

ROYAL SERVICE



EWING GALLOWAY

YOUNG MOTHER in Yugoslavia carding wool by hand, out of doors, while her baby lies in a crude swinging crib, under homespun blanket the mother wore.

VOLUME XLI

APRIL, 1947

NUMBER 10

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ROYAL SERVICE

Successor to OUR MISSION FIELDS

OFFICIAL ORGAN of
WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION

APRIL, 1947

Vol. 41

No. 10

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GOALS FOR 1947



EVERY STATE in 1946 went over its Royal Service goal for renewals and new subscriptions. The 1947 goal is 200,000, an increase of 5% over last year's receipts. See directions elsewhere on this page for renewals and new subscriptions.

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EDITORIAL

"A Rain Check"

APRIL is distinguished not only for its new frocks and flowers but also for its frequent showers, one result being the familiar saying: "April showers bring May flowers". Familiar also, especially to outdoor sport-fans is the expression: "Here's a rain check", which is just a quick way of saying: "Don't be disappointed. You will have another chance!"

April is the calendar's most exquisite proof that nature always gives another chance after the confining cold of winter. Infinitely more comforting to the Christian is the reassurance each Eastertide that Christ arose from the grave and that there is eternal life for His followers. Thus fortified they can go steadily forward, "always abounding in the work of the Lord".

April, as the first month of the calendar's second quarter, is a logical time to "check" on one's progress thus far and in so doing to be encouraged in the assurance of the so-called "rain check" as to opportunities missed in the past quarter but yet possible in gratifying accomplishment. For instance:

1—*Gleaning and Forwarding of the Annie Armstrong Offering*—Frequently in one's circle or society or in one of the W.M.U. young people's organizations there are members waiting to make their contribution long after the *Week of Prayer for Home Missions* has been observed; maybe they failed to attend the services or were not able at the time to contribute; maybe the program was not presented in their organization. You will know or can ascertain; then you can "redeem the time" by getting the offering promptly forwarded according to the plan in your church and state. The *Annie Armstrong Offering* has but one purpose; namely, to help as many as possible in our homeland and in Cuba and in the Canal Zone to find eternal assurance through faith in Jesus Christ.

2—*Winning Souls to Christ*—Through the March Week of Prayer and its offering are great soul-winning agencies, there is always the power of personal witnessing in one's own community. Perhaps in the first quarter of this calendar year you let other things take precedence over your witnessing for Christ or perhaps the ones whom you thus visited did not make the necessary decision. No month could possibly reveal more perfectly than does April that "now is the acceptable time . . . now is the day of salvation" through faith in Him who made possible the Christian's Easter. It will be stimulating to be reminded that during this present April and on through this second quarter the Home Mission Board under the leadership of its secretary of evangelism, Dr. C. E. Matthews, will seek to rekindle the evangelistic fires in and through each southern Baptist church. You might be Christ's messenger to encourage your church and your society and your circle to cooperate fully in this soul-seeking crusade. (See article by Dr. Matthews on page 7.)

3—*Southern Baptist World Service Center*—True also is the fact that with the spring quarter there is constant and usually charming proof of the fact that people like new clothes. In changing to your spring frocks, did you remember the war-impoorished Baptists of Europe and the Orient? Look again and yet again in your wardrobe or closets and please share of your much or little reserve as the case may be. Anything that is still durable and is clean will be genuinely appreciated. Also most acceptable are food concentrates and soap. Each package must be prepaid, whether sent by express or freight as of course it would be prepaid if by parcel post. The receiving address: Southern Baptist World Service Center, c/o Rev. Clavis A. Brantley, 740 Esplanade Avenue, New Orleans 16, La.

April, it is thus seen, has many reminders that no matter what may have been neglected in the past there is always another opportunity for the Christian to "redeem the time" . . . to "seek first the Kingdom of God" . . . to "have mercy". May this April keep reminding you and me to use now our many "rain checks".—Kathleen Mallory

Proposed Revisions in Constitution and By-laws of Woman's Missionary Union, S. B. C.

THE following revisions are offered by the W.M.U. Executive Committee and the state W.M.U. executive and young people's secretaries. They are to be voted upon at the Union's annual meeting in St. Louis in May. Every delegate is asked to study each revision most carefully.

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE II—Object (*Substitute*)

The object of the Woman's Missionary Union shall be:

1—To enlist all southern Baptist women and young people in the study and practice of world-wide missions

2—To cultivate the grace of Scriptural giving and to strive to develop a deeper sense of responsibility as stewards of the Gospel.

ARTICLE III—Officers (*Add "a first vice-president"*)

The officers shall be a president, a first vice-president, a vice-president from each cooperating state, an executive secretary, a treasurer, a recording secretary, an assistant recording secretary and a young people's secretary.

ARTICLE IV—Section 2—Board of Managers (*Change "7" to "9" trustees; insert "the first vice-president" after "president"; insert word "other" between "three" and "vice-presidents"; add "and the principal of the Woman's Missionary Union Training School" after "Union"*)

Board of Managers—The Woman's Missionary Union shall be incorporated and shall have nine trustees who shall be known and designated as a Board of Managers. Such Board of Managers shall be composed of the president, the first vice-president, three other vice-presidents, the executive secretary, the treasurer, the recording secretary of the Woman's Missionary Union and the principal of the Woman's Missionary Union Training School.

ARTICLE V—Terms of Officers, Members of Committees and Boards (*Substitute, beginning "Any vacancy" and ending "Literature Department"*)

Any vacancy occurring between annual sessions, not otherwise provided for, shall be filled by the Executive Committee. The resident members of the Executive Committee shall be divided into three groups, as nearly equal as possible. Each group shall serve for three years, with one group going out of office each year. No member shall be eligible for reelection until at least one year has elapsed except that this ruling shall not apply to the member who may be the secretary of the Woman's Missionary Union Literature Department. The groups shall be listed in the annual report according to their term of service.

ARTICLE VI—Annual Meeting (*Substitute "60" for "50" in Section 2*)

Each state shall be entitled to sixty delegates, including the vice-president.

BY-LAWS

1—President (*Substitute for third sentence*)

In her absence and that of the first vice-president, the president shall appoint a resident member of the Woman's Missionary Union Executive Committee to preside at the meetings of the Executive Committee; in an emergency the Executive Committee shall elect the member to preside.

2—First Vice-president—The first vice-president shall preside at the annual meeting of Woman's Missionary Union and at meetings of the Executive Committee in the absence of the president. Should the office of president become vacant for any reason during the year, the first vice-president shall become president for the unexpired term.

By-law 2 becomes By-law 3 etc.

8—Board of Managers (*Change "4" to "5" for quorum*)
... not less than five members shall constitute a quorum.

12—Elections (*In first sentence, change "7" to "9"*)
... the nine members of the Board of Managers

* * * *

Southwide W.M.U. Committee Meetings St. Louis, Mo., May 3, 1947

All such meetings will be held at the Statler Hotel. Each state is asked to arrange for due representation at each committee meeting.

Saturday, May 3:

9 A.M. to Noon—

Margaret Fund Committee
Executive Secretaries' Conference
Committee on Missionary Education of Young People
Mission Study Committee
Community Missions Committee
Stewardship Committee

2 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.—

Joint Session of W.M.U. Executive Committee and State W.M.U. Executive and Young People's Secretaries

7:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M.—

W.M.U. Executive Committee

IN the passing from earth to Heaven on February 13 of Dr. I. J. Van Ness of Nashville, Tennessee, Woman's Missionary Union lost a loyal friend. Through Dr. Van Ness' many years as executive secretary of the Sunday School Board he served as an advisory member of the Board of Trustees of the W.M.U. Training School and it was by his recommendation that the Sunday School Board gave generously toward the erection of the Training School building at 334 East Broadway in Louisville. Also at the recommendation of Dr. Van Ness his Board began about twenty-five years ago the genuinely appreciated custom of contributing monthly toward the rent of W.M.U. headquarters space in the Comer Building in Birmingham. I most gratefully remember, too, that it was Dr. Van Ness who gave of his time and editorial skill when in 1917 I undertook to compile the *Manual of W.M.U. Methods*. For these and many other expressions of his fraternal spirit Woman's Missionary Union will cherish his memory.—*Kathleen Mallory*

As to St. Louis Reservations for May Meeting

ON the back cover of this magazine is a picture of the modern and excellently equipped Statler Hotel which has been designated as W.M.U. Headquarters Hotel for the May meeting in St. Louis. In the Statler will be held on Saturday, May 3, the many southwide committee meetings as announced on page 5 of this magazine; it is hoped that each state will have its duly appointed representative at each of these important committee meetings, even as it is eagerly desired that every state have a full delegation and many visitors at the eight W.M.U. annual meeting sessions on May 4-6.

A request for a reservation at the Statler must be sent to the Housing Bureau, just as all reservations must be cleared through the Housing Bureau; it will be a waste of time to seek a reservation otherwise. It is also true that, in requesting a reservation, choice must be given of three hotels; likewise it must be understood that the published rates are subject to change; and one's chance of getting a reservation is better if the request is for a room for two or more people. The recommended list of hotels is as follows:

HOTEL	For One Person	For Two Persons Double Bed	For Two Persons Twin Beds	2-Room Suite Parlor and Bedroom
American	\$2.00-\$3.00	\$3.50-\$4.00	\$5.00	
Chase	3.50 and up	5.00 and up	6.00 and up	\$10.00 and up
Claridge	3.00- 4.00	4.00- 6.50	5.00- 6.50	10.00 and up
Coronado	3.00 and up	5.00 and up	6.00 and up	8.00-\$13.00
DeSoto	2.65- 7.00	4.00- 7.00	5.30-10.00	10.00
Jefferson	3.50- 5.00	4.50- 6.00	6.00- 8.00	12.00- 20.00
Lenox	3.00- 5.50	5.50- 6.00	5.50- 6.50	10.00- 11.50
Lindell Plaza	3.00	4.00	5.00	
Majestic	2.00- 2.25	2.75- 3.25	4.00	
Mark Twain	2.75- 3.50	4.00- 5.00	4.50- 5.50	
Mayfair	3.00- 6.50	4.00- 8.00	5.50- 8.00	10.50 and up
Melbourne	3.20- 4.20	5.30- 6.80	5.30- 7.30	
Park Plaza	4.00- 8.00		5.50-10.00	10.00- 15.00
Roosevelt	3.00	3.50	4.50	
Statler	3.50- 5.00	5.00- 7.00	6.50- 9.00	
York	2.00- 2.50	3.50- 5.00	4.00- 4.50	

The suggested form for seeking a reservation is as follows, all requests being due to reach St. Louis not later than April 21:

Single Room..... Double Bedded Room..... Twin Bedded Room.....
 2 Room Suite..... Other Type of Room.....
 Rate: From \$..... to \$.....
 First Choice Hotel..... Second Choice Hotel..... Third Choice Hotel.....
 Arriving at Hotel (Date)..... Hour..... A.M..... P.M.....
 Leaving (Date)..... Hour..... A.M..... P.M.....
 Names and Addresses of Persons to Use Reservation.....

