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September 1950

ROYAL SERVICE

Make Enthusiastic Plans!

by Alma Hunt

W.M.U. Executive Secretary

AFTER vacations we make our fall plans with renewed enthusiasm. Thousands of women and young people have attended Ridgcrest conference, state assemblies and camps. If we are to conserve all that has been learned and all the inspiration, we must give those who attended opportunities to share their experiences.

You will surely have a full meeting of your Executive Committee this month. Have each member report on her work and see where you stand. If the summer months have pulled your attendance down, now is the time for circle leaders to get in touch with every member and inform each of fall plans and September meeting dates.

Check your membership. It is my hope that increased enlistment will put our total membership well beyond the million mark by the close of 1950. We want more than a million members—not just for the sake of numbers but for the strength the greater number can give to mission causes in the states, in our convention territory, and out to the ends of the earth.

Look at your record of gifts through the Cooperative Program. Also at your list of tithers. Do you need to have special stewardship emphasis to arouse in your members a sense of their own stewardship responsibility?

Encouragement and even inspiration come from seeing what is being accomplished through the combined efforts of all the societies and auxiliaries in the association, in the state, and in the South. One day which stands out among my most thrilling came in late February when the reports from the states were totaled and the dream of gains in all phases of our work became a reality. A true picture of growth and development can come only as you are faithful and accurate in reporting.

Does your literature chairman know how many members take their W.M.U. magazine and state denominational pa-

per? This is a good time for her and the chairmen in the auxiliaries to make a careful check. She can solicit new subscriptions and renewals, recording the date of mailing. This will be invaluable to her if she serves another term or will be most helpful to her successor. The literature chairman may present the magazines in the September meeting and stress their use for reading and information as well as for program study and participation.

No gain reported in 1949 was more heartening than the marked increase in the number of organizations observing the three seasons of prayer. Many are now making preparation for the observance of state mission seasons of prayer. It is my hope that adequate time will be set aside and preparation made for this observance.

There are many possibilities for early fall mission study—books on stewardship, prayer, soul-winning. . . . Then too, the new foreign mission series will be released. Review these, secure teachers, set dates and make ready for effective mission study. Encourage members to read books other than the ones selected for class study.

Look at your own community and realize anew what a vast field of opportunity lies within your reach daily. Make plans understandable to all and broad enough in scope to include all members.

Do you have an organization for each age group or are there "silent years" in the missionary education of your young people? We must never be satisfied until all our young people are receiving missionary education and their minds, their hearts, their youthful enthusiasm and strength are harnessed to generate power for our great mission tasks.

In our program of work there is a place of service and a need for every member. Can we not profit by the physical energy gained during vacations and capitalize on the inspiration and practical helps given in summer conferences?



Photos from Committee on World Literacy and Christian Education

OUR COVER—Dr. Laubach and his helpers are teaching many Koreans to read. One day this year seven hundred women from a Korean mine were given their certificates for learning to read. They hoped one of our missionaries, Mr. or Mrs. Abernathy, would bring a gospel message. But there wasn't time. Did they have another chance to hear of Christ? Were they killed in the fighting? Are they still waiting to know the Saviour?

We Encourage Each Other

by Orlene E. McGlamery

Adding a new national Woman's Missionary Union to our round-the-world fellowship is thrilling for all of us. Mrs. Orlene (Ray Cloud) McGlamery, wife of our doctor in Colombia, tells about this result of Mrs. Martin's visit.

IN OUR annual mission meeting in Bogota in 1949 a committee of "ladies of the missionary family" was appointed to emphasize the work of woman's missionary societies in Colombia. One purpose was to prepare the societies for organizing the Colombian Woman's Missionary Union, which would become an auxiliary of the Colombian Baptist Convention.

The committee of Mrs. Arthur Dailey, Miss Helen Meredith, and Mrs. Roy McGlamery began planning and thinking at once. The first conference with all of the

societies in Colombia was planned for sometime in March, 1950.

From the first the women were full of interest in the plans and prospects for forming the Union. Colombian women do not have many opportunities for fellowship and learning to work together, and this promised to be something out of the ordinary. Sahanalarga, a city halfway between the two larger coast cities of Barranquilla and Cartagena, was selected as the first meeting place of Colombian Baptist women, without the aid of any of their brethren.

Program plans and announcements were sent out to the churches early. The committee lamented it was not possible to have some very outstanding speaker either from the Woman's Missionary Union of the South, or from another Latin American Woman's Missionary Union. Then, one week before the date for the meeting, without knowing of the plans of the commit-

tee, a letter came from Miss Blanche White, of Virginia, making the most heart-warming and gratifying announcement that any program committee ever received, "Mrs. George R. Martin is making a very hurried trip through the countries of Latin America and will arrive in Colombia the last week of March." This date would coincide with the meeting. The Baptist women everywhere in Colombia began to feel that the spirit of the Lord was indeed in the plans for this meeting, blessing the efforts being put forth beyond anything they could anticipate.

March 28 was more than a red-letter day for the organized societies. Chartered busses carried the delegations over the thirty-five miles of almost impassable roads to the midway pueblo. In Barranquilla, so many women were going that the two mission trucks and the two available "missionary cars" had to take the overflow crowd. They all gathered at the Central Baptist Church to leave in a group.

The church delegations had been asked to be at the home of the pastor in the separate churches at 5:30 in the morning, and to bring lunch for the noon meal. Their spirits were high with anticipation as they greeted friends and chatted eagerly, their lunches held securely in every imaginable type of container.

There were two or three doll-sized stew pots with the most delectable odor of a meat, cooked to perfection over the coals of a carbon stove. Some groups packed the lunches together in suitcases or elaborately embroidered knitting bags. Several women brought either one piece of hard bread or a banana wrapped in a small paper and tucked inside a purse or pocket. The most "sabrosa" of all was a favorite Colombian dish prepared with a combination of rice, potatoes, carrots, two or three different meats and the proper seasonings, all of this wrapped in a clean banana leaf tied with a strong grass string and boiled for hours in steaming hot water until it is perfectly tender. It may not look like a delicacy nor sound "out of this world," but given a chance, it wins over nearly every other national food served. A single serving may fill a ten or twelve inch plate, and the first time it is served you may feel that it is impossible to eat so much, but a Co-

lombian national or a seasoned missionary never leaves a grain. One woman brought enough of this delicious food to share with the visitors, the missionaries who don't know how to prepare it, and anyone who failed to bring a lunch for one reason or other.

Without any doubt, the climax of the day came when Mrs. Martin was presented with Colombian orchids, and came to the platform with Miss Helen Meredith to interpret for her. The women were literally sitting on the edge of their seats, with eyes fastened on Mrs. Martin as she spoke beautifully descriptive English. Miss Meredith translated into the Spanish language every shade of meaning, gesture, and intonation of Mrs. Martin's message. As is often true when the people of this land are inspired, they forget themselves in open appreciation and before Mrs. Martin had progressed far in her message, all over the house there was a murmur of pleasure. Toward the last of the message, there were more audible signs of agreement and accord. When the message was over, the women settled back in their seats with sighs as if they had been literally translated to Italy, Africa, and various parts of the Southern Baptist Convention, and were reluctant to return to familiar grounds.

THE accomplishments of the day may be summed up quickly. The influence and far-reaching effects will never be forgotten. The Colombian Missionary Union was formed, and the insignia of Woman's Missionary Union adopted with alterations to fit the Colombian Union. The date for the second meeting was named. The plans to foster camps, to observe a special home mission week of prayer in June, to project a joint library effort, were made.

A number of women were "car sick" on the way over, or one or two with headaches from undue excitement. Many explained that they had not been out of their home towns for as many as twenty-five years. There were 125 women present from six different organized societies.

The missionaries felt that it was worth all the effort. The national women keep saying, "We need to do something like that more often. We need to encourage each other."

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Josefa learned to read and write when she was a grown woman

IF WE take the literal meaning of the word "illiterate" as it is given in the dictionary which means "ignorant of letters and books, not educated," we would have to admit that perhaps 50 per cent or more of the members of our Cuban women's missionary societies are illiterates. Many of them read very poorly, their spelling is bad, and their writing is illegible. In some of the societies in the interior the senioritas do not leave their mothers' society and organize a Y.W.A. of their own because the daughters are the only ones who can preside at the meetings, take the minutes, keep the treasurer's record, and take part on the program. So they meet with their mothers to help them in their meetings.

But if we interpret the word illiterate to mean "not to know how to read and write," we do not have so many but we have some who come in that class. As I

write I am thinking about three of God's handmaidens here who did not know how to read and write.

I BELIEVE that the first time my attention was ever called to such a person was when I knew Dona Josefa Munoz. She was a Spanish woman employed by the church here in Havana to do visitation and personal work. Josefa learned to read after she was grown. She learned to write after I came to Cuba. When she was converted she was won to Christ by hearing only, because at that time she could not read a word. But she was determined to learn how to read her Bible. So with the Gospel of Luke for her textbook and her Christian friends for her teachers she learned to pick out such words as truth, love, obey, pray, work, salvation, Christ, and many others. And with the help of her friends and with God's help she learned to put the words together enough to read

Luke and little by little the whole Bible. When I knew her she could take her Bible and select appropriate verses on the plan of salvation and lead souls to Christ. Some of the most active members of our church today were won by Josefa.

After she was fifty-six years old she decided that if she could learn to read she could also learn to write. She asked a little boy to give her a writing book which he had thrown away. By carefully tracing over the letters she learned to write. When I was superintendent of the extension department in our Sunday school Josefa was one of the visitors. She brought me her quarterly reports written in her own handwriting and how her face would light up when I could read what she had written. It is true that she would put a capital F right in the middle of the name Ofelia and she always spelled noventa (ninety) with a

Their Lives Enriched Many

by Mildred Matthews

capital B in the middle but I could read it and that made her happy. Josefa is now with her Lord but I rejoice every time I think of her and thank God that it was my privilege to know her and work with her.

I AM also thinking of another dear friend who never did learn to read or write but that did not keep her from being a faithful handmaiden of the Lord. If my good friend Irene had had opportunity to learn when she was a child she would have been an outstandingly intelligent woman. Both Josefa and Irene were members of our "Sociedad de Senoras" and took part by leading in prayer, contributing of their means and doing personal work. When we had mission study classes they could not write the answers to the questions but we gave them oral reviews and they made good grades. Irene was unusually gifted in knowing how to get around in this congested city of Havana and which streetcar or bus to get on. Many times I have sent her with some woman to visit the sick,

needy, or troubled, and Irene would be the guide. She would help to comfort and lead to Christ with her words and prayers while the other did the Bible reading. As a member of her Training Union Irene was always 100 per cent. Her sons and daughters read the lesson and the daily Bible readings to her. She took part on the program by leading in prayer or by saying a few words about the program. Irene is now with her Lord but I am richer because I knew her and loved her.

MARIA LOUISA is a dear old colored member of our society. I started to write

"a dear old colored soul" but I am sure that her soul is as white as any soul could be here on this earth. She lives in one of the poorest homes I have ever visited, but she is rich in other ways.

During the last two years her health has been very poor and she does not come to church as often as she wishes. But her faith is just as strong as ever and she is an inspiration to me when I visit her. She does not know how to read and write but she knows enough arithmetic to know God's plan for tithing and she is a faithful steward. Quite often she has brought her tithe to me in a small box and has asked me to give it to the church treasurer. I have never counted the pennies and two cent pieces but I am sure that Maria Louisa has been honest about setting aside the tenth part of her very meager income for the Lord. She can't read her Bible but she can quote long Scripture passages from memory. She takes advantage of every opportunity to have somebody read a verse or a Psalm until she has memorized them. The last time I visited her she quoted the hundredth Psalm.

