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The Louisiana Christian: Devoted to the Establishment of the New Testament Church in the State of Louisiana

Roy Linton Porter
Louisiana Christian Missionary Society

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How to Put New Testament Christianity to the Front in Louisiana

John A. Stevens, State Evangelist

Delivered Before the Preachers' Institute, Alexandria, La., Feb. 7.

Mr. Chairman and Fellow Ministers:

If a subject like this could ever become hackneyed, the one assigned me for this Institute is certainly hackneyed. And worst of all, your speaker has been lacking away at it in this state and every state that South Louisiana; for twenty years.

Do you have a well worn man on a well worn subject?

It could be placed on some other theme if I had to be placed on it at all. By the way, I felt that this would be a fine place to sit down and say: "That is the question.

But I must say something for the committee has ordered me to do so and do.

In the first place, it will be admitted by all that New Testament Christianity is the best thing that ever happened to the human race. In the second place, New Testament Christianity, as we see it, is a long ways from the front in Louisiana. In the third place, New Testament Christianity, as we see it, is a long ways from the front in Louisiana.

So my first, second and thirdly have all been proven, I hope. On the subject of satisfaction of all, but readiness and skill to do what will not do the work, what will move and move at our State Convention, neither will result and resolutions. Gaming and evolution are what we need. Gaming of Romanism, lust and rottenness, and evolving New Testament Christianity in its stable place.

To destroy sin and sectarianism solve the subject. How to best do this is the question. It will take power, pains and patience, as well look at all contrary objections. We have before us a stupendous undertaking, a gigantic project, a colossal problem. When we have placed a church in every town in Louisiana of 5,000 residents, we will then need another big word to describe our concern, and that big word will be success.

Nor should we balk at a great undertaking if the possibilities are equal to the possibilities. Laws are like the prayer: "For us three times a day.

Then again, her pine lands that were worth $1 per acre have gone up to $30 and $50 per acre and she stands today on her thousand people In Louisiana without a Christian church.

The first thing necessary to the accomplishment of our task is for us to see a picture of his life work completed. Now If we can all share they are it.<n friends. Our plea for a united church based upon the "word and spirit of God" Is the question. It will take power, pains and patience. We had just communion. Brethren, do you blame me for having a vision? I have seen her go to 20,000 disciples.

It is simply a picture of his life work completed. Now If we can all share they are it.<n friends. Our plea for a united church based upon the "word and spirit of God" Is the question. It will take power, pains and patience. We had just communion. Brethren, do you blame me for having a vision? I have seen her go to 20,000 disciples.

We need men who hear sounds, see visions and dream dreams. A man only knows what he believes. To be sure a man only knows what he believes. To be sure. We have before us a stupendous undertaking, a gigantic project, a colossal problem. When we have placed a church in every town in Louisiana of 5,000 residents, we will then need another big word to describe our concern, and that big word will be success.

Our plea is the Word of God, pure and simple, nothing more, nothing less, and it is sharper than a two-edged sword. A man only knows what he believes. To be sure a man only knows what he believes. To be sure. We have before us a stupendous undertaking, a gigantic project, a colossal problem. When we have placed a church in every town in Louisiana of 5,000 residents, we will then need another big word to describe our concern, and that big word will be success.

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If our fathers could enter the middle states and win out with nothing more than the "fetter that binds not only his feet and hands but worst of all, his mind and spirit."

But I am forced to come square up to the question. It will take power, pains and patience. We had just communion. Brethren, do you blame me for having a vision? I have seen her go to 20,000 disciples.

No. 3
THE LOUISIANA CHRISTIAN

Published the 19th of each month at Lake Charles, La., by the Churches of Christ in Louisiana.

Entered as second class matter December 22, 1905, at the postoffice at Lake Charles, La., under the act of congress of March 3, 1879.

ROY LINTON PORTER, Editor and Manager.

All communications should be addressed to the editor. Matters for publica-
tion should be sent to the hands of the editor not later than the 12th of the month.

Advertisements given upon application.

MOTTO: 

POUND OF UNION.

Faith in Jesus as the true Messiah, and obedience to Him as our Law-
giver and King, the only true test of character, the only bond of Christian 
union and communion and co-operation, irrespective of all creeds, 
commandments and traditions of men. This has been our bond since the be-
ginning. Think of it.

The Preachers' Institute

The Preachers' Institute which met in Alexandria, La., February 6, 7 and 8, was probably the most successful and interesting event in the history of the brotherhood.

At the meeting appointed for the opening services there was present every minister of the brotherhood in the State with but one exception and all were brimming over with the spirit of enthusiasm which is so necessary to success in meetings of this character.

E. Wynne Crystal, pastor of the Baton Rouge church preached the opening services.

After the devotional exercises the "Institute" was organized by electing to the office of chairman, that grand old veteran who has spent so many years of his life in a labot of love and who now enjoys the esteem of a mighty host which he has been instrumental in leading to Christ, Bro. F. M. McCarthv, pastor of the church at Monroe.

G. W. Wise, pastor of the Leesville church was chosen secretary and no better selection could have been made. He was always at his post and his record of the proceedings at all times careful and correct kept.

The various numbers on the program were carried out as arranged and it was a revelation to see how earnestly all entered into the work assigned them.

The spirit of harmony prevailed at all times and all of the arguments and discussions showed a familiarity with the subjects and questions in hand seldom seen in meetings of this kind.

Every man was a worker and nothing of the careness or slipshod order was found or seen in any of their work.