Anyone desiring a room in a private home at \$1.50 per night for bed and breakfast should indicate that desire to the Housing Bureau. The address of the Housing Bureau is

Housing Bureau, Southern Baptist Convention
 910 Syndicate Trust Building
 St. Louis 1, Missouri

The opening session of the annual meeting of Woman's Missionary Union will be held on Sunday afternoon, May 4. The Southern Baptist Convention is scheduled to include Sunday, May 11.

Southern Baptist Women Asked to Pray for Revival

Dr. C. E. Matthews, Superintendent of Evangelism
 S. B. C. Home Mission Board

THE Department of Evangelism of the Home Mission Board and the Radio Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention join in appealing to our Baptist women to sponsor "The One Million Prayer League Covenanters" in praying daily for a spiritual awakening to come to the world. (See notice at bottom of page.)

Baptist Hour Spearheads Evangelism—"The Baptist Hour" is spearheading a "Southern Baptist Program of Evangelism" during the months of April, May and June of this year. It is hoped that the broadcasting of evangelistic messages, with the theme "Christ Is the Answer", as a supplement to the preaching of the Gospel by pastors and evangelists and cooperation on the part of 26,000 churches and six million Baptists, will mark the beginning of a spiritual awakening in the southland that will spread over the nation and to the ends of the earth. This broadcast is sponsored jointly by the Home Mission Board and the Radio Commission.

Much Preparation Must Be Made—We realize that much preparation for such a great task as this concerted effort must be made on the part of all southern Baptists. Publicity, census taking, organization, promotion etc. are all very essential. But all of these things, in spite of being well-planned and thoroughly executed, will fail unless we engage in unceasing prayer to God for His mercy in sending a revival from Heaven upon us. It is "not by might nor by power but by My Spirit saith the Lord of hosts".

We have prepared covenant cards for all who will join the "One Million Prayer League Covenanters". These cards can be had by writing "The Baptist Hour", Atlanta, Georgia. We are looking to our women to help the pastors sponsor the signing of these covenants by our Baptist people. Send for your supply immediately.

The Department of Evangelism has a unified program of evangelism to offer southern Baptists. This program will be ready by the time our Convention meets in May in St. Louis. We earnestly solicit your prayers in behalf of the Southwide Committee on Evangelism as it prepares its recommendations to the Convention.

The following is the April program of "The Baptist Hour": watch the denominational press for the May and June programs. Urge the unbelieving and unaffiliated Baptists to tune in each Sunday morning of the three months.

April 6—Immortality—"Life's Last Enemy"..... Dr. James W. Middleton
 April 13—God—"You Must Reckon with God"..... Dr. James W. Middleton
 April 20—Sin—"God's Universal Indictment"..... Dr. C. E. Matthews
 April 27—Regeneration—"Man's Greatest Need"..... Dr. C. E. Matthews

Write to

The Baptist Hour

427½ Moreland Avenue, N.E.
 Atlanta 3, Ga.

If you wish a card denoting membership among the "One Million Prayer League Covenanters" in intercession for the southern Baptist special emphasis on evangelism in April, May and June. Doubtless you can persuade others thus to covenant too.

COMMUNITY MISSIONS

Mrs. Edgar Godbold, Southside Chairman

"Too Late"

WHILE visiting one of our southern Baptist churches last winter I had a W.M.S. member, Mrs. P, tell me of an experience she once had. Mr. N, a Greek-American, was brought to trial for selling liquor illegally. Fearing that the judge would acquit him, a number of church women attended the trial to see that the judge brought justice. During recess for lunch Mrs. P suddenly realized that southern Baptists send missionaries to Greek Catholics and that here was one in our own country, so she decided she should speak to him. Approaching Mr. N she began to talk with him about the relief ships recently sent to Greece. As he expressed appreciation for being in the United States she reminded him that if he really was glad to have become a citizen he should show it by obeying the laws of the country and not selling liquor. Finally she asked if he was a Christian. He replied that he was a member of the Greek Catholic Church. When questioned as to whether or not he attended church he excused himself by saying that he was a bachelor and that, when there was no woman in a family to make a man go to church, he didn't go.

Mrs. P also learned that he had no Bible. The next day she and another member of the Woman's Missionary Society left a Bible at Mr. N's store which was in a section of the city that had a bad reputation. The Bible had verses on the plan of salvation marked. The following day Mrs. P received an urgent call for her to return to the store. Thinking perhaps that the Greek-American had questions to ask about portions of the Scripture he had read, Mrs. P and her friend answered the summons. Once there Mr. N told her that in all the years he had been in the United States, since he was twenty, she was the first stranger to speak kindly to him, to be interested in him, to do a good deed for him. Mrs. P tried to talk with him about being a Christian but he would always break in and tell her about his church or about some vision of the Virgin Mary he had had.

On subsequent visits this same thing occurred but still she tried to maintain contact with him. At Christmas she sent him a card. He presented her a five pound fruitcake of the best kind and a picture of Christ in a lovely frame of twenty karat gold, an expression of gratitude for the concern she had shown about him.

Recently Mr. N was found at his home, dead of a heart attack. Mrs. P ended this story by saying that whenever her eyes rested on the gold framed picture of Christ she felt condemned for having failed to get Mr. N to acknowledge personal faith in Christ. The only reply I could make was that we all stand condemned, all of us who live in a community where a foreign-born person lives to whom we have not witnessed. The story of Mr. N would surely have been a different one had some Christian befriended him when he first arrived in our country; it would surely have meant a law-abiding citizen and a follower of Christ.—Mrs. John Allen Moore, Foreign Board Missionary to Yugoslavia

"Inasmuch"

"WHERE have you been, Sister Dinah?" I asked a member of the Calvary Mexican Baptist Church, just as she and others were getting off a bus in San Antonio. "We have been out to the Old Ladies' Home where we found sixteen women all sick or very feeble. We visited with them, gave them opportunity to talk with us and then we had a song service and Scripture reading with them. They enjoyed the prayer and one of our group talked to them about Jesus as our Savior. Some of the English-speaking ladies had been going out there but these women cannot speak English; how glad they were to see us! They urged us to come often".

Upon another occasion Miss Amelia Diaz of Zarzamora Mexican Baptist Church here in San Antonio introduced me to a young man; she remarked that he was one of their members. "But you are very new, aren't you? I don't remember seeing you here before", I said. "Yes", interrupted Miss Diaz, "he is a new brother whom we found in jail". I must have looked startled, for she hastened to explain that in the jail there were many men and boys, not criminals but prisoners because, attracted by the high wages in this country and unable to meet the restrictions placed on immigration by the Mexican government, they had entered illegally—"wetbacks" as they are commonly called, because many swim across the Rio Grande at night. The Woman's Missionary Society of Zarzamora has regular services in jail for these fellow-countrymen, sometimes carrying some special treat and writing letters for these prisoners etc. There has been a large number of professions of faith and many are studying their Bibles regularly. An effort is made to keep in contact with them after they leave jail and Miss Diaz has received many letters from them. Several have written that God has called them to preach Christ in Mexico.

A member of the Good Will Baptist Church in San Antonio works in the city hospital. Members of several Woman's Missionary Societies, including hers, visit the hospital to distribute tracts, Bibles, flowers etc. and to talk to the patients. As the majority of the patients are of Catholic background they do not understand very well how to find Bible references and do not know the meaning of many of the terms used by Christians in religious conversations. Often after the W.M.S. women have gone, a priest will come by and leave a rosary in the hands of the patients. This Baptist nurse is known as an evangelical and is often called on to explain and show how to use the tracts and Bibles; she is also asked to explain the differences in her religion and Catholicism. On her off-duty-days she frequently returns to the hospital to talk with the patients and to distribute tracts.

The First Mexican Baptist Church of San Antonio is situated in a very overcrowded section of the city. The Woman's Missionary Society places great emphasis on cottage prayer-meetings and on helping the needy. Rather recently, after a cottage prayer-meeting, there were 42 new children in Sunday-school. The kindergarten worker, Miss Irene Anderson, helps in this as her work carries her into all the nearby homes. This work brings new children to the kindergarten and these same children open the homes for such prayer-meetings. All over Texas the Mexican Woman's Missionary Societies are busy in this, their most loved and best understood phase of W.M.S. work. The Mexican woman lives among needy people and her heart is ever tender and her hands ready to meet the need. The Gospel has done so much for them that they are especially eager to meet the heart-hunger of a spiritually destitute people.

—Mrs. J. L. Moxe, Home Board Missionary, San Antonio, Texas



Southern Baptist World Service Center

Packages of clothing or food can now be sent in any desired quantity to the recently opened Baptist warehouse in New Orleans for shipment to war-impooverished Baptists in Europe and China. Of course all such clothing should be immediately usable, therefore perfectly clean and mended; food should be concentrates or otherwise capable of shipment overseas. Postage, expressage or freight charges must be fully prepaid. The address is: Southern Baptist World Service Center, c/o Rev. Clovis A. Bentley, 740 Esplanade Avenue, New Orleans 16, La.

BOOK REVIEW and STUDY SUGGESTIONS

Miss Willie Jean Stewart, Tennessee

New Testament Evangelism

WE LONG have needed in our mission study courses a book with a fresh approach to soul-winning; in this text we have a most inspiring and practical one. The book costs more than our usual mission study text-books but is worth it because it points the way not only to effective soul-winning but to renewed spiritual vigor in the churches. The author, Dr. Arthur C. Archibald, who is a northern Baptist minister, writes of plans he has used in village, country and city churches of many kinds over a period of forty years. He presents definite, tested, workable plans. (Order the book, price \$2, from your State Baptist Bookstore.)

Session One—Chapters 1-3. Speak of the need for a more effective evangelism today as developed in the last paragraph, page 13ff. Give illustration of tide page 13. Ask four women to give four reasons that reassure us as to the turn of the tide, now. Emphasize the need for a life-changing conversion and for a new evangelistic emphasis.

Ask a member to discuss the author's introduction to layman's evangelism (chapter two). Consider some New Testament examples of evangelism, such as Matthew 4:18-22; 9:9; 10:5-7; 16:21; 11:1; Mark 6:30-32; Luke 10:1, 17-24; John 4:7-26, 28-30, 39-42; Acts 2:14-16, 22-24, 36-41; 9:26-38; 10:33-44. Which of these are mass appeals, which group appeals, which personal efforts by laymen sent by God to certain individuals? All three must still be practiced, but which seems to get best results in the churches of today? Why?

Speak of evangelism as the central purpose of the church and of the minister. Note the main points of the author's argument in chapter 3, using marked passages read in class. Note that what the author says the ministry must do *could* be started by any interested, consecrated group in the church who fulfilled the conditions and gave the pastor assurance of their backing. Appoint a committee to report at the next meeting on the number of conversions in your church in the last five years, but they were won, if possible, who have dropped out of church life and why.

Session Two—Chapters 4, 5. Ask the pastor to teach chapter 4. Ask women to recall instances of New Testament evangelism studied in session one. Write on the blackboard the thesis stated on page 47. Note that if the church is to work at the task it must organize for it. Call for report of the committee on conditions in own church. Spend a period of earnest directed prayer for consecration to this task in own church.

Discuss general plans in chapter 4. Note that only men can win men, only church members are used (can a church change its community, can Christians redeem America). Counsel with the pastor as to how the men in your church can be enlisted. Could the pastor enlist them in the study of this book?

