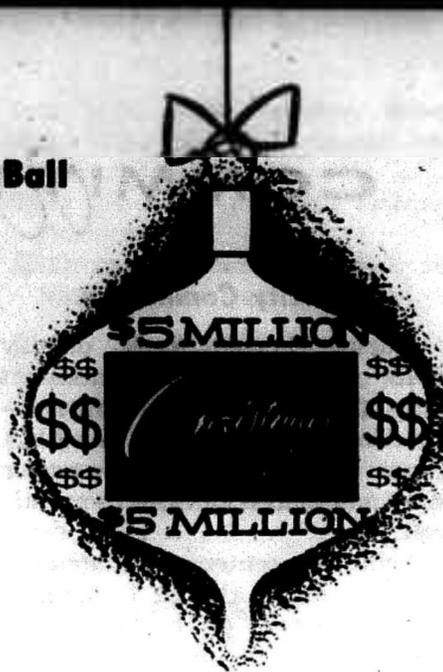


Predictions With a Christmas Ball

Forecaster predicts this month that WMS members will do less Christmas buying this year and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering will exceed \$5,000,000!



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Forecaster

Prepared by Margaret Bruce, WMS Director

Madam President

WMS FOCUS WEEK

The primary emphasis of WMS Focus Week, January 12-17 will be soul-winning visitation. Get ready for this all-important undertaking. Do your spade work for WMS Focus Week.

- Read article in December *Royal Service* on WMS Focus Week, also this entire *Forecaster*.
- Ask pastor to meet with your executive committee for planning.
- Discuss aims for week.
- Discover ideas for achieving aims.
- Assign responsibilities to committees.
- Carry out plans for successful week.

THIS MONTH

Madam President—
WMS Focus Week
Committees at Work
Mission Study on Africa
What Are Some Needs?
Promote the Use of the
Prayer Calendar

Christmas Wish-Fors
Continents Calling
Youth

To Be Continued
The Stars Forecast
Guiding the Child

COMMITTEES *work*

Publicity Committee

1. During Focus Week display WMS Aims for Advancement Chart (50c from Woman's Missionary Union, Birmingham 3, Ala.) It may be mounted on large poster board and placed on easel in prominent place.
2. Print first sentence of statement of each aim in church bulletin if pastor desires, of course. You would want to omit the word "through" and the how-to part each time.
3. Have placard in every adult Sunday school classroom with the following printed attractively:

WMS—the missionary organization
for women

Place of meeting
Date Time

4. Construct WMS exhibit as shown and explained in December *Royal Service*. Place in church vestibule on Sunday and in prayer meeting room on Wednesday evening.

Community Missions Committee

Prepare for soul-winning visitation during Focus Week. Have training class for soul-winners. *Helping Others to Become Christians* (50c from your Baptist Book Store) may be used. Ask pastor's advice.

- (a) Stress importance of messenger preparation:

Faith in Jesus Christ

All known sin confessed, forgiven, cleansed

Know steps in conversion:

Conviction of sin—Romans 3:23
Repentance of sin—Luke 13:3
Confess him as Saviour—Matthew 10:32

Desire to obey and live for him—
John 15:14

Know sinners' objections and some answers.

Pray and depend on Holy Spirit for power.

Seek decisions for Christ.

- (b) Have ready names, ages, addresses, and other available information concerning those to be visited

- (c) Assign partners, go two by two.

- (d) Have tracts to leave in homes.
- (e) Help converts know what God expects in church membership and Christian witness.

- (f) Seek to enlist new Christians in church activities.

- (g) Keep good records of results of visits.

Prayer Committee

Promote the nine o'clock prayer time or choose another hour for Focus Week. Organize prayer groups or partners to pray for those who are lost and those doing soul-winning visitation. Encourage members in family worship to pray for soul-winning efforts.

Promote attendance at mid-week prayer meeting.

Encourage Intercessory Prayer League members to pray for all Focus Week plans.

Enlistment Committee

Have committee ready to give membership folders (order from Woman's Missionary Union, Birmingham 3, Ala., 20c doz.) to women who join the church at the Sunday services on January 12. Arrange for brief but challenging messages on WMS work to be

given in women's Sunday school classes or in adult Sunday school and Training Union assemblies if superintendents agree.

On Sunday evening place a few members of committee at Woman's Missionary Society exhibit; give out membership folders to unenlisted women.

