Christian Plea, January - December 1947 (Volume 54, Number 5 - Volume 55, Number 4)

Merl R. Eppse

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Dr. Walker Elected President of Bank

Negro Ministers' Institutes Being Held

The first of the 1947 institutes for Negro ministers of the brotherhood is being held at Lexington, Ky., in the East Second Street Church, Jan. 22 and 23. This is the first of eight such institutes sponsored by the departments of church development and evangelism and religious education of The United Christian Missionary Society in cooperation with the National Christian Missionary Convention. The institutes are under the direction of C. L. Parks, director of evangelism for the National Convention.

The institutes this year will emphasize the local church goals of the Crusade for a Christian World. With Mr. Parks in the Lexington Institute are Edwin L. Becker and Edward Russell, both of Indianapolis. Mr. Russell is bringing three sermons on the subject, "A Resurgence of Christian Life," the emphasis of the Crusade for the year 1947.

Other institutes are planned for Tulsa, Okla.; Dallas, Tex.; Montgomery, Ala., Brooklyn, N. Y. Martinsville, Ga. and Goldsboro, N. C. These will run on through the middle of March. In the fall it is planned to hold the final institute at Southern Christian Institute, Edwards, Miss.

—Christian Evangelist.

I wonder why our staff does not send releases to their own paper—The Christian Plea—

Prof. Merl R. Eppse, Editor.

Read the Plea

National Woman's Planning Conference Held

L. Ruth Patterson

The enthusiastic welcome of Women's Missionary Society of Second Christian Church began when Mrs. Daisy Dean of Little Rock, Arkansas arrived on Thursday Afternoon December 5, 1946. The courtesy continued to be in evidence until the close of the meeting on Saturday following luncheon at Mrs. John A. Towns, National Women's President. Every possible convenience was planned and Rev. and Mrs. R. H. Peoples assisted in all the ways they could to make it convenient for the women while attending the conference.

The conference began on Friday morning at 10:30 at Planner House, with Mrs. A. L. Martin of Chicago bringing the devotional message. There were representatives from five states. Mrs. Bernice Holmes, Oklahoma; Miss Fenton Hamilton, Mrs. A. L. Martin, Illinois; Miss Lee, Ohio; Mrs. Sarah Jones, Mrs. Elizabeth Moore, Kentucky; Mrs. Daisy Dean, Arkansas; and Mrs. Mary Johnson, Mrs. Martha Galloway, Mrs. R. H. Peoples and Mrs. Baker, Indiana.

On Friday afternoon and evening special presentations were made on the "Crusade For A Christian World" by Mrs. R. A. Dean, Vice-President of United Christian Missionary Society; "Women's Work In The Crusade," Miss Jessie M. Trout, Executive Secretary Missionary Organizations; "Missionary Education Study Materials," Miss Genevieve Brown, Executive Secretary Missionary Education and a special report by the Ambassadors of Good Will, Mrs. Rosa Page Welch.

(Continued on Page 2)
Dr. Walker Elected President of Bank

(Continued from Page 1)
disciple workers to send him letters of appreciation for his ability to lead and his course to launch out in this
choosen field.

Provisions are available for one to
make deposits by mail. The Christian Plea joins all other disciples in wishing
him and his new venture God’s blessings and continued success.

NATIONAL WOMAN’S
PLANNING CONFERENCE

(Continued from Page 1)

Mrs. Bernice Holmes, Oklahoma and
Mrs. Rosa Page Welch, Illinois led the devotional on Saturday morn-
ing at the home of Mrs. John A. Towers for the final session.

The conference proved to be very
inspirational as well as informative. The women enjoyed the fine fellow-
ship and power of united minds and
hearts for one great cause. Thus we
came to the closing prayer of our
last session on Saturday December 7, 1946. The final fellowship was
around the luncheon table with Mrs.
John A. Towns hostess.

MISSISSIPPI BOULEVARD
CHURCH WINS 1945-1946

LOVING CUP

The report as presented to the Na-
tional Women’s Plannng Conference, in December by Mrs. L. Ruth Pat-
terson, National Director Missionary Organizations showed that the Mis-
sissippi Boulevard Christian Church, Memphis, Tennessee, met all require-
ments for the Cup. The President of
this Woman’s Missionary Society was Mrs. Katie S. Yarbrough, 1945-
1946. The Loving Cup was held by
the Indiana Avenue Women’s Mis-
sionary Society of Chicago.

