night* it will be well to emphasize the completion of the debt-paying program. With the goal of a debtless denomination in sight a real sense of stewardship would give us the victory in this achievement and help us be ready for the overwhelming mission opportunities in our world today and tomorrow. Make your *Church Stewardship Night* most successful this year.



Young Women's Auxiliary

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

"IF SOMEONE WOULD HELP"

I EARS stood in the bright blue eyes and her face showed her earnest distress: "If someone would just help us! I do try but I get so discouraged". She was a nurse in the making, in her second year of training, a volunteer for medical mission service in China and she was so eager to keep her Grace McBride Y.W.A. moving along with enthusiasm. But a nurse's schedule under normal conditions is arduous and taxing and in times of war is accelerated, more demanding than ever; therefore, nurses need much help. They actually do not have time to plan programs and activities but they need the missionary message tugging at their hearts through Young Woman's Auxiliary.

Your Woman's Missionary Society no doubt has several women who have taken Nurses' Aid training and more who have been in First Aid Courses. Particularly are women who have been in the hospitals qualified to serve as counselors and rally others to help with the Grace McBride organization.

Grace McBride was the first foreign mission nurse appointed by southern Baptists to give her life unto death. In World War I, while she was in China, the Red Cross called for nurses to go into Siberia. Grace McBride's brothers were in the armed service in France. She hoped nurses would be ready to

care for them when needed, so she felt she must heed the Red Cross appeal. Realizing the mission needs that she must leave unsupplied, she wept as she left her Chinese friends but she followed the pointing finger of need. In the movement of refugees and soldiers the dread typhus fever became an epidemic and, as she ministered, it laid hold on her.

Her double duty with our own Board amongst the Chinese and with the Red Cross in time of war makes her life an unusual example of inspiration for nurses today. A brief sketch of her life is available for each nurse through the state W.M.U. headquarters. Your society could secure these, could gather a few nurses, study the Y.W.A. manual and start with them as a nucleus and go on to build a real Grace McBride Y.W.A. organization. Consult the superintendent and the director in the hospital, carefully explaining the value and importance of the Y.W.A., asking their approving interest and cooperation in providing time and place of meeting. Arrange for the nurses to meet in homes because they have so little home-life. Plan an individual friendliness for each girl with a devoted Christian woman as her Grace McBride "mother". Face the truly unusual problem of the Y.W.A. in the hospital and be ready to smooth them out into progress for the Kingdom.

For a DEBTLESS DENOMINATION (Concluded from Page 5)

\$100,000 on December 31, unless extraordinary efforts are made to prevent it. We are entirely too near to victory to fail. What will we do about it? **AN** together now for the last lap of the long journey!

Training School

Miss Carrie U. Littlejohn, Principal, 2801 Lexington Road, Louisville 6, Ky.

NEW LEADERS in SERVICE

W E rejoice to report that most of the members of the 1943 graduating class have found places of service where they are already facing unparalleled opportunities for missionary and Christian work in its many varieties. The missionary contribution of the Training School is well known and we are justly proud of it. Even in this chaotic year, three of the graduates were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board: Margaret Foltz Schmidt of Oklahoma to Brazil; Fay Taylor of Florida and Darlyne Horner Sears of Missouri to China. Mrs. Schmidt and her husband expect to go to Brazil this fall; Miss Taylor and Mrs. Sears and her husband will study this year at the Chinese Language School in Berkeley, California. Bette Ishibashi is doing a vital piece of work as a missionary among her own people in the Japanese Relocation Center at McGehee, Arkansas. Through the new emphasis that is being placed on city missions Charlotte Ford Barnett and Mary K. Holman of Tennessee have been employed to work at the Union Gospel Mission in downtown Louisville. Partly as an associational mission project, Mildred McGlothlin of Missouri is working at the East Baptist Church in downtown Louisville. Edna Hickman of Mississippi is W.M.U. field worker in her own state.

