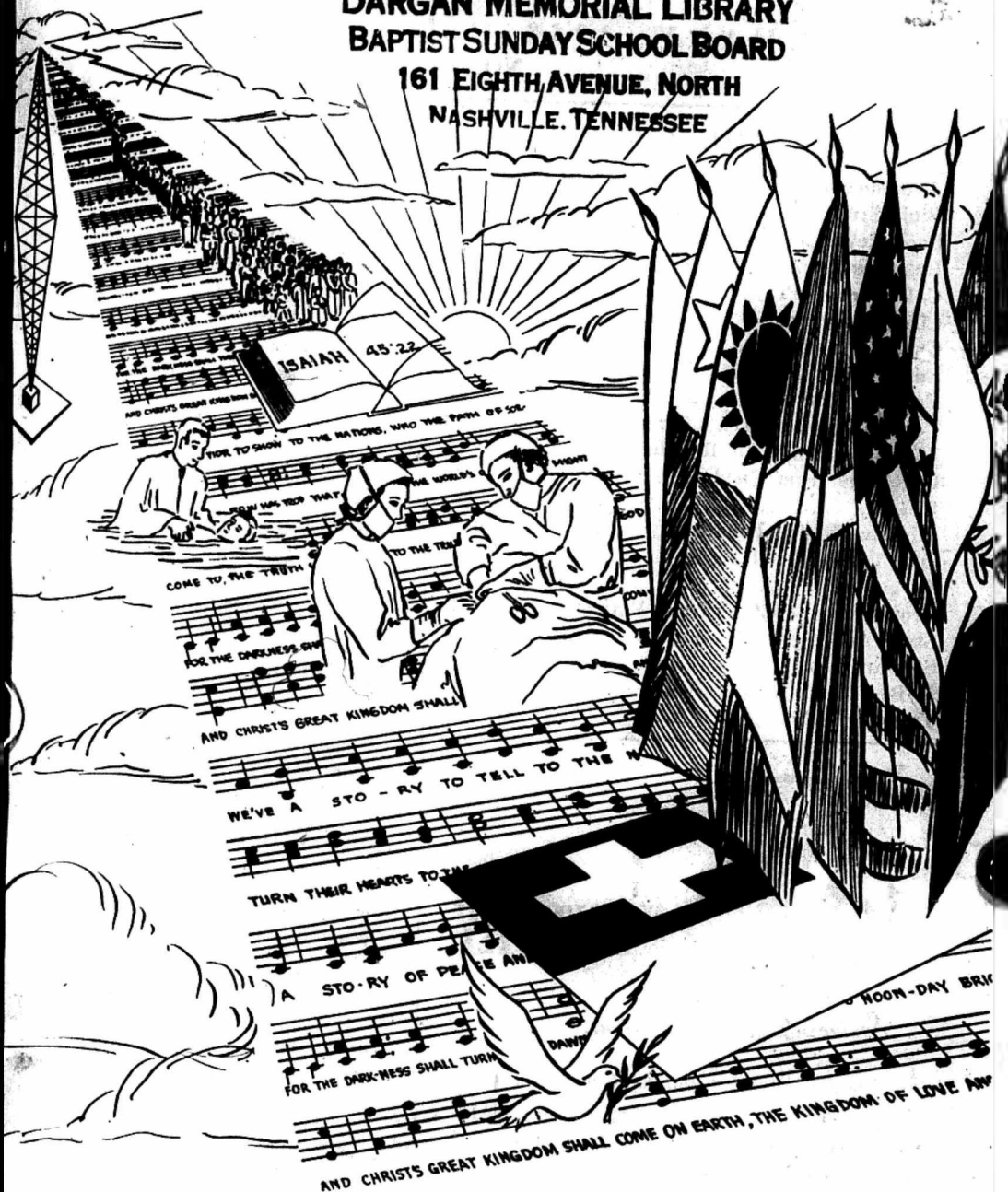


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ROYAL SERVICE

Successor to OUR MISSION FIELDS

OFFICIAL ORGAN of
WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION

JANUARY, 1946
VOL. 40 NO. 7

In THIS ISSUE

Announcements.....	17, 27, 28, 31, 34
Bible Study.....	16
Book Reviews.....	10-11
Business Woman's Circles.....	18
Calendar of Prayer.....	13-14
Circle Programs.....	17, 18
Current Events.....	9
Editorial.....	3
Family Altar.....	15
From Missionaries.....	4-8
"Give Attention to Reading".....	12
Greetings from Fields.....	33
Leaflets.....	27
Mission Study, Reading.....	10-12
Our Young People.....	29, 30
"Pray Ye".....	15
Programs—B.W.C., Circle, Plans.....	17-27
State Addresses.....	28
Stewardship.....	35-36
S. B. C. Activities Calendar.....	31
Training School.....	30



As the Southern Baptist Convention enters its second century of growing activity in the Kingdom work, women of Woman's Missionary Union will depend increasingly on ROYAL SERVICE for information and inspiration. See directions elsewhere on this page for subscriptions and renewals.

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GREETINGS...

"Launch out in the deep and let down your nets!"—Luke 5:4.

MY wish for the Union during 1946 is that we may truly "launch out into the deep". We look out upon a new year, wondering what it will bring to us. It may be that the very word we need is "Launch out into the deep". Jesus kept saying to men and women: "I have come to call you to a broader, bigger, more ample life. Leave the shallows, draw up the anchors that hold you to small inconsequential things and go forth into deeper experience and knowledge and service".

I AM wondering if many of us will not have to make the confession that we need to see more clearly the difference between things of great and small importance. Launch out into the deep! We have been spending too much time in the shallows. Right in the very beginning of this new year let us launch out into deeper waters of faith and experience.

IT is well for us to listen to this parable of the fisherman's vocation as we wait near the shore of this new year and look out towards its tossing waves and problems and needs. Perhaps some are wondering if we have lost our power of venture. Have we been directing our efforts to small issues? Have we been spending too much time washing our nets near the shore when we should have been out in the deep? Has our sin been the sin of shallowness, small use of great things, meager acceptance of the call of the deep?

MAY we hear the call of the world for our Christ! May we hear the demand for social justice and personal service! May we see the need of the changing world more clearly than ever! May we bring our imperishable impact upon a "prone, bleeding, dying, pleading world"! May we enter 1946 with greater faith and stronger courage to launch out into the deep waters of world opportunity!

"Have faith where'er thy bark is driven
In Calm's disport, in Tempest's mirth;
Know this: God rules the hosts of Heaven,
The inhabitants of earth!"

Mrs. George R. Martin
President
Woman's Missionary Union, S.B.C.

From MISSIONARIES

It Can Be Done

Rev. Jacob Gartenhaus, Home Mission Board

MANY Christians dismiss the subject of Jewish evangelization with a mere shrug of the shoulders and with the remark, "It just cannot be done!" During an address in one of our churches I related some of the most thrilling experiences of Jewish people turning to Christ and the way God is using them. Among others, I mentioned Hyman Appelman, regarded by many as the greatest living evangelist, a man who in his comparatively short Christian life has already won some 60,000 people to Christ. If there had been no other Jew brought to Christ but him, it would have been well worth the time and money southern Baptists have expended in twenty years. Following this message the pastor of the church remarked: "I am overwhelmed and thank God for the open doors among your people. I wish that a certain person could have heard your message: recently in conversation with a group of Christians, he remarked that he was not aware of a single Jewish convert in any churches in this state".

These words pricked my heart and I said to the pastor: "To think that a Christian would spread doubt in the minds of our people concerning this work, especially at the very time when so many of Israel are turning to Christ as their only hope! Even more heartbreaking is the fact that the other Christians were equally uninformed! If he was not aware of what is being accomplished, he certainly should have made it his business to find out before discouraging others". On a later visit to one of the churches in his own state I found among the members of that particular congregation eight Jewish believers, not to mention those who are to be found in other churches!

The communications that come to our office with one day's mail are enough to convince the most skeptical person. One letter from a young Jew who had found Christ only two weeks before contained a five dollar money-order and twenty Jewish names for *Mediator* subscriptions. Most of these people are his relatives—scattered throughout the world. This was followed in a few days by another letter from him containing the names of every Jewish family in the town he visited. Realizing the power of the printed page in his own experience, the least he could do, he wrote, was to make it possible for others to have the opportunities that he had.

A letter from another section of our country tells of the marvelous conversion of a refugee Jewish mother. This cultured Jewess, who can converse fluently in several languages, succeeded in escaping from Nazi-terrorized Europe and found her way to our country where she fortunately came in direct contact with a truly born-again Christian; it was not very long before Christ came into her heart also. The remarkable thing about this Jewess is that she, too, is now actively engaged in seeking to win not only her own race but also others to a knowledge of the Savior who has truly enriched her own life.

If you, Christian friend, would like to have the joy of winning some of the Lord's people back to Himself, we shall be glad to put your name on the mailing list for our "Friends of Israel" bulletin which we send free of charge. Address your request to me at 315 Red Rock Bldg., Atlanta 3, Ga.

"Can the Jews be won to Christ?" Let me say that the New Testament record clearly states that it has been done. Our own experience and the sure word of promise tells us that it *can* and *will* be done.

Fine Faith among Cherokee Indians

THE Yellow Hill Baptist Church is one of the three oldest churches on the Cherokee Reservation in western North Carolina. It has a most interesting history. Several times, when the older members have passed away, the church has grown indifferent but each time there has come forth a member to fan the smoldering embers into a kindling flame. Thus came forward Susan Owl. When no man was willing to serve as Sunday-school superintendent, she served and thus kept the church doors open.

This same church has rather recently organized another in the Big Cave section. The new church has been named the Sequoyah Memorial, honoring the chief who gave these Indians their alphabet. The church is near his birthplace, it having been the dream of his life to have a church there. Sunday-school is regularly held and the church membership is growing.

Never have the Cherokee Indians turned to any form of idol worship. They have always worshiped "The One Great Spirit". We believe that they have truly communed with God.

Among those who have come to love Him and to trust in His Son for everlasting salvation is Mrs. Kamie Wahnetah. She is a consecrated Christian as was her mother. The following story concerning Susan Owl was told at our associational quarterly meeting by her daughter, Mrs. Wahnetah:

Susan Owl, a member of the Catawba Tribe in South Carolina, was born in 1847. She was converted when sixteen. After becoming a Christian, her greatest desire was to learn to read the Bible; for this she prayed long and earnestly. She felt that her prayer was answered by a "vision" during a long illness. In this "vision" she became very thirsty and started to hunt water while leading her little boy by the hand; they came to a beautiful green spot through which ran a straight narrow path to a spring of sparkling water; as she stooped to drink an angel appeared and handed her a card on which was written: "He showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb". Later on when she had learned to read the Bible, she found this verse in Revelation 22:1. She never had a chance to go to school and never learned to write but she could read her Bible which she felt was an answer to her prayers. At the age of 87 she died, full of faith in Jesus her Savior and happy in the thought that she was "going Home to die no more". Her last words were: "I am going Home to die no more".

—Mrs. J. J. Johnson, Missionary to Cherokee Indians of North Carolina



A Letter to W.M.U. from Mrs. H. R. Moseley, Havana, Cuba

Beloved:

You have stood by your missionaries so faithfully during the many years we have worked together in the King's service, that I feel it is but fair that we share with you some of the joys that come to us. So I bring you two letters received from Cuba during the past summer while I was on vacation. Of course the letters were in Spanish. I shall just tell you what they said.

