

ROYAL SERVICE

OCTOBER
1949



F. HENLE for MONKMEYER

OUR WORLD IN BOOKS

Now it is time to study in preparation for our Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions. This fall we concentrate on the glowing opportunities in Japan. We were "too little and too late" in the island country once, but surely we will speed the message now. When the Lord gives us a second chance we must grasp it gratefully.

MY DADDY TOLD ME, for Juniors, by Sarah Ellen Dozier, 40c.
JOTTINGS FROM JAPAN, for Intermediates, by E. O. Mills, 40c.
RING IN THE NEW, for Young People, by Akiko Endo, 50c.
JAPAN'S NEW DAY, for Adults, (that's you), by Edwin B. Dozier, 60c.

The wise teacher of any one of the graded series of books on Japan will study all of them to fill her cup of learning full.

Free teaching helps and pictorial leaflets are offered for each book on request to our Foreign Mission Board, Box 5148, Richmond 20, Virginia. Ask for the packet for the book you will be teaching.

There are other splendid books for you to study, to read, and use as background material in teaching.

SONGS FROM THE LAND OF DAWN, by Toyohiko Kagawa and other Japanese poets. \$2.00, boards; \$1.50, paper.

This volume of Japanese poetry is a devotional treasure—a timeless resource for worship services and missionary and general programs.

THE SEVEN STARS, by Toru Matsumoto. paper \$1.00, cloth \$2.50.

Here is a book interesting for personal reading and also rich in program possibilities such as a book review, reports on the characters with their varied social backgrounds, dramatization, live discussions of ideas important to understand.

TALES FROM JAPAN, by Marianna Nugent. paper 75c.

Six stories of modern Japan, for reading or telling, written by the daughter of missionary parents.

FUN AND FESTIVAL FROM JAPAN, by Alice E. Gwinn and Esther L. Hibbard. paper 35c.

A source of games, songs, poems, stories, recipes, and other material.

Use the *Picture Map of Japan* by Janet Smalley, price 75c, and the *Outline Map of Japan*, price 25c, or *Political Map of Japan* in five colors, price 50c.

Now that the children are all busy with books, you can study too and you can help them grow in world understanding beyond their three R's.

TOSHIO AND TAMAR: CHILDREN OF NEW JAPAN, by Anne M. Halladay. paper \$1.00; cloth \$1.75.

Sunbeams will also like to read a story of a fine G. I. who interprets democracy well to children in Japan.

MIISU: A LITTLE GIRL OF JAPAN, by Winifred E. Barnard and Helen Jacobs, 50c.

One of the popular "Nursery Book" series, favorite bedtime stories for small children.

JAPAN BEGINS AGAIN, by William C. Keri, \$1.50.

This book is a basic study book which describes Japan's appalling state at the end of the war and asks, "What brought Nippon to ruin?" He shows that hope for the future lies in the vigor with which Japanese are undertaking rehabilitation and the significant role being played by Christianity.

WHICH WAY JAPAN?, by Floyd Slacklock, 60c.

Introduction to any study of Japan: photographs, Japanese art decorations, maps, and a concise historical chart supplement the readable text.



DR. AND MRS. HARA

Introducing Mrs. Juneko Hara, President of Japan W.M.U.

by Floryne Miller, Missionary in Japan

As new W.M.U. presidents are elected or take over their offices, this description of the president of the Woman's Missionary Union of Japan will be an inspiration to them.

I SAT toward the back of the little church in Fukuoka, and from there watched Mrs. Hara, the wife of the president of Seinan Jo Gakuin, as the women elected her president of the Japan W.M.U. I knew she had thought she could not possibly take it, and I was grateful for whatever the Lord had used to make her change her mind. We were all glad. She was so surely the one for it.

As I watched her I kept telling myself how lucky I had been. Out of all the Southern Baptist missionaries in Japan (all twelve of us then!) I was the one fortunate enough to have lived in her upstairs guest room for four months. How thankful I was for that opportunity to know her well and to learn from her. If I should really tell all the good things I know about her it would sound too exaggerated and no one would believe me.

What a gracious presiding officer she would make I had thought when I saw and heard her leading a discussion. Then as I remembered that to be a good W.M.U. president would require more than ability to preside graciously, I began to recall other things about her that I had noticed in daily association.

I remembered how I would lie in bed every morning and listen for their morning devotion hymn. I wasn't at breakfast ever (it was always between 5:30 and 6:00, and that is too, too early for me!), but I found myself trying to awaken early enough every morning so I wouldn't miss hearing that hymn. That was followed by their Bible reading and prayer and it seemed to give me a good feeling for the whole day. I thought of the times I had found her in her room reading her Bible, or pre-

paring her Sunday school lesson for the following Sunday. Prayer and Bible study have a big place in her life.

The first committee meeting I attended of which she was chairman was opened with an inspiring Bible reading and hymn and then prayer. Someway that committee meeting seemed to go along unusually well. There went through my mind the picture of her as she had served as chairman of the committee on "cats" for the large Bible Conference held here in July. Trying to feed three hundred hungry young people for two days was no easy task but how humbly and cheerfully she had accepted it; and how loyally her co-workers had served with her. She left the house each morning long before five and as I heard her leave I knew she would be working until late that night. She was not feeling sorry for herself though, even if I was. That was her task and she was doing it gladly and efficiently.

I thought of how I had seen her visiting with the neighborhood women: taking food and cheer to the sick; comfort to those in sorrow; of the hours she spends sorting relief packages and seeing they are properly distributed. But her idea of service goes far beyond physical needs. All those women were invited and urged to attend the W.M.S. meeting at her home where they would hear the gospel. With every bit of service there would go the prayer that it would be used to introduce her friends to her Saviour. The young girl who lives with Dr. and Mrs. Hara and helps with the work was not with them long until she began to see her need of a Saviour; and soon there followed a heart-felt experience with that Saviour. How carefully and prayer-





W.M.U. Watchword
in Japanese

fully they are leading and instructing her! As soon as I finish with my mission magazines I always turn them over to Mrs. Hara. Eagerly she reads news of other Christians and of the many who still do not know him. I have been blessed as I have watched her spirit of gratitude for all she has, and the deep consciousness that all has come from God and must be used for him.

As these things went through my mind it seemed to me she is perfectly fitted as Japan W.M.U. President. She seems to live the ideals of W.M.U. in her daily life. I was thankful for her qualities of leadership as I thought of how easily and well others worked with her. I almost laughed as I thought of the times she had so tact-

CLOSE-UP PAGANISM

by Harold E. Baer, Missionary at Flagstaff, Arizona

NOT ALL paganism is in some far off country. Our own Navajo Indians in the Southwest live in fear of pagan gods. A Navajo man came to me and asked if I could help bury his brother. The Navajo who still believes in the old Navajo gods is afraid of the dead, and if it can be avoided will have nothing to do with a dead body.

A trader, with another white man, and I went to the hogan (Navajo hut) and in a sandy spot nearby dug the grave facing north. Placing the blanket-wrapped body in the grave, at the family's request, we placed the dead man's saddle, bridle, blanket, pail, cup, spoon, extra pants, and other items in the grave on top of the body. After we had filled the grave a brother of the dead man came leading a horse. The horse was led to the graveside to be shot. When the bullet struck, the horse fell to the ground on top of the grave of his dead master.

I asked a Christian Navajo the meaning of their burial custom, and he explained it this way. According to Navajo belief, when a man dies he enters some kind of spirit world. All the things placed in the grave, and the spirit of the dead horse, will enter the spirit world with him. This is not a "Happy Hunting Ground" because the place seems to be feared.

After a man dies in a hogan, it is never used again. Neither will the people come around a place where some one has been buried. The place is thought to be the dwelling of devils, and is to be avoided.

It is interesting to see how quickly a Christian Navajo loses his fear of these old Navajo gods—interesting but not strange—because "God is love" and "perfect love casteth out fear."

fully persuaded me to wear a hat when going out in the hot sun: it takes something to get a hat on my head!

All that, and fun too. I thought, as I remembered what fun we had had together. Her delightful sense of humor has taken her and others, too, through many a hard spot. The morning after one of the times robbers had gotten in, she called to me and said "Come, see what an interesting thing has happened." I couldn't see much interesting about it, but she pointed to the way he had turned over the chairs to pull the rug out, and then had cut some of her curtains in order to have something to wrap the stolen books in! It is fun to live with her.

I often asked myself what her secret was but I knew one day after she had written on a fan for me her favorite Bible verse, "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus." Of course that is it, because one is impressed immediately by her charming and gracious humility; and that explains everything else.

OCTOBER 1949

ROYAL SERVICE

Volume 44 Number 4

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

CONTENTS

China, Day Dawn or Twilight?.....	see page 27	Cover 1
OUR WORLD IN BOOKS.....		Cover 2
Introducing Mrs. Junecko Hara.....	Floryne Miller	1
Close-up Paganism.....	Harold E. Baer	2
I Dashed a "Spirit".....	Carl F. Whirley	4
Idol Worship In My Town.....	Abeke Oke	5
Meeting with Baptists in Switzerland.....	Mattie Leila Watts	6
Mutsu Ikebe, Most Versatile.....	Mrs. A. P. Jenkins	7
A Glimpse into a Japanese Woman's Heart.....	Mutsu Ikebe	8
Heathen Ceremonies by the Month.....	E. A. Dahunsi	12
A Yoruba Pagan's Belief.....		14
In the Land of the Yoruba.....	William L. Jester	15
IT'S HAPPENING NOW.....	Mattie Leila Watts	16
LETTERETTES FROM OUR MISSIONARIES.....		17
"WHY, MOMMY?".....	Ruth LaThuille Matthews	18
The Terrible Tantrums of Toddlers.....		19
Sand Pile Set.....		
OUR YOUNG PEOPLE.....	Margaret Bruce	19
Remove the Penny.....		
QUESTIONS ANSWERED BY OUR STATE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES.....		20
Is This Your Question?.....	Mrs. R. S. Marshall	
DEVOTIONAL THOUGHTS.....	Floy Barnard	21
Out of the Slavery of Sin.....		
PROGRAM.....	Mrs. H. P. McCormick	22
Christ the Answer for the Pagan Peoples.....		
"PEAT YE".....	Mrs. T. C. Jester	31
Youth and the Kingdom.....		
CIRCLE PROGRAM—Youth in World Missions.....		Cover 3
BUSINESS WOMAN'S CIRCLE EXCHANGE.....		Cover 3
Our W.M.U. Magazines in Every Home.....		Cover 4

Mrs. George R. Martin, President; Alma Hunt, Executive Secretary; Mrs. W. J. Cox, Treasurer; Mrs. Wilfred C. Tyler, Recording Secretary; Mrs. J. Furniss Lee, Assistant Recording Secretary; Margaret Bruce, Young People's Secretary; Juliette Mather, Editorial Secretary.

EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor:

Juliette Mather

Art and Production:

Rachel Jay Colvin

Circulation:

Mary L. Allen

Regular Contributors:

Mrs. George R. Martin

Dr. Carme U. Littlejohn

Miss Margaret Bruce

Dr. Floy M. Barnard

Mrs. T. C. Jester

Mrs. Irvin Lawrence

Mrs. J. Wash Watts

Mrs. DeWitt Matthews

State Executive Secretaries

Foreign Correspondents:

China, Mrs. F. Y. O. Ling

Cuba, Mrs. Frank K. Pool

Europe, Mrs. Dewey Moore

Japan, Mrs. W. M. Garrett

Nigeria, Neale Young

Palestine, Kate Ellen Gruver

Spanish speaking,

Mrs. J. L. Moye

South America, Mrs. John

Melin, Mrs. Cecil Moore,

Minnie Lou Lanier

ROYAL SERVICE is published monthly by Woman's Missionary Union, auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention, 1111 Commerce 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 is at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized June 26, 1918.

What would you do if you met a "spirit"? Our missionary showed the deception played on the sorrow any child feels for his deceased mother.

I Dashed a "Spirit"

by Carl F. Whirley, Oyo, Nigeria

I DASHED a "spirit" a toro! Dashed is English—anyway it is used in Nigeria for tip. A toro is a threepence piece. And "Spirit," well, that is what I want to tell you about.