Eleven of the graduates have accepted church work where the opportunities are many and varied: Catherine Bates of Georgia is educational director at St. John's Baptist Church in Charlotte, N. C.; Myrtis Foster of Mississippi is educational secretary at the First Baptist Church in New Albany, Miss.; Madge Funderburk and Lillie Roper of South Carolina are assistants to pastors in churches in Charleston, S. C.; Frances Hughston of South Carolina is young people's director of the First Baptist Church in Bristol, Va.; Dorothy Moreland of Arkansas is church secretary in Hampton, Va.; Edna Porter of Kentucky is young people's director in her home church in Owensboro, Ky.; Nancy Wooley of Alabama is educational director in Phenix, Ala.; Mildred Jennings of North Carolina is educational director in the First Baptist Church, Williamston, N. C.; Ruth Lucas of Missouri is church secretary in Marion, Ill.; Regina Sliger is educational director at Elizabethtown, Ky.; Janet Langston of South Carolina is the teacher of Bible in the city schools, Rock Hill, S. C.; Margaret McClellan of Alabama is student secretary at Mary Washington College, Fredericksburg, Va.; Ella Mae McQuary of Kentucky is a public school teacher. The wives of seven Seminary students and eight girls who have married since they graduated are actively engaged in their own churches as volunteer workers.

The first year students have found challenging opportunities for service and growth during the summer. As they have tried to put into practice what they learned last year, they have come to understand their personal needs more clearly. At least ten have been doing field work with W.M.U., Sunday-school or B.T.U.; ten others have reported a busy summer in Vacation Bible Schools; seven have been employed in churches; one has spent the summer in home mission work in Key West, Florida; and another has been working among Chinese people in a city mission program. Several accepted business positions in order to finance their second year in the Training School.

From Our Missionaries

FOR FINER SERVICE

THROUGH the years we have been able to give better preparation to the membership of our churches through institutes and training schools, in short periods of two weeks to one month. As early as 1919 we organized an annual institute or summer school, the aim being to have a representative from each church to train, to coordinate the entire work, to promote and to cultivate fraternal relations among the members of all the churches in the field. It has served to give inspiration and vision to both old and young, leading to the development of Christian character and efficiency in the cause of the Master. It has been through these contacts that many of our workers—pastors, evangelists and teachers—have come.

Octavio Rosa's story is one of many examples. He came to us from a country church to attend the annual institute, being sent because of his consecration and willingness to sacrifice in visiting preaching points, going on foot after a day's work. He had very little preparation but plenty of natural talent and a desire to do something for the Master. After the first week's study he came to Mr. Christie and asked if it would be possible for him to come and study in the Academy. He said he was yet working for his father but that he had a patch of his own and would sell the proceeds and if he could work for a part of the expense he would come. We were glad to arrange for him to study. At the opening of school he—a big, strong, fine looking lad—entered in the primary with small children. This was not so easy, for he had pride as well as other requisites but his aim gave him courage and he went forward rapidly and finished three grades the first year;

then he was called for military service which would mean a year. We feared his schooling was over; not so—he made a good soldier and was held in high esteem by his superiors and given responsibilities uncommon for a new recruit. I recall that some ten or twelve subscriptions of our *Journal Batista* came from the barracks where he was stationed. At the end of his service he visited us on his way home and assured us he would be back at the opening of the school; and he was there on time, making a good record in school and caring for a country church near by. Last year he was ordained and finished his school work with credit. He aims to go to the Seminary but must have more classical work before entering; he is pursuing such work now.

He married a fine young woman who has taught in our school four years and is a graduate of the Training School. Together they are prepared to do a great work for Christ in the State of Rio, serving as leaders in developing the work already established; they are witnessing for the Master among all classes from the highest to the lowest. These young lives are victories for the Gospel of Jesus. Let us rejoice and stay behind them with our prayers.

Recently we were present at the inauguration of a new and attractive church building at Bom Jardim, a prosperous little town in our field. This church was one of the first organized in the State of Rio and the first that my husband pastored when we came to Brazil 36 years ago. It was located 10 miles out in the country but now they have been able to put up a nice building right in the heart of the town, largely due to the gift of Dona Eugenia Emerich. Years ago many of this large

family were converted and a brother-in-law of Dona Eugenia gave the first house of worship to the church. Her own husband was never converted and, though she was, he would not consent to her being baptized. She respected her husband's wish but was true to her faith in Christ in all but in following Him in baptism; she lived as a Christian and taught her children, many of whom became Christians. The Emerichs were well off in this world's goods. Her husband died a few years ago and some months later she was baptized and, when the estate was divided, all of her children now of age, she put aside a portion of what she received, calculating that during the time since her conversion until the time she was free to follow Christ in baptism her tenth would amount to what she put into the church building. She also gave an organ to the church and although she is nearly seventy years old it is her pleasure to arrange beautiful cloths for the tables and vases of flowers which she cultivates for her beloved church home.