The first was from Pedro, a young man who is a faithful member of every organization in our church, *excepting the church itself and the W.M.S.* We believe he is a Christian but he has not yet confessed Christ, except by an exemplary life. God has given him a wonderful voice, and he is a member of our Temple choir. We broadcast our Sunday morning service and Pedro sings frequently over radio. He wrote me of his great joy over a letter he had received from an inmate of an institution for the blind, near Havana. The blind man said he listened in every Sunday to our radio service and that, through Pedro's singing, he had been led to give his heart to Christ. He asked for a Gospel portion in Braille, that he might read for himself. I was delighted to hear about the blind man, but I equally rejoiced because of Pedro's great joy over having led a soul to Christ. I pray that this experience may strengthen Pedro to confess the Savior whose praises he sings with such pathos and feeling, as to cause a blind man to see the Light.

The other letter was from a young girl who was graduated from our Colegio Bautista last June. She had been in our school several years and had been "exposed" to Christian influence but was not allowed to attend church and Sunday-school. Her parents had other plans for their talented young daughter who frequently sang in public, impersonating her songs in fancy costume. Last year a small group of boys and girls would come to school early that they might have a short "devotional" upstairs with me before the bell rang. Gloria was among them when she could come early enough. After a quiet talk we prayed. Among the requests for prayer for others, not infrequently came this one: "Ask God please to make Gloria's parents let her come to Sunday-school". But she did not come. School closed. I went away. Weeks later a letter came from Gloria telling me how she missed those early morning moments at the Master's feet which fortified them for the day's tasks and how His teachings penetrated their young hearts like rays of light. Then she added: "I pray daily, though alone, now. I read my Bible and, though I have not been baptized, I believe in God and have communion with Him".

Little things? Maybe so! But such things cause us to "thank God and take courage".

Happy New Year and God bless you!



Chinese in America Are Potential Missionaries

WE are beginning to think of the opportunities that are ours to witness in the homeland to those who have come to our shores. Among all who have come there is no more challenging group than the Chinese. They are here for many reasons, but to us they are here chiefly that we who know the Lord Jesus Christ may have the blessed privilege of winning them to Him.

It is hard for us to understand the binding traditions of a native land that are brought over to America and maintain their grip upon the children even to the third and fourth generations. We know freedom and equality and practice them in our daily living. But we do not realize that, although these people come to us and "take on" many of our ways, they do not leave all of their customs behind. Because this is so definitely true of the Chinese it makes our progress slower, the visible results fewer, the challenge deeper.

In order that we may more fully realize the extent to which custom and tradition have their hold upon our Chinese young people, let us cite for you an experience we had during our recent observance of the tenth anniversary of the Chinese Mission in El Paso. A wonderful day of rejoicing and rededication was climaxed by a challenging sermon on personal Christian witnessing. At the close an invitation was extended to the Chinese to give their hearts to Christ. The very souls of the missionaries were thrilled beyond expression as they witnessed four intermediate girls quietly, one by one, go over and speak to one of their friends who had never made a profession of faith. This girl was deeply convicted but did not go forward. She told the missionaries afterwards that she was trusting Jesus in her heart. "But", she said, "I cannot go forward till I have my father's consent. He is a Confucianist and I cannot as long as I live in my father's home take so drastic a step as accepting Christianity openly, without his consent. But I do love Jesus, I do trust Him as my personal Savior". We told her we understood and that we would pray for her that she might be the means of winning her father to Christ.

Someone reading this might say, "If she really loves Jesus and has accepted Him in her heart she would break away from all tradition and family ties and live openly for Christ". To such a one we would reply: "Not necessarily; remember it is slow; there must be much patient understanding, sympathetic love, careful teaching before one can be loosed from the traditions of thousands of generations which are carried over even in our freedom-loving America where tradition has so little effect because of the youthfulness of our nation". Pray for these, our beloved Chinese, that they may find the One who dealt so sympathetically and understandingly with the woman at the well who was bound by tradition and superstition, when He said: "Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain nor yet at Jerusalem worship the Father. Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: . . . but the hour cometh and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth". The challenge to us today is that we teach Chinese-Americans of the Christ who came to make men free!

In conclusion let us plead with you to pray more earnestly and more zealously that the Chinese living in our southland may know Jesus. Now that war is ceased many of them will be returning to China, others will be coming to the United States from China. What will the message of our Chinese-Americans be when they go to China? Remember, every Chinese in America is a potential missionary to his own people or a potential hindrance to all that foreign missions is endeavoring to do and will want to continue to do now that the doors are being opened again. Which will be, missionary or anti-missionary?—Miss Mary Etheridge, Missionary to Chinese, El Paso, Texas

"Be Not Afraid . . ."

" . . . But I am not afraid any more!" These words were spoken by Mr. Tony Chicciarello, a loyal, wonderful Christian Italian man. He was testifying for his Christ and was saying that he had been afraid before he became a Christian. Before his conversion he had locked all his doors and windows, had two watch dogs and even had a pistol under his pillow for protection against thieves. But now that he has found Christ he needs nothing like that to protect him, God is a safer and better protection. He says: "You take out insurance, you pay your money for it and when you die, a little is left on earth, but you don't take it up to Heaven with you. But, when you accept Christ, you are rich on earth and then you have the wealth of eternal life".

When his wife was very ill, even at the point of death, the neighbors and the Catholic sisters said to the daughter who was trying to be strong in the face of death: "Your mother is dying without Christ; where are the holy beads?" In her confusion and grief she did not know but they found a rosary in the house somewhere and, when no one was near to see, pinned the cross on the gown of the dying woman. When Mr. Chicciarello saw his wife fumbling at something on her gown, he found this cross that had been pinned on, and he took it off. Those around who were of the Catholic belief were frightened; but Mr. Chicciarello smiled and said: "She has Christ in her heart, she does not need the cross outside, it is inside her heart. She is not dying without Christ, she is dying in Christ".

Mr. Chicciarello had a birthday in the spring and had a real party. There was a cake and the blowing out of candles. He blew out 72 candles and was very happy with his friends around him. His birthday party was not one where games are played, but it was a prayer-meeting. He always has a birthday prayer-meeting at his house, and about a hundred people come if the weather is good. Many of them are not Christians, but they can see Christ in the life of this man, who found Christ after he was almost fifty years of age.

People say of him: "I don't know what his job is, I don't know where he lives but he lives like Jesus". The young people say, "He is the greatest inspiration I have to make me live more for my Master and to let others see Christ in me". He is so joyous in his testimony that his face shines and there is no mistaking the sincerity of his words.

He believes that God answers prayer. His son in the service had been in Italy a long time. He had been receiving letters regularly from him, but suddenly he had not heard from him for several weeks. He talked to God about it and one morning, as he was going to work he prayed: "God, let me hear from Joe in three days". The next morning, as he started out for work, his daughter called him back and fearfully opened a telegram from Joe. Mr. Chicciarello smiled and said: "Don't be afraid. It is good news!" And it was good news, just a greeting from Joe, wishing them happiness and saying that he was fine. "You see, God hears our prayers", he said. "If it had been a letter it would not have shown that God answered, but a cable gram shows that He heard me just when I talked to Him".—Miss Tenette Lavender, Missionary to Indians, Baptist Good Will Center, Ensley, Alabama



Current Missionary Events

Discussed by Mrs. W. C. James, Virginia

According to the *Year Book of American Churches* recently published, the church membership in continental United States now totals 72,492,669. This means that the church membership equals more than 50 per cent of the nation's population, the highest proportion ever recorded. Of this number Roman Catholics reported 23,419,701 and 4,641,184 were reported as belonging to Jewish congregations. This leaves 44,431,784 of which number a very small proportion are Eastern Orthodox while the great majority are evangelicals. Certainly the faithful and loyal among these, together with their institutions, may be counted as assets in building a new world. Looking to our own household of faith all true and loyal members of our southern Baptist churches and all our institutions in the United States, the children growing up in Christian homes having the missionary vision may be counted as "our assets" for the great task set before us. But we must not reckon without the great body of Christians in all lands where the missionaries of our Foreign and Home Mission Boards have labored during the years gone by. First, we must think of the missionaries themselves as a mighty force in the building of a new world. Any figures of today cannot be definitely accurate but based on prewar figures we may say that we have approximately 90,000 Baptists among the Christians in Europe not counting Russia; 25,000 in Nigeria, Africa; 75,000 in the Far East; in Latin America, including the fields under the Home Mission Board, the number is somewhere between 90 and 100 thousand. The numbers in Hawaii are growing while the numbers in Palestine and Syria is pitifully small but the few faithful and true are assets nevertheless.



How many Baptists there are in Russia we do not know, but from many reports their influence during recent years has been large in proportion to their number. And there can be little doubt that their members and influence will grow, that is, if what Marshal Stalin is reported as having said may be depended upon. Said he: "Religion cannot be stopped. Conscience cannot be stifled. Religion is a matter of conscience and conscience is free. Worship and religion are free. War convinced both Russian church and state of the other's patriotism".



According to the *Christian Herald* Kagawa is rising to new power in Japan and his preaching of moral and spiritual regeneration will simplify General MacArthur's task. Word comes that he is lifted now to real prominence. He says flatly that Japan stands in need of complete moral and spiritual regeneration and he is soon to take the air, under American supervision, with a series of broadcasts preaching the Gospel.



During the year 1944 China had a total of 141 universities, colleges and technical schools with a total enrolment of 73,649 students. "Most of the higher institutions", says the *World Outlook*, "are operated by Christian agencies or were founded under missionary auspices". We also read that Dr. C. Bertram Rappe (Methodist) of Chungking says of the Chinese: "In their extremity during the war years our Christian people have turned to God and their faith and courage were greatly strengthened". It is estimated that 2000 missionaries will be back at work in China within two years.



We are told that protestantism has made its first contribution towards the reconstruction of religious life in Germany to the amount of \$180,000 coming from various denominations. In Germany there are about 300 Baptist churches with about 700 mission stations and a membership of about 80,000.



From *World Outlook* we learn that the Methodists have work on the island of Okinawa and from missions that the Baptists also have work there established by the Japan Baptist Mission and carried on by Japanese with periodic visits by missionaries and Japanese Baptist leaders. From the *Watchman-Examiner* we learn that there are in Burma 3394 organized churches, 1028 schools and an adult church membership of 146,351.

BOOK REVIEWS and STUDY SUGGESTIONS

Miss Willie Jean Stewart, Tennessee

"He That Giveth"

LIKE all Dr. John E. Simpson's writings on stewardship themes, this "Study of the Stewardship of Money as Taught in the Scriptures" is simple and practical and teachable. If "the Christianization of the world, from the financial standpoint, rested on the consecration of their (Christians') possessions to God" in 1935 when the book was written, how much more truly does it now when so much of the world has been devastated and when there is so little foreseeable time in which to preach Christ! Teachers may well take it as their aim to make clear to their classes this urgency of giving and going. It is definitely gratifying that this book is recommended on W.M.S. Certificate Course I. The price is 60c (paper), \$1 (cloth).

Session One—Chapters 1, 2. It is the theme of these two chapters that all we have, not just one-tenth, belongs to God and that He requires of us as His stewards certain standards of faithfulness which are clearly set forth in His Word. The method for teaching the lesson should be textual study of the Scriptures themselves. Give out, beforehand, slips of paper on each of which one of the passages you propose to use is listed. Ask the women to find and mark these and be ready to read them as you call for them. Have blackboard and chalk ready to outline the chapters as you go along. Open with the author's illustration of the Bank of England: Call in turn for the Scriptures listed under A, B, C, D and encourage the class to discuss each idea. In connection with "d" under B ask each woman to stop, right at that moment, and count the money in her purse. Ask her to add to that amount, mentally, what she either has at home or has reasonable assurance of having before the week is out. Ask each to consider, then, what amount of all this she honestly is planning to use for God's service, this week, and its proportion of the whole. Raise the question: "If some administrator of my possessions were planning to use the proportion of my money for me that I am planning to use for God and were to keep for himself the proportion I am planning to keep—would I feel that I ought to change my administrator or not?" Speak of our stewardship and call for the Scriptures under A, B, C of chapter two. Be prepared to answer questions the women are likely to raise. Suggest the test of stewardship and refer again to the question raised concerning each woman's own money.