Aren't we glad that salvation does not depend on how well we can read and write? Aren't we glad that Christ taught us to become as little children in his sight? I am sure that Josefa and Irene missed much because of their illiteracy but they did not miss the vital thing, salvation through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Maria Louisa misses lots too but her riches are not in this world's goods. May God bless all of the efforts which are made today to teach illiterates so that their lives may be enriched by the reading of God's Word. But thanks be to God an illiterate can enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

A grown-up Sunbeam, Mildred Matthews has led Woman's Missionary Union in Cuba for thirty years, in addition to other educational missionary service.



Maria Louisa can quote Bible verses



Irene could be a guide



Crickets Ate Their Bible Stories

by Kay Deakins Aldridge

THE woman and girl trudged down the rough, rocky road in the July heat. They were bent beneath heavy cloth sacks loaded with groceries.

"I wish we could give those two a lift," said my mountain missionary husband.

"So do I, but there simply isn't room," I answered, glancing at the back seat piled high with Bible school supplies, and a folding organ.

Our little blue Ford strained at every bolt as we climbed more than twelve miles up the steep mountain road, which became almost straight up the last two and one half miles. We unloaded at the schoolhouse, then summoned the children. With our portable organ in the yard, we played as loudly as the bellows allowed, while we monotoned a duet, more lusty than lilting. We were told these "noisemakers" carried more than a mile into surrounding coves.

About three hours later Bible school was dismissed. Once again we were loading our trusty Ford, when the same woman and girl appeared, walking barefoot on the rocks. "Imagine carrying such loads up that steep road," exclaimed Merrill. "We must make room for them somehow."

Gratefully they climbed over organ, boxes and books, and rode the last two miles to their home. Lena Lockwell told us she was a widow with one teen-age daughter and two children smaller than the ten-year-old girl who had been with her to town. Their home was an old, old two-room log house. Leaning against the

Mrs. Merrill Aldridge went through our W.M.U. Training School saying she was going to work in the mountains. She was right. Her husband is principal of a Kentucky Baptist mountain mission school, Magoffin Institute.

side was an ancient wooden plow for making a garden. There seemed to be no horse and we wondered how they used the crude plow.

Upon meeting the children, we noticed at once a terrible burn on the oldest girl's arm. Questioned about it, she said, "I ain't done nothing fer it, 'cept I went to an old granny-lady and she conjured hit fer me, but hit ain't no better." We applied medicine from the first-aid kit in our car. Such a severe burn needed a doctor's attention, but that was unthinkable for them with the doctor fourteen miles away.

Mrs. Lockwell was a Christian. She told us she regretted not sending her children to Sunday school, but the nearest was also fourteen miles away. "When I was a girl I went to Sunday school and I alius saved my Bible story papers," she said. "When my chillun was little, I read them stories over 'n over. Then the crickets began to eat the paper, and finally they et it all. Now I don't have nothing to read." Then wistfully she added, "I shore would love to hev a Bible, Preacher."

We gave them a Bible, and a large stack of gospel tracts, stories and pictures. Each child was thrilled to receive pencils, crayons, and a notebook covered with bright colored paper.

As we went back to the school for the evening preaching service, we thanked God for the opportunity of encouraging this Christian mother, and explaining God's plan of salvation to the older children. We thanked him, too, for the Christians in our state who prayed for us, and by their gifts make it possible for state missionaries to be sent into needy areas. Many people will never have a chance to hear the gospel preached unless Christians support state missionaries by their prayers and money.

Tonia Garcia's Reading Class

by Arthur R. Dailey

IF YOU do not want a job in a Baptist church, do not propose anything new. Tonia Garcia Rangel was very much concerned because many of the women in the W.M.S. of the Central Baptist Church, Barranquilla, Colombia, could not read the Bible or take part effectively on the programs. She was so concerned about it that she proposed that the W.M.S. start a class to teach those women to read. She was concerned enough about it that when others began to name all the reasons why it could not be done she organized the class herself, even though she is a busy seamstress and has little time to spare.

She has a class of some eight or ten pupils. Some are women. Others are children who for one reason or another do not attend school. They meet on Wednesday nights, before prayer meeting, and again on Saturday nights. At first some of the women would not attend the class because they were ashamed of not being able to read. It took a bit of persuading to convince them that the very purpose of the class was to teach them to read so that they need no longer be ashamed of not being able to do so.

The Bible has been used almost exclusively as the textbook. All the exercises have been either from or about the Bible. It is quite interesting to see a group of women who have muddled through life without being able to read even so much as the headlines in the newspapers or the signs along the streets, make up their minds to learn to read so they can study the Bible for themselves and be better witnesses for their Saviour. The Senora Tonia has recently secured materials of the well-known Laubach Method. They will probably increase the interest of both teacher and pupils.

The Bible is a closed and forbidden book to these people. Consequently, when they do begin to read it, they do so with an eagerness which never ceases to amaze one and remind us of how many times we, who have known the Bible all our lives, read it

After two terms as evangelistic missionary, Mr. Dailey is to be in the publishing phase of our mission work in Colombia.

from force of habit or out of a sense of duty.

What do you and I read when we sit down to rest for a few minutes? How often do we take a chair out into the yard and sit down in the shade to spend an hour or two reading the Bible?

One Saturday afternoon I visited in a home where the man had only recently made a profession of faith. I found him sitting in the back yard, reading his Bible. I did not do much talking that afternoon because Juan was so anxious to tell me about what he had been reading, just as though I, his pastor, had never even heard of the Bible.

Do you suppose that if we took the time to read it unhurriedly, we would find in the Bible some of the charm and fascination found there by these simplehearted "children in the faith"?

Often illiterates ask us, "Why are you doing this for me? No educated person ever paid any attention to me before."

Then we reply, "I learned it from Jesus. Every minute of every day Jesus was helping people. I believe we all have to be more like him, and that is the reason I am teaching you. I don't want any money, but when I finish I wish you would take these lessons and teach your neighbors. Don't take any money for it, and your heart will sing. The happiest people in the world are like Jesus, spending their time trying to help others."

—DR. FRANK LAUBACH

What the Seminary Has Meant to Me

by Samson G. Agbaluwa

A talk at an associational meeting in Nigeria

PERHAPS some think of the Seminary as a place where lazy men can go and spend their time without the definite call of God to the ministry. No, the Seminary is a place of hard learning, both mentally, physically, and spiritually. The Seminary calls for young men who are compassionate for lost souls, young men who would say, like Paul, "For me to live is Christ and to die is gain."

I have been asked, "What has the Seminary meant to you?" The Seminary has brought much good to me. It has taught me how to make the Word of God a light unto my path. It has taught me how to live among various kinds of people harmoniously, regardless of tribes and races. And it has made me see the wide vision of Christ's Kingdom in and outside Nigeria and to feel for the lost people. Do you ever look unto the harvest fields with a compassionate feeling for those who have not known Christ in your community? If you have not done so, make a new resolution at once.

The Seminary has helped me to see that Christianity is basic truth in religion through the study of history and the comparison of religions.

Further, the Seminary has helped me through my wife, by means of education and W.M.U. work. Before we went to the Seminary, my wife was unable to separate A from B. It is a happy thought, and encouraging, to know that she is now reading and writing the English word quite well. She sometimes lectures to me on W.M.U. work, because it is the favourite subject of the women in their regular class work.

The Seminary has helped my wife and me to be grounded in Christian marriage. Both of us enjoy the happiness and peacefulness of Christian marriage. By Christian marriage is meant the home consisting of only one husband and one wife. We have had a great experience in Christian marriage. I will never forget the day that I sent my boy to the garden to get some



Samson Agbaluwa is one of some 63 young men enrolled in our seminary at Ogbomoso

vegetables. On that day I said, "Go to my garden." I was not ashamed to make an apology when my wife corrected my statement to "our garden." This taught me that there is no "my own" in the Christian home, but, rather, we should say, "our own."

This is what the Seminary has meant to me. Now, what does our Seminary need from you? It needs young men who are filled with strong determination and who are burning with the fire of the Holy Spirit. It needs your financial support and your prayers.

I thank God for counting me worthy to put me into the ministry. It is a noble profession, demanding lives of purity, untarnished character-men who can stand in the gap between God and man, and live above suspicions.

My wife and I need your prayers as we study at the Seminary.

"We Have a Treasure"

This excellent leaflet is itself a real treasure. Are you using it? One free copy went to each W.M.S.; order others at ten cents each from W.M.U., Birmingham.

It brings you a new month by month approach to stewardship.

Bible Hunger in Brazil

by Dr. Bernadino Santos, M.D.

WITH A perturbed spirit and a desire to find something that was lacking in my life, something unexplainable and indefinite, I searched among temples, religious creeds, and varied philosophies for that which might fill the awful cavity, the emptiness of my soul. The longer the search, the stronger the irons that chained and tortured my weary mind, until one night Jesus knocked at my heart's door. It was like this.

In February of 1945, convalescing from a serious illness I went to a small place in the interior for rest and quiet. I felt a terrible loneliness for my family, and although I managed to pass the days, the nights were unbearable, because there was nothing to quiet the longing for my wife and children. The months passed like that, until one memorable night.

I found on a small table by my bed an old book with the pages loose and yellow. It had been forgotten there by someone who had lived in the house before, but only now in December was I able to identify it. The book was divinely sent—the Holy Bible, and for mere curiosity, I began to read.

By coincidence I opened the book of Matthew, where it describes the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. The more I read, the more interested I became. The following night I searched the pages of this book as a person with parched tongue hunts a fountain of water to quench his thirst. As time passed I began to meditate over what I had read, and concluded that I was a sinner, and by accepting what was in that Book brought by divine hands I could be regenerated and have eternal life. Jesus knocked at my heart's door, and I accepted him.

It was not just this one blessing, although invaluable in itself, that came to my soul. Many others were reserved for me by the infinite mercy of God.

After a visit to my family, I returned to the interior with a brother-in-law who suffered from a serious illness that made him

tremble day and night with terrible pain. A man of the world and full of sin, he could find nothing to alleviate his suffering or lighten his spirits, neither could he conform to the idea of death. Each day I read a little to him, and explained as best I could from my scant knowledge of the Bible. The result was gratifying. He became enthusiastic with the reading, and when his pain became so excruciating as to be unbearable he would ask me to read to him from the Sacred Word.

One day he said he was ready to die, and could stand in the presence of God, because he had truly repented and accepted Christ as his Saviour. He was clearly conscious when he made this statement. He lived several months more. On the eve of his death, he told me in the presence of his mother that in a vision Jesus appeared to him, nailed to a cross, having returned to receive him unto himself. Calmly and serenely he departed.

RETURNING to Rio again to visit my family I met two distinguished pastors, W. B. McNealy and J. J. Cowser, who helped me in my new life. Mr. McNealy explained some things about the Baptist church and Mr. Cowser enlightened me on many things concerning the gospel. After helping me in many things he then sent me to the pastor of the First Baptist Church, Dr. John Soren, who helped to make everything easy for me. On November 4, I had the greatest experience of my life. After attending Sunday school and church I took the Lord's Supper. (It is interesting to note that this new Christian, without realizing the complete significance of the ordinance, took part.) I left the church with joy in my heart, ready to follow in the steps of the Master. I can say today with certainty that nothing is lacking in my life. I found what I was looking for.

My prayer is that the words of this story may serve to stimulate those who feel the same longing that I felt and that they may seek and find the Truth.