One day I went with Pastor D. A. Tella to a small but important Baptist church which stands gallantly along in the midst of the heathen market center of Yorubaland's historical capital town, Oyo. My attention was addressed to a waiting crowd of gaily dressed Africans, most of whom were women. Similar sights are not unusual in an African town, but after a word of explanation from my companion about this gathering it took on special interest for me. He explained that a certain iya (mother)

had died a few days previously. These friends and relatives were assembled to witness her resurrection and to welcome the return of her spirit. I asked the pastor if the natives would object to the missionary's joining the watch party. He went with my query to the leader of the group, and soon came back with an invitation to the white man to witness the "return."

Though I was very sorry to see this vast throng of people holding to so pagan and superstitious a belief and practice, I recognized here the longing for assured knowledge of everlasting life that resides in the heart of all men. Praying that somehow God would open for me a way of witness for him whom to know aright is life eternal, I took up my station with them.

It was reported that the "spirit" was nearing because the drumming of the herald could be heard in the distance at the time. I was told that his mother had died seven days previous. On the third day her spirit was supposed to have risen from the grave, and on the seventh day she was to present herself to her friends and family. The hour had come, the natives were there in an air of expectancy and carnival to celebrate the appearing of the departed one: I was among them with an air of curiosity and near certainty that the departed one had no



chance of resurrection in this world nor the world to come, fearing that she had died in ignorance of Jesus Christ.

The drumming increased, excitement mounted, the crowd parted, and "she" appeared. I saw for the first time a "spirit." In height about as tall as I am; in dress, covered from top of head to ground with a coarse cloth that looked for all the world like some of the "homespun" which the Africans make on handlooms; in motion, gliding gracefully along in the inimitable manner of the real live African street dancer. Straight to the Oyinbo (white man) she danced, with remarkable directness, considering the limited sight allowed by the very small eye holes in the cloth that covered the black face. Was there any gracious way to expose this hoax (if indeed any present were really beguiled), and to use the occasion to preach a simple gospel message? That question filled my mind, and as if in a whisper the answer came. "Money talks, even to an African 'spirit.'"

For my first time, I spoke to a "spirit," saying, "E Kabo!" (welcome). In a high pitched, obviously disguised falsetto voice, came the reply, "A dupeol!" (thank you).

I continued, "I have always heard that a spirit could not be seen with the eye. I have always been told that a spirit had not hands like men. Now if the 'spirit' had hands I would lay a gift in them." My words were translated in the Yoruba language, for this was a Yoruba "ghost." The reply was that she did have hands.

After I had requested her to stretch out her hand for a gift, she complied, and I dashed this "spirit" a toro. Asking my interpreter to speak so the crowd could hear, I said, "You think this is a good gift. The greatest gift is the gift that the great God of all creation made to us all when he gave us Jesus Christ. Jesus will indeed give to any who will accept a true resurrection life that will go on and on always in the presence of God himself. All of you go to the Christian church next Sunday and hear the preacher tell you all about this life."

On the way home, Pastor Tella said to me, "Master, it is a custom that women must not see the hand of a ghost, and you have exposed the one who was fooling the people. There will be many people in church next Sunday because of this."

"Yes," I thought. "Money talks, and I praise God that there are many ways in which we can make it preach the gospel." The people of Africa want salvation, and will accept Christ, but they have to be told—and told again.

Idol Worship In My Town

by Abeke Oke, Class I
Idi-Aba, Abeokuta, Nigeria

My town is filled with people who worship Oya. About four months before time to observe their service festival, the Oya worshippers come to town. All those who live in faraway villages return home for this festival. They get ready all the things that they will use in worshipping the idol. When the real day comes they kill the goats and cook different kinds of food. When they have finished they dance about while some prepare food. Some will be begging the idol to give them children while others will be thanking the idol for the children it has given them.

Many people will gather around them to witness their festival. They observed one in front of our house last year; I stood there to see what they were doing. After they did what I have written they were very happy and merry. When the even came they all left their leader's house and went back to their own homes.

It happened that one of the worshippers lived near our house; so the next day I went to her and asked the reasons why she acted thus. She told me that the blood they put on the idol has taken away her sins. Also that if she failed to observe the festival each year she would not be saved. So I began to tell her that one cannot be saved through the putting of blood on an idol but that only Jesus Christ the Son of God can save her if only she believes. I also told her that the Israelites killed animals in order that God might forgive them of their sins but since Jesus has come to

(Please turn to page 11)





From front or back German-speaking Swiss Baptists look like any of us gathered in annual convention.

EARLY one Saturday morning in June we left Zurich for the beautiful drive to ancient Basle to attend the annual convention of German-speaking Swiss Baptists. Basle is located on the Rhine where France, Germany, and Switzerland meet. As soon as we reached the church, we felt at home in spite of language barriers. A lovely girl, the oldest of the five daughters of the local pastor, greeted us at the entrance. Within the quiet courtyard men and women cordially invited us to join in drinking tea and eating hard buns. Twice the pastor raised his voice to ask all to drink their tea quickly that the meeting might begin on time.

So into the church we hastened, there to feel the quiet influence of the attractive chapel and the beautiful flowers, and the sense of unity with these who placed over their pulpit the words: "Ein Herr, Ein

Meeting with Baptists in Switzerland

by Mattie Leila Watts

Glaube, Eine Taufe
—Ephesians 4:5.
Thirty minutes were given to a devotional service of hymn-singing, a sermon, and a lengthy season of sentence prayers. It was a wonderful time of relaxed, unhurried worship as so many without delay participated in the spoken prayers and all joined in the "Amen" at the end of each.

Brother Utzinger, a pastor and the father of Mrs. Arthur Crabtree whose British husband has come to be a member of our Zurich Seminary faculty, presided over the session. A large man, quite bald, he delighted us with his dignity, his humor, his knowledge of the affairs of the convention, and his wise counsel along the way. There was a roll call by name of the sixty messengers, a large proportion of whom were laymen. There was recognition of several visitors from Germany, Australia, and the United States, and then the request that the visitors and women move to the side aisles, leaving the center pews for the messengers!

Every Southern Baptist would have felt kinship with these fine people as the time came for the discussion of the twenty-sixth

annual report of these 1300 Swiss Baptists. "Why aren't the French-Swiss represented?" "Must we speak only in High German or may we use our own dialects?" "Why aren't the new hymnbooks ready as promised?" "Let us not have any part in an ecumenical movement!"

An elderly layman arose to express his deep concern that the report listed only one more Baptist than last year. As he made an appeal for more missionary activity, one or two responded with the usual Baptist excuse . . . the state church absorbs so many, we should be grateful that we hold our own. But several pled for a revival of evangelism and others joined in with "That is well-spoken!"

After the business session, two German pastors brought stirring accounts of evangelistic work being done in both Munich and Stuttgart. And our hearts rejoiced that

we had a small part in both since our Southern Baptist relief funds helped to provide a car and some other equipment for each place.

All of us had lunch and the evening tea together in fine fellowship in a large private room of a restaurant near the church. No price was put on the plate but a collection was taken to help cover expenses of the meeting.

In the evening the church was filled to capacity as we gathered for the young people's program. We missed the Intermediates but were deeply moved as eight fine young men and women gave simple and earnest testimonies on "Finding God's Will for My Life." As we drove back to Zurich in the late evening there was a prayer in our hearts that in all lands there may be many, many more who will find God's will and follow it.

Mutsu Ikebe, Most Versatile

by Mrs. A. P. Jenkins, a chaplain's wife

SOMETIMES I feel downright selfish, over here enjoying these wonderful experiences with the occupation forces. I have met so many lovely Japanese people; I wish I could tell you about them all, but this one especially I know you will be interested in.

SOON after we came to Kumamoto, Mutsu Ikebe came into my life. She was born in Himeji into a very strict Buddhist home. As a little girl, she heard her family and others arguing about the different branches of Buddhism. She began to reason within herself that there must be only one God and that she wanted to know about him. Because the teachers at the Northern Baptist mission school in her village were so kind she was sent there to school. She was taught the Bible and soon learned about the one God she had been seeking. She was baptized when she was sixteen.

While at the school she served as president of the religious organization. After graduation she went on to Kobe College and made a name for herself there, serving

as president of the W.C.T.U. and working with the social welfare group. When her family found out that she was going to do religious work, instead of teaching English as they had planned, they refused to help her any more. She studied one year in the Northern Baptist Bible Training School in Osaka.

While she was in Osaka she heard from a former high school teacher who was in America. This friend told her that she had met a very fine young Japanese in America, whom she wanted Mutsu to marry. They began corresponding, but she felt that she was not quite ready for America. She taught in the Northern Baptist school at Yokohama and during her year there led over one hundred girls to accept Christ as Saviour. She felt that she had done the thing Christ wanted her to do, by staying in Japan another year.

MR. IKEBE, the young Japanese, was working for Mr. Thomas E. Mitten, a very wealthy man in Philadelphia. He made arrangements for her to go to America in 1922, with the understanding that if she

and Mr. Ikebe did not agree she would not have to marry him. Mr. Mitten was not only very wealthy but was very kind and liberal. He sent her to Temple University, where she studied religious education for a year. In February of 1929 the Ikebes were married in Miami, Florida, and in October of that same year came back to Japan, and to Kumamoto, Mr. Ikebe's birthplace. They have a lovely Christian home, into which have come four delightful children. Her nephew lives with them, and they have always had boys living with them, going to college.

Mutsu says she is not a typical Japanese woman, for she does not stay at home all of the time. When they came back to Japan they joined our Southern Baptist church in Kumamoto. Now she is a deaconess in that church and treasurer. She is on the Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A. Council, is vice-president of the Interdenominational Women's Association, leader of the Woman's Club in her section of the city, member of two P.T.A.'s, and serves on a committee in each, holds a Bible class in her home weekly, and of course attends the regular services of her church. She has to walk everywhere she goes except when she goes with me in the station wagon.

I JUST WISH you could go with me, through the dirty, winding streets out to the edge of the city, and up on the hill to her lovely home. Then go with us as we go in and out of the Japanese homes car-

A Glimpse into a Japanese Woman's Heart

by Mutsu Ikebe

This letter was not written for publication, but it tells so much we all need to know we believe Ikebe San will not mind our sharing it.

WHAT a wonderful joy for me to be able to receive two copies of ROYAL SERVICE today! I was almost thrilled to death for the joy. I decided to read them very carefully as much as I can each day. After I came home I read in the May one as far as "The Family Altar—A Cornerstone for the Christian Home." It took me a long time to read them all, for I have to use my dictionary quite often. I want to read as much as I can, for I found many troubles in my

rying clothes, to the rich and poor alike. The average Japanese cannot buy clothes after he feeds his family, with food so high. Then there are no good clothes on the Japanese market now. Mutsu and all of her friends want me to thank the women of the South for the clothes that have been sent. The Kumamoto church received many clothes through the New Orleans Relief Center and direct packages. The women here cannot understand why you send such good clothes. They do not realize that styles change. But we do not have enough. If we had a whole carload of clothes we might be able to supply the need in just our own church membership.

Have you ever imagined how the children of Israel felt when they saw the manna? If you have, then you know how I felt when God sent Mutsu to me. She understands everything I say, and is fast learning the meaning of some of my distinctly southern expressions. She is the most versatile woman I have met in Japan. She serves as a go-between in planning Japanese marriages, helps people sell property, or anything else they want to.

Her deep and abiding devotion to her God, her family, and her friends, and her faithful witness to the saving power of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, are graces that I want to absorb from her.

After having met my little Japanese sister, will you not pray for us that we may serve together for his glory?

Christian service, and this kind of magazine will give me more knowledge to my work here.

In the first page "My Baby" was very interesting to me. I felt so thankful to you all, for your effort to collect the clothes from your people to save the world. I learned more and more about it and I felt that we too have to offer our love for the world in every way. My heart is moved by Mrs. Joe W. Burton's article about home-



The seeking throng near a Japanese shrine

One faithful woman can make the home an altar unto the Lord! I told this to all of my family at our evening service. My children and my husband listened to me so carefully, and I offered my hearty prayer to my Lord to thank him. Christian mother can seek the real happiness for her children. I have the same experience with my children. There are so many Baptist homes reading the same verse on each day and learning our Lord's will just the same.

Mrs. Jenkins has been very kind to me. She calls me most every day, and I call her each night. Wherever she goes, I go. What a happy life to be able to serve him together! She helped my mission work ever since she came here in this city. God sent me the best leader in my hardest days.