Session Two—Chapters 3, 4. Present the idea of God's auditing the accounts of His stewards. Note the examples given under nations, churches, individuals. Emphasize the idea in "d" on page 47. Suggest the need for "a definite plan" for stewardship in secular life and in relation to God, with illustrations from both life and the Bible. Develop the teachings about the tithe in both Old Testament and New Testament. Answer practical questions that arise. Close with the idea of the tithe as a test of love and of love as the motive for Christian giving. Ask that all bow their heads and talk to God silently about the proportion of what He is entrusting to her that she proposes to use for Him. Give out stewardship cards.

Session Three—Chapters 5, 6. Open the session with VanDyke's story "The Mansion". In a brief review of the teachings of previous sessions emphasize the foundation for stewardship laid in the Old Testament teaching about the tithe. Go on to present the "life of liberality" which the New Testament proposes to build on that foundation and show with illustrations that "to give is to live". Contrast in lasting good, service and contentment the two ideas—selfishness and liberality. Read "The Conquerors" p. 73. Raise the question of giving to God ill-gotten gains—that is, money withheld in low wages or careless, lazy work and similar practices by employers and employees—reading James 5:1-4 and Ephesians 6:5-7 and using the illustrations on page 80ff. Speak of the gift of self as the greatest gift and of the joy as the outcome of true Christian giving, with Scripture. Hand out cardboard

rulers prepared beforehand, measured off into four equal segments named for the four tests proposed by the author. Discuss each in turn, urging the women to test their own giving by these tests which God Himself has laid down. After this test suggest that we often say that, if we knew exactly what God wanted us to do, we should do it. Ask if there is any doubt in anyone's mind, now, about what God wants us to do about tithes and offerings. Ask all who have not already done so, to sign stewardship cards.

Stewardship in the Life of Women

THIS is a warm, heartening little book by Wallace. No matter how many stewardship books one has read, one is sure to find this one different—its approach is easy and friendly and homely and completely adapted to a woman's interests and opportunities. No society or circle, however inexperienced its leadership, need hesitate to undertake a class using this textbook. Those who teach the book may well take as their purpose to help the members of their classes to see how the principle of stewardship applies in their own simple, everyday lives and to try to stir each one to put it into practice. The price of the book is 75c.

Session One—Chapters 1, 2. Place side by side on a posterboard a picture which may be borrowed from a children's Sunday-school teacher of an oriental house with a guest-room on top and one of a modern American house or an open door. Ask someone to read or tell the story of the Shunamite woman's guest-room for Elisha. Get several women to give their conception of "stewardship". Present the ideas in the first four paragraphs of chapter one. Mention the difficulties and the opportunities for hospitality in your own community. Ask three women to present, in turn, the ideas of hospitality to a Bible or mission study group, to students or business young people away from home, to foreign students or residents in the community. Speak of the atmosphere of a home that practices stewardship and its far-reaching influence. Suggest that each woman decide what she can do and will do in the matter of hospitality. Pass out to each member of the class a card on which is written "A small gift with great possibilities" and into which a good needle is stuck. Ask someone to read the story of Dorcas and comment on it after the fashion of the first three paragraphs in chapter two. Note that every woman in the class now has a needle and raise the question of opportunities to use them to the group. Ask several persons to choose and tell one of the illustrations given in the book. Decide on some sewing project that the group will undertake as a result of the day's study.

Session Two—Chapters 4, 5. Give to each woman a twenty-four-hour clock-face. Suggest the equality of time at each one's command and the possibility of crowding out the best with the good. Ask a class member to lead a devotional period based on Luke 10:38-42 and the ideas on pages 57-59. Ask a class member to suggest uses of time in service and discuss the possibilities and needs in your own situation. Speak of the opportunities suggested by the author on page 602. Recall briefly the use of time in connection with hospitality and sewing. Note that time rightly used in connection with home and family life is also real stewardship, using Hannah as an example, as in chapter five. Using a poster on which are pictures of children of the group, discuss with the women what stewardship of motherhood and family life involves. Ask several to be ready to bring into this discussion the ideas presented on pages 68-74. Include service in young people's organizations of W.M.U. Close with an earnest presentation of the material from "The Testing Time" to the end of the chapter. Ask someone to sing before dismissal "Have Thine Own Way, Lord".

Session Three—Chapters 3, 6. The ideas of these two chapters belong together. One must give and go to fulfill the stewardship of the Gospel. Begin with the story of the Samaritan woman as on pages 81f. Speak of Christ's plan as exemplified in Christlike living and attitudes. Ask someone to develop the thought

(Concluded on Page 32)

"GIVE ATTENTION to READING"

Miss Thelma Brown, Book Consultant, Baptist Sunday School Board

American Democracy and Christian Ideals

SOMEONE aptly said, "America is as strong or as weak as the sum total of her citizens' faith". Another has remarked that "America can keep the peace of the world only if we keep the Prince of Peace in our hearts".

One of the subjects suggested in the *Missionary Round Table* booklists is "American Democracy and Christian Ideals". This January would be a good time to set up a *Missionary Round Table* using these books for discussion. Order your copy of the free M.R.T. leaflet describing this plan and also a set of the booklists from your state W.M.U. secretary.

More than ever we need to look ourselves squarely in the eyes, to admit frankly what is wrong with our country and then decide what we as individual Christian citizens can do about it. This is our job for, before we are homemakers or business women or professional women, we are all citizens of our republic. We need to study our historical backgrounds in order to determine something about the origins of the turbulent currents flowing wildly across our continent today. With a nation as with an individual what we will become depends upon what we were as well as what we are. We—members of Woman's Missionary Union organized in Baptist churches across the southland, as intelligent, privileged, gifted, Christian citizens—are responsible, perhaps more than we realize, for public opinion and conduct. Certainly we need to be better informed than we are; we need to be sure that all our attitudes and actions are based upon American democracy and Christian ideals. Surely there are at least ten women in each of our societies who would like to band themselves together for the purpose of rethinking and restating our individual Christian democracy.

Let us with open minds and prayerful hearts read Dr. Sockman's *Date with Destiny* (Abingdon-Cokesbury, \$1.50) as a Christian interpretation of the U. S. constitution, and *Christian Roots of Democracy in America* (by Holt; M.E.M. 60c), which shows the early influence of Christianity upon America. Meet the challenge to our day expressed in *Time for Greatness* (Agar; Little-Brown, \$1.50), in *Democracy Reborn* (Wallace; Reynal, Hitchcock, \$3) and in *The Hope of a New World* (by Archbishop Temple; Macmillan, \$1.35). In *While America Slept* (Abingdon-Cokesbury, \$2) Dr. Fleming reminds us how we shut our eyes after World War I to the possibility of another war, a timely warning to our present complacency.

Two books, *The Christ of the American Road* (Jones; Abingdon-Cokesbury, \$1) and *What America Means to Me* (Buck; Day, \$2), will force us to do some sharp thinking. No doubt many statements in these books will startle us; perhaps we will not agree with the authors' opinions or conclusions. However before we take issue dogmatically, let us be sure we are right and that our own views are in accord with the teachings of Christ and the spirit of our government.

Another jolt to our thinking may come in the reading of *My India, My America* (Shridharani; Garden City, \$1.49) and *American Unity and Asia* (Buck; Day, \$1.50). These books show how we are frequently misinterpreted by others and how we are indissolubly tied in with the destiny of people around the world.



CALENDAR of PRAYER

January, 1946

Mrs. W. C. Henderson, Arizona

SO here hath been dawning another blue day—
Think, wilt thou let it slip useless away?
Out of eternity this new day is born:
Into eternity at night will return.
Behold it aforesaid no eye ever did;
So soon it forever from all eyes is hid.
Here hath been dawning another blue day:
Think—wilt thou let it slip useless away?

—Thomas Carlyle

1—TUESDAY

That members of Woman's Missionary Union may be faithful to a true witness for the Lord in this year 1946
Look unto Me and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God and there is none else —Isa. 45:22

2—WEDNESDAY

Mrs. George H. Martin, president of Woman's Missionary Union
Who knoweth whether thou art not come to the kingdom for such as a time as this? —Ezra 4:14c

3—THURSDAY

Rev. and Mrs. H. Caudill, Regla, Rev. and Mrs. R. Fraguela, Placetas, evangelistic work, Miss Mildred Matthews, educational-evangelistic work, Havana, Cuba; also Rafael Fraguela Jr., Margaret Fued student
Now is the accepted time; behold now is the day of salvation. —II Cor. 6:2

4—FRIDAY

Miss Kathleen Mallory, executive secretary of Woman's Missionary Union
That your grace may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment —Phil. 1:9

5—SATURDAY

Rev. and Mrs. L. B. Brothers, Miss Alma Graves, Ethel Harmon and Mrs. Leas Laid, educational-evangelistic work, Iwo, Nigeria
Only let your conversation be as becometh the Gospel of Christ. —Phil. 1:27

6—SUNDAY

Dr. and Mrs. J. McF. Gaston, Mrs. W. W. Lawton, Miss Blanche Rose Walker, emerita missionaries from China
Come be unto you and peace from Him which is and which was and which is to come! —Rev. 1:4

7—MONDAY

Rev. J. C. Foster, San Diego, Rev. H. H. Stage, Albany, Calif., Rev. J. N. Phillips, Ithaca, N.Y., Rev. D. C. Stringer, Albuquerque, N. M., city-evangelistic work
All Scripture is given by inspiration of God. —II Tim. 3:16

8—TUESDAY

Miss Juliette Mather, young people's secretary of Woman's Missionary Union
Come me to know the way wherein I should walk; for I lift up my soul unto Thee. —Psa. 143:8

9—WEDNESDAY

Rev. and Mrs. H. Hall, evangelistic work, Mrs. Ethel Pierce, Miss Sallie James, medical-evangelistic work, Yangchow, China
He sent them to preach the Kingdom of God and to heal the sick. —Luke 9:2

10—THURSDAY

Rev. and Mrs. F. Morales, Alcor, Rev. and Mrs. D. Ruiz, El Paso, Texas, evangelistic work among Mexicans
Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues without right. —Prov. 16:8

11—FRIDAY

Woman's Missionary Union Executive Committee; state W.M.U. executive and young people's secretaries; also state departmental chairmen
Among whom are ye also the called of Jesus Christ. —Rom. 1:6

12—SATURDAY

Rev. and Mrs. W. H. H. Congdon, evangelistic work, Miss Virgil Nowell, secretarial-evangelistic work, Iwo, Nigeria
Whoever will lose his life for My sake, the same shall save it. —Luke 9:24

13—SUNDAY

Dr. and Mrs. P. S. Evans, Dr. T. W. Ayers, Mrs. T. C. Britton, emerita missionaries from China
The Lord knoweth the way of the righteous. —Psa. 1:4

14—MONDAY

Rev. and Mrs. A. Worthington, Newkirk, Rev. and Mrs. J. Stonestead, Ponca City, Okla., evangelistic work among Indians
Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He would send forth laborers into His harvest. —Luke 10:2

Calendar of Prayer for January

15—TUESDAY

Mrs. W. J. Cox, treasurer of Woman's Missionary Union, including the Training School and Margaret Fund
Mercy unto you and peace and love be multiplied!
—Jude 2