All Women’s Missionary Societies are urged to participate in the con-
test for the Loving Cup. The women
of the Plannng Conference in De-
cember approved the continuation of
this effort.

LOVING CUP REQUIREMENTS

1946-1947 are:

1. That the society shall hold twelve
(12) regular meetings, with pro-
grams using the current study ma-
terials or other suitable materials.

2. That the society shall hold twelve
(12) Executive meetings.

3. That the president or some mem-
ber of the society participate in
some meetings which give oppor-
tunity for personal enrichment,
and leadership development.

4. That quarterly reports shall be
sent to the National Director of

MISSIONARY ORGANIZATIONS (Mrs. L. Ruth Patterson) and also state
secretary (where requested).

5. That the society shall be repre-
sented in the State and National
Convention.

6. That the society must sponsor at
least one (1) organization for
young people and children.

7. That the society which gives the
largest amount above the giving of
last year, according to its mem-
bership, shall be awarded the Lov-
ing Cup.

Loving Cup Committee

Mrs. C. E. Craggett, Chr.
Mrs. E. G. Titus
Mrs. A. L. Martin

World Fellowship
Youth Meets

ARKANSAS—TENNESSEE

May 9, 10, 11, 1947—Little Rock
Arkansas

Mrs. Daisy Dean, Bi-State Direc-
tor

KENTUCKY

District 2 & 4; February 21, 22,
23, 1947—Lexington, Ky.

District 3 & 6, March 7, 8, 9,
1947—Place to be selected.

Mrs. Edith Bristow, State Di-
rector.

OKLAHOMA

March 28, 29, 1947—Oklahoma
City, Oklahoma

Mrs. Era Holmes, State Direc-
tor

Gay Street

Christian Church

Elder H. G. Fleming, Pastor

Mrs. H. E. Braden, Reporter

We are happy to make a report
of Gay Street Church for the month of
December. The church is moving
on splendidly under the leadership of
our pastor, Elder H. G. Fleming. He
delivered another series of inspiring
sermons which were truly apostolic.

On the second Sunday in De-
cember, the Missionary Society observed
Woman’s Day, jointly with the Lea
Ave. Society, at Gay Street.

The speaker was, “The Christian and
Race.” Mrs. Ethel Walker, president of
the Gay Street society presented
the speaker. Mrs. Dora White, presi-
dent of The Lea Ave. society, and
Mrs. Richard Petway, secretary of
the Gay Street Society, had charge of
the offerings.

On the fourth Sunday, The Lay-
man’s League met at the church and
Dr. O. L. Hambrick delivered a

forceful and impressive message on

The church is launching a rally,
which will continue through Easter.
The purpose of this rally is to raise
funds, including its quota to the Na-
tional Convention. The amount to be
raised is $500.00. We are looking
forward to a great and prosperous
year for the church in 1947.

Cross St. Christian Church

Rev. O. B. Garner

2018 Denison Street

Little Rock, Arkansas

Cross St. Christian Church’s Min-
ister completes two years of service.

Highlights of Activities:

New members received in the
Church were forty-five (45)
Purchased beautiful parsonage and
spacious grounds.

Reroofed the Church

Total money raised $11,292.73.

The Second
Christian Church

Rockford, Illinois

Mrs. Algie Carey, Reporter

For some time you have not heard
from the Second Christian Church in

Rockford, Illinois. Under the lead-
ership of Rev. F. B. Bradley, our
Church is doing fine. I will tell you
some things we have done in the past
year. Our Pastor was with us one
year in November and we have work-
ed together and put over some good
programs.

In September, under the leadership
of Brother Bradley, our Church spon-
sored Wings Over Jordan. Both races
enjoyed it, and it was a great suc-
cess financially.

Two of our members attended the
National Convention in Brooklyn,
New York. They were Mrs. F. B.
Bradley and Miss Harriett Tucker.

Our Church has purchased prop-
erty in the South section of Rock-
ford where most of our people live.
Our plans are to erect a Church
building there, where we now have
five apartments.

Professor Eppse was in our ser-
sives last September and spoke in the
Morning service. He was here to ad-
dress the Sorelle Club at the Booker
Washington Center. He was enjoyed by
both the members of the Church
and of the Center.