WELL, will you please let me tell you about my family? My husband has an office in downtown and sells the newspapers. He sells about 60,000 papers to the citizens each day. So he is a very busy man. He is typical Japanese and is a good father to the children. We all honor him and love him! We have three boys and two girls.

My oldest boy, he is my nephew, but we adopted him since he was three years old, for his parents divorced. He is studying at University to be a professor for physics. He baptized when he was nineteen years old. My second boy, he is my oldest son, is 18 years old now studying in University of Tokyo. He is taking agricultural depart-

ment. He wants to make butter and cheese, for he thinks that the Japanese people must have more cultured foods. He goes to the church on each Sunday; he is always the leader of young men at our Baptist church. He was baptized last Easter. He is such a happy boy.

My oldest daughter is sixteen years old and now going to her junior college. She is baptized a year ago; she is the leader of young women both at the church and at the school. She is fond of piano. She got the best prize on her piano concert among all the girl pianists in western part

of Japan. She got very best reputation on her piano. I am proud of her piano and I thank God for he gave her music talent. When she broadcasted *Moonlight Sonata* on radio, Colonel McMurray, the good pianist among U. S. Army, said that she was the second best pianist he ever heard among Japanese pianists. She was invited by U. S. Red Cross Club three times and got good reputation. Mrs. Jenkins and her daughter, Mary Carolyn, come to my house to sing with her quite often. So you see how happy I am with her.

My third boy is twelve years old. He is the second class at his high school. He is honest boy. We named him "blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness." We call him Yukimasa. Yuki means blessed, Masa means righteousness. My husband's name is "righteousness virtue." My oldest son's name is "fighting for the righteousness." We gave all boy's name from the Bible word *righteousness*. So he is just like his name and we all love him very much. Oldest daughter's name is Taeko, "plenty of blessings." So she is blessed girl for she has talent of music.

Our baby girl is nine years old. Her name is Yuko, "heavenly help." When she was born, doctor said that she would never be born alive, but she was alive just miracley, so we gave her this name. All of our children's names, we gave them by our faith. Yuko is a girl singer. She is best girl

singer at her school, and she is also a member of girl singers at radio station here. She broadcast her song at least twice a month. At Christmas morning, older daughter Taeko played piano and Yuko sang Christmas carol at central radio station to broadcast Christmas carols.

So you see these two girls seem to me the comfort from heaven to me. We have nothing to make us please worldly now: no clothes to buy, no good foods to eat, no coffee, no tea, no sugar, no milk. How can we look brighter world, since the country is broken up like this. Most of our property is taken as a heavy taxes, more than half of husband's earnings has to be paid for the tax. We have to live eating just like horses and cows eat. If we look ourselves only material way, we have nothing to make ourselves happy, but we can enjoy music at home. We can thank God for these beautiful melody through these girls. They are best comforts for me nowadays. Beside these children, I have more than hundreds of Christian young boys and girls around me. Most of them want me to be their mother in faith.

MOST every night several boys and girls come to visit me to talk with me and want me to pray. These young boys and girls have their own problems among their family and their friends. As the country itself is so upset, they do not know what to do. We have to lead them, to show the path. We must lead them to Christ. So I am always very busy. Beside these family, my husband's older sister, sixty-three years old, and her husband, sixty-five years old, are with me. They live upstairs. They have no children to look after them. Her husband is a drunkard. He drinks wine most every night. They do not love me because I am always busy for the church and for somebody else. They want me to be mean, to save money. They always laugh at us for we do not care for clothing.

They say that I go to the church for I have sin, and yet, they do not pay us even a cent. We feed them, and cook for them, because she has palsy, can not use her right hand. We have to do everything for them. The more they gossiped about us, the more people would admire with me, for they say that no one could stand with



*Pack up hope and joy, even life,
for many needy people overseas*

them. As they have no house to live we have to keep them at our home. So you see we are nine altogether.

I also have a widow and a girl seven years old at my house now. She has been our maid last ten years before the war. She got married to a man, and he died at the war. She has no place to go. So she and her daughter came to my house as beggars to ask me for the help two months ago. I just let her stay at my house. Now she keeps my house clean, and cooks for my family and for my sister-in-law. So I can do my mission work more.

To keep eleven persons is not all an easy task to do at the present condition in Japan, to send boys to University and we have to send Taeko to music school next year, and to feed them. You can never understand what kind of food we are taking now. But God kept our health just the same. Sometime I feel very weak physically, and my face became as pale as it can be, but when I am praying, I can feel strong and have some power to stand up.

Mrs. Jenkins once brought me pieces of bread for our chickens, but I told her these breads are too precious, they are for our own foods. She is surprised to hear it from me. No American people can understand what kind of foods we are having each day. Everything is rationed and ex-

pensive. It seems to me miracles that we are alive. But the more I suffer with worldly things, the more we can trust in God. We can live, God would feed us, we are supported by him. We can live on without any sweet foods. "Give us this day our daily bread!" This prayer is my own prayer, for each day, and by this prayer, he supported this large family. Psalm 121:1-2, "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth." I hung this song of Psalms in my tearoom. Yes, my Father has everything. I have none, but he knows my need. He would feed us. Yes, he helped us through Mrs. Jenkins, he helped us through my Christian friends, sometimes through unknown persons. We have farm enough to make vegetables grow. He prepared everything for me. I seek just only for the righteousness. All I can is just to love him and love his people. I work for the kingdom of heaven as long as I live, and then I have everlasting rest with him. Suffering, hard living, these caused my faith in God increase. So I thank him for all the worldly troubles that I am facing now!

I WANT to thank your Christian fellowship for all the clothes you so kindly had sent to our church. There were more than hundred members of the church were thrilled to death for the joy. Though I did not get even a piece of clothes, for I have my American friend and got several boxes for my children, I thought better



give my privilege to more people, I was happy just the same for their happiness is my happiness. Now my children has two or three clothes to change, but so many of other members did not get even a change. So you see how thankful they were then! I told them how kind our Christian friends in the state are, and I explained them that we must not forget your great kindnesses. Then I divided them. Now every family had some American clothes, and they look just as comfortable as they can be specially during wintertime. Please thank to

your people through ROYAL SERVICE. We were saved by you all!

During the war we had only about five members left at our church, but now we have more than 150 people come to our church on each Sunday. Your great help caused more people to understand what Christian fellowship is and helped our church very much. I wish you could see happy girls and boys at the church with American clothes on so nicely. Thanks very much.

Idol Worship In My Town

(Continued from page 5)

the world and died for our sins he has saved us. She asked me to pray for her that she would not participate in the festival again.

I went home and on the next day she told me that she would go with me to our church the following Sunday. In fact, she came to call me and we went to the church together. She told me that the preacher's sermon had a great effect on her and that from that day on she wanted to follow Christ. I told her that it was her duty to win other souls to Christ.

When I went home for the holidays she told me that she had tried very hard to win souls to Christ but all her attempts had been in vain. So I encouraged her and reminded that Christ suffered much more than that. So she said that she would try again. Imagine my joy when I learned that she had added two souls to the fold of Christ this spring.

LOOKING AHEAD

Watchword for 1950

To shine upon them that sit in darkness and the shadow of death; to guide our feet into the way of peace—Luke 1:79

Hymn for 1950

Christ for the World We Sing

Heathen Ceremonies by the Month

by E. A. Dahunsi

Teacher in Baptist Boys' High School, Abeokuta, Nigeria

PROCESSIONS of heathen in celebration of a feast for one god or another are always passing my house in Abeokuta, Nigeria. People in the group may carry all sorts of images that form their chief objects of worship (Buruku); or it may be a group of people in masquerades (Egungun). The temperature may be a scorching 90 degrees, but the processions go on all the same; the often heavily clad Egungun dances with zeal and energy. Hardly a month or season passes without some heathen ceremony.

A stranger watching these enthusiastic heathen may have the feeling that the gospel of Christ has only recently been introduced in the town. In point of fact, Abeokuta was the first town in southwestern Nigeria (and most probably in Nigeria) to welcome a Christian missionary. In 1842 the Reverend T. B. Freeman, a Methodist, came to the town. The next year the first Anglican missionary, the Reverend H. Townsend, was welcomed. In 1850 a Baptist, the Reverend T. J. Bowen, was allowed to settle in the town. As a result of these and other missionary endeavours during the following years, there are now some thousands of Christians in Nigeria. But there are still large numbers of heathen, and often so-called Mohammedans and Christians still embrace heathenism in one form or another. The need for the gospel of Christ in Nigeria is as great today as it was before 1842.

The heathen gods in Yoruba land are legion. Some people record four hundred and one different gods, small and great. Some of these gods are persons who have lived and died in ages past; for example, Sango (a Yoruba king), Oya (Sango's wife), Ogun (the god of war); others are spirits of dead people; for example, Egungun.

A person may worship more than one of these 401 gods at one and the same time. And naturally a person joins in the wor-

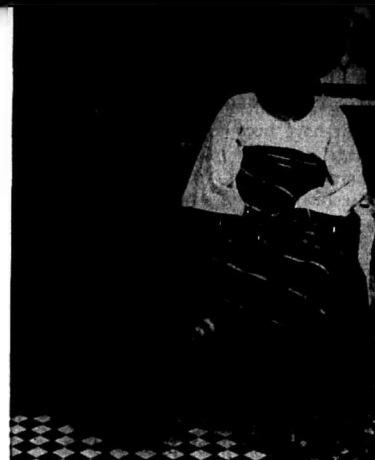
ship of a god on behalf of other people. If one's parents have a particular idol, after the death of the parents the children are expected to continue the worship of that idol. So a person may have his own gods, those of his parents and those they inherited from their predecessors.

The idea behind the worship of the idols seems to be similar always. Here is a typical case: if anyone is sick, it must be that a god is angry. The sick person and the relatives check up on the cause of the god's anger. A sacrifice is offered. If the sick person is better, the sacrifice is acceptable. Otherwise, something else has to be done. It may be that the god requires a particular thing. To determine what, kola nuts (obi) are split, and pieces of kola thrown on the ground in front of the god as various objects are suggested one at a time. If two pieces face up and two face down, that is taken to mean that the god wants the object named; any other arrangement of the kola pieces would mean an emphatic "No!"

Quite often in order to know what the god requires, some particular people have to be consulted. These are revealers of secrets (Babalawo), who specialize in revealing the minds of the gods. These people usually ask for a number of articles, for example, two doves, two cocks, some cowries (or cash equivalent), and other materials. Some of these are for the sacrifice and the rest, quite a substantial part, are the "consultation fees" of the Babalawo.

It is generally taken for granted that after a suitable sacrifice the god does what is required. That may be to restore the health of a sick person, or to enable a person to have many children, or to make one's journey or venture prosperous or to grant one long life!

A neglect of the worship of a god could cause any amount of ills. For example, if Orisala is neglected, the child of the care-



Miss Ethel Harmon, our missionary, writes of Mr. and Mrs. Dahunsi: "They are two of our very finest Christians. He was our evangelistic speaker in our Sunday School Conference last October. I wanted an opportunity for dedications to definite service. He did not wish to do that so I asked the young man who was helping me in Bible School work to give it. Mr. and Mrs. Dahunsi were the first to make their decision. I could understand that he could not ask others to do what he had not done himself. If our Sunday School Conference did nothing else but make a way for him to answer God's call it was well worth while. Mrs. Dahunsi is a graduate of our Girls' School at Ida Aba and a teacher also."

less worshipper may be hunch-backed, or lame, or be born an albino! If the kill is poor in a hunting expedition, Ogun, the god of war, needs to be consulted and appeased. Esu, the devil, is always for evil and so should be appeased away from the town or village. A rugged piece of stone is to be found at the main path leading to a heathen village upon which sacrifices are regularly offered to keep Esu away. Thus the heathen lives in perpetual fear.

The sacrifices always involve the shedding of blood. So there is inherent in the heathen mind the supreme Christian truth that "Without the shedding of blood is no remission."

It is also remarkable that the heathen recognizes a God greater than any one of

his gods. This great God is "Owner of Heaven," creator of everything (Olorun). If Olorun does not say "Amen" to any request, the smaller god cannot grant it. This has given rise to a current idea that the gods worshipped are intermediaries, carrying the petitions of people to the great God who cannot be directly approached. But the essential nature of this great God and the worship acceptable to him are not known. There is a groping for God in the darkness. There is "a zeal for God but not according to knowledge." To this day, one of the most difficult processes in showing the divine plan for salvation to heathen is to make them conscious of sin. If you ask a heathen whether he is a sinner or not, you will promptly receive a reply much like this: "I am not a sinner. I do not steal. I do not commit murder, and I do not desire evil for my fellow man." He does not have any idea of God's standard of righteousness as revealed in Jesus Christ. Such a state of mind requires the touch of the Master.