Program Chairmen Fundamentals Chairmen Youth Directors

At close of Sunday evening or Wednesday evening services during Focus Week conduct WMS tour. Guides in each room will, of course, be the committees responsible for their part of the tour. At close of tour you may want to serve punch and cookies. Go from room to room in which the following displays have been arranged.

Room 1. World Awareness—Place on wall travel posters from all parts of world; on one table have books chosen from *World in Books*, copies of *Royal Service*, on others WMS Round Table books. Hang on door the general missionary program theme for year. Present monthly topics with attractive placards (see September *Royal Service* or WMU Year Book, page 47, for topics.)

Room 2. Spiritual Life Development—Use picture of praying hands superimposed on large world. Display *Royal Service* calendar of prayer, pictures of Lottie Moon and Annie Armstrong (25c each from Woman's Missionary Union, Birmingham 3, Ala.), dates of weeks and season of prayer, also themes, and books on prayer.

Room 3. Christian Witnessing—Make poster or streamers: *To Win Souls, To Meet Other Spiritual Needs in Community*. Display such pictures as mission Sunday school classes, hospitals, Good Will Cen-

ters, jails, Bible, religious literature. Have posters of special emphases for year:

The Christian and the Alcohol Problem

Ministry to Minority, Racial, and National Groups.

Room 4. Sharing Possessions—Decorate room with dollar marks, stewardship slogans, tithing and Cooperative Program leaflets, streamers, and posters. Display book of the year, *God's Wealth and Ours*, price 50c from Baptist Book Store.

Room 5. Educating Youth in Missions—Use YWA, GA, and Sunbeam Band emblems, manuals, GA Forward Step awards, youth magazines, and all other available materials (see WMU Year Book.)

MMS MISSION STUDY ON AFRICA

Have circles studied Continent in *Commation* at their October and November meetings? If so, they will find the final plans on cover 3 in December *Royal Service*. You will no doubt wish to encourage circle mission study chairmen to finish their safari in fine order. Have everyone read Dr. Patterson's timely book. Tighten up plans for this to be accomplished.

Now look toward your home mission study. The book is *The Long Bridge*, 50c, available from your Baptist Book Store after December 10. Place your order now.

The Long Bridge is a picture of
(Continued on page 7.)

WHAT ARE SOME

Needs?

"We will seek to develop an appreciation for all people."

During the past quarter you have been studying Africa. You have seen a continent in commotion. Community Missions and Mission Study Chairmen, have your members felt the heavy heart beat of a people in bondage, seeking freedom? Freedom from ignorance, freedom from superstition, freedom from oppression are desired by Africans whether in Africa or in the United States of America.

Now that your study is over, or almost over, how successful was it? Did it help you develop a greater appreciation for the Negro people? Has it set you and the other members of your society in motion, causing you to act differently toward the Negroes in your home, your community?

"Southern Baptist women can help to prepare the people in their communities for the implementation of the Supreme Court's decision concerning integration in the public schools. No better service can be offered than to conduct with Christian decorum discussion groups and study classes.

"If we believe it is possible to be Christian in race relations, now is the time for Baptist women to lend their influence in this new area where common sense, understanding, and Christian integrity are essential"—*Guide for Community Missions.*

Let us keep our attitude that of Christian sisters and not one of superiority of class or color.

In your efforts to help the Negroes, plan together with the president of a nearby Negro WMS or

the pastor of a Negro Baptist church, or the principal of a Negro school.

What are some needs?

A mothers' club with lessons in preparation of food for invalids, for babies and growing children?

Classes in simple elements of sewing, studies in home care and decoration?

Classes in first aid, information about good citizenship, law observance, and the alcohol problem?

A Christian community center providing a day nursery and playgrounds to aid the Negro working mother?

English and Bible classes, night school, an employment exchange service, simple medical care?

Classes for maids, cooks, and practical nurses, sewing classes?

Music clubs and choir work, a branch library, Bible classes and a vacation Bible school of longer duration than a regular school?

Books, religious and theological magazines for Negro pastors?

Training classes for Negro Baptist leadership in mission study classes, classes in stewardship, in church finance, soul-winning, and methods of organization?

Better recreation facilities instead of liquor stores, dance halls and pool rooms which are centers for crime?

A Reminder to Community Missions Chairmen—The Christmas holiday season is an excellent time for you and your committee to activate the fourth and fifth Christian standards in the WMU Plan of Work.

High standards of conduct, speech, and dress. With the rush of Christmas shopping it is easy to become impatient with the crowds and inconsiderate of those whose work is heavier at this season.