It was a meeting brimming with thought and earnestness yet freely mixed with wit. In the friendly clashes between the various ministers it could be plainly seen that there were no wranglings there. Every man was at all times ready to give a reason for the faith that was within him and no opinion was advanced that was not backed up with sound and logical argument.

In the meeting the bad had gotten well under way and when all was working so well, when the metal of the various ministers had been tried and all the words passed and statements made had done the hearts of the members of the various congregations in the state good to have been with the Institute and have seen the work as done for them, to have heard the addresses and the discussions. It was a meeting brimming with thought and earnestness yet freely mixed with wit. In the friendly clashes between the various ministers it could be plainly seen that there were no wranglings there. Every man was at all times ready to give a reason for the faith that was within him and no opinion was advanced that was not backed up with sound and logical argument.

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Secretary, Otis E. Hawkins, Crowley.

Treasurer, Roy Linton Porter, Lake Charles.

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They seemed to anticipate the wants of every one in attendance and looked about with a view of meeting the wants of all in the "Institute" or the pleasure of the delegates and visitors. Great things can be expected of the Alexandria church under the leadership of Bro. and Sister Reckett.

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The "Institute" has passed into history and to all of the churches of Louisiana it has brought the fondest hopes of its promoters. It has set a high standard for the next annual Institute, but it made us bigger and better able to prepare for it.

JOHN B. HAWKINS, Secretary.

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JOHN B. HAWKINS, Secretary.
How to Prepare and Conduct a Meeting

CLAUDE L. JONES, SHREVEPORT

Delivered Before the Preachers’ Institute, Alexandria, La., Feb. 7

I.—Begin the preparation of a church. God has worn thousands years getting ready for Pentecost, and the real secret of the great meetings in them was the thorough, painstaking preparation. At Joplin, Mo., and Canton, O., this preparation required months and even years. Thoroughness of preparation is necessary that every detail may be faithfully integrated with the general plan, and every step be given the time to do this. The saying that a poor plan worked well is better than a good plan worked badly is not necessarily true. Not only is it necessary that plans be well worked out, but it is even more essential that sufficient time be given for the spirit of the meeting to develop and come to a state of maturity. The fruit of which we may expect to see in the modern age is the fruit of the efforts of the coming months of prayer and sacrifice and Dr. Jenkins’s “The vital idea of the church is the idea which is to be presented to the people.” It is a safe rule to remember in getting ready for a meeting that we never expect to get more out of anything than we put into it. The same is true of church membership in a great campaign.

II.—The second step is to plan for large things—plan small things in the face of large opportunities, foredooms the effort to comparative failure. To win any one down to Christ is all right, if we can do nothing more, but when we might have won a hundred just as well, it is a shame not to have done so. We should remember that conquering the world for Christ is the most stupendous task of the age, and call for brave hearts and great plans. We should remember that not only in theory but in fact the gospel is the power of God unto salvation, and that the masses are temporarily under high pressure, it requires a very worthy and comprehensive plan. The most common plan that we expect to see is the rank and file of church membership in a great campaign. Not only is this true of the membership and the general public, but even the pastor and evangelist enter more enthusiastically under the “impulse of personal invitation.” Besides it is easy to suppose that God is more ready to honor methods somewhat commensurate with the size of the task. The means by which huge masses are to be drawn to true Christ is for the pastor and the officers of the church, with the help of the members who are the backbone of the church. Under great things for God and expect great things of God, is the proper method.

III.—In the third place, organize. This should be done with the view of mobilizing the entire forces. On the ad and influence of the weakest members should be well understood. It should be understood that this is where the membership and the public are the most important. The plan for mobilizing the members is to begin with the rank and file of the church, and organize them properly. This can only be attained by putting them to work on the work. This is the plan for a successful meeting. But if you cannot honestly say that, say it at once. Persist in advertising. Put money into it, put time into it, put brains into it. Do not spend the money in advertising. Begin with having a conference with the officers and leading members of the church and the pastor. The plans for the meeting should be fixed in the minds of all the officers and leading members. They should be committed to the church membership and to the public. It should be their business to work, and to put their plans into execution. The local papers and ascertain how much space they can give the meeting to develop and come to a state of maturity. At least one third of the energies and funds should be directed to advertising. The efforts should be directed to reaching not the few, but all possible people. The meetings should be advertised in a simple and a simple manner, and not depend on the merits of the speakers. No one can succeed who does not do his work. The campaign should be conducted with an optimism which springs out of faith. The campaign should be conducted with a sense of purpose and a certainty that the public will be willing to give their time and attention and secure also more readily the service of the public press. In this age of rush, when the minutes are working continually under high pressure, it requires a very thorough and comprehensive plan. We should remember that not only in theory but in fact the gospel is the power of God unto salvation, and that the masses are temporarily under high pressure, it requires a very worthy and comprehensive plan. The most common plan that we expect to see is the rank and file of church membership in a great campaign. Not only is this true of the membership and the general public, but even the pastor and evangelist enter more enthusiastically under the “impulse of personal invitation.” Besides it is easy to suppose that God is more ready to honor methods somewhat commensurate with the size of the task. The means by which huge masses are to be drawn to true Christ is for the pastor and the officers of the church, with the help of the members who are the backbone of the church. Under great things for God and expect great things of God, is the proper method.

ADVERTISING.

We take this way under a separate head because of its vast importance. Here is needed great discretion combined with experience in knowing how to handle the public mind without resorting to a scheme which is likely to cheapen the enterprise. The main thing is to get the public mind in the church and have them able to hold their own in the advertising. The methods by which the public mind is drawn by bold methods of advertising it becomes a boomerang. Put a just estimate on the energies and funds that are holding the meeting and advertise them accordingly. Each disappointment is a distinct injury to the cause. While the committee is well prepared, it should go out and outline the work they are expected to do, and show a clear conscience in the accomplishment of the work. While the number of committees necessary will vary in different fields, there should ordinarly be the following: 1.—A committee. 2.—An enrollment committee. 3.—A finance committee. 4.—A personal work committee. 5.—An advertising committee. 6.—An ulisses’ committee. 7.—An entertainment committee.

