

ROYAL SERVICE



Municipal Auditorium, Atlanta, Ga.

Meeting Place of Southern Baptist Convention, May 16-18

Dr. R. G. Lee of Memphis will speak to the W.M.U. report at the Wednesday night session.

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OUR MISSION FIELDS

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MAY, 1944

VOL. 38

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In This Issue

Announcements	1, 3, 9, 18, 21, 23, 24
Bible Study	7
Book Review	19-20
Business Women's Circles	9
Calendar of Prayer	5-6
Circle Programs	8, 9
Current Events	22
Editorial	3
Family Altar	1
Leaflets	17
Mission Study	19-20
Our Young People	18
"Pray Ye"	4
Programs—B.W.C., Circles, Plans	8-17
Royal Service Reminder	2
Stewardship	23, 24
Topics for 1945 (Missionary)	21
Treasurer's Report	23

For a growing, vital W.M.U.



Just as we supplement our daily food with vitamins, so our spiritual food needs an extra portion of precious vitamins. ROYAL SERVICE is the health-shine vitamin required by every W.M.U. leader and W.M.S. member for missionary vision and Christian understanding of world problems. See directions on this page for renewing or subscribing.

An EDITORIAL

MRS. F. W. ARMSTRONG, President W.M.U.

News Notes

AN altogether unique experience is in store for those who attend the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, May 16-18. For the first time in its fifty-six years of organized life Woman's Missionary Union will not hold its annual meeting prior to the meeting of the Convention.

The reasons that led to cancelling the 1943 meetings are as acute this year as last. No southern city could agree to guarantee more than a very limited number of hotel rooms and then only for days in the midst of a week. Because Atlanta offered the largest number of reservations in hotels it was chosen as the meeting place of the Convention and the days of meeting are from Tuesday through Thursday in order to release rooms for week-end use by personnel of the government and armed forces. It was deemed essential to hold the meeting of the Convention this year even under such difficulties and restrictions.

Publicity has been given heretofore of the approval by the Executive Committee of the Convention of the report of the special committee on recommendations for the 1944 meeting which contained the following paragraph: "That, owing to the impossibility under the present emergency of providing adequate accommodations at the same time for both the Convention and the W.M.U. annual meeting, we regretfully suggest that the W.M.U. select another time for its meeting in 1944". This action was taken after full conference with the executive officers of W.M.U. who recognized that no other course was possible.

Very soon the denominational papers will carry the program of the S.B.C. meeting in Atlanta. One of its features will be the report of W.M.U. which is scheduled for Wednesday at 7:10 p.m. The officers are especially grateful to announce that Dr. R. G. Lee will speak to the report. The great Bellevue church in Memphis of which he is pastor has a remarkable W.M.U. organization. We are fortunate to have this honored pastor as the featured speaker for this important occasion.

Following or if possible preceding the S.B.C. the statistical reports of W.M.U. will be published. Thus the great host of W.M.U. members who cannot attend the Atlanta meeting will have the opportunity of studying the records which are always the source of such keen interest and inspiration in the W.M.U. annual meeting and later when presented in the W.M.U. report to the Convention. The reports will represent the sum of the activities of all Woman's Missionary Societies and their auxiliary organizations for young people for the year 1943. They will be statistics pulsing with life for they are the record of lives enlisted in missionary interest; they testify of Christian community ministry, of souls won, of study which broadens knowledge and quickens missionary purpose. They indicate deepened participation in prayer support of missions and enlarged giving to missionary causes. They show that young people have been trained and enlisted in missionary interest and participation. Constant diligence is rewarded in the glowing totals which reveal how truly we are laborers together with one another and with God, the author and founder of the missionary enterprise.

Mention was made in last month's editorial of the decision to hold the 1944 annual meeting of W.M.U. in Oklahoma City, September 19-21. Already we are having some interesting developments concerning the program, and expect to announce some unusually inviting features. Each state is entitled to fifty delegates and we are assured ample and adequate accommodations for all delegates and many visitors. Remembering the gracious hospitality of this city for the 1939 meeting, the beauty of the spacious auditorium with its many conveniences, together with the well equipped hotels in easy access, we feel assured that the physical surroundings will be perfect for a great meeting. Plans made well in advance to send representative delegates will assure a marked blessing to the whole constituency, since better leadership is the certain result of the fine fellowship and spiritual enriching of such a meeting.

As auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention, Woman's Missionary Union is its helper, especially in promotion of its missionary program. Grave problems will be faced as the Convention meets, as to rehabilitation of property on devastated fields and work broken by war. How wisely to develop and expand the work of home missions will undoubtedly be considered. Let us undergird with our prayers all the deliberations of the Convention, praying from this hour through May 16-18 that God's will may be done, that His Kingdom may come more speedily through the work of the Convention.

Family Altar

Mrs. W. H. Gray, Alabama

TOPIC: The King's Power in "The Middle Kingdom"

"All Power"

1st Day—Matt. 28:16-18; Acts 16:11-15
2nd Day—Acts 10:34-43; 16:16-24
3rd Day—Eph. 1:15-23; Acts 16:25-34
4th Day—Eph. 3:14-21; 1 Cor. 9:16-27
5th Day—Eph. 4:1-3, 11-15; II Tim. 4:9-18
6th Day—John 17:1-13; 1 Cor. 15:50-58
7th Day—John 17:14-26; Isa. 50:4-9

"Ye shall receive power".

8th Day—Acts 1:1-12; 17:1-5
9th Day—Acts 2:1-4, 12-17, 21;
1 Thess. 2:1-12
10th Day—Acts 6:7, 8; 8:4-6; 1 Thess. 4:1-12
11th Day—II Cor. 12:9, 10; 1 Thess. 5:1-11
12th Day—Isa. 40:28-31; Titus 3:1-7
13th Day—Phil. 3:7-16; 1 Thess. 5:12-28
14th Day—Phil. 4:1, 4-9, 19, 20;
II Thess. 3:1-5

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.

"Pray Ye"

In thanksgiving for the goodness of God
In eager yearning for the salvation of lost souls
In petition for the indifferent and unenlightened
In sympathy for the sick and sorrowing
In intercession for war-torn countries
For missionaries and other Christians in every land
Pray for meeting of Southern Baptist Convention in
Atlanta, Georgia, May 16-18. Pray also for plans
for meeting of Woman's Missionary Union in Okla-
homa City, September 19-21.
Give thanks for financial victories (see pages 23, 24).
Intercede for even finer stewardship this year.



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

Calendar of Prayer May, 1944

Mrs. W. C. Henderson, Arizona

NOT what, but Whom do I believe! That, in my darkest hour of need
Hath comfort that no mortal creed to mortal man can give.
Not what, but Whom! For Christ is more than all the creeds,
And His full life of gentle deeds shall all the creeds outlive.

—John Oxenham

1—MONDAY

Rev. J. L. Aders, Birmingham, Ala., Rev.
J. P. Carter, Louisville, Ky., Rev. E. J.
Gregory, San Antonio, Tex., Rev. W. J.
Jones, Savannah, Ga., special city missions
Come, I pray you, and hear, I pray you,
the word that cometh forth from the Lord.
—Ezek. 33:30

2—TUESDAY

Misses xxiabelle Coleman, xxiRose Marlowe,
xxHannah F. Sallee, Shanghai, Miss Lorene
Tilford, Wuchow, China; educational-evan-
gelistic work
And He said unto him, Follow Me.
—Luke 5:27

3—WEDNESDAY

Rev. and Mrs. J. D. Crane, Rev. and Mrs.
A. Joaquin, Rev. and Mrs. M. Lopez, Rev.
and Mrs. I. B. Williams, evangelistic work,
Fort Worth, Texas
God commendeth His love toward us.
—Rom. 5:8

4—THURSDAY

xxDr. and *Mrs. J. P. O'Neal, Dr. and
xxMrs. H. G. Walker, medical-evangelistic
work, Ogbomoso, Nigeria
Strengthened with all might according to
His glorious power
—Col. 1:11

5—FRIDAY

Rev. and Mrs. R. Gonzales, Puentes Grandes,
Rev. R. Ocaña, Santo Domingo, Cuba,
evangelistic work
O Lord, there is none like Thee, neither is
there any God beside Thee.—I Chron. 17:20

6—SATURDAY

Rev. and Mrs. M. Kakiara, evangelistic
work in Japanese Relocation Center, Mc-
Gehee, Ark.
This commandment have we from Him, That
he, who loveth God, love his brother also.
—I Jno. 4:21

7—SUNDAY

Girls' Auxiliary Focus Week, May 7-12
With us is the Lord our God, to help us.
—II Chron. 32:8