We ask the prayers of the entire
Brotherhood that our Church may
live and grow, and that our plans may
be carried out.
Corinth Christian Church
Kiligore, Texas

Rev. P. C. Washington, Pastor
Mrs. Almeta Henderson, Reporter

As we come to the close of another year's task, we find that we had a very successful one. We face together a sick, weak, and greatly disturbed world. A world of worst conflict than we have ever known. A world where sinful men are having great hatred, prejudice, and ignorance. The world needs God with his mighty power of redemption through all the hardships.

The Church did fairly well during the year of 1946. All reports were made in a Council meeting on last First Sunday from all the organizations. The Church clerk, Brother Orell Daniels made a very splendid report of our year's work. He is doing a splendid job. I am much pleased with the Missionary work that the Church did in the last year, but we always can do more and are hoping to do more in 1947. Pastor Washington is always on his job and at his post of duty. We had a very appealing service on the Second Sunday. We had one person to confess Christ and one was added to the Church, Sister Lucile Daniels. May God bless her to the most high. The little Rev. Brown of Jarvis College usually preaches on each Fourth Sunday, which is youth day. He preached on the subject, "Making a Record."

We had a nice Christmas program and Christmas tree Monday night, December the twenty-third. It seemed that everyone tried to make someone else happy. The Church put a nice gift on the tree for Rev. Washington and wife, for they have been very, very loyal to us. We also gave one of the oldest members of our Church, a nice gift, in the person of Sister Mary Hamilton of Dallas, Texas. Sister Hamilton is over one hundred years old and is living with her children. May our prayers continue that her life still lives in the hearts of young people.

Now, it would be a worthwhile thing if we would take an inventory of ourselves and strive to make the best of the New Year.

Continuous Prayers!

Route 2, Box 260
Kiligore, Texas
Mrs. Almeta Henderson.

Flashes From The Piedmont District

D. W. Heath, Reporter
815 8th Street, N. W.,
Roanoke, Virginia

Bluefield, West Virginia:
On November 30, 1946, the Bluefield-Roanoke Area met for the first time since the Piedmont tri-state conventions combined. Although the President of the Convention was not present the meeting was carried on by the Chairman of the Area, D. W. Heath. The purpose of the Area Meetings is to bring the Program of the District Convention to the local church. Our emphasis in this meeting was placed on the following: (1) Unanimity of the local church, (2) unanimity of our District Convention, and (3) the unanimity of our National work. The special theme for the morning session was "Cooperative Movement in the Local Church" and the afternoon was given to the subject of "The Art of Worship." This was a partial report of an institute attended by the Chairman, at Howard University, Washington, D. C.

The meeting was well attended and all Churches in the Area were represented.

Winston-Salem, North Carolina:
It is reported that Mrs. C. H. Webb, the wife of the eminent C. H. Webb, pastor of the Cleveland Avenue Christian Church, has just undergone an operation. Her condition is said to be fair at this time. We all hope for Mrs. Webb a speedy recovery.

Tazwell, Virginia:
The Tazwell Christian Church has asked that we hold our next Area Meeting, which is to be held in February, there. This is something that has not happened in twenty-five years, believe it or not. We are together out here and that is what we mean by unanimity.

Roanoke, Virginia:
The writer has been receiving letters from different parts of the U. S. A. requesting aid to help build or buy, and to help relinquish debts. The letters were from both our White and Negro Brethren. I have not answered any of them as yet, but I do hope that this will serve as an answer to all of them.

Dear Brother:
Every minister and congregation in our Brotherhood, who are worth anything at all, are trying to do the same things that you are doing. So, let us pay our own bills until some of us get out of debt, because this kind of Monkey Business will soon bankrupt the whole Brotherhood. Do not forget that we are in sympathy with your work but we must face facts.

Roanoke, Virginia:
The writer would like to congratulate the Christian Plea especially, for keeping the tone of the Spirit of Christ within its pages instead of a lot of lacerating accusations that only the devil can produce. No one has ever gotten any place by fighting unless it were someone like Joe Louis or Ray Robinson and they converted fighting into work. That is why it is paid off. We can no longer wall ourselves in with Doctrines and accuse the other fellow of his weakness. We ourselves must come out from behind the walls and move into the Fields of Battle if we are to win souls for Christ. I hope that our Magazine will continue furnishing this high standard of information, inspiration and truth to our Brotherhood. Let us, for the love of God, see that it does by sending in the right kind of articles.