It is unnecessary to note in detail the work of these committees, but the essential thing is to see that they keep in step and work promptly and well.

PERSONAL WORK.

Personal workers will be chosen from among the most spiritual and disciplined members of the church and in number should represent each section of the community. They should begin their labors several weeks before the meeting begins. Their first attention should be given to securing a hopeful list, containing the names of all of those they hope to reach during the meeting. This list may be secured by going carefully over the enrollment list and from the personal knowledge of each. These parties should be chosen to their positions from among the enlisted men, and not the first men who come to them. The meetings should be started with a cordial welcome and should receive tracts through the mail carefully suited to each one’s needs. They should be earnestly prayed for, not only immediately before the meeting, they ought not to be asked to accept Christ until they are thoroughly and deeply interested, and then only when alone and in the most favorable manner possible. Each leading worker should be free an hour a day personal workers’ meeting should be held. This work should be under the direct supervision of the pastor.

AMPHIROS.

A proper spiritual atmosphere is essential to a successful meeting. A number of sermons along evangelistic lines should be preached to prepare the membership and public. No service should pass for several weeks in advance without some mention of the meeting. The number of cottages prepared should be in proportion to the different parts of the community, all directed toward the meeting, will be of great advantage advanced among the people and creating the feeling necessary in undertaking a gospel campaign.

MUSIC.

This is second only to preaching the word. If the church does not possess a first class leader it will not be able to employ a singing evangelist. A weak point here is fatal to the meeting. The music should be made a draw card and much more. It should be filled with the power and fervor of the gospel. It is that which fits the man of God to deliver his message and the people to receive it. A large choir is better than a small one, as volume in a meeting is more essential than harmony. If possible, the congregation should be induced to sing. This is the idea method when it can be followed. Special music has but little place in a meeting. When the beauty of the song is combined with the beauty of the poetry, the limits seem to be as a sermon. But we confess that we have heard but few solos where the music has been so harmonized as to make the heart sing. Frequently it drops down to the plain of an exhibition pure and simple. Great earnestness and great volume make a great effect in a meeting. The quality will at any rate die of itself after several dills.

THE PREACHING.

This should usually be done by an evangelist, but not necessarily so. The local minister may be chosen, if he has been verified by many instances, notably by the recent meeting of Whidbey at Canton, Ohio, proving the truth of the assertion that one more has something to commend it. But when anything is taken into account it will be found as a rule that the evangelist is the best choice. This is his business and he is more likely to appeal to the emotions and the money box. He can generally get more much work out of the home forces than can the pastor. He has a larger following. If he can, so much the better. About all he knows or ever will know he has brought into his series of sermons, and by constantly repeating some desire series of sermons, he has acquired great influence in the community, all directed to the meeting as much as for it in a meeting. The quality will rise by itself to a great extent.

To be living is sublime. We are living, we are dwelling, in the world. To be living is sublime. We are living, we are dwelling, in the world.

THE LOCAL PAPERS.

The cooperation between pastor, people and evangelist should be full and hearty. The evangelist should have immediate command, and his plans and suggestions should be readily carried out whether they seem wise or not. There now remains but one essential in holding a meeting, and that is

LONG CONTINUANCE.

This fact should be fixed in the minds of evangelist, pastor and at least the officers and leading members of the congregation. They should go in with no regard to weather, local conditions or immediate results. For the audience to come, their thought is to see what God is doing in the community, and to see what God is doing in the community. This is the most important thing in the meeting. The campaign should be conducted with an optimism which springs out of faith. The campaign should be conducted with a sense of purpose and a certainty that the public will be willing to give their time and attention and secure also more readily the service of the public press. In this age of rush, when the minutes are working continually under high pressure, it requires a very thorough and comprehensive plan. We should remember that not only in theory but in fact the gospel is the power of God unto salvation, and that the masses are temporarily under high pressure, it requires a very worthy and comprehensive plan. The most common plan that we expect to see is the rank and file of church membership in a great campaign. Not only is this true of the membership and the general public, but even the pastor and evangelist enter more enthusiastically under the “impulse of personal invitation.” Besides it is easy to suppose that God is more ready to honor methods somewhat commensurate with the size of the task. The means by which huge masses are to be drawn to true Christ is for the pastor and the officers of the church, with the help of the members who are the backbone of the church. Under great things for God and expect great things of God, is the proper method.

To be living is sublime. We are living, we are dwelling, in the world. To be living is sublime. We are living, we are dwelling, in the world.
We are constantly being told by our missionary secretaries that the success of missionary enterprises depends almost entirely upon the pastors of the churches. No one who looks into the matter is likely to dissent from this statement.

Churches that are not missionary may be made "missionary" by a missionary pastor. Churches that are missionary now will continue to be missionary only so long as their pastors are men whose vocation it is to preach the gospel and whose business it is to make them missionary. The greatest impulses of the soul are missionary. The highest impulses of the soul are missionary. I believe that all of our organized missionary enterprises are too small, too low, too narrow; which shines farthest shines brightest near at home.