8—MONDAY

Rev. and Mrs. D. D. Cooper, Shawnee, Rev.
and *Mrs. A. Worthington, Pawnee, Okla-
homa, evangelistic work among Indians
The good Lord pardon everyone that pre-
pareth his heart to seek God.
—II Chron. 30:18, 19

9—TUESDAY

Dr. and *Mrs. W. C. Taylor, Rio de Janeiro,
Dr. and *Mrs. A. B. Oliver, Curitiba, Brazil,
evangelistic work; also Betty Taylor, Bessie
May and Bruce Oliver, Margaret Fund
students
The Father Himself loveth you because ye
have loved Me.
—Jno. 16:27

10—WEDNESDAY

Rev. I. O. Vietch, evangelistic work, Red
Bank, Canal Zone
Go thou and preach the Kingdom of God.
—Luke 9:60

11—THURSDAY

Rev. and Mrs. R. L. Bauser, Kweilin,
xxRev. and Mrs. D. F. Stamps, Yangchow,
China, educational-evangelistic work
The bread of God is He which cometh down
from Heaven and giveth life unto the
world.
—Jno. 6:33

12—FRIDAY

Mrs. M. Badon, Thibodaux, Miss Vena
Aguillard, Crowley, evangelistic work among
French, Mrs. Alma J. Barnett, New Or-
leans, La., evangelistic work
They that were scattered abroad went every-
where preaching the Word.
—Acts 8:4

13—SATURDAY

xxRev. and Mrs. J. L. Bice, educational-
evangelistic work, Macelo; also John Bice,
Margaret Fund student
Stand fast therefore in the liberty where-
with Christ hath made us free.—Gal. 5:1

14—SUNDAY

That a Christian spirit may be manifest in
Baptist hospitals
Let all your things be done with charity.
—I Cor. 16:14

15—MONDAY

Rev. and Mrs. J. Rios, evangelistic work,
Edinburg, Mrs. A. R. de Morales, San
Benito, Mrs. A. Laurel, Laredo, Texas, edu-
cational-evangelistic work among Mexicans;
also Elvia and Emma Laurel, Margaret Fund
students
The love of God is shed abroad in our
hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given
unto us.
—Rom. 5:5

Calendar of Prayer for May

16—TUESDAY

That the meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention may be fraught with great power from the Lord—Atlanta, Ga., May 16-18
Thine, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory!
—1 Chron. 29:11

17—WEDNESDAY

Rev. and Mrs. V. L. Sears, Igode, (Mim Ethel Harmon, Oyo, *Mim Josephine Scaggs, Port Harcourt, Nigeria, educational-evangelistic work
Ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.
—1 Cor. 15:58

18—THURSDAY

Dr. T. L. Holcomb, executive secretary of the Sunday School Board, and all secretaries working with him; also all phases of work promoted by the Sunday School Board
Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto Thy Name give glory.
—Psa. 115:1

19—FRIDAY

Rev. and Mrs. A. Echavarría, Los Pinos, Rev. and Mrs. J. Mederos, Melena del Sur, Cuba, evangelistic work
One thing I know: that, whereas I was blind, now I see.
—Jno. 9:25

20—SATURDAY

xxRev. and Mrs. W. B. Glass, Hwangshien, xxRev. and Mrs. A. R. Gallimore, Canton, xxRev. and Mrs. C. H. Westbrook, Shanghai, China, educational-evangelistic work
Whosoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus.
—Col. 3:17

21—SUNDAY

Miss Anna B. Hartwell, China, *Mrs. E. G. Wilson, Brazil, *Mrs. C. H. Rowe, Japan, emeritus missionaries; also Mary Elizabeth Rowe, Margaret Fund student
Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what He hath done for my soul.
—Psa. 66:16

22—MONDAY

Dr. N. M. Carter, Rev. E. C. McFadden, educational-evangelistic work among their own Negro race, Selma, Ala.
Teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs
—Col. 3:16

23—TUESDAY

xxRev. and Mrs. W. H. Berry, educational-evangelistic work (Bello Horizonte, Rev. and *Mrs. E. F. Hallock, evangelistic work, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe.
—Joel 3:13

24—WEDNESDAY

Rev. and Mrs. M. A. Calliero, Jr., Marti, Rev. and Mrs. R. R. Machado, Vibora, Cuba, evangelistic work; also Moises Machado, Margaret Fund student
The Lord give thee understanding in all things.
—11 Tim. 2:7

25—THURSDAY

Baptist believers in Hungary
The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous runneth into it and is safe.
—Prov. 18:10

26—FRIDAY

xx(Mim Ruth Ford, Canton, xx(Mim Ora Elizabeth Gray, Lanchow-Fu, medical-evangelistic work, xx(Mim Ota Lam, Kaileng, (Mim Hattie Stallings, Kwellin, China, educational-evangelistic work
As his part is that goeth down to battle, so shall be his part that tarrieth . . . they shall part alike
—1 Sam. 30:24

27—SATURDAY

Prof. and Mrs. A. Veles, educational-evangelistic work, El Paso, Rev. and Mrs. E. Rodriguez, evangelistic work among Mexicans, Houston, Texas
Hold up my goads in Thy path, that my footsteps slip not.
—Psa. 17:3

28—SUNDAY

Dr. J. V. Dawes, Dr. J. Lake, Mrs. E. L. Morgan, Mrs. L. W. Pierce, emeritus missionaries from China; also Constance Morgan, Margaret Fund student
The upright shall dwell in Thy presence.
—Psa. 140:13

29—MONDAY

Rev. and Mrs. J. W. McGavock, Santiago, (Mim Marjorie Spence, Temuco, Chile, educational-evangelistic work; also Margaret McGavock, Margaret Fund student
Surely His salvation is nigh them that fear Him.
—Psa. 85:9

30—TUESDAY

Rev. and Mrs. A. W. Hancock, McAlister, Mrs. Homer Grinnett, Anadarko, Rev. V. J. Zuniga, Shawnee, Oklahoma, evangelistic work among Indians
Blessed is that man that maketh The Lord his trust.
—Psa. 40:4

31—WEDNESDAY

xxRev. and *Mrs. W. W. Lawton, Jr., Kaileng, xx(Mim Lois Glass, Lanchow-Fu, China, Rev. and (Mrs. C. A. Leonard, Kekaha, Kauai, T. H., evangelistic work
Be strong, all ye people of the land, with the Lord, and work, for I am with you.
—Ezra 1:4

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

Bible Study

Elia Broadus Robertson, Kentucky

Food from Heaven—Exodus 16:1-7, 13, 14, 31, 35

HUNGER has come into the world's consciousness today as never before. There have been terrible famines in other centuries, and some attempts at relief. But now we know the European children are suffering and compassion is stirring our hearts to action, even while the war drives hunger deeper. Now we know the needs of the Chinese and our mission board stimulates gifts for food as well as for mission work. Probably no woman who reads this will ever know real distress for lack of bread. But when we read of the Israelites, lately fled from Egypt with their dough tied up in kneading-cloths, now appalled at the desert around them and the desert before them, we should not wonder that they cried out. The injustice and hard labor of Egypt are forgotten; there was bread in Egypt and fleshpots and three kinds of onions! They had complained at the Red Sea and God had opened a way through it. They had complained of thirst and God had given water from the rock and soon brought them to Elim with its palm trees and twelve springs. But gratitude does not immediately teach confidence, perhaps because each new danger is different. Acquaintance with God's providence comes slowly. Even the ten deliverances in Egypt had not taught the crowd, but only a few leaders, that God can do anything. A lecturer, describing an ancient buried city he had found, said: "In archaeology, as in marriage, one must be prepared for surprises!" "What hath God wrought!" is the saying of Balaam (Num. 23:23), none too devout a man, but one who could read current events and see in the arrival of Israel at the land of Canaan neither luck nor magic, but God.

The receiving of the manna required some activity and precise obedience—not much to ask compared with sowing and harvesting and breadmaking. But those who took liberties with the rules found worms next day in the forbidden surplus. And the skeptics who refused to recognize the seventh day by preparing for it on the sixth—oh, don't you hope they were a little hungry by night? Yet which of us has not failed in some clear condition in the midst of a personal providence? In the very matter of food, one hears of grumbling over ration books, not to mention cheating. A balanced diet, wise economy, self-control in eating—these are like measuring an omer for each person. (An omer, by the way, is 5.1 pints.) And asking the blessing at the table—why is that going out of fashion? Invited to dinner one evening with an old friend in North Carolina, what a sweet experience, when we were seated at the attractive table, to have first a bit read from a little devotional book, then a grateful prayer. Some have this simple family worship at breakfast. It takes planning, of course. "Give us this day our daily bread" seems to imply gratitude and the expression of it, as we know was the habit of Jesus and His disciples.