Nashville, Tennessee:
The Christian Plea is in desperate need of news, but be sure that your News are Newy.
THE CHRISTIAN PLEA

A monthly publication of the National Christian Missionary Convention of Disciples of Christ of America.

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“If we walk in the light, we have fellowship one with the other.” (1 John 1: 7.)

MRS. RUTH D. EPPSE, Secretary

NOTICE

All news must be in by seventh of each month.

Mrs. Maude Davis Speaks

2041 Marion Street
Denver, Colorado

Your report in the September Plea, of the National Convention which was held in Brooklyn, New York, filled my heart with ecstasy. My only regret I could not be present, well I had planned for a number of months for the New York Convention. The church in Beaumont was going to send me. On May 16th, I had to leave Beaumont and come to Denver to a sister who was, and is, gravely ill.

It was with the deepest sorrow that I had to give up my work in Beaumont. When the church had taken on new life, we had baptized seven young people Easter Sunday. To resign a work for the Master and leave Christian friends, some of the finest and most lovely people that anyone would wish to know, was not any easy task. Therefore, I covet the prayers of the Brotherhood, as you may know we have no Christian Church here of our group.

I miss my church affiliation more than anything else. However, I am doing a lot of reading. I am reading the Bible through again. I have read some very excellent books. I am doing a lot of praying. I have a prayer list, and in that little book I have two pages devoted to the ministry. That is why I can appreciate the September Plea above all others. It has put me in contact with a number of friends whose addresses I did not have. I found a number of ministers' names in the Plea, of which I added to my prayer list. May God bless the editor and the Christian Plea.

Last Monday, I received a message from Sister R. A. Thomas of the passing of her devoted husband, Sunday, October 27, 1946. W. F. Thomas was an elder in Grove Street Christian Church of Houston of which Brother O. Zoller is pastor. He was a charter member of said church, one of the pillars of Grove Street Christian Church and a member of the Texas State Missionary Convention State Board. Brother Thomas was a Christian gentleman and one of my best friends. For years, he and Sister Thomas never missed a convention in the State of Texas. He was a charter member of the Texas Missionary Convention.

He leaves a wife and four children and a host of friends to mourn his loss.

Sister Thomas lost her eyesight about seven years ago. Concerning this, I wish to speak of the loyalty of this devoted husband. When convention time rolled around, so many men would have said, “Roberta, you will have to stay home; you know you are blind.” But W. F. Thomas would not. Yearly, he came to the convention with this loving wife clinging to his arm. He never tired of her; he never tried to shift her on some woman of the convention, but he looked after her himself. He dressed her like she was a baby. When she came in to the convention, she was immaculately groomed. He also looked after her diet and brought it with him.

He stood for the Doctrine of the New Testament Church; no dilly-dallying with him. He stood for a principle which he knew to be right—no politics with him in Church work. There was not a bit of hypocrisy about W. F. Thomas. He was an elder in every sense of the word—one who ruled well his own house and the husband of one's wife.

I think I hear my Saviour say, “Well done, thou good and faithful servant; enter thou into the joys of the Lord;” Sunday evening when he stopped the walks of man and went sweeping through the gates.

May God bless and keep Sister Thomas.

Ninth Street Christian Church
Des Moines, Iowa

Elder J. J. Hawkins, Pastor
Raymond Brown, Reporter

Last month as the news from this church appeared in the Plea, maybe you noticed that all observations were during a month's time but now after another month of careful observation and consideration of this church and the job that it has performed under present handicaps, I believe with due respect to all other churches in the brotherhood that this is one of the greatest little churches in our brotherhood and as you read this article of news I am sure that you will share with me the same viewpoint.

Comparatively speaking, it is still a mere baby in its organization but in carrying out its functions it has reached the height of manhood. Believing that the physical growth of an individual will be well taken care of at home (even in these times) her aims are to help the individual grow in the three other fundamental processes attributed to Jesus, that of mentally, spiritually and socially.