Dona Eliza was a good neighbor, an excellent mother and often accepted the invitation of her nearest neighbor to attend worship at the Baptist church but she could not make a decision to accept Christ as her Savior. An itinerant W.M.U. worker was expected for a week of teaching and training among the societies; the Baptist neighbor hastened to invite Dona Eliza to go with her to the church to meet the visitor, hoping that she would be favorably impressed and would be led to make a decision.

"Good morning, Dona Eliza", said her friend; "I called to say to you that you must be sure to come with me to church tomorrow because one of the girls from the Training School will be there; she is coming to have a study course with our society this week". Dona Eliza said: "Very well; I had already planned to go and if it is a woman who preaches it will be a greater attraction". "We say teach when it is a lady who speaks!", replied her friend and said that she would stop for her the next morning. As she turned to go she uttered a prayer for her good neighbor. What a good Chris-

tian she would make and how the little church needed those who were ready to help win souls for the Master! "Yes, Lord, help her to decide" was the burden of her prayer.

Sunday morning at the Sunday-school the classes of the women and girls met together so they might hear the visitor. Many eager and searching eyes were cast upon the little itinerant worker, making her feel very small and inefficient as she stood before the large group; but she hastily repeated to herself the Union's motto (*Phil. 4:13*) and felt strengthened because she would not depend upon herself but upon Him she represented.

After the lesson she stressed that, when we were certain that a thing was right to do, one should not hesitate and put off the doing of it until later for one was never certain of another opportunity. She was almost startled to see a lady looking at her so intently and seemingly about to speak out. Whether it would be pleasant or unpleasant she could not tell but she felt a greater need than ever to cling to Paul's assertion in *Phil. 4:13*, for she was very uncertain of herself. The class finished, the lady came to her and said: "I know you, I saw you last night". The visitor smiled, greatly relieved, and said: "I am afraid you are mistaken, I just arrived an hour ago"; but the lady, no other than Dona Eliza, was sure. She said: "No, it was you, your voice and all; I saw you in a dream and you said the same things about not hesitating but to do today what you feel is right to do. I have felt for a long time that I should confess Christ and live and work for Him. I do try to do right and live according to His precepts but I am unworthy, because I have not confessed Him before the world. I am unworthy of His love and goodness".

Ere the week was over the itinerant worker had the satisfaction of seeing Dona Eliza make a profession of her faith in Christ and ask for baptism. No one rejoiced more than the good and kind neighbor who had so often told Dona Eliza of her experience of grace.—*Mrs. A. B. Christie, Brazil*

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION, AUXILIARY to the SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION
SECOND QUARTERLY REPORT—April 1 to July 1, 1943
COMPILED BY W. M. U. TREASURER