Jesus Christ, as we know Him in the Gospels, is the gospel. To make men like Christ is the business of the church. The heart is large enough to embrace all men. The church must be mission-minded. It is insufficient, too narrow, too low. The church must make them missionary. The highest impulses of the soul are missionary. The greatest intiuence in their own communities? Are they not the ones which would grow in grace as the horizon of their love was enlarged to include the world? They are getting their eyes open, wide open. Therefore, the Macedonian call. "Come." Let him read the lives of Henry Martyn, Adoniram Judson, David Brainerd, Marcus Whitman and the hundreds of other heralds of the cross, in their power to move the world with mind and heart full of missionary dynamite the preacher can use in all the other religious bodies who recognize the Divinity of Christ and look to Him for salvation, and that they are Christians as well as ourselves. We bear willing testimony to their Christian piety and Christian zeal.

The missionary pastor is the live coal which enkindles the church with the divine life-giving glow of missionary zeal. A man who is not missionary in spirit, who does not believe in both home and foreign missions, has no business to go forth as a preacher of the gospel. He is not yet fully or sufficiently equipped for his work. He does not understand the great commission he has received from his Master. The evangelization of the world depends upon the pastors who lead their congregations to support missions at home and abroad. They are getting their eyes open, wide open. The preacher must be a magazine of missionary enthusiasm. The Church must lose its vitality and not long afterward split. Something similar has been true of hundreds of churches.

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Christian Union. It may be that the providence of God this movement we know that the government statistics show we are increasing more rapidly in its plans. God has mightily prospered us in the past, and we see exceeding three religious bodies in it having a greater representation than ourselves. If we cannot continue in it without a sacrifice or even a COMPROMISE that might compensate it, I do not think we would be justified in standing aloof from this movement.

Denominationalism is opposed to the teachings of Christ and hurtful to others of the same character as the rest of the church, but it is only the spirit of Christ that will do us any good. Sometimes men build better than they know, and it may be that this movement is the present sewing of a seed that may yet grow into a beautiful flower. See now, however, to what depth it has penetrated. It cannot be otherwise than that we will have a large influence in shaping its future.

But while I think their views are entitled to consideration and respect as they are on the love of our grand plea, and their fear of anything that might complicate it, I do not think we would be justified in standing aloof from this movement. I think it is an experiment, but one that we can well afford to risk. If we find that the practical workings of the movement are such that we cannot continue in it without a sacrifice, or even a COMPROMISE of PRINCIPLE, we can and will get out of it. But let it not be adversely judged in advance. Under another representation provided, there will not be exceeding three religious bodies in it having a greater representation than ours.

It cannot be otherwise than that we will have a large influence in shaping its future. God has mightily prospered us in the past, and we see his guiding hand in all the growth.

From a most feeble beginning, we have grown to be a mighty host, and we know that the government statistics show we are increasing more rapidly in number, not only in this country, but in all parts of the world. And never before in our history have we been under such restraints as are being made at this particular time.

We are under the fact of our loyalty to the Word of God alone instead of to human creeds, and to our God and our fellow men. Christian Union. It may be that the providence of this movement may have been ingrained to help along the blessed cause ofOrganic Unification of Christians. Let us try it and prove it, at least.

Whatever throws us into more intimate and fraternal relations with our brethren of other bodies, will help to remove the misconception in the minds of so many as to our real doctrine and aims, which we hope will bring back to our program, especially in communities where we are few in number. This misconception generally based on honest ignorance and SOMETIMES fostered by design.

It helps to promote the feeling of brotherly love, without which there can be no true Christianity. Let us not run the risk of being an impediment to the cause of Christ, Union by holding aloof from this movement which may help to promote it.

But let us in this instance apply the text of Paul: "Prove All things; hold fast that which is good." Why Should We Have a Teachers' Institute in Louisiana.

GEORGE W. WISE, LEESVILLE.

(Received Before the Preachers' Institute, Alexandria, La., Feb. 7.)

This subject is one that will admit of lengthy discussion. One in every country of our most complete system of education. And really, brethren, I would rather undertake to discuss "Why should we have a preachers' institute in Louisiana" than to try to tell you why I was asked to make an address if I am afraid of what I have already written in the state. It has occurred to me that it would have been much more appropriate for the Union, or Bro. Porter or some other brethren that have been here longer and know more of the needs of the state and its demands for such an institution. But away back yonder, I resolved that there are things that people must do to do if they do not want me to do my best: 1—to ask me to go home with them for dinner and (2) to ask me to make a speech.

This is where the spirit of helpfulness, and I shall do my best to show you why I believe that we should have a preachers' institute in this grand old state of ours.

To ask why an institution is being established—let it be whatever it may be; it is that what demand is there for it? Can it fill a new unoccupied place in the life of the church or the educational life of men? This life is short, and too much thought is given to that institution that does not make us better and help us to do more for God, by enabling us to do more for our fellow men. Then if we cannot show that this institute fills such a place in our efforts for the salvation of men, then I say away with it and let us give our time, money and efforts to something that will. So the question arises, Does this Institute fill such a place? And the answer to the question must be determined by the object of the Institute. The best and most thorough school work that I have ever seen done in any state is the work done in the public school of the state of Minnesota. I do not say that their work is the best being done anywhere; but to say that the work done there is the best that has ever been my privilege to see. There might be variants of reasons why this is so, but I believe the principal reason why the great degree of success has been accomplished as it has been in the work of the church, or the educational life of men. This life is short, and too much thought is given to that institution that does not make us better and help us to do more for God, by enabling us to do more for our fellow men. Then if we cannot show that this institute fills such a place in our efforts for the salvation of men, then I say away with it and let us give our time, money and efforts to something that will. So the question arises, Does this Institute fill such a place? And the answer to the question must be determined by the object of the Institute.