Laboring under the handicaps of a
church in a university town where members are here a while and then gone, the pastor is making good use of them while here and they are valiantly carrying out tasks assigned to them. The Bible School Department is going through the restoration period under the leadership of one of our young ladies of Des Moines, Miss Lillie Miles, who is developing to be a very efficient superintendent. New materials are being ordered and children are being reclassified according to age and intelligence. The Bible School is developing to be one of the best organized in the churches of today.

The church services are more worshipful and educational each Lord's Day under the leadership of the pastor who has delivered dynamic messages on "Christianity, Changing or Changeless" and "Christianity as Personal Piety." With the aid of a newly formed choir, the first of its kind since the origin of this church, under the leadership of Miss Victoria Kitchens, assisted by Miss Marcella Washington, students of Drake University, of Des Moines and Jarvis College, respectively. The last Sunday in October Mr. A. C. Bannister, Executive Secretary of the Y. M. C. A. here, delivered the annual Layman's Day message on "The Layman's View of the Church," which was very educational.

In the Young People's activities, the C. Y. F. takes the spotlight, attracting members from other churches who have become active participants. On December 8, the installation service will be held to properly install the newly elected officers: Co-Presidents Miss Margaret Ashford and Raymond Brown; Secretary, Miss Marcella Washington; Treasurer, Mr. Eugene Davis; Editor of the paper, Mr. Tom Kelly, and Sponsors Dr. Stanley Griffin and the pastor. The C. Y. F. publishes its own paper under the able editorship of Mr. Tom Kelly, a student of Drake University possessing great potentialities. These young people present roundtable discussions on religious, social and educational problems, bringing to us outstanding personalities from Des Moines and elsewhere. On November 17 Mr. Frank Mallet, president of the Disciples Union, revealed on the screen slide pictures of the life of Jesus, giving the interpretations of the painters. On December 1, Mr. Emerson Schwenk, secretary of the Midwest Fellowship of Reconciliation, will lead the discussion of a current topic of interest to young people.

One of our newest organizations, recently formed, is the church club made up of any interested persons regardless of age. At our first meeting we organized with eighteen members present and steadily increasing. This promises to be one of the greatest clubs of this type. Under the leadership of such women as Mrs. Mamie Bundy, formerly of Hannibal, Mo., president; Mrs. Verba Hawkins, wife of the pastor, vice-president; Miss Marcella Washington, secretary; Mrs. Mamie Robinson, treasurer, and one man to assist the ladies in leadership, Mr. Juanita Johnson, as chaplain. This club promises to add to the church a new spirit.

Now as a solution to our progress we attribute it to our being a young church. Not altogether as an organization, neither are all of our members in their early thirties or below but we are young in spirit. There are quite a few of us who would have to look back quite a few years to view the days of our youth but though those days are gone the spirit still remains. We profess to be the smallest of all the churches in Des Moines in number but the largest in service. Now as our plans that once were only dreams for a new chapel are gradually moving toward a present reality we work, body and soul, aware of the tasks that are ours in bringing the same plans of Jesus that once were only dreams, that of the Kingdom of God within the hearts of men, a present reality. May God pour out His blessings upon you and the work everywhere.

To the Brotherhood Of Kentucky

A. D. Gault

State Financial Secretary

Dear friends, our state and national conventions are over now, and it is time that we are working our program. The state has a big program this year. Our next convention at Mayfield will be our Diamond Jubilee Convention. At that time, we hope to have the Claremont Funds up to $1,000.00.

We are hoping to start a church in Ashland, and we also intend to keep the full time state evangelist in the field. Our present state evangelist is doing a good job. He has resurrected several churches in the state that were dead. Let us give him our support.

To support this great program, each member has been apportioned $1.00. Each church should report in our first state board meeting October 18th with one-fourth of their apportionments paid.

I know that you are willing to support this great program. I am depending on you for your support. We need the support of the pastors and the church leaders. We want to do better this year than we have done in the past.

Yours for a great year.

Doings at Bethel Church

Carroll County, Mississippi

Elder S. D. Yarbrough, Minister

Carrie A. Griffin, Reporter

Dear Co-workers:

The following are some of our activities since June.

On the second Lord's day in July, the church sponsored a rally for the minister, towards his trip to Brooklyn, New York.

The spiritual part of the services were fine, plus a nice amount for the rally and regular services.

Rally ............... $85.55
Salary .................. 31.84

Total.................. $117.39

During August, revival services were interesting, with an addition of nine, by confession and baptism. The financial proceeds were $146.30.