16—WEDNESDAY

Rev. and Mrs. M. S. Blair, Rev. and Mrs. C. O. Gilha, educational-evangelistic work, Buenos Aires, Argentina; also *Judson Blair, Margaret Fund student
Love is of God.
—1 John 4:7

17—THURSDAY

Woman's Missionary Union Literature Department, *Miss Eibel Winfield, secretary
The Lord recompense thy work and a full reward be given thee!
—Ruth 2:12

18—FRIDAY

Rev. and *Mrs. C. W. Stomph, Albuquerque, Rev. and Mrs. L. Grant, Gallup, N. M., evangelistic work among Indians
Let my supplication come before Thee!
—Psa. 119:170

19—SATURDAY

Rev. and Mrs. T. C. Bagby, Rev. and Mrs. W. B. McNeely, evangelistic work, *Miss Alma Jackson, medical-evangelistic work, Coynola, Brazil; also Priscilla Bagby, Margaret Fund student
The Lord is the portion of mine inheritance
and of my cup: Thou maintainest my lot,
—Psa. 16:5

20—SUNDAY

Misses Mary Kelly and Grace Clifford, Mrs. P. Arpaio, Mrs. A. O. Wilson, emeritus missionaries of the Home Mission Board
He shall give His angels charge over thee to keep thee in all thy ways.
—Psa. 91:11

21—MONDAY

State W.M.U. annual meeting of Florida, Jacksonville, Jan. 21-23
Rejoice in the Lord, ye righteous, and give thanks at the remembrance of His holiness.
—Psa. 97:12

22—TUESDAY

Mrs. M. R. and Maria L. R. Vivaeco, Mrs. H. R. McNeely, educational-evangelistic work, Miss Edelmira Robinson, publicational-evangelistic work, Havana, Cuba; also Daniel Rodriguez (Vivaeco), Margaret Fund student
So teach us to number our days that we shall apply our hearts unto wisdom!
—Psa. 90:12

23—WEDNESDAY

Dr. and *Mrs. R. C. Moore, Rev. and Mrs. W. Q. Maer, educational-evangelistic work, Temuco, Chile; also Ruth Mary Moore, Margaret Fund student
Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking oversight thereof.
—1 Pet. 5:2

24—THURSDAY

Rev. and Mrs. L. Gloria, Cotulla, Rev. and Mrs. H. Duffer, Ft. Worth, Rev. and Mrs. M. Leach, Beeville, Texas, evangelistic work among Mexicans
Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days.
—Eccl. 11:1

25—FRIDAY

Rev. and Mrs. L. C. Quarles, Rev. and Mrs. H. B. Ramsour, educational-evangelistic work, Buenos Aires, Argentina
I am the Lord your God: walk in My statutes and keep my judgments and do them.
—Ezek. 20:19

26—SATURDAY

Dr. and Mrs. N. A. Bryan, medical-evangelistic work, Dr. and Mrs. C. L. Culpepper, *Miss Martha Franke, educational-evangelistic work, Hwangshien, China; also *Mary Culpepper, Margaret Fund student
Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord and whose hope the Lord is.
—Jer. 17:7

27—SUNDAY

Dr. and Mrs. G. Green, Dr. and Mrs. E. G. MacLenn, Mrs. L. M. Duval, Mrs. W. T. Lumley, emeritus missionaries from Nigeria
Ye are Christ's and Christ is God's.
—1 Cor. 3:13

28—MONDAY

Miss Mary Christian, W.M.U. representative; also state W.M.N. field workers; Rev. W. A. Gray, Rev. W. T. Warleg, Carbondale, Illinois, rural-evangelistic work
That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith
—Eph. 3:17-19

29—TUESDAY

Semiannual meeting of W.M.U. Executive Committee, state executive and young people's secretaries, Birmingham, Jan. 29-Feb. 1
Whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.
—1 Cor. 10:31

30—WEDNESDAY

Woman's Missionary Union of Brazil
He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ
—Phil. 1:6

31—THURSDAY

Rev. and Mrs. W. E. Craighead, evangelistic work, Rev. and Mrs. R. P. Statmer, educational-evangelistic work, Bucharest, Rumania
The Lord your God is He that goeth with you
—Deut. 10:4

*Attended W.M.U. Training School

*Attended Southwestern Training School

xxOn Furlough

FAMILY ALTAR

Mrs. W. H. Gray, Alabama

TOPIC: Our Assets for Building a New World Changeless Foundations

"Upon This Rock"

1st Day—Matt. 16:13-20; Ex. 2:1-10
2nd Day—1 Cor. 3:11; Ex. 2:23-25
3rd Day—Eph. 2:13-22; Ex. 3:1-12
4th Day—Eph. 3:1-12; Ex. 4:27-31
5th Day—Eph. 3:14-21; Ex. 5:1-9
6th Day—John 1:1-18; Psa. 46:1-11
7th Day—1 Cor. 15:1-4; Ex. 6:1-8

"And now abideth faith, hope, love".

15th Day—1 Cor. 13:1-13; Ex. 20:1-11
16th Day—Acts 8:1-16; Ex. 20:12-17
17th Day—Acts 16: 25-34; Ex. 20:18-26
18th Day—1 Pet. 3:15; Mark 12:28-34
19th Day—Tit. 1:1-4; 2:1-14; Esch. 36:25-31
20th Day—Heb. 13:1-9; Psa. 119:33-40
21st Day—Prov. 8:17; Ex. 24:12-18

"Strengthen the things that remain".

"I will not forget Thy Word".

8th Day—Josh. 1:1-12; Ex. 12:29-36
9th Day—Psa. 119:9-18; Ex. 13:17-22
10th Day—Psa. 119:23-48; Ex. 14:26-31
11th Day—Psa. 119:97-104; Ex. 15:22-27
12th Day—Psa. 119:105-114; Ex. 16:11-15
13th Day—Isa. 40:8; 55:6-11; 41:8-13
14th Day—Matt. 5:13-19; Ex. 19:3-8

22nd Day—Rev. 3:2-6; Ex. 25:1-9
23rd Day—John 8:28-30; Ex. 29:42-46
24th Day—John 14:1-15; Ex. 32:30-35
25th Day—John 17:11-17; Ex. 36:1-7
26th Day—John 18:33-38; Ex. 40:34-38
27th Day—Psa. 85:4-13; 84:1-5
28th Day—Psa. 89:1-14; 4
29th Day—Acts 20:32; Lev. 23:39-43
30th Day—Rom. 2:1-11; Psa. 126
31st Day—Ex. 29:8-11; Lev. 16:29-34

Note: The above references in italics are furnished by the "Committee on Improved Uniform Lessons of the International Sunday School Lessons". Similarly 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"

Ascribing all praise to God—the Father, Son and Holy Spirit—for mercy and guidance during the past year and pledging "more zeal to labor, more courage to be true" as the new year is entered
Resolving to pray much during the New Year, which ushers in a new century for the Southern Baptist Convention

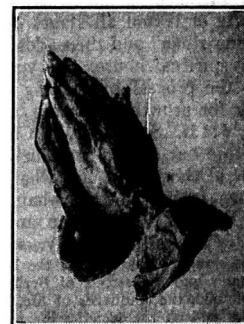
Interceding for your home, circle, society and church that each will this year glorify God by deeper devotion to His Kingdom

Pray for the winning of souls through personal evangelism, family altars and cottage prayer-meetings.

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

Pray for maintenance of world-wide peace according to Christian principles.

Intercede for those responsible for preparing for Week of Prayer for Home Missions, March 4-8 inclusive.



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BIBLE STUDY

Dr. W. O. Carver, Kentucky

First Peter 2:1-10

THE Bible is full of illustrations of spiritual truths, experiences and objectives drawn from the idea of building. Bible readers will easily recall many. The 1946 topic calls us to turn now from thankful thinking of our past century to hopeful planning for the future. We rejoice in the achievements of our history. Yet we think of them not as finished products but as materials for new undertakings. Our predecessors builded nobly and well. We thank God for them and for all they did. We enter upon their heritage. We also "enter into their labor", as Jesus reminds us (John 4:38). Their labor and ours are all one task. As we "prepare to build" we take a look at "our assets for building".

1. We do not need to lay foundations. These are already laid for us. We have the assurance that they are eternal, changeless, secure. Jesus said: "On this bed-rock I will build My Church" (Mt. 16:18). He had previously assured all Kingdom builders that by following His words we would be erecting structures that no storms or floods could ever destroy because they were "built upon the rock" (Mt. 7:25). Paul develops in I Cor. 3:9-17 the figure of Christians building the Church. He begins with the assurance that as a wise master-builder he laid the only foundation for Christian structure, "which is Christ Jesus". Elsewhere he modifies the figure somewhat, calling Christ Jesus the chief corner-stone of the foundation which is the apostles and prophets (Eph. 2:20-22).

This last form of thought came over from the Old Testament (Isa. 28:16). Jesus Himself used the figure most solemnly in closing His teaching (Mt. 21:42), quoting Psalm 118:22f, to rebuke all who reject Him as the inevitable and inescapable "head of the corner".

Here is the first lesson for builders of personal character and life, builders of churches and all Kingdom agencies and plans, builders of society and of a world order.

2. While the foundation is first in importance and is all-important it is not our only asset. No building will consist only of foundation. The foundation figure is not sufficient alone to say what Christ means to our building. He must be in all parts of it and all stages of its erection. Peter emphasizes this by calling Him "a living stone" and then adds that Christians "as living stones" are built upon Him into a spiritual house. See verses 4-5. And Paul gives the same concept of Christ in all the process by making Christ the head of a growing body from whom the supply for growth flows into "every several part" and binds all together. See Eph. 2:21f, 4:15f. So individual Christians ourselves, vitalized by the indwelling Christ, constitute our second asset in Christian building.

3. Other assets are what Jesus Christ and His redeemed people are in their relations to each other, what they have done as His grace has worked through them, what they now plan and purpose to do with their resources in the present world. Physically, morally, spiritually the world has to be rebuilt because the war has wrought chaos in all the lands. Just as the buildings and the business, the homes and the schools and the streets of Berlin and London and Tokyo must be rebuilt, so also must the souls of men, the standards of life, the motives and ways of behavior be all rebuilt. Yes, in all the cities and all the societies life must be rebuilt. And we have to see to it that it is far better built than the life that war has wrecked, for it was the lives and ways of life that men built wrong that caused the war and its ruin.

In I Cor. 3:10-16 Paul tells us that all our work in building is sure to be "tried by fire", the fire of judgment. In spiritual building there is no insurance against fire; and the fire of testing is certain. The only security is in fire-proof building, whether my life, my home, my church, my social order, my nation, my world.

4. We have, then, this final asset: God's assurance that if we build of right material on the one sure foundation we build for eternity. Therefore, "be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, for as much as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord" (I Cor. 15:58).

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 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. 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 1946 W.M.U. Year Book and page 18 of this magazine.)

Circle Program Topic: A New Year — A New World

Devotional Theme: The Christian Armor—*Ephesians 6:11-18*

Greetings from Union's President (See page 3 of this magazine.)

New Year in a New World (See article in January issue of *The Commission*.)

Spiritual Weapons for the Atomic Age (See article in January issue of *The Commission*.)

The New South (See article in January issue of *Southern Baptist Home Missions*.)

"I Was Naked and Ye Clothed Me" (See material on page 34 of this magazine.)

One Thing in Common (See article in January issue of *World Comrades*.)