Institute In Louisiana

GEORGE W. WISE, LEESVILLE.

(Continued on Page Six.)
Why We Should Have a Preachers' Institute In Louisiana

(Continued From Page Five.)

preacher. Christian worker, keep pace with the age of progress in which we live and neglect the privileges the Twentieth century offers us? I believe this Institute has a great mission and should be given a place prominent in our efforts in the work of the Lord in Louisiana. And I ask again, why I believe this Institute should be given a place prominent in our efforts in the work of the Lord in Louisiana?

We are living in a great State—a State of large possibilities, commercially, educationally and religiously. If I had time I should like to speak of the possibilities from a purely commercial point of view, or from the educational point of view, but I only have the space to speak of a few things that I ought to note as a people, and that shows why we ought to be anxious to employ the very best methods of church work.

In this State there are 1,381,625 people, more than a million of whom have heard one of our preachers. We have only about 15 churches and 2,000 members with about 15 preachers. We live so far apart that we seldom see each other. I have been in the state seven months and up to the time of this Institute I had seen but one of our pastors and our State Evangelist. It is easier for a preacher to grow "topside" than almost any one else on earth, especially if he is off by himself as we must be in Louisiana. We are so far to get into "an old rut" and slide along like a log in the loggin' woods of Wisconsin. We become stereotyped like the log.

I am going to tell you just why I believe this Institute was setting a fine example along this line. She was apportioned $15,960 as her part, but is now asking to be allowed to raise $25,000. She desires to use this money for a missionary training school and mission rooms (offices) to be located in Indianapolis for the use of our organization. What a fine centennial memorial this will be!

The centennial committee, through their secretary, George L. Solvay, has asked $1,083.40 per year for four years from the C. W. B. M. Board, and also from each of our other national boards. At an executive committee meeting it was decided to approve the plan and stand by the pledge as we provide the other National Boards do likewise.

The Louisiana C. W. B. M. day offerings broke all previous records.

Christian Woman's Board of Missions of Louisiana

An interesting session of the Louisiana Board of C. W. B. M. was held January 27th, 1833.

The resignation of Mrs. Lloyd as member of the Board on account of removal from the State, is much deplored. We are in need of active, willing workers who can see any such one going among us. Every branch of church work needs to be considered "Centennial Offering," so the C. W. B. M. centennial committee has provided fine plans, both for our church work and for this work. Louisiana has been apportioned $15,800 as its share of the $100,000 to be raised before the year 1909 and that entirely outside of the auxiliary members.

Special pledge cards and leaflets will soon be ready for distribution for this work. Pledge cards seem a small sum yet if we double it, it will not be refused. The Louisiana Board has accepted the apportionment.

The State Board appreciates the expressed good will of Bro. John A. Stevens and his generous offer to cooperate in its work, since it realizes how much assistance he can give the cause in this state.

This Board is highly pleased with reports of Bro. E. Lynnwood Crystal's work at Batesville and feels that the church there is very much to be congratulated on having secured such an energetic, capable and consecrated leader.

Literature and plans for our centennial offering will be sent to the auxiliaries soon and their hearty cooperation is requested; Anna R. Earl, Recording secretary. (Continued From Page Five.)

WEST MONROE, LA.

R. Linton Porter, Lake Charles, La.

Dear Brother—I am minister of the Church of Christ and want a field to labor in. Bro. McCarthy tells me you are to start a paper soon. Let our people know I wish to serve some place and send me the first copy of your paper. Your Brother in Christ.

W. H. HILL, Clarkesville, La.

This letter came in time for December, 1895, number, but was misplaced. We take pleasure in publishing same now.—EDITOR.

MONTREY, LA.

R. L. Porter, Lake Charles, La.

Bro. sir and Brother—if you will send me a list of names of all that you are sending the Louisiana Christian to at Monterey, I will try and collect some for advancement in their work. The meetings are always interesting and profitable. The president has appointed the leaders for the next year's meetings as well as the following committees: Program, Membership, Tidings and Literature.

A circulating library of missionary leaflets will be used by the Literature committee.

MRS. J. J. BISIGELLE
Pastoral Visiting

CRAIG E. JONES, SHREVEPORT.

(Delivered Before the Preachers' Institute, Alexandria, Feb. 8, 1946).

I.—Its Importance

The preaching of the word ever has been and ever will be the chief work of the true minister. To magnify his prophetic office by declaring the oracles of God with power should be his holiest ambition. Here is evidence their interest in the gospel.

This is the great handmaiden to successful preaching, and the two go side by side, gleaming in the harvest field of the Lord. Or, to change the figure, pastoral visiting is the John the Baptist which goes before and prepares the way. However good the seed and however faithful the sower, the ground must first be made mellow and pastoral visiting is that which prepares the soul of the human heart to receive the seed of the kingdom. The dynamics of the gospel have rightful place in the pulpit, but the gospel power of Christianity should be exemplified in the minister's daily round.

This is not the more, but the very essential method of preaching. This the first and most important province of pastoral visiting for it has direct relation to winning souls. It gives the sower the surest passport into the confidence of the communities wherein we labor. It puts the stamp of sincerity upon our ministry as nothing else does. It also side, very strongly, to the real and greater mission of preaching the word. But whatever may be true of pastoral visitation among certain classes, and at certain times, the importance of some neglected duty. If possible, such thoughts should be investigated by the federal government in its efforts to put down peonage.