The Lord Opened the Way

by Frances E. Roberts

I WISH to introduce a young Argentine business woman. Many times the person who preaches to throngs or who goes out into the highways and hedges witnessing is applauded but one fails to sing the praises of that person who quietly witnesses behind the keys of a typewriter, or working as a clerk, witnessing to customers who come in. This young business woman's name is Ema Ostermann. I came to know and appreciate her while I was working in our mission headquarters in Buenos Aires, located in the same building with our publishing board where Ema is employed.

Ema's father was one of our pioneer pastors in Argentina. Her parents will celebrate their fiftieth wedding anniversary this year. Don Pablo Besson, the first Baptist missionary to Argentina and the hero fighter of religious liberty in the republic, had a direct influence on Ema's family. Her maternal grandparents, who had come from Switzerland, were Christians. They were strengthened spiritually by the arrival of Don Pablo, also a fellow countryman.

AN unforgettable incident happened in the home of Ema's maternal grandparents which led Don Pablo to fight for the nationalization of the cemeteries. A daughter, sister of Ema's mother, died. Permission to bury her in the village cemetery had to be granted by the priest. The priest, upon granting the permission, would, of course, perform the last rites for the dead. This was against the beliefs and conscience of Ema's grandparents. They preferred burying the child in the garden of the house rather than in the cemetery where the priest would perform his rites for the dead. They buried her in the garden and this caused such a stir that the father was due to go to jail for this act, but Don Pablo went in his place.

Don Pablo determined to do something about the whole matter. Through his fight-

For a new missionary, Frances Everett Roberts has "lilled in" at a variety of places in Paraguay and Argentina. Now she is in the administrative part of our new hospital at Asuncion, Paraguay.

ing spirit and influence there is now nationalization of the cemeteries, civil registry (before this, the only marriage recognized by the government was that by the Catholic church), and other legislation granting religious liberty. This great man and apostle of the gospel in Argentina was also instrumental in the conversion of Ema's parental grandparents and their two sons, both of whom surrendered their lives to the preaching of the gospel.

After marrying in 1900, Ema's father, Don Gabriel Ostermann, dedicated his life to the preaching of the gospel and work as a colporter, visiting every province of the republic. In those days transportation was not easy, but the joy of taking the message of Light to those in darkness made up for the hardships of travel.

After a few years Mr. Ostermann had the desire to go to Chile to preach the Word. He and his wife went to the city of Mendoza, which lies at the foothills of the Andes, the border between Argentina and Chile. While they waited for the building of the tunnel through the mountains, they were busy opening up work in Mendoza. They started a school in a small hall, having available only boxes and planks for benches. Because they felt they couldn't leave the work they had begun in Mendoza, their dream of going to Chile was never realized.

With a small inheritance which belonged to Mrs. Ostermann, a building was erected in the suburbs of the city. The people began to call this place the "Evangelical Convent." The work prospered greatly and to this day this same building is being used, not as a church building nor as a school, but for the Godoy Cruz Good Will Center. The church which met in this humble building for so many years now has the lovely temple constructed by Florida women and dedicated in October, 1948.

Pastor Ostermann later was led to go to the "Rome" of Argentina, the city of Cordoba, to open up Baptist work. He is now a pastor of a small church near Buenos Aires.

IT IS only natural that Ema should be greatly influenced by her family background and by her parents. Ema came to know the Lord as Saviour at the age of twelve. Some years later a great doubt came in her mind as to the assurance of her salvation, but soon there came into her heart that joy and peace that passeth all understanding. For several years Ema and her sister, Lidia (until she married a pastor) taught in an evangelical school in Uruguay. There were many opportunities of witnessing in this school, which was located in a mill town. Several young men of the village dedicated themselves to full-time Christian service through the influence of the pastor, Ema's father.

After twelve years there, Ema began to feel that her work was finished in that particular place and to feel dissatisfied. What was the Lord's next step for her? At times she became impatient in waiting for an answer to her petition to the Lord.

One day she received a letter from a

friend, who mentioned the words from the Fiftieth Psalm, "Call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me." The friend also wrote these words, "In the same way that God delays the opening of a rose to the height of its color, so he also brings to pass the answer to our prayers." Sometime after that the Lord opened the way for Ema to go to Buenos Aires to work in the Publishing House there.

Her tasks are varied. She may be writing receipts for subscriptions to the monthly denominational magazine, or receipts for money sent in for the various denominational causes. She may be operating the addressograph, getting labels ready to send out the weekly Sunday school children's paper. She may be waiting on customers who have come to buy the Bible and religious literature. Ema says that she does not believe that her work in the Publishing House is a happen-so, for there is no such thing in the hands of the Lord. She is sure that the Lord sent her there for his service and she serves him gladly with the talents which he has intrusted to her. Pray for this Argentine business woman who is joyfully serving the Lord in the Baptist headquarters in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Do Your Children Have This Advantage?



Irvin Grigg

Becky and Randy are happily following handwork patterns in **WORLD COMRADES**. They spend hours studying missions at home through play.

Send us pictures and accounts
of your best BWC activities

Southern Baptist business women have been busy this summer attending week-end camps where they pooled ideas and made plans for new programs of work.

North Carolina

North Carolina had two week-end camps, one at Fruitland and one at Caswell. Missionary personalities dotted the programs for both camps. Dr. H. H. McMillan and Miss Roberta Pearle Johnson of China, and Dr. Matsuta Hara, president of our Southern Baptist girls' school at Kokura, Japan, Seinan Jo Gakuin, were among those who helped to enrich the program.

Kentucky

BWCers gathered at Cedarmore for Kentucky's weekend of mission emphasis and made plans for the business women of their state.

Alabama

There were 165 present from twenty-four associations at the fourth annual Alabama BWC week-end conference held at Shocco Springs. Sixteen of the twenty-seven federations were represented.

Among the speakers were Miss Alma Hunt, Dr. Henry E. Turlington, home from China, Miss Betty Ventura of Argentina, and Mr. Frank Ling of China.

Miss Lorene LeCroy of Gadsden succeeds Mrs. Helen Talmadge as president of the state federation of 383 Business Woman's Circles. Mrs. E. J. McAuley of Mobile was selected as state adviser, succeeding Mrs. R. S. Marshall.

Coosada BWCers in Alabama sponsored ten days of cottage prayer meetings for a revival held at their church. Most of the meetings were led by BWC members. During the ten days of the revival, the women kept the nursery each night.

Illinois and Louisiana

Mrs. Irene Curtis, former president of the Louisiana BWC Federation, resigned to become executive secretary of the W.M.U. of Illinois. Miss Ruth Nixon of Amite, vice-president of the Louisiana Federation, will serve as president for the remainder of the unexpired term of Mrs. Curtis.

Five W.M.U. Young People's Leaders - - Local, Association District, State, Convention-wide



Song of the Emancipated: Thanks to Thee

BY S. R. COLLINS, MISSIONARY

March time

S. R. Collins



(Vertical dashes indicate handclappings)



Used with permission from from 1950 Africa Newsletters, written by the Laubach Team, published by Committee on World Literacy and Christian Literature, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

Thanks to Thee, our God and Heavenly Father,

For the grace that came to us revealing
That which makes the blind to see
And go their way rejoicing.

Thanks to Thee, our God and Heavenly Father,

For the love that comes to heal and save us;
Love of Christ, who came to see
And save Thy wandering children.

Thanks to Thee, our God and Heavenly Father,

For kind hearts that know the love of Jesus
And for friendly hands outstretched
To help us in our weakness.

Give us now, our God and Heavenly Father,

Faith to tread this new and living highway;
That we may not miss the wealth of life
Thy love has willed us.

Make us now, our God and Heavenly Father,

Witnesses and stewards of Thy bounty;
Holding out the torch of life
To those still bound in darkness.

Letter-ettes

Simultaneous Revival in Brazil, too

from Mrs. Joseph Underwood

Since we returned in December which is school holidaytime here, Jerry and Judy were able to start to school at the American Baptist College in February. It is about equivalent to our high schools plus one year of college. All schools here require uniforms and the children like them. They have found some, English-speaking friends at school, whom they particularly enjoy, since they are still in the process of re-learning Portuguese. Perhaps it is hardest for Joe Bill, who is three, but he is becoming accustomed to both the language and the people. Neither of these presents any difficulty for Charles Fred, two, who seems still to like everyone he meets and is already trying to talk in English and Portuguese.

Because Mr. Underwood felt led to accept the invitation extended him by the Baptist Convention of the state of Pernambuco, we are in Recife. In Pernambuco we have eighty-seven Baptist churches, but the convention is not as well organized as it needs to be, so this is one of his tasks as executive secretary of the convention work as well as missionary of the field. We plan to organize seven district associations and hope eventually to have a Brazilian missionary-evangelist living and working in each association in co-operation with the churches and pastors. There are ninety large counties in Pernambuco, with a population of three or four million. Yet we have Baptist churches or missions in only thirty of these ninety counties, and just one church or mission in some of these thirty. There are approximately 5,000 Baptists in the state. So the needs are tremendous, the opportunities innumerable, the workers few! In spite of entrenched opposition and persecutions (invariably

promoted by Catholic priests) the spread of the gospel of Jesus Christ continues in an amazing way, winning the lost and exalting Christ.

Our plan for simultaneous revivals in the forty-five Baptist churches of Recife, in September is attracting intense interest and producing a better spirit of co-operation among our pastors. Recife has more than 500,000 people, and we have forty-five Baptist churches, although many are quite small. We hope to promote a gigantic campaign of publicity, since our churches have never done this before, so as to make a definite impact on the city for Christ. Will you pray with us that this plan will be a great success for the glory of Christ, through the conversion of hundreds and the deepening of the spiritual life of our churches?

Our Work is Growing!

from Mrs. Paul Bell

Our work among the Spanish people on the Isthmus is growing. We have three Spanish churches and four mission stations. It has been a long hard process to get this work established among the native Panamanians. But each week now we see new signs of interest and more converts.

Recently Mr. Bell drove twenty miles into the interior. A group of the Christians joined him to make a three-hour tramp over jungle trails and mountains across streams to a little Baptist chapel in the heart of a very dense jungle area so thick it was almost like a cave. When they reached the chapel of bamboo poles with a thatched roof, they found a good group of people waiting to join them for another mile tramp to a beautiful clear river where two young girls about sixteen and eighteen years of age were to be baptized.

As he led these lovely Spanish girls out into the clear baptismal water with all the beautiful surroundings, two little brothers and sisters of the candidates asked to sing a chorus. What do you think it was? "Jesus Loves the Little Children of the World." This was sung, of course, in their native language—Spanish.

The fathers of the girls each led in prayer. After Mr. Bell buried them in baptism, as they came from the water the

brother of one of the girls asked that he might pray for God to keep his sister in his care.

This is just one of the many pictures I would like to paint upon the hearts of thousands of Southern Baptists.

Music in Chile

from Lois Hart

Our young people's camp in central Chile was located by a beautiful river, with hills all around, and right above us, Chile's highest bridge—the Malleco. I had charge of all the music and enjoyed it immensely, because Chileans all love to sing and have

unusual ability in music. We were able to have many choruses and special numbers. One fine young man (a good tenor) wrote me later that the camp had meant more to his spiritual life than any other experience he had ever had, and that this year he had resolved to serve the Lord as never before.

There was also the comical side to our camp—like my outdoor clinic for bruises, burns and cuts. After several days of swimming and one hard game of Chilean football, I had to use anything on hand, which included Pond's cream and salt water. One night I had to use massage for acute indigestion, and to my own great surprise it worked, and the boy slept all night!