The heathen firmly believes in life after death, but no one of his gods promises a life of joy after death. The gods are after the material welfare of their followers on this earth. The heathen prays that Olorun may assign a place of bliss to a person who dies having lived a "good" life—"good" by his own standards. An evil man is wished an abode in hell fire. Thus life eternal is regarded as a reward for doing good. The heathen does not know that "there is none righteous, no, not one"; he is not informed that "by the deeds of the law shall no flesh be justified"; that there is a way and only one way whereby we are acceptable unto God.

As I look out of the window from my house and see the zealous heathen, the thought has often crossed my mind, "There go I, but for the grace of God." I was born into a home where six gods were worshipped: father inherited an Egungun and added three others of his own liking, and mother cared particularly for two others! I have witnessed in childhood a man holding down the neck of a fowl with his great toe and by sheer force separating the body from the neck. The blood of the fowl would then be allowed to flow on to an idol after which the headless fowl would be

thrown out to fly around until the nerves were no longer sensitive. I have seen many times two men stretch a dog to the fullest extent, one at the head end and the other at the tail end while a third person severed the head from the body with one stroke of a cutlass in the name of Ogun! In those days mother made careful preparations for the sacrifices. Every room was

A Yoruba Pagan's Belief

"I believe in Olorun, the owner of heaven, the almighty, the creator of heaven (orun) and earth. He is invisible, and is so great that I cannot make any image like him or any shrine large enough to contain him. He has the power to confer or withhold all favors, but he is so great that I cannot approach him direct. He has four hundred servants (idols) through whom he works, and I can obtain favors by coming with offerings and prayers to them and their priests.

"The gods or spirits which I know most about are the gods of secrets, and of my town, the god to whom I was dedicated at my birth, the god of the farm, the gods of the river and the rock, and the gods of my ancestors."

kept particularly tidy and in order; the surroundings of the house were kept clean; a festival was on and we prepared for it.

I have also observed the anxiety on the faces of people when Esu had to be pacified. There would be no rest until the sacrifice was offered.

It is pathetic to watch the man whose house is struck by thunder. That is surely Sango's testimony that he is an evil man. No matter how poor he may be, he must provide the materials for the sacrifices before "the stone Sango threw down" is removed. The Sango worshippers must be

fed all the days of the ceremony.

It is difficult to say now what priest I might have become if I had lived in the village up till now. Father told me two years ago that the Ifa oracle (the revealer of secrets) did not assign any known god to me at my birth; that I would worship a strange god, the oracle had warned! This prediction has come true in that the Christian God that I know through Jesus Christ was strange to the family. A known god was assigned at birth to a brother of mine who is now a Christian. "But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace, to reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen," immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood. Through the influence of an elder brother, who is now an ordained minister of the gospel of Christ, I left home at an early age and came to be introduced to "the new and living way" of life in Christ Jesus. Then a brother accepted Christ, and mother, and then father. These elderly people had served idols for well over fifty years and had found no satisfaction. They discovered that the numerous devices in idolatry were just so many methods of obtaining a livelihood. And in Christ they had come to find an answer to their life's deepest urge: happiness and security here and hereafter.

The spectacle that is so common in Abeokuta can be seen anywhere in Nigeria. Millions are still groping in search of God. They live in fear all their lives. They are not conscious of the presence of a Saviour who relieves all fears, including the fear of death which leads them to take all sorts of precautions by wearing various charms as armlets, belts and rings. The enormous efforts the heathen exerts to see that all goes well with him materially can be turned to the services of Christ who taught man the enduring lesson that true happiness is found only through doing the will of God. What a contrast there is between the heathen guessing at the will of a god by depending upon mere chance, the way kola nut pieces face, and the Christian who turns to his Bible for the will of God as revealed in Jesus Christ and who has the Spirit of God to interpret the words to his heart all the time!

IN THE LAND OF THE YORUBA

by William L. Jester

ON THE West Coast in Nigeria,
In the Yoruba Land, they call it,
Dwell so many pagan peoples!
Souls they are by sin benighted.
Many gods have they to call on,
For they do not know Olorun
Though they say he owns the heavens.
He is high, his power is mighty,
Merciful God, Oba Alanu;
The all-seeing God they call him,
One who sees inside and outside,
One who knows the hearts of mankind.
But instead in fear they worship
In the groves, in idol houses:
Oro, Egungun, Ifa, Ogun,
Esu, Shango, Orisha Oko,
Oya, Ori and Sopona,
Erinle and Orishala.
All these gods they call Orisha,
And they number them by hundreds,
Hundreds four of them they worship.
Then like ancient Greeks of Athens
They have added still another
Lest they fail one that they know not
And his anger fall upon them.
As one goes upon a journey
By the roadside he will see one,
See the idol of the farmer;
Or in village 'neath a green tree
Stands a boulder all bespattered
By the oil or blood put on it
As a sacrifice appealing
For the mercy never rendered.

At the time of Oro worship,
Then for seven days duration
Women stay within their houses.
For if on the street they venture
Whether queens or lowly maidens
They will hear the awful rumbling
Of the voice of dreadful Oro,
Then a death, a death of terror

ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS OF YORUBA WORDS:
Olorun, One who owns the heavens
Oba Alanu, Merciful King
Line 15H—Names of the chief Yoruba gods
Orisha, subject of worship, idol
Oro, a Yoruba god in whose worship only men may participate
Omo Olorun, Child of God
Jesu Olugbala won ni, Jesus is their Saviour



Will be theirs for have they heard there
That no woman lives who ever
Looks upon the face of Oro.

Superstition, fear and terror
Stalk the streets of the Yoruba,
Stalk like death, man's foe eternal,
For no life orisha offer.
Can you not hear drums a-sounding?
Hear the shuffling feet of dancers?
Hear the wailing prayers they utter?
Hear the rhythmic songs of worship?
Prayers they make all night and cease not,
Prayers they make to gods unheeding.

For their gods have eyes and see not,
Ears they have, dull ears that hear not,
Hands they have that hold no mercy,
Neither have their gods compassion.
Are they not the work of man's hands?
From the trees have they been fashioned,
Or from metal have been moulded,
Or from cold stone has one cut them.

Hear, oh hear the cries ascending,
Cries of anguish, fear and pleading.
See souls stumbling in the darkness,
Groping for the light that fails them.
Then with hearts renewed and burning
Send the Light that ever shining
Shows the way to heaven's portals.
Show them Christ, Omo Olorun,
One who came to make their God known,
Bring them peace, life, joy eternal,—
Jesu Olugbala won ni.

IT'S HAPPENING NOW!

In some parts of the High Andes in South America 750 of every 1000 babies born die at birth.

★ ★

American cigarettes are maintaining Hungarian Communist spies in American zones of Europe. Black marketeers buy them from American shippers in European ports and send them behind the Iron Curtain to the dealers. The profit provides a large share of Hungarian Communist Party funds. Cigarettes do a lot of insidious harm in many ways; this may be a new outgrowth of evil for them.

★ ★

Conditions in the Bolivian tin mines are so bad they give cause for unrest. After five years of work, a miner is useless for future labor because of silicosis. Then what? Nothing.

★ ★

Jews are raising \$250,000,000 in order to resettle every Jewish DP by the end of 1949. Most of these will go to Palestine. The Roman Catholics are also making special efforts to bring Roman Catholic DPs to this country. DPs say "It is tough to be a Protestant." What are you doing? "DPs are normal people in all ways save one . . . they have no home."

★ ★

In Palestine relief is still desperately needed for Arab refugees. There are 70,000 in just one section. The fall days bring severe weather when suffering will be more intense. Layettes are needed for newborn babies and warm clothing for men and women and children. Food must be sent in quantity.

★ ★

In midsummer the Spanish workers organization sent out a world appeal. They write of their enslavement by Franco. They fear that aid will go to Franco which will maintain his dictatorship. The message was smuggled out of Spain by way of underground in Argentina. Freedom is an unknown quantity in Spain and they plead that democracies not bolster Franco's government with financial aid.

by Mattie Leila Watts

"You hear them say: 'Now don't worry about the Communists taking China; they can't communize the people of China.' Of course they can't communize the people of China, they haven't communized the people of Russia, but you wouldn't say they don't control Russia, would you? Of course, they can't solve the economic problems of China. They haven't solved the economic problems of any country they have taken, but that doesn't mean they can't take and use it against the free people of the world, does it?"

—Representative Walter H. Judd of Minnesota

★ ★

The budget of the United Nations will be about \$38,000,000 this year. The delegates to the United Nations represent countries whose combined military appropriations will run over \$40,000,000,000.

★ ★

UN has big plans for September 17 through October 24. "We can work it out together or fight it out alone." We need to know how "UN works for you."

"As we embark upon the fourth annual United Nations Week, we can look with pride upon the achievements of the world organization . . . War and distress are costly. Every businessman, every farmer, every working man, knows the profits and pleasures of prosperity. War does not successfully breed this for the businessman, the farmer, the working man or anyone. The United Nations is in business to do away with war, and disasters which befall people, whether a cholera epidemic or illiteracy. Our most economical way of life is through machinery geared to peace and productivity. The United Nations is our best channel for achieving this goal."

Listen to radio programs on UN, participate in any community discussions and special events. "UN works for you."

★

October Tenth is China's "July Fourth," the anniversary of the birth of her republic. Pray that day that China may yet have her chance to be a republic and celebrate October Tenth with rejoicing.

Osun Fish Festival

by Ada Jackson,
W.M.U. Headquarters, Ede

EDE W.M.U. headquarters in Nigeria is not far from the Osun River, around which centers one of the heathen festivals of Oshogbo.

According to tradition, the child of the first king of Oshogbo wandered to the river banks one day and fell into the river. About three days later the child returned to his home telling how the fishes had fed and cared for him during the days in the river.

Every year there is a big festival on the banks of the Osun River, commemorating this event.

In 1947 several of us missionaries witnessed this festival. Thousands of worshippers and on-lookers crowded down to the banks of Osun for the ceremony. The District Officer, his wife, and some other high-up British officials, along with the King of Oshogbo, were present.

There were many groups of drummers and dancers who came with their various "societies" to salute the visitors. Group by group they came and prostrated themselves on the ground before the king and the officials. The dancers put on their fanciest steps, and everyone was in a gala mood.

Then the crowd pushed up to a small compound on the hillside, through a dark low hall and into the inner open com-

An Osun priestess stands before the people who trust her magic



pound. There the heathen priestesses were preparing the food which would be fed to the sacred fish. When the food was ready, the crowd pushed out again through the dark hall and down to the river bank where the king, with great ceremony, tossed the food to the fish. It is a rule that if the fish refuse to come up and take the food he throws to them, the king must die. Whether they would adhere to this rule, no one knows, but there was great excitement when they saw the fish rise to the surface and take the food.

As soon as the fish were fed, the crowd began to disperse, many of them not to return to their sacred spot for another year.

LETTER-ETTES from our Missionaries

The Boy With Braids

by Nella Dean Mitchell

This is my favorite time of the day—just before nightfall. The Argentine landscape has such a peaceful appearance as I look across the patio to the strong Andes Mountains outlined in various shades of deep purple. For a few minutes the pale sun hesitated above the peaks and disappeared on the Chilean side. In my heart I have a quiet peace that goes beyond anything I have ever known before. The work here is not easy and there are problems, but nothing can compare with the satisfaction of being in God's place.

Argentina doesn't present the spectacular aspect of some mission fields but many notable and interesting things are being accomplished through God's power.

I must tell you about the conversion of an 89 year old Spanish woman. Just three months ago she complained to her daughter that they never went anywhere except to the church. Suddenly she became interested and three weeks ago she said, "I have seen the light." The entire church was moved by this woman's confession of faith. We certainly feel that we are only reaping

(Please turn to page 30)

The Terrible Tantrums of Toddlers

by Ruth LaTuille Matthews

"SHE IS SUCH A GOOD baby," the mother of a six-months-old will say proudly. She confidently expects that the "little angel" will always eat her dinner, go immediately to sleep afterwards, and adjust to changes in schedule with easy elasticity. What disillusionment awaits!