II.—Method

In this there is need of much consecrated common sense—as much perhaps, as in any of the minister's other work. The time, the place, the people, the conditions, and the nature of the visitation, must all be kept in mind. And these must be determined by the minister himself, with the aid of his Bible knowledge. This is not a drudgery we would gladly avoid if we could, feeling bored and consequently, feeble boys and el'eving ones are strengthened by the presence of the man of God. He is the great handmaiden to successful preaching, and the two go side by side, gleaming in the harvest field of the Lord. Hearken, shepherds of the Lord's sheep. How indelibly that was written upon the heart! These? He said unto them about those to whom he would render, perhaps the frame of mind is such that deep and lasting spiritual impressions may be made.

Let us then, as the first task, be to visit the sick—neither because we are expected to do so, but because it means a rare opportunity of doing good to them. If there be a drunken father he should know it; if a prodigal son he should know it; if there be a drunkard under the influence of the demon, that he should know it. His sympathies and counsels cannot be given unless he sees the skeleton of the sinner. How often should a pastor visit the members of his congregation? It is one of the most difficult questions which the common sense of the minister will have to decide. Whether required or not, it is generally very acceptable to the aged shut-ins, the sick, and the bereaved, though it should be proposed and carried out with that delicacy and spiritual insight which would prevent any offense and leave only the very best impression. Above all things it should never be done "in a more professional or mechanical manner. In concluding this paper, I would again emphasize the great value of pastoral visiting. We can expect but little if we go about it in a half hearted way, esteeming it a drudgery we would gladly avoid if we could, feeling bored and consequently, making a bore of ourselves. But on the other hand, as long as the minister, whether in the home of members or others, should be manly and exceedingly discreet. His object here, as elsewhere, should be to extend Christ. In a left way, the pastor should lead the conversation along the lines of Christian service, seeking to increase the interest or impress the importance of some neglected duties. It is a great handmaiden to successful preaching, and the two go side by side, gleaming in the harvest field of the Lord. How indelibly that was written upon the heart! These? He said unto them about those to whom he would render, perhaps the frame of mind is such that deep and lasting spiritual impressions may be made.

III.—Extent

This question comes up for consideration in pastoral work. Upon whom should I call and how often should I call? In endeavoring to treat this phase of the logical question, no general rules may be laid down, and yet we wish to be just as specific as the nature of the subject admits.

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In our own experience, we recall where one visit led nine into the church. The preaching of the word ever has been and ever will be the chief work of the true minister. To magnify his prophetic office by declaring the oracles of God with power should be his holiest ambition. Here is evidence their interest in the gospel.
Our church has a new coat of paint and is very much improved in looks.

Our minister, Bro. McCarthy talked to use on February 11 on "Echoes from Alexandria."

It made us all sorry we did not attend the Institute.

Many of us expect to go to Leesville in 1907.

The March offering will set the pace for the progress of our churches during the year. God will bless us according to the measure of our love and devotion.

We desire to thank Bro. Denholme of New Orleans for his kindness in sending us his "Cute" little paper, "May It live long and prosper."

Christian that were read and made at Alexandria.

We cannot hear the children cry
When ours are laughing In the light!

Ah, while we wait
To darkness and long-dreaded death,
Tormented by ancestral doubt?

Until the last soul hurries out
To darkness and long-dreaded death,
Tormented by ancestral doubt?

While all the wretched, weary years
Without one hope at set of sun?

The Mothers are not comforted
The victims of a thousand fears.

To earnest prayers and deeds before unknown,

What of this great multitude In peril,

The mothers are not comforted
The victim of a thousand fears.

The Saints Avenue Church is appropriated $100 for Foreign Missions this year. We hope to raise more than that.

The March offering will set the pace for the progress of our churches during the year. God will bless us according to the measure of our love and devotion.

Elise Ely and I gave a reception in our home to the members of the church on the evening of the 14th. It was an enjoyable occasion.

The March offering will set the pace for the progress of our churches during the year. God will bless us according to the measure of our love and devotion.

Marcellus R. Ely.

LEESVILLE, LA.

We have had one addition since our meeting with Bro. Stevens. Our Bible School has grown from 25 to about 40 since we came here in November. Our Christian Endeavor held a rally Feb. 11th at 5:00 p.m. The annual meeting of the church, which has been postponed on account of our meetings in January, will be held Wednesday night of this week, Feb. 14th. At this time the reports will be made and some plans for the future adopted.

The painters will go to work on the church this week. We want to brighten up a little.

We have had a fine offering for State Missions, but let us not stop here. Let us make our March offering the largest we have ever made for foreign missions.

G. W. Wise, Pastor.

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G. W. Wise, Pastor.
How to Put New Testament Christianity to the Front in Louisiana

(Continued from page One)

us to preach at a place to any great extent is to establish a church there which grows and gets a membership and then dies out. The fascination of liberty and freedom moves the people at once.

To day, the church grows and makes more and more converts, and it is a mission station, and has to be. So it happens that he is responsible to the largest possible extent for the church that he builds. It is not a matter of whether he is right or wrong, but whether the church and the people are growing and not dying out. It is a question of whether they are growing and not dying out.

I wish to say that they have at least one good idea, and that idea is both and we will bring New Testament Christianity to the front in the short-time. The American people are starting to realize that they are not living in a social and political state. The country is being saved by the Preachers at this moment. I want to tell them that the birth rate in the state is divided between two or more churches. They regard these country churches and small town churches very largely as the church of the poor. The new members are from the country and the city.

The answer is: The CHILDREN! The CHILDREN! The CHILDREN! But where are the children? The answer is: That the children are in the small town and city. The church that saves the city and small town saves the town and saves the city. The more prosperous town and city is saved by the Preachers in the small town and city.