Is this your question?

by Eva Inlow

Executive Secretary

New Mexico W.M.U.

How should a nominating committee for a society be named and how long should it function?

The nominating committee may be appointed by the president but a president may cause both criticism and misunderstanding if she names the nominating committee. So it is wiser that it be selected by the members of the society. Perhaps this can be done by having one member selected from each circle. In case there are no circles, this committee may be named by the members of the society at a business meeting. This committee functions during the entire year, or until it is relieved of its duties by the society. It should be ready to present names of women to fill vacancies that occur during the year.

What is the best field for finding new members for our society?

Aside from the unenlisted women in your church congregation or Sunday school, watch for the women who will be brought into the church as a result of revivals and the great evangelistic crusades of our Convention. No one of these women should be overlooked.

Should we count our Sunbeam Band leaders as being present for our general missionary program from ROYAL SERVICE when they meet with our Sunbeams at the same time as the program meeting? If we change our Sunbeam Band meeting time, who will keep the small children quiet while mothers attend programs? That cuts down on attendance of the mothers, so what are we to do?

Is counting so important that your W.M.S. needs to strain so? Can people really be counted as being present in a meeting when they are not there? The idea of having the Sunbeam Band leader attend the W.M.S. meeting is so she will have all that background of information in leading the Sunbeams. You do not want your Sunbeam Band to become a nursery; you will guard against that. Of course, someone must care for the small children but are these Sunbeam age or under four? Maybe you need a nursery during W.M.S. meeting and a Sunbeam Band meeting at some other time. You want to do the best Sunbeam Band work you can because developing growing children is most important.

Why, Mommy?

They Are Telling a Story

BY MRS. DOUGLAS HARRIS

If you ever chased fireflies when you were a youngster you can understand why we let our small son run in the yard for a while after dark one evening and enjoy this wonderful sport.

Once he ran to the door and called, "Mother, I like to listen to lightning bugs. They are telling a story. They sing too. Some of them are poison." Being very busy with the baby I only answered, "Oh, they do?" So I lost an opportunity for fellowship as well as a little learning about the boy's thoughts. The next day I asked him what story the insects were telling and the child answered, "Oh, Mother, they don't talk in the daytime."

Can this be a real life parable for parents? What were the fireflies telling the boy—nursery rhymes? things from comic books? stories about Jesus? What were they singing? Is it necessary to say that we as parents largely determine the story told and the song sung at such times? One three-year-old became infected with the comic book fever in his neighborhood and began asking for a "comic" book. In spite of the movies, radio, and television the printed word with accompanying illustrations has a powerful influence on our lives. The market is flooded with books and periodicals. One professor said recently, "During the last ten years everybody who has had a lucid moment has written a book." This is true except that many publications are filled with poison rather than light.

Knowing the mechanics of reading and writing does not make us literate in the true sense of the word. What we do with this tool makes us literate or illiterate. I was thinking about this page to be written for *Royal Service* as I was going a day's journey on a train. It was interesting to notice the "literature" passengers brought along. Newspapers were read. One adult was reading a mystery book. Several people

had the current high type magazine. There was one weekly news magazine and one *Readers' Digest*. All teen-agers who were reading were devouring stacks of comic books. One woman was reading *The Greatest Story Ever Told*. I thought that all those reading or not reading were once tots whose literacy or illiteracy was then the responsibility and opportunity of parents or guardians.

When it was almost dark outside the train I caught a glimpse of a country road curving up a hill through the trees. I could see lightning bugs flashing against the dark woods. What stories were they telling the three small children across the aisle with their noses pressed against the window?

For The Sand Pile Set

September and school are words almost synonymous to the children. Especially if there are older ones in the family with new books and supplies, the preschooler will not want to feel left out. He will be happy with tablet, wax crayons, pencil, and one or two preprimers. These will help eliminate friction between the school child and the younger ones.

Your Circle Program

This month's circle program topic will give you a wonderful opportunity to discover the needs and possibilities of service in your own state. It will give you the chance to spotlight the right of each state to evangelize its people, and to study the principle of state missions. In preparing for your program, check your state Baptist paper for information.

Scripture reading, Luke 10:1-12.

Sing your state song and hymns as "Here Am I; Send Me," "Let Others See Jesus in You," and the personally evangelistic chorus, "Lead Me to Some Soul Today."

Our Young People

Using My Hand

BY MARGARET BRUCE

Do you realize that you are linked with God in his eternal purpose? Kagawa did as he wrote the following lines:

*I cannot invent
New things,
Like the airships
Which sail
On silver wings;
But today
A wonderful thought
In the dawn was given,
And the stripes on my robe,
Shining from wear,
Were suddenly fair,
Bright with a light
Falling from Heaven—
Gold, and silver, and bronze
Lights from the windows of Heaven.*

*And the thought
Was this:
That a secret plan*

*Is hid in my hand;
That my hand is big,
Big,
Because of this plan.
That God,
Who dwells in my hand,
Knows this secret plan
Of the things He will do for the world
Using my hand!*

FROM SONGS FROM THE SLUMS by
Toyohiko Kagawa. Copyright 1935
by Whitmore & Smith. By permission
of Abingdon-Cokesbury Press.

If you will allow God to use your hand, you will see what he can do through you.

It is September, the back-to-work month, the back-to-school month. Let this wonderful thought of his plan for you work itself out as you work with the Ann Hasseltine and Grace McBride Y.W.A.'s in the college and hospital in your community.

Young women away from home need you. They need your friendship, your home, your counsel, your help with their Y.W.A.

Perhaps you have a delightful cabin, a guest house or some place which could be used for the Y.W.A. preschool retreat for officers. Your home may be just the one for the Y.W.A. tea or reception for girls who should be enlisted in Y.W.A.

No doubt your help will be needed to arrange for the first Y.W.A. program. It ought to be the very best one possible in order to interest the young women and cause them to want to be active members of Young Woman's Auxiliary.

You can lead the women of your society to see opportunities for fostering the organization which will bring young women to see the things which God will do for the world by using their hands. Not only can you help young women who have come into your community, but you can help prepare those who will be going away to college or schools of nursing education. Tell them all about the Grace McBride and Ann Hasseltine Y.W.A.'s. Send each a subscription to *The Window of Y.W.A.* or change subscriptions to new address.

Diiraeli has written that "life is too short to be little." God has a plan for your life that will make it gloriously big—see what he will do for the world by using your hand!

States Rights

Read about the Advance Program in an article by Dr. Duke McCall in the September issue of *The Commission*. In the *Southern Baptist Home Missions* September issue read about "Evangelizing My State" by C. W. Caldwell and an article by W.M.U. Community Missions director, Miss Edith Stokely.

W.M.U. publications offer you a variety of material. "Crickets Ate Their Bible Stories" in *ROYAL SERVICE*, "The Goose That Laid the Golden Eggs" in *The Window of Y.W.A.*, and "The Signs Nobody Could Read" in *World Comrades*.

Hints to Committee Chairmen

Community Missions Chairmen . . .

Is there a Good Will Center in your community? If so, do you know what the program is? Have you shared the vision and plans of the Good Will Center director? Have you asked if she needs dependable, consecrated women to help regularly in the work with the people in that community? Have you presented that need to your society?

More than a year ago the director of the Woody Barton Good Will Center of Nashville, Tennessee, stated at a monthly board meeting that a group of young people in the community had formed a club and were in need of some person or group to sponsor them. The adviser of the Business Woman's Federation was present and took that need to the meeting of the Federation that evening. It struck a response in the heart of the community missions chairman of the Judson Memorial Baptist Church B.W.C. After discussing it with the Good Will Center director she presented it to her circle as their specific work for the next month.

The club decided to meet on each Thursday evening. The first evening twelve from the B.W.C. went to the center to find fifteen young people, ranging in age from fifteen to eighteen years. Gathering around the piano, they all sang sacred songs. A brief devotional thought was led by one of the circle members, and refreshments were served.

At the close of the evening the young people escorted the Judson B.W.C. members to their cars, begging them to return the next Thursday. The young people said, "We want some fun, but we haven't money for going places, and we don't want to meet in the pool rooms." Of course, the meeting became regular, and the club grew in number from fifteen to thirty-four.

As summer approached, it was decided a tent revival was desirable, and again the Judson B.W.C. agreed to sponsor the revival. While the number of conversions

was not large, many homes were reached and the effects are still in evidence.

Whether the need in your community is for workers in a Good Will Center or for women to call upon the unsaved, or for someone to minister to a family in trouble, the steps remain the same. The women faced a definite need; they accepted the need as their responsibility and challenge to service; they planned the work and made definite assignments; they were consistent and regular in their service; they saw results as lives were transformed through the power of Christ.

—Edith Stokely

Stewardship Chairmen . . .

A most effective way of teaching stewardship is through dramatics. In the *I.W.M.U. Year Book* there is a list of stewardship plays and pageants. Doubtless you have looked at this list wondering what each play was about and which one would fit your situation best. Since this is the season when most churches observe Church Night of Stewardship, we will review two short plays.

"A Nickel to Spend" is for Sunbeams. Dick, a seven-year-old boy, has a nickel. He asks his twin sister, Dot, to help him decide how to spend it. Bank, Ice Cream, Lollypop and Mission Bank, represented by other Sunbeams, suggest ways to use the nickel. Plum Blossom, a Japanese girl, and Eagle Feather, an Indian boy, tell how money in the Mission Bank has sent missionaries to tell them about Jesus. So Dick and Dot decide to do without Ice Cream and Lollypop to put their nickel in Mission Bank. This play is short, simple and costs only five cents a copy. Sunbeams will love it. And the audience will love the Sunbeams who present it and will learn a lesson in giving.

"Boxes and a Box" is a pageant for Girls' Auxiliary members. Annette, an intermediate G.A. soliloquizes on all the boxes which will bless her life. As she thinks about them, they enter—Flower Box, Candy Box, Shoe Box, and six others. The boxes are

represented by nine G.A. girls carrying suitable boxes. As Annette thinks of all the good things God will give her in these boxes, she decides that there ought to be a box for him. Then Tithe Box enters and Annette learns a lesson in stewardship. Annette and Tithe Box are the only ones who have speaking parts to learn. The others hold the boxes and repeat Bible verses learned in their G.A. work. Most of Annette's words are jingles about the boxes, short and easy to memorize. So this can be given with few rehearsals. As they present it the girls will learn about stewardship—and so will the audience!

—Mrs. C. D. Creasman

Mission Study Chairmen . . .

When you buy school books, buy mission study textbooks, too. "Reading, 'ritin', rithmetic" are right for children; but children and adults both need rousing to round-the-world happenings and to gaining real knowledge to relate them to religion and righteousness. There is so much to learn about our small world we all need to be studying hard and fast.

What do you really know about Russia? *Two Giants and One World* by A. William Loos, and *Europe: Whither Bound?* by Foreign Mission Board personnel, will help answer your questions.

Arabia's oil fields are war inflammables, what do you know about our beginning

mission work there? Do you know the problems our missionaries face in going into Moslem lands? *Highways in the Desert*, Ida Patterson Storm, *Near East Panorama*, Glora Wysner, and *Introducing Islam*, J. Christy Wilson, and the *Political Map of the Near East and North Africa* published by Friendship Press will all be helpful to your understanding this country and its needs.

Africa keeps growing in importance. What do you know about this Cinderella land? *A Century in Nigeria* by George W. Sadler, *Exploring Africa* by H. Cornell Goerner, a free packet of helps for studying Nigeria books, and a film, "Advance in Africa," will all add much to your mission study this fall.