It is comparatively unimportant to study out just what the manna was. Two different deposits have been found sometimes in that region: one from the air, one from certain trees, one dryer than the other, neither sufficient to feed a multitude without a miracle of multiplication. "But is anything a miracle to God?" "What is it? What is it?" asked the delighted people. But when their gratitude had worn thin they murmured, "Our soul loatheth this light bread". And the Sabbath: the Babylonians knew the Sabbath, but the Israelites are here taught it for the first time.

"God moves in a mysterious way
His wonders to perform;
He plants His footsteps in the sea
And rides upon the storm."

"Judge not the Lord by feeble sense
But trust Him for His grace;
Behind a frowning providence
He hides a smiling face".

Circle Program

EXPLANATORY NOTE: The following program is submitted for use by the circles this month. Its suggested articles will be found in the following monthly



missionary magazines: *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 same Birmingham address; *The Commission*, 50c a year from the Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Richmond 20, Virginia; *Southern Baptist Home Missions*, 25c a year from Baptist Home Mission Board, Atlanta 3, Ga. Each one participating in the following program should have access at least

to the magazine in which her article appears. (See also page 43 of 1944 W.M.U. Year Book and page 9 of this magazine.)

CIRCLE PROGRAM TOPIC:

The Ministry of Healing, an Unchanged Task

Devotional Theme: "When he saw him, he was moved with compassion and came to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on them oil and wine; . . . and took care of him"—*Luke 10:33, 34.*

Without Love I Am Nothing—(See article in May issue of *The Commission*.)

"Unclean! Unclean!" (See article in May issue of *The Commission*.)

All Who Come Need Help (See article in May issue of *Southern Baptist Home Missions*.)

"The Lord Has Done Great Things" (See article in May issue of *Southern Baptist Home Missions*.)

Are You a Medical Student? (See article in May issue of *The Window of Y.W.A.*)

Persimmon, a Fruit of Grace (See article in May issue of *World Comrades*.)

Discussion (Among items profitable for discussion by the circle might well be its further mission study and its most meaningful fostering of W.M.U. young people's work. A good book is reviewed on page 19 of this magazine; G.A. Focus Week and other activities for the young people are outlined on page 18.)

Business Women's Circles

Prepared by Mrs. Robert L. Murphy, Va.
Student in Missions Education Course II
W.M.U. Training School, Louisville, Ky.

Poster: Cut from yellow paper a silhouette map of China. Place in the center of the poster and paste a picture of a smiling Chinese in the center of the map. Above the map print: **All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name in China.** Below the map print: **Come to B. W. C.—Time—Place—Date.**

Personal Announcements: Cut a small map of China from yellow paper. Then cut a silhouette of a king's crown from royal blue paper and paste in the center of the map. Above the crown print: **How Great Is the King's Power in "The Middle Kingdom?"** Below the crown-print: **Come and Learn at B. W. C.—Time—Place—Date.**

Programs: Cut a folder, bulletin style, from yellow paper. On the front print:

Members of the B. W. C.
Present
The King's Power in "The Middle Kingdom"
A Missionary Play in One Act
Place Date Time

On the left inside page print a synopsis and the setting. On the right inside page print the list of the characters. Distribute at the door as the members enter.

Preparation: Set off one end of the room to resemble a stage. In the center have a davenport with chairs near it for a conversational group. Use floor-lamps, scatter-rugs etc. to give the appearance of a living room. Hang a large map of China on the wall behind the davenport. Arrange the chairs for the audience in rows, leaving a center aisle. Have two members usher the other members to their seats. (For program material see pages 11-17.)

Presentation—A Playlet. Time—The Present. Place—Mary's Home. B. W. C. Meeting. A new girl has moved into the neighborhood and Mary has asked her to come to the B. W. C. meeting tonight. The scene opens with Mary seated in the living room, (Concluded on Page 21)



Calling All Southern Baptist Business Women!

Come to Ridgecrest, N. C.

August 16-22, 1944

For Southwide Business Women's Circle Conference
Held in Connection with
Foreign Mission Week

Remember—August 16-22—Ridgecrest, N. C.

Program Plans

Prepared by Mrs. H. R. Norwood, Montana
Student in Missionary Education Course D
W.M.U. Training School, Louisville, Ky.

Poster—Use a large white rectangular cardboard. In the upper right corner, place a full figure picture of Christ with hands extended in invitation. In the lower left corner, place an outline map of China, with a Chinese figure in the center of the map, face uplifted. On his back is a large bundle labeled "Ancestor Worship"; to his feet are clamped heavy chains labeled "Opium" and "Superstition". In his hand he holds aloft a Christian flag. In the intervening space place the inscription: "These are my people. Break thou the bread of life to them!"

Aim—To create a consciousness of China's need for our cooperation

Room Arrangement—In the front of the assembly room, on a raised platform if possible, place a large Christian flag, flanked on either side by flags of other nations who are Christian. Next to the central flag, locate the Chinese and American flags. In front of this display, place a table, containing an open Bible and two bouquets of bleeding hearts (or some other symbolic flower). To the left of both the table and flags, have a large Chinese map showing the southern Baptist mission stations, designated by small flags. To the right of the table have chairs to seat the speakers. Add bouquets or baskets of flowers if needed and arrange all furnishings to blend and balance.

Invitation—Use double cut out maps of China to form booklets with the programs printed inside and the name of the society and date of meeting on the outside.

Presentation—The following characters are to be used in the program: Madame Chiang Kai-shek (in Chinese costume); Mrs. M. T. Rankin; Mrs. B. J. Cauthen; and Miss Marjorie Shumate. Divide the program material found on pages 11-17 in two sections: the first including topics, "The Middle Kingdom" and "The King's Power in China"; the other section including all other program material is to be presented in the form of a panel discussion. After the song, "Break Thou the Bread of Life", has been sung by the audience and the Bible verses from Exodus 16:1-7, 13, 14, 31, 35 have been read, the president offers a prayer. The prayer-thought should be that the spiritually hungry multitudes of the world may have the bread of life.

As the song, "Rescue the Perishing", is sung by the audience, the program speakers enter and are seated facing the audience. Following the song the chairman, using the material found in topic, "The Middle Kingdom", speaks of historical China. She will then introduce Madame Chiang Kai-shek as one of the noted guests of the afternoon who will review the work done in China. The madame will use material found in the topic, "The King's Power in China", relating it as her own investigation and experience. Following this talk, the pianist will play softly, "The Kingdom Is Coming", after which a prayer of thanksgiving will be offered by some member of the circle who has been previously notified.

The chairman will then present the characters impersonating Mrs. Rankin, Mrs. Cauthen and Miss Shumate, who will assist in a panel discussion. This discussion covers all remaining program material.

The chairman will use as her introduction the first part of the topic, "Kingdom Work in Occupied China"; and then, for illustration, she will remark: "Mrs. Rankin, our Foreign Board secretary's wife, will answer the first question under discussion"; then to Mrs. Rankin: "Mrs. Rankin, what is the status of the work in China occupied now by Japan?" Mrs. Rankin will use program material on this subject found in "Kingdom Work in Occupied China". The other questions may be carried out in a similar manner:

Question II, answered by Mrs. Cauthen—"Give your impression of the migration into west China and in what way this alters the life of free China".

Question III, answered by Miss Shumate—"What are southern Baptists doing to alleviate the famine and other miseries found in China today?"

The chairman, using the introductory remarks of the topic, "The Future Kingdom Work in China", will then ask Mrs. Rankin to outline carefully the program her husband has prepared for post-war work. In conclusion have a season of prayer, the prayer-thought being: "The coming of the Kingdom of Christ in the Middle Kingdom".

Program for May

Mrs. C. D. Cressman, Tennessee

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

TOPIC for MONTH: The King's Power in "The Middle Kingdom" (China)

Hymn—Break Thou the Bread of Life

Bible Study—Food from Heaven—Ex. 16:1-7, 13, 14, 31, 35 (Page 7)

Prayer that the spiritually hungry multitudes of the world may have the Bread of Life

Hymn—Rescue the Perishing —The Middle Kingdom

The King's Power in China

Prayer thanking God for the King's power in China and praying that it may increase Kingdom Work in Occupied China

Kingdom Work in Free China

—Hymn—The Kingdom Is Coming

Feeding the Hungry

—The Future of Kingdom Work in China

Watchword for the Year

—Hymn for the Year

Prayer for the coming of the Kingdom of Christ in the Middle Kingdom

THE MIDDLE KINGDOM

FOR centuries the Chinese have called their nation "The Middle Kingdom". Old maps of China represented a flat earth, with China filling the center, and around on the edges were mere dots which stood for the inhabitants of the rest of mankind—the outside barbarians. This was the Chinese estimate of their own importance as they felt that China was in the center of the universe and that all other nations revolved around her as the "Middle Kingdom". In many ways we can look upon China today as the "Middle Kingdom"—an important center of the world's interest and destiny.