Session Three—Chapters 6, 7. Raise such questions as: Does the question of evangelism make you uncomfortable? Do you really believe that conversion makes any drastic change in a life? Is speaking to a person about becoming a Christian an impertinence—when or why or why not? What is the price of effective evangelism? Is prayer availing without action? Point out the answers in chapter 6. Raise the question: Do I want my family, my friends, my community saved, enough to suffer for them? Lead in a period of definite prayer, for a passion for souls, for deep concern for individual lost persons and for whatever it takes to make us go to them.

Study together the author's discussion of conversion, pages 61-65. Bring the class to a decision to become a nucleus of a praying church backing up church-lay evangelists. Pledge the support of daily prayer to your pastor. Plan for other methods of prayer suggested in chapter 7.

Session Four—Chapters 8-10. Sit at a table with your pastor and work through the steps given in chapter 8. Set a date; leave the sermon and talk planning to the pastor; start prospect lists and make plans for completing these; appoint a committee to see that the work is done and the list duplicated under the pastor's direction.

Study carefully the suggestions concerning the securing and training of evangelists given in chapter 9. Although the pastor must lead in all these activities, a group who understands what he is working at can cooperate and pray more definitely and effectively. If any church has no pastor, pray and talk over earnestly the possibility of getting a layman to lead the movement. Jesus, too, was a layman.

Close with a definite study of the five basic assumptions on page 90. Give each student a copy to put in her Bible. Study the practical suggestions in chapter 10. Spend a period in intercessory prayer, assigning one person on the prospect list to each woman.

Session Five—Chapters 11-13. Chapter 11 is meant for the pastor. However, the class can learn much that should be helpful in its own efforts from reading and discussing the point made in each of the illustrative talks.

In chapter 12, note the need and opportunity and the mistake of not speaking to children and young people about Christ. Let two teachers tell of the suggested approaches. Discuss the value and dangers of "Decision Day" and the suggested program. Ask six women to suggest briefly the six possibilities with young people. Plan to find out who are saved and unsaved in the junior, intermediate and young people's departments and make definite plans for winning them. Spend a period in prayer for this work.

Ask all the group to read, at home, the six typical cases given in chapter 13. Discuss the five permanent gains from lay-evangelism, pages 44-148f. Call attention to its cumulative value.

Let the class vote as to whether or not it feels that this type of evangelism is needed in your church. If for any reason the pastor cannot lead in this effort, form teams from the group to do what they can to win the lost on your list of prospects. Ask each woman to read the book again and then to see that some man in your church reads it. Close with a season of prayer for whatever venture you decide to make.

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

Mrs. R. S. Marshall	401 South Perry Street, Montgomery 2, Ala.
Mrs. Milton E. Cunningham	384 N. 1st Ave., Phoenix, Ariz.
Mrs. C. H. Ray	209 Radio Center, Little Rock, Ark.
Mrs. W. C. Howell	1605 M St., Fresno, Calif.
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Miss Janice Singleton	Baptist Building, 291 Peachtree Street, N.E., Atlanta 3, Ga.
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Miss Mary Winborne	127 East Broadway, Louisville 2, Ky.
Miss Hannah E. Reynolds	Box 12, Shreveport 80, La.
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Miss Edwina Robinson	Box 530, Jackson 105, Miss.
Mrs. C. M. Trues	1023 Grand Avenue, Kansas City 6, Mo.
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Mrs. Bill V. Carden	223 1/2 West First Street, Oklahoma City 2, Okla.
Miss Vonnice Lance	1301 Hampton Street, Columbia 29, S. C.
Miss Mary Northington	149 Sixth Avenue, North, Nashville 3, Tenn.
Mrs. R. L. Mathis	302 Baptist Building, Dallas 1, Texas
Miss Blanche Sydnor White	1 West Franklin Street, Richmond 20, Va.
W.M.U. Headquarters	1111 Comer Bldg., Birmingham 3, Ala.

"GIVE ATTENTION to READING"

Miss Thelma Brown, Book Consultant, Baptist Sunday School Board

ELIZABETH JANET GRAY, public school teacher in New York City and author of *Adam of the Road*, *Beppy Marlowe* and other fine books for boys and girls was selected last fall by our state department and the Japanese government to go to Japan as tutor to the emperor's eleven year old son. Before she left, several New York publishers contributed their best books for a gift library, many of which had a Christian emphasis. Since her arrival, she reports that the young prince has a keen interest in these books and is an alert pupil of all things American. The fact that Miss Gray is a strong Christian reminds us of "Anna and the King of Siam" and we hope that the results of her teaching will be as fruitful.

When Kermit Eby returned last summer from a visit to defeated Japan where he went as a member of the United States Education Commission, he spoke of the great spiritual and intellectual vacuum there and urged Christian leaders to help. He said "We can build now toward peace . . . Japan needs books, books, books!"

The last week in January Mrs. Irita Van Doren, editor of the *Herald Tribune Weekly Book Review*, left for Japan to investigate the present opportunity to American books to get into Japan. The people in Japan want to read about us, our culture and our Christian faith as never before. What a challenge for us to men their almost miraculous interest in our way of life by a similar desire for knowledge and understanding of theirs. Certainly we who have the Christ to share with them should reach across the miles with intelligent concern so that our prayers and our influence will be based upon present day conditions and accurate information unclouded by wartime hatreds and propaganda.

Whether or not you have organized a Reading Circle or a Missionary Round Table, there are certain new books about the people of Japan that you will want to read. If they are not already in your church library, now would be a good time to buy them and share them with the entire church membership after you use them for this special program.

Mrs. Foy J. Farmer, former missionary to Japan, suggests that we read the following books to help us understand the people of Japan. She says of them:

A Pepper Pod by Shoson (Kenneth Yasuda), (Knopf, \$2.75)—exquisite translations of many poems by famous Japanese poets, giving a splendid idea of the inner refinement and culture of Japanese people and their love of nature. It must be remembered that this is pagan poetry.

A Brother Is a Stranger by Toru Matsumoto and Marion O. Lerrige (John Day \$3.75)—the life-story of a Christian Japanese man who dared to think for himself vividly portraying his struggles against old Japanese traditions. I heartily agree with another reader that this is "the truest and most complete book of life in Japan with all its good and evil, that I have ever read".

Japan, Past and Present by Edwin O. Reischauer (Knopf, \$2)—an interpretative history of Japan from earliest times to the present, explaining the political and social institutions and influences that have made Japan what she was and is. It helps toward realization of our responsibility to Japan.

You will be glad to know that a postwar edition of *Kagero* by William Arndt (Harper, 75c in paper) is available for mission study classes. The \$1.25 edition should be purchased for church libraries.

STEWARDSHIP

Mrs. Clyde V. Hickerson, Virginia
Southwide Stewardship Chairman

April—Stewardship of Self

First they gave their own selves to the Lord—*11 Cor. 8:56*

Each one of us shall give account of himself to God—*Romans 14:12*

In *The Message of Stewardship* Bishop Cushman says: "Because persons are God's supreme creation, Jesus taught that the highest stewardship is that of life. Personality is the supreme thing in the universe. This is the end of stewardship. God has been trying to love us unto Himself, in order that we might love others unto Him and the eternal life".

Near the royal residence at Osborne, in the Isle of Wight, were some almshouses. While visiting in one of these, a gentleman asked an old lady: "Does Queen Victoria ever visit you here?" "Oh, yes", was the answer; "Her Majesty comes to see me!" "And does the King of kings visit you here?" asked the visitor. "No, sir", said the old lady. "He doesn't visit, He lives here!" Fellowship with the King of kings will make us understand our responsibilities as stewards and give us power to fulfill them.—*Mrs. Harold B. Tillman, Arkansas*

Victories and Goals

State	Lottie Moon Christmas Offering	Royal Service Receipts	Royal Service Goals for 1945
Alabama	\$ 57,581.18	13,230	14,918
Arizona	2,696.95	495	500
Arkansas	39,168.05	5,121	5,300
California	4,336.10	952	1,000
District of Columbia	2,252.89	493	500
Florida	42,354.87	8,830	9,279
Georgia	70,008.50	17,625	18,390
Illinois	13,330.46	3,535	3,715
Kentucky	47,108.51	11,792	12,300
Louisiana	38,314.56	7,958	8,300
Maryland	5,540.59	1,205	1,300
Mississippi	48,454.16	10,210	10,700
Missouri	40,326.42	10,856	11,400
New Mexico	8,367.56	1,759	1,800
North Carolina	130,304.74	22,570	23,700
Oklahoma	50,718.71	7,244	7,610
South Carolina	57,321.37	14,400	15,100
Tennessee	47,881.56	13,606	14,300
Texas	364,636.86	21,954	23,000
Virginia	151,587.91	16,223	17,000
Washington		908	100
TOTALS	\$1,902,141.96	291,239	300,000

Training School

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

A Widened Missionary Vision

THE campus-wide Student Volunteer Band has meant more to me than almost any other organization here at the Training School. Not only have I been inspired by outstanding speakers, but also the personal contacts with other members of the Volunteer Band have been sources of strength. We all have experiences similar and different, problems which need to be shared with those who have the same interests we do, calls to service all of which are unique and which show God's marvelous and various ways of dealing with different individuals, especially as He chooses them for this work which is perhaps the highest of all callings—home or foreign missions.

It seems to me that more and more students here are becoming interested in foreign missions. Now there are over a hundred volunteers on the Seminary-Training School campus.

Our last missionary day was particularly impressive. Dr. Louis Newton challenged us all with the needs in Europe and we realized more than ever that Baptists all over the world are a unified body and must stand firm for Jesus Christ in an aggressive missionary program. Dr. C. Oscar Johnson next discussed the orient with particular emphasis upon his recent travels there. More than I ever realized the needs of the great yellow race center in China and Japan. At the close of the morning service President Fuller's earnest appeal for us to go out and plead with the people to give, pray and think missions made all of us search our own hearts to see if we have truly laid our all on the altar of sacrifice. It has been customary this year for Missionary Day afternoons to be spent in prayer-meetings of different interest groups. Of particular interest was the Hawaiian group meeting on that day when Reiji Hoshizaki reported on the recent youth revival at Honolulu and when Chester Young, president of the Hawaiian group, showed a motion picture of the eruption of the volcano at Mauna Loa.

In our study in the history of missions, Dr. H. C. Goerner has emphasized the importance of our carrying the Gospel to the uttermost parts of the earth. Missions 57 is a course for future missionaries and is very practical, for we study problems that will confront us on the mission field and methods to use with different groups of people.

My field work both years here with the Negroes of Louisville has been a definite asset to me as I plan for the mission field. How my heart yearns to see these young members of a different race come to know their Lord and their God. This work has been filled with problems, of course, and has been helpful in making me realize that the life of a missionary is hard work with much discouragement and not just a glorious adventure. But even here the Lord has outweighed with victory and joy the problems and discouragements.