How Christian is this proud nation of ours pushed into leadership of all nations? *Study Spiritual Frontiers* by Courts Redford and *America Must Be Christian* by H. Cornell Goerner.

Plan your study course time. Select your subject and book. Select your teacher. Give her enough time to prepare to teach, no, not just a book review: the word is *teach*. That means Textbooks and timely thinking. Equipment for exploring facts, Assignments and audio-visual aids, Classrooms and careful conversations, Helps for teacher and hearty heeding by the class. Mission study is about the best form of adult education for Baptist women everywhere!

How It Is Done

You will better understand the word-picture-syllable method of learning to read if you look carefully at the charts on pages 23 and 28.

The pictures at the far left are in color on the real charts and do not show up so well in reproduction. They illustrate the syllables so that the learner can associate the sound and the picture and this strange mark that means the same as the sound and picture. Soon several syllables will be put together in order and the learner will have the joy of recognizing a word he uses often in his talking. Then the miracle of reading begins to open up.

For example, Miss Hoskins may ask a Navajo to learn "a," "da" and "taa." He does. Then she writes them horizontally in a different order. He reads them slowly, somewhat puzzled. "Can you read them faster?" she asks. He does so—"da a taa," he reads. He has read the Navajo word for corn husks. His face lights up. A new doorway has opened before him. It will be the doorway to better health, an escape from poverty, to a readier acceptance of Christianity.

It's Happening Now

BY MARJORIE MOORE ARMSTRONG

The Friends (Quaker) Committee on National Legislation, Washington, D. C., sponsored an agricultural seminar this year on "American Surpluses in a Hungry World." Numbers of Christian citizens studied the facts about foods the government has on hand which are likely to spoil before they can be used. They sent out an appeal to other American Christians to urge their Congressmen to do something.

Why can't hungry people in other countries have some of the 88½ million pounds of dried eggs or the 316 million pounds of dried milk we still have in storage? Think what our 15 million pounds of prunes and 98 million pounds of butter, 21 million pounds of cheese, and 28 million pounds of peanuts could do for the children of famine-stricken areas.

Senators and Representatives want to know how the American people feel about this hoarded food. Candidates for election are making the subject a major issue in campaign speeches.

The greatest increase in the reading public of postwar Japan is among women and girls. Young people in general are reading more and another increase is noted among country people. The number of small bookstores in Japan has grown phenomenally. As a result of the terrific demand for printed matter, the price of publications has gone up. American weeklies and monthlies, intended for the occupation personnel, have a big sale among English-speaking Japanese. *The New Age*, a Protestant monthly, reports a good circulation.

The first in a series of television films, issued by the Protestant Film Commission for local sponsorship, is "The Parable of the Good Samaritan." It is done with puppet figures instead of a human cast.

A Christian ministry to the blind all over the world is being fostered by an American group, the John Milton Society, Inc., founded in 1928. The majority of institutions abroad which serve the blind are Christian. Miss Helen Keller is president of the Society, and Dr. Milton T. Stauffer is secretary.

Twenty-five two-year students of the School of Social Work, Delhi, India, have received the first master's degrees in social work ever to be awarded in all Asia. This school, headed by Miss Dorothy Moses, a native of India and member of the Church of God, was founded in 1946 by the Y.W.C.A.

North Americans abroad for business, professional work, or diplomatic service, usually establish an American "community church" in the national capitals and other big centers. Fifty of these churches may soon form an association. Two of them are in Europe, three in the Near East, ten in China, three in Japan, one each in Burma, Pakistan, Thailand, Korea, and the Philippines, and twenty-seven in Latin America. Similar groups in Abyssinia and Arabia are about to be organized into churches.

The story of Christian missionary doctors and nurses—from John Vanderkemp of 1799 to Albert Schweitzer of today—in Africa, India, and Pakistan, the Near and Middle East, and in China—is published this year by Harper and Brothers. The book is *Doctors Courageous* by Dr. Edward H. Hume.

In a list of religious publications of the U.S.A. with a circulation of 30,000 or more, the Catholic publications had a total circulation of 6,283,773, the Protestant 5,426,209.

Missionary Dividends

To look at the figures of the annual budget of some \$78,000 for the Training School may be a bit startling at first glance. To study these figures in connection with the missionary contribution of the school affirms one's belief that the investment is in harmony with the basic purposes of Woman's Missionary Union.

At a recent meeting of the Foreign Mission Board, Dr. Everett Gill, Jr., said, "The greatest investment we have is in the lives of these young people whom we appoint for service abroad."

Since January, ten of our former students have been appointed for overseas service. During the convention year 1949-1950 eleven of our alumnae began their work in five of our foreign mission fields. In the face of these facts who would question the value of our missionary investment?

Because she was a member of our faculty we have more than ordinary interest in the work begun a year ago by Miss Virginia Wingo of Louisiana (w 1939)* for the Armstrong Memorial Training School in Rome. More recently Mrs. H. F. Peacock, Jr., of North Carolina (1947) sailed for Zurich, Switzerland, where she will be located with her husband at our new seminary.

We are proud that two of our recent appointees will be numbered among our pioneer missionaries in the new field of Arabia. Miss Ruth Swann, R. N., of North Carolina (1950) and Mrs. J. T. McRae of Louisiana (1942) will begin work there this autumn. We should be faithful in prayer for these new missionaries as they start their service in a difficult field.

The centennial celebration of our work in Nigeria focuses attention on that field. Misses Mary Frances Page of North Carolina (w 1951) and Mary Virginia Hill of West Virginia (w 1951) join our Nigerian mission as nurse and laboratory technician, respectively, in the late summer. Within the last convention year Miss Stella Austin of North Carolina (1949), Mrs. W. C. Gavena of Florida (w 1947), and Mrs. P. H. Hill of Florida (1948) began their work

in Nigeria.

The following have been appointed to Japan and hope to sail before the end of the year: Misses Virginia Highfill of North Carolina (1949), Mary Neal Morgan of Kentucky (1949), Martha Knox of Missouri (1947), Mrs. F. M. Horton of Louisiana (1949), and Mrs. E. L. Oliver of Kentucky (w 1949). Miss Akiko Endo (1950) is returning to work in Japan among her own people. A year ago Mrs. Ray Hoshizaki (Asano Masaki of Hawaii, 1948) began work with her husband under the Japanese Baptist Convention. She writes, "At first glance it seems the Japanese friends and we have much in common but with more careful observation we realize that we Nesei have been Americanized to an amazing degree. We love Japan and her people. . . They know suffering and privation, and when they come to our Saviour they give wonderful testimony of his saving grace."

The following began their work a few months ago: Misses Hilda Bledsoe of Georgia (1949) and Virginia Bean of Missouri (1940), and Mrs. C. R. Young of Kentucky (1947) in Hawaii; Mrs. M. D. Oates of California (w 1949) and Mrs. Jack Matthews of Florida (1942) in Colombia.

We rejoice to have a part in work in India done by Mrs. M. T. Ray of Alabama (1948) who serves with her husband under the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society.

Among the placements for the May graduating class, three have secured opportunities for W.M.U. work and at least twelve others are seeking doors of service in home missions.

A PLAY THIS MONTH:

Use "To Speak of Freedom," with seven older boys, two young women and a mixed group, 35 minutes, price 25 cents. Order from W.M.U., 1111 Comer Bldg., Birmingham 3, Alabama.

*Year indicates class, w means withdrew before graduation

Devotional Thoughts

"He That Readeth"

BY PEN LILE PITTARD

Make enough outlines of the devotional period for each person present. Then there will be no interruption for announcements or instructions. The Call to Worship should be typed in full and the hymn number given. The one who is to read each Scripture passage should be asked to do so without being called upon. The response should be printed again at the end. This plan will give unity of impression and far greater reverence in the presentation.

Call To Worship: (Leader) "All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" (2 Tim. 3:16). (Response) "Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear" (Rev. 1:3).

Hymn: "Thy Word Have I Hid in My Heart"

Scripture Reading: 1 Timothy 4:11-16

Comment: When Paul instructed the young Timothy to give attention to reading, he primarily had in mind the reading of the Bible. He knew the importance of thorough knowledge of the Word of God

and daily meditation upon it. He had in mind more specifically the public reading of the Scriptures. This was one of the most important services of early ministers. Private copies were scarce and expensive, so the responsibility of the minister to read clearly, exactly, and frequently to the people was an especially significant part of his duties. It was the heart of the teaching ministry in a day before Sunday schools were organized.

"Give attention to reading," Paul said. This admonition has a broader meaning for us than simply the reading of the Bible. The high privilege of knowing how to read and of having literature at hand is a sacred trust. It is not to be regarded lightly or indulged in carelessly. We must give attention to reading to see that we open up to ourselves the wider worlds of understanding and experience that are ours for the turning of a few pages. We must give attention to reading to guarantee that our reading diet will not be a hodgepodge of nonsense selected in a haphazard way or a cheap lot of poisonous propaganda. We must give attention to reading to stimulate our children, by our intelligent example of reading wholesome, elevating, enriching and inspiring literature, so that they will choose such reading matter as will deepen and refine and uplift.

Scripture Reading: Acts 8:26-39

Comment: Knowledge is a trust. The person who knows is obligated to teach. Philip found a man reading the Word of God without understanding. Recognizing his own knowledge as an investment which God had placed in him, Philip taught what he had learned, and a soul was born into the kingdom of God.

The world is reading messages from God on every hand—in the Bible, in the lives of people called Christians, in the mysteries of nature, in the events of history, in the discoveries of science—but too often without understanding. Recognizing our knowledge as an investment which God has placed in us, let us also teach what we have learned, so that souls around the world may be born into the kingdom.

Response: "Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear" (Rev. 1:3).

Prayer

Can You Read? by Thelma Brown Burland

Mrs. William Burland has been the valued Book Consultant of our Sunday School Board. She has ready access to the best books of world interest coming from all publishers.

Program Outline

Hymn "From Greenland's Icy Mountains"

Devotion "He That Readeth," page 22

Can You Read?

Why Cannot More People Read?

The Once Silent Billion Speak

Hymn "Send the Light"

Compulsory Education Can Work

Voluntary Mass Movements Are Spreading

Each One Teach One, and Reach One for Christ

Hymn Sing "Song of the Emancipation,"

see page 13

God Is Using Literacy in His Divine Plan

The Battle of the Books

"Lord, Teach Us to Read"

Hymn "Christ for the World We Sing"

Prayer

Program Plans

Make much use of blackboard and maps. Point out countries named; place figures to show per cent of illiteracy in country or write on blackboard.

In introducing the program why not blindfold three out of five women to show how many cannot read?

Irene Hoskins in Arizona finds Salina Nez a prize pupil. Fifteen years ago Salina went to school for about a year. Now twenty-five years old, she is the victim of paralysis in both legs.

Home Missions Council.



Pick up and hold out a Bible when you mention it as a reason for teaching people to read.

If you wish to, one woman can tell about Dr. Yen and another about Dr. Laubach in telling about mass education movements.

Let all the audience read together the four lines beginning "One who cannot see . . ." These may be on blackboard or large poster or on slate-type program folders made for each one present.

Make the season of prayer at the close of your program very earnest.

It will add immeasurably if someone will study one of the charts enough to pretend to teach your whole W.M.S. by the syllable-word-picture method. See picture of chart, page 28 also. Look up *The Silent Billion Speak* in your church library. Send \$1 for Africa News Letters to Committee on World Literacy and Christian Literature, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, New York.

Your Program

Can You Read?

To those of us who learned to read before we can remember, these three words seem to be a joke. Books, magazines, newspapers, bulletins, business records, personal correspondence, captions on pictures are a part of our daily routine. We never think of literacy as one of God's greatest gifts or as a national heritage.

For five hundred years the printing presses have poured out billions of pages in our mother tongue. Schools from elementary to university levels are accessible to nearly everyone in the United States. Statistics show that more than 97 per cent of our population is literate. In Canada, England and the countries of northern Europe the ratings are as high or higher.

It is hard for us to realize that to the majority of the people in the world today

Free Packet

A few months ago we suggested you could write to the American Bible Society, 450 Park Avenue, New York 22, asking for their Leader's Packet of Information about the American Bible Society. If you didn't write then, write for it today. The packet is still available and now includes a new leaflet, "Unlocking the Bible for New Literates," especially suitable for your Stepmaster programs; also material which will be useful in other programs.

If you have received the packet, simply send your request for the new leaflet, "Unlocking the Bible for New Literates."

the written symbols we call words are merely meaningless scribbles. In some countries not even one person in certain communities can answer "Yes, I can read." The sober truth is that only about 40 per cent, or two out of five people in the world can read or write in any language.

This places a tremendous obligation upon those of us who have this wonderful privilege not only to use, but to share.

• Why Cannot More People Read?

When we stop to think of it we know why many people are illiterate. History reminds us that education was not considered necessary for the common man until recent times. Ancient civilizations, such as China, honored scholarship, but only for the select few. Primitive peoples, conquered and exploited for gain, served better when ignorant. The Africans and Indians illustrate this. A wealthy employer in Peru said to a missionary, "You must not teach these Indians to read. If you do they will become dissatisfied and there will be no end of trouble."

Women especially have been neglected. In Mohammedan and other non-Christian countries, men have not wanted women to study. One Moro chieftain with ten wives said, "I don't want my wives to be educated, . . . they would talk too much." He might have added they would think too much, want too much and finally get too much.

It is common knowledge that in coun-

A woman's literacy class in the Hindi language, New Delhi, India.

Robert Laubach

tries where Roman Catholicism predominates, there has not been education for all the people. In Latin America for example, a large majority has been kept in ignorance. Reading the Bible was forbidden. Until a few years ago the church has discouraged all reading except under strict religious supervision.

Even Europe, dominated by the Holy Roman Empire during the Middle Ages, considered that education belonged to people of wealth, or rank or to the clergy. Latin was the only written language. It has been estimated by Dr. Frank Laubach (Law-back) and others that probably as few as one in a thousand Europeans could read until the Reformation.

Not until Luther, Tyndale, Coverdale and others translated the Scriptures into the languages of the common people did Europe learn to read. It was the desire to teach the Bible to everyone that led Baptists, Lutherans, Methodists, Presbyterians to start schools in Europe and North America. We believe that every individual should search the Scriptures for himself. Sunday schools were started to teach people who could not attend school during the week to read the Bible. In 1780 Robert Raikes began the first Sunday school in England. In Wales today "readin', 'ritin' and 'rithmetic" are still taught in Sunday school. The desire to read the Bible was both one of the causes and a result of "The Great Awakening," the wonderful revival that began in England more than one hundred years ago.

Wherever evangelical Christians have settled in the world schools have soon followed. Literacy supports Christianity in four important ways. First, it is an aid to evangelism. Second, it trains church members. Third, it teaches Christian service. Fourth, it influences world thought. Eight times Jesus himself said, "Have ye not read?" His admonition, "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" is our evangel message. In China, Christian teachers use the slogan, "Men who cannot read, cannot be free although they live in a democracy."

It is not surprising to learn that, as a rule, the areas having the highest literacy ratings are where evangelists and their missionaries have pioneered and where religious freedom has been established.

Mission boards report that there are nearly 60,000 schools of all kinds throughout the world which are directed by evangelical churches. In all, about three million people are reached in these schools. This does not include those in Europe and North America. Some 499 of these are Southern Baptist schools with 49,452 students. It is estimated that in mission areas there are thirty million literate Christians scattered among the 200 million who cannot read.

The Once Silent Billion Speak

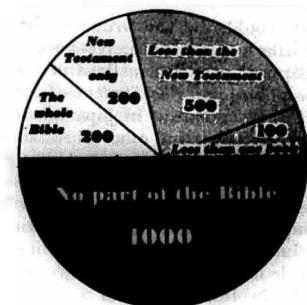
We have known that for ages multitudes have been ignorant. We have depended upon the gradual growth of Christian-inspired school systems to free men from the bondage of illiteracy. Why should we be concerned now?

Conditions have changed radically since the days when Henrietta Hall Shuck or Lottie Moon first introduced young Chinese girls to ABCs, or when Mrs. Lumbley gathered Nigerian girls on her front porch by promising them scraps of cloth.

Ordinary methods of education are not enough in lands where Christianity is a minority movement. Population increases faster than converts to Christianity. Secularism and other isms are moving into Africa, for instance, more rapidly than Christian schools can be founded and evangelistic teachers secured. Time is not on our side. Our wise leaders are warning us that time is running out. It is imperative that Southern Baptists do something now for the billion people who are clamoring for a chance.

One of our educational missionaries in Nigeria was describing the swift advances there, and the demand by women as well as men for reading matter: "They beg us for books, and we have to keep our small supply under lock and key, and dole them out to the neediest. Missionaries cannot succeed today with horse and buggy methods in an airplane age."

The airplane, radio, moving picture and other spectacular inventions that reduce time and space are now known everywhere. The war has seen to that. These ultra-modern devices cannot be rightly used or enjoyed, or constructed by people who cannot read or write. Suppressed Indonesians



translation job

American Bible Society

as well as remote Tibetans look at these man-made wonders and interpret them as symbols of wealth, power and pleasure.

People who for ages have been quiet are now demanding their human rights. Uprisings in Costa Rica, rebellions in South Africa, revolutions in Asia that are destroying world order today have their roots in the hearts of our oppressed fellowmen. Nations long submissive to foreign powers have suddenly called for independence. They do not care how or from whom they get guns. They do not care who teaches them to read, but they have learned that words are weapons, too.

Men taught to read in the army report that the man who leads is the man who reads. New governments in India, Pakistan, Java, Philippines and South American republics are hard pressed to find men with education to hold responsible positions.

From Greenland's icy mountains to Ceylon's coral strand,

Voices once silent call now, "Please teach us how to read."

Compulsory Education Can Work

In the United States and other places where education has grown up with the country and where funds are available, compulsory education laws are effective in raising literacy levels. There was a nationwide effort in this country in 1920 to improve literacy. The figures have risen from 83 per cent to 97 per cent since then.

As far back as 1883, Japan instituted compulsory education, soon after Admiral Perry visited that country. By 1900, most

Japanese could read and write and the nation is education-conscious. It is good news that Baptists' new Jordan Press in Tokyo is now publishing *The Student's Chronological New Testament* in Japanese, some study course books and other Christian literature in a land that is now only one per cent illiterate.

Russia has illustrated that under a dictatorship men can be made to learn to read. Lenin realized the value of literacy and made it one of the major objectives of U.S.S.R. In 1919, he signed a decree to "liquidate illiteracy." A colossal propaganda campaign began. Laws were passed with heavy penalties for all who did not attend literacy classes. Not only were the people fined, but they were excluded from trade unions or refused food cards. By 1922, 4,800,000 people had been taught. But this was not enough. That year the Soviets decreed that education should be free to everyone regardless of race or color. More teachers were needed. Volunteer brigades were organized. Then two and a half million soldiers were recruited to teach and direct the teachers. In 1932, Stalin announced that 90 per cent of their vast population could read.

Vocational schools and adult education have raised the level of advancement. A stupendous publication program has furnished that country with all kinds of reading matter, all praising communism. The Soviet government now declares that Russia is 100 per cent literate and that more people in Russia read than anywhere else in the world.

This powerful plan that produced 100 million readers in fifteen years purposed to indoctrinate the people with Sovietism, and to prepare them to defend and to extend communism on all fronts.

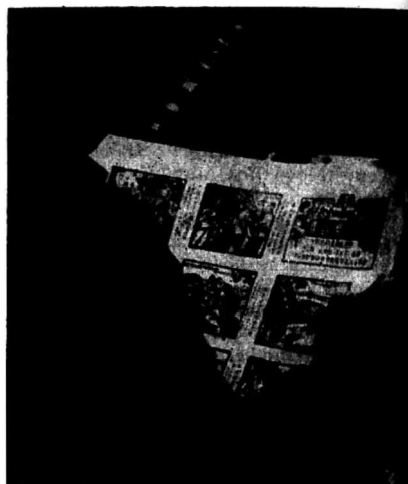
Voluntary Mass Movements are Spreading

Many experiences have exploded the idea that adults are too old to learn to read. Adult illiterates the world over have proved to be apt pupils especially when taught in their mother tongue. Several dramatic programs conducted by missionaries or under Christian auspices have shown that men and women everywhere will respond when given the chance to

learn.

Southern Baptists are rejoicing over the accomplishments and opportunities that were reported at the Southern Baptist centennial celebration in Nigeria in August. One of the most significant achievements was the campaign by Nigerian Woman's Missionary Union for ten thousand new readers for 1950. What this will mean for the spreading of the kingdom in that country only eternity will reveal.

One of the most amazing literacy campaigns was started about 35 years ago by James Y. C. Yen, a brilliant young Yale



They like pictures in China, too. This farmer is reading a cartoon poster on rural cooperatives.

and Princeton graduate. During World War I, he was sent by the Y.M.C.A. to France to work with the 200,000 Chinese laborers who were building war trenches.

These coolies, homesick and ignorant, could neither read letters from home or write their replies. Dr. Yen was busy day and night reading and writing letters for them. In self-defense he determined to teach some of them to read. He built a basic vocabulary of one thousand characters out of the five thousand word alphabet that Chinese scholars use, and started classes. To his astonishment even the low-

Adults are learning to read basic characters in West China.

liest coolie could learn to read. He worked up a series of simple texts, and started a newspaper which became very popular.

Dr. Yen accomplished such wonders that when he returned to China in 1917 he began plans that resulted in the Mass Education Movement. This effort has continued through the years in spite of wars and revolutions.

He started in his own home province, and news of his popular reading classes spread quickly. By 1923, twenty-one provinces had branch organizations. After ten years he estimated that five million students were enrolled in his rural and urban schools.

At first the Y.M.C.A. sponsored the movement, but within a few years the central government took it over. Adult education and literacy campaigns were an important part of Chiang Kai-shek's government. By now millions of Chinese have read in one of Jimmy Yen's readers:

*"One who cannot see with his eyes is blind;
One who cannot read the book is also blind;
The life of the blind man is bitter;
The life of the illiterate man is also bitter."*

Each One Teach One, And Reach One for Christ

The acknowledged world leader of literacy today is Dr. Frank C. Laubach. He is often called the "Apostle of Literacy."

An African tribe has a more picturesque name for there he is known as *O Kombe Kombe*, mender of baskets. In this tribe the basket is their most valuable and skillfully made article. A mender of old baskets follows a most important trade. Illiterates who looked upon themselves as "old, worn out baskets, good for nothing," began new and useful lives after Dr. Laubach taught them to read. *O Kombe Kombe* was their highest term of praise.

This great Christian missionary is also highly praised by new readers in close to 175 other languages, with other new ones added each month. For twenty years now he has been using his famous method on every continent and is directly or indirectly responsible for more readers than any one person who has ever lived.