Practically every baby has moments when he goes into "terrible tantrums." Dis-

tractions, clashes with the child's emerging independence.

To complicate the problem, there is in every toddler alongside of his maturing self-assertiveness, a "baby-twin," which demands to be protected. The child is really two strangely different personalities. One wants to be big; the other clings to babyhood. The average toddler is plagued by this conflict, and consequently is unpredictable and temperamental. One minute he will be generous with other children, and the next as selfish and possessive as an oyster. One day he goes willingly to his bath, and the next he fights everyone who attempts to bathe him.

What most parents overlook in their small child's behavior is that he is putting them to a test! He is trying to find out what his dolls and toys will do when he alternately slings them to the floor and then hugs them to himself affectionately. Similarly, he is curious about parental responses!

At this stage a child is beset by many frustrations. Just as he starts out on an adventuresome day the parental "No" resounds through the house. Every time he climbs to the chair, plays near the floor lamp, or pulls the tablecloth investigatively he is abruptly stopped. Such a "blocking" of one's aspiration and exploring, even in adults, makes one alternately mad and sad. A child reacts in a similar way.

Some parents are much too demanding about the rigidity of a baby's schedule, making more of an issue of

variations from it than is necessary. Babies that are bound by an unbending schedule have a tendency to show negative personalities in later childhood. Parents who are more lenient with their child's eating, sleeping and playing schedule contribute to his development as a positive personality.

Parents can ease the "toddler tantrum" situation if they will avoid taking too serious an attitude toward minor matters. Magnifying childish rebellion into a major "war on the home front" may make the child either more resistant or prolong his dependence. Parents can help, also, by arranging the house for the baby's convenience rather than forcing the baby to adjust to the house. Mothers and babies have an entirely different estimate of the value of household articles. A small investigator can hardly understand why Mother calmly sweeps up the broken bits of a dime-store vase and then bursts into tears when he knocks over her beautiful wedding-gift vase.

It should be easier for us, as Christian teachers and parents, to understand what makes babies and small children behave as they do than it is for them to understand why adults do as they do. Do we honestly try to grasp a little child's point of view? If we only had even one ounce of Jesus' patience and sympathetic understanding!

As children grow they must learn to accept some of the viewpoints held by their elders, but we should not expect this too early or too suddenly. A growing child is like a flowing river, which, though occasionally threatening to overflow the banks, nevertheless, is not stagnant.

ONE DAY A LITTLE BOY swallowed a penny, and for seven years he did not grow. The penny had touched a nerve that prevented his growing. When they X-rayed him and the penny was removed, he began to grow.

The lack of right understanding of the stewardship of possessions stunts Christian growth. It is very necessary for counselors and leaders to help young people become good stewards of their possessions.

The Stewardship Education Plans for young people with their monthly and quarterly studies teach the right use of money and remove many pennies which otherwise would prevent spiritual growth.

As suggested by the Stewardship Education Plans, much thought and preparation should be given to the Annual Church Night of Stewardship. Sunbeams, G.A.s, R.A.s and Y.W.A.s. can show parents and all church members what they have learned concerning the stewardship of possessions. At this service opportunity can be given for the signing of the tithers' covenant. See the leaflet, *Stewardship Plans for W.M.U. Young People's Organizations* or page 62 in your 1949 W.M.U. Year Book and arrange for this helpful service in your church. October is usually the best month for the presentation of this stewardship program.

REMOVE THE PENNY

by Margaret Bruce

There may be other things which need to be removed that the growth of young people and their missionary organizations may be constant. This is the last quarter of 1949. Remove those things which are keeping you from having an A-1 organization, check up on every requirement on your Standard of Excellence and strive to attain all you can in these last three months of the year.

If interest is lagging in the organization and your attendance is not what it should be, remove this hindrance by more interesting programs and increased missionary activities. Encourage the young people to read their own *World Comrades*, *The Window of Y.W.A.* and *Ambassador Life*. Remove indifference about missions by widening horizons; there is no better way than through the study of mission books and magazines.

Perhaps there are things which should be removed from your Woman's Missionary Society. Have the members lost their love for fostering? Are you having difficulty securing leaders? The official publication of the Central Council of Society for the Propagation of the Faith, published in Rome, reports an increase of 10,000,000 Catholics in mission lands during the past fifteen years. They report 261,895 full-time work-

ers, 25,494 priests, 9,093 Brothers, 54,892 Sisters and 91,677 lay Catechists. There is surely no lack of leadership among this group.

We must remove the hindrance of lack of leadership for our young people. There can be no finer way than by carrying on an effective program of fostering in the W.M.S.

Untrained leadership should also be removed



from our young people's organizations. If organizations were X-rayed, doubtless the greatest cause for lack of growth would be untrained leaders. This obstacle can easily be removed today. There are so many wonderful helps provided for leaders. The Correspondence Courses, the Guides for G.A. and R.A. counselors, *The Way of Missionary Education*, *Telling You How*, *The Manual of Woman's Missionary Union* and manuals for each of the young people's organizations help counselors prepare themselves for leadership.

Remove the penny, whatever it may be, which is preventing the spiritual and missionary growth of the young people in your church. Be done with all those trivial obstacles which are preventing the growth of your W.M.U. young people's organizations.



tracted parents, seeing this bombastic change for the first time, are sometimes almost frantic.

What caused it? Primarily it came about because the helpless infant is growing up and becoming conscious of himself as an individual. He is fascinated by his newly found personality, and he expresses it at every chance and in a variety of ways unintelligible even to himself. Suddenly, and quite arbitrarily, he insists that his preferences be honored. He stubbornly wants the blue plate with the white flowers on it, and refuses to eat unless it is forthcoming!

His new ability to begin walking, talking and manipulating movable toys and blocks gives him an intoxicating sense of power. Then it is that the parents' equally strong desire to "look after him," to keep him from falling, and to see that he eats the right

SAND-PILE SET

Two finger-plays that are suitable and fun for toddlers are:

HERE'S THE CHURCH

"Here's the church"; interlock fingers with thumbs side by side in front of them.

"And here's the steeple"; extend fore-fingers to touch at tips.

"Open the door"; spread thumbs apart.

"And see all the people!"; unfold fingers and wiggle them.

IS THIS YOUR QUESTION?

by Mrs. R. S. Marshall, Alabama

How can we help our officers know their duties better?

Co-operate with your mission study chairman in a study course with the "Manual of Woman's Missionary Union" (Mallory and Christian) as text, add the latest information from the W.M.U. Year Book and

R.A.'s, their Ranking System work?

Have a reviewing council, five women for the G.A.'s and five men for the R.A.'s. When members are ready to appear before their council at least three of the council can attend and examine the member. Counselors must be on their toes and faithfully supervise this study program. It is a part of Point One of G.A. and R.A. Standards of Excellence.

How can we arrange meetings of auxiliaries when transportation is a big problem?

A certain rural church has all organizations, even the Brotherhood, meeting before the prayer service on Wednesday night. Another church has "missionary night" when all meet at 7 o'clock for songs and announcements, then hold their programs in the different Sunday school classrooms. This church has six Sunbeam Bands, one for each age group! A certain educational director has all auxiliaries meeting on Tuesday afternoon: he directs the brief assembly program before separation for the programs of the auxiliaries.

What can we do about all these young married women in our church who are not members of the missionary society?

Have good programs, talk up the society, provide a nursery for their children just as is done for other meetings, select a chairman and co-chairman and let them go after new members. Use some of them on the general program every month. Ask them to teach mission study classes. Help them name their circle for a missionary. Draw all names out of the circle at the end of the year, and start another new one.

How can G.A.'s improve their Forward Step and

if we do directed community missions one time during the quarter, do we count it?

Do you want to be content with just the community mission service that will count? This is your personal and organizational witnessing for Christ. The Standard of Excellence is to be marked monthly. On the quarterly report

count the number of women who have taken part all three months.

Are the Missionary Round Table books to be used only by members of large societies?

No indeed, W.M.U. plans are always for all women everywhere. Some of our best informed women are in rural or small town churches. A certain associational mission study chairman in a small society has an excellent M.R.T. enjoying the books listed under *Missionary Principles and Practices*. She can promote the plan enthusiastically because she herself is reaping benefits of reading twelve books in a year's time for the cost of one.

How can we improve our teaching of mission study books?

Hold an associational mission study institute to help teachers know how to teach, what curios, pictures, maps, posters, scriptures, costumes to use, how to tell the stories and how to use pupils in class. This fall, quick, do this in preparation for the study of the graded series on Japan. The president, young people's leader and mission study chairman of the association should select the best teachers for each of the live books and strive to have those who will be the teachers in each church present. Counselors should attend even if another person is going to teach this time. There are two leaflets for mission study chairman, free from your state W.M.U. headquarters. Do you have them? They are "How to plan your Mission Study Institute" and "How To Get the Most From Your Mission Study in Woman's Missionary Union."

ONE DAY A STRANGER came to the pagan city, Athens. In almost every niche in the city he saw a God. One writer said it was easier in Athens to find a god than a man. The Athenians deified not only men but ideas. On every side this stranger saw evidences of gross idolatry. Many of the statues representing the gods were of magnificent beauty and surpassing splendor, but this stranger who was none other than the Christian Jew, Paul, was not impressed by all that beauty and splendor. He was indifferent to that about which other men wrote beautiful lyrics.

Paul's heart burned within him as he beheld the wickedness of a city filled with idolatry. Standing in the midst of the beauty, art and profound teachings of proud Athens, Paul saw not only idols but the men who made and worshipped the idols in deep sin and degradation. He saw the slavery of sin, the heartaches and agonies on all sides. He saw men worshipping everything they could think of and still worshipping nothing. Paul saw that they were not satisfied even with their many gods. He saw that they were still seeking for the peace that passeth understanding. This was proved when Paul suddenly came upon an altar built to an unknown god.

Using the unrest evident in their souls Paul declared to them the one God who was in truth to them "the

*Prayer is the key
of the morning,
Prayer is the lock
of the night.*

OUT OF THE SLAVERY OF SIN

Acts 17:24-28; Psalm 103:11-17

unknown God." He declared to his listeners that instead of the many gods whom they were worshipping, this true God, whom they ignorantly sought to worship, was the One Supreme Ruler of the Universe. He was the answer to their disturbed unrestful souls. This God is the Omnipotent Creator. Nothing had come into being by itself. God had created all things. Paul explained to the Athenians that God did not dwell in temples made by hands. Such could not possibly contain him. It was foolish to try to express this great God of the universe by means of feeble, powerless pieces of stone, or gold or silver. God cannot be found in such images. In this way Paul destroyed the very foundation of idolatry.

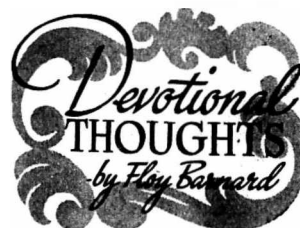
Another revolutionary truth Paul set forth was that man is God's creature and is dependent upon God. Therefore God is not only his Creator but also man's Benefactor and Sustainer.

Man is the offspring of God and is intended to worship him. God does not want to remain unknown to man, but he wants man to seek and find him and commune with him. Paganism with its idolatry and sensualism destroys this relationship between God and man.

Paul sounded a note of warning to the Athenians that they should repent and turn away from their idols to God for the world will be judged with righteousness by Christ Jesus. This was their glorious opportunity to turn away from their false gods with all of their sin to the one true God of righteousness.

This simple, convincing, glorious message was set forth by Paul over against the paganism, mythology and vain ideas of wicked Athens. No wonder Paul's heart burned within him.

The psalmist in Psalm 103:11-17 (read) sets forth the same glorious attributes of the God of mercy. God will put the sins of those



who turn from idolatry to him an inestimable distance from them: as far as the East is from the West. By the miracle of love through Jesus Christ sin is removed from those who repent.

The God whom Paul and the psalmist adored and proclaimed was not a god of cold unfeeling stone, but a living God of tenderness, mercy and love. Man is a frail creature of the dust, but God mercifully has regard for him. God is good, just and faithful, now and forevermore.

Paul bravely declared, in the very center of paganism, that the one true God, full of mercy and love, is the only God who can bring peace and joy to men everywhere.

God grant that the hearts of Christian women may burn within them and that they, too, may be brave in making known that Christ is the answer for paganism.

Christ the Answer for the Pagan Peoples

Program Plans for Your W.M.S. and B.W.C.