It Is Yours . . . Take It! (See article in January issue of *The Window of Y.W.A.*)

Help for Yugoslavian Baptists

Just as this magazine was going to the press word came that permission has now been granted for the sending of boxes of clothing and bedding to the suffering people of Yugoslavia. Among such sufferers are quite a few loyal Baptists. For them your help, speedy and sacrificial, is craved. Any usable clothes for men, women and children will greatly help, particularly warm winter clothing. There is also great need for blankets and quilts. The maximum weight for any package is 11 pounds; the length must not exceed 18 inches; the girth plus the length must not be more than 72 inches. Address each package as follows (the last two words meaning "Without Duty"):

BAPTIST CHURCH

c/o Pastor Ljudevic Drobny

264 Kralja Aleksandra Ul

Belgrade, Yugoslavia

For Relief; No Commercial Value; Bez Carinarico

Business Woman's Circles

Miss Mary Christian
W.M.U. Representative

To the Program Chairman:

The first program of the year should set the pace for months to follow. We are beginning a new series of program topics developing the general theme, "Let Us Now Prepare to Build", so this January program on "Our Assets for Building a New World" should be carefully prepared and attractively presented.

Since we have a new watchword and hymn every year, we begin this month to learn these for 1946. Note these as given in the program outline, page 20. It should be helpful to have the watchword on a poster for display each meeting until all are familiar with it.

Points for Program Participation: The program material (pages 20-27) presents two major topics namely, "Our Need to Build the World Anew" and "Assets for Building". Five needs are given and five assets discussed. This makes it possible to use ten members with short discussions and lends itself to the following mode of presentation.

Place in front of room an outlined map of the world. If impossible to secure map draw on poster board or on large sheet of brown paper outline of two hemispheres. Cut from black construction paper five irregular pieces on which write the following words: Destruction, Despair, Disturbance, Discord, Dilemma. These represent the condition of the world today that makes us see the need to rebuild. As each is presented by a member she thumb-tacks on the map her black paper on which is written the word she has discussed.

On five white squares of paper write the words representing our assets—Peace, Democracy, Prosperity, Power, Gospel. If one is willing to spend a little more time on the preparation it would be more symbolic to cut out a dove and write "Peace" on it, a silhouette of George Washington for "Democracy", outlined large coins for "Prosperity", microscope for "Scientific Research" and "Power", picture of Bible for "Gospel". As five members discuss these assets they place on the map the papers or pictures they hold, each covering with her "asset picture" one of the black papers there; thus there will show at the close only the assets that we have for building the world anew.

The hymns, Scripture and prayer suggestions given in the program outline (page 20) are excellent for the devotional period. This may be effectively used at the beginning or at the close.

Mimeographed or typed programs for each member could be attractively made in the shape of a world. The place of meeting might be decorated with 1946 calendars, maps, globes and flags.

Plans for Future Work: At the beginning of a new year comes the opportunity to begin anew another year's work as our W.M.U. year runs by the calendar year. It is fitting at this time therefore to have circle year books to give out. Among the items these would contain would be plans for the year, program topics each month and those responsible for preparation of each, time and place of meeting with hostesses, roll of members, list of committees, time for mission study classes, community missions activities each month.

It would also be a good way to begin the year to study *The B.W.C. Guide* (price 25c from W.M.U. Literature Dept., 1111 Comer Bldg., Birmingham 3, Ala.). Thus each officer and chairman would learn her duties and the B.W.C. part of the W.M.S. standard would be reviewed and reemphasized.

Program Plans

Prepared by Miss Kathleen Sanderson, Va.
W.M.U. Training School, Louisville, Ky.
Student in Missions 151-B

Aim: To open our eyes and hearts that we might realize in this coming year, as we begin a new century of work for Him, that there is no place today for idle hands or selfish hearts. This program is to put before us the challenges and responsibilities of the world which the coming year holds for each one who calls himself by the name of Christian. The ultimate aim is to have each one actively participating in the meeting of the challenges before us.

Poster: Using a sheet of white poster paper draw the sun coming up over the horizon in vivid colors. Under this should be printed the words "A New Year Dawns". Below this you may announce the W.M.S. meeting by giving the time, date and place of the gathering. Or make the announcement poster in the shape of an arched door with these words printed at the top around the arched part of the door: "A great door is opened"; below will be added the time, place and date of the W.M.S. meeting.

Programs: Make the programs from a half sheet of 9x12 construction paper. On the outside at the top have a global map of the world. Beneath this have an open Bible pictured. Below the open Bible print these words: "The Foundation on Which to Build Our World". Inside have printed at the top the theme for the year, "Let Us Now Prepare to Build". Then there will come the topic for the month, "Our Assets for Building a New World". The five assets will then follow, with the name of the person who is to present the asset. Any color scheme may be used for the programs, but black and white will be more striking. If the paper used is white, have the round world in black with the outline of the continents in white for contrast.

Presentation: The program will be more effective if the lights are very dim or entirely out except for one light which shines on the middle of the area where the program will be presented. Let none of the participants be seen until they come out to give their part. In the center, toward the back, have a table covered with a white cloth, above which is hung a flannelboard of somewhat dark material. On this is a global map of the world which has been cut up and the pieces placed far apart. To begin the program have a voice speak with force and power these words: "Our world, broken by pride and greed and social antagonism, must be rebuilt. Who will build it and what do you have for an asset?" Into sight will come the person who has the part "A Peace to Preserve". She will have to know it well so that it will sound as if it is a part of her thinking and not a memorized selection. Her opening words should be: "I bring before you one asset, a peace to preserve". Then she shall proceed with the material given in the program material (for program material, see pages 20-27). At the conclusion of her talk she should go over to the flannelgraph and move the parts of world a bit closer together. The persons with the other four parts will do in like manner, each moving the world closer together until the last one. She will put the world together and lay an open Bible on the table. In order that this program have more meaning and active expression in the everyday lives of those present, give to each person, after the topic "Unchanging Foundations" has been presented, two blank sheets of paper. Ask each one present to list on one sheet some of the liabilities in her life which she would sincerely pray that Christ may help her to remove from her life in the coming year. On the other sheet have them put the assets they have for which they should give thanks to God and also should, by His help, share with others over the world. Take only a few minutes for this and at the end have each one either burn the liability sheet in a fire (if there is one in a fire place) or crush it to be destroyed in some other way. The liability sheet may also be folded by the owner and kept to serve as a check at the end of six months or a year.

PROGRAM MATERIAL

Mrs. C. D. Cressman, Tennessee

THEME for YEAR: Let Us Now Prepare to Build

TOPIC for MONTH: Our Assets for Building a New World

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

Watchword for Year—Look unto Me and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth:
for I am God and there is none else—*Isa. 45:22*.

Bible Study—I Peter 2:1-10 (Page 16)

Prayer that we may, in this New Year, have a new appreciation of the changeless foundations on which a new world may be built

Hymn—The Church's One Foundation

A New Year Dawns

A New World to Build

Prayer that we in America may realize our responsibility for building a new world
Our Assets

A Peace to Preserve

A Democracy to Live

A Prosperity to Share

A Power to Use Aright

A Gospel to Proclaim

Hymn—O Zion, Haste

—Unchanging Foundations

Hymn—Lead On, O King Eternal

Prayer that we may be faithful in using our assets for building a new world

A NEW YEAR DAWNS

"A great door and effectual is opened".

THE beginning of a new year is always a significant occasion. It means an old leaf in the "Book of Life" written full and turned, with a fresh blank page spread out before us awaiting the writing of the events of another three hundred and sixty-five days. It means a door closed on a year passed and a door opened to a year ahead. It means reviewing the old year and resolving to make the new year better than any past year has been. It is a time for serious thinking—a time to "pause a little while to pray".

The new year just dawning is one of unusual significance to southern Baptists, for to us it is not only a new year but also the beginning of a new century. A hundred years of glorious history is in the past, and this new year opens the door to a future bright with promise and wooing with opportunities. Southern Baptists enter this first year of this new century with feet eager for the upward climb, with hands ready for service, with eyes in which smiling futures glisten and with hearts lifted up to meet the challenge of high and holy tasks.

This new year is also one of unusual significance to the whole world. It dawns in an hour of great import—of great crises. An old era ends and a new era begins. Important history is being written in the events of each passing day. Decisions are being made which will affect all future ages. A new world is in the building.

So, with feet treading softly on this holy ground and with hearts hushed in reverence for the import of this sacred hour, we enter upon the discussion of our program topic for this first month of the new year: **Our Assets for Building a New World.**

A NEW WORLD to BUILD

"A time to build up"

THE implication of the topic, **Our Assets for Building a New World**, is that a new world must be built. So before counting our assets let us take a look at the world to see why it needs to be rebuilt. A view of conditions leads us to see that this is D Day for the whole world. Five words beginning with "D" describe these conditions.

The world is in great *destruction*. The war which has just ended wrought unspeakable ruin in a large part of the world. Except for the Western Hemisphere and the greater part of Africa and three or four neutral countries, bombs have fallen on all lands. The accumulated property of centuries—the cathedrals, great churches, ancient monuments, the architectural glories of the world: the work of men's hands over generations—lie shattered. Worst of all, the homes—shelters for families where people lived and loved, millions of such homes—have been destroyed. And with the homes have gone the hopes and dreams of the people as they have been made to wander as refugees over the face of the earth.

The world is in great *despair*. Never in history has there been such human suffering. It is estimated that a million people in India will die of hunger this year. Dr. J. T. Williams writes of the despair of the Chinese: "War has brought untold suffering to the people of China. For lack of food millions have already died. Those who are still existing are undernourished, emaciated and downtrodden. Through the lean years their clothing has worn out or become threadbare and there is no more to be had—a horrible condition to be in". One who has recently toured Italy writes: "The people have had and are having desperate struggles as they have battled hunger, cold, disease and disaster". Again he writes: "We saw all too many skin blotches and sores, skinny arms and legs, gray, gaunt, hungry stricken faces to be comfortable about the Italian people's present state. People were still picking up bits of bread from the street, carrying away the garbage from American soldiers' messes to put on their tables and begging for food because they and their children were hungry". These word-pictures give us some idea of the suffering which exists in all of Europe's war-stricken lands. It fills our hearts with compassion as we realize that at least two-thirds of the population of the world are in despair because of physical suffering.

The world is in great *disturbance*. There is confusion and perplexity everywhere. Along with physical suffering is mental and spiritual suffering. People are both broken and baffled, both bruised and bewildered, both hungry and hopeless, both feeble and fearful, both wanting and wondering. So many questions puzzle the minds of people not only in war-stricken nations but also in our own fair land. What's coming next? Can we keep the peace? Is there any security for anybody?

The world is in great *discord*. True the war is over but conflict has not ended. There is strife between capital and labor, between white races and colored races, between communism and democracy, between people of different ambitions, different opinions, different ideas. A world united by scientific development is still divided by pride, greed and racial antagonisms.

The world is in a great *dilemma*. It is a period of great crisis. Important questions hourly face the leaders of the nations. Decisions must be made which will affect the destiny of the world. All future ages wait on this age. Truly "we are living, we are dwelling in a grand and awful time".

Our own nation has been saved much of the destruction and despair which have come to most of the nations of the world. We have only to compare ourselves with others to realize how fortunate we have been. God has been wonderfully good to us to save us from falling bombs, invading armies, destroyed homes, prison camps and other terrors of war. Surely this brings us to a D Day, a day of duty as we face our responsibility toward the rest of the world. Of those "to whom much has been given much shall be required". Wonderful blessings have been given to us,

therefore much unselfish service shall be required of us. The whole world looks to America today as its only hope—hope to be fed and clothed, hope to be rescued from the ravages of war, hope to be rebuilt on the principles of freedom and justice which are the heritage of all Americans.