In August, the Women's W. W. Society reported $10.00 to the State Meeting and the church reported $45.00.

On September 8, the regular monthly services were fine, as usual. There was no addition, finance church school, $2.06, for minister, $18.10.

September 29, Bethel worked together with Mt. Zion, at Bethel, for the interest of the Mt. Zion Church, oldest congregation in Carroll County, which was destroyed by a tornado on January 6, 1946. They've begun building. Finance in rally was $90.25. Elder G. W. Walls, district evangelist, gave pointed remarks on "The Church, It's Doctrine, The Power of the Gospel, and Our Duty to Defend the Cause of Christ." Elder A. L. Keyes, church school superintendent, Mound Bayou, D. C., brought the message, stressing the importance of one's willingness to answer the call now, as did Isaiah, when he answered, "Here am I, Send Me." Brother E. J. Jackson gave opening lesson from Romans 18: 1-10.

I regret I failed to report the passing of Brother Jackson's wife, Sister
Second Christian Church
2417 Fremont Street
Rockford, Illinois
Rev. F. B. Bradley, Pastor

Dear Fellow Christians:

Again, may I greet you from our work in the Old Northwest. Our work is still on the progressive side. There have been several events happening in the life of the church since last we greeted you.

At the beginning of the church year, July 1, we installed our missionary officers for the year. We are looking forward to some great work through the mission department. They did very well last year, paid all their apportionment to union, and everyone a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy and Busy New Year in the Master's workshop.

I am sending this greeting in a poem here by saying we are wishing each and everyone a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy and Busy New Year in the Master's workshop. I am sending this greeting in a poem to you and asking that you think over the poem.

**THE THREE GIFTS: HOW HAVE YOU USED YOURS?**

When God had given to His children here below,
His special gifts of food, clothes, and jewels rare,
He thought of one more gift He would bestow; A gift to make their lives more bright and fair,
"For," said He, "My earthly children are my treasures; I love them more than heaven or life itself,
But they are wicked, false, unkind, and cruel; Why, they'd give their very souls for gold or pelf.
So, I want a gift from out my Heavenly treasure, A gift to last them all the ages through; One that has no monetary measure— A gift to make them loving, kind, and true."

So, He called a council up in heaven Of all the lovely angels dwelling there, And told them of the gift He wanted given
To make His earthly children lives more fair.
The angels helped Him search His treasurers, And found the gifts of faith, hope, and love, And tied them all together in small bundles, And sent them down as present from above. And every preacher's wife received a package
To carry everywhere within her heart,
But, she must share her gift with all who meet her, Or, the gift from God to her would soon depart.

And, as you go about your church, your home, your city, You'll have a chance to share your gifts of love and pity With all the friends you've made down here below. As you travel towards your Father's home above, There's a way He has to let you know How wisely you have used your gift of love.

May God bless the work of the minister's wife, and may she be true to the trust given her.

Yours for a great Plea.

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Texas Christian Missionary Convention

R. H. Page, State Evangelist
Houston, Texas

On the second Sunday in October, we witnessed the burning of the church note of the Henderson Mt. Olive Christian Church. Within 34 months, we paid in full all claims on the property and hold the deed.

Rev. T. A. Armstead, pastor, Jessie Rodgers, deacon; Dr. D. T. Clenes, and a few faithful members rejoiced in their triumph. $200.00 was raised.

Oak Grove Christian Church on Pittsburgh Road is on the march again. I visited with them for ten nights.

We are struggling at Temple, Texas, for a building. We have on a rally for the Second Sunday in November.

Brother W. F. Thomas of Houston passed on the 27th, after serving the church for a number of years. Elder Thomas leaves his wife, totally blind, three daughters, two sons, and a host of friends to mourn his passing.

The work goes along very nicely.
Wehrman Avenue Christian Church
Cincinnati, Ohio
Mrs. Lilian Barber, Reporter

We are thankful to say that our church is still going forward in the name of Jesus Christ, and many inspiring programs have been brought to us during the months of September and October.