China is in the center of our interest because in at least two points she is a "superlative nation"—the oldest and largest of all nations. China's history reaches back at least three thousand years before Christ and it is probable that she was a civilized nation in Abraham's day. Her people number today around five hundred million or about one-fourth of the human race. "If the populations of Belgium, France, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Rumania, Serbia, England, Scotland, Japan, Wales had been wiped out by the first world war these countries could have been repopulated entirely by Chinese and leave enough residents in China to give it a population as dense as that of the United States".

China is in the center of our interest because of her great modern development. For many years she was the "Sleeping Giant", but now she is wide-awake and is beginning to play a giant's part in world affairs. Marvelous is her development in industry, in transportation, in education and in ideas of government. Perhaps her greatest development is the achievement of a national unity never before known in all the millenniums of her history. Chinese have always been patriotic but their patriotism has been largely that of loyalty to family, clan and village, but today the masses of the people, even in the remotest villages, are becoming nation conscious and are fighting and working together for the preservation of a united China.

China is in the center of our interest because she is our ally—one of the united nations fighting to preserve liberty and democracy in the world. It is a little difficult to understand that a nation which was for centuries under a supposed despotic form of government, which has been a republican state for only thirty-two years and which has today a one-party government and a ruler with almost unlimited power, should be fighting as one of the democratic powers in a war for democracy. The explanation of this rests in the fact that in the attitude of her people and in the universal spirit undergirding the nation, China is and has always been democratic. In his book—

Is China a Democracy?—Dr. Creighton Lacy says that China has the two oldest and strongest cornerstones for democracy in the entire community of nations, namely: respect for the individual and sanctity of the home. The life of China for centuries has been centered not in the imperial court but in the people—in the millions of people living in tiny villages—each village, each family, a perfect democracy. Years ago Mencius, a disciple of Confucius, said: "The people are the most important element in the nation; the spirits of the land and grain come next; the sovereign is the least important of all". The three principles of the people as expressed by the National People's Party, which is the ruling force in China, are three Chinese words, meaning: "The people to have, the people to rule and the people to enjoy", which is in essence the same three principles that underlie our democracy—government "of the people, by the people and for the people". So China is not fighting today to secure democracy but to preserve the democracy which she has enjoyed for centuries.

China is in the center of our interest because of the friendliness that exists between her and our own nation. The United States has been, is and we hope will always be China's best friend among the nations. Our return of the Boxer indemnity money, our protest of the twenty-one demands of Japan and her seizure of Shantung during the World War I, our many expressions of the "non recognition doctrine" when Manchuria was taken and when China proper was attacked in 1937, our aid given to China in her fight against Japan, our enthusiastic reception of China's "First Lady" on the occasion of her visit to our country—these and other things have cemented the friendship between the United States and China.

In her speech before the House of Representatives, Madame Chiang Kai-shek paid beautiful tribute to this friendship and interpreted its altruistic spirit as follows: "The 160 years of traditional friendship between our two great peoples, China and America, which has never been marred by misunderstandings, is unsurpassed in the annals of the world. I can also assure you that China is eager and ready to cooperate with you and other peoples to lay a true and lasting foundation for a sane and progressive world society which would make it impossible for any arrogant or predatory neighbor to plunge future generations into another orgy of blood. . . We in China, like you, want a better world not for ourselves alone but for all mankind, and we must have it". With these ideals prevailing in the "Middle Kingdom", we should continue to keep China in the center of our national friendship and should continue to work with her that such ideals should hold the middle place in international relationships.

THE KING'S POWER in CHINA

HEATHEN China is a much used term in our missionary vocabulary. But with the expansion and growing influence of Christianity in the "Middle Kingdom" the term is fast becoming obsolete. To be sure a vast majority of China's people are still heathen, but the influence of Christianity is out of proportion with its numerical strength. With less than one per cent of the people of China members of Christian churches, Christianity is exerting an inestimable influence and the power of the King of kings is being felt throughout the "Middle Kingdom".

The power of the King of kings is seen in the fact that many of the Chinese national leaders are Christians. Dr. T. W. Ayers, in a recent article in *The Commission*, reminds us that "before the overthrow of the Manchu Dynasty all the officials in China were anti-Christian. Every man holding an official position had to worship the image of Confucius and perform other idolatrous functions, and this prohibited any Christian from holding any official office". But now this is changed, for the leaders of the government are Christian and the influence of government is for, instead of against, Christianity. The sincere and devout Christianity of Generalissimo and Madame Chiang Kai-shek has been an inspiring example to their millions of countrymen. It is said that at least one-fifth of the highest government officials are active Christians. It is probably true that there is more Christianity

in the Chinese government than in that of any other nation in the world. When we read that in the midst of dangers and duties of war the Chiangs have maintained their Christian activities, when we know the devotional spirit which pervades their home, when we are told of the generalissimo praying at the family altar that God would help the Chinese not to hate the Japanese, when we recall Madame Chiang's immortal words spoken in Madison Square Garden last spring, "There must be no bitterness in the post-war world", we can rejoice because "heathen China" has leaders of such Christian spirit and power. And because of their leadership the multitudes of China are more willing to listen to the Gospel story than ever before.

The power of the King of kings has been strengthened in the "Middle Kingdom" by the sacrificial spirit and service of the missionaries. When the Japanese aggressor came, spreading destruction and death in his path, and the missionaries could have fled to places of safety, indeed were advised and almost demanded to flee, they stayed at their posts of duty, sharing with the Chinese the dangers and privations of an enemy-infested land. Men let their wives and children go while they remained to carry on. Single women stayed in places of greatest peril unprotected, rather than give up their work. They stayed—many missionaries of all denominations stayed—until they, as citizens of an enemy nation, were interned. Then they had to stay, enduring all the discomforts, privations and disagreeable experiences of war prisoners. Such faithfulness, such self-forgetfulness could not fail to have its influence for Christ in China. The Chinese, beholding the sacrificial spirit of the missionaries, have opened their minds and their hearts to the Gospel message.

The power of the King of kings is seen in the faithfulness of the Chinese Christians under the severe trials of recent years. With their church buildings destroyed and many of them homeless and hungry they have shown a beautiful spirit of courage and a great determination to carry on the Lord's work. A cabinet minister who is not a Christian told Madame Chiang that he was reading the Bible because "I notice that the Christians show a greater self-sacrificing spirit than others and therefore I feel that there must be something in Christianity worth looking into".

Beautiful has been the spirit of the Chinese Christians toward their missionary friends during their internment. Many times at great personal risk they have carried food and other comforts to the missionaries. When a group of missionaries expressed concern about the amount of help that Chinese friends were sending them those friends said: "Please let us do this. Southern Baptists have been helping us through many years. Now you are in a position where we can help you. Let us do this as an expression of our appreciation to your people in America".

Mrs. Sallee, in a recent issue of *The Commission*, tells of the strength of the Chinese in enduring persecution for Christ's sake. She says: "Just now the Chinese in our churches are facing persecution for not worshipping the Emperor of Japan. So far they are standing firm and say they will leave the church and worship on threshing-floors rather than go to church and be compelled to worship the image of the emperor which is placed in so many churches. If driven from the threshing-floor by the Japanese they say they will go to the far fields and if dispersed they will simply worship in their homes. Persecution has come in many parts of China and the Chinese are prepared for it. Willingness to suffer for Christ is deep in the hearts of the Chinese".

So is the power of the King of kings working mightily in the "Middle Kingdom". And the people are seeing His power and turning to Him in great numbers. Beholding this we can take heart and believe that the day will come when the "Middle Kingdom" will become the Kingdom of the King of kings.

KINGDOM WORK in OCCUPIED CHINA

FOR over a hundred years China has been the "Middle Kingdom" of southern Baptists' Kingdom work. Our first foreign missionaries were sent to China and our largest group of missionaries has been in this largest and neediest of mission lands. As we realize that most of the part of China which has been in the center of our

missionary thinking for a century is now occupied by the Japanese we wonder just what is the status of this work in China, so long loved and supported by southern Baptists. We asked Dr. M. T. Rankin, our Foreign Board secretary for the Orient, to tell us about this and the following is his statement: "About four-fifths of our missionary work in China is in the area now under the control of the Japanese army. Out of twenty-six large centers, from which we have been doing missionary work, twenty are in occupied areas. No missionaries are now connected with that part of the work, and we are unable to send any funds to the Chinese workers.