STATES	Reported by State Treasurers as Having Been Contributed by W. M. U. Members						Received by W. M. U. Treasurer			TOTALS
	Southwide Day- Paying Campaign	Foreign Missions	Home Missions	Ministerial Relief	Christian Education	State and S. B. C. Programs	W. M. U. Training School			
							State App't. Training School	Scholarship Fund	Special Gifts	
Alabama.....	\$ 4,820.51	\$ 5,812.84	\$ 6,597.81	\$ 976.84	\$ 10,244.35	\$ 14,213.44	\$ 300.00	\$ 14.25	\$ 5.00	\$ 42,965.79
Arizona.....	2,364.96	2,290.19	8,501.26	437.22	2,914.94	10,114.46	14.50	.....	.....	33.75
Arkansas.....	717.85	886.17	1,062.56	.....	231.00	481.30	242.00	.....	17.28	26,882.31
Dist. of Col.....	3,294.57	11,775.96	8,606.54	853.93	3,822.61	13,782.43	125.00	.....	.....	3,378.88†
Florida.....	11,551.60	2,800.70	6,263.11	10.00	308.24	52,113.52	962.34	.....	95.50	42,356.54
Georgia.....	892.95	2,798.28	1,057.68	918.94	2,013.89	7,844.14	.....	.....	300.00	74,309.51
Illinois.....	5,132.57	10,076.83	11,506.37	1,929.62	9,778.41	21,391.52	14.00	86.17	.....	15,612.05
Kentucky.....	3,482.20	3,749.46	7,592.34	1,896.01	5,591.17	9,841.73	.....	430.00	179.29	60,438.61
Louisiana.....	450.54	1,553.86	667.90	201.80	403.59	3,188.78	.....	.....	6.00	32,158.91
Maryland.....	3,187.56	4,046.86	16,430.39	825.70	6,895.30	20,957.71	390.00	.....	14.00	6,480.47
Mississippi.....	7,850.01	5,187.68	10,345.87	737.45	5,331.39	15,613.19	325.00	95.00	8.00	52,551.52
Missouri.....	804.43	265.44	1,452.91	.....	240.00	2,757.65	.....	.....	38.65	45,589.24
New Mexico.....	6,933.57	12,944.08	8,170.69	2,442.31	25,750.48	39,991.98	.....	.....	94.36	5,614.79
North Carolina.....	6,499.12	2,435.75	6,765.48	250.00	1,180.65	8,951.46	600.00	.....	.....	96,233.11
Oklahoma.....	3,633.03	10,820.73	13,104.35	2,064.07	8,759.17	19,289.95	700.00	50.00	7.00	26,682.46
South Carolina.....	3,943.19	11,634.14	6,723.73	2,380.70	14,818.90	17,585.00	500.00	500.00	12.00	58,428.30
Tennessee.....	10,775.76	16,898.10	8,776.35	14,113.33	27,340.61	69,991.42	600.00	.....	120.91	58,077.66
Texas.....	10,289.03	21,186.50	22,188.25	3,904.13	18,941.32	35,834.01	500.00	.....	.....	148,618.48
Virginia.....	.....	811.88	367.42	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	112,843.24
Miscellaneous.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,179.30
TOTAL.....	\$86,623.45	\$127,975.45	\$146,181.01	\$33,944.05	\$144,566.02	\$363,923.69*	\$4,947.84	\$1,175.42	\$897.99	\$910,234.92

*This amount includes \$42,060.31 paid toward state debts of the following states: Ala. \$4,320.51; Fla. \$1,739.83; Ky. \$4,836.19; Miss. \$10,020.90; N. C. \$6,933.58; Tenn. \$3,943.18; Va. \$10,266.12.

†The District of Columbia also contributed a duplicate amount through the Northern Baptist Convention.

Current Missionary Events

Discussed by Mrs. W. C. James, Virginia

From correspondence to the *Christian Century* from different countries the following items concerning the Bible—its study and use—have been gleaned:

London, England—1—"Prelude to Bible Study", the book by Canon Alan Richardson which was the Religious Book Club choice for May, is at once a book of importance in itself and a sign of the times. The author seeks to make clear how the reader, not in the least tied to literalist views of the Bible, can hear in it the word of God; how he can find in it a letter with his own name on it. 2—There is growing upon us a sense of the need for a return to the reading of the Bible. It is in keeping with this desire to foster the practice of Bible reading and study that Mansfield College, Oxford, should appoint two teachers to give their whole time to Biblical teaching.

Mexico—It was interesting to notice at the head of the alphabetical list of participants in the Book Fair (April 15-May 16, the second inaugurated by President Arilo Comacho) the Mexico agency of the American Bible Society. There was a continuous flow of visitors and customers at its stand. Many asked questions about the "protestant", "expurgated" or "incomplete" Bible, and secretary Marroquin had a fine opportunity to discuss the Bible and its message and the difference between the evangelical and Catholic versions. Over 550 Bibles, 200 New Testaments and 11,000 portions were sold by the evangelical group.