On September 22, the College of Scriptures conducted our morning services. Rev. Campbell preached a very constructive sermon and his male chorus rendered some stirring spirituals. Our Ladies' Aid and our Missionary Societies sponsored a pew service and we were favored by a lecture from Mr. Boyd Overton. It was enjoyed immensely by all of us, as he has recently returned from the Far East, having served with the Red Cross in the Pacific War Theater. He told of many customs of worship among those people, which made us feel very thankful that we are followers of Christ's teaching. Our two local churches, the Five Christians and the Lockland Church, joined us in a baby contest, Sunday, October 13. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Garner's charming baby girl by name, Tracive Ann, represented our church. But, by a small margin, Jacqueline Bailey, from the Fifth Christian, was the winner. We hope to boost our baby a little more next time. Our pastor called for a $500 rally the fourth Sunday in October. At the close of the day, our efficient treasurer, Brother Paul Jones, reported $24,60. This wipes out the debt on our church building program. We shall be able to burn our mortgage in the near future.

Dear Co-workers—Greetings:

Three months have passed since the State Convention, which was one of the best in history.

We left the State Convention for the National Convention, which was most enjoyable. We were greatly inspired.

After the National Convention adjourned, enroute home, it was our privilege to stop in Louisville, Kentucky, and attend two great services. There we were strengthened again and made our way back to the state. Two revivals awaited me, McKinnney's Chapel and Ittabenna. Both meetings were very spiritual. Ittabenna is one of our mission points, where we are hoping to have a good church building in the near future.

Money was collected from the following churches and turned over to the board: Ittabenna, $5.90; and Johnson's Chapel, $5.90.

As we look on the fields, we see that the harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few. Brethren, let none hear you idly saying, "There is nothing I can do," while the souls of men are dying and the Master calls for you.

Germantown Broadway Christian Church
Germantown, Kentucky

Quite a few years ago a son was born to the late Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Johnson, Germantown, Kentucky. He was reared in the Sunday school, served in every capacity of the church, from a school scholar to an elder. That child was named James Arvil Johnson.

This past July, 1946, Rev. H. Thomas Wilson, Carlisle, Kentucky, was called to Germantown, to ordain Arvil (as he is called by those who know him best). Today, Rev. James Arvil Johnson is not only a brilliant student of the College of the Scriptures, Louisville, but he teaches a class in the same school, and has a church at Georgetown, Kentucky. Rev. Johnson is ably assisted in all his work by his untiring wife, Mrs. Lucille Johnson. Broadway Church is proud of her son.

"O God, may we humble ourselves under Thy mighty hand. May we realize that all men everywhere are Thy children, and that the world may believe that Thou didst send me."

The women of the Missionary Society have made several contributions to the College of the Scriptures. Just last month, they made a comfort. The society also had a splendid social at the schoolhouse and raised a neat sum for its treasure.

Germantown was represented by several delegates at Maystick to the District meeting in October. The next meeting will be in Paris.

A special service was conducted November 17 by a student of the School of the Scriptures.

The Kentucky Christian Evangel has a wide-awake finance secretary, in the person of Arthur DeGarmo Gault. He is forever checking upon the subscribers. If it were within his power, every member in every church would be a personal subscriber, and dependable reporters making monthly reports to the paper would be active.

Here and There
Miss Inesola Dawson
Disciples Enter School

West Kentucky Vocational Training School opened September 19, with the largest enrollment in its history. Students from almost every county in the state and many out-of-state students are availing themselves of the opportunities offered at the institution. Among the enrollees are to be found the following Disciples:

Mr. Albert C. Anderson, Houstonville, Ky.
Mr. King Edward Hargrave, Hopkinsville, Ky.
Miss Essie M. Hodge, Paducah, Ky.
Miss Elizabeth White, Mt. Sterling, Ky.
Miss Bernice White, Mt. Sterling, Ky.
Mr. James F. Wilson, Mayfield, Ky.
Mr. Horace Wilson, Mt. Sterling, Ky.

We will appreciate it very much if the churches with which these young people are connected will write and encourage them from time to time.

Miss Jessie Wilson of the Clay Street Christian Church, Paducah, and president of the Kentucky Young People's Conference entered the freshman class at Hampton Institute. Miss Wilson plans to major in Business Administration. Miss Nadine DeBoe, Clay Street Christian Church, Paducah, resumed her studies at Knoxville College, Miss DeBoe is a junior in Business Administration and is employed as part-time helper in the Registrar's Office.

Miss MaNece Hodge, Clay Street
THE CHRISTIAN PLEA