"Naturally, all of this work has been radically affected by these great changes. Most of the schools have been compelled to close or have been taken charge of by the Japanese and can no longer be called Baptist schools. This applies particularly to academic schools. Our four hospitals in that area have been dispensed with.

"Despite these conditions, Chinese Christians are actively carrying on a large and effective amount of Christian work. In most areas Baptist congregations have continued straight along with regular services of worship and with aggressive programs of evangelism. From time to time we receive letters from north China, interior China and the Shanghai area which tell about the large attendance on services of worship, about meetings of Baptist associations and about the success of Chinese Christians in continuing seminary and Bible school training. The seminary in Hwanghsien and the All-China Advanced Seminary, which was moved from Kaifeng to Shanghai, have been kept going entirely by Chinese Baptists. We had a report recently of a meeting of an association in north China at which fourteen churches were represented by some three hundred delegates. A new church had been organized and an encouraging number of baptisms were reported for the past year.

"In these conditions we have a remarkable demonstration of the fact that the Kingdom of God is indestructible. Buildings, institutions and programs may be destroyed or completely disorganized. The Kingdom of God, however, is not contained in buildings and institutions and cannot be destroyed by bombs and shells".

KINGDOM WORK in FREE CHINA

THE part of China still free from Japanese occupation is the field of our work today. In this part of China are some of our well established mission stations—at Kweilin, Wuchow, Shiuchow, Sun Hing and Chengchow. Then there are vast stretches of territory on to the west where our missionaries have never gone. Into this *Free China* have migrated millions of refugees, fleeing from the unmerciful bombings of the Japanese invaders. They come by train and plane, on bicycles and in sedan chairs, and many have walked from town to town. Schools, factories and other industrial organizations have abandoned former locations to move into *Free China*.

It can be seen that such a migration would greatly alter the life of *Free China*. Our missionary, Dr. J. B. Cauthen, writes: "The cities are so overcrowded that in many houses there is a separate family in each room. Even dark, dirty rooms without any furnishings whatever are rented at high prices. In the evenings and at night the streets literally swarm with people. On every hand new business enterprises are springing up. New buildings are being erected and old buildings are being repaired. The language of China is undergoing much change. Dialect barriers are being broken down and a true national language is emerging. Provincial barriers of pride, jealousy and misunderstanding are giving way in this *Free China* melting-pot. Even in the small cities the influence of this migration is felt. West China will never be the same again".

The missionary opportunities of *Free China* are marvelous. Among the refugees are many Christians. Dr. Cauthen says: "Never before have there been so many Christians in this part of the land. In traveling one is frequently surprised by the number of Christians he meets. Large congregations assemble in the churches on Sunday. Doubtless these Christians, in their daily contacts with their non-Christian associates, bear a witness for the Lord".

Writing of the response of the people to the Gospel, Dr. Cauthen says: "It strikes the visitor to *Free China* forcibly that men, especially the soldiers, respond so readily to the Gospel. People, who have been uprooted from their homes and have come to new places to live, accept the message far more readily than do those who are surrounded by all their old ties of family and tradition. In this we see the great opportunity afforded by the present *Free China* situation. These people from the four ends of China will hear the message in the area and then go back to their old homes when the war is over to bear their witness".

Dr. Rankin writes as follows of the development of our work in *Free China*: "We have five main centers of work in *Free China*. The city of Kweilin is now our headquarters for that area. Dr. R. E. Beddoe is acting as treasurer and field representative of the Foreign Mission Board. Shiuchow, Wuchow and Sun Hing are other centers in the south. Several hundred miles to the north we still have work in the city of Chengchow, which is only about twelve miles from the Japanese lines.

"In these areas we have eighteen missionaries now on the field with eight others on the way, making a total of twenty-six missionaries for *Free China*. It is the plan of the Foreign Mission Board to maintain the work in *Free China*, whatever the cost. During the war we cannot attempt to make any expansion but we are trying to take up some of the great opportunities presented by the masses of people who have migrated from the occupied areas over into *Free China*. Our missionaries and Chinese Baptists together are doing a large amount of preaching through what they call the 'Forward Movement'. Preaching bands are organized to make continuous visits to various parts of the territory to hold meetings in churches and in cities where there are no churches all about over the country. These evangelistic tours have been most profitable.

"A large amount of school work has been continued in *Free China*. The Chinese-operated schools, Pooi Ching and Pooi To, were moved first from Canton to Hong Kong and then to Macao and later up to Kweilin. Bible training work is continued at Kweilin and at Shiuchow. Our Stout Memorial Hospital in Wuchow is continuing its full program of activity, and a fair amount of medical work is conducted in Kweilin.

"Because of the inflation we have had to increase our financial assistance both to our missionaries and to the native work to the extent that our remittances to *Free China* now amount to more than our total appropriation for work in China before the war began. Even so, we must maintain the work in *Free China* at any cost".

FEEDING the HUNGRY

EVER since the Japanese invasion of China our southern Baptist missionaries have been agents of mercy in helping to feed China's starving multitudes. With our gifts for relief we have helped the missionaries in this work. In *Free China* our missionaries are still feeding the hungry as fast and as much as our relief money will permit. Dr. Rankin says: "Tens of thousands of people have died of starvation in the southern area where we have work and around Chengchow. For the past ten months our Board has been sending \$35,000 (United States money) each month to our treasurer in China for distribution by our missionaries to help destitute people. First consideration has been given to destitute Chinese Baptists, but relief efforts have not been confined to Baptists or even to Christians. Insofar as possible, starving people of any kind have been helped".

A long famine in the section of China where Miss Margie Shumate works has brought great suffering to thousands of people. Early in the famine period Miss Shumate wrote: "Recent letters state that scores of our Christians are living on leaves and that their hands and feet are swollen, which is the second stage of starvation; at first, famine victims get thin and then they become swollen and then they die. I have already sent money to most of our Baptist churches for relief work, but there are Christians of many other churches who are starving. And the poor heathen!

They are dying by the thousands! But I shall not be able to help them. I fear my funds will not be able to meet half of the needs of the Christians".

Some months later she wrote: "The rice crop is a partial failure, but a good crop does not feed the population for more than two or three months of the year. The general opinion is that conditions will probably be worse during the coming months. The number of people who need relief increases every day. The number of deaths from starvation increases daily. With ten million dollars a month we might make a dent in the famine but with less than half a million a month (which the American Relief Committee and my funds amount to in Chinese money) we feel that we are only touching relief work while the great mass of starving people continue to die and face death".

We can think of no better way to show the power of the King of kings in the "Middle Kingdom" than by continuing to give bread to the hungry and thereby not only saving their lives but opening their hearts to receive the message of the King. Our missionaries can feed the hungry only as we furnish the funds. Out of our great bounty let us send worthy gifts to help our missionaries feed China's starving people.

The FUTURE of KINGDOM WORK in CHINA

ALL missionary thinkers agree that there is a great day ahead for Kingdom work in the "Middle Kingdom". Our Foreign Mission Board is preparing now to meet the opportunities which China will offer when the war is over. Dr. Rankin outlines for us this program of preparation for post-war work.

First: we must have an adequate staff of missionaries. This calls for two things—the maintenance of all our missionaries who are in America and the appointment of not less than fifty missionaries to be ready to go out at the close of the war. "The missionaries now in this country are being used very profitably in our denominational program here in America; but the Foreign Board is taking care to keep its relationship with all of these workers so that when the war is over they will be ready to return to their fields". These, with the fifty new missionaries, will make a great force for the spread of the Kingdom in China.

In the second place: the Foreign Board plans for "the creation of a large reserve fund for getting our missionaries back on the field, for reestablishing a program of work in the areas now occupied as quickly as the Chinese repossess those sections and for repair of residences, church buildings, school plants and hospital buildings. These needs will call for at least one million dollars to be available as soon as we get back into all of the areas in China where we have conducted work".

A third plan is: "The projection of a new mission undertaking in western China. As soon as we have been able to reoccupy and reestablish work in the old areas, it is our plan to push forward to new work in western China".

Dr. Rankin says in the *fourth place* that: "Rehabilitation of churches, schools, hospitals and of individual Christian families will be one of the first great necessities that will confront us as we go back into the occupied areas after the war. Chinese congregations will have to get back on their feet and we shall have to help them start walking again. At the same time, the constant telling of the good news of Jesus Christ will always be our greatest privilege and challenge".