Promote high standards of conduct and speech with Christmas Shopper's Slogans. At WMS circle meetings have members of your committee march by slowly with banners on which such slogans are printed: "Smile, bring a lift to the clerks." "Listen—enjoy the soft music in the stores." "Be grateful for the bells of the Salvation Army." "Appreciate the Christmas stars on city streets." "Keep the feeling of Christmas wonder and loveliness in your heart."

Remind the members of your society that there is no place for pushing and fussing in high standards of Christian conduct and speech. You can lose Christmas with too much shopping, too much cooking, too much decorating, too much card addressing—though all are good Christmas customs.

The fifth Christian standard is law observance. Death takes no holiday. Every holiday the death totals soar higher and higher. Read this statement by President Dwight D. Eisenhower and help promote law enforcement:

"I have a deep conviction that the United States can do anything to which 160,000,000 citizens set their hearts and minds. We know that we cannot solve the traffic accident problem in one day; but we can—and must start doing a better job. I appeal then to every American to help demonstrate that we can—by our own personal efforts—reduce accidents on our streets and highways. Let us see how many highway deaths and injuries we can prevent by obeying traffic regulations, following sim-

ple rules of good sportsmanship and courtesy, and staying alert and careful, whether driving or walking."

Distribute leaflet "Fight Holiday Traffic Hazards" free from National Safety Council, 425 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago 11, Ill.

PROMOTE USE OF THE

PRAYER Calendar

In some societies the president is requesting that the prayer chairman at the beginning of each meeting have a brief meditation period when she gives stress to prayer and the use of your prayer calendar. The following ideas from Mrs. T. A. Patterson of Beaumont, Texas may be helpful to you. Look in your December *Royal Service* to see arrangement Mrs. Patterson has used.

Arrange real or artificial grapes across bottom and up one side of picture frame, allowing fruit to spill out on table. If a real frame is used, a piece of styrofoam fitted across the bottom, will hold arrangements as you stick stems into foam. Write carefully the verse given for that day on Call to Prayer and place in the proper position. Into capsules put the names of the missionaries for the day, with a bit of information about each if possible. These capsules are easily prepared by puncturing one end, knotting a 6- or 8-inch florist's wire, and wrapping base of capsule and wire to make a green stem. Florist's tape is easiest to use for this purpose. Arrange among grapes.

At exactly the hour for beginning, as quiet music is played, read the Scripture verse and tell the

PRAYER CALENDAR

(Continued from page 5)

story in your prayer calendar for that day. Then have designated women open the capsules one at a time and pray for the missionaries. The leader will close the prayer.

Or use magnolia or other large glossy leaves in the frame. Leaves of a contrasting color will give a balanced effect. Try skeletonized leaves available wherever artificial or dried flowers are sold. Attach on the backs of the skeletonized leaves small paper leaves of matching color. Write on leaves the names of missionaries. The leader proceeds as suggested above; or pray before reading the Scripture verse, and follow with a musical benediction.

Another Idea: Along with leaves or colored flowers, place in a frame letters addressed to the missionaries for the day. (See Directory of Missionary Personnel, free from Foreign Mission Board, Box 5146, Richmond 20, Va.) The woman who chooses a name not only will pray for that one, but will write later a brief appreciation letter on the blank note paper in the envelope. If there are more than three letters, the others should be placed in a shallow basket, a letter holder, or a container which fits the arrangement.

Other suggestions: At Christmas use bells, stars such as are used in tree decorations, toy sheep, etc., each with a Scripture verse and music.

Christmas WISH-FORS

Stewardship chairmen and prayer chairmen do you wish for a Lottie Moon Christmas Offering large enough to:

- Supply adequately all the allocations in the 1957 goal?
- Take care of all needs which had to be placed on the "over and above" list?
- Enable the Foreign Mission Board to enter new mission areas all over the world?

Wise Ways to Realize These Christmas Wish-Fors

- Prayerfully and intelligently plan publicity which will inform the whole church membership about your goal and the progress made in reaching it.
- Urge every member of your WMS to clear calendars of all engagements which might interfere with the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions, December 2-6. Make this a week of individual and united prayer for missionaries and for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.
- See that Lottie Moon Christmas Offering envelopes are provided for all who want to have a part in making these wishes come true. The envelopes may be placed in church pew racks if this is your church plan.
- Make the offering ingathering a worshipful experience.