My own interest so far as missions is concerned lies in the orient. It seems to me that the orient (and perhaps Japan) is our greatest opportunity at present. We Christians are debtors unto these people. We have given them western culture; we have demonstrated to them western power and western sinfulness; but we have failed in any full measure to give them the Savior who is responsible for all that is good and wholesome and beautiful in the western world. If only a future Japan can remember a sweeping missionary movement from America that will be strong enough somehow to blot out the ugly memory of Hiroshima!

We here at the Training School need the prayers of the women of the southland that we may be willing to go and do as Christ commands each one of us. In turn, we pray for each of you that you may pray and be willing to give of your sons and daughters and of your wealth and your all to bear the glorious message of Jesus to the uttermost parts of the earth.—Miss Alice Baird, Kentucky, 1947

CALENDAR of PRAYER

April, 1947

Mrs. W. C. Henderson, Arizona

I WILL not doubt, though all my ships at sea
Come drifting home with broken masts and sails
I will believe the Hand—that never fails—
From seeming evil worketh good for me;
And though I weep because those sails are battered,
Still will I try, while hope has shattered—
"I trust in Thee".

—Mrs. Wheeler Walcott

1—TUESDAY

State W.M.U. annual meetings—Kentucky, Mayfield, Mississippi, Jackson, April 1-3; also Cuba annual meeting, April 1. Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established. —II Chron. 20:20

2—WEDNESDAY

Dr. and Mrs. J. E. Jackson, Wash. Rev. and Mrs. H. Hall, Chesham, evangelism; ex-Mrs. Thelma Williams Rowlett, China, medical evangelism; also Everett, Richard and Edward Jackson, Margaret Fund students. Behold the fear of the Lord is wisdom, and to depart from evil is understanding. —Job 28:28

3—THURSDAY

State W.M.U. annual meeting—Illinois, Anna, April 3-4. How great are His signs and how mighty are His wonders! —Dan. 4:3

4—FRIDAY

Rev. and Mrs. H. E. Gary, Wash. Rev. and Mrs. A. R. Cavanaugh, Laredo, evangelism; Mrs. Elizabeth Farabee, San Antonio, Texas, educational evangelism among Mexicans. Cast thy bread upon the waters, for thou shalt find it after many days. —Ecc. 11:1

5—SATURDAY

Rev. and Mrs. W. C. Henderson, *Mrs. Mildred Cox, ex-Mrs. Maye Belle Taylor, educational evangelism, Recife, Brazil. The lions have fallen into my hands in pleasant places, yea, I have a goodly heritage. —Psa. 144:4

6—SUNDAY

That in churches meeting may be made of and prayer be offered for the meeting of the Baptist World Alliance in Copenhagen, Denmark, July 20-Aug. 3. Your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world. —Eph. 3:10

7—MONDAY

Rev. and Mrs. F. Pecore, Seattle, Spokane, Rev. and Mrs. F. Santos, Coahuila, Cuba, evangelism; also Esther Bennett, Margaret Fund student. Let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us. —Psa. 90:17

8—TUESDAY

State W.M.U. annual meetings—Arkansas, Jonesboro, Louisiana, Shreveport, April 2-10. Give unto the Lord the glory due unto His name. —Psa. 96:3

9—WEDNESDAY

State W.M.U. annual meeting—Missouri, Kansas City, April 5-11. That ye may show forth the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. —I Pet. 2:9

10—THURSDAY

Rev. C. W. Caldwell, Rev. E. D. Kinn, Little Rock, Rev. C. C. Roberts, Bentonville, Rev. H. A. Zimmerman, Arkadelphia, Ark., rural evangelism. The Lord giveth wisdom and of His mouth cometh knowledge and understanding. —Prov. 2:6

11—FRIDAY

Rev. and Mrs. J. J. Cowart, evangelism, Rio de Janeiro, Miss Marie Baker, educational evangelism, Sao Paulo, ex-Mrs. Alan Jackson, medical evangelism, Guyana, Brazil; also George Cowart, Margaret Fund student. The foundation of God standeth sure. —I Tim. 3:19

12—SATURDAY

Paul and Mrs. F. E. Reidsdale, educational evangelism, Waco, Rev. and Mrs. L. L. Lowry, Beaumont, Rev. M. Lopez, Ft. Worth, Texas, evangelism among Mexicans; also Martha Buldum, Margaret Fund student. Righteous art Thou, O Lord, when I plead with Thee. —Jer. 12:1

13—SUNDAY

That God's people may learn and practice the grace of giving. All the things . . . in the Lord's: It is holy unto the Lord. —Lev. 27:30

14—MONDAY

Rev. and Mrs. G. A. Bowdler, Cipolletti, Rev. and Mrs. V. L. David, Cordoba, evangelism; Mrs. E. M. Leans, Mrs. F. J. Fowler, mercantile administration, Argentina; also William Bowdler, Margaret Fund student; annual W.M.U. meeting of Mexico, Landa, Yucatania. The way of the just is brightness. —Isa. 26:7

Calendar of Prayer for April

15—TUESDAY

Rev. and Mrs. D. D. Cooper, Shawnee, Kan. and Mrs. W. Ives, Pawhuska, Okla., evangelism among Indians. Teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God. —Psa. 143:10

16—WEDNESDAY

Woman's Missionary Union of Nigeria. Talk ye of all His wondrous works. —Psa. 105:1

17—THURSDAY

Dr. and Mrs. L. D. Wood, evangelism in Miss. and England; Mrs. Georgia Mae Gibson, educational evangelism, Santiago, Chile. The Lord feed is my strength and He will make my feet like birds' feet. —Hab. 3:19

18—FRIDAY

Rev. and Mrs. R. R. Machado, Vibora, Miss. Cecilia Dominguez, Potrero, evangelism; Miss Genoveva Gonzalez, Cienfuegos, Cuba, educational evangelism; also Esther, Maima and Ruben Machado, Margaret Fund students. The Lord is a God of knowledge, and by His actions are weighed. —I Sam. 2:4

19—SATURDAY

Dr. and Mrs. A. R. Crabtree, educational evangelism, Rio de Janeiro, Br. and Mrs. A. R. Oliver, evangelism, Curitiba, Brazil; also George Crabtree, Bennie May and Bruce Oliver, Margaret Fund students. Blessed be the Lord who daily leadeth us with benefits. —Psa. 68:19

20—SUNDAY

That the Lord may make possible a full attendance and may shower His blessings upon the annual meeting of W.M.U., St. Louis, May 4-6. Strengthen, O God, that which Thou hast wrought for us. —Psa. 68:18

21—MONDAY

Woman's Missionary Union of Italy; also Dr. and Mrs. D. G. Whittinghill and Dr. and Mrs. E. Gill, emerita missionaries Europe. Sing forth the honor of His name, make His praise glorious. —Psa. 65:1

22—TUESDAY

Rev. and Mrs. E. L. Kelley, Allen, Tex. and Mrs. C. Paredes, Austin, Texas, evangelism among Mexicans. Being justified by faith we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. —Rom. 5:1

23—WEDNESDAY

Dr. and Mrs. J. A. Abernathy, Shantung, Dr. and Mrs. G. W. Suther, Pechow, China, evangelism; also Wallace and Miriam Strother, Margaret Fund students. Thou, O Lord, art a shield for me, my glory and the filter up of my head. —Psa. 137:1

24—THURSDAY

Mrs. Blanche Rutherford, New Orleans, La.; Miss Mary Headen, West Frankfort, Rev. and Mrs. G. O. Foulton, Greenville, Rev. and Mrs. A. Wright, Bend, Ill., evangelism among many nationalities; also Lucille Wright, Margaret Fund student. There is no power but of God. —Rom. 11:1

25—FRIDAY

Rev. and Mrs. A. S. Patterson, Lagos, Rev. and Mrs. J. N. Patterson, Abeokuta, Nigeria, educational evangelism; also Martha Patterson, Margaret Fund student. The Lord is good unto them that wait for Him, to the soul that seeketh Him. —Lam. 3:25

26—SATURDAY

God's rich blessings upon Woman's Missionary Union Conference, including Business Woman's Circle, Ridgecrest, N. C., Asia 3:18. That the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many, redound to the glory of God. —II Cor. 4:15

27—SUNDAY

River Plate Woman's Missionary Union. Put on the whole armor of God. —Eph. 6:11

28—MONDAY

Rev. and Mrs. E. Delgado, Harlingen, Rev. and Mrs. G. B. Mizim, Brownsville, Rev. and Mrs. A. Ortiz, Houston, Texas, evangelism among Mexicans. Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life. —Joh. 6:33

29—TUESDAY

Mrs. D. P. Appleby, publication evangelism, Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Harrington, educational evangelism, Bello Horizonte, Rev. and Mrs. W. H. Berry, educational evangelism, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; also David Appleby and Bailey Berry, Margaret Fund students. Be strong for your work shall be rewarded. —II Chron. 15:3

30—WEDNESDAY

Rev. and Mrs. W. Fielder, evangelism in Br. and Mrs. J. H. Humphrey, medical evangelism, Chengchow, China; also Gerald Fielder, Margaret Fund student. All the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God. —Isa. 52:10

Attended W.M.U. Training School
Attended Southwestern Training School
Attended New Orleans Baptist Theol. Sem.
Former Margaret Fund Student
On Furlough

FAMILY ALTAR

Mrs. W. H. Gray, Alabama

TOPIC: Other Peoples of Europe

"If We Confess Our Sins"

1st Day—Psa. 32:1-11; John 20:1-10
2nd Day—Psa. 51:1-19; John 20:11-18
3rd Day—Luke 15:11-32; John 20:19-21, 26-31
4th Day—Num. 14:1-19; John 21:1-14
5th Day—Num. 14:20-39; John 21:15-19
6th Day—Deut. 1:1-8, 26-40; I Cor. 15:12-26
7th Day—I John 1:7-10; I Sam. 15:17-23

"He Is Faithful . . . to Forgive"

8th Day—Isa. 1:1-20; I Sam. 16:4-13
9th Day—Isa. 2:1-22; I Sam. 16:14-23
10th Day—Isa. 10:1-4, 20-27; I Sam. 17:38-46
11th Day—Isa. 11:1-10; 12:1-6; I Sam. 18:1-7
12th Day—Matt. 1:21; I Sam. 18:12-16
13th Day—Acts 13:38, 39; Psa. 33:12-22
14th Day—I John 2:1-6; I Sam. 19:1-7

"And to Cleanse Us"

15th Day—Matt. 23:25-28; I Sam. 20:11-17
16th Day—Psa. 119:9-16; I Sam. 26:7-12
17th Day—Jer. 33:1-11; I Sam. 5:1-12
18th Day—II Cor. 5:17-21; I Sam. 5:18-25
19th Day—II Cor. 7:1-16; I Sam. 7:6-13
20th Day—Luke 7:18-23; Psa. 28
21st Day—Luke 17:11-19; I Sam. 9:1-7, 13

"From All Unrighteousness"

22nd Day—Rom. 3:21-31; I Kings 4:29-34
23rd Day—Psa. 92:12-15; I Kings 3:4-9
24th Day—I Cor. 6:9-12, 19, 20; I Kings 5:2-5, 13-18
25th Day—Deut. 25:13-16; 28:1-6; I Kings 10:14-15, 22-27
26th Day—Lev. 19:1-4, 15-18; I Kings 11:4-10
27th Day—II Pet. 1:1-11; Psa. 72:1-15
28th Day—II Pet. 1:12-21; I Chron. 28:9-13, 20
29th Day—II Pet. 2:1-11, 20-22; I Kings 11:26-31, 37-40
30th Day—II Pet. 3:1-18; I Kings 12:1-11

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"

In thanksgiving for Christ and what His death and resurrection mean to Christians and may come to mean to all who will "repent and believe"

In behalf of lost souls everywhere

Pray that the Lord will call many southern Baptist young people for definite missionary service at home and abroad and that these young people and their parents will accede.

Pray for missionaries already on home and foreign fields and for the safety of any en route to such work.

Intercede for freedom from racial prejudice, jealousy, pride and callousness to world-wide suffering and sin.

Pray for permanent world-wide peace according to the will of God.

Pray for faithful gleanings in behalf of the Annie Armstrong Offering for Home Missions.

Ask God's guidance upon the committees and all others planning for the annual W.M.U. meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, May 4-6, and for the Southern Baptist Convention commencing there on May 7.

Pray also for Baptist World Alliance Congress, Copenhagen, July 29-August 3.

Intercede also for W.M.U. Conference (including B.W.C. Conference) at Ridgecrest, N. C., August 7-13.

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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.*, *World Comrades*, *Ambassador Life*, each \$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 34 of 1947 W.M.U. Year Book and page 19 of this magazine.)



Topic: The Field at Our Door (Community Missions)

Devotional Theme: "And she left her waterpots . . . and said, Come!"—John 4:28-29

Talk (Program chairman may desire to call attention to significance of illustration on this page, noting among other things: educational buildings by Christian church; Chinese temple and Japanese shrine and Jewish temple to right with Mohammedan mosque and Catholic cathedral and modern cults' meeting-place to left of my world at my door.)

Community Missions (See pages 8-9 of this magazine.)

I Visit a Prison (See article in April issue of *Southern Baptist Home Missions*.)

How Sweepest Thou? (See article in April issue of *Southern Baptist Home Missions*.)

Catiline's House (See article in April issue of *World Comrades*.)

Visiting the Jail (See article in April issue of *Ambassador Life*.)

We Can . . . If We Will (See article in April issue of *The Window of Y.W.A.*)

Community Missions in Mid-Century (See survey in April issue of *The Commission*.)

Are Japan's Religions Adequate? (See article in April issue of *The Commission*.)

Southern Baptist Women Asked to Pray for Revival (See article on page 7 of this magazine.)

Business Woman's Circles

Miss Mary Christian
W.M.U. Representative

Aim: We suggest that the aim to be kept in mind in planning and presenting the program this month be to portray the spiritual and physical needs in Europe in such a graphic way that the B.W.C. members will see the continent as the mission field it is and do more to support definite mission and relief work there. Some may choose to study just the five countries in Europe where southern Baptists have work, but with the fine program material in this issue the broader aim seems more applicable.

Preparation: Of course the program chairman will read carefully all the program material in this magazine (pages 22-29), as well as that in the W.M.U. magazines for the young people's organizations, and will gather from all other sources any additional information possible. Flags of the countries of Europe will be appropriate in the place of meeting, also a large map of Europe.

Write every member a card asking her to read the program material carefully and to keep in mind, as she reads, questions 3-10 inclusive which are at the end of the program material. These will be the questions used in the general discussion on the program.

Mimeograph enough outlined maps of Europe so every member may have one for use in the meeting. This map would be lovely on the cover pages of the program.

Secure for use at the meeting a portable phonograph and records of lovely music by European composers such as "Pilgrim Chorus" (from Tannhauser) Wagner; "Prayer"—Beethoven; "Largo" (from New World Symphony) Dvorak; "Melody in F"—Rubinstein; and "Incline Thine Ear"—Himmelf. Have on display in the place of meeting a copy of one or two masterpieces of European art such as "The Last Supper" by Leonardo da Vinci, "The Sistine Madonna" by Sanzio Raphael. Interpretations of these and others may be found in "Christ and the Fine Arts" by Maus (pages 36-39, 288-291).

Presentation:

Instrumental Prelude: "Incline Thine Ear" (Use record on phonograph; if this is not available make another selection.)

Call to Worship (Standing):

Leader: Give ear, O My people, to My Law; incline your ear to the words of My mouth—(Psalm 78:1).

Response: I will cry unto God with my voice—and He will give ear unto me (Psalm 77:1).

Prayer that His Word may be in our hearts; that we may be led to transcend provincialism in our thinking, praying, giving and serving

Hymn: The Light of the World Is Jesus

Introduction (by Program Chairman):

(She will tell of the population and size of Europe in comparison to U. S., the condition of the people and other background material as given in the first topic, "Europeans". She will also prepare the way for the Picture Talk.)

Picture Talk (by a Member):

(She shows copy of "The Last Supper" and gives interpretation briefly.)

General Discussion of Europe Today (Led by a well prepared member. All participate. Different members might be designated to be responsible for certain questions so there will be no lag in discussion. It would be helpful if all sat about a table or in a semicircle. Have seven of the questions which are given at the end of the program material, 3-10 inclusive, written on the program and discuss one by one. Watch the time and do not allow one topic to absorb all the hour.)

Closing Devotional Period: Acts 15:14-21

(Urge the leader to use the suggestions given by Dr. Carver on page 20, to study the full context and make this a time of worship and meditation on our responsibility to witness in Europe.)

BIBLE STUDY

Dr. W. O. Carver, Kentucky

Transcending Provincialisms

Learning the Gospel through Missions—Acts 15:6-21

THE Holy Spirit led the first church by experience to see and accept the "wisdom in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea". He was constantly causing the Gospel, as the apostles preached it and the converts witnessed to it, to reach further than they intended or expected. Even on Pentecost they made such a beginning toward world-wide reach as none of them had foreseen. When "men from every nation under Heaven" heard and were saved, some of them returned to their homes with the glad new story, the most wonderful story ever heard.

When persecution scattered them the witnesses went everywhere preaching the Word but "to none save only to Jews". They did not yet know that "with God there is no distinction". But some of the new converts came to Antioch and preached to heathen Greeks and, when these believed, they were received as saved men. Barnabas went from Jerusalem to see about the innovation. He came and "saw the grace of God" working in men who had come directly into Christ out of heathenism without pausing in the Jewish religion on the way. He accepted what he saw and "was glad". He went to work with the heathen himself (Acts 11:19-26). Thus Barnabas became a missionary apostle and soon brought Saul from Tarsus, the two to become the first regular missionaries of the early Christian movement (Acts 13-14).

Already Peter had been drafted by the angel of the Lord to preach to Cornelius and his Roman friends at Caesarea and, while he was preaching, the Holy Spirit "fell on the hearers". Thus Peter learned "that God is no respecter of persons". It was an important development that its story occupies as much as two chapters—Acts 9:36-11:18.

Ever wider and wider went the word of Christ and the work of the Holy Spirit until there was created a problem for all Jewish believers. Acts 15 tells how a most significant conference was held at Jerusalem to determine how Christians who were Jews should treat Christians of other religious backgrounds. It was one of the great turning points in Christian history.

First they got the facts before them (verses 1-4). Then they sought the meaning of the facts. "The apostles and the elders were gathered together to consider the matter" (5-6). (See Galatians 2 for an amplification of verse 6.) After "much debate" (7), four apostles spoke (7-21). Peter told how he had learned from his experience at Caesarea that Jews have to be saved as well as gentiles and that both are saved "through the grace of the Lord Jesus" (7-11). Next all the assembly quietly listened while Barnabas and Paul gave the story of their first missionary journey in which God did such wonders and by signs sealed the fact of salvation of heathen of various races (12). Now James summed it all up, appealed to the Word of God in Amos and proposed the new interpretation of the scope and way of the Gospel as the Holy Spirit led them to conclude from all the facts (13-29).

It is in this summing by James that we gather the vital teachings for all times.

1—They accepted God's all-comprehensive plan which provides that through the Gospel predication "the rest of men (as well as Jews and any already reached) may seek the Lord, even all the gentiles who (because they) are called by My name" (17, quoted from Amos and other prophets). True Christianity must now, as always, adopt this principle and duty.

2—They learned God's will and way by looking clearly at His work in missions. We must do the same. We must "see the grace of God" doing things outside our traditional and customary ways and must revise our plans and methods as they did.

(Concluded on Page 21)

Program Plans

Prepared by Miss Erlene Paulk, Ala.
W.M.U. Training School, Louisville, Ky

PURPOSE: To present a wrecked and war-torn Europe, steeped in paganism and standing in need of Christ; to lead southern Baptist women to such sensitiveness to these needs that any dregs of lethargy lurking in our missionary enterprise will dissolve in a tide of positive praying, giving and serving which can stem only from lives actively centered on Christ.

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Bible Study (Concluded from Page 20)

1—They saw and we must see that from of old God has claimed all the peoples. His name "called upon them". We must call them to Him. Mission is a necessary medium for understanding Old Testament and New. James interpreted Amos as fulfilled in the missions of his day. He made no reference to some future age. That idea is wholly mistaken.

4—They made allowance for differences of approach and variety of expression of the Christian experience. So must we.

5—They gave fraternal consideration to peculiar convictions within a common deeper conviction. If any accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior, they were all brothers in Him.

BIBLE STUDY

Dr. W. O. Carver, Kentucky

Transcending Provincialisms

Learning the Gospel through Missions—Acts 15:6-21

THE Holy Spirit led the first church by experience to see and accept the "wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea". He was constantly causing the Gospel, as the apostles preached it and the converts witnessed to it, to reach further than they intended or expected. Even on Pentecost they made such a beginning toward world-wide reach as none of them had foreseen. When "men from every nation under Heaven" heard and were saved, some of them returned to their homes with the glad new story, the most wonderful story ever heard.

When persecution scattered them the witnesses went everywhere preaching the Word but "to none save only to Jews". They did not yet know that "with God there is no distinction". But some of the new converts came to Antioch and preached to heathen Greeks and, when these believed, they were received as saved men. Barnabas went from Jerusalem to see about the innovation. He came and "saw the grace of God" working in men who had come directly into Christ out of heathenism without passing in the Jewish religion on the way. He accepted what he saw and "was glad". He went to work with the heathen himself (Acts 11:19-26). Thus Barnabas became a missionary apostle and soon brought Saul from Tarsus, the two to become the first regular missionaries of the early Christian movement (Acts 13-14).

Already Peter had been drafted by the angel of the Lord to preach to Cornelius and his Roman friends at Caesarea and, while he was preaching, the Holy Spirit "fell on the hearers". Thus Peter learned "that God is no respecter of persons". It was so important a development that its story occupies as much as two chapters—Acts 9:36-11:18.

Ever wider and wider went the word of Christ and the work of the Holy Spirit until there was created a problem for all Jewish believers. Acts 15 tells how a most significant conference was held at Jerusalem to determine how Christians who were Jews should treat Christians of other religious backgrounds. It was one of the great turning points in Christian history.

First they got the facts before them (verses 1-4). Then they sought the meaning of the facts. "The apostles and the elders were gathered together to consider the matter" (5-6). (See Galatians 2 for an amplification of verse 6.) After "much debate" (7), four apostles spoke (7-21). Peter told how he had learned from his experience at Caesarea that Jews have to be saved as well as gentiles and that both are saved "through the grace of the Lord Jesus" (7-11). Next all the assembly quietly listened while Barnabas and Paul gave the story of their first missionary journey in which God did such wonders and by signs sealed the fact of salvation of heathen of various races (12). Now James summed it all up, appealed to the Word of God in Amos and proposed the new interpretation of the scope and way of the Gospel as the Holy Spirit led them to conclude from all the facts (13-29).

It is in this summing by James that we gather the vital teachings for all times.

1—They accepted God's all-comprehensive plan which provides that through the Gospel proclamation "the rest of men (as well as Jews and any already reached) may seek the Lord, even all the gentiles who (because they are called by My name)" (17, quoted from Amos and other prophets). True Christianity must now, as always, adopt this principle and duty.

2—They learned God's will and way by looking clearly at His work in situations. We need do the same. We must "see the grace of God" doing things outside our traditional and customary ways and must revise our plans and methods as they did.

(Concluded on Page 21)

Program Plans

Prepared by Miss Erlene Paulk, Ala.
W.M.U. Training School, Louisville, Ky

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3—They gave fraternal consideration to peculiar restrictions within a common duty report. We must accept Jesus as Lord and Savior. They were all brethren to Him.

Poor Priest

PROGRAM MATERIAL

Mrs. C. D. Creasman, Tennessee

THEME for YEAR: The World's People Today

TOPIC for MONTH: Other Peoples of Europe

Hymn for Year—Hark! the Voice of Jesus Calling

Watchword for Year—"Go ye . . . and make disciples of all the nations"—*Matt. 28:19*

Bible Study—Transcending Provincialisms—Acts 15:14-21 (*See page 20.*)

Prayer that we may be led to transcend provincialisms in our thinking, praying, giving and serving

Hymn—The Light of the World Is Jesus

Europeans

—Europeans and Their Religions

Prayer that the people of Europe may find true Christianity

European Baptists

In Southern Baptist Mission Lands

Prayer for all the Baptists of Europe

Hymn—Faith of Our Fathers

—In Other European Lands

Europeans Need Jesus

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

Prayer that we may be diligent in giving the Gospel to the people of Europe

EUROPEANS

LAST month our program topic led us in a study of the Russians. This month we are thinking of "Other Europeans". There are 550 million people in Europe, 181 million of whom are Russians. That means that the "Other Europeans" who are engaging our attention this month number 367 million.

A recent book written by Rev. G. P. Raud, president of the European Christian Mission, *Inside Facts on Europe*, classifies the races of Europe in three groups: the Anglo-Saxon, the Latin and the Slavic. To quote: "The Anglo-Saxon race consists of the British (except the southern Irish), Germans, Dutch, Danes, Scandinavians. The Latin race consists chiefly of the Italians, French, Spanish, Portuguese and Rumanians. The Slavic race consists of the Russians, Poles, Bulgarians, Czechs, the Slovaks and the Yugoslavs. A number of peoples in Europe, however, cannot be placed specifically in any one of these groups. They constitute survivals of old races—such as the Greeks and the Lithuanians—or they represent various mixtures and transplanted nationalities. Such are the Finns, Estonians, Letts, Hungarians, Belgians, Swiss, Albanians".

Europe, including Russia, is only a little larger than the United States; cutting off Russia leaves territory smaller than the United States. That means that a population numbering more than twice that of our country—people of many nations, under different flags, with different governments, speaking different languages and having different national ideals—all live crowded together in a territory smaller than that occupied by our own nation. Without question this is one cause of the conflict which has continued for centuries among the peoples of Europe.

While the peoples of Europe differ in many respects, they have some things in common. With the exception of the members of the Mongolian or yellow race in eastern Europe, all Europeans belong to the Caucasian or white race and are therefore kindred peoples. And on this continent has been developed the white civilization, perhaps the greatest civilization the world has ever known. The greatest art, the greatest music, the greatest architecture, the greatest literature, the greatest educational institutions, the greatest scientific developments are gifts to the world from Europeans.

Practically all Europeans are in a state of great distress today. Almost all the nations of Europe were engaged in the last great world war, therefore all are suffering from the direful conditions caused by this wholesale destruction of life and property. Whole cities, once beautiful expressions of Europe's magnificent civilization, lie in ruins. Lands, once rich and fruitful, are devastated. Families, once prosperous and peaceful, are broken up. People, once happy and contented, are homeless and helpless, suffering from hunger, cold, disease and disaster. Of the millions of people displaced by the war, some still wander as homeless refugees, while others return to their homes to find them only heaps of ruins.

Along with the physical suffering of Europeans is a spirit of unrest, fear and despair. Proud peoples, once independent and self-governing, suffer the humiliation of defeat and the ignominy of being ruled by enemy nations now their conquerors. Victorious peoples wonder if they can maintain the peace which they have won. There are all sorts of disturbances and uncertainties among the nations. They are fearful, wondering what will happen next. Communism is working its way into the life of the nations. There is pretense of freedom which does not really exist. Already the people shudder because of the dread of a third world war.

But, there are lights of hope amid Europe's darkness. There are the relief funds which are pouring into many European countries from American agencies, bringing a partial relief to the suffering people. There is the United Nations Organization with its premises and plans for a permanent peace for Europe and the whole world. And there is talk of a united Europe which is certainly necessary if a lasting peace is to be attained. As this is being written, there comes over the radio news of a plan for a union of European nations with Winston Churchill as the leading advocate of the plan. It sounds good! It sounds promising! We remember that before the last war Dr. Everett Gill, that far-seeing Baptist missionary statesman, included in his book, *Europe—Christ or Chaos*, a chapter on "Europe's Union or Undoing". We believe that Europe must be united or she will be undone.

Then, the brightest light of hope for Europe is Christianity. It is still Christ or chaos for Europe. So, to the thought of giving Jesus to the Europeans we turn our attention as we continue this program.

EUROPEANS and THEIR RELIGIONS

EUROPE has long been considered a Christian continent. However, a study of the religious conditions on the continent today reveal that European people have very little real Christianity.

There are three groups of Europeans who call themselves Christians: Roman Catholics, Greek Catholics and protestants. Because of the Catholic policy of considering all children born to Catholics as members of the church, practically all Europeans, who are not in strictly non-Christian groups, are counted in these three groups, though millions of them have no real Christian faith, no heart loyalty to any church and no worship beyond empty forms and ceremonies.

Roman Catholicism is the predominating religion of the countries of western Europe. The Roman church claims 220 million adherents or two-thirds of the population of Europe outside of Soviet Russia. In his *History of England*, the eminent

historian, Lord Macaulay, writes as follows concerning the influence of the Catholic church: "During the last three centuries, to stunt the growth of the human mind has been her chief object. Throughout Christendom, whatever advance has been made in knowledge, in freedom, in wealth and in the arts of life has been made in spite of her and has everywhere been in inverse proportion to her power. The loveliest and most fertile provinces of Europe have, under her rule, been sunk in poverty, in political servitude and in intellectual torpor". A later writer says: "Ignorance, illiteracy, intolerance and stagnation flourish in countries still under Roman Catholic sway".

The Greek Catholic church claims 130 million adherents in eastern Europe, western Asia and northeast Africa, with by far the largest group in the countries of Europe. This church, while differing from the Roman Catholic in its organization and forms of worship, has the same influence on the lives of the people. Quoting from Mr. Raud: "The Greek Orthodox Church is as corrupt as the Roman Catholic system. It practices idolatry in the worship of ikons (flat pictures of so-called saints), upholds man-made traditions, fosters superstitions and is in the hands of a clergy often ignorant and largely corrupt. It is devoid of the evangelical message and distinctly rejects the doctrine of justification by faith".

Both the Roman and Greek Orthodox churches have persecuted people of other religious beliefs and have done everything possible to prevent the advance of protestant and evangelical movements. The centuries flow with the blood of those who have suffered martyrdom at the hands of these intolerant churches. Even today priests of these churches, wherever they can, instigate persecution against those of other faiths.

In the book, *Inside Facts on Europe*, we learn that thousands of Europeans are losing their faith in both Roman and Greek Catholicism. There is a great falling off in the attendance of the services at the cathedrals. Mr. Raud who has recently been in Europe says that, even in Italy where one would expect greatest devotion to Catholicism, the attendance at the church services is very small. When he visited St. Peters, the Sunday morning mass "had drawn so few people that the church looked empty".

One hundred and fifteen million Europeans are classified as protestants. The largest of these protestant groups are the Lutherans and the Reformed, bodies which regard Luther and Calvin respectively as their founders. In countries where these two churches predominate, they become state churches. So there are few European countries which do not have state churches, either the Roman or Greek Catholic or one of these protestant churches.

Mr. Raud says: "Much of the protestantism of the continent, sad to say, has grown in the four centuries since the Reformation formal and lifeless. Large numbers of European protestants manifest complete indifference to evangelism and seldom attend church—they are to be regarded as only nominal protestants who themselves need the Gospel of Christ". Another discouraging situation in the protestant life of Europe is that modernistic thought and higher criticism, taught in the universities, have led the people away from simple faith in the teachings of the Bible.

On the encouraging side, Mr. Raud says, "Exception to lifeless protestantism is furnished by the groups of fervent believers in Christ rooted in the different countries". Examples of these really devout Christians may be found in the national churches but for the hope of a real spiritual Christianity for Europe we must look to the "free churches"—Methodist, Presbyterian, Baptist and others, comparatively few in number but usually more evangelistic in spirit than are the state churches.

Besides these divisions of organized Christianity there are other religious groups in Europe. Even after the Nazi effort to exterminate the Jews, there are still millions of them scattered through the European countries. And in the eastern part of the continent are many Mohammedans. It is said that the Moslems of Russia number eighteen million. In the Balkan countries are about three and one-half million and in

Turkey in Europe, about a million, while in almost every European country are small groups of Moslems. The Jews and Moslems alone would make Europe a challenging mission field.

It is estimated that on the continent of Europe there are four hundred million unevangelized people. That is twice as many as are in Africa and four times as many as are in South America. Only China can compare with Europe in the number of people to be reached. Southern Baptists must not neglect so large and so important a missionary opportunity.

EUROPEAN BAPTISTS

THERE are Baptists in every European country. The modern Baptist movement in Europe is indigenous, that is it sprang up from among the peoples themselves.

Usually it came from the study of the Bible, sometimes from Bible reading groups who had never heard of Baptists. From their reading of the Word of God, uninfluenced by teacher or missionary, they became Christians and organized churches according to the New Testament plan, to learn later that they were a part of a great denomination, composed of thousands of churches just like theirs.

The first Baptist church on the continent was organized in Hamburg, Germany, in 1834. This came about because John Oncken, through the study of the Bible became a Baptist and led six others to join him in being baptized and forming a church. With Hamburg as a center and Oncken as a leader, the Baptist movement spread into many European countries. By 1920, when these European Baptist groups had been discovered by other Baptists through contacts of the World War I, they numbered about a quarter of a million in a score of European countries. Contacts with these Baptists through the years since 1920 have proved them to be loyal, lovable, simple in faith, devoted to the Word of God, evangelistic in spirit, given to hospitality and, as Dr. Everett Gill says, "reminding one of the Christians of apostolic days".

Of course European Baptists have shared in all the destruction and suffering wrought by the late war. They are among those whose homes have been bombed, whose lands have been devastated, whose sons have died on the battlefield, whose bodies and hearts are broken. But we can believe that these people who love the Bible, who know how to pray and rely upon God's grace, are able to stand up even under great affliction and that they are now ready to help rebuild Europe on the firm foundation of faith in God's Word.

European Baptists are to be hosts to the Baptists of the world as the Baptist World Alliance meets in a European country this summer. The hosts of Baptists meeting in Copenhagen will have opportunity of becoming acquainted with European Baptists and offering them at first hand encouragement and expression of brotherly love.

IN SOUTHERN BAPTIST MISSION LANDS

FIVE European countries are included among southern Baptist mission fields. Three of these—Spain, Italy and Hungary—are classed as Roman Catholic lands.

The other two—Rumania and Yugoslavia—are considered Greek Catholic lands. All of these, except Spain, were actively engaged in the late war, and in all there was much fighting; therefore, all were ravished and their people are today in great distress.

Spain—Though Spain remained a neutral nation during the war, we know that her sympathies were with the Axis and, because of her political situation and the unrest among her people, she is little better off than the nations that engaged actively in the war. Spain has long been one of the strongest Roman Catholic countries in Europe. There Roman fanaticism, despotism and bigotry have been at their worst. And yet Mr. Raud tells us that Romanism does not hold the hearts of the people in Spain today. To quote: "Millions are disillusioned by the corruption of the clergy and by the cruelties practiced upon their countrymen. There has been a marked turning from the Roman church and today in Spain more than ten million people are openly irreligious, although their names still stand upon the roll of the Catholic church".

There are about fifteen hundred Baptists in Spain today. Our southern Baptist missionary, Mrs. N. J. Bengtson, remained on the field during the war but has recently broken under the strain and has been taken to her native land, Sweden. While she is better, the prospect is that she will not be able to return to her work. So we are glad that Rev. John D. Hughey Jr. and his wife are, if their plans worked out, new on the field, for they expected to sail in February. We believe that they will find the field ripe and ready for the harvest for we are told that even during the war when the chapels were closed there were many conversions. Over 500 people have joined the 14 churches since 1939. Now all the chapels are open and the people are eager to hear the Gospel.

Italy—Italy, the home of the pope, is of course strongly Roman Catholic. Ninety eight per cent of the people are members of Roman Catholic churches but many do not practice their religion. While superstition, tradition and fanaticism still grip the minds of those who remain loyal to Catholicism, "many of the more intelligent people have grown skeptical of the doctrine of Romanism and give only formal adherence to the Catholic church".

There are about five hundred Baptists in Italy. The suffering of these as well as other Italians has been severe during the war but native pastors have carried on the work when their personal privations were almost unbearable. Dr. Sadler says that it will be hard to find in any land a more devoted and forward looking group of pastors. But some pastors have died during the war years and others have grown old in service, so it is very necessary that young men be trained for the work. The Theological Seminary has been closed for the war period but there is hope that it will be opened this fall. We are rejoicing that Dr. and Mrs. Dewey Moore are returning to Italy, but two new missionary couples are needed for the Seminary. The George B. Taylor Orphanage is open and is doing good work. Many are the expressions of gratitude for food and clothing sent by southern Baptists to Italian Baptists. Dr. Sadler writes: "These gifts have been a veritable Godsend to our hungry and shabbily dressed Italian friends. We must keep the streams of food and clothing flowing until these European neighbors can get on their feet economically".

Hungary—Hungary is about three-fourths Roman Catholic. There are also strong protestant groups of the Lutheran and Reformed denominations in Hungary. Baptists before the war numbered about 13,000. Baptist work suffered greatly from the war. In the bombing of Budapest our lovely Seminary and Training School building was destroyed. Several Baptist leaders were killed by bombs, among them Mrs. Gladys Udvarnoki, the wife of the president of the Seminary. Churches were destroyed and congregations were scattered but, quoting from a letter from the president of the Hungarian Baptist Union, "our brethren stood in their place in the storm; our Biblical denomination came out of this great trial as a clean and free corporation". Again he writes: "We live here after a destroying war, among ruins. The financial social and spiritual crisis is so great. Therefore, we must inform you with love that our will and resolution is to carry together every responsibility in every matter of the Baptist Mission in Hungary". As yet no missionaries may return to Hungary, but our Foreign Mission Board is sending gifts to help relieve the suffering of the people and rebuild the Baptist work in that devastated land. In gratitude for this help they write: "We assure you that this sum of money helped the cause of the Lord considerably. The work of the Seminary can be continued, poverty-stricken pastors and members may be given help which will enable them to do their work unhindered by suffering from need".

Jugoslavia—Jugoslavia is somewhat divided in its religious affiliation, with over 7,500,000 Greek Catholics, almost 6,000,000 Roman Catholics and over 1,500,000 Mohammedans. There is only a small group of Baptists—less than 2,000. Jugoslavia has suffered greatly during the war and Baptists have had their share. Sister Lydia Kalmikov, the founder and president of the Woman's Missionary Union of Jugoslavia, was killed in a Belgrade bombing raid. A Baptist pastor writes of selling shirts, underwear and everything possible in order to buy food for his family. The

same pastor remained in Belgrade when his family was compelled to flee because he was unwilling to leave the Baptist property and work. When Dr. Sadler visited Europe in 1945, he was permitted to enter Jugoslavia. He found the Baptists, though destitute of this world's goods, still hopeful in spirit and going on with the work in spite of difficulties. He writes: "The ten active pastors have carried on their work nobly during their years of separation from their friends in America. There have been about two hundred additions by baptism per year to our Baptist membership. In some portions of the country revival fires are burning brightly".

Rumania—Rumania is a Greek Orthodox country, with two-thirds of its people adherent to that faith. At the beginning of the last war the Baptists of Rumania numbered about sixty thousand which was by far the largest group of Baptists on any of our European fields. These Baptists suffered more persecution than any Baptist group of modern times but recently they have been recognized as one of the religious historic cults and are enjoying for the first time religious liberty.

We wrote to Mrs. Earl Hester Trutza for news of Rumania. She replied: "Our letters from Rumania are coming much more quickly and regularly now. The news is both good and bad. The Russian troops are still there; the communists are in power, inflation is terrific. Last summer there was a drought which brought on a famine the like of which Rumania has not experienced in eighty years. The people are starving".

Mrs. Trutza continues: "As for Baptist work, there is splendid news. The years of closed churches and prison bars were over in 1944. Since then national and regional conventions have been held and the work reorganized. There is fearful scarcity of pastors and leaders, but there is a revival going on throughout the villages. Baptisms are constantly reported. The Baptist paper has been started again and appears regularly now. The seminary has been reopened in Buteni, a large village which is predominantly Baptist. Fifty-six young men are enrolled, the largest number in the seminary's history. These boys live in Baptist homes and receive free food from the Baptists of that village.

"In the city of Arad in Transylvania there are enrolled this year in the middle and secondary schools 100 boys and girls from neighboring towns and villages. Our Foreign Mission Board has just granted \$8,000.00 for the purchase of a building in Arad for a hostel to serve the Baptist students. The building will also provide an office for the Arad community of churches and a chapel in which a new mission will be started. There are two University Centers in Rumania in which we need such student hostels. Requests have come for help to purchase a building for an orphanage and a modern printing press".

IN OTHER EUROPEAN LANDS

THERE are many other lands in Europe as needy, as opportune and as important as are these lands where southern Baptists have mission work. There is France—disgraced France—trying to regain the prestige she lost by surrendering to Germany. France has been considered a Christian land with large protestant groups besides the millions of adherents to her dominant church, the Roman Catholic. One writing of the religious life of France says: "France is not Christian and has never been. Hardly any French homes today possess God's Word; most of the people have never seen a Bible and do not even know what the word 'Bible' means. Today less than one-quarter are practicing Roman Catholics, while more than three-quarters profess no religion whatsoever. . . . The Roman Catholic and protestant churches are both guilty of having tried to win over the people by a superficial kind of religion, replacing their paganism and irreligion with a religion of dead works".

There is Germany—a proud nation brought low, a mighty people stripped of their power. Once Germany was as much Christian as any country in Europe. The

people loved the Bible, the family altar was almost a national institution. Then formalism and higher criticism crept in, diminishing the faith of the German people in God's Word. "By tearing the Bible to pieces the theologians began to destroy faith in the hearts of the people and to teach them to believe in deceptive human theories . . . False prophets deceived the people, who no longer believed the Bible, with their declaration that the German race by reason of its innate superiority was destined to rule the world". Two world wars were results.

It is well known however that all over Germany were groups of Christians who stood against nazism. "Their efforts upon their knees made the allied victory certain God's children in Germany were the most deadly enemy of nazism". These who have remained true to the faith of their fathers with others who may be won to that faith are the hope for the redemption for Germany.

Of course, we cannot discuss the spiritual conditions of all the countries of Europe. Suffice it to say that conditions everywhere are just about alike. The people everywhere have forms of Christianity but on the average are not really Christians. People everywhere are turning away from the national churches. The people everywhere are needing and desiring a better way.

There are some conditions in Europe which are encouraging. One thing is that there is perhaps more religious freedom there today than ever before. In every country ideals of liberty are prevailing and the preaching of the Gospel is permitted. However, there are still restrictions in some places.

A most encouraging fact is that the people are eager for the Word of God. We are told that in France there is a wave of religious enthusiasm and that never before has there been such a demand for the Scriptures and such a thirst for the truth. Of Portugal we read: "Colporteurs, who have traveled through Portugal carrying their Scriptures on the backs of donkeys, have told of the readiness of the people to purchase from them copies of Bibles, New Testaments or Gospels. Although poverty abounds, the peasants will sacrifice some necessity in order to possess a copy of God's Word". Again we read in *Inside Facts on Europe*: "A new trend of daily Bible reading has appeared in Germany as well as in other countries of Europe . . . In their hunger for the Word of God people are gathering together to read the Bible in order that they may draw from its inexhaustible supply their food for faith and daily living". All through Europe the demand for the Scriptures is greater than ever before. Germany alone requires millions of Bibles. Surely this gives us reason to hope for a better day for the people of Europe.

EUROPEANS NEED JESUS

EUROPEANS need Jesus. Because of their suffering, because of their sins they need Jesus. Only Jesus can satisfy the longings of their hearts. Only Jesus can cure their many ills. Only Jesus can give lasting peace to European peoples. Europeans need Jesus. We have Jesus; therefore, ours is the obligation to give His Gospel to the needy people of Europe. For their own sakes we must give Jesus to the people of Europe. For the sake of the whole world we must give Jesus to the Europeans, for Europeans won to Christ will become evangelists of His Gospel to the people who need Jesus throughout the world. To quote* H. L. Phelps (in *Europe's Millions*):

Europe—spread from sea to sea—
Holds out her hands to you and me.

Four hundred million people there,
Who grope in darkness and despair.

Of Jesus' love and saving grace
They still have hardly had a taste.

*This poem and all quotations from *Inside Facts on Europe* are used by permission of the publishers.

The Bible is so little known
That scarcely any have their own.

True Gospel messengers are few
To preach to gentile and to Jew.

The Lord, we know, wants them to hear
Salvation's message loud and clear.

To us, therefore, comes Europe's call,
Demands our prayer, our life, our all

* * * *

QUESTIONS for REVIEW and DISCUSSION

1. Give the racial divisions of the Europeans.
2. Tell something of the condition of the European peoples today.
3. What are the three groups of so-called Christians in Europe today?
4. Tell something of the evils of the Roman and Greek Catholic churches.
5. Discuss the condition of protestant churches in Europe today.
6. Tell something of European Baptists.
7. In what European lands have southern Baptists had work?
8. Tell of the condition of the Baptist work in each of these lands today.
9. Describe the spiritual condition of France today.
10. Discuss some of the causes of Germany's fall into nazism.
11. Tell of hopeful conditions of religion in Germany today.
12. Discuss the hunger for the Word of God among the peoples of Europe today.

* * * *

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.

The Window of Y.W.A.	—World Comrades
Ambassador Life	—State Denominational Papers
Southern Baptist Home Missions	—The Commission
Last Report of the Foreign Mission Board	
Now Is the Day	Foreign Mission Board Secretaries
Inside Facts on Europe	G. P. Raud
Europe and the Gospel	Everett Gill
Europe—Christ or Chaos	Everett Gill

* * * *

Quarterly Supplemental Helps for W.M.S. Programs

The Packet for Second Quarter—April, May, June—is now ready, price 25c. It provides five leaflets and one dramatization.

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Our Young People

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

Looking Forward to June

WE OFTEN speak of June brides but this anniversary year of 1947 we shall be thinking and talking of June YWA activities. Of course there is YWA Camp June 19-25—arrive at Ridgecrest in the afternoon June 19, leave after the traditional closing with candle-light service on Wednesday night, June 25. What noble days will be comprised in those six! They will make immeasurable difference in the lives of more than 1200 young women in attendance "in the land of the sky" and, through their influence, will change other lives far and near. Your WMS will want to promote attendance of young women from your Young Woman's Auxiliary or from the unorganized young women in your church who need a Young Woman's Auxiliary. Last summer one associational WMU said, "We will send a girl who will come back and start some YWA's in our association". They selected a steadfast Christian young woman of leadership ability. She went to YWA Camp at Ridgecrest. She returned home. She gathered together eligible young women of her church. She told them what she had learned of the necessity for world understanding in the mind and hearts of young women. They agreed to organize. Well-started themselves, soon they reached out to other churches and started more YWA's. That was a paying investment: its dividends will never end. Couldn't you arrange for similar spiritual profit?

YWA Camp, June 19-25, 1947, will center in missions with Dr. Clarence Jordan of Georgia as Bible Hour speaker, with Mr. Charles Wells of New York, Dr. Duke McCall of Nashville, Dr. Louie D. Newton of Atlanta, Mrs. George R. Martin, our WMU president, Mrs. J. M. Dawson of District of Columbia, missionaries, national visitors, state young people's leaders and other favorite inspirers of young women present. State young people's leaders will make reservations and plan for happy travel together; so write your state leader forthwith for particulars, asking her to save space for the several young women from your church.

Then a second remarkable feature about June 1947—*The Baptist Hour* on Sunday morning, June 22, will originate from YWA Camp at Ridgecrest and be in honor of our Fortieth Anniversary. Isn't that splendid? We are all grateful to Dr. Lowe and the Radio Commission for this delightful promise. Across the land YWA's will gather for early morning meetings and for breakfasts together ready to enter into the thrill of all but actually being at YWA Camp. The morning topic is "The Christian Imperative". There will be music from YWA's, choral reading, testimonies from national visitors, climaxing in a message from our WMU president, Mrs. Martin. Put a red or gold circle around that date on your calendar and make choices plans for YWA's at the radio for *The Baptist Hour* on the morning of June 22. This will be a program quite different from any that YWA's have ever shared before.

On our twenty-fifth anniversary we had a broadcast from Shreveport, La., reaching YWA's from Florida to New Mexico as they gathered at banquet tables and evening meetings. That was an unforgettable experience. This summer again we have a distinctive broadcast which will be meaningful to young women today. Radio development and expansion of our Southern Baptist Convention territory mean that more young women will be singing and praying and thinking together and the results in fervent missionary zeal should be correspondingly larger. But your YWA wants to be on the right wave length listening. Begin to plan at once—YWA's at YWA Camp, YWA's listening to the program from camp, YWA's united in prayer and thought and in hymn and praise. Don't let any YWA fail to look forward to June 19-25—including June 22 for sure—from now on until those days come with their high blessings.

Current Missionary Events

Discussed by Mrs. W. C. James, Virginia

Though England's power may have been somewhat weakened in the last World War she is still a mighty influence in the world today; and the following facts as commented on by Gabriel Courier in the *Christian Herald* seem to this editor an indication that "man's inhumanity to man" is on the wane and that through great travail the world is groping its way to that which will finally align it with the will of God as He works His purpose out. Says Mr. Courier: "We have always thought there was something hate-inspiring in the second stanza of England's national anthem. That verse

'O Lord, our God, arise!
Scatter our enemies
And make them fall.
Confound their politics,
Frustrate their knavish tricks'.

We are cheered by dispatches from London which tell us that 'God Save the King' now has a revised second verse which was sung recently at a service in St. Paul's, attended by the king and queen and ministers of state, and is as follows:

'Nor on this land alone—
But be God's mercies known
From shore to shore.
Lord, make the nations see
That men should brothers be
And form one family
The wide world o'er'.

Following the hymn, prayers were said for God's blessing and guidance on the Assembly of the United Nations in New York".

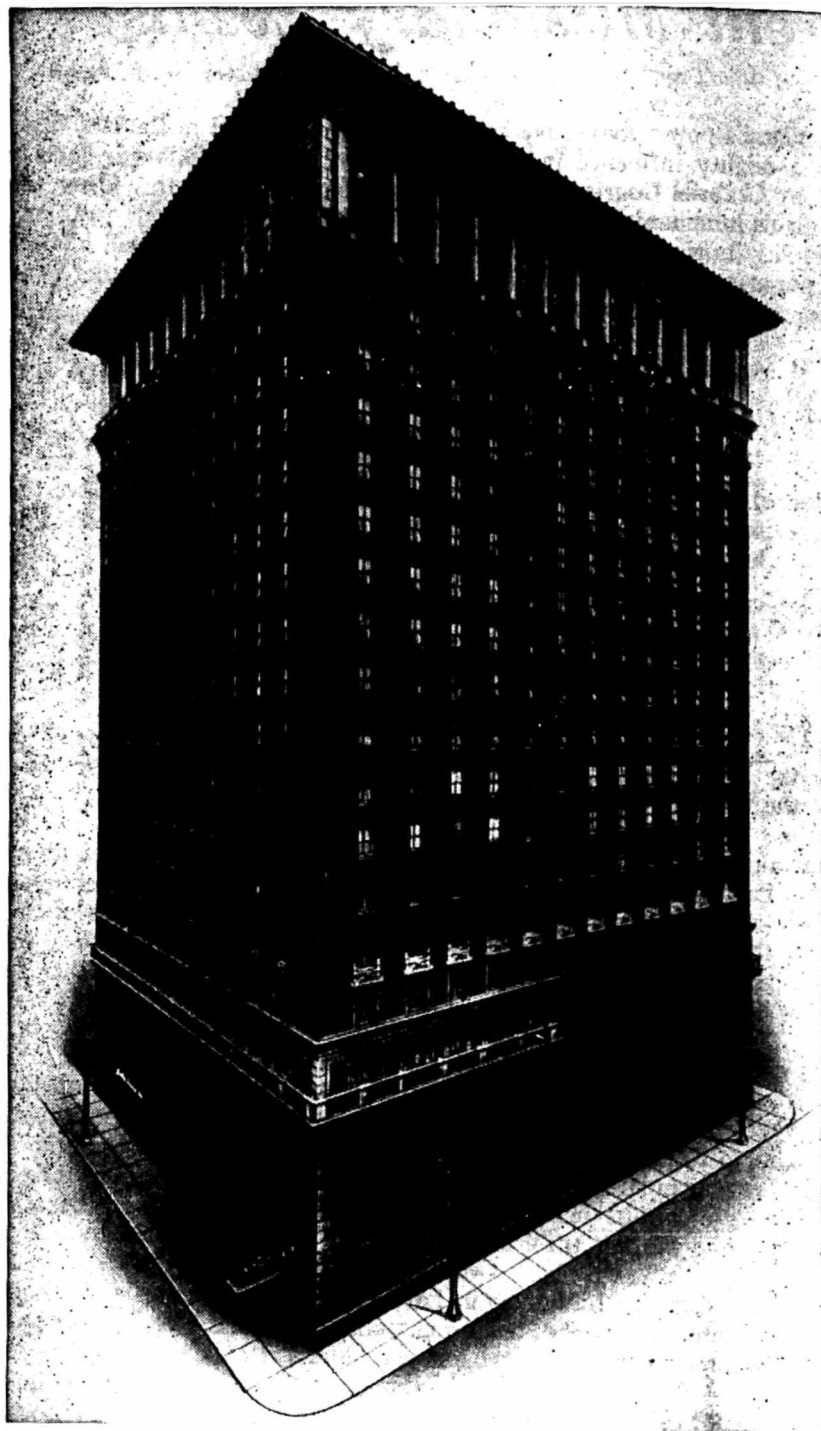
Much was said in the papers about the visit of Mr. Vyshinsky of Russia attending mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral. We wonder how many of our readers read of the worship service in New York's Riverside Church with representatives of more than thirty of the fifty-four nations attending the meeting of the United Nations Assembly. There they heard John Foster Dulles, famed protestant layman, say that the force of moral law could and must bend the United Nations into one.

Dr. Poling of the *Christian Herald* tells us that one of the latest statements on the matter of freedom of worship in Russia is from Pastor J. Joussetin, who led a French protestant youth delegation which recently returned from Russia. He reports: "Freedom of religion in Russia affirms liberty of conscience and worship but authorizes only anti-religious propaganda. Religious propaganda (what we recognize as religious education, evangelistic or missionary work) is prohibited. Baptists have been forced to recruit laymen who are not theologically trained".

We are informed that the Lutherans in Latvia are free to worship as they please although the government is under Soviet domination. There are no limitations on services in churches or cemeteries, but religion can be taught only in the home.

The new president of the Republic of Hungary, the Honorable Zoltan Tildy, is also an ordained protestant minister. For twelve years prior to his election he was pastor of the Hungarian Reform Church at Szeghalom. The Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. is planning to send relief to Hungary through his office.—*World Outlook*

According to an article in *World Outlook* the European Missionary Societies, with the exception of Germany and Holland, are beginning to resume responsibility for their own overseas work. During the war the societies' foreign obligations were supported largely through contributions from protestant churches in North America.



Statler Hotel, St. Louis, Mo.
W.M.U. Headquarters Hotel for
May 4-6

(See page 6 as to making reservations.)