Dr. W. O. Carver says: "Crisis is judgment. The world is under the judgment of God, under His condemnation. But judgment of the God and Father of the Lord Jesus Christ means also opportunity". The only hope for a world in crisis is Jesus, and we in America have the opportunity of saving the world in this crisis by giving to the nations the message of His love. If America is to fulfil the purpose for which God has saved her from the devastations of war, then must she make and keep herself truly a Christian nation and must share the blessings of her Christianity with all nations. This will be to build a new world.

OUR ASSETS

WE need a new world. There is no doubt about that fact. The old world lies defeated and devastated. In its place must rise a new world. Unless this new world is stronger, wiser and better than the old one has been there is little hope for humanity. The present-day picture is dark indeed but we know that there is a way to build a better world. So let us take our eyes off of the dark picture of a broken world to fix them on the brighter side of present-day conditions as we view *our assets for building a new world.*

A Peace to Preserve

"Seek peace and pursue it".

We have peace! Not for five years has a new year found our nation at peace. Not for double that number of years has a new year found a world at peace. But, as the new year 1946 dawns, the whole world has peace—sweet peace, wonderful peace!

This peace has been won at terrific cost—billions of dollars spent, millions of lives sacrificed, lands ravished, property destroyed, homes and bodies and hearts broken. But it is worth it all if peace, sweet peace, can be kept.

We must have peace—permanent peace—if a new world is to be built. War was one of the agencies which have brought the old world to destruction. The new world must be built on foundations of universal and lasting peace.

The most baffling, perplexing question of today is how the peace may be preserved. We have won the war. How can we win the peace and make it a permanent world possession? The whole world is trying to find the answer to that question. The greatest statesmen of the day are giving their best thought to finding the way of peace. Already conferences have been held and organizations have been formed in an effort to make a way of peace. And still the world wonders: "Will these plans work? Will our peace last?"

It is very simple to find the way of peace if only the world knew and would go to the right source. The Word of God discloses the secret in six words. "The way of peace is righteousness". And where may this righteousness be found? Only in Jesus who is the all righteous one! The only way then to righteousness and to peace is following the Prince of Peace. He is the answer to the world's questions, the fulfillment of the world's desires.

An encouraging aspect of the present situation is that the principles expounded in all recent peace conferences are those taught by Jesus. The preamble to the charter of the new organization planned at San Francisco affirms faith in "fundamental human rights, in the dignity and value of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and nations large and small". These are Christian principles, taught by Jesus and exemplified by His followers in all ages.

It is encouraging to know that even non-Christian peoples are recognizing Christian ideals as the best way of life. There were so many in the conference at San Francisco who were not Christian in their religion that it was thought to be

unwise to have public prayer, and yet the ideals expounded were Christian ideals. The question arises, "Is there enough of Christianity in the world to give these principles working power in international relationships?" This is a grave question indeed and one which only the future can answer.

We can find encouragement in the fact that a few Christian statesmen can have wonderful influence. God once promised that with His help one would put a thousand and two would put ten thousand to flight. Can we not hope that a few Christians, depending on God for leadership, will put to flight thousands of selfish, greedy, despotic practices in a victory for Christian justice and righteousness? We know that among the leaders of our nation are some who think the thoughts of Christ because they are His. In other lands, too, are Christians in places of leadership. Even China has a great Christian leadership in Chiang Kai-shek, T. V. Soong and others high in authority. These facts give us reason to hope. Surely we must do our best to elect those to places of leadership in our own land who are motivated by Christian ideals and we must pray without ceasing for all those who will lead in planning and organizing for a lasting peace.

It is said that at the end of World War I when Woodrow Wilson stood so staunchly for Christian principles in his effort at Versailles to establish an organization for lasting peace, at one point the French president, Clemenceau, interrupted exclaiming, "You talk like Jesus Christ". The hope of permanent peace today is in statesmen and diplomats who talk like Jesus Christ. May their number increase!

A Democracy to Live

"Where the spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty".

We have democracy! We have a democracy which gives us the priceless possession of freedom. The winning of this last war is a victory for democracy. It was fought and won to maintain ideals of liberty in our own land and throughout the world. Totalitarianism went down in defeat as banners of freedom were waved in victorious conquest. The victory for democracy is a great asset for building a new world. The old world was built largely on despotism and dictatorship, on the exploitation of the many for advantage of the few, on the bondage that enslaved the bodies and minds and souls of millions of earth's peoples. Now democracy is in the ascendancy and we can build a new world on ideals of freedom for the whole human race.

Twenty-five years ago, at the end of another world war, we boasted that we had "saved the world for democracy", but we soon found out how mistaken we were. Instead of building a world on democracy we built one on racial prejudice, class hatred and international jealousy—the result was another war. The trouble has been that we have not lived the democracy which we proclaimed. Even in our own nation, which has been the world's greatest exponent of democracy, there have been incriminating examples of class and color discrimination. Even Americans, who boast of democratic ideals and the granting of liberty and justice to all, have been guilty of some most undemocratic practices. The Negro brings the accusation, "You fight for democracy overseas but you do not practice it at home". The Japanese, pointing the finger of scorn from across the ocean, say: "If you believe in equality of rights why do you discriminate against the yellow race?" Germany, in answer to our criticism of her anti-Semitism, asks: "Are you always fair to your Jewish citizens?"

We wonder if nations in general, and our own in particular, are now really ready to live the democracy for which we have fought. Are we ready to accept the fact that God has made for unity all people to dwell upon the face of the earth? Are we willing to give up the idea of privileged classes and superior races? Do we imagine that the principle of white supremacy can continue? Quoting Dr. Carver: "We are blind indeed if we imagine that to be any longer possible. Not for even one generation longer can all the power and force and ingenuity of the white races maintain a position of preferred tenants of God's earth which He has peopled with twice as many colored as white men".

No type of arrogant supremacy can continue in a world safe for democracy. We have fought for democracy—now let's live it and make it a practical living principle for all mankind. We love our freedom, then let's share it with our neighbors and with depressed people everywhere. Only thus can we hope to build a new world of liberty and justice for all.

A Prosperity to Share

"He, that hath pity on the poor, lendeth to the Lord".

We have prosperity! The war which has impoverished millions of many nations has made the people of America rich. Comparing our prosperity with the poverty of most of the rest of the world brings to mind a poem by Alice Ferrin Hensley (we take the liberty of changing the personal pronoun from the singular to the plural)

"We have more than we can eat;
They faint with hunger on the street.

"We have more clothes than we can wear;
Their heads and hands and feet are bare.

"Our walls are thick and warm and dry;
Their walls are rain and wind and sky.

"Our hearts know love of noble souls;
Their hearts are hungry, thirsty bowls.

"These things let us remember when
Cries of the needy rise again".

Surely such an inequality of possessions was never intended by God. It has been brought about by greed, selfishness and strife—the exceeding sinfulness of man. Again applies the rule, "To whom much has been given of him much shall be required". Our American prosperity can become an asset for building a new world if it is shared with others. It is said that America must feed most of the world. By so doing our nation will prove herself to be the friend of the friendless, the help of the helpless and will surely help to build a world in which brotherly kindness and love will prevail.

There are many agencies in our land for the relief of suffering people abroad. Nineteen of these are included in the National War Fund to which many of us have made contributions. Wonderful is the service rendered through this fund. To Holland where people were slowly dying by the thousands because their famished bodies could no longer assimilate food it hurriedly forwarded protein hydrolysates, a new drug which enables the starved to eat again. In France it not only helps to fill the crying need for food but also furnishes clothing, household kits and school supplies. In Norway it furnishes food to the children and shoes to virtually the whole population. In many lands many people are given a new chance to live because of this expression of love by Americans.

Of course we are especially interested in our denominational relief work. This is done through or with the advice of our Foreign Mission Board. Through the years of the war large sums have gone to help relieve the suffering in China and in European lands. The need for such relief is still acute. We must continue to give money in increasing sums to our Foreign Mission Board for world relief. When our missionaries return to their fields in war-devastated lands where the cries of the needy will rise to their ears again, we must see that in their hands are the means of answering these calls. Watch the denominational publications or write to your state W.M.U. headquarters as to how to send clothing etc. (See pages 17, 34.)

We can know that every time we as Christian people respond to a call for relief we are helping to build a new world. Sharing material blessings is a practical demonstration of Christianity. In deeds of love and mercy Christ again walks among men, showing compassion on the multitudes.

A Power to Use Aright

"Ye shall receive power".

We have power! The world has been thrilled, amazed, awed and terrified by the discovery of atomic power. This discovery was made by the research of a great company of scientists and by the energies of 60,000 laborers who for a period of three years worked under the closest secrecy. The cost of the project totaled two billion dollars. In a recent issue of *The Commission* Dr. W. O. Carver led the readers to serious thinking in regard to atomic power in an article bearing the title "Power and Responsibility". From this we quote the following sentences: "By the discovery of a means for 'cracking the atom' man has come into possession of power so vast as to awe all sober-minded men with deep reverence and serious dread. The possibilities for good and for evil are beyond calculation. Man has always possessed more power than he has had the character or wisdom to use with discrimination . . . It is a matter for most serious contemplation that this discovery was made in interest of warfare and that its first application was in the wholesale destruction of great cities of the Japanese. These men have utilized the most revolutionary discovery of the centuries in the destruction of human lives and of vast accumulated material resources. This new resource of power offers vast possibilities for good. Whether it be used for destruction or for human progress depends upon the qualities of character found in human beings. . . . To the eager searching of men God has revealed a stupendous secret which He has reserved through millenniums. He is now trying men out to see whether they deserve any longer to exist on the earth. We shall have to be better men than ever before or we shall die by our human sin. Surely it is a time to walk softly and to wait upon the Lord".

We are reminded of another power which is ours. Jesus promised, "Ye shall receive power when the Holy Spirit is come upon you". This is the power which all Christians can have by asking for it and by submitting their lives to the will of God. The tragedy of Christianity and the tragedy of the world is that Christians do not use the power which is theirs. We who call ourselves by the name of Christ and profess to love and serve Him have the power to build a new world of righteousness and peace. If the world is to be safe from the destructive power of the atomic bomb we must use the constructive power of the Spirit of God to build men and women of strong Christian character who will use for God's glory all the powers of nature revealed by Him.

A Gospel to Proclaim

"Preach the Gospel to every creature".

We have the Gospel! This is our greatest asset for building a new world, for it is the power of God unto salvation to all those who will believe its message. Only better men can build a better world and the Gospel is the only power which can make better men. We cannot build a peaceful world without peaceful men and only the Gospel of peace can make peaceful men. We cannot build a democratic world except by the proclamation and acceptance of the Gospel of Truth which makes men free. So do we see the importance of our missionary program in building a new world.

Many conditions today favor a speedy proclamation of the Gospel. We have more intimate contacts with the world than ever before. Thousands of airplanes are crossing the Atlantic and Pacific in a few hours. Airlines will soon be conducting regular and rapid schedules from our country to all world centers. "The radio has placed the whole world on a party line". No part of the globe is isolated. All lands are easily accessible to the Gospel messenger.

Then, there is without doubt a new understanding and appreciation of world missions. The war has carried our sons and daughters to many far-away places where they have seen the results of foreign mission work. In China, India and Africa and in the islands of the South Pacific they have witnessed miracles of grace wrought

through the missionary enterprise. Because of these personal contacts made by those in military service, parents and friends back home who were indifferent have been aroused to personal interest in world-wide missions. "Throughout the land hard-headed business men who were once skeptical about the value of foreign missions are thanking God for missionaries every time they receive a message from sons or daughters at distant posts".