Asia

Have you ever lived in a rented house that your family had long since outgrown, and you were fairly bursting at the seams? It was such a shabby place that you were really ashamed to invite your friends for a visit? Then, after years of waiting, you acquired a lovely new home that had ample room for family, and as many friends as you could invite. That is what happened to the Beirut Baptist Church. Through the Lottie Moon offering they have a beautiful new church building that brings honor and glory to the cause of Christ in Lebanon—Mrs. Finley Graham.

South America

Lottie Moon is a well-known name in Colombia. The women in Woman's Missionary Union study the story of her life in Colombia as we do in the United States. More widely known is the offering each year that brings new buildings, new equipment, scholarships, and advancement to every phase of the work.

Last year most of the appropriations for Colombia were for the International Theological Seminary. That request had been so urgent that it was on the very top of the list. It had been easy to agree that that was our greatest number one need for Colombia. Since 1948 Colombia has not received any evangelistic mission-

See Call to Prayer in December Royal Service for other needs as told by missionaries. The prayer and program chairmen in the circles will find all these useful in talks and devotional meditations in the circles.

aries. Therefore, training of the national pastors and workers is an imperative to meet the needs of the increasing number of churches being organized in spite of persecution and limitations. Now we can build on the beautiful property located near Cali. Now the Seminary can anticipate meeting in its own buildings instead of the educational building of the church. Now the Seminary can get underway on its real destiny that holds the whole future of the evangelization of Colombia in its hands.—Mrs. Gerald Riddell.

MISSION STUDY: AFRICA

(Continued from page 3)

the Home Mission Board's program of work among the Negroes in our country. This is a fine follow-up of the African study. Your members will be thrilled with this forward-looking work by Southern Baptists.

Other books which you may wish to order for this study:

For YWAs—Look, Look, the Cities by Albert McClellan, 50c

For Intermediate and Junior GAs—A Roving Report by Terry, 50c and The Cherry Children by Brown, 50c

For Sunbeams—Jesus is My Friend by Woodson, 50c

Available from your Baptist Book Store after December 10.

Youth

To Be Continued

Last year when YWAs had alumnae get-togethers many of them commented, "Oh, wish we could continue these—they have been fun!" So, why not help YWAs to do this? Perhaps a glimpse at the purpose and plan of these meetings would be helpful. (YWA director will find them in December 1956, *Window of YWA*, pp. 9-10.)

YWAs might like a sewing party for themselves and alumnae. Set up a centrally located room as a sewing den. Place two or three sewing machines there.

YWA members are continuing their service projects this year. Keep before them a growing interest in the new hospital in Ghana. Have sewing parties for clinical packets to be used there. YWA director, see December *Window of YWA* for information.

—Doris DeVault, YWA director

The Stars Forecast

The stars forecast events of importance! Parents should stress to GAs the bringing to Girls' Auxiliary of a worthy Lottie Moon Christmas Offering during the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions.

By giving a gift of *Tell* to a daughter, a Junior, or teen-age friend you will be "starring" missions for a whole year—twelve issues—for only \$1.50. Give *Tell* to a GA-age (9-15) girl who is not a GA and in missionary activities. Order now. *Tell*, 600 North 20th Street, Birmingham 3, Alabama, mark GIFT.

A check with individual coun-

selors or GA director may reveal needs: more manuals, more *Tell* subscriptions, more *Forward Step* materials, and other supplies. (See *WMU Year Book* for prices.)

The Christmas season lends itself to festive occasions. Fostering circles can provide a social feature at a circle meeting, a regular GA meeting, or at a special time. Urge each auxiliary not to skip a single meeting because of the rush of the season. Help GAs remember why we have Christmas and whose birthday it is and the proper way to observe it, in worship and adoration, as did the shepherds and Wise Men of old.

—Betty Brewer, GA director

Guiding the Child to Give

The meaning of giving money should be translated into concrete terms for young children. Money helps to build churches for Indian children like Maxie and Nicholas who enjoy hearing about Jesus. Money pays for tickets on airplanes, boats, buses or trains for teachers, doctors, nurses, and preachers to go tell boys and girls like Adu in Africa the story of Jesus.

Parents can help:

—by using familiar Bible verses: "God loveth a cheerful giver."

"O give thanks unto the Lord for he is good."

—by providing Primary children with an allowance to spend as they choose.

—by giving four- and five-year-olds the money to fill their mission banks for the Lottie Moon and Annie Armstrong offerings and the WMU state mission offering.

—by conversation at family worship about why we give money and what it buys so that others may know about God and his love.

—Elsie Rives, Sunbeam Band director