These plans give us some idea of how we, through our foreign mission program, shall take advantage of post-war opportunities for spreading the Kingdom in the "Middle Kingdom". Quoting Dr. Rankin again: "A new China will emerge from the chaos of the war. God is moving among southern Baptists, impelling them to make ready today to enter the doors of opportunity which will be opened in that new day. We must be prepared in spirit, in man power and in money. When those doors swing open may we not be found standing with tied hands and feet and being compelled to say, 'Too little and too late'. Let us prepare now".

QUESTIONS for REVIEW and DISCUSSION

1. What is the significance of the Chinese calling their nation "The Middle Kingdom"?
2. Give some reasons why China is in the center of our interest today.
3. Discuss the King's power in China today.
4. Tell something of the sacrificial service of our missionaries in the war period.
5. Discuss the faithfulness of Chinese Christians in the war period.
6. What do we know of our southern Baptist work in occupied China?
7. Discuss the opportunities of *Free China* for missionary work.
8. Tell of our present work in *Free China*.
9. Discuss the need of relief work in China.
10. What preparation is the Foreign Board making for post-war work in China?

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 material quoted in whole or in part. Further interesting help may be found in this listed material and in leaflets as suggested below.

The Window of Y.W.A.	—World Comrades
State Denominational Papers	—The Commission
Last Report of Foreign Mission Board	
Is China a Democracy?	Creighton Lacy
The Chiangs of China	Elmer T. Clark

SUGGESTED LEAFLETS—Supplemental Helps for W.M.S. Program

A Passer-by	3c
Christ and Confucius	3c
Come and See	3c
For the Love of Man	5c
How Much Is a Five-Cent Book Worth?	3c
Preaching the Good News Where It Is News	3c
Tsing Low's Trust and the Famine	4c
Two Sunny Hearts	3c
"What Shall We Do?" (Playlet; 7 Women; Time about 15 Minutes)	6c

For orders amounting to as much as 50c, please remit by money-order, payable to Woman's Missionary Union. Stamps are acceptable in payment for small orders but please try to send 3 cent ones. Do not enclose money unless letter is registered. Kindly remit with order, sending it to W.M.U. Literature Department, 1111 Comer Bldg., Birmingham 3, Alabama.

Our Young People

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

Mission Ways for May Days

MAY 7-12 is Girls' Auxiliary Focus Week with churches throughout the south looking to see what G.A.'s are doing and have been doing. In our purposeful missionary activities and programs we do not have much time for thinking about the size and worth-while work of Girls' Auxiliary but this week we appraise its value and feel the inspiration of the work of 9687 Girls' Auxiliaries with 113,686 members. This host of girls, learning the *Star Ideals* and advancing in *Forward Steps* of G.A. should be a powerful force for righteousness. Girls' Auxiliary counselors will see anew this week the importance of their work; and G.A. members will realize the necessity for enlisting more girls to share in G.A. activities. Every society and church will be ready to foster and encourage G.A.'s more as a result of Focus Week.

May World Comrades has suggestions for the observance of this week. Make the best plans possible for your G.A. after you read those suggestions. You will see accounts of many *Coronation Services* which will help you plan for a similar service. The G.A. hymn pantomime makes a very effective presentation for Sunday night or mid-week prayer service, before the pastor's message. The G.A. initiation beautifully done is an impressive service for the girls also. Do not overlook it in your enlistment plans.

Fascinating mission study books await use. The new ones on Indians will surely all be ready. *By Way of Cherokee* (40c) by Thelma Brown or *Kimo* (40c) by Pauline Cammack are for intermediates. The junior book, *Indian Blankets* (25c), is by Alpha Worthington Gambrell. In teaching, provide the entire series for reference, use the *Indian Resource Book* (25c) and make the class as meaningful as it deserves to be. Do not be satisfied with material between the covers of the one book used as text by your group. Encourage every one in the class to have her own book in order to develop good reading habits and build up libraries in southern Baptist homes.

It will soon be camp time; and W.M.U. camps will be ready for young people. Find out the dates of your state camps and houseparties and help young people to know about them and to be able to go to them. There are two southwide camps primarily for the mission interests of young people. June 15-23 at Ridgecrest, North Carolina, is set aside for Y.W.A.'s from over the south. August 9-15 will mark the first southwide mission conference for older boys. These two gatherings are probably the most important southwide meetings for young people from the standpoint of the future mission program of our denomination. Both programs center in missions and give opportunity for young women and for older boys to associate with missionaries and denominational and international leaders in friendly fashion. Y.W.A. Camp attendance is not limited, because all the Baptist Assembly facilities are turned over to young women. If your Y.W.A. has never been represented, be sure one or two girls over sixteen years of age from your church attend this year. Read advance announcements in *The Window of Y.W.A.* Write to your state W.M.U. young people's leader for reservation, for travel plans, for more information.

The Older Boys' Mission Conference will be limited in attendance to 150; so careful selection must be made from those who want to come from each state. Write your state Royal Ambassador leader about the boy from your church who deserves this venture. Watch *World Comrades* for plans for this strategic meeting and pray for its success.

Sunbeams are not to be neglected in May or any other month. The Sunbeam book on Indians is *Little Morning Light* (25c) by Blossom Thompson. There are many other books also and handwork and teaching helps listed in the mission catalogue which will be sent you free upon request from your Baptist Bookstore. *World Comrades* is carrying on the back cover pages in 1944 a series of pictures to color, showing children of the nations. Do not fail to follow suggestions given each month for Sunbeam activities during their meetings. Today's children need to know much about the tragic children of other lands and the needy children in our own, so that they will be able to live with them understandingly in years to come.

Missions is vital to today's life because it will so soon be tomorrow for all our young people. It will be a tomorrow that will demand the utmost in Christian witness; so magnify missions in May.

Book Review

Miss Willie Jean Stewart, Tennessee

Country Church—Its Problems and Their Solution: John D. Freeman, 1943, Atlanta, Home Mission Board, S.B.C.; Pages 127; Price 40c

FOR years the strength of southern Baptists lay in the country churches. If the center of power is now moving to the urban churches, it behooves us to find out why; to see what has been happening in the country churches and how their problems may be met. Nowhere can we hope to get this information in simpler, more practical form than in this book or in the brochures which preceded it.

Country Church is the first southwide study book slanted definitely for the country churches which we have had. Its author was eminently fitted to write it because he knows what he is talking about and has tested for himself the solutions he proposes.

His discussion of the ills to be treated, though not exhaustive, is illuminating. His summary of the advantages for the community reinvigorated churches is convincing and challenging.

His suggestions about grouping the churches in joint pastorates with full-time pastors on the field, working out a joint monetary-produce budget and putting on a full-time program in each church seem practical and workable, although there are certain details with which one can hardly agree. For example: one questions his idea of having the Brotherhood and Graded W.M.U. meet in place of the Training Union on one Sunday night a month. Surely a better time can be found, but doubtless each church will adjust this in its own way. However, it has long been the policy of Woman's Missionary Union to urge all of its organizations to meet on week-days, thus leaving Sunday for the preaching services, Sunday-school and B.T.U.

We hope all our women will study the book and help put its many excellent plans into effect.

Study Suggestions

Miss Clara A. Lane, mission study chairman and field worker of South Carolina W.M.U., offers the following suggestions:

This is a splendid book for the men and women of the church to study together. If a woman cannot persuade her husband to attend the class she certainly can "accidentally on purpose" place a copy of the book within arm's reach in the evenings.

The author states that he wrote this book "for the purpose of giving to the members of rural and village churches some practical plans whereby they may remove the causes of their weaknesses". May we adopt his purpose as our aim and have a definite church (preferable one's own) in mind.

Visual Aids—A drawing of the country church in which the class is vitally interested. Pictures of the various workers in that church would add reality. Securing these may be difficult so pictures from magazines may represent the pastor, the deacons, W.M.S. president etc. Other suggestions will be found in the paragraphs below.

Chapter I: Ills to Be Treated

Informal discussion will be a good method of clarifying the terms to be used in the text. The idea of a church storehouse is foreign to many communities so that term will need definite explanation. Have each "symptom" written on a piece of paper large enough for the entire class to read. Thumbtack each that "our" church has on the drawing. The person who leads in a discussion of "Improper Location" should

Any books reviewed in this magazine may be ordered from State Baptist Bookstore.

have a rough but accurate sketch of the local community; see page 16 in text for illustration. The class leader should conclude the session with a summary of the group's findings of ills in their own church field. In the closing part of Section J there is a wonderful opportunity to magnify the importance of reporting. Use Dr. Freeman's sentence in associational meeting sometime too.

Chapter II: Working Together—The Way Out

Devotional material is found in the first paragraph of this chapter. Surely the term "paying the preacher" is obsolete. It is time to stress the fact that the pastor's salary comes out of the Lord's treasury.

Assignment One—"Are Baptist churches in our vicinity grouped to the best advantage?"

Assignment Two—"Is our parsonage adequate for the pastor and for the community?"

Assignment Three—"Would it benefit the churches in our field to have joint committees?"

Assignment Four—(For Pastor) "What are my opportunities in this community as resident pastor?" (Reword this if pastor is only part-time.)

Conclude with a season of prayer that the churches of your community may truly find the way out of all hindering difficulties.

Chapter III: A Scriptural Financial Plan

Begin the study of this chapter with the reading of a great many Bible verses dealing with giving. *Bible Stewardship* (ten cents from your State Baptist Bookstore) will provide ample material. The teacher should have the following question written at the top of a blackboard: "How strong is our church financially?" This should be answered from several standpoints, such as: (1) the value of the church plant (2) the value of the tombstones in the cemetery (3) the value of the houses in which the members live (4) the value of the soil or other natural resources the church members are privileged to use. After this revealing exercise have the church treasurer report the church's income for last year. Compare it with the financial strength of the church. Then have treasurer present the present church budget. If men are present the God's Acre Plan should be presented in detail. Women can dedicate to the Lord chickens and other household products over which they have jurisdiction. Ask with the pastor's permission a special committee to present the conclusions of the group to the church in conference.

Chapters IV and V: A Full-time Program—The Rural Church and a Great Community

We suggest that you study these chapters together. It will probably be well to consider first chapter five since it gives a picture of the ideal rural community and the church's responsibility for such. Christian day-school teachers ought to share this study with you. Urge everyone to read and think over Dr. Freeman's material before the session. We may not feel that all of his suggestions are practical, but consider them with an open mind.

When you begin with "A Full-Time Program" use the heads of the various departments in the church as discussion leaders. Begin with the pastor, letting him tell how much he can do in providing a full-time program. Ask the Sunday-school superintendent, the Training Union director, the chairman of the Board of Deacons and the W.M.S. president to tell what responsibility his or her department can assume. The W.M.S. president should welcome the opportunity of using the graded W.M.U. organizations to present missions to the entire church.

We challenge the statement (page 91): "It will not be possible in the great majority of rural churches to have them (W.M.U.) organizations apart from the Training Union, for the people will have no week-days to give to them". Surely this does not coincide with the statement (page 116): "There is no sense in building attractive meeting houses merely to have them open Sunday mornings and evenings" nor with the need for a social program as stated on page 110 in answer to the question regarding the growing number of delinquent children in country places. Records show some of our strongest W.M.U. organizations are rural.

Conclude the study with the making of a "Calendar of Activities" for 1944. Be sure that a Church School of Missions is included. Our Lord's army needs recruits. Statistics show that the majority of our missionaries have come from our rural and village churches.

W.M.U. Missionary Program Topics for 1945

Theme for Year: Facing Tomorrow with God

January—Working Together for a Century

February—God at Work on Home Mission Fields

March—The Things Which Make for Peace in Tomorrow's World

April—Facing Our Opportunity through the Cooperative Program

May—Consecrating the Centennial to Christ

June—Today's Youth—Tomorrow's Hope

July—Christian Citizenship Today and Tomorrow (*Moral Standards*)

August—Facing the Needs in Our Own Community

September—Women in Southern Baptist History

October—Investing in Tomorrow's Leadership (*Baptist Colleges, School of Nursing, Seminaries and Training School*)

November—God at Work on Foreign Mission Fields

December—Facing Tomorrow with God (*Projecting Southern Baptists into Their Second Century*)

Business Women's Circles

(Concluded from Page 9)

reading. A knock at the door. Mary opens the door and greets Jane, the new neighbor. Together they go back to the room, talking.

Mary: I'm so glad you arrived before the others, because now you can meet them as they come in. I know you'll like them, because they are as fine as can be.

Jane: I'm sure I will. I've been looking forward to this ever since you asked me to come. (A knock at the door)

Mary: There they are now! Excuse me, please. (She opens the door and the other girls come in, laughing and chatting. Mary introduces them to Jane, and all are seated.) We are so glad to have Jane with us tonight, and we hope she will join our circle.

The Others: Yes, indeed! We certainly do.

Jane: Thank you. Something happened in the office the other day that made me realize how much I need to be part of an organization like this. We were all discussing the war, and one of the girls mentioned China. She asked me if I knew something of the mission work there. I must confess that I couldn't tell her much. Maybe you can help me to be better prepared next time.

Mary: Why, yes! We would be glad to help you, Jane. How about it, Betty?

Betty: (Material, The Middle Kingdom)

Mary: Now, Ruth, you tell us about the power of Christ, the King, in China.

Ruth: (Material, The King's Power in China)

Mary: Jean, will you tell us about southern Baptist work in occupied China?

Jean: (Material, Kingdom Work in Occupied China)

Mary: Can you tell us about the work in Free China, Shirley?

Shirley: (Material, Kingdom Work in Free China)

Mary: Margaret, you tell about the need in China for its hungry millions.

Margaret: (Material, Feeding the Hungry)

Mary: From all these fine reports we can see there is a great future for work in China. (Continue with material, Future of Kingdom Work in China.)

Jane: I don't know how to thank you for making the work in China so vital and alive to me. It is easy to see that I am going to be happy as a member of this B. W. C.

Mary: Let us all bow our heads and hearts together in a prayer for the coming of the Kingdom of Christ in "The Middle Kingdom". (Prayer)

After the prayer, the girls quietly tell each other good-night and leave. As Mary closes the door, voices are heard softly singing "The Kingdom Is Coming". Mary turns out the lights and leaves the room as the music swells and then dies into the distance.

Current Missionary Events

Discussed by Mrs. W. C. James, Virginia

The following figures are evidence of the fact that the influence of protestant Christianity in the government of China is out of all proportion to the number of protestants and other evangelicals in that country. According to Dr. Daniel A. Poling, editor of the *Christian Herald*, who has but recently returned from a visit to China: "There are more than 400 million Buddhists in China, more than 50 million Mohammedans and less than 4 million Christians. Of these latter less than one million are protestant church members or adherents, and yet from this protestant constituency has come the ranking leadership of the New China including the president and Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek".

World Dominion of London, England, in a news item, "The Challenge of China", gives us approximately the same figures—"ninety-nine per cent of the Chinese people still follow their old faiths. About one million protestants and three million Roman Catholics form the remaining one per cent. In consequence of the invasion there has been a great reduction of missionaries (formerly 5700) and national workers (formerly 27,000). Although the church is mainly drawn from the people, a large proportion of those in higher positions from the generalissimo downwards are Christians whose lives are exercising a profound influence. There never has been a time of greater opportunity".

At the mid-year meeting of the Council on Finance and Promotion of the Northern Baptist Convention, Miss Willie Harris, a missionary of the Woman's American Foreign Mission Society recently returned on the S.S. Gripsholm after twenty years of missionary service and four months in a Japanese concentration camp in China, held all spell-bound as she told her experiences—as says the editor of *Missions*. In spite of all adverse circumstances Dr. Lippard says she gave a most reassuring picture of missions in China. "Let us not be discouraged", said Miss Harris, "because so much of China is occupied by Japan. Jesus Himself spent all His life in occupied territory. He did not run away or evacuate. He stayed and finished His task. We missionaries would like to have done likewise. The Chinese are still there. They will carry on".

Though working under a board of the Northern Convention "Billie" Harris, as we affectionately call her, was brought up in a Richmond, Virginia, church where her missionary education was begun in one of our very first Girls' Auxiliaries and was influenced to prepare and offer herself as a missionary nurse in China through the work of her G.A. in behalf of the Mayfield Tyzer Hospital—the women's part of which is known as the Kathleen Mallory Hospital in Lanchow-Pu.