Buenos Aires, Argentina—The two Bible Societies in Buenos Aires, the American and the British and Foreign, distributed last year in the three republics of the River Plate more than 25,000 Bibles, some 30,000 New Testaments and about 150,000 Gospels and portions of the Scripture. During the first four months of this year the American Bible Society alone has sold more than 100,000 New Testaments.

Rev. A. Stuart McNairn, of London, England, director and general secretary of the Evangelical Union of South America, in an article in *World Dominion* says among other things:

1—Very many of the finest educational centers in Latin America are protestant and evangelical foundations; the cream of the *intelligencia*, as well as the growing middle class, send their children to be educated in these schools and colleges. There would be a bitter outcry from Buenos Aires to Mexico City were there likelihood of the United States of America giving heed to the effort on the part of Rome to put out the lamps of truth throughout Latin America.

2—Today in Spain every vestige of religious liberty is denied. The Bible is forbidden. The whole stock of Scriptures held by the British and Foreign Bible Society in Madrid was confiscated. Evangelical places of worship have been closed. Missionaries have had to leave the country and many national workers have been imprisoned and shot.

Walter W. Howlett, general secretary of the Metropolitan Federation of Daily Vacation Bible Schools, reports that over 30,000 children were enrolled in 200 Vacation Bible Schools in the metropolitan area of New York. The schools started July 1 and continued through August 6. Weekly conferences of the 2000 teachers were held in Manhattan, Brooklyn and Queens.

Helen Lloyd, our own missionary to the Indians, writes that the Cedar River Baptist Church on the Indian field in Oklahoma really took the Vacation Bible School seriously. Indians camping in the church-cabins the entire four days of the school. The adult class taught by Mrs. Aaron Hancock was the banner class, so says Miss Lloyd, and adds that we know adults do not ordinarily participate in Vacation Bible Schools, but it must be remembered that many of the Indians do not have the educational advantages or religious training most white church members enjoy.

From Miss Margaret T. Applegarth, chairman of the World Day of Prayer Committee (interdenominational), we have the following report: "In 1938 there were 2000 observances of the World Day of Prayer and in 1943 more than 10,000. Offerings at meetings in 1938 totaled \$10,000; in 1943 they totaled \$101,000".

BIBLE STUDY TOPICS for W.M.U. in 1944

January—The Beatitudes of Jesus—*Matt. 5:1-16*

February—God's Dealings with Pharaoh—*Ex. 11:1; 12:29-33; 14:5-7, 13, 14; 15:1, 2*

March—Nebuchadnezzar's Dream—*Dan. 2:27, 28, 31-44, 48*

April—David's Throne—*I Chron. 17:7-16, 20, 21; Psa. 122*

May—Food from Heaven—*Ex. 16:1-7, 13, 14, 31, 35*

June—God the Righteous Judge—*Psa. 96*

July—A Song of the Islands—*Isa. 42:1-10; 11:9*

August—The Keys of the Kingdom—*Matt. 16:9; Luke 11:52; Acts 17:22-27*

September—"Inherit the Kingdom Prepared for You"—*Matt. 25:31-46*

October—A Kingdom of Priests—*Ex. 19:3-6*

November—God's Throne in Heaven—*Revelation 4*

December—The Wonderful Name—*Isa. 9:1-7*



MISSIONARY PROGRAM TOPICS for W.M.U. in 1944

THEME for YEAR: Make known His mighty acts and the glorious majesty of His Kingdom—*Psa. 145:12.*

January—Characteristics of the Citizens of the Kingdom
(A Study of W.M.U. Moral Standards)

February—Africa Steps into the World's Life

March—The Kingdom of Righteousness for the Wreckage in Europe

April—The Everlasting Kingdom in the Land of Its Beginnings

May—The King's Power in "the Middle Kingdom" (China)

June—His Mighty Acts in Mid-America

July—"The Isles Shall Wait for His Law"
(Islands of the Pacific)

August—Extending the Realm of the Kingdom among the Indians of the Americas

September—Enthroning the King in Our Own Community

October—Glorifying the King through Our Chief Aims

November—Wondrous Works of God in South America

December—"When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling"
"Not by might nor by power but by My Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts."