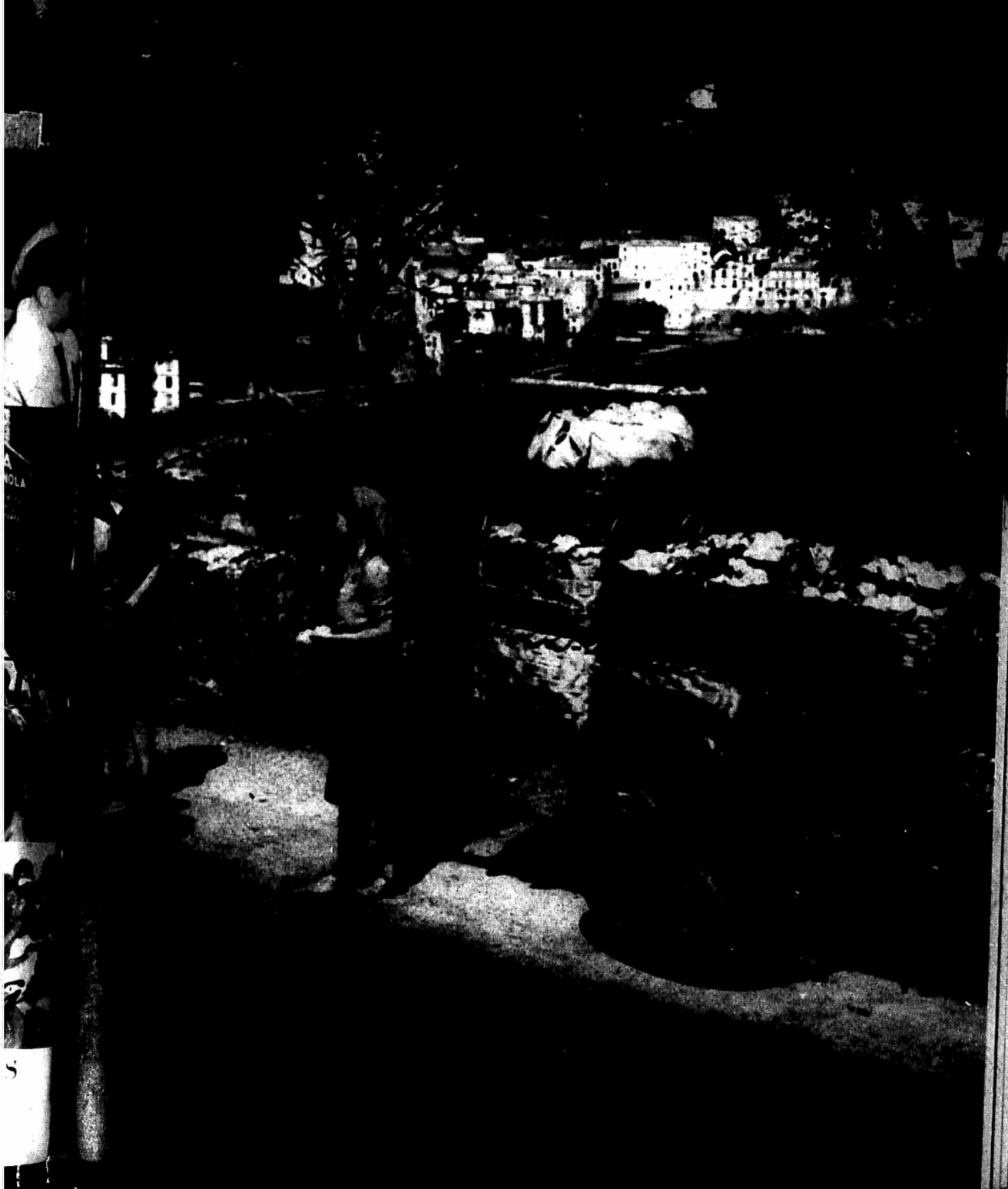


ROYAL SERVICE

APRIL 1949



WHILE THEY STILL HAVE LIFE . . . WE CAN SEND HOPE

These employees of our Southern Baptist Relief Center will gladly send all the boxes you make possible

CHECKING names . . . addressing labels . . . tying tags on our HOPE (Help Other People Eat) boxes. Did you know that hundreds of these food boxes are being shipped to the needy overseas through our Southern Baptist Relief Center in New Orleans?

Each HOPE box contains eleven pounds of food. A box can be sent anywhere for \$5.00, including purchase of the food and overseas freight. In addition to the food, a copy of one of the gospels written in the language of the country to which the box is being shipped is placed in each box. Persons who have friends overseas to whom they wish to send boxes may do so by sending \$5.00 to the HOPE food box department, Southern Baptist Relief Center, 601 South Olympia Street, New Orleans 19, Louisiana,

along with the name and correct mailing address.

If you do not know of a person to whom you want to send a box, send your five dollars to the Center with the request that they send a box to one of the regular consignees of the Foreign Mission Board for him to give to one of the needy persons with whom he comes in contact.

LEFT TO RIGHT: Robbie Vaughn, a member of the B.W.C. of Napoleon Ave. Baptist Church, New Orleans; Mrs. Wilma Brown, wife of the pastor of the Baptist church at Bogot, Alabama; and Christeen Gardner, vice president of her church at the Coliseum Baptist Church, New Orleans

Baptists at Points Paul Touched

by Mrs. Dewey Moore

AT GARRATELLA, a section of Rome, a new church group is meeting in a hired hall. Here two hundred and fifty bags of rice, raisins, sugar, spaghetti, etc., were distributed on "Epiphany" (Jan. 6) together with as many parcels of clothing. Coupons were given out to the neediest families of the section before the date set so that there would be fair and proper distribution. The week before, the children of the Sunday school which now numbers 30 or more, received candy and gifts—most of these things coming from you folks in the U.S.A. Many of these children had never had a Christmas present before!

AT ARICCIA (A-ree-cha), just outside Rome, near Castel Gondolfo, another Baptist group has grown up. A young married couple with two children moved there from Rome and immediately opened their home for Bible reading and prayer. There was an ever increasing number of inquir-

ers and soon one of our Rome pastors started regular trips for a service on Friday afternoons. The result was that early in November, after about six months of meetings, seventeen of this group were baptized by Mr. Moore in our Via Teatro Valle Church in Rome. The previous week all had been excommunicated from the village church and in addition "any who attended the baptismal service" were also excommunicated! In spite of that, there were more than a hundred who made the trip to Rome for the baptisms. We were able to play Santa Claus to the children of this group too because you had been generous!

Construction and improving projects are under way in many localities. A beautiful church building and adjoining locations for Sunday school and auxiliary work will soon be ready for occupancy at Milan. This need is an old one which some of you have felt as you visited this city and saw the gorgeous cathedral and at the same

time wished for an appropriate building for evangelical testimony.

WE WERE at the dedication of the new church at Siracusa, in Sicily, in November. We saw this new building filled to capacity and twice as many people standing on the outside. The whole city was conscious of the new evangelistic movement that day and I truly wished for my American Baptist friends!

SOUTHERN BAPTISTS now have chapels located at all four points Paul touched in Italy: Puteoli, Siracusa, Naples and Rome, and they are the only "protestant" group to have this distinction.

Woman's Missionary Union of Italy united with their sisters of the Southern Convention in the annual Christmas pe-

riod of prayer and offering. This year for the first time we are joined in this effort by the young people's groups who in various churches also had parts on the program. The offering for 1948 more than doubled that of 1947 to make a total of \$1,675 approximately. This difference is due to the fact that more are being inspired to give sacrificially and are realizing that there is joy in it. When we set our goal for one million lire there were many who said "it can't be done!" but we did it!

Our Unions are growing in individual members as well as in the number of groups. The five regional conventions were of great help and inspiration. The greatest need in this phase of our work is printed helps and trained workers. We are looking forward to the new Training School which will surely open next fall.

A Little Church with Big Faith

by Ottis E. Denney

UP IN THE MOUNTAINS of northwest Arkansas is a beautiful section of "rocks and rills, . . . woods and templed hills." The principal town in that county is Jasper. It is just beyond a strange rock formation of columns which evidently made some first settler think of "jasper walls."

Difficulties of transportation have kept the population small and scattered but a few years ago a small number of Baptists, with their missionary, decided to build a church on faith. They had no money. Their leader, Mr. Earnest Cheatham, was a blind man, now teacher in the Deer school system. He was a Moses that lead his people to go forth for God!

Among this little group was a couple and their small son who had come up from South Main Baptist Church in Houston, Texas, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Abell and Dick. They had prayer with Mr. Cheatham and felt something must be done. Other prayers went up to the Father. Letters were written to friends, and money began to come in.

Several hundred dollars were given by the South Main church and by the Arkansas Baptist State Mission Board. Members of a W.M.S. in a Memphis, Tennessee

church of which Mr. Cheatham had been a member also sent money to help in the building of the church. They began the building.

Mr. Cheatham was on duty every day during the construction of the little concrete church. When money failed to come he would slip inside, while the men worked outside, kneel down in a secluded corner of the building and ask God for more money. And the money came! All but about \$25.00 was received in answer to requests by letters to friends and to the heavenly Friend. Their missionary was forced to retire because of illness but for two or three years, this little band of a dozen or more Christians labored on, without a pastor or a missionary.

Upon accepting this field, as pioneer missionary for the State and Home Mission Boards, we supplied for Deer Baptist Church once a month until a pastor was called. This church now has a full time pastor. He is the former missionary whose health has been restored. The church has built a home for their pastor, so arranged that half of it can be used for an educational building. They are paying their pastor

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ROYAL SERVICE

Volume 43 Number 10

Woman's Missionary Union, Auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention

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APRIL COVER—Women of rural Italy come along the Amalfi Drive to bring their lemons to Naples. The hand drawn cart suggests the toll back of the business of production everywhere. Each of us shares in the labor of the other: those in factory or office need the work of those on farms and in the home. Learning to appreciate the valiant work of each other will lead us toward the way of peace.

World Wide Photo

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ROYAL SERVICE is published monthly by Woman's Missionary Union, auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention, 1111 Comer Bldg., Birmingham 3, Ala. Subscription price, \$1 a year; single copy 10c; no club rates. No subscription can be accepted for less than one year at \$1 a year. Please remit by money-order made payable to Woman's Missionary Union. Do not send stamps. To insure prompt delivery write name and address plainly, stating whether subscription is new or renewal. For change of address allow one month and send old address with new. Entered at the post office at Birmingham as second class matter. Acceptance for mailing in at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized June 24, 1918.

OFF TO HER JAPAN M.U. MEETING

by Floryne Miller

Spring is the time for Woman's Missionary Meetings around the world

THE USUAL EARLY MORNING NOISES in the street not more than a few feet from their room awakened Imada San. She heard the heavy sound of wooden buckets, the katchakatcha of the geta, the shrill whistle of the electric car carrying the earliest workers. At first she merely turned over on her back to take a few more minutes sleep—she was so tired. Then she quickly raised up, pulled the mosquito net out from under the futon and quietly slipped out, being careful not to disturb her husband and three children who were sleeping in the same room with her. She had remembered how much she had to do that day, and knew there was no time for even a minute's extra rest.

Putting on her work kimono as she went to the bath door, she slid her feet into the geta just outside and started to work at her little charcoal fire in the shichiren. As her hands fanned at the little blaze, her mind was busily running through her day. As soon as the water was hot and she had fed her family, packed their lunches and gotten them off to work and to school, she would make final plans.

A most unusual thing was happening! She, the mother and housekeeper was taking a trip! Such a thing was not done light-



Mrs. Hara (in dark kimono) with Kiyoko San (young people's leader) in front of Mrs. Aikasa (corresponding sec.) and Elizabeth Watkins. Others are Miss Kobayashi and Miss Sugano (recording secretary and treasurer)

ly. It would take the cooperation of not only her whole family, but of many of the neighbors as well. Carefully they must plan. But it was worth it!

For the first time in eight years the Japan Baptist women were having a meeting all together. Imada San had been a believer only two years, but since then her husband and two older children had followed her into the little church in the next block. They had all talked it over and agreed that no sacrifice was too great to make for her to go to the meeting, where she would see other women from many cities, and where she would learn how she could more effectively share this precious, priceless treasure of faith that was theirs. This new belief had brought to them a new way of life and was something still so rare it was almost too good to be true.

At Fukuoka she would learn many things and would come to feel she was working with many other women for one great purpose that would bring life and happiness like hers to many others. Women who had been in years before the war had made her and her family feel she could not miss it. Yes, they had all agreed she must go at any price. And a big price it was! Not only in money, but in many other ways.

Getting the money had required thought and sacrifice. She had done without things here and there. She had seen in the market beautiful fat pieces of chicken and had wanted so much to share them with her household, but she had taken instead a bit of fish and some bean curd, and the difference had added another 100 yen to her carefully hoarded ticket money. Kenji San, her husband, had done without the new geta he really should have had. Each one had made some sacrifice and she felt that really a little bit of each would be at the meeting as she represented them and her church.

Today Takahashi San, the college student next door, would take the money and go down to the station and stand in line

hours perhaps in order to get her ticket. How lucky his school was in holiday, and how good people were! At noon her sister would come from across town to stay the three days she was to be away. It was unthinkable to leave her husband and children alone. Someone must be there to clean and wash the rice each evening and prepare the vegetables. And of course, someone must be at the house all the time. To leave the house without a rusuban was impossible. Once only they had done it, and all the next winter had missed the warm, heavy clothes the thief had taken. Each morning the sister would see that the little metal bentoboxes were packed with rice and pickle, with sometimes a bit of fish and seaweed. Though Imada had not spoken of it to anyone, she hoped that perhaps the daily associations there might cause her sister to forsake the foolish and useless worship toward ancestors long since dead and gods of stone and wood in whom there never was life.

The neighborhood women had been so kind though they had never quite understood what it was all about. They had promised to take turns at the long haikyu lines for the potatoes, vegetables, rice, charcoal, etc. These rations were a matter of life and death to them and one dared not miss. They must take even things they could not use in order to be sure of their share of the absolute necessities. And getting their share often meant standing for hours in the long line of waiting, almost desperate women. The waiting took hours from her busy day; it meant getting a neighbor to stay at her house until she returned, and it taxed her strength to carry home the heavy burden in her furoshiki.

The next morning but one she would start to Fukuoka! She was so glad the meeting was to be there because she would get to see the large boys' school, Seinan Gakuin. That Baptist school was well known in all Kyushu. Her oldest son had asked her to see what would be required to enter the seminary which was a part of the school. Could it be he was planning to become a pastor himself? That would be almost too good to be true.

She hoped that on her return trip she might stop off at Kokura, not far from Fukuoka to see the girls' school there, Seinan Jo Gakuin. Now that they had a college department, what better place than a Baptist college to send their Kikuko Chan when she was old enough? But her heart wouldn't let her mind think of sending little Kikuko Chan away from home yet.

Quickly she picked up the shichiren, in which there was now a hot blaze, and took it into the dark kitchen where she put it on the table. She didn't think about the kitchen being dark. If she had thought about it at all, she would have said "Thank you, Father, that I have a kitchen." She knew too, too many women since the war's end who had no home of their own at all.

It was hardly six as she started the rice to cooking. Just right she thought. But the day she went away she would have to be up much earlier. Her train left at seven, and she must be at the station long before six in order to be sure of a seat and even then she must take her little folding seat just in case. And that reminded her to take the water canteen down from the chest. She mustn't forget that or she wouldn't have any water on the long twenty four

(Please turn to page 9)



Delegates at the Memphis meeting last year saw W.M.U. history in the making. Will you share in the inspiration of the 1949 sessions?

six states with full delegations?

In thinking of this annual meeting the words of Jesus to the multitudes, "What went ye out to see?", have been ringing in my heart.

"What are we going out to Oklahoma City to see?" I know already your hearts are echoing the response that we are going to see our friends. How wonderful to meet and greet the friends of other years! Those who have been privileged to frequent these meetings know with what rare anticipation we look forward to this occasion when we meet and fellowship friend with friend. And then there is the priceless joy of ever meeting and making new friends.

"What are we going out to Oklahoma City to see?" Our missionaries. Yes. These soldiers

of the Cross who have occupied front line places, but who are now on furlough in the homeland. We will see in their presence that God still has a group of disciples in this materialistic, unbelieving age who possess the passion of Christ for a lost world. What an inspiration it will be to us to be with them and catch something of their consecration and devotion. As we listen to their messages surely we will return to our places with a determination to be more unselfish in our service.

"What are we going out to Oklahoma City to see?" The needs of the world! Through messengers from the homeland

OKLAHOMA CITY—1949!

by Mrs. George R. Martin
President of Woman's Missionary Union

THE 1949 ANNUAL MEETING of Woman's Missionary Union will be held in Oklahoma City May 15-17. This will be the fourth time the hospitality of this magic city has been extended to Southern Baptists. Let us respond to this invitation by attending in large numbers! In 1912 when the Union met in Oklahoma City for the first time only two states had full delegations—Missouri and Texas. In 1939 four states shared that honor—Louisiana, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Texas. Arkansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and Texas had full delegations in 1944. Would it be too much to hope that in 1949 we could have



The inviting skyline of Oklahoma City where our W.M.U. Annual Meeting will be held

and from earth's remotest bounds we will see and sense something of the hunger and suffering, anguish and desperation, of the peoples around the world. Words spoken by Miss Heck in the 1912 meeting in Oklahoma City are pertinent today: "The earth shakes with the tread of nations pressing forward. Whither? He who would help shape them must be fearless, self-sacrificing, heroic. Without our will we are set for such a time as this." Yes, we will see the needs of the world, but more than that, we will see our own relationships to these *living needs*.

On the occasion of the Transfiguration, you will recall, Jesus had taken three of his disciples up into a mountain. When the disciples heard the voice of God, they were frightened and fell on their faces. Jesus came to them, touched them and said, "Rise, have no fear." And when they lifted their eyes they saw no one save Jesus only. Let us pray that in the Oklahoma City meeting we might ascend a high mountain, alone with Jesus, and behold his transformed body, and hear God's voice as it says to us, "This is my son, hear him!" And may we lift our eyes and see Jesus only!

Proposed Revisions in the Bylaws of Woman's Missionary Union

The following article is to be voted on at Woman's Missionary Union annual meeting in Oklahoma City, May 16, 17, 1949. Every delegate will please study this carefully, preparatory to voting.

BY LAWS

ARTICLE 7: *Editorial Secretary* shall be charged with responsibility for the publications of Woman's Missionary Union. She, in conference with the executive secretary and the young people's secretary, shall se-

cure and edit material for the W.M.U. magazines. She shall be responsible for editing all literature authorized by the Editorial Committee. In conference with the chairman of the Editorial Committee she shall plan for meetings of the committee. She shall render a written report to each meeting of the Executive Committee and to the annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union.

Then Article 7 will be renumbered as 8, Article 8 as 9, etc.

IT IS the sincere and deep conviction of my soul when I declare that if the Christian faith does not culminate and complete itself in the effort to make Christ known to all the world, that faith appears to me to be a thoroughly unreal and insignificant thing, destitute of power for the single life and incapable of being convincingly true.—Phillips Brooks

Convinced by Curios

Based on a story told by Mary Ellen Caver

"WILL YOU VISIT our society and tell us some of your personal experiences in Nigeria," read the missionary. This particular letter came from Mrs. Smith, a doctor's wife, the president of a small but alert Woman's Missionary Society. "To be on time for our afternoon meeting you must arrive before noon. Please plan to eat lunch in our home."

The day came for the missionary to arrive at the Smith home. The doctor's father and mother lived there also. She soon sensed that the elderly couple were not at all interested in her talk about mission work. She tried to speak of homey things, but at lunch the conversation became even more strained. She was a bit embarrassed and dared not catch the eye of the younger woman who had invited her. She was reminded of the old saying, "The longer you chew, the bigger the hite gets." Somehow she did not feel like eating. As she sat there at the table she purposed in her heart to do her very best at the meeting that afternoon.

The mother-in-law did not go with them to the meeting. This made the missionary all the more reluctant to return to the Smith home to wait for the late evening bus. How would she get through that evening meal! She must find some way to win their hearts to her work!

Her hostess suggested that they go into the kitchen to talk while she made biscuits. Maybe the missionary could find some hint as to the reason for such disinterest.

While they were chatting the mother-in-law came in—surprised to find the visitor in the kitchen. Mrs. Smith said, "Mother, I wish you could have seen the strange things (referring to the curios the missionary showed at the meeting) and heard this lady hold our women spellbound with her stories."

"I would not mind seeing what she has to show," replied the older woman. So the missionary brought out the curios and told

about them one by one as she showed them to Mother Smith.

She looked in wonder at a little heathen god and said, "You know there is no one in the world that prays to a god like this!"

The missionary replied, "You do not have to believe it, but it is true, for I was in Africa—right there when that little god was given up for a living Lord. I rejoiced with the woman who had prayed to it before she became a Christian."

Then Mother Smith asked, "What are foreign missions? What are heathen people really like?"



When it dawned on her what we mean by foreign missions she exclaimed, "To think that I have never given anything worthwhile to help send the gospel to faraway lands! But now I would like to have a part in this work, too."

Just then the father-in-law came in with an armful of wood and threw it down behind the stove. His wife said, "John, I wish you could have seen the things I just saw—and heard this lady talk!"

The old gentleman said, "Don't mind seeing what she has to show. What is it?"

So the little bag was opened and again the curios were shown. The mother-in-law joined in telling the story this time. When it was finished she said to her husband, "We ought to be ashamed that we have never done anything to help send missionaries to faraway lands. We haven't even made it easy for Helen here, and she has tried so hard to help us see this thing."

Father Smith said very slowly, "I guess we should have been doing something. Is it too late now, Helen?"

Just then the doctor opened the door. "Why is everyone back here in the kitchen?"

His father and mother said anxiously, "We wish you could see the things this missionary lady has—and hear the tales she has been telling us about them." So for the

third time the little bag of curios was opened.

After they had all helped to tell the story that went with the idol, Mother and Father Smith told their son, "We are going to help send missionaries to needy places around the world."

The wife was over in the corner still preparing supper. The doctor went over and lovingly placed his arm around his wife's shoulder, called her a pet name and said, "Now that I know more about what you are trying to show us, I am prouder of you than ever." He kissed her and said, "From now on you can count on all of us to help you in your mission work."

Supper time came. The same group was seated around the same table. The doctor gave the missionary some health suggestions and insisted that she did not eat enough. Mother Smith walked around the table and placed the choicest food on the missionary's plate and said, "Honey, I want you to eat every bit of this!"

OFF TO HER W.M.U.

(Continued from page 5)

hour trip. She almost laughed as she remembered what her American missionary friend had told her about trains over there. Beds they had, dining rooms, ice water, and other things beyond her imagination. She knew that a few trains in Japan before the war had had some of those comforts, but she had never been in one of them and it was still as strange to her as the thought of the women she had heard of in other countries who could quickly and easily open cans and boxes and prepare a delicious meal in a matter of minutes. Women who could drive off to meetings such as this in their own cars, lock up their houses all day giving them never a thought. She had even seen pictures of the machines that washed clothes inside, and she laughed as she looked over at the large wooden tubs in the o-furoba and thought of the hours she spent bent over them. Usually that was the day after bath nights—she thought with regret of the nightly baths before the war—because the large wooden tub would be full of at least warm water. Otherwise it would take her another two hours to fill the tub and with tiny little sticks and scraps build



Young Japanese learn American ways easily—will they be the ways of Christ? It depends on your prayers and gifts

the fire outside which would heat the water. There was no envy in her thinking—only wonder that such things could be for women of her own class in other countries.

Now everything was ready at last. The rice beautifully dry with each grain separate, the soup hot. She put the pickle on the table, as she went to see that the others were about ready to come. Then she looked to be sure the Bibles and hymn books were at each place. Not for two years had they missed the Bible reading, the song and prayer of gratitude for the morning food. As they started to sing she felt she was already on her way to Fukuoka.

A LITTLE CHURCH WITH BIG FAITH

(Continued from page 2)

\$50.00 a month and the state board is sending \$25.00 a month. Offerings run around \$25.00 to \$40.00 a Sunday. Every resident member is a tither. The church is giving monthly to associational and co-operative missions and has more than doubled its membership twice. Very little outside help has been sent in the past year or two.

At present the pastor is also pastor of another small church and is preaching for a third church until they can call a pastor. Services are alternated so as to give full time preaching at all three churches. A small church can do big things if it goes forward in faith.

Growth in Spain

from Mrs. J. D. Hughey

The first week in February the officers of our national W.M.U. had their business meeting. One of the most important matters was the planning for our second annual W.M.U. conference.

During the past year the W.M.U. in some churches began to enlarge its program of missionary education to include our boys and girls. There are eight Sunbeam Bands and Girls' Auxiliaries getting under way. With Mrs. Jennings to lead we are expecting real development in our young people's work.

The first week in March, the W.M.U. of Spain will observe its Week of Prayer for Home Missions. Our program will present the Baptist churches of Spain and the opportunities before us.

We are so eager that the women of Spain have as vital a connection as possible with the Union of Baptist Women of Europe.

Puzzling News from China

from S. Kathryn Bigham

As the newspapers and radios of the world have announced the retirement of Chiang Kai Shek, I am sure that you are wondering just what is actually happening here. We are wondering, too. If I were to ask 12 men at random this afternoon what they consider the implications of the present change in the government, I am quite sure that I would get a dozen different opinions. After voicing differing personal opinions, perhaps they would add the words, "Well, we just aren't quite sure."

People are puzzled. The Chinese people feel that peace at any price is better at this time than war. Just when this "peace" will come, only time can tell. Some feel that it will only be a matter of a few weeks before the flag of the Reds will fly high over this city of six million people. Others feel that it may take a number of months for this "peace" to be worked out. There seems to be almost no question at all but that the Communists will assume control of this area. Just how far south the Communists will be able to go in their influence is yet to be seen. In times past the Reds have been very cruel to the people in the

places they have conquered. But this time, they seem to be assuming a more lenient attitude. For some reason they are changing their tactics.

Along with these war-weary years have come confusion, bewilderment, disease, starvation, death. This war has taken its toll in deaths not only in bloodshed on battlefields. May I tell you about a group of war casualties here in Shanghai? Every cold night people without shelter die on the bare sidewalks. In three days three hundred and eleven corpses were picked up by a benevolent organization. From November 1 to January 3, 4,927 people died from cold and hunger. Of this number 3,879 were children who never had a chance to really live. They never knew what it was to laugh and sing, to romp and play as normal children. I have never

found much beauty in the howling of the winds. Now such cold howling winds seem uglier than words can describe, for with them come misery and death.

Our Aluminum Church

from Louise Medling

We live in a Japanese-style house in a suburb of Tokyo. Shortly after arriving in October, arrangements were made for the First Baptist Church of Tokyo to conduct services in our home. The pastor, his wife, and their children began having Sunday school and church every Sunday. Twenty-two came on the first Sunday. Now there are over 200 children attending Sunday school and an average attendance of 65 at the preaching service and the English Bible Class. The children go home after Sunday school due to lack of space so that the adults can come to services. The Japanese minister, Rev. Tomita, pastor of the church, preaches every Sunday and Mr. Medling teaches the English Bible Class.

A Young Woman's Auxiliary has been organized with 30 members enrolled. At the time of the organization Mrs. Medling

and the two daughters of the pastor were the only Christians. Since the beginning, sixteen have accepted Christ as Saviour and have followed the Lord in baptism.

The young men attending church also wanted to meet and study God's Word and serve him in a missionary way. So they organized what they call a Young Men's Auxiliary. The two together are called the Baptist Youth Union.

Since last spring thirty young people and adults have accepted Christ and have been baptized into the church. There are others who have accepted Christ but have to wait till winter passes to be baptized. All baptismal services have been in a near-by

This church received from the Japan Baptist Convention one of the aluminum church buildings sent over from America.



It will be erected on a lovely corner lot in the near-by town of Seta Machi, along with a pastor's home and kindergarten. The lot is in a strategic place, and there are tall green pine trees which will form a lovely background for the church.

Our formal language study will be over soon now. This does not mean that we will not have to study more. We will have to study for years and years to come, but we will study at home rather than in school and will take on full time missionary duty. Our Japan Baptist Convention has decided that Kumamoto, a city near the center of the Island of Kyushu, will be the place for our work.

The pastor of the church there is the chairman of the Committee on Evangelism and is very evangelistic. We feel definitely led to do evangelistic work, and feel that Mr. Medling and this young pastor can work out from Kumamoto as a center, carrying the message to as many surrounding towns as possible.

Thank you each and every one for your many kind letters, greetings, and the packages. Those packages have gladdened the hearts of many and have proved your love

for the unfortunate. Thank you for your prayers and for every part you have had in extending his kingdom.

New W.M.U. Training School in Rio

from Dorine Hawkins

No one knows what headaches and heartaches are until he or she has supervised a building in a foreign land. Prices have almost tripled since the building began back in August of 1947. The shortage of materials has caused many things to be on black market lists. We had to buy a few sacks of cement at almost \$3 a sack. But through it all the Lord has led and blessed us.

The business men have been unusually kind to Miss Minnie Landrum and me as we have dealt with them. It has seemed most strange to them that two women should undertake such a task, but after being surprised they have gone the second mile in courtesy and helpfulness. As I write in January the building lacks another two months yet being ready, but the third floor looks very much like a real dormitory. It lacks the painting of the walls, and the sanding and polishing of the floors. As soon as this floor is complete, the furniture for all the building will be placed there.

The funds for the building were given through the Lottie Moon Christmas offering, and the women of Brazil are trying to furnish it. The most they can do will be little however and other special gifts from the homeland are making its completion possible. The name of the donor will be on a bronze plaque on the door of the room furnished. These will surely be interesting reading with names from different states of our Southland all mixed in with the names from different states of the Southern Cross.

On March 15 we hope to have the opening classes of our South Brazil Training School. The faculty is made up largely of missionaries, with four Brazilian teachers. We have about 35 girls ready to enter this first year, and the building will hold as many as 75 or 80. We will have classes four and a half days a week, with Wednesday afternoon given to practical visitation and

(Continued on page 15)

THEY HEARD HIS CALL

"Go Ye Into All the World"

As we come again to April, we are reminded of our Commencement, almost a year ago, when seventy-eight young women, the largest class in our history, finished their training and turned their faces outward. Two years of study, of facing up to life's commitments, of following through on goals set years ago, of making new plans born out of new impressions and experiences, and then Commencement marks the beginning of that life service.

Following these graduates



out into life, we find ourselves on a veritable globe-encircling jaunt. Perhaps no round-the-world liars have taken just the route we shall take as we look in on the newest missionaries from our Training School. Leaving from the east coast, we head straight for Nigeria, where Mary Catherine Adams (Florida), Jean Bach (Kentucky), and Bonnie Moore (Georgia), are getting the feel of being missionaries. Mary Catherine wanted to be a pioneer missionary, but as an introduction to Africa was appointed to teach in our Baptist College in Iwo. Jean Bach and Bonnie Moore are serving their apprenticeship in the Idi-Aba Girls' School in Abeokuta.

From Nigeria we go to one of the world's trouble spots, Palestine, where two

of our courageous volunteers landed in November, Anna Cowan (Missouri) and Mabel Summers (Kentucky).

From Palestine we have a long hop over to China, where we will find one of our last year's students, Mary Frances Gould, (Kentucky) settled in Canton, busy studying the language, and getting acquainted with this great country that she is already calling "home."

Our next stop will be Japan, where Lois Linnenkohl (Georgia) took up residence in January. Then Hawaii, the "Paradise of the Pacific," where we find Gladys Farmer (Georgia), Gertrude Moore (Virginia), and Erlene Paulk (Alabama) already well started in their missionary activities, since they have no language barrier.

There will be a long flight to Brazil to look in on Lois Roberts (Tennessee). As we return to the States we can stop over in Mexico for a visit with Miriam McCullough (Alabama).

Back at home we find several of last year's appointees making further preparation before starting out on their first missionary journey. At Yale, deep in the study of Chinese, are Elaine Crotwell (Alabama), Virginia Miles (North Carolina), Victoria Parsons (District of Columbia), and Jean Prince Shepard (Arkansas). Alma McKenzie Wood (Virginia) is with her husband in New York before undertaking work in China. Annelu Moore Ray (Alabama) has been appointed with her husband by the American Baptist Foreign Mission Board for work in In-



Mary Catherine Adams, licensed pilot, is ready for a plane to fly to pioneer work in interior Nigeria

dia. They are studying at Cornell University this session and will spend the summer in language study before sailing for India in the fall. Annie Rines (Tennessee) is extending her luncheon from Nigeria another year in order to take a course in pharmacy.

After the challenge of these far places, we should give more earnest heed to the missionary task at home. Helen Ige (California) took literally the injunction, "Go home to thy friends and tell..." as she began her work among the Japanese-Americans around Los Angeles. Elizabeth Taylor (Arkansas) resumed her work with the Home Mission Board in the department of "Special Missions." Laura Frances Snow (North Carolina) is field representative for the W. M. U. of North Carolina. Kathleen Frink (North Carolina) is assistant to the associational missionary in Winston-Salem, N. C.

Time and space fail me to tell of the thirteen who went into local church work, the twenty-two Seminary students' wives who are busy on their church fields, five who are in varying types of denominational work, two who are teaching (Continued on page 13)

MOMENTS WITH OUR MISSIONARIES

SCRIPTURE READING: Matt. 9:35-38; 10:37-39; John 12:24-26; Romans 10:12-15

FOR YOUR PROGRAM there are articles in April Southern Baptist Home Missions: "Among the Missionaries" by Mildred Dunn; and "Evangelism in Home Missions," testimonies by several missionaries. In April The Commission: "How to Make a Seminary out of a Swiss Villa" by Winifred Williams Warts (the conversion at Ruschlikon, Zurich); and "What Japan Has Taught Me" by Floryne Miller (a missionary's experience as a houseguest in Tokyo and Kokura). Here in Royal Service see "Lettresses," page 10, and "Baptists at Points Paul Touch-ed," page 1.

In World Comrades see "We Sent Boxes to Europe" to remind your circle of what big boxes you can send through New Orleans; see address, page 1. In April The Window of YWA think of what missionaries could do in such situations as "An Old Neglected

(Continued from page 12)
Bible in public schools, four who returned to their profession of teaching school, one who went into social work, and nine who have married since graduation. Each one must be busy just where she is, as she acts on the compulsion, "Did you not know that I must be about my Father's business?"



First Mexican R.A. Conclave."

With all these stimulating discussions your circle members should feel close to our missionaries, ready to pray more intelligently and give more generously to the progress of their work, which is our work.

Plan your circle meeting as carefully as a larger meeting. It is vital to our missionary zeal in the Lord's work.

Church." April Ambassador Life has a fascinating missionary experience told by Mr. Duffer, R.A. secretary for Mexico, "I Attended the



Women and Family Worship by Joe W. Burton, Editor of HOME LIFE

The Southern Baptist campaign for 100,000 new family altars is vitally related to the work of the Woman's Missionary Union. The establishment of family altars has ever been a major concern of the W.M.U.

A consecrated Christian woman can do much to establish a family altar in her home. Her influence is necessary to continue a meaningful family altar period each day. There will be times in the absence of her husband when she will carry on the worship period. There are some homes in which the wife will have little help at any time in family worship.

Godly women will be a great help in reaching and exceeding the goal of 100,000 new family altars.

If your pastor does not have a supply of these attractive cards he can secure them from The Baptist Sunday School Board, Order Department, Nashville, Tennessee.

Conditioning Children for Death's Coming

by Ruth LaTuille Matthews

DEATH IS AN EXPERIENCE too strange for the very young child to comprehend. But the four, five and six-year-old begins to ask questions about it. The wise parent will prepare the child in advance of death's coming. Last minute conditioning usually accomplishes very little in cushioning the shock, loss, and loneliness that the death of a loved one or pet brings.

One day a five-year-old came rushing to tell his mother, "Mr. Perkins is dead next door, and Tom-



many pounds slimmer, perhaps, and their faces much younger looking. As a normal process, periodically we discard parts of our bodies such as losing baby teeth, getting haircuts, and cutting off fingernails.

The story is told that John Quincy Adams, once president of our nation, when quite old was asked by a neighbor, "How are you feeling today, Mr. Adams?" He replied, "John Quincy Adams is fine today, sir. His roof leaks, the old timbers are shaky and the windows are getting dim, but John Quincy Adams is fine."

Acquaintance with brave invalids whose bodies do not prevent their real spiritual selves from being strong and cheerful, will supply "life size" proof that the body is not the real person.

When talking about death and future life, we can assure children that we shall continue being ourselves, but in a more wonderful environment than here. We should not fear going to heaven just because we have not previously seen it. If a relative or friend has moved to a distant city and writes back pleasantly about it, use his letters as parallels to Jesus' assurance about heaven in John 14.

If a child's pet dies, secure another one as soon as possible. In the meantime,

substitute other sources of companionship and diversion. If a relative or friend dies, be calm before the child, speak of death in a natural, matter-of-fact voice. Hushed tones suggest something abnormal that is to be feared. Small children, ordinarily, should not attend funerals, unless they have been prepared far in advance for death's coming, and are accompanied by poised adults who will not give expression to emotional outbursts.

Preparing small children for death's coming is a heavy parental obligation, requiring understanding, tact, imagination, and infinite patience. But great is the reward in seeing one's child develop with a healthy religious attitude toward life's greatest enigma.



my says they're going to put him in a box and stick him in the ground!"

It was easy for this parent to remind the boy that our bodies are just "houses" we live in. They had talked at length many times earlier about the distinction between one's real self and his body. She described how happy Mr. Perkins must be now, free of his old, suffering body. A few days later, the boy was talking to his grandfather, who was enduring excruciating arthritic pains. He innocently said, "Never mind, Grandpa, you'll die pretty soon."

Advance preparation for death's coming should include the idea that our bodies are gradually changing in appearance throughout all life. Show some pictures of the parents taken years earlier when they were

A REFRESHER COURSE

by Margaret Bruce

SOMETIME AGO I READ AN article entitled "A Refresher Course in Living." It was a thrilling account of a land where people really take time to live. The people there have high moral standards, they are honest, and sincere and they love and respect their religion.

The writer of the article said, "Doctors and teachers are not the only people who should take refresher courses. All of us would be better for an occasional refresher course in the essence of right living."

As these words have recurred many times to my mind, I have thought of young people's directors and counselors who need to take refresher courses in W.M.U. methods. How long has it been since you read *The Way of Missionary Educa-*

tion, Telling You How, the G.A. or R.A. Counselor's Guides, manuals, leaflets and other materials?

Have you ever taken a Correspondence Course? We have courses for Girls' Auxiliary and Royal Ambassador counselors (\$1.00 each), and for Sunbeam Band leaders and Y.W.A. counselors (\$1.05 each). We also have a Correspondence Course for Young People's Directors (\$1.00). Enroll in one of these courses today through W.M.U. Correspondence Courses, 1111 Comer Bldg., Birmingham 3, Ala.

There is nothing that will refresh counselors and leaders more than a thorough monthly reading of our mission magazines, *Royal Service*, *World Comrades*, *The Window of Y.W.A.*, and *Ambassador Life*. Did you read "Memo to the Counselor" in January *World Comrades*? "Embassy Helps" in February *Ambassador Life*? "The Logic of Love" in February *The Window of Y.W.A.*? If so, I am confident that you were refreshed.

How true it is that "April showers bring May flowers." As the flower seeds need the spring rains to make them grow and blossom into things of beauty, so individuals need to be refreshed, revived and renewed. Through reading and study this can be accomplished.

Preparation and service are wonderful refresher courses for the young people's directors, counselors and leaders. The one who serves unselfishly always feels invigorated and rejuvenated. Try preparing yourself for greater service and

see if you do not feel refreshed and happy.

Dr. Merton Rice, well-known minister, tells of one warm summer evening when he stopped at a cold drink stand for a glass of orangeade. Just as he was about to put the cool drink to his lips he felt a tug at his side. Looking down he saw a little old lady, bent and looking up into his face pathetically. Pointing to the glass in his hand, she said, "Please, sir, I'm thirsty too." That little word "too" stuck in Dr. Rice's heart. He realized that before he could be happy in taking his drink, he must give her a refreshing drink also.

Young people are thirsty too. They are thirsty for the



good things of life. They, too, need a refresher course in right living and you, as a young people's leader, can meet this need by preparing your heart and mind for greater missionary service.

LETTER-ETTES

(Continued from page 11)

social work. Saturday will be clean up day, and all of Sunday devoted to regular church activities, with the girls going in couples to the most needy churches here in the city doing their field work. Miss Sophia Nichols of South Carolina is to be my co-laborer in the direction of the school.

FUN FOR THAND-PILE SET

What would Easter time be for tiny tots without some mention of eggs and bunnies? Yet these traditional symbols should definitely be second place to the real significance and meaning of Easter.

Planting Egg Shells Even the smallest tot can fill half egg shells with soil and grass seed, place them in an egg carton, preferably in a sunny window, water them himself, and watch his "crop" grow.

Kitchen Activity What child doesn't want to help in the kitchen? A rotary egg beater offers the noise, speed, and outlet for energy

that children love. A nourishing drink preschoolers may "concoct" for themselves is grape juice topped with fluffy egg white, or milk beaten up with raw whole egg, with a dash of nutmeg or cinnamon.

Coloring Eggs for an Egg Hunt Why not let the children themselves help color eggs for a neighborhood hunt? Various combinations may be secured by dipping half in one color, half in another and using transfer designs. Try writing with a special pencil just, then dip the egg. The child's name stands out in white letters.

IS THIS YOUR QUESTION?

by Mary Northington, Tennessee

How can we get the women to buy mission study books?

Have the books at the society or circle meeting a month before the class starts. Do not apologize or talk about how expensive they are. They buy other books and these will look well, too, on library shelves. Let the women know that they are expected to buy and read the books. Let the society purchase the book for those who are unable to buy their own, or at least buy enough copies to

Where may we obtain the wall record charts and how much do they cost?

Order from W.M.U., 1111 Comer Building, Birmingham 3, Alabama. The price is ten cents each. Order one for each circle.

May the charts be used for the young people?

Yes, they are especially fine for the G.A.'s and Y.W.A.'s. They like to see that they are tithers, have had a mission study class, take the magazines, and so on. They can check on their attendance easily with this chart. The R.A.'s have a chart especially for them, price 20c.

Is it necessary for the young people to meet twice a month to be A-1?

Yes. And the young people are willing to meet. They usually want to meet every week. If the course

for accepts the privilege of leadership, she must also accept the responsibility. It is not fair to take the job and then fail the young people or the Lord.

If a group of women, not business women, have their circle meeting in the evening, can their circle attendance be counted at the society meeting?

No, only the B.W.C. attendance is counted as part of the society attendance in such cases.

If B.W.C. members attend an Associational Federation mission study class, may it count as a class for the circle?

If one fourth of the B.W.C. members are in the class, see foot note on page 25, 1949 W.M.U. YEAR BOOK.

Should a W.M.S. enlist only women who are members of that Baptist church?

The circles and the society often prove excellent enlistment and soul-winning agencies.

WHY DO YOU WORRY?

Matthew 6:25-34

WOMEN WHO LOVE CHRIST have learned that he is sufficient for every need. This is the glorious theme of our year's programs, *Christ is the Answer*. God forbid that this truth should ever become commonplace to us, rather may it always set the joy bells ringing in our hearts.

Out in the country with the birds, the wild flowers, the grassy meadows, the fields of grain, the quiet and serenity of life God speaks to us. He tells us that he is sufficient for every material need: water, food and clothing. Bryant in the poem "Thanatopsis" said, "Go forth, under the open sky, and list to Nature's teachings."

Jesus spoke the unexcelled words of our Scripture lesson out in the open country. He asked fearful mortals to observe the birds of the air, the flowers and grass and remember the love and care of the Heavenly Father.

In Palestine where the climate was hot, the country rugged and water scarce, the worry about water was ever in the minds of the people.

But Jesus tells his disciples to listen to the birds singing praises to God. They have not the least worry about food and drink. They do not even have the advantage that we have of sowing and reaping and gathering into barns. Still they do not worry. Would that the children of men could learn from the birds that God who nourishes the insignificant sparrow will not forget his children.

Under the feet of Jesus and his disciples that day as he spoke, beautiful flowers

grew on the grassy slopes. No labor of man had been given to their cultivation. They strikingly displayed God's care. King Solomon arrayed in all his priceless gorgeous apparel could not compare with the beauty of the lilies. The grass of the field in the East is short lived for it withers quickly if a hot south wind blows. Then the dried grass, because of the scarcity of fuel, is gathered and used to heat the baking ovens. The short-lived grasses stand in contrast to Christ's disciples who are destined for eternal life. If God robes the lilies and the grasses which are today and tomorrow are cast into the oven, surely he will give needed clothing to his children. Clothes are secondary to the need of food and water, but they are essential.

Jesus asked his disciples as they note how he clothes the grass and flowers that they stop worrying about such provision for themselves. God who gave us our very lives and bodies will not fail to give us the food and few garments we need. The simplest logic ought to help us to put worry out of our minds.

Jesus pointed out that by our worrying we are not able to add a single moment to our lives. It may be that worry will take away some of our years. With all our worry, apart from God's blessing, we can do nothing.

Jesus not only admonished us to avoid anxiety but he suggested something to do instead. We are to seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and there will be no occasion for anxiety. Seek the spiritual first and the temporal

needs will follow.

God does not mean that we are not to put forth forethought and effort for food and clothing. Trust in God does not imply lack of planning and working, but it does show us that anxious care concerning the supply of temporal needs is not necessary.

Often even those who live in rural sections fail to see the lesson Jesus points out. If it does not rain they worry about the crops. If it rains too much they fear that all the produce may be ruined. They are disturbed about prices of produce. They labor long and arduously and feel that they do



not have time to listen to the great sermon the birds of the air, the lilies and grasses of the field daily preach to them of God's care.

An unshaken confidence in God is never dismayed at changes and surprises in life. He who has faith will not be anxious concerning the necessities of life whether he lives in the city or the country. Trust in God steadies and strengthens, unifies and keeps us from wearing our hearts out with corroding cares.

Let us memorize these blessed words of Jesus and hear him speak words of peace. Indeed Christ is sufficient for all needs wherever we are, whatever is our state.



circulate so each woman has access to the book.

How can we get them to read the book?

Talk up the book. Tell the women facts that are interesting as "appetizers." Paste a paper in the back of the book that belongs to the W.M.S. and ask each one to sign it when she reads it. Use the wall chart and put a special mark opposite the names of those who read the book.

Do all the women have to read two books?

Two-thirds of the members must read a book during the year to reach A-1 on the Standard of Excellence.

Are two classes required?

Yes, and one-third of the members must attend at least one class and read the book.



OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

Annual Meeting W.M.U., May 15-17

Southern Baptist Convention, May 18-22

RIDGECREST, NORTH CAROLINA

Y.W.A. Camp, June 16-22

Young Men's Mission Conference
July 28—August 3

W.M.U. (and B.W.C.) Conference
August 4-10



CHRIST THE ANSWER IN THE RURAL COMMUNITY

Planned by Reitha Coggins



HERITAGE

*This is the land that we love, where our fathers found refuge,
Here are the grooves of their plows and the mounds of their graves;
These are the hills that they knew, and the forests and waters,
Glorious rivers and seas of rejuvenant waves.*

*This is our heritage, this that our fathers bequeathed us,
Ours in our time, but in trust for the ages to be;
Wasting or husbanding, building, destroying or shielding,
Faithful or faithless—possessors and stewards are we.*

—ARTHUR GUTTERMAN

Your Program in Outline

OPENING HYMN—*There is a Fountain*

PRAYER

DEVOTIONAL—*Why Do You Worry?* (page 17)

God's Gift of the Country

SONG—*For the Beauty of the Earth*

Will Satan Win the Country?

When Christ Dominates there is Greatness

When Christ Dominates there is Progress

A New Day for the Country

Many Religious Groups at Work

Southern Baptists' Rural Program

HYMN—*The Church's One Foundation*

The Rural Church Challenges Our City Churches

The Rural Church Challenges Pastors

The Rural Church Challenges Women and Woman's Missionary Societies

Christ Challenges Rural Churches

Power for the Task

SONG—*In the Old-time Way*

PRAYER

How to Present this Program in W.M.S. and B.W.C.

The alert program chairman will do better than follow any program outline slavishly. Add touches which give variety and adapt material to your own situation.

In presenting your program use the placards from previous meetings reading in unison the words

CHRIST IS THE ANSWER

FOR THE INDIVIDUAL

IN CITY STREETS

TO RACIAL TENSION

and this month's

IN THE RURAL COMMUNITY

Decorate with pictures of rural life from *The Angelus* to modern magazine covers. Be ready to have comparative statistics put on blackboard, or held up in poster fashion, or using flannelgraph method.

Urge women to read the material on their assigned topics, to add other pertinent information, and tell, not read, it.

The two discussions on "When Christ Dominates" could be presented by two women in conversation as if recalling these contributions of rural churches. Or you may introduce a quick quiz to identify the great leaders mentioned. Yates was pioneer missionary to China, Lowe served some 40 years in China, Gambrell was a great Baptist statesman, Robertson was the foremost Greek, and Sampey the foremost Hebrew, scholars in their day. Robert G. Lee is president of S.B.C., Ellis Fuller is president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Are you in a city church? Why not ask

how many present were born and reared in the country? What did they like about their country church? Why not have those same features in the life of your city church? Couldn't they be adjusted to city life? Or plan a debate: Life in rural sections is more conducive to Christian development than in the city. Plan to go out and help organize a rural W.M.S.

Are you in a rural church? What do you think a city church has that you don't? Why couldn't you have anything worthwhile that a city church has? Do you have or need a church library? Write to Miss Florida Waite, Secretary, 161 Eighth Avenue, North, Nashville, Tenn. if you do not know your state director of church libraries.

You may decide to have an old fashioned "little red schoolhouse" presentation,

quaint teacher, bell, and all. Arithmetic lesson would include the various comparisons; biography would cover the discussion of "greatness," history, what has been done; composition could be papers on remaining topics.

Invest time and prayer in planning and preparation and see how much more zest your program will have than if you "read the parts."



God's Gift of the Country

Who does not love God's great out-of-doors, the country with its wide open spaces, its fresh, pure air, its hills and valleys, its mountains and streams, its sunshine and flowers, its beautiful sunsets, its silvery moon amidst soft, fleecy clouds and

millions of bright, twinkling stars! "And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good" (Gen. 1:31).

God's scheme of creation makes us all dependent on the soil, its products and its preservation. We are brothers in the soil for even if we were born in the city, our bodies are made up of the same chemical elements as those in the soil. (Adam was not the only person created out "of the dust of the ground.") God planned so that our bodies have to be constantly replenished with these same elements. Starving people can keep alive by eating clay.

In God's great love and care for us he spread over the earth an average of eight to nine inches of rich topsoil and unlimited quantities of water. Instead of eating the soil and consuming the source of our living, God provided plants and animals to transfer these necessary elements in the soil to the human body as we eat them. Year after year the soil supports a new crop of plants and another generation of animals. Season after season this cycle of life is sustained. Not only are country and city people "brothers in the soil" by physical makeup, but clothing and housing also come indirectly from the soil. Our physical existence and our whole civilization are absolutely dependent upon those few inches of topsoil spread over our land.

For years people did not understand the urgent necessity of preserving this precious topsoil. Even yet many do not seem to recognize it. Recent surveys in our nation show that several inches have already been lost. Some has been blown away in dust storms but more has been washed down into the sea.

Even water pressure in city systems is affected by the way farmers care for the land. In some sections of our nation the natural underground water table, or reservoir, is falling so rapidly as to be alarming. Louis Bromfield tells us that when we see rich, black dirt flowing down streams we should realize that it is not only the farmer's rich soil being washed away, but that business concerns of surrounding towns and cities

are going down with it. Soil and souls must both be saved.

Is Satan Winning the Country?

When God created man, he breathed into him the breath of life and man became a living soul, made in God's image. We are spiritual as well as physical beings.

Satan's first visible attack was in the Garden of Eden and from Genesis on past John 3:16 and Romans 16:20 through Revelation is the record of God's offer of salvation and Satan's trying to lead man to torment.

The struggle is still on. Satan not only seeks to dominate the lives of individuals, but whole areas of life. It would seem that he and his cohorts have "set up camp" in the rural areas.

"Go out into the highways and hedges, and constrain them to come in"

—Luke 14:23

"For the Son of man came to seek and to save that which was lost"

—Luke 19:10

Satan knows that if he can get control of the country he will then have little opposition in the cities. More than half of the world's population lives in the country. Large cities have to depend upon the country for their increases in population.

Most of our nation's children are born and reared in the country. There are twice as many children in the rural areas and small villages as in the towns and cities. Actually, the South is furnishing the largest per cent of the nation's children. The average city family has only one and two-thirds children while the average rural family in the South has three and three-fourths children.

From a purely selfish standpoint rural leaders could wish that all their young people felt like a certain 4-H Club boy of Illinois. According to Farm Editor Joe Reaves of Station WPTF in Raleigh, N. C., the boy attended the International Livestock Exposition in Chicago last December. He was asked for his impression of "this big city of steel and concrete with its Neon glare." Said he, "If I owned Chicago, I'd trade it for 140 acres." But not all rural youth feel this way. They flock to the cities by the thousands and the average age of arrival is nineteen years. The country still gives to the city much of her best blood.

There has always been sin in the country but it used to be frowned upon. Today, the country as well as the city suffers from the let-down in moral ideals which always follows war. "According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, crime in city areas increased over seven per cent in 1946 as compared with the previous year. In rural areas the increase was fourteen per cent."

In the same week two newspapers published in two widely separated Southern states, carried accounts of the deaths of two young girls under almost exactly the same circumstances. In both instances there were several couples of young people engaging in sordid affairs in highway cabins in rural sections. At least one of the unfortunate victims was herself from the country. This was not just a coincident and rural mothers should be deeply concerned about their young people.

Many forms of organized sin have moved out to the country. Gambling and illegal handling of alcoholic beverages thrive in some roadside filling stations, making it difficult for those who want to make an honest, honorable living in a small rural enterprise. In some states that are supposed to have "dry" territory, the liquor interests get the cities detached from the rural areas, so they can win elections and put liquor in the cities. If the alcoholic traffic can change the sentiment in the rural sections, their battle will have been won and they will have "open saloons" everywhere.

Along with murder and drunkenness, rural youths are committing thefts; they are gambling recklessly. Rural teen-agers play deadly games called "Russian Roulette" and "On Your Mark" with cars on highways and in adjacent towns. Police are appealing for the co-operation of parents in the difficult task of breaking this up. The only safeguard for rural young people today is the power to make right choices which comes from strong moral and Christian character.

It seems Satan has moved additional forces into the country because by winning there he can influence our whole nation.

When Christ Dominates There is Greatness

In former years it was easier to hear Christ's voice in the country. Satan had not become so active and the city was not so attractive. The network of modern highways had not yet penetrated every nook and corner of remotest rural sections.

Country churches were the center of social and religious life and tried to meet the challenge of their day. They majored on teaching the Bible and doctrine. The members looked upon their pastors with confidence and respect. Many pastors could quote from memory chapter after chapter, even whole books of the Bible.



They spent nights and days in the homes of the community and were the heroes of the boys and girls. Fathers and mothers dedicated their children to God and prayed that they might become preachers. They did not teach their children that the chief aim of life is to make money

and seek pleasure. The marvelous life of the late Dr. E. Y. Mullins, noted theologian and president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, is one example of such influences. He was born to Godly parents in a rural home. His father rejoiced when this first born son arrived and prayed that God would call him into the ministry.

The Sunday schools may have been poorly organized but they majored on reading and memorizing the Scriptures. Pupils could give as many as a thousand verses at one recitation. Many of the verses dropped down into one's permanent mental record and lay there, actually forgotten, for years. Then in some deep experience and need, those long waiting passages would bubble up, as refreshing as the waters from an old spring.

Dr. Hight C. Moore had experience in such a Sunday school in a little rural church with a one-room building. In a memory contest, the summer he was seven years old he recited nearly 800 Bible verses. Small wonder that he has been such an influence in our convention and still edits "Points for Emphasis" after retiring.

Only Heaven can measure what Christ-dominated rural churches did for their Lord and for our denomination! They produced such men as Matthew T. Yates, John W. Lowe, J. B. Gambrell, A. T. Robertson, John R. Sampey and George W. Truett. It is significant that rural Christian homes and country churches molded the young lives of the president of our Southern Baptist Convention, the secretary of our Foreign Mission Board and of our Home Mission Board, and the president of our Southern Baptist Seminary in Louisville. Along with these are other hundreds of men who honored their rural homes and churches as they went out to serve in God-appointed places. Typical of these is Dr. John E. Briggs of Washington, D. C. Recently retired, he described himself as a "very unpromising, timid, awkward, rural lad" when he was licensed to preach by his home church "on Saturday before the third Sunday in August, 1894." But that rural lad filled fifty-four years of pastoring large churches in Atlanta, Georgia, and Washington, D. C., with deeds of service and love for his Master. He baptized more than 4,000 people, received 6,000 into church membership, married 5,000 couples and "climbed enough stairs to reach to the moon." Meanwhile his interest and love for his home church, now over a hundred years old, have never ceased.

When Christ dominates greatness goes out to all the world.

When Christ Dominates There is Progress

To keep pace with scientific and material progress and better rural educational systems, numbers of country churches wisely adapted their plans. As a result, many changes have taken place in the last thirty years. Thousands of rural churches have either died, moved, reorganized or consolidated with others. But more than 10,000 new ones have been organized and today 19,531 of the 26,823 churches in our Southern Baptist Convention are located in the

open country and small villages. For the organization of new churches, the five year period, 1945-1950 promises to be the greatest in Southern Baptist history.

Much progress has been made. For instance, in 1920 more than 7,000 of our churches did not have a Sunday school, now only 1,000. Then more than 17,000 of our churches had only once a month preaching services, now only 6,000. All the others have preaching more than once a month, and 12,331 churches (including both city and country churches) have preaching every Sunday. The pages of our state Baptist papers are sparkling with reports of fourth or half-time churches, moving up to half and full-time preaching and building modern parsonages, so their pastors can live on the field.



There have also been large increases in enrollment and attendance in all of the organizations of the churches, net increases in membership, larger contributions to missions, surprising gains in number of Vacation Bible schools held, and much improvement in church buildings. There is no doubt about the material progress of our rural churches and where Christ dominates, spiritual development has kept pace.

improvement in church buildings. There is no doubt about the material progress of our rural churches and where Christ dominates, spiritual development has kept pace.

A New Day for the Country

Today the country has "come into its own." It is a far cry from 1908 when President Theodore Roosevelt appointed the first Country Life Commission. Then Congress was so indifferent that they declined to have the report of the Commission published for the use of the public. Today, from our President down, it seems that everybody has become rural-minded. All of this has tremendous implications for the country church and its future.

For years our National and State Departments of Agriculture, and our educational institutions have been sponsoring programs of practical and helpful services for farmers and rural areas. These get down to counties and local communities by way of Soil Conservationists, County Farm Agents,



Home Demonstration workers, and the youth adaptations—4-H Clubs and Future Farmers of America. They have really worked miracles in stepping up the progress of rural sections and preserving our natural resources. Rural mail service and road building have also played significant roles along with improved educational facilities. More recent developments for the benefit of rural inhabitants are Ruritan National clubs, special Rural Departments and Rural Conferences in National and State Health Organizations and National and State Recreation Associations. For instance, the Illinois State Medical Society, with the help of the Illinois Agricultural Association, has established a \$100,000 loan fund to be used for medical students from the country, who will return to small towns for their practice.

Electric power and telephone companies are working day and night to extend their services to every rural community. It seems that the public in general is demanding that rural people have just as many advantages and conveniences as city people. This is most commendable and shows appreciation of the great contribution made by rural people to the life of our nation. It is also recognition of rural possibilities for adding to the volume of business.

Many Religious Groups at Work

The Catholic Church, long regarded as a church of the city, has established a very active Department of National Catholic Rural Life, with full-time workers. One of its activities is locating Catholic families out in strategic rural centers.

The Federal Council of Churches has a strong Committee on Town and Country which publishes a monthly journal, "Town and Country Church."

Presbyterians, Methodists, Northern Baptists, Lutherans and Congregational-Christians all have special Rural Life Depart-

ments and for the last two or three years have sponsored annual Rural Life Conferences.

The Honorable W. Kerr Scott is the product of a rural home and community, which for 191 years has been decidedly influenced by a Presbyterian Church, described as "a rural church of distinction." In an address before the North Carolina Cotton Growers Cooperative Association and the North Carolina Farmers' Cooperative Exchange, Governor Scott said: "No part of the rural community is more important than the church. Research has proved, and we all know it to be true, that wherever you see a good rural church, there you will see a prosperous farming community. On the other hand, wherever the rural church is run-down and dying on the vine, so to speak, you will find a farming community that is run-down at the heels. In too many instances we have allowed the rural church to decline both in architectural and spiritual effectiveness. The influence of rural churches is felt throughout the world. We must see that this influence is not permitted to lose its strength, but is broadened and made stronger in every way possible. We cannot do this with run-down country churches and careless church membership."

The late Thomas L. Bailey, recently Governor of Mississippi, grew up in a little rural Methodist church and was always a strong supporter of anything that would benefit the rural life of his state and its country churches. In 1946, under his leadership, the people of Mississippi helped to prove that rural churches do not exist to serve themselves only but that their influence is felt throughout the world by presenting to the farmers of Greece two shipments—1,692 head in all—of fine bred dairy cattle.

Governor Bailey said in a radio address delivered on The Methodist Hour, "These little country churches . . . are recognized

as the seedbed of religion for this nation of ours. . . . These churches have furnished, and still furnish, the preachers, the bishops and the church statesmen to our great Methodist Church. Therefore, if we are to expect wise and continued strong leadership in our church, we must strengthen the life and ministry of the rural churches of Methodism."

Baptists' Rural Program

More than ten years ago, Dr. J. B. Lawrence made a special study of the rural situation in our Southland and led our Convention through the Home Mission Board, to do something about it. Later surveys and more intensive studies reveal that eighty per cent of our missionaries, denominational leaders, pastors, church workers and Sunday school teachers come from the country churches. Of all the children in Baptist homes, eighty per cent are in rural communities and thousands of them are receiving no religious training whatever. Sixty-five per cent of all Southern Baptists belong to rural or small town churches.

As a beginning effort, Mr. Percy Ray was asked to take an adjacent section of Mississippi and Tennessee and through actual experiments formulate a plan and pattern of work that would be practical elsewhere. In ten years he had baptized more than 7,000 converts, had built 27 rural church houses, helped each congregation to adopt

a financial plan that included the Cooperative Program and to find worthy, progressive pastors. Nearly 8,000 new churches have been organized in the open country since 1920.

Three years ago, a regular Department of Rural Missions was set up in our Home Mission Board and Dr. John D. Freeman, experienced rural church specialist, became its field secretary. A plan was worked out whereby the Home Mission Board and State Mission Boards co-operated in the promotion of the work in each state. This plan is to:

1. Discover and give publicity to conditions, need and accomplishments in rural areas.
2. Co-operate with associational workers in associational wide evangelistic, missionary and stewardship efforts.
3. Revitalize the rural churches in strategic places where they have declined and establish strong church centers in new and unchurched fields where needed.
4. Co-operate in enlisting, supporting and helping rural pastors in their tasks.
5. Encourage rural churches to secure better buildings and equipment, to create pride in the appearance of the church house and grounds.
6. Help the rural pastors and churches to better understand their denominational program and to participate in it.
7. Co-operate with other agencies in making the rural church more helpful and rural life more attractive.

All over our convention territory, interest and concern have steadily mounted until every state now has some definite Baptist program for rural areas. Associational missionaries give their full time to the work. If the local association cannot support a missionary, and one is needed, an appeal may be made to the State and Home Mission Boards. These missionaries are a great help in every way to all the churches of the association and many times organize needed new churches.

Rural conferences are held in strategic places in the state, usually lasting several days. To them are brought the best talent and experience of specialists in rural work. They are usually sponsored jointly by the State Mission Board, the Home Mission Board and some local institution that can provide free entertainment for the attending rural pastors.

Another plan is the associational School of Missions held for a week with a different missionary speaker each night in every

church in the association. The missionaries also teach mission study classes, hold conferences on methods, make talks for civic club meetings, school chapel periods, etc. The missionaries are entertained by the association and travel expenses provided. As many subscriptions as possible are to be secured to our mission magazines and state denominational paper.

In one association, this effort was called "A Mission Revival." Interest in all phases of mission work was revived and strengthened and many people saw and heard missionaries for the first time. School children were thrilled and principals and teachers asked, "Why didn't we know enough about it before to have them speak to our children every day?" Such a project is a co-operative effort sponsored jointly by Associational, State, Home, and Foreign Mission Boards and state Woman's Missionary Unions.

Fine as is the work that our denomination is doing, many feel that it is not enough because of particular omens of the present day.

One cannot help but feel that serious times are ahead of us and we are going to need these rural churches to help preserve Christian principles.

The Rural Church Challenges Our City Churches

The rural church work being done by our denomination through our Home Mission Board, presents to the city church an opportunity to pay the debt it owes to the country church. In addition to supporting this program financially through the Cooperative Program, individuals and groups from a city church can go out to strengthen and encourage the rural neighbor church. This is bread cast upon the waters.

Today, Beulah Association in North Carolina is outstanding in its work. Twenty-five years ago, it was not. There was only one church which was considered a town church. Eighteen others were either small village or rural churches. W. F. West went to be pastor at that town church. In addition to doing a marvelous work in his own church, he constantly gave himself to the development of the whole association. Often he drove miles in different directions to gather up three or

ADD TO YOUR STUDY OF THE RURAL COMMUNITY

Free from our Home Mission Board
161 Spring St., N. W., Atlanta 3, Ga.:
Leaflets on Rural Church Enlargement
Film Catalog of slides and movies

Priced from Ralph A. Felton
Drew University, Madison, N. J.:

The Home of the Rural Pastor
A study of 1171 parsonages in 47 States and 12 denominations. Contains suggestions for improving parsonages, also many floor plans for new ones, 70 photographs (40c a copy)

The Lord's Acre
A study of 151 churches using the Lord's Acre Plan. (15c a copy)

One Foot on the Land
Stories of 16 successful rural churches. (35c a copy)

A Hundred Games for Rural Communities
A guide to help leaders carry on an effective program of recreation. (30c a copy)

four rural pastors, that together they might go to encourage and inspire another one. Each year meetings were planned in which all the pastors of the association went to each church on a different day for an inspirational program of missions and stewardship. The Associational W.M.U. Superintendent went to contact the women of the church. The host church provided food and all enjoyed a wonderful fellowship as well as a spiritual feast. Over and over this "big brother" pastor talked missions and stewardship, stewardship and missions, not only to the churches but to the pastors. He believed and practiced what he said and his zeal and enthusiasm were contagious. Today this association has a record of work that few associations can equal and much of the foundation goes back to the working of God through that "city pastor" and his people. Many churches have been added to the association, some newly organized, some revived and others joining, making the present number thirty-two.

Now a young woman associational missionary, with almost the identical mission and stewardship zeal and enthusiasm, drives the highways of Beulah Association in a "Beulah Buggy." Between her fre-

Tune In!

Saturday night, March 26, tune in from 9 to 10 C.S.T. to Columbia, American or Mutual Systems.

"ONE GREAT HOUR"

Nationwide Christian presentation in behalf of needy multitudes of China and Asia. A unique program you should hear.

Set your radio for
"THE BAPTIST HOUR"
Sunday mornings, April to June,
7:30 C.S.T.; Dr. J. D. Grey will
speak each Sunday. Worship
with others across the continent.

quent personal visits to each local church she sends messages in a mimeographed "Beulah Bugle." Every one of the thirty-two churches in the association contributes to the Cooperative Program and to all state plans. Every church has a good Sunday school and an active Woman's Missionary Society with auxiliaries. Several have efficient Training Unions. Each church has a revival meeting every year and every church is "signed up" for a Vacation Bible school this summer. All but three had schools last summer.

When Mr. West began this work, his was the only full-time church in the association. Now there are five full-time churches and all the others have made notable progress toward that goal. Two parsonages have been purchased, five new ones have been built and another one is in progress. Eight new church buildings have been erected and two new educational buildings. Long pastorates have been a characteristic of the association. During this twenty-five year period, seven preachers have gone out from three of the churches.

The Rural Church Challenges Pastors

Any God-called preacher to-day should be challenged by a chance to become pastor of a rural church! Could there be greater possibilities for worth-while investment of life and talents? For the man who is already a rural pastor, there is the challenge of better preparation and a more sacrificial giving of all one has to the task, in order to successfully meet the demands of this present situation. Speaking to pastors, Arthur W. Hewitt, in "Highland Shepherds" says: "We must bruise our feet on the old unroyal road . . . The spiritual pulpit is on a mountain of jagged rock, high and lifted up. Don't be content with a wooden pulpit. Rural preacher, climb! Through every failure and shame and bitter discouragement, with stumbling of aching feet, go up to that other pulpit where at length you shall speak from the mountain of inspiration, true 'angelos' of God."

In many places, pioneer rural pastors and their families have paid the price of discouragement and inconvenient living conditions to lay worthy foundations. To-

day, the harvest is ready to be reaped. Un-saved thousands are awaiting the touch of consecrated rural pastors, and soul-winning continues to be the pre-eminent work of a minister. In this, rural churches still lead our whole Southern Baptist Convention. In 1947 it took an average of 30.8 city church members to win a soul to Christ but only 21.3 rural church members.

The present situation challenges the biggest and best men there are. Whatever sect or denomination furnishes them will dominate the religious life of the South and "as goes the country so goes the South." Here is an opportunity for developing Christian statesmen for a day of destiny.

The Rural Church Challenges Women and Woman's Missionary Societies

Christ has an important place for women in the rural church. One does not often see a missionary program functioning in a church that does not have at least one or more missionary-minded women. So long as the real greatness of a church is measured by its missionary spirit and program, women can make their rural churches great.