In this year when China's universities are almost stripped of all normal education, there are more men and women pursuing regular university education in China than in any previous year of her history. It is the most remarkable chapter in the long chronicle of man's quest for truth and learning and, in it all, Christian schools have had a noble leadership. . . . The simple fidelity of thousands of Chinese Christians uprooted from home and possessions and driven into an unfamiliar hinterland who there start life afresh and there build a new sanctuary and, above all, the incredible spirit of these Christian Chinese—patient, almost free of hatred, faithful, bountiful—win the reverent admiration of the whole Christian world.—Dr. H. T. VanDusen in *Current Religious Thought*

Record of Contributions January 1 to December 31, 1943 WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION, AUXILIARY to S.B.C., 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			Total	Cooperative Program	
	Southwide Debt Paying Campaign	Foreign Missions	Home Missions	Ministerial Relief	Christian Education	State and Other Objects in S.B.C. Program	W.M.U. Training School				
							State App't. Training School	Scholarship Fund			Special Gifts
Alabama	\$20,410.12	\$53,747.13	\$27,057.93	\$ 4,173.40	\$ 39,606.02	\$ 72,650.52	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 555.25	\$219,800.37	\$105,146.47
Arizona	735.78	2,105.68	731.76	70.87	173.80	3,715.42	27.85	37.00	17.50	7,615.66	4,041.07
Arkansas	12,095.15	30,269.44	14,715.61	1,887.78	11,209.07	52,670.82	704.83	400.00	59.34	125,012.04	45,671.74
California	64.56	817.90	261.71	11.78		1,419.85	2.00		1.00	2,578.50	512.95
Dist. of Col.	1,519.77	6,444.30	1,938.23	3,463.05	426.00	3,338.37	135.00	200.00		14,001.674	8,730.75
Florida	13,186.11	62,251.18	18,730.98	134.37	1,689.47	66,231.66	500.00	300.00	409.20	180,326.05	87,520.75
Georgia	50,764.14	54,619.21	23,784.31	1,689.47	2,367.11	73,278.56	3,390.23	1,000.00	700.00	372,360.29	198,282.03
Illinois	5,787.32	16,557.80	8,149.53	3,272.93	5,284.19	34,799.06	340.70	200.00	29.37	74,420.90	8,180.23
Kentucky	23,382.21	78,245.73	37,265.70	8,378.30	42,311.33	112,434.06	2,000.00	1,179.37	728.64	305,925.34	175,315.48
Louisiana	14,571.20	41,410.22	22,229.61	2,611.40	10,022.68	91,571.41	300.00	200.00	276.70	183,193.22	94,102.23
Maryland	3,610.58	9,744.96	4,720.04	808.83	1,611.66	13,920.40	175.00	1,100.00	169.00	240,099.65	89,678.80
Mississippi	18,058.11	57,062.82	29,161.79	3,078.48	24,622.16	105,447.29	1,400.00	1,000.00	263.52	215,019.47	96,815.03
Missouri	37,616.36	48,313.38	22,390.94	3,098.28	22,765.59	78,141.40	1,560.00	870.00	153.61	25,738.65	18,282.90
New Mexico	4,962.21	6,161.56	3,189.27	10,033.90	960.00	10,242.00	70.00		300.00	467,519.26	242,364.78
North Carolina	30,875.22	120,780.81	51,677.00	4,986.50	7,405.96	171,374.11	1,200.00	500.00	600.00	168,438.33	105,792.56
Oklahoma	29,864.00	39,106.23	13,401.53	9,087.25	39,882.56	104,482.47	1,200.00	750.00	49.65	301,555.33	195,424.43
South Carolina	16,432.56	60,010.56	39,680.28	9,670.25	64,994.33	100,271.01	1,200.00	1,000.00	1,209.20	332,330.50	187,179.36
Tennessee	22,500.84	87,241.43	43,442.76	9,670.93	101,329.08	292,906.07	1,200.00		729.24	849,735.65	271,733.18
Texas	45,157.96	301,011.00	82,662.08	24,740.22	76,638.76	176,017.82	2,000.00	650.00	2.00	550,269.93	320,098.53
Virginia	44,000.08	165,720.24	69,532.11	15,708.92					314.45		2,896.85
Miscellaneous	248.70	1,966.28	367.42								
TOTAL	\$395,842.98	\$1,273,587.86	\$515,070.59	\$105,214.19	\$571,980.76	\$1,773,870.40*	\$21,105.61	\$10,186.37	\$6,596.67	\$4,673,455.43	\$2,277,901.58

*This amount includes \$180,713.38 paid toward state debts of the following states: Ala. \$19,495.16; Fla. \$7,614.16; Ky. \$22,235.77; La. \$3,104.62; Miss. \$40,221.98; N. C. \$50,875.22; Tenn. \$23,934.25; Va. \$42,232.22.

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

"Rejoice! Give Thanks!"

VICTORIOUS was Woman's Missionary Union in its effort to redeem the promise made in 1940 in behalf of southwide debt-clearance. At the 1940 W.M.U. annual meeting it was unanimously voted to try to raise by the time of the S.B.C. Centennial Celebration in 1945 one million dollars toward the liquidation of the debts on the southwide agencies. In 1940 the Union thus paid \$104,912.51; in 1941 it gave more than twice as much, \$211,967.85; then in 1942 it went still further, giving \$290,545.93. Adopting the denominational slogan—Debt-free in '43—the Union made an especial effort this past year and by the grace of God and by the faithful stewardship of its many organizations and individual members it contributed toward the southwide debt-clearance in 1943 the truly remarkable sum of \$395,842.98. When the amounts for the four years are combined the glorious, the victorious total is \$1,003,269.27. Thus it is humbly but happily realized that the million-dollar-effort was not only reached a full year ahead of time but was also surpassed by over \$3200. Therefore, with hearts aglow with gratitude to the "Giver of every good and perfect gift" and to each one who contributed toward this victory, we unitedly exclaim: "Rejoice! Give thanks!"

The following tabulation shows the total amount given by each state. It is truly a record of which each and all may reverently say: "Behold, what God hath wrought" by W.M.U. young people and women as "laborers together with God"!

<i>Ala.</i>	\$ 60,833.06	<i>Miss.</i>	\$ 32,939.89
<i>Aris.</i>	1,810.75	<i>Mo.</i>	77,900.28
<i>Ark.</i>	32,667.18	<i>N. M.</i>	9,621.78
<i>Calif.</i>	64.56	<i>N. C.</i>	83,809.77
<i>D. C.</i>	3,525.54	<i>Okla.</i>	64,610.00
<i>Fla.</i>	48,220.08	<i>S. C.</i>	47,232.98
<i>Ga.</i>	140,629.30	<i>Tenn.</i>	55,247.92
<i>Ill.</i>	15,950.67	<i>Tex.</i>	126,801.89
<i>Ky.</i>	56,320.19	<i>Va.</i>	99,138.45
<i>La.</i>	32,973.31	<i>Misc.</i>	425.70
<i>Md.</i>	12,545.97		
		TOTAL	\$1,003,269.27

Great gratitude and gratification are also felt because of the unprecedented total contributions of Woman's Missionary Union for the calendar year of 1943 as set forth on the inner side of this page. Never before has such an amount (\$4,673,455.43) for non-local causes been given in one year by the Union. This total exceeds the one for 1942 by \$881,700.36, which is a marvelous 23% increase for the year.

State Corresponding or Executive Secretaries		State W.M.U. Headquarters	
Mrs. R. S. Marshall	127 South Court Street, Montgomery 2, Ala.	Mrs. G. D. Crow	Box 1244, Tucson, Ariz.
Mrs. C. H. Ray	209 Radio Center, Little Rock, Ark.	Miss Naomi Ready	243 Holland Building, Fresno, Calif.
Mrs. J. G. Yaden (Vice-president)	4119 Illinois Avenue, N.W., Washington 11, D. C.	Miss Janice Singleton	207 Rogers Building, Jacksonville 2, Fla.
Miss Josephine Jones	Baptist Building, 291 Peachtree Street, N.E., Atlanta 3, Ga.	Miss Mary Winborne	211 1/2 South Illinois Avenue, Carbondale, Ill.
Miss Hannah E. Reynolds	127 East Broadway, Louisville 2, Ky.	Mrs. Samuel R. Barnes	Box 12, Shreveport 80, La.
Miss Frances Traylor	Box 530, Jackson 105, Miss.	Mrs. C. M. Truex	1023 Grand Avenue, Kansas City 6, Mo.
Miss Eva Inlow	Box 485, Albuquerque, N. M.	Miss Mary Currin	214 Recorder Building, Raleigh, N. C.
Mrs. Berta K. Spooner	223 1/2 West First Street, Oklahoma City 2, Okla.	Miss Vonnie Lance	1301 Hampton Street, Columbia 29, S. C.
Miss Mary Northington	149 Sixth Avenue, North, Nashville 3, Tenn.	Miss Blanche Sydnor White	302 Baptist Building, Dallas 1, Tex.
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