Present the program as a World Mission Conference. Use map of the world and maps of individual countries. In Africa, China, and Japan mark the areas of our work. Show on the map of China the extent of our work before Communist domination, and areas recently evacuated. Also point out unreached areas where we might continue to work and areas where immediate expansion is recommended in the "Advance Program" of the Foreign Mission Board.

The maps may be used by the regional secretaries as they develop their talks.

There should be a microphone as for broadcasting.

Members of the Brotherhood might be enlisted to give this program. Or women may be represented as substituting for the speakers (their planes were late). In any case the pastor or some man may preside as Dr. Lee.

You may announce on your invitation poster:

Southern Baptists call a World Mission Conference with Dr. R. G. Lee, President of the Southern Baptist Convention, presiding. Opening Hour at

Dr. M. Theron Rankin, Executive Secretary of the Foreign Mission Board, Dr. George W. Sadler, Secretary for Africa, Europe and the Near East, Dr. Baker J. Cauthen, Secretary for the Orient, and Dr. Everett Gill, Jr., Secretary for Latin Amer-

ica, will be seated on the platform with Dr. Lee.

The program chairman will explain about this World Mission Conference and this unusual program being so widely broadcast. The audience is 6,000,000 Southern Baptists. The large auditorium is filled to capacity and throughout the country people are assembled to hear the program which is to be broadcast.

Necessary explanations should be made before the devotional so there be no break in the spirit of worship.

Select rousing missionary hymns—"Jesus Saves," "Send the Light," "We've a Story to Tell," "O Zion Haste."

Has your pastor received the posters, "Fifty-fifty by 1950," "Every Baptist a Tither," and are they up in your church? Bring them into the W.M.S. meeting place. If not at hand, write Executive Committee, Southern Baptist Convention, 127 Ninth Avenue, North, Nashville 3, Tennessee, asking for copies and for other literature regarding stewardship and the advance program, giving number of copies of leaflets needed to distribute one to each woman in your society and church. Make a third poster, Every Baptist A Missionary, to go with the first two mentioned.

Program Outline

Hymn
Devotional Period, see page 21
Prayer
Our Great Inheritance and Pagan Mathematics
An Advance Program for World Evangelism
World Evangelism in our Present Program
The Orient
China, Day Dawn or Twilight
Our Years of Grace
Faithful Unto Death
Japan's Open Door
Africa's Contrasts
The Call is "Forward"
Hymn: "Lead On O King Eternal"

Audio-Visual Aids

Your Foreign Mission Board has and can recommend some films and slides showing African life. Write Mr. Fon H. Scofield, Jr., Box 5148, Richmond 20, Virginia, for lists and prices. Give date for your use of these fine materials. Get a new Foreign Mission catalog of films from your Baptist Book Store.



Our Great Inheritance and Pagan Mathematics

"We have been seeking for a fuller revelation of God. We have expected that revelation in terms of overwhelming majesty. We were not prepared for the revelation which came in the face of One who, for the sins of the world, was ready to bear the shame of the cross."

This amazing statement made by a Hindu scholar to a Hindu audience expresses well the conviction of the pagan peoples of the world who have found Christ. But there are millions who are still seeking that revelation. They have not yet had a glimpse of that matchless face of the Saviour, nor experienced his cleansing power.

The pagan peoples of China, Japan, Africa, India, and our own United States are knocking persistently at our doors. Many of them have heard vaguely of Christ and they come to inquire if he is sufficient for their needs. What shall we answer, Southern Baptists? Do we believe that Christ is sufficient? Do we really believe it? Are we willing to prove it?

We do not present a very convincing picture just now. We stand amazed, bewildered and dumbfounded; trembling with both fear and expectation as we breathlessly view that which is at the same time a glorious opportunity and a last chance. We stand in the presence of shattered hopes and plans, but with an ever increasing realization that God has answered our prayers of a century. For a hundred years Baptists have prayed that doors would be opened for the gospel, knowing that God said, "Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession" (Psalms 2:8).

Today we are coming into our inheritance. The barriers are all down, the doors

Planned by Mrs. H. P. McCormick

Our missionary, Mrs. McCormick, knows this subject from some twenty years in Nigeria and recent years in Hawaii with life in the U.S.A. before and between.

are wide open, and we hear the agonizing cry of the lost millions. They grope in darkness and despair, calling for the Light, pleading for the Bread of Life, begging for the Living Water for their famished souls. This answer to our prayer for opportunities should bring joy to our hearts, but instead, we are terrified and appalled. We feel helpless to meet their need. We say that we have neither men nor money to answer their call.

Is this denial true? Let us answer with care, because there is evidence that will condemn us. We consider ourselves average Americans, so statistics for the country as a whole will serve as a rough gauge for us. Statistics show that we become more miserly as prosperity increases.

In 1932, the national income was forty-four billion dollars. Of this, we gave five and three tenths million to religious causes. In 1948, our income increased to two hundred and eleven billion dollars, but our gifts decreased to one and one half million in that same year. Strange arithmetic, isn't it? Looks amazingly like a pagan system of mathematics.

According to Jesus' definition, paganism is preoccupation with things of this world. It is noticeable that in all of his teaching and preaching he never mentioned the worship of idols, which we think of as the emblem of paganism. Jesus taught persistently that we cannot serve God and mammon. If we are serving the material things which we possess, then we are pagans.

Paganism is a real threat to America today. Those in a position to know, tell us that failure to preach the gospel everywhere with every social, material, scientific, and spiritual facility which we can muster, will spell our doom. Some feel that our civilization is in danger of complete annihilation. By the providence of God, as a nation we have been placed in the center of the world and draw strings have been pulled tight until we are rubbing shoulders with all the peoples of the world. We



Dr. Everett Gill, Jr. . . . Dr. M. Theron Rankin . . . Dr. Baker James Cauthen . . . Dr. George W. Sadler

can no longer ignore our responsibility to them. The choice is clear: either we will destroy each other or we will advance together in the ways of Christ.

An Advance Program for World Evangelism

Within the past year, Dr. Rankin and his co-workers have presented to us the needs of the pagan peoples of the world. They have shown us how we may be used of God to help carry out his plan of redemption before it is too late. They propose an "Advance Program" calling for a budget of ten million dollars for foreign missions and a missionary force of 1750 workers. We have verbally accepted this program, realizing something of the greatness of our own unconsecrated resources and the desperate needs of a destitute, lost world. Certainly we are convinced that this is the very least effort which should be considered now. But it is not enough to merely let our minds say yes to this great program. We must act and act promptly. In the words of Dr. Rankin, "This is the hour for re-dedication—for doing something grand and sacrificial, for taking God at his word and preaching the gospel to the uttermost parts of the earth."

There is an opportunity before us, an imperative demand for us to do the most daring thing ever attempted by six million people—that is to really, honestly, begin to live as though we believe Christ meant it when he said, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." Let us remember that it was for the world Christ lived; it was for the world Christ prayed; it was for the world Christ died; and World Evangelism is the task Christ committed to his followers.

There is nothing new now in God's plan

for a lost world. Salvation is as always through Jesus Christ, accepted and exhaled in the hearts and lives of people. There is nothing new in the Great Commission. It is nearly 2000 years old. But there must be a totally new and unprecedented grasp and appreciation of this divine plan and an obedience to that Commission by those who claim to be Christ's followers if we are to prove our sincerity.

If we are to obey, we must consciously and sincerely plan for obedience in every service, in every act of worship, and in every part of our local church program. World Evangelism must no longer be an afterthought, brought in for consideration once or twice a year by a few people in the churches. It must influence our church building and extension programs. It must influence our expenditures for local, state, and home mission causes. All of these need to be planned to fit in their rightful places in an all over program of World Evangelism.

World Evangelism in our Present Program

Let us examine our present program and see if our accounts are in proper balance. In 1948, the typical dollar contributed by Southern Baptists was divided in the following proportions:

- 79.7 cents of each dollar was spent by the local church,
- 1.17 cents of each dollar was spent for home missions,
- 3.04 cents of each dollar was spent for sending the gospel to the ends of the earth.

Surely we cannot effectively implement an Advance Program which includes all our work if we continue the percentage of funds kept in the local churches so far ex-

ceeding the amount spent for world missions. In this respect our accounts are definitely out of balance.

The goal of Fifty-Fifty by 1950 would help solve some of our problems. If the funds had been divided on that basis last year the Foreign Mission Board would have received over eighteen million dollars instead of the six million which it did receive.

Suppose your church gave as much to State, Home and Foreign Missions as it spends at home? Then suppose that your state should send 50% of the funds received to be used for all convention-wide causes, which include all of our home and foreign mission work, our seminaries and so on. How much more would the Foreign Mission Board have received from your state? Are you satisfied with the per cent of gifts sent by your church to your state office? What per cent of your gifts sent to the state office is sent on to be used for all convention-wide causes? Is your church fifty-fifty now? Do you think it should be by 1950?

Let us not think that a juggling of figures will finance our Advance Program, which calls for ten million dollars. Our gifts to all causes must be increased, because the Advance Program calls for an enlargement of our total world evangelistic program from the local church, through the state, and on out to the ends of the earth. It is plain that we must increase our giving. Our gifts to all causes in 1948 were about twenty-four dollars each. If God should bless us according to our gifts we would receive a salary of \$240 a year. It

is appalling that some average American Christians spend for cigarettes four times the amount that is spent for the church and nine times as much for alcoholic beverages as for all religious causes. What have you spent more for than for the on-going of the gospel? Do we dare ask, "Wherein have we robbed God?" "Every Baptist a Tither" should be a slogan that we make real this year. But in addition to this, every Baptist should be a Christian steward in the use he makes of the other nine tenths.

It is not enough to redistribute funds coming into our churches, although that should be done. Nor can we carry out the divine command by tithing our money only. It takes man power, people, and prayer to carry out that program. We must have men and women to carry the message glorious.

Our present mission staff of 669 missionaries is not enough to provide adequately for mission stations already open, much less answer the urgent call for us to enter new fields in India, Siam, and Indo-China, in Liberia, and South Africa, and in more South and Central American countries. These would be in addition to the vast unreached and undermanned areas in the fields already occupied, and this program calls for 1750 workers.

Our personnel secretary tells us that there are only some sixty prospective candidates ready for appointment in 1949. How few these are compared to the eleven hundred so desperately needed.

How do we account for this tragic lack of workers? Are there consecrated young people who have never heard of the need for missionaries? Are there qualified young people who have heard God's call and have not responded? We know that there are thousands of young Christians either unaware of, or untouched by the great needs of the mission field. Certainly it is the responsibility of each church to nurture, inform, and train for kingdom service those whom they have led into the kingdom. Our Woman's Mission Union is charged with this special responsibility of majoring on missionary education. Are you in your society fulfilling this responsibility?

How many missionaries have gone out from your church to a mission field? How many candidates for mission work do you

Beginning October 2, 1949

Watch for the Baptist Radio Beam. Tune in everytime on time Sunday afternoon, 3:30 Eastern time, 2:30 Central time, 1:30 Mountain time, 12:30 Pacific time.

This fall hear Dr. Robert G. Lee, president of our Southern Baptist Convention.

Tell others; tell your unsaved friends, invite them over to listen with you.

have in your church? What encouragement do they receive? Do you think, "Every Baptist a Missionary" a reasonable slogan to match "Fifty-fifty by 1950" and "Every Baptist a Tither"?

The Orient

When we speak of the Orient we are naming that section of the earth where one half the world's population lives. The majority of these peoples are admittedly pagan. Of this vast area our Board has worked only in China and Japan. We are at present urged to consider also Korea, Formosa, India, Indo-China and Siam as mission fields.

We recognize the fact that there are several distinct religious systems in the Orient. Some of them are closely related. Nearly every country claims one distinct religion which developed within its borders.

Hinduism, for instance, is an Indian national religion.

It is the most primitive and still the most widely accepted religion of that country. There is no recognized date nor outstanding leader connected with its beginning. The Hindu's great burden is that of being repeatedly reborn into this world of sorrow and suffering. His greatest desire is to be released at death to become one

with the great Essence, known as Brahman. This may be accomplished in a thousand generations if he lives a good life and does good deeds. Out of this religion has grown the stifling caste system with its sixty million untouchables. The three hundred million idols worshipped in India are a testimony to the utter futility of the search for peace through Hinduism.