In a certain fourth-time church, one lone woman kept the missionary spirit alive for years. When she died others took up the torch, stirred by her faithfulness. As time went on there came to be an efficient Woman's Missionary Society with auxiliaries and the church now includes the Cooperative Program in its regular giving.

In another small, fourth-time church the president of the missionary society had a God-given conviction that churches ought not raise their money by serving suppers, stews, selling extracts, old clothes, etc. As a result, she and the W.M.S. members not only gave but they worked diligently to help a group of men and the pastor build, largely with their own hands, a nice church building with Sunday school rooms. The spirit of the whole church was strengthened as they saw how the Lord rewarded faith and obedience. Church pride and interest grew as the missionary spirit developed and now the building is beautifully furnished with a modern heating system and plans are under way for the building of a par-



Galley for Monkmejer

Basket-making in the Ozarks; rural and isolated missions continue their skilled handicrafts

sonage and the location of a pastor on the field. Both of these churches are located in the midst of Primitive Baptist strongholds and at first many did not believe in Sunday school, much less missions. Now in Schools of Missions even classes for the men are well attended.

The influence of rural churches has been greatly enlarged and strengthened by the efficient functioning of W.M.U. auxiliaries. A certain woman has been a Sunbeam Band leader for thirty-eight years. A few years ago, the church observed the sixtieth anniversary of the organization of Sunbeam Bands. One of the most inspiring things on the day's program was the testimony of young ministers who had gone out from that church and were then serving in other states. They said they received their first missionary inspiration through that Sunbeam leader and many of the influences conditioning their response to the call to the ministry dated back to their early days in this Sunbeam Band.

In a certain village, the spiritual and doctrinal life of the members of the Baptist Church became so degenerated that the Russellites took it over. The associational missionary, with courage of a John the Baptist, realized the situation, held a revival and straightened things out. The church was reorganized, a missionary pastor called, a Sunday school started and a missionary society organized. The new lead-

ers took their task seriously. Many were tithers. Some of the W.M.S. members covenanted with each other to pray that some young person in their church would answer God's call to preach. As a proof of their faith they each set a hen. They were to sell all the chickens raised to contribute to the education and training of that young person. The young people did not know about this but God did.

After some months had passed, the pastor preached a sermon on the dedication of life to Christ's service and called for volunteers. Even the women were surprised to see three volunteering. One went as a missionary, the other two are serving their denomination worthily as pastors. Later two more answered God's call. Every missionary society, whose church has never had a volunteer for definite Christian service should pray toward that end.

The church in a tiny village had to close its doors but two women of the missionary society were not willing to give up. For years and years, they continued to send their Cooperative Program gifts in to their state headquarters in the name of the society. After a long time, with the efforts of an adult man whom God called to preach and with the help of a neighbor pastor and associational leaders, the church was revived and is today doing a splendid work. What if these two women had given up also?

Rural churches give wonderful opportunities for women of missionary societies of city churches to help, encourage and strengthen as well as to revive and bring into being new organizations, even new churches.

Christ Challenges Rural Churches

A church that does not serve its God-given mission, deserves to be done away with. Is your church limping along in the ruts or methods used fifty or more years ago? Is yours a fourth-time church with a non-resident pastor? Is your church losing its young people and having little or no influence as far as changing the life of the community is concerned?

The time is far spent and someone needs to become concerned enough to do something about it before Satan closes the doors of weak churches. Even one or two

women can change the trend, if they will seek a vision from God, then carry it out.

Are there fourth-time churches in the New Testament? Even if your church is half-time couldn't it provide a home for a resident pastor and have his full-time services? Thousands of others are doing it with the help and leadership of God. And they are finding that it pays in every way. It even raises the value of land in a community. Christ purchased the church with his warm life's blood. Now he needs some of our cold cash to enable him to pour out his blessings upon families and surrounding communities through a warmhearted church and a trained, resident pastor on fire for God. We are now in a new day for the country and small village church.

In our seminaries are young men and women who feel called of God to serve in rural churches. In the Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth, Dr. T. B. Maston teaches a class on "The Church and Problems of the Rural South." Of the 65 enrolled in this class, "Forty-one rather definitely feel that their work is to be permanently in the rural areas." In "The Tie" of June, 1947, publication of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, there appeared a picture of 38 persons who are "volunteers for life service in the rural churches." The caption said that these were "some" of a "large group." Dr. R. Q. Leavell, president of the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, says: "Something more than one half of the students in our Seminary are the products of rural churches. About the same percentage would

prevail among the volunteers for life service."

In former years, practically every seminary student who was not a volunteer for missions, was headed for town and city churches. Surely it is God's plan to get these two—the rural church that wants to meet the challenge and the well-trained, consecrated minister who feels called to the country—together. As Dr. L. G. Frey says in "Romance of Rural Churches": "If these sleeping giants (rural churches) are given the proper pastoral care they will rise, shake themselves, and carry the Commission to the ends of the earth."

Which description do we wish applied to our rural churches: little members providing a little house on a little ground, with a little equipment, where a little preacher preaches little things to little people? Or a big house, on beautified grounds, with sufficient equipment, where a God-called, trained pastor with a worthy salary preaches a great gospel to great people?

Power for the Task!

Even one person can contact her associational missionary, or her State Mission Board, asking for the help given by the Home Mission Board for revitalizing local churches. There are many free, printed helps relating to successful financial plans, church enlargement programs, suggestions for church libraries, church recreation, church music, church building plans, parsonage plans, church busses, nurseries and all the regular church organizations.

But back of all this must be that divine urge—that God-given something that makes one feel as if she would die if she could not do something. Power from on high is stored up in God awaiting our tapping it. It was not fine buildings, equipment, trained choirs—not things that produced our present great leaders—but a spiritual environment and spiritual power that came from the study of God's Word and obedient living close to him. Today we need both things and power, and both are available. City churches and rural churches must join in prayer that all shall be blessed with impelling power. Let us rise up, accept Christ's challenge and live in this day of destiny with such steadfast witness wherever we are in country or in city.

Are You Wasting Money?

When you order literature and supplies sent C.O.D. you have to pay at least 20¢ above the cost of your purchase. If your bill is \$5.00 or more the C.O.D. charge is 35¢. This C.O.D. charge is made by the postal system not by W.M.U.

Why not figure up the amount of your bill and remit with your order? Refer to W.M.U. Year Book, to manuals, or to magazines for announced prices. It will take only a minute to be accurate, and you can save at least 20¢ by not ordering C.O.D.

THE RISEN LORD

"He is not here; for he is risen,
as he said . . ." Matthew 28:6



*indicates missionaries on furlough

The Resurrection Foretold

John asked the vital question, "If a man die, shall he live again?" He answered his own question. David had foresight into the facts of the resurrection. Jesus told his disciples several times about his resurrection, although they did not grasp the fulness of its meaning.

FRIDAY, April 1
Job 14:7-14

Reinaldo Medina, San Juan y Martinez, Rev. and Mrs. Juan Naranjo, Aguacate, Rev. and Mrs. Cirilo Mogen, Taguayabon, Rev. and Mrs. Manuel Millan, San Cristobal, Cuba, evangelism

SATURDAY, April 2
Job 19:21-27

Catherine Walker, Rev. and Mrs. J. G. Morris, Tsingtao, China, evangelism, Rev. and Mrs. Charles L. Culpepper, Jr., Rev. and Mrs. Max E. Pettit, language school in Philippine Islands

SUNDAY, April 3
Psalm 16

Rev. and Mrs. J. L. Hart, emeritus, Rev. and Mrs. J. I. Miller, Valparaiso, Ruby Howse, Temuco, Chile, educational evangelism

MONDAY, April 4
Acts 2:22-28

Annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union of River Plate; Rev. and Mrs. N. J. Rodriguez, Camajuani, Rev. and Mrs. Enrique Pina, Colon, Rev. and Mrs. Rafael Ocana, Caibarien, Cuba, evangelism

TUESDAY, April 5
Acts 3:13-16

State W.M.U. Annual Meetings, April 5-7: Kentucky, Louisville; Louisiana, Monroe; Floryne Miller, Kokura, Elizabeth Watkins, Tobata, Japan, educational evangelism

WEDNESDAY, April 6
Acts 4:23-33

Missouri Annual Meeting, St. Joseph; Rev. and Mrs. F. C. Rowland, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Rev. and Mrs. Marvin Sorrels, Sells, Arizona, evangelism among Indians

THURSDAY, April 7
Matthew 26:26-32

Mrs. W. H. Sears, Mrs. W. E. Salter, Mrs. C. C. Marriott, Mrs. L. W. Pierce, China, emeritus

FRIDAY, April 8
Mark 8:27-31

Lillian Thomason, Edna E. Teal, Annie M. Sandlin, Elizabeth Rea, China, emeritus

SATURDAY, April 9
John 11:18-27

Relief and Annuity Board, Dr. Walter Alexander, Secretary; Dr. S. M. Sowell, Mrs. R. F. Elder, Argentina, emeritus

Proof of the Resurrection

As children of God saved by the blood of his Son, we need no proof of the resurrection. The empty tomb and his witness bearing witness with our spirit give proof enough that we serve a risen Lord. The Scriptures bear infallible proof in the testimonies of the witnesses who saw Christ and talked with him after he arose, and watched him ascend unto heaven.

SUNDAY, April 10
Matthew 28:1-7

Lucy Wright, Wuchow, Dr. A. W. Yocum, Chengchow, Dr. and Mrs. J. N. Bryan, Kunshan, China, medical evangelism

MONDAY, April 11
Acts 1:1-11

Rev. and Mrs. Orvil W. Reid, Guadalajara, Mexico, Evangelina Lopez, Belen, New Mexico, educational evangelism, Rev. and Mrs. Sostenes Martinez, Beeville, Texas, Rev. and Mrs. Ismael Negrin, Key West, Florida, evangelism

TUESDAY, April 12
Mark 16:9-18

Annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union of Cuba; Rev. and Mrs. H. W. Schweinsberg, Rev. and Mrs. T. L. Neely, Lillian Williams, Baranquilla, Colombia, evangelism

WEDNESDAY, April 13
Luke 24:13-27

Christian literature and church libraries; Dr. and Mrs. A. Y. Napier, Rev. and Mrs. E. L. Morgan, China, emeritus, Constance Morgan, Margaret Fund student

THURSDAY, April 14
Luke 24:28-35

Rev. and Mrs. J. B. Silva, Tampa, Florida, evangelism among Cubans, Rev. and Mrs. Carlos H. Rios, San Antonio, Rev. and Mrs. Emmett Rodriguez, Kerrville, Texas, evangelism, Adelaida, Elias Rodriguez, Margaret Fund students

FRIDAY, April 15
John 20:19-30

Rev. C. A. Pugh, Kansas City, Missouri, Rev. S. A. Cooper, St. Joseph, Louisiana, Rev. W. T. Watts, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, educational evangelism among their own Negro race

SATURDAY, April 16
John 21:1-14

Katie Murray, Kweilin, *Bonnie Jean Ray, Tsingtao, China, Dr. and Mrs. Frank Woodward, Hilo, T. H., evangelism, Glenna Woodward, Margaret Fund student

The Hope of the Resurrection

If Christ be not risen, then is our salvation vain. Our hope is in a risen Christ. Our justification depends upon it. To Paul the resurrection is essential to the gospel. "Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; that he arose . . . according to the scriptures"

SUNDAY, April 17
1 Corinthians 15:12-23

Rev. and Mrs. H. D. Stein, Mrs. Leona Wollforth, Amelia Rappold, New Orleans, Louisiana, evangelism

MONDAY, April 18
1 Peter 1:3-9

Ruth Womack, *Dr. Roberta J. Cox, Joinkrama, Dr. and Mrs. W. J. Williams, Ogbomoso, Nigeria, medical evangelism

TUESDAY, April 19
Acts 17:22-31

Rev. and Mrs. W. B. Sherwood, Campo Grande, Rev. and Mrs. C. W. Dickson, Joao Pessoa, Alma Jackson, Goyania, Brazil, evangelism

WEDNESDAY, April 20
Acts 24:10-21

Rev. and Mrs. M. E. Brantley, Port Harcourt, Mildred Crabtree, Agbor, educational evangelism, Vivian Nowell, Lagos, Nigeria, secretarial evangelism

THURSDAY, April 21
Acts 13:16-31

Annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union of Italy: Josephine Ward, Dr. and Mrs. B. L. Nichols, Rev. and *Mrs. H. H. Snuggs, Shanghai, China, educational evangelism

FRIDAY, April 22
Acts 23:6-9

Hazel Irene Smith, Buenos Aires, Rev. and Mrs. Z. Paul Freeman, Tucuman, Rev. and Mrs. H. H. Culpepper, Santiago, Chile, educational evangelism

SATURDAY, April 23
Romans 10:4-15

Rev. and Mrs. Delio Capiro, Ranchuelo, Rev. and Mrs. Juan B. Ferrer, San Antonio de los Banos, Cuba, evangelism, Eunice Ferrer, Margaret Fund student

The Triumph of the Resurrection

Each Sunday is a reminder of the triumph of Christ over the tomb. Death could not keep its prey. Out of the grave came our Lord triumphant over sin and death. Because he arose, he lives, and because he lives, he is coming again. The glorious fact of the resurrection should be a cure for all our hours of darkness and despair.