Dr. Laubach was a missionary in the Philippines. The outstanding part of his career began in 1929 when he began work with a fierce and fanatical Moslem tribe known as the Moros. It seemed impossible to reach them. Just as Dr. Laubach was about to admit defeat, God showed him the cause of his failure. While he was praying one evening he heard these words: "You don't really love these people, you feel yourself superior because you are a different race. If you can forget that you are an American and think only how I love them, they will respond."

Dr. Laubach resolved then and there to rid himself of his superior feeling and to prove his love. There seemed no common ground. They were so ignorant. None of them could read. There was not even anything printed in their language. With the aid of a Filipino co-worker he set about to change their alphabet to Roman letters, such as we use, and to build a basic world list. Then he prepared charts with phonetic syllables under pictures of objects they knew well. Day after day he and his helper sought the right combinations. His reward came when the once antagonistic village people with love in their eyes and joy in their hearts sang, "I can read, I can really read!"

From then on miracles began to multiply. Other villages heard. Those who learned became teachers. The only price of the course was the promise to teach another. The slogan, "Each one teach one"

was born.

This method used first in the Philippines has been constantly improved. It is the system by which Dr. Laubach has taught thousands of illiterates to read in a matter of hours. Each course is taught in the mother tongue. The pupil begins with familiar words. Then he learns to read the story of Jesus told in simple, though not childish language from the gospels. When this is finished he has the ability to search the Scriptures for himself. Dr. Laubach

has proved that the new literate believes everything that he reads. He naturally comes to love Jesus, and also the one who taught him, and to believe whatever his teacher tells him. It is an easy step to win new readers to new life in Christ, and in this one process, both mentally and spiritually, to open his eyes.

Since that day when the Moros sang their new song, the news of this successful plan has spread like wildfire. Missionaries in India called for his help. Then Africa, and some of the Moslem countries. During World War II the United States government asked him to introduce his method to the Brazilian government as a part of the Good Neighbor Policy. Since then he has been answering invitations from so many countries that the names of the places where he and his staff have been sound like the roll call of the nations.

God Is Using Literacy in His Divine Plan

At first governments and other national leaders were skeptical of Dr. Laubach's program. British officials in some countries feared it would lead to unrest and uprisings, especially in Moslem lands. The opposite has proved true.



Robert Laubach
Dr. Laubach is shown using the chart in the Hausa dialect as he teaches a group of Africans at Zaria, Nigeria. See page 19 for "How It Is Done."

Gandhi was not sure that India ought to be literate. When first approached by Dr. Laubach in 1935 he said, "The literature you publish in the West is not fit for India to read. Look what you are writing and selling in many railway stations." When he learned that the lessons were based upon the teachings of Jesus, and when he was convinced that literacy is the road to economic relief, Gandhi allowed the missionaries and Dr. Laubach to go on with what developed into one of the most extensive campaigns ever waged.

In 1939 Gandhi wrote in the newspapers, "I am converted, I believe that literacy should be required for the franchise. If each one will teach one illiterate we can make India literate in no time."

The new governments, India and Pakistan also realize that illiteracy is their enemy. They have passed compulsory education laws. According to United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, forty million people have learned to read in India, since Dr. Laubach's first conversation with Gandhi.

Now the doors of every nation are wide open. Many governments are actually paying the expenses of the literacy campaigns and furnishing all literature needed. Dr. Laubach has written a new reader with

forty-nine simple lessons based upon the teachings of the United Nations charter and Christian principles. It is called *Making Everybody's World Safe*. Many countries such as Ethiopia, Thailand, Somaliland and Iran are tremendously excited over the transformation that has come in their peoples since more of them can read.

In 1942 the Brazilian government launched a literacy campaign that has since become nationwide. Mexico passed a law in 1945 requiring every Mexican, either to learn to read, or teach someone, or pay a fine. Even the President taught many individuals. In one year one million Mexicans were taught. In 1946 the *Reader's Digest* published Dr. Laubach's lessons in Spanish and offered them free to all who would use them. Several countries ordered as many as one half million each. There has probably been more progress in Spanish America during the last eight years than in any other mission area. Literacy, taught in love, paves the way for evangelism.

Last March, while in Angola, Africa, one of the members of Dr. Laubach's staff wrote, "There is no doubt that God is using literacy as a part of his Divine Plan. It is a means of evangelism which every missionary should use in gospel work. We are more convinced than ever that 'Each one must reach one,' and we go about in the spirit of the old gospel song, singing, 'If you bring the one next to you, and I'll bring the one next to me.'"

Robert Laubach, who has been with his

father on most of his historic trips and helps him in many ways testifies, "In every country the illiterates' enthusiasm to learn is keen. And the thrill for us is always high as we watch hundreds of men and women start up the ladder of literacy, through the primer, and the story of Jesus in preparation for reading the Bible."

Dr. Laubach looking back over these twenty years knows that God has proved beyond a doubt that "... if you think only how I love them, they will respond."

The Battle of the Books

Now that the whole world is on its way toward literacy many forces are willing to take over the field. New governments are working feverishly to give education in order to lift their nations to self-supporting standards. Yet state education without love of Christ will lead to totalitarianism and eventually self-destruction.

Big industries are co-operating in Liberia and other places where technical workers are needed to read and to follow instructions. The Catholic Church, with its customary foresight, is plunging into action. They have changed their age-old policy of the closed book and their missionaries are using the Laubach method in India, New Guinea, and other areas. Secular and other non-Christian groups with their motives too often governed by private gain or personal power are quick to take advantage of a world waking up. Communism will extend its propaganda through literacy in other lands as it already has in Russia. All kinds of subversive organizations are pouring rivers of printed hate, prejudice, crime and filth into lands where there is but a trickle of Christian literature. As Dr. Laubach expressed it, literacy is like a fire, dangerous when misused, as well as beneficial when used for good. Literacy opens windows to bad thoughts as well as good ones; to hate as well as love; to greed motives as well as co-operation; to war plans as well as peace plans. It all depends upon the materials used and the hearts of the teachers. When another billion people learn to read, they will overwhelm the world with whatever their new power opens to them.

Dr. Laubach believes that within the next twenty years this opportunity of 2000 years will be gone. It is now or never if we

More than five hundred Africans are studying in the colleges and universities of North America this year. A special committee of the foreign mission boards in this country serves the various mission fields of Africa to help arrange educational opportunities for graduates of mission schools. Three Nigerian Baptists were graduated from Virginia Union University in June *magna cum laude*; the ordained men now go to Oberlin and the laymen to Columbia University for further training.

—from "It's Happening Now."

are to give Christ to the world. Atheism, materialism, totalitarianism, and other agencies are on the job.

"And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and read the book.

Visual Aids for September

by Mildred Williams

The following projected visual aids may be used as enrichment material with your program during September.

INDIVIDUAL SLIDES*

- Ha 800 Philip Goes to Samaria to Preach (Acts 8:5-13)
- N 231 Philip and the Ethiopian (Acts 8:30)
- Ha 817 Timothy (Acts 16:1-2)
- Ha 818 Paul and Timothy Establish Churches (Acts 16:1-5)

FILMSTRIP

"Sharing the Word with the World"—24 single frames; black and white; with manual; with captions; purchase price, \$2.50. This filmstrip shows Southern Baptist work in a Colombian mission.

* Individual color slides may be purchased in cardboard readymounts for 50¢ each. Other prices are indicated in the descriptions.

Order above materials through your Baptist Book Store.

Order these pamphlets from the Committee on World Literacy and Christian Literature, Foreign Missions Conference of North America, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, New York.

"Coming—A Literate World," price, 5¢.
"We Must Have Christian Literature," price, 5¢.

"Nothing Can Stop It Now," price, 25¢.

Kodachrome slide lectures from the Committee on World Literacy may be rented for \$3. They are made up of colored pictures taken by Robert Laubach on recent literacy tours. There are sets on New Guinea, Korea, Thailand, with scripts for each. When ordering these sets, give several dates when you could use them.

... And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst stood a Lamb as it had been slain. ... And he came and took the book. ... And they sung a new song. Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open ... for thou ... hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation." Selections from Revelation 5:4-9.

Only Christ himself is worthy to open the Book to those who do not have it. "Go ... teach" is still our commission. In his spirit we can win, if we work hard enough and fast enough. We have within our power to share that which will make a literate world not only a safe world but a saved world.

"Lord, Teach Us to Read"

As we consider the tremendous responsibility that Christian literacy brings we must be asking ourselves what we as individuals can do to help open the Book.

The first step may be to pray definitely that all Southern Baptists may be aroused to use every resource possible to help. For instance in a meeting with a large group of denominational leaders last January, Dr. Laubach presented a proposition to the various foreign mission boards to include in their Advance plans a literacy teacher in each area or station.

Let us pray definitely that God will use the thousands of missionary educators now on the fields who are reaching men and women and boys and girls through teaching.

Pray that in the great Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Advance the whole program of teaching, writing, translating, publishing, and distributing may have adequate attention and support.

Pray that out of the 1750 new missionaries that are being called, enough will devote their lives to this special highway of service.

Pray that we ourselves will become more discriminating readers. That we will acknowledge our stewardship of this great power. That we will study more about the advancement and problems of literacy around the world. That we will more thoughtfully read God's Word.

Let the prayer of our hearts today and always join with those of new readers everywhere, "Lord, teach us to read."

BY MRS. B. A. COPASS, TEXAS

"Pray Life"

Christ: The Author of Faith

FAITH'S FIRST IN ORDER

1 FRIDAY "Thy faithfulness is unto all generations: thou hast established the earth, and it abideth"—Psalm 119:90

Rev. Sam T. Mayo and Mrs. Mayo, Atlanta, Georgia, evangelism among migrants; Rev. E. Powell Lee, field secretary for evangelism under Home Mission Board

2 SATURDAY "They continue this day according to thine ordinances; for all are thy servants"—Psalm 119:91

Rev. Lawrence Thibodeaux and Mrs. Thibodeaux, Thibodeaux, French evangelism, Miss Jean Stamper, Good Will Center, New Orleans, Louisiana

3 SUNDAY "For it became him, for whom are all things ... by whom are all things ... to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings"—Heb. 2:10

Rev. I. B. Williams, Tucson, Arizona, Rev. E. C. Thomas and Mrs. Thomas, Alpine, Rev. Eulogio Garza and Mrs. Garza, San Antonio, Texas, Mexican evangelism

4 MONDAY "And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation ..."—Heb. 5:9

*Dr. E. L. Hill and *Mrs. Hill, Canton, Rev. V. L. Frank and Mrs. Frank, Hong Kong, China; Rev. James E. Wood, Jr., and Mrs. Wood, Tokyo, Japan

5 TUESDAY "... whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb ..."—Rev. 13:8

Miss Gladys Keith, New Orleans River Front Mission, Rev. S. T. Smith and Mrs. Smith, Golden Meadow, Louisiana, French evangelism

6 WEDNESDAY "... Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world"—John 1:29

Rev. I. E. Gonzalez and Mrs. Gonzalez, Corpus Christi, Miss Amelia Diaz, San Antonio, Texas, Mexican educational evangelism, Orfalinda and Homer Gonzalez, Margaret Fund students

7 THURSDAY "Christ ... Who verily was fore-ordained before the foundation of the world ..."—1 Peter 1:20

Miss Victoria Parsons, Baguio, Philippine Islands, *Miss Ruth Ford, Canton, *Dr. S. W. Vance and *Mrs. Vance, Pingtu, China, medical evangelism



FAITH'S ENGRAFTMENT (CALVARY)