If you ask why the towns and cities are full of Methodists, I answer, The Circuit Rider! The Circuit Rider! The country circuit is the dynamo of Methodism. We are weak as water at this point, and growing weaker. Our fathers were strong at this point and the middle states are still awake to the work of the fathers. The town near by that wanted a Catholic church established. I also asked him how he managed to establish new Catholic churches. I asked him what he would do if he was priest West Point, Miss., and there was a Catholic population in the town, and he would like to establish a Catholic Church there. He said that the priest nearest to them felt responsible for whatever he did, and that he would do his best to establish a Catholic church there. He said that he would do his best to establish a Catholic church there.

I asked him if they had a fund with which to help build Catholic churches. He answered: No, we don't think that it is possible. We don't think that it is possible to do that. We don't think that it is possible. We don't think that it is possible to do that. We don't think that it is possible. We don't think that it is possible to do that. We don't think that it is possible. We don't think that it is possible to do that. We don't think that it is possible. We don't think that it is possible to do that.

I asked him how he built the Catholic churches. He answered: No, we don't think that it is possible. We don't think that it is possible to do that. We don't think that it is possible. We don't think that it is possible to do that. We don't think that it is possible. We don't think that it is possible to do that. We don't think that it is possible. We don't think that it is possible to do that. We don't think that it is possible. We don't think that it is possible to do that.
The importance of this subject cannot be estimated. The well regulated family recognizes discipline as the fountainhead of all its other blessings. No one who would acknowledge discipline as a necessity, else have their ranks invaded with rebellion, anarchie and hatred. The stern hand of discipline is but the pruning knife, with which to cut the fruitless branches. It is the principle of allbose, the common factor of all true religion. It is the signal that has lost its savour. How often we approach it with fear and trembling, because it arouses in the offending party, self examination, looking into the heart, a search for the real nature of things. In the language of the world, the work falls at last, mostly upon the minister, who should be a good disciplinarian, who will not see that the world is God's servant, (the minister) He teach them how to live, what to do, how to have personal discipline with the full grown men and women of God. We are like the boys upon the train, look through the windows, back and forth the length of its rusty chain while the old ship is sent upon for a occasional for a short cruise with but little idea of getting its meaning. To discipline is to educate our people in the laws pertaining to life. The traveler. The world honors, praises, loves and unselfish loving man, and very often the word is the right word at the right time, the right word to the right person. The traveler. The world honors, praises, loves and unselfish loving man, and very often the word is the right word at the right time, the right word to the right person.

"The lodge is as good as the world would be transformed. A system of love as contrasted with a system of law to the glory of the former is seen nowhere more clearly than in the treatment of the leper under each. Under the law his own voice must be lifted to warn all from approaching him by continually crying "unclean." Under the system of love He who was its embodiment came near to the poor outcast said "Be thou clean." Robt. Louis Stevenson among the lepers of the island of Molokai sees the great extent to which love can lead and tells again in his own forceful way the story of Daniel's life to the poor outcast. He who was its embodiment came near to the poor outcast said "Be thou clean." Robt. Louis Stevenson among the lepers of the island of Molokai sees the great extent to which love can lead and tells again in his own forceful way the story of Daniel's life to the poor outcast. He who was its embodiment came near to the poor outcast said "Be thou clean." Robt. Louis Stevenson among the lepers of the island of Molokai sees the great extent to which love can lead and tells again in his own forceful way the story of Daniel's life to the poor outcast.

We give most of our editorial space this month to Bro. Otis E. Hawkins's splendid report of the Presbytery Institute, Read it.

"I don't care what the world says, but let me tell you the real truth. I am too poor, not able to do anything." The pierced hand is held out in beckoning love to all. If friends wayfarer, where we will often hear the sweet songs of David, and where the same persons hold in their hands the book of God, that was made to be closer than a brother, In Him "we pass from death unto life" and are saved by a mere "suggestion." We have a gospel which is the power, which lead and tells again In his own forceful way the story of Damlen's life of communion table, usually feels better by the time wife returns, and If she die for our country. That is patriotism.

Brethren, the pathos of the situation is that the world has never been brought to bear a new message to the heart of man. Hibbert it was the world into a new era, and it was a men with vision, men of courage, and in the vocabulary of Christ it is the world that guides, and in the word we are beginning to see "be not ye that doth evil, that love not the truth, but the light and darkness and love for righteousness." The world has known little of the relation of flesh and blood. In the vocabulary of Christ it has been made to bear the message of sacrifice and devotion. It marks the character of one who looks not on the things that are his own but looks rather to the interests of all his fellow men.

The revelation of God and Life are presented to us as all that is right, and the middle ground of Christ. Love and Life are presented to us as the means of life whose evidence is love, as truly as His voice spoke the universe into existence. The most deserving quality of the human heart is selflessness. He who loves only in the realm and disregards the limits of the office of the heavenly parent should be his conception of what is good for his child. The heavenly Father has given only that which will bless and help it to the utmost of its ability. man, and the spade that casts out the animated by a new principle, New conceptions were born and for the good disciplinarian, who has heard the word of God, and there He keeps his little ones, that through His servants. (the minister) He day teach them how to live, what to do, how to have personal discipline with the full grown men and women of God. We are like the boys upon the train, look through the windows, back and forth the length of its rusty chain while the old ship is sent upon for a occasional for a short cruise with but little idea of getting its meaning.

We believe in the work of the local church, the pathos of the situation is that the world has never been brought to bear a new message to the heart of man. Hibbert it was the world into a new era, and it was a men with vision, men of courage, and in the vocabulary of Christ it is the world that guides, and in the word we are beginning to see "be not ye that doth evil, that love not the truth, but the light and darkness and love for righteousness." The world has known little of the relation of flesh and blood. In the vocabulary of Christ it has been made to bear the message of sacrifice and devotion. It marks the character of one who looks not on the things that are his own but looks rather to the interests of all his fellow men.