Moreover, the people of the world are ready for the Gospel. Many doors hitherto closed have been opened. Our service men have discovered new fields of missionary opportunity. Increased amity between America and other nations multiply our opportunities for Gospel proclamation. Victory for ideals of democracy has brought religious liberty to the lands where it has been difficult to preach the Gospel. The hearts of people in war-torn lands plowed by suffering are ready for the planting of the seed of Gospel truth.

This is the day of all days for southern Baptists to promote their missionary program with all possible fervency. We have the Gospel. We have the young men and women who can give the Gospel to a lost world. We have the money necessary for the financial support of a large missionary program. We have the power to make the preaching of the Gospel effectual for the salvation of lost people. These are our assets for building a new world. Let's use them!

UNCHANGING FOUNDATIONS

"Jesus Christ, the same yesterday and today and forever!"

MANY changes are coming to the world. Geography is changing. National boundaries are changing. Forms of government are changing. Opinions, ideals and standards are changing. But some things change not. God's plan for the salvation of a lost world, His purpose of redemption through His Son Jesus Christ, the revelation of His divine will in His Word—these are the things that remain. "Now abideth faith, hope and love"—the rock of Christian faith on which the church is built, the anchor of Christian hope which shall never fail, the dynamic of Christian love which is the strongest force in the universe.

We are told that, when the Royal Chapel at Buckingham Palace was bombed and many beautiful and valuable things were destroyed, among the treasures that escaped was the Bible of the royal family. In this we see an allegory. The war has destroyed many things. But one thing remains—the Royal Book, the Word of the King, the Bible. "Heaven and earth shall pass away but My Word shall not pass away", says Jehovah. Atomic bombs may destroy railroads and factories and buildings and people but they cannot destroy the Word of God, and on this Word with its message of salvation through Jesus Christ we will build a new world.



QUESTIONS for REVIEW and DISCUSSION

1. Discuss the significance of this new year for southern Baptists and the world.
2. Tell of conditions which call for the building of a new world.
3. Discuss the responsibility resting on our country in this hour of world need.
4. Discuss our responsibility for preserving world peace.
5. How may we preserve our Christian democracy?
6. How will sharing our prosperity with other nations aid in building a new world?
7. Tell something of the relief work of our Foreign Mission Board.
8. How does the discovery of atomic power increase our missionary responsibility?
9. Discuss the importance of the Gospel as an asset for building a new world.
10. Tell of world conditions today favorable for Gospel proclamation.
11. Discuss the unchanging foundations on which a new world can be built.

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.

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

SUGGESTED LEAFLETS

Supplemental Helps for W.M.S. Program

A Test for Your Missionary Society.....	2c
A Strange but True Story.....	3c
Christianity—Solvent of World Conflict.....	3c
How to Pray.....	3c
Is the Gospel Message World-wide?.....	2c
Kept for the Master's Use.....	3c
My Life and Yours.....	3c
The Devotional Reading of the Bible.....	3c
The Way of the Cross (Pageant-Tableau; 14 Young Women; Time about 25 Minutes).....	10c

Please send remittance with order to
W.M.U. Literature Department
1111 Comer Bldg., Birmingham 3, Ala.



As to W.M.U. Weeks of Prayer and Schools of Missions

From Dr. Courts Redford

I am sure that the Home Mission Board will want to cooperate with the Woman's Missionary Union in avoiding any conflicts that might arise because of the promotion of Schools of Missions during the December and March Weeks of Prayer. I am certain that we will want to lend the influence of the Home Mission Board to the promotion of the Weeks of Prayer in every possible way.

From Rev. Lewis W. Martin

I very gladly join with all others concerned in using my influence to prevent Schools of Missions being conducted during the two Weeks of Prayer for Home and Foreign Missions. From the outset I have advised those who set dates for these programs to keep those two weeks clear. We shall continue to do so, but in addition we shall refrain from committing home missionaries for Schools planned for either of these two weeks. Because I was supported for more than eight years from the Annie Armstrong Offering, I am gratefully appreciative of the prayers and gifts of Woman's Missionary Union. The dates for Schools of Missions programs are always set by the leaders of the cooperating churches. We have on several occasions suggested to certain cities and associations that they not plan for a certain date or that they shift their date. In spite of our suggestions some have kept the date they set. It is quite possible that some may not respond to our insistence that "Weeks of Prayer" weeks be kept clear. All we can do in such cases is to refuse to supply home missionaries for programs on those dates.

When Singing Year's Hymn

THE hymn for 1946—"We've a Story to Tell to the Nations"—will definitely help W.M.U. members to see how they can in goodly measure fulfil the stewardship of giving the Gospel to "all the ends of the earth". In the hymn are at least four verbs—tell, sing, give, show—that indicate an active expression of sharing the Good News.

To introduce the hymn it would be an excellent idea to have a devotional interpretation by four women—each using one of the four verses. There are many Biblical references that can be used in bringing light and lift to the words. "We've a story to tell to the nations"—what is it? Who tells it? Effect brought about when told? Each verse opens a wealth of worshipful thinking. The song in its entirety should be sung each time—each verse builds to the climax of the fourth.

The style of rendition should be vigorous and enthusiastic. This does not mean that it should be hurried—quite the reverse; it should be dignified and serious. The chorus is more vigorous in text and music. The first phrase of the chorus should be sung softly, each phrase crescendoing to the climax "And Christ's great Kingdom shall come on earth". The chorus climaxes with the inspiration and hopefulness that are essential to an aggressive missionary lyric.

The meaning and message of this hymn will increase in measure to the witness of the worshiper.—Miss Edwina Robinson, Mississippi W.M.U. Executive Secretary

PRICES to BE NOTED

Please change on page 67 in 1946 W.M.U. Year Book the prices of the following books as herewith quoted:

All the World in All the Word.....	25c
This World's Goods.....	60c
Stewardship in the Life of Women.....	75c
Stewardship and Missions.....	40c and 75c
How to Pray.....	\$1.25

Also please note that the second book as listed above was unintentionally omitted from the revised edition of *The World in Books* catalogue.

State Executive (or Corresponding) Secretaries: State W.M.U. Headquarters

Mrs. R. S. Marshall.....	127 South Court Street, Montgomery 2, Ala
Mrs. C. H. Ray.....	384 N. 1st Ave., Phoenix, Ariz
Mrs. W. C. Howell.....	209 Radio Center, Little Rock, Ark
Mrs. Carleton M. Long.....	243 Holland Building, Fresno 1, Calif
Miss Josephine Jones.....	4441 Yuma St., N.W., Washington 16, D. C
Miss Janice Singleton.....	207 Rogers Building, Jacksonville 2, Fla
Mrs. John Hathaway.....	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 Edwina Robinson.....	307 Professional Building, Baltimore 1, Md
Mrs. C. M. Truer.....	Box 530, Jackson 105, Miss
Miss Eva Inlow.....	1023 Grand Avenue, Kansas City 6, Mo
Mrs. J. S. Farmer (Acting).....	Box 485, Albuquerque, N. M
Miss Vonnice Lance.....	214 Recorder Building, Raleigh, N. C
Miss Mary Northington.....	223 1/2 West First Street, Oklahoma City 2, Okla
Mrs. R. L. Mathis.....	1301 Hampton Street, Columbia 20, S. C
Miss Blanche Sydnor White.....	149 Sixth Avenue, North, Nashville 3, Tenn
W.M.U. Headquarters.....	302 Baptist Building, Dallas 1, Texas
	1 West Franklin Street, Richmond 20, Va
	1111 Comer Bldg., Birmingham 3, Ala.

Our Young People

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

A New Year Ahead

AS 1946 comes we rejoice anew that 1945 brought the end of World War II, thus giving us opportunity to speed the message of peace around the world. But we realize "time is the essence" and we cannot be leisurely in the proclamation of the Gospel. Every Christian must be loyal in giving first place to the missionary enterprise without delay; it is our hope for tomorrow that young people will surpass our adult record of gifts and service for Christ. Is your W.M.S. ready to lead our young people forward in missionary education this year? To have at least an A-1 Full-Graded Woman's Missionary Union?

Sunbeam Bands need the emphasis which their sixtieth anniversary makes natural this year. The cover page on 1946 W.M.U. Year Book is not merely for decoration but also to suggest the importance of leading children to love the world children and be interested in their having a chance to love Jesus. Too many Woman's Missionary Societies have no Sunbeam Band. All could foster this foundation organization for there are children everywhere. A time can be discovered—after Sunday-school on the Sunday there is no preaching in your church, before the school bus leaves after school, on Saturday, on the afternoon the Woman's Missionary Society meets. When will you have your Sunbeam Band meeting? When will you start the Sunbeam Band in the neighboring church which needs one sorely!

Your girls need Girls' Auxiliary to assure them that Christian women are interested in their Christian development. Read the activities of girls as told in *World Comrades* and see how you will deprive your girls if you fail to provide Junior and Intermediate Girls' Auxiliary for them.

Young Woman's Auxiliary organizations are invaluable for single young women sixteen years of age to twenty-five. They will have a very determining voice in the affairs of this post war world and they desperately need to know how to help this war-weary world and all its people.

Naturally with the center of our maternal interest in the young men of the armed service we realize the importance of our growing boys. They must be ready for whatever life holds of war or peace and we have found from the lips of grown men that the Order of Royal Ambassadors fits them for either or both. We earnestly hope that we will be wise and Christian enough so that they can be "ambassadors for Christ" without interference from Mars, because the more they learn about people and their life the more eagerly will they seek to tell about Christ, the more will be our chance for peace that endures. This should be a good year for promoting more Royal Ambassador Chapters.

The young people's director of your church and society should have the prayers and willing cooperation of every W.M.S. member as she meets with counselors and Sunbeam leaders and W.M.S. president and standing committee chairmen, planning for literature, mission study, community missions, stewardship and all the other graded missionary education activities. She should have a budget of expenses worked out and cared for by W.M.S. so that money is no handicap to the best missionary education progress.

Leaders? A missionary from China has pointed out that the women of China, who had been too busy to heed the Gospel, suddenly had nothing but time to listen as they sat in refugee camps. Women of America will surely give God their time and talents and energies out of love for Him and devotion to His cause. Supplies are ready, programs, manuals, guides—all you need provide is the personality for Christ to use. Surely you will do this in the new year we enter so hopefully and yet so fearfully.

Training School

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

An OLD GRAD LOOKS at the SCHOOL

WHAT a difference a few years can make! Even now the Training School's beautiful Georgian building has mellowed into the landscape amazingly. It seems somehow to belong, as if it had been here in this lovely setting always. Fresh details catch one's attention momentarily—the "world" window in the center, a duplicate of the one at the end of the Seminary chapel; all the familiar features that mark the architecture of the period; glowing, iridescent windows along the chapel wing; soft lights within to cheer the closing day. One's first long look is very, very satisfying.

The interior is just as pleasing. The house has a happy, welcoming, lived-in feeling. One's first impression is one of quiet charm—that same belongingness one felt outside. These halls were made for laughter, for loving and for living. They belong to a school; yet equally they belong to a home, a real home.

Down in the dining room one has one's first look at the student body. Youth is here—serene, self-reliant, smiling. There is a look of purpose in these bright faces. One is struck with the improvement in posture. Surely the school is reaping, now, the harvest of many a blue-ribbon health program back in the states. And with good posture have come poise and a sense of maturity. These are college girls, yet college girls with a plus. One is not surprised to learn, later, that almost all of them have had a year or two of work since college before coming to the Training School.