Buddhism came as a protest against the hopelessness of satisfying those three hundred million Gods or of being satisfied by them. Buddha, the Enlightened One, showed a better way. He said that existence is tied up with suffering and that all suffering is due to desire. Therefore the aim is to be done with all desire and released from the process of rebirth, lose oneself in Nirvana, nothingness.

Buddhism is a missionary religion. It has spread from India, through Asia over to Hawaii and on to the United States. Buddhists have adopted the aggressive methods of Christianity. In many places they provide schools, kindergartens, recreational centers, and boarding dormitories for students in the public schools and the University. They have temples patterned after Christian churches, and provide Sunday schools, services on Sunday, young people's meetings, and fellowship hours. They have adapted Christian hymns, using the name Buddha where Jesus and God appear. Frequently they conduct schools for children five days a week from 3 to 5 P.M., preventing the children attending Christian weekday services.

Among the American citizens of Japanese parentage entering the United States in large numbers many are Buddhists. A few months ago it was reported that there were three thousand American-Japanese students in Japan with passports awaiting passage to Hawaii and the United States. Many of these students are Buddhists, and bring to our very door a missionary challenge that we dare not neglect.

Confucianism was founded by the great Chinese philosopher and teacher, Confucius. He felt that man's chief duty was to be in right relation with his fellowman, although he also recognized a Supreme Being. He made no claims to founding a religion but with Confucianism has grown up the worship of ancestors and spirits. In the home, one may see offerings placed on

the ancestor altar and in the kitchen the kitchen gods are given food to win their favor. It is rather surprising to see bottles of soda water and other modern innovations on the graves in the cemeteries along with the choice bits of food.

The number of people worshipping in this manner are equal to half the world's Christian population.

Shintoism has, through the years, been the great religion of the ninety million people of Japan. It had become a patriotic cult demanding Emperor worship. But when Japan was defeated the Emperor publicly denied having divine prerogatives. So this great mass of people are, today, without a god, as it were. They are stumbling blindly, confused, disillusioned, waiting for a light. They need not wait long because every ism known to man is bidding for their allegiance. Now is the crucial hour for Japan. How tragic it will be if we fail to give her Christ, the Light of the world.

China, Day Dawn or Twilight?

There are many things that we cannot predict about China today. But we may with confidence proclaim the fact that Christ included China when he said, "All power is given to me in heaven and on earth . . . make disciples of all nations."

No one knows the age of China, nor the origin of her people. China's history can be traced back 3000 years before the birth of Christ. During that time there have been comparatively few changes in government. They had a civilization more advanced than the Pharaohs' when Moses led the children of Israel out of Egypt. Seven hundred years ago they sent to the Pope at Rome, requesting one hundred teachers of science and religion so that they might know the Christian faith. The Catholics established themselves in China at that time. Five centuries later Robert Morrison, the first Protestant missionary, arrived in China.

There followed in the wake of these missionaries a continuous procession of traders and soldiers with a doctrine of greed and force. In the 16th century Europeans began to penetrate, dominate, and dismember China. Open conflict resulted when China tried to prevent the importing of opium which was destroying her people.



Dawn is chill and gray for China now; will the day come when it is fair and bright?

The traders were not willing to give up so profitable a business. In the settlement of war which followed, five ports were opened to foreigners. Later further concessions were demanded along with a guarantee of tolerance to Christianity.

It was several years after the first Opium War (in 1840) that Southern Baptists began mission work in China. But it is easy to see that those early missionaries battled to proclaim the gospel of the Prince of Peace, under the handicaps of suspicion, distrust, and ill-will. Only the power of God could produce the results that have been realized through these difficult years.

Our Years of Grace

By the providence of God we were granted the past three years to return to China to help in the program of rehabilitation. We did not know when we urged hundreds of dollars for relief and for rebuilding that we would have so little time to do our work. We thank God for every effort that was made to help China since 1945.

As soon as the war was ended, missionaries and Chinese Christians joined in the task of rebuilding our devastated work, preparing for enlargement and expansion. Marvelous progress has been made in the relief of suffering, the building up and reconstruction of churches, seminaries, hospitals, and schools, the strengthening of Christians, and the training of workers. Because of our work during the past three years, the Christians of China will be better prepared for whatever comes now with the advance of Communists. This must not be a twilight time in China. It must be

More Material for You

Our Foreign Mission Board, Box 5148, Richmond 20, Virginia, has several new leaflets on our work in Nigeria, China and Japan which will be useful with this discussion. You may wish to give a copy to each woman for home reading. Request: *Why Missionaries for Africa?*, and others. Also ask for: *What's the Score?* (This is a very illuminating comparison of gifts in states and denominations to mission causes.)

You may ask the British Information Society, 1910 K Street, S.W., Washington 6, D. C., for pictures and maps of Nigeria.

day dawn, for in many areas where the light of the gospel had never shone the people are being awakened to a new day. Through the war-years the Light penetrated into far corners of that great land as Christians were scattered abroad. As we view our assets in China, what investments have we that may be used of God to bring victory to his kingdom work there, even though our missionaries may be excluded by the Communists? Or leave because their presence is futile and a liability to the Chinese Christians?

Our greatest asset is the Christian people who have proved their loyalty and faithfulness. They have shown an ability, an initiative, and a willingness to carry on the responsibility of Christian life and witness under persecution and suffering.

From the first convert a hundred years ago, our work has developed until Southern Baptists now have five Baptist conventions, corresponding to state conventions, and our all-China convention which was organized in 1948. More than 600 churches and chapels, extend their ministry through Sunday schools, Good Will Centers, mission centers and street services. The key note in all of this is Evangelism.

If the Bamboo Curtain is drawn, let us remember that we have lighted a lamp in China which cannot be extinguished. There is behind that Bamboo Curtain a power greater than atomic energy. It can and will move both heaven and earth, that those things that cannot be shaken may remain.

Faithful Unto Death

Although we have been unable to send aid to Christians in Manchuria and some parts of North China for eight years, we learn that they are continuing their work of witnessing for the Master. In this occupied territory, Christians have been bitter-

Are you selecting new circle chairmen now? Order a CIRCLE CHAIRMAN'S PRAYER for each one, 5c for one copy, 25c for a dozen, from Woman's Missionary Union, 1111 Comer Building, Birmingham 3, Alabama.

ly persecuted, churches have been commandeered for meeting halls and court houses, private property has been confiscated, and every right of free man has been repudiated.

In recent months, a certain missionary who chose to remain and work in occupied territory, was given permission to carry on her work but was required to move to a communal farm and work at hard labor for fourteen hours a day.

The Chinese people do not fare any better. A wealthy, cultured couple who lived in a beautiful home were told that they had enjoyed luxury long enough. The wife was taken out to the home of a poverty-stricken farmer and the farmer's wife was placed in her beautiful home.

How shall we advance in China in the face of such facts? Dr. Baker J. Cauthen, secretary for the Orient, says, "We do have local situations demanding evacuation but when we are forced out of one region we will simply enter another. We must gird ourselves with determination to project a mission program under difficult circumstances for an indefinite period of time." This advance into China calls for an increased missionary staff and an enlarged appropriation.

Japan's Open Door

At present, there is a wide open door in Japan. We should give priority to that country now and provide not less than 100 missionaries by the close of 1950. Japan enjoys a sense of liberation since the war. There is an easing of tension and there are fewer suicides, but there is a great religious vacuum. It will be filled by something. Shall we again give to Japan materialism, industrialism, our western paganism? Or shall we enter to enthroned Christ in the hearts and lives of these needy people?

Japanese Christians have suffered, yet are stronger than before. Christians were able to identify themselves with their country in its suffering and so are no longer considered agents of a foreign power. The Premier is a Christian and Toyohiko Kagawa's devoted evangelistic influence continues. But less than one-half of one percent of the population are counted as Christian.

Certainly this is the day of salvation for

Japan if we will respond to the opportunity. The distribution of New Testaments and Bibles has found great encouragement from General MacArthur. He has said that 30 million New Testaments are needed to Christianize Japan. He urged that these be made available through every possible established agency. He also asked for 500 missionaries for Japan and said that no nation has ever afforded such opportunity to present the Christian faith as the Japanese Empire does now.

In 1947 our Japanese Baptist Convention was organized and we have now 20 churches and 18 additional preaching places with a total membership of 2,000.

We do not know how long this door will remain open. Let us remember that Japan looked to us for help 90 years ago and we failed her. God is patient and longsuffering. Let us be grateful that he has counted us worthy of a second chance.

Africa's Contrasts

Tropical Africa is a place of strange contrasts. It is still the stronghold of the most primitive paganism. But in the midst of this paganism a new civilization is being born. It is true there are some modern hospitals, churches, and schools in Africa, but the witch doctor and medicine man have not disappeared. A pagan mother still places iron anklets, bracelets, and chains on her child to keep the evil spirits from taking it away. She still goes to the river wearing heavy clanging iron anklets, tingling a little bell as she gets water to take to the priest in exchange for the filthy, polluted water which she will receive from him to use for her child. This she does to appease her god. She still places sacrifices of food on the devil stone at the door to keep the devil out of her home. These are only a few of the thousands of idols worshipped in tropical Africa. Scarcely anything can be mentioned from a small smooth stone to mighty rivers that is not worshipped by some one.

In the rapid changes that are forming a new civilization in Africa there is marvelous opportunity to make Christ the cornerstone of that civilization.

Fortunately, at present, many of those capable of political, economic, and spiritual leadership have been educated in Christian schools and are not ignorant of

Flags of the United Nations

Sixty paper flags in full color, 2" x 5", complete with gummed edges and sticks for mounting, with the name of each nation imprinted on each flag. Set contains the UNITED NATIONS flag and the flag of the new member nation, Israel—at only \$1.00 per set.

Order your sets now—for your meetings, discussions, table decorations and gifts. Order only from the American Association for the United Nations, Inc., 45 East 65th Street, New York 21, N. Y.

Christian precepts. But a great government university and other secondary schools are being established. The next few years will yield a harvest of educated pagans who will bid for leadership just as some of these countries of Africa are attaining political independence unless we hasten to strengthen our Christian forces to meet the needs of this new day.

We have much to show for investments made in Nigeria, the one country of the continent where we have labored through the years. Dr. Sadler, secretary for Europe, Near East, and Africa, said, "When some of us visited the field recently, we were thrilled with the cleansed lepers, the enlightened students, the zealous pastors, and the trained women and other loyal church members who are monuments to the grace of God and the missionary spirit of Southern Baptists."

A new day dawns for Nigeria with affiliation of our Nigerian Seminary with Southern Baptist Seminary in Louisville. This means better leaders for all of our work. In response to the great demand for education, the Nigerian Baptist Convention has set a goal for teaching 10,000 people to read the Bible in the next two years.

The Vacation Bible school is a year round program in Nigeria with attendance in the hundreds. Conversions in one year were over a thousand. Adults participate with enthusiasm.

Our ministry of healing now boasts seven

doctors and nineteen American nurses in this vast country with a population of 20 million people. One nurse has the responsibility for the only clinic in an area where there are 100 thousand people. We rejoice that two new hospitals are being established and two others are being improved.

Nine leper colonies continue to cleanse and heal and return to their homes and loved ones a good percent of their patients. Last year one colony was able to present fifty-five certificates to patients whose disease was arrested, and the fifty-five went out into normal life again.

The motherless babies overflow the home we have for them in Oghomosho (Awg-bô-mo-shô). It is tragic that we must rush these little ones out to live with pagan relatives as soon as they graduate from infancy to childhood, simply because we do not have room for them.

Education has always gone hand in hand with evangelism in our mission program. We are now reaping the rewards for this policy in the fine group of trained pastors, teachers, and Christian men and women with whom our missionaries work in extending Christ's kingdom in Africa.

Our teacher training program now includes two senior colleges and several elementary training schools. These supply Christian teachers for a complete system of schools from kindergarten through high school.

The school is undoubtedly the most potent evangelizing agency we have. With the Bible as a textbook and Christian teachers, there is an opportunity, day after day throughout the year, to teach, guide, and witness to children from Christian, pagan, and Mohammedan homes. There is always a harvest service of souls each year. In one school last year there were 80 converts. In another there were over 200 conversions and rededications.

The program for Woman's Missionary Union is adapted to the needs of Nigeria. There is a continuous, aggressive program of evangelism. There are schools to teach reading, home-making, and child care. This, with the fine schools for girls, is all a part of an effective program of training for the women and the development of Christian homes in a land where womanhood is degraded and polygamy and pagan practices blight and darken the homes.