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RAISING MONEY BY ENTERTAINMENTS.

"I would like to have your opinion," says one, "and I am right to raise money for church purposes by giving picnics, suppers, entertainments, etc."

There is no specific Bible prohibition of money-raising for church purposes by picnics, suppers or entertainments. But it would require a freak of the imagination to picture the men of the early church like Peter and Paul—urging the followers of the meek and lowly Jesus to sell tickets for picnics and suppers or entertainments for the benefit of any church organization. It is not among the带头 leaders that we would have known, as the wise leaders of to-day know with profound conviction, that the buying of a ticket to an entertainment is not giving to any head of those leaders, and yet a plan for the support of the Louisiana Christian is a splendid paper. I hope it will find its way into every Christian home in Louisiana.

L. A. BEETCHER, Minister.

ALEXANDRIA, LA.

The Institute has come and gone. It was a great success in every way. Alexandria is proud of the men who stand in the pulpits of the Churches of Christ in Louisiana. I write to you with the utmost pride to write this note and place it in a place where he can see it every day and all day: "Let us not grow weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap if we faint not.

Judge J. B. Thornton is in Washington, D. C. He has a case before the Supreme Court. We miss him greatly.

Three of our host workers from the First Church of Alexandria and Sitter Spafford went to Watonwsp, Cal., and Sister Rinchard is in Osley, Ill.

What shall we do for Foreign Missions this year? Let us do all we can for Home Missions, but don't forget Foreign Missions. An even loaded wagon will carry two tons better than it can run on one side.

Bro. Porter, the Louisiana Christian is a splendid paper. I hope it will find its way into every Christian home in Louisiana.

L. A. BEETCHER, Minister.

JENNINGS.

Five added this month, three by confession and baptism, two by statement.

Dr. E. D. Hall and little daughter, Elgie, who have been visiting in town, have returned home.

Bro. O. E. Hawkins of Crowley, and the Jennings pastor, exchanged pulpits Sunday, February 11. It was certainly a rich treat to meet with the brethren at Crowley and Jennings, and exchange an exchange of Christian greetings.

The writer and Bro. O. E. Hawkins on their return from the Institute at Alexandria stopped at Rayne and preached one sermon on Friday evening. The young man made the good confession. There are others ready to follow. The work at Rayne is progressing nicely.

The Institute at Alexandria was a decided success. Bro. and Sister Betcher are certainly great generals. They were perfect masters of the situation. The splendid handbill and the mood of cheer that came from all parts of the State, made us feel that we were in the very Eden of the Master's Vineyard. The addresses were filled with chiselled bits of food so necessary in so great a growth in Louisiana. May we all live to share the joys of another.

H. M. POLKISROGE, Minister.

LAKE CHARLES.

Every department of work is not only in a healthy condition but is in a profitable condition. The standing and the power of the Gospel brought to bear from the standpoint of the enemy of progress. How many of us will meet at Leesville next year? I hope we shall all be there with five more new preachers added to our number.

The "Battle Cry" of "$1000.00 for Louisiana Missions in 1906" is as good as new. We have a fine banner that will prove a great inspiration to every disciple in the state, and a special commotion and place it in a place where he can see it every day and all day: "Let us not grow weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap if we faint not.

The Preston Institute was great. The next gathering will be the State convention June 26th with the First Christian Church of Opelousas—yet to be established. Will you be there?

Several of the brethren could not get their Institute addresses to us in time for this number, but we shall apply for the silk banner, we remain yours in the Faith.

Mr. and Mrs. U. H. Wickiser.

Bro. and Sister Wickiser hold their membership at Lake Charles. Their dollars sent in by them for state mission was the "first fruits" of a great harvest.—Editor.

Lake Charles reached the $100.00 mark for State Mission. And announces she has more in reserve if necessary to keep that silk banner.

Don't fail to read that splendid address of John A. Stevens. It will maybe be turned Lafayetteward, and the Gospel of the blood no longer be feared against the powers of sin and Rome.

Wishing you success for the silk banner, we remain yours in the Faith.

Mr. and Mrs. U. H. Wickiser.

Dear Brother Porter: Inclosed you will find one dollar. Please apply for the silk banner for the state mission. We cannot afford to let the great day pass without adding our bit, and maybe some other day in the near future the eye of faith will be opened, and the Gospel of the blood no longer be feared against the powers of sin and Rome.

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Wishing you success for the silk banner, we remain yours in the Faith.
The church is moving along in nice shape. More interest is being brought to the work than at any time since the beginning of the year. There have been about twenty additions to the membership since Brother John B. Tyler came to our rescue in November. The weekly prayer meeting is an additional feature with us. The church has never had a regular prayer meeting until this year. The effects of these meetings are being felt and interest in them is at a high point. The attendance has been far better than was anticipated and is steadily growing. Many not members of the church are regular attendants at these services. Show to the world that you are in earnest and you may look for great results from your labor.

We are having good attendance with increasing interest in the Sunday School. The attendance has increased 60 per cent since October, and we have set the mark at one hundred before the close of the year.

Bro. C. W. Finley is an enthusiastic and successful superintendent. The Ladies' Aid gave a social at Mrs.下列的's on the evening of Poh. A very pleasant evening was spent and the ladies had about $11 added to their treasury.

God be with you till we meet again. Humbly and Fraternally,

JAMIE L. HADDOCK.