8 FRIDAY "... God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh ... condemned sin in the flesh"—Rom. 8:3

Rev. E. E. Atkinson and Mrs. Atkinson, Mason, Rev. Isidoro Garza and Mrs. Garza, Abilene, Rev. A. Valdez and Mrs. Valdez, Kingsville, Texas, Mexican evangelism

9 SATURDAY "... Fear not: I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine"—Isaiah 43:1

Pray for Dr. C. H. Bolton, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Foundation, and the state foundations

10 SUNDAY "He that believeth on him is not condemned, but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed ..."—John 3:18

Rev. C. F. Stapp and Mrs. Stapp, Macio, Rev. L. A. Doyle and Mrs. Doyle, Rev. G. C. Tennison and Mrs. Tennison, Campinas, Brazil, language study

11 MONDAY "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men ..."—Rom. 1:18

Rev. Cecil Roberson and Mrs. Roberson, Fort Harcourt, educational evangelism, *Dr. H. B. Canning and *Mrs. Canning, Eku, Nigeria, medical evangelism

12 TUESDAY "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us"—Rom. 5:8

Rev. R. R. Standley and Mrs. Standley, Fortaleza, Mr. and Mrs. D. N. Sharpley, Santa Maria, Brazil, evangelism

13 WEDNESDAY "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen ..."—Rom. 1:20

Rev. W. R. Medling and Mrs. Medling, Kumamoto, evangelism, Miss Lucy Belle Stokes, evangelism, Tokyo, Miss Pearl Todd, Fukuoka, Japan, educational evangelism

14 THURSDAY "... being understood by things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead ... they are without excuse"—Rom. 1:20

*Miss Rebecca Eddinger, *Miss Cornelia Brower, Temuco, Chile, educational evangelism; pray for W.M.U. Seasons of Prayer being held this month for state missions

FAITH'S PERFECT EXAMPLE

15 FRIDAY "...I am the way, the truth, and the life: No man cometh unto the Father, but by me"—John 14:6

Rev. L. M. Gonzalez, Miss Dora Solter, Artemisa, Cuba, Rev. Felix Torna and Mrs. Torna, Buenavista, Miss Juana Rodriguez, Batabano, Cuba, evangelism

16 SATURDAY "...I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness..."—John 8:12

Dr. W. H. Tipton and Mrs. Tipton, Mrs. E. E. Tatum, Rev. L. B. Olive and Mrs. Olive, China, emeritus missionaries

17 SUNDAY "Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me...and ye shall find rest unto your souls"—Matt. 11:29

Rev. W. A. Salesbee and Mrs. Salesbee, evangelism, Miss Theresa Anderson, Rev. W. C. Hunker and Mrs. Hunker, Chinese Language School, Baguio, Philippine Islands

18 MONDAY "According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy..."—Eph. 1:4

Dr. C. L. Culpepper, Sr., and Mrs. Culpepper, Hong Kong, *Rev. R. A. Jacob and *Mrs. Jacob, Pingtu, Miss Irene Jeffers, Chinkiang, China, educational evangelism

19 TUESDAY "If ye love me, keep my commandments"—John 14:15

Rev. S. P. Mireles and Mrs. Mireles, Del Rio, Rev. David Trevizo, Brownwood, Texas, Mexican evangelism; pray that United Nations will build for peace

20 WEDNESDAY "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus"—Phil. 2:5

Rev. W. J. Ferguson and Mrs. Ferguson, Oyo, educational evangelism, Miss Bonnie Moore, educational evangelism, Miss Ernelle Brooks, Abukuta, medical evangelism, Nigeria

21 THURSDAY "...as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation"—1 Peter 1:15

Rev. Heriberto Rodriguez and Mrs. Rodriguez, Ranchuelo, Miss Juana Marquez, Matanzas, Cuba, evangelism

FAITH'S EFFECTIVE MOTIVE

22 FRIDAY "He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief..."—Isaiah 53:3

Miss Lenora Hudson, Miss Annie Hoover, Rev. E. L. Holloway and Mrs. Holloway, Tokyo, Japan, educational evangelism

23 SATURDAY "Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows..."—Isaiah 53:4

Rev. E. G. Crocker and Mrs. Crocker, Rev. C. W. Johnson and Mrs. Johnson, Rev. J. B. Matthews and Mrs. Matthews, language study, Medellin, Colombia

24 SUNDAY "...he was wounded for our transgressions...bruised for our iniquities...with his stripes we are healed."—Isaiah 53:5

Miss Mattie Baker, Sao Paulo, Rev. V. O. Vernon and Mrs. Vernon, Belem, *Dr. S. L. Watson and *Mrs. Watson, Petropolis, Brazil, educational evangelism

25 MONDAY "For the love of Christ constraineth us..."—2 Cor. 5:14

Miss Virginia Wingo, Rome, Dr. Ben R. Lawton and Mrs. Lawton, Turin, Italy, educational evangelism

26 TUESDAY "He shall see of the travail of his soul and...be satisfied..."—Isaiah 53:11

Miss Ruth Pettigrew, Hunan, *Miss Pearl Johnson, Shanghai, China, educational evangelism

27 WEDNESDAY "We love him because he first loved us"—1 John 4:19

Miss Anna Cowan, Nazareth, Rev. B. Elmo Scoggia and Mrs. Scoggia, Jerusalem, Israel, evangelism, Rev. Dwight Lyman Baker and Mrs. Baker, Nazareth, Israel

28 THURSDAY "Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?"—1 John 5:5

Miss Viola Campbell, Torreón, Miss Katherine Skinner, Chihuahua, Mexico, educational evangelism, Rev. J. Wilson Ross and Mrs. Ross, appointees to Mexico

29 FRIDAY "He that hath the Son hath life..."—1 John 5:12

Dr. J. A. Moore and Mrs. Moore, Dr. J. D. Watts and Mrs. Watts, Dr. H. F. Peacock, Jr., and Mrs. Peacock, Zurich, Switzerland, educational evangelism

30 SATURDAY "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift"—2 Cor. 9:15

Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Galloway, Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Russell, Bangkok, Thailand, evangelism

Our World in Books

(Continued from Cover 3) Press. If these are not in your church library, get them for delightful reading.

The Bible Speaks to You, F. C. Stiffler, \$2
The Shrine of a People's Soul, E. W. Smith, paper \$1, cloth \$1.50

Great is the Company, Violet Wood, paper 75¢, cloth \$1.50

Stories of the Book of Books, Grace McGavran, paper \$1, cloth \$1.50

Around the World with the Bible, Rinden, (Juniors) paper 75¢, cloth \$1.25

My Story Book About the Bible, Niedermeyer, (Sunbeams) paper 75¢, cloth \$1.25

These titles tell the amazing story of the way people in various parts of the world have come to know and love the Bible in languages they understand.

Our World in Books

BY THELMA BROWN BURLAND

In connection with the program this month, no doubt many will want to continue to read and study about the worldwide literacy movement. They will want to become better informed on how the story of Christ is given to the world through books.

Have you read or studied Dr. Frank Laubach's story of his own thrilling experiences in *The Silent Billion Speak* (Friendship, paper 75¢, cloth \$1.25). Since 1947 the Committee on World Literacy and Christian Literature (156 Fifth Avenue, N. Y.) with which Dr. Laubach is associated, has issued a series of bulletins each year, *The Newsletter* (8 issues \$1). These contain letters direct from the fields of operation. They describe intimately and enthusiastically the projects Dr. Laubach has led in. Now more than sixty countries have been reached.

Within the past five years this same committee has published at least a dozen folders and booklets by Dr. Laubach about the literacy movement. These are either free, or cost a few cents. (See page 30 in this ROYAL SERVICE.) The latest is a sixteen-page booklet, *Literacy as Evangelism* (25¢). It is Dr. Laubach's stirring report of this last year, in which he makes an impassioned plea for Christian churches in America to use these two missionary opportunities together. To me, this pamphlet is the most impressive and challenging of all I have read on the subject.

For those who would like to know more about this program of Christian literacy here is a list of materials used either by those who conduct the campaigns or by the new readers themselves.

The Highway of Print, by Ruth Ure, Friendship Press, \$2. This is a worldwide survey of the production and distribution of Christian literature. It was made in 1946, by the author who is now a co-ordinator of literature between the mission boards and the Indian and Pakistan Christians. It shows that an amazing new day for Christian literature has dawned. This makes a most urgent challenge to modern

missions. This is a book for every missionary and a valuable reference for all who have any part in the plans for mission work.

Teaching the World to Read, by Frank Laubach, Friendship Press, \$2. In irresistible lan-

guage and with graphic illustrations, Dr. Laubach explains the methods he uses and the results he has had in fighting mass literacy in many countries. This would be a fine M.R.T. book.

The Story of Jesus. This series of twelve sixteen-page booklets is the simple gospel story, written for adults. It is used with astounding success as the second reader in teaching new literates in mission areas. A gift of twenty-four colored pictures and a fund for printing them, has enabled the committee to produce attractive covers and illustrations to fit any language. Eighty thousand sets of eight covers each have gone to eleven countries. Over a million booklets are now in print in twenty-three languages, and at least ten more are in process of publication. For many thousands of new readers their first book is not only the gospel truth but the most beautiful book they have ever seen. (Not in print at this time for use in the United States.)

Making Everybody's World Safe is another literacy primer with forty-nine lessons based upon the United Nations Charter and the principles of Christianity. It is used in areas where governments and other agencies prefer this approach. It is aimed to enable the student to read newspapers, magazines, and books with ease. (Not in print at this time for U.S.A.)

There are two easy to produce non-royalty plays, also published by the Committee on World Literacy and Christian Literature. *To Speak of Freedom*, 25¢, a presentation of the changes that took place in a Mexican village when the people learned to read. *They That Walked in Darkness*, 25¢, a portrayal of the way in which the Indians are learning to read.

These materials are by no means the only ones available to show how Christ is presented to the world through books. Our own Baptist denomination has made progress in varying degrees in every mission field. There is also the great body of literature produced by the American Bible Society, and the graded series of books published by Friendship (Continued on page 32)



W.M.U. PROGRAM TOPICS

1951 Theme:

God Is Moving—Who Can Hinder?

AIM: To arouse an awareness of the mighty and triumphant movement of God in today's world

JANUARY

God Is Moving—Who Can Hinder?

Aim: To create a new consciousness that God moves through each of us in working out his plan of world redemption

FEBRUARY

If

Aim: To show what we can do or what we could have done in the Annie Armstrong Offering

MARCH

Go Quickly and Tell

Aim: To show the urgency of daily personal witnessing

APRIL

Yearning Youth

Aim: To show how God is working in the hearts of youth today—our responsibility and opportunity

MAY

Women Undergirding the Spread of the Gospel

Aim: The story of the work of Woman's Missionary Unions on the mission fields at home and abroad

JUNE

Stirrings in Middle America

Aim: To show how God is moving in the Caribbean Bowl

JULY

The Continuing Price of Freedom

Aim: To show the danger to freedom in our own land

AUGUST

Mighty Movements in South America

Aim: To show the Advance Program of Southern Baptists at work in South America

SEPTEMBER

Parallel Progress in Stewardship

Aim: To show the need to match personnel of Advance with faithful stewardship

OCTOBER

Preparation for the Purposes of God

Aim: To show how the training of a National Leadership is spreading the progress of Kingdom advancement

NOVEMBER

Whither Asia?

Aim: To show how in the midst of tragedy we see God at work in China, Japan, Korea, Arabia, India, and other Asiatic countries

DECEMBER

Where Advance?

Aim: The World? The Homeland? The Community? The Individual?