The Call is "Forward"

Beside new areas in Africa that we are urged to enter as soon as possible we now need to increase our staff for Nigeria and the Gold Coast by 75 missionaries. An advance into other countries in Africa would require a minimum of 260 workers and a greatly increased operating budget.

We can make this worthy advance without any great burden to anyone if we really believe that Christ is the answer to the needs of these pagan peoples and are willing to demonstrate that faith.

The call that comes to us from these pagan lands should not be difficult to hear because it comes from a chorus of one billion twelve million voices. They have been stirred and awakened during the past decade. Now as never before there is an opportunity, and for us, very likely a last chance to give to them the Christ whom they blindly seek. This can be done if we will joyously, wholeheartedly accept the Advance Program, "50-50 by 1950," "Every Baptist a Tither," and "Every Baptist a Missionary," not as pretty slogans but as an imperative program of work and prayer. Christ knew all of the difficulties and problems that are to be found and yet he said, "Go." He assured us that he would be with us and with obedience to his command victory is sure.

The Boy With Braids

(Continued from page 17)

what others have sown, but you see why we are rejoicing so abundantly.

Yet there are so many lost about us. Not long ago a missionary friend was traveling to the River Plate Convention. Her traveling companion was a woman with two small children. When the missionary asked about the ages of her daughters, the woman replied, "Oh, Senorita, the oldest is a boy. You think that he is a girl because of his braids and ribbons. When he was born he had a tumor on his head and I made a promise to the Virgin of Catamarca. I promised her that if she'd heal my son I'd not touch the scissors to his head until he was six years old. He still has a year of waiting before his hair can be cut." You see how we need helpers to tell the true gospel story.

YOUTH AND THE KINGDOM

"... That our sons may be as plants grown up in their youth; that our daughters may be as cornerstones, polished after the similitude of a palace" Psalm 144:12.



*God Placed Great Emphasis on Youth

God manifested his love for youth, and commanded that they be properly instructed. In carrying out his program, he used young people in various ways. He offered them his counsel and made them victorious in tasks which they undertook for him.

- | | |
|--|--|
| SATURDAY, October 1
<i>Deuteronomy 6:4-12</i> | Rev. and Mrs. S. R. Rivera, Mission, Rev. and Mrs. Eugene Wolfe, Abilene, Texas, Mexican evangelism |
| SUNDAY, October 2
<i>Psalm 71:12-17</i> | Student Join-the-Church Day; Rev. and Mrs. Benny Wind, Okemah, Oklahoma, Indian evangelism; pray for the observance of Founders' Day at W.M.U. Training School, Louisville, Kentucky |
| MONDAY, October 3
<i>Psalm 127</i> | *Lillie Mae Hundley, *Pearl Todd, Grace Wells, Shanghai, China, educational evangelism |
| TUESDAY, October 4
<i>Genesis 45:1-16</i> | Pray for those who should be reached through the Every Member Canvass: Rev. and Mrs. Enrique Vasquez, Pinar del Rio, Cuba, evangelism |
| WEDNESDAY, Oct. 5
<i>1 Samuel 16:4-13</i> | Rev. and Mrs. D. C. Askew, Tokyo, evangelism, *Dr. and Mrs. Tucker N. Callaway, Fukuoka, Japan, educational evangelism |
| THURSDAY, October 6
<i>1 Samuel 17:32-49</i> | Pray that every Christian may realize the importance of stewardship and tithing: Rev. and Mrs. John A. Moore, Zurich, Switzerland, educational evangelism |
| FRIDAY, October 7
<i>1 Kings 3:5-14</i> | Annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union in the District of Columbia: Hannah Plowden, Honolulu, T.H., Katherine R. Skinner, Chihuahua, Mexico, educational evangelism |
| SATURDAY, October 8
<i>2 Kings 23:19-25</i> | Rev. and Mrs. S. S. Stover, Bello Horizonte, Onis Vineyard, Recife, Brazil, educational evangelism |

Jesus Loved Youth and Used Them in his Service

Jesus loved young people and ministered to them. Practically all of those whom he called as his apostles were young men. Young women served him along with the older ones. He blessed children and cited them as examples of humbleness and faith. He warned against offending them.

- | | |
|---|--|
| SUNDAY, October 9
<i>Mark 3:13-19</i> | Pray for the Christians in all churches on this Layman's Day; pray for those participating in the Sunday school training courses |
| MONDAY, October 10
<i>Matthew 18:1-6</i> | Pray that the state papers and missionary magazines may accomplish much good through their pages; pray for Dr. and Mrs. Frank W. Patterson, El Paso, Texas, publication evangelism for Spanish-speaking countries. October 10 is China's "Fourth of July"; pray for China's freedom and chance to develop as a republic. |
| TUESDAY, October 11
<i>Mark 10:13-16</i> | *Dr. and Mrs. H. D. McCamey, Oghomosho, Hazel Moon, Iwo, Nigeria, medical evangelism |
| WEDNESDAY, Oct. 12
<i>Mark 10:17-21</i> | Mrs. R. F. Ricketson, Rev. and Mrs. W. C. Hunker, Baguio, Philippine Islands, Chinese Language School, *Dr. and Mrs. Henry E. Turlington |
| THURSDAY, October 13
<i>Luke 7:11-17</i> | Dr. R. F. Ricketson, Soochow, *Cornelia Leavell, Shanghai, *Dr. and Mrs. Maurice J. Anderson, Canton, China, educational evangelism |

- FRIDAY, October 14** Rev. and Mrs. A. N. Porter, Waco, Rev. and Mrs. Carlos Ramirez, San Angelo, Texas, Mexican evangelism
John 6:1-11
- SATURDAY, Oct. 15** Gladys E. Farmer, Honolulu, Rev. and Mrs. Carter Morgan, Waima, Hawaii, evangelism
John 13:20-25

Young Christians Were Active in the Early Churches

In the history of the New Testament churches, we see young people taking their places in the work. Among them were preachers, teachers and missionaries as well as "helpers." The strength of their youth meant much to the spreading of the gospel.

- SUNDAY, October 16** Pray for the churches that many new members may be added on this enlistment day: Rev. and Mrs. J. Daniel Luper, Recife, Brazil, evangelism
Acts 12:12-25
- MONDAY, October 17** Ruth Everley Hayes, R.N., Dr. W. L. Wallace, Wuchow, China, medical evangelism
Acts 6:8-15
- TUESDAY, October 18** Rev. and Mrs. Rudy Hernandez, Rev. Darrell Tapley, Brownwood, Texas, Mexican evangelism
Acts 7:54-60
- WEDNESDAY, Oct. 19** Annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union in Baltimore, Maryland, October 19-21; Rev. and Mrs. M. E. O'Neill, Jr., Nacogdoches, Texas, Mexican evangelism
Acts 9:1-10
- THURSDAY, Oct. 20** Ona Belle Cox, Recife, evangelism, Rev. and Mrs. R. Elton Johnson, Corrente, Brazil, educational evangelism, Ettie J. Johnson, Margaret Fund student
Acts 9:11-22
- FRIDAY, October 21** Lucy Smith, Hong Kong, secretarial evangelism, *Olive Riddell, Kaifeng, Kathryn Bigham, Shanghai, China, educational evangelism
Acts 23:11-22
- SATURDAY, Oct. 22** Rev. and Mrs. Carlton F. Whirley, Iwo, educational evangelism, Martha Tanner, Ibadan, Nigeria, contract worker
Acts 16:1-7

God's Call Continues to Come to Youth

Young men and women should heed God's admonitions today. They must be led to remember God, to heed his counsel, to study, train and serve to the best of their ability. Women must see the need of the hour for youth and lead them to be ready to say, "Here am I. Send me."

- SUNDAY, October 23** State Mission Day in Sunday School and Offering: Rev. and Mrs. C. L. Neal, Mexico, Mrs. Nils J. Bengtson, Spain, emeritus
Ecclesiastes 11
- MONDAY, October 24** Annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union in Santa Fe, New Mexico, October 24-25; United Nations Day, the day that will live if the world lives, pray for the success of the United Nations
Ecclesiastes 12
- TUESDAY, October 25** Rev. and Mrs. C. B. Melancon, Stowell, Texas, Rev. and Mrs. Ada Vidrine, Montegut, Louisiana, French evangelism
1 Timothy 4:1-12
- WEDNESDAY, Oct. 26** Jewel Smith, Silvia Silva, Havana, Cuba, Edythe Montroy, Iwo, Nigeria, educational evangelism
2 Timothy 2:20-26
- THURSDAY, Oct. 27** Rev. Carlos Quilo, Escuincla, Guatemala, Rev. and Mrs. Charles W. Whitten, Godoy Cruz, Argentina, evangelism
1 Peter 5:4-11
- FRIDAY, October 28** Mrs. Luz Diaz, McAllen, Texas, Rev. and Mrs. Oscar Hill, Alamogordo, New Mexico, Mexican educational evangelism
1 John 2:12-17
- SATURDAY, Oct. 29** Josephine Withauer, Rio de Janeiro, publication evangelism, Rev. and Mrs. Stephen P. Jackson, Mutum, Brazil, evangelism
2 Timothy 4:9-17
- SUNDAY, October 30** Alice Huey, China, Mrs. Aurelia Baez, Rev. and Mrs. J. F. de Armas, Home Mission Board, emeritus
Titus 2:1-8
- MONDAY, October 31** Annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union in El Paso, Texas, October 31-November 1; Rev. and Mrs. Luis Gloria, Cotulla, Texas, Mexican evangelism
1 Samuel 3:1-10

CIRCLE Program

Youth in World Missions

Scripture Readings: 1 Samuel 1:19-28; 2 Chron. 31:1-3; Luke 2:11-19; 1 Tim. 4:12

This is a timely topic because thinking about young people everywhere will remind your circle of fostering responsibilities in your own W.M.U. Fall days should spur more activity in your missionary education organizations.

Retell "You Would Love My Country Too" from October *World Comrades*; in October *The Window of TWA* see "Becoming a God in Japan" or "My Opportunities as a Teacher." From October *Ambassador Life* use "A Daniel In His Tribe." These stories show young people in their witnessing for Christ in various parts of the world.

From October *The Commission* there

are two stories related to the new seminary in Zurich, "An International Seminary Is Born" and "Such As I have." In October *Southern Baptist Home Missions* you will find stories of students who served with home missionaries during the summer, "America Needs Christ" Say Student Missionaries."

Seeing what young people are doing, ask yourselves "What are we doing to help our young people do all they can for the Lord?" Be sure they all have subscriptions to their own magazines.



Two More in Louisiana

Judson Association B.W.C. Federation and Rossier Federation were organized in July in Louisiana. The president of the State B.W.C. Federation, Mrs. Ora Steel, spoke at each of these organization meetings presenting the work of such Federations. Both will meet again in October. The B.W.C. Exchange extends greetings and good wishes.

"B W Communique"

That's the name of the quarterly bulletin which goes out to all Business Woman's Circles in Mississippi. It is a spicy double page of announcements and news and activity suggestions.

Growing Them Up

At Fairmont, North Carolina, there are two splendid B.W.C.'s which have been organized from Y.W.A.'s grown up beyond their twenty-five years. One was organized five years ago and now there is another crop with thirty-four members in the new B.W.C. This new B.W.C. is the "Loreita Circle," honoring their devoted Y.W.A. counselor.

When you send packages

ask your post office for regulations about size, weight and contents before you pack.

You will want these addresses:

Mrs. Mutsu Ikebe
124 Tsunoura
Shimizu Machi
Kumamoto City, Japan

Mrs. Matsuta Hara
Seinan Jo Gakuin
Kokura, Japan

In the Birmingham office we have names of some Romanian Baptists in desperate need. Duty must be paid on packages to them, so sending to them is expensive but most valuable. If you want more information, write to ROYAL SERVICE, please.

Everybody is looking at

OUR MISSION MAGAZINES

Do you want to think and feel really up-to-date? Wake up to changes in world life and be lifted out of small selfish ways

World Comrades for girls and

Ambassador Life for boys

The Window of YW

Royal Service for adults

Send your subscription dollars now!
Woman's Missionary Union, 1111 Corner

DARWIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY
161 BIR AVE. NO. 3
8-28



Building for Peace and Progress in Alabama