SUNDAY, April 24
John 5:24-29

Dr. R. E. Pettigrew, Rev. and Mrs. A. B. Christie, Mrs. A. L. Dunstan, Mrs. C. A. Baker, Brazil, emeritus, Clifton Baker, Margaret Fund student

MONDAY, April 25
Luke 14:12-15

Annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union of Nigeria, April 25-26, Mr. and Mrs. James A. Foster, Philippine Islands, *Dr. Jeanette E. Beall, Tsingtao, *Dr. and Mrs. N. A. Bryan, Yangchow, China, medical evangelism

TUESDAY, April 26
Romans 1:1-7

Annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union of Mexico, Monterrey, April 26-27, Rev. and Mrs. Hiram F. Duffer, Jr., El Paso, Texas, Rev. and Mrs. James D. Crane, Torreon, Mexico, educational evangelism

WEDNESDAY, April 27
Philippians 3:7-14

Margaret Collins, Philippine Islands, Dr. and Mrs. Frank H. Connelly, Shanghai, Addie E. Cox, Wuwei, China, evangelism

INSTALLATION

We installed new officers of the Johnson County, Missouri Federation of Business Woman's Circles. First Baptist Church, Warrensburg, Missouri, was host to a splendid banquet at which there were many enthusiastic and interested business women.

Beulah Wilson, vice-president, Missouri Federation of Business Woman's Circles, installed the officers. She used a candle lighting service. A booklet giving the duties of each officer was attached to each candle.

We are looking forward to our first meeting of Missouri Federation of B.W.C. in conjunction with W.M.U. Annual Meeting at St. Joseph, Missouri in April. We know it will give much impetus to all Missouri B.W.C.'s.

Johnson County, Missouri B.W.C. Federation installation—the president, Mrs. Charles Farley of Sedalia, is at the extreme left; adviser, Mrs. W. P. Arnold, also of Sedalia, at the extreme right. Beulah Wilson is in the center back of the open Bible and tall white candle.



THURSDAY, April 28
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Rev. and Mrs. Pablo Flores, Kenedy, Rev. L. Flores, Belton, Rev. Jose S. Flores, San Marcos, Mrs. Aurora R. de Morales, San Benito, Texas, educational evangelism among Spanish-speaking

FRIDAY, April 29
1 Corinthians 15:50-57

Mrs. R. T. Bryan, Mrs. T. C. Britton, Mrs. R. E. Chambers, China, emeritus

SATURDAY, April 30
Romans 8:32-39

Clifford Barratt, Kukong, Dr. and Mrs. J. D. Belote, Canton, Rev. and *Mrs. Earl Parker, Pingtu, China, evangelism, Betty Lou, Joseph E. Parker, Margaret Fund students

CHANGE IN CHINA

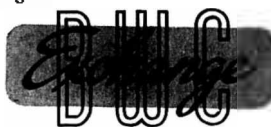
The not-so-old but growing B.W.C. Federation of Baltimore District has outstanding semiannual supper meetings. Recently 125 business women heard Dr. Chien Liu speak on "Missions and Medicine in China." He is a graduate student with a Residency Fellowship at Johns Hopkins and gave a very interesting story of the progress of medical missions. Dr. Liu closed his message by saying: "China is in a great change and the world is in a great change. I do not know what the situation will be when I return home, but one thing I do know, and believe firmly is that there will be no change in the work for our Lord, and there will be no change in the preparation for the Kingdom of God to come."

Miss Flora Sutton is B.W.C. President and Mrs. E. E. Weems Adviser.

BWC's at Ridgecrest

Ridgecrest Invites Diligent Gals, Every Circle Represented, Every Speaker Tops. August 4-10, 1949

A telegram acrostic about BWC Conference in connection with WMU Week at Ridgecrest might read like the above. Or make it a jingle.



Come up to the mountains,

BWC's,

Be busy as bees, then rest—as you please.

Hear the great leaders,

Meet new world friends,

Learn about BWC—

Joy never ends.

Anyway you word it the idea is to come to BWC Conference.

IT'S HAPPENING NOW!

by Mattie Leila Watts

WE HAVE READ with interest the account of the report of a special inquiry into the life and work of women in the church, made before the meeting of the World Council of Churches in 1948. Questionnaires were sent to sixty countries, and unexpectedly eager and passionate interest was expressed in the answers that came from fifty-eight of them. Many replies came from quiet, humble groups as well as from the large organizations.

All laid stress on the influence of women in and through their homes. All told of the vast contribution that Christian women are making through voluntary community service. They told of the simple informal direct evangelistic work of winning neighbors and friends to a knowledge of Jesus Christ. With amusement and thanksgiving we quote impressions made by this study upon a reporter: "First of all, and very strikingly, is the positive contribution of women to the life of the church. In a sense . . . this was already known; but in practice too often it has been taken for granted . . . These reports revealed such a mass of patient, unself-conscious, devoted and loving service of all kinds that this service shone out in a new light."

ACCORDING TO the Bishop of the National Lutheran Church of Finland, every seventh person in Finland is a displaced person; every fifteenth woman is a widow; every tenth child is a war orphan. One-twentieth of the arable land no longer belongs to Finland; all the churches save two were burned; and licenses to build new ones may not be secured because of the housing shortage. Yet a great evangelistic program is being led by pastors and 200 lay leaders. Mass meetings are reaching thousands of people, particularly high school, university, and seminary students. The

Bishop gives these three reasons for their ready acceptance of the gospel: almost every home has suffered the loss of a loved one through war; worldly possessions have become unreliable; and the political situation is always threatening. "In these conditions men cannot live securely without seeking the world of unshakeable values, which gives to men a peace above all understanding."

The world's population is increasing by at least fifty new additions every minute. Can we Christians plan for such a growth? Can we use every means that a modern civilization places at our disposal—radio, literature, airplane, visual education and medical science—to contact these multitudes to give them the story of Jesus and his saving power? The answer will be found in the gifts every Christian makes for world evangelization.

large degree after those used in Christian missions. Unless Christian missionary work in Dahomey is strengthened, it is likely that in the next few years, Islam, so much more difficult to deal with than paganism, will capture many of the people."

THE PEOPLE of China are constantly on our hearts during these days of trial and suspense. Much non-essential foreign personnel has already been evacuated, but, of course, missionaries are not non-essential. The attitude of most of them is expressed in these inspiring words of our Secretary for the Orient, Dr. J. B. Cautchen: "I have a duty here to perform. As long as it is possible for me to perform that duty I expect to stay here. When that is finished, or if the time comes when it is impossible for me to do anything more, if the Lord provides a way of deliverance, I shall take it gratefully; if not, I shall pray for grace to take whatever may come."

OUR WORLD IN BOOKS

by Una Roberts Lawrence

SONG OF THE EARTH
by Wentzell
Christian Press, \$2

"The whole earth sings." In this way the distinguished director of the Christian Education Press of the Evangelical and Reformed Church takes his theme from the psalmist for this beautiful book of devotional pictures and poetic prose. Rarely has a book more exquisitely combined pictures of nature in all her moods with words of moving spiritual import.

The author follows the year through the changing seasons on the land, bringing a deepened appreciation of God's recurring blessings in nature. Written for everyone, it will bring to people living in the country an awareness of the beauty around them, all too often missed in the busy drudgery of every day work. Old and young alike will enjoy the pictures, the limpid, rhythmic prose, the few choice poems, and the deeply devotional spirit in it all.

WHEN WE'RE GREEN
WE GROW
by McKimmon
University of N.C., \$3

This is a honey of a book! It tells the amazing, thrilling story of the beginning of Home Demonstration work, and of the 4-H Club for the girls who clamored to join the Corn Clubs of their brothers. But it is

more. It is the story of those pioneers who met the disaster of the boll weevil and the destruction of the one-crop economy of the South with a whole new conception of farm life. It is the story of changing rural life; of practical education carried to the most remote

farm home; of the gospel of living at home relieving the pinch of poverty and the pangs of hunger.

Here are the brave beginnings of timid but persistent women workers in the Department of Agriculture, launching far-reaching projects on shoeing finances. With lively touches of humor, the author gives many glimpses of the difficulties these women had trying to "get somewhere" with their ideas in a man's world. Most appealing of all are the stories of the heartbreakingly eager response from the women and girls of the farms. That the author was a vital part of all this adds much to the interest.

There are many stories woven together, little and big. There is the timid mountain girl who defied an angry father to come to the meeting to learn how to make bread. Then there is the thrilling story of the Washington meeting of the little new international organization, Country Women of the World, so largely attended by southern farm women that they made history. It is the story of a revolution quietly changing the whole pace and nature of life in the nation's most vital area, the homes and communities of its rural people, black and white.

There is much about the part the churches and schools played in this revolution. The story will hearten, enlighten and stimulate our thinking about the place, power and possibilities of our thousands of Baptist churches in country and small town communities. Women and young people of city churches, as well as those in the country, should know this story, a vital section of the history of our



day and generation in the South.

GOOD TIMES IN THE
RURAL CHURCH
by Schlingman, \$1.25

RURAL WORSHIP
by Wintermeyer, \$1.25
both from The Christian Education Press

These two small books are unusual in subject and richly satisfying in content. The first covers the field of Christian recreation for community, church and home, with suggestions ranging from a year-round calendar for the church to hobbies and relaxing games for individuals and families. One of its best features is a section of book lists for the development of a full program of hobbies and recreational activities, church-centered, ranging from little children to the interests of old age.

Worship services, formal and informal, for congregation, group meetings and family use are provided in the second book. Wise and helpful suggestions for conducting truly worshipful meetings, and a section of prose and poetry of devotional material make the book very practical. Intended for use especially in country churches, it would be helpful in any church. Directors of young people's organizations will find it a rich source for devotional hours in camps and other outdoor meetings of R.A.'s, G.A.'s, and Y.W.A.'s.

Your copy of Royal Service

starts to you from this crowded table and hall. Boxes and bags leave only a dangerously narrow passage way. The women at work have only scant elbow room. If you could look all around at 1111 Comer Building, you would be eager to supply the money for an adequate W.M.U. building.



W.M.U. Building Committee

on its first meeting in January, count on your \$100,000 and more, in tribute to Miss Mallory.



LEFT TO RIGHT: Mrs. Herndon, Louisiana; Mrs. Holloway, Tennessee; Mrs. Griffin, South Carolina; Miss Littlejohn, W.M.U. Training School; Mrs. Martin, President; Mrs. Cook, Treasurer; Mrs. Tyler, Recording Secretary; Miss Hunt, Executive Secretary.