A closer study reveals one happy "missing"—the sentimentalist, the misfit who used to try to substitute nebulous piety for a face-to-face grip with reality. Some of these personalities, doubtless, are in process of adjustment—when have more than one hundred and twenty persons living together in one house ever lacked some who were unadjusted? But one has faith in this group. They are realists. They will not cover up conflict with twaddle. They will face issues, and they will come through—all of them. This is a great gain.

The faculty comes up for examination later over a cup of coffee, perhaps, in the much-used faculty dinette. One is struck at once with its balance between the older, the middle-aged and the young. Here are several who will be slipping out before many years now, one by one. They are the faculty's crown and glory—mature, wise, charming with the charm of goodness wrought with God in the workshop of experience. One should like to take off one's hat to them. Thinking back to another wonderful faculty of an earlier day, one finds a prayer of thanksgiving in the heart that these are worthy to follow in its train.

How shall the School be left desolate at their going for there are others, even now, ripening, maturing, to hold its standards and ideals on an even base. And coming up to support them valiantly are these clear-eyed, happy-hearted, fun-loving, serious-purposed younger ones who seem almost Training School girls, themselves, until some emergency reveals their greater judgment and essential inner dignity.

A diverse faculty it is, too, their roll studded with bachelor's and master's and even a doctorate. One has served in China and another in Burma. One has worked in a mill village, and another in her associational and local W. M. U. One has led where young people eagerly follow and another has devoted her long service to juniors in Sunday-school. And besides all these there are the Seminary professors just across the campus. Indeed, the School is thrice fortunate in its faculty and staff.

The life of the School is much different from those days of long ago, even as the times are different. There is more freedom, but these days are freer. Masculine voices are more frequently heard in parlors and halls and on the campus, but in all of life there is freer mingling of the sexes. Sometimes there must be disciplinary problems, but what class has lacked its non-conformists? These girls are surer of themselves, more independent, quicker perhaps to act on their own judgment, less likely to ask and take advice. Why should they not be, having lived and worked in a world where time is of the essence and he who hesitates is left behind?

In spite of all such differences, the old Training School spirit is still there. All that really counted has survived. Perhaps the old graduate has done a little growing, too. At any rate, she finds herself without nostalgia for the past and glorying in the School as it is today.—Miss Willie Jean Stewart, Tennessee

SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION CALENDAR

Co-ordinated Denominational Activities for 1946 (Date for 1946 W.M.U. annual meeting awaits decision.)

First Quarter—January—Program Month

- (1) Cooperative Program
- (2) Denominational Prayer Week, January 7-13
- (3) Student Life-Enlistment Day, January 20
- (4) Church Schools of Missions
- (5) Southwide Simultaneous Associational Sunday-school Meetings, January 22

February—Stewardship Month

- (1) Baptist World Alliance Sunday, February 3
- (2) Stewardship Sunday, February 10
- (3) Student Evangelistic Week, February 10-16
- (4) G.A. Focus Week, February 10-16

March—

- (1) Home Missions
- (2) W.M.U. Week of Prayer for Home Missions and Annie Armstrong Offering, March 4-8
- (3) Home and Foreign Mission Day in Sunday-school and Offering, March 31
- (4) Training Union Study Courses

Second Quarter—April—

- (1) Training Union Youth Week in the Churches, April 7-14
- (2) Relief and Annuity Board (and Offering for the Relief of Aged Ministers)
- (3) Christian Literature and Church Libraries
- (4) Sunday-school Training Courses

May—

- (1) Christian Home Week, May 5-12
- (2) Hospital Day on Mother's Day, May 12
- (3) Y.W.A. Focus Week, May 12-18
- (4) Southern Baptist Convention, May 15

June—

- (1) Vacation Bible Schools
- (2) Ridgcrest, State Assemblies and Camps
- (3) Christian Education Day (Preferably June 30)

Third Quarter—July—

- (1) Baptist Bible Institute
- (2) Ridgcrest, State Assemblies and Camps
- (3) Student Volunteer Summer Service

August—

- (1) Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
- (2) W.M.U. Young People's Organizations
- (3) Ridgecrest, State Assemblies and Camps
- (4) Sunbeam Focus Week, August 11-17

September—

- (1) Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
- (2) W.M.U. Training School
- (3) W.M.U. Season of Prayer for State Missions and Offering
- (4) Training Union Study Courses

Fourth Quarter—October—

- (1) Student Join-the-Church Day (Sunday Following College Opening)
- (2) Layman's Day, October 13
- (3) State Mission Day in Sunday-school and Offering, October 27
- (3) Sunday-school Training Courses

November—

- (1) Every-Member Canvass
- (2) Church Schools of Missions and Stewardship
- (3) State Papers and Missionary Magazines
- (4) R.A. Focus Week, November 10-16
- (5) Orphanage Day and Offering

December—

- (1) Foreign Missions
- (2) W.M.U. Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, December 2-6
- (3) Southwide Simultaneous Associational Training Union Meetings, December 6
- (4) Every-Member Canvass (Completed)
- (5) Student Night at Christmas, December 29

At some time during the year emphasize the service to all types of southern Baptist work, at home and abroad, which the American Bible Society renders by supplying the Scriptures, without profit and often below cost, and explain its need for contributions from the churches.

Book Reviews (Concluded from Page 11)

of stewardship of words, page 84. Develop the opportunities for stewardship among those we cannot escape and those we may reach. Suggest our responsibility to those to whom we must send and the need for money which it involves. Go back to chapter three and introduce the idea of a costly gift with love as the motive. Ask several women to discuss the needs for money involved in helping to bring in the Kingdom. Emphasize woman's part in this. If your group needs it, discuss the objections to "raising" money. Close the lesson with the idea that witnessing is our main business, not a sideline, because Christ is the world's only hope. Give out typewritten slips on which various practical opportunities for stewardship discussed during the week are listed. Ask each woman carefully and prayerfully to check those aspects she will practice as a result of the class study. Suggest that she put her list in her Bible as a reminder. Lead the group to undertake some definite witnessing project as a result of its study.

Any book reviewed or otherwise recommended in this magazine may be purchased from your State Baptist Bookstore.

Greetings from Our Mission Fields

Nigeria

WOMAN'S Missionary Union of Nigeria pauses in her celebration of twenty-five years as "laborers together with God" to send greetings to Woman's Missionary Union, S.B.C. As the closing feature of our 1944 Convention we were led forth to meet the tasks God has for us this year by forty-two newly crowned G.A. queens. This year of anniversary we are concentrating on "Zeal and Young People's Work". The last year's Convention theme, "Light", prepared us to scatter that "Light" still farther as we looked backward to past accomplishments. Now we turn our eyes and hearts forward to another twenty-five years of service for Christ. As we purpose using the theme, "Go Forward", we salute you for more than double our number of years of joy in His service.

Would that each of you might have shared the inspiration of our Conference of Superintendents and Field Workers. This "feast" was largely the fruit of your planting in years gone by. It was held in the lovely W.M.U. Headquarters at Ede. A great per cent of those present were products of your Girls' School at Idi Aba in Abeokuta. They were backed by those mothers strong in the faith, nurtured with experience through the years. We spoke of you and our gratitude for making all this possible.

Again we greet you and pray God's continued blessings on you and your work for Him.—Miss Eva M. Sanders

W.M.U. of the River Plate Convention

(Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay)

THE women of our River Plate W.M.U. Convention in their annual meeting in the city of Rosario voted to send their heartfelt greetings to their sisters in the United States, who for so many years have worked with us in spreading the Gospel in these countries, through means of their prayers and offerings. Special mention was made of the gratitude felt for the help, received from our sisters in the southland, for work among the women and children in these countries.

The theme of the three sessions was that of stewardship. Splendid messages were brought to us by our fine women, and throughout all the sessions we felt the Spirit of the Lord. With the addition of a new society enrolled in the Convention, we now count on the united effort of seventy-two societies. As our trained young lady workers multiply in number and their work among the women and children increases, we hope to see even greater progress. Decisions were also made in the Convention which are definite steps forward.

The special offerings for mission work during the year amounted to \$3391.67 in Argentine money. This year the Convention voted to make a special effort in their mid-year offering for the erection of the Baptist Temple in Asuncion, Paraguay.

The watchword for the year was chosen to be that of our W.M.U. in the southland and the hymn chosen was "O Zion, Haste".—Mrs. Anne S. Margrett, President—Mrs. Lidia O. de Alvarez, Secretary

Uruguay

LA Federacion Femenina Bautista del Uruguay sends Christian greetings to the Woman's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention, desiring that the blessings of the Heavenly Father rest upon it and guide it in all of its deliberations. The Federation wishes to express its thanks for the help received in Uruguay from the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Besides paying the salaries of four of its missionaries it pays all or part of the hall rent of six congregations, pays or helps to pay the salary of seven pastors and part of the salary of three seminary

students who work in Uruguay during the summer months. The Mrs. W. J. Cox Fund of the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering helps to pay the salary of two young ladies who are graduates of the institute formerly in Buenos Aires; they work with the women and children.

Our greatest need now is for more workers in order that we might take advantage of the doors open to the Gospel. Uruguay is a very important though a small nation in South America, so small that it could be readily evangelized. What a glorious opportunity southern Baptists have to continue to carry the Gospel to Uruguay but on a larger scale! Can you imagine a nation the size of Mississippi with only ten Baptist churches? For many years there were only five but God has greatly blessed the efforts in this country and in the last few years the number has doubled. The dream for Uruguay, which could be a reality, is that there be enough workers to have work in each important town and from these towns mission-stations radiating in all directions. Pray and give that this dream may become a reality. "The harvest truly is plenteous but the laborers are few!"—Mrs. R. L. Carlisle



"I Was Naked and Ye Clothed Me"

THUS spake Jesus in warning against selfishness and in praise of Christian helpfulness. This winter its appeal is poignantly constraining as the suffering of the multitudes in Europe and the orient is described in secular and Christian publications.

Among the several ways that the S.B.C. Foreign Mission Board is seeking to alleviate such suffering is by encouraging southern Baptist churches or any of their various organizations or individual members to send packages of clothing, bedding etc. to the *Church Committee on Overseas Relief and Reconstruction* at New Windsor, Maryland, or Modesto, California. The clothing etc. must of course be clean and usable, "mended as for one's own use". The secretary further says: "Warehouses are ready to receive and ship the packages so as to relieve much suffering this winter. European churches are desperately looking to American churches for clothing, bedding, shoes and other relief needs. Similar requests have come from Korea, the Philippines and Thailand".

Dr. Rankin further says: "Southern Baptists are exceedingly fortunate in that they have in many European countries and in China outstanding nationals who will in all probability act as distributing agents. While we have no desire to compete with Roman Catholics, we are aware of our obligation to our non-Catholic friends who are reaching out pleadingly toward us. It is quite permissible to place in or on the article a statement concerning the source from which it was sent".

The need is urgent. Christ's approval is assured.

STEWARDSHIP COVENANT

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

I, therefore, promise, as a recognition of my stewardship and an expression of my love to God, to lay aside until further notice at least one-tenth of my income for the support of His cause. First they gave their own selves unto the Lord—11 Cor. 8:5. Of all that Thou shalt give me, I will surely give the tenth unto Thee—Gen. 28:22.

Signed by

(Name)

(Street Address)

(Town and State)

(Society of Our Signing)

(Church of One Signing)

Date



For RE-SIGNERS of STEWARDSHIP COVENANT

(The lines on this page and on its reverse side are for the signatures of all tithers in the society or circle. This strengthens purpose and helps also with society or circle records. For new tithers, secure from state W.M.U. headquarters W.M.S. tither's card as shown above. From the same source are to be secured cards for the young people who tithe.)

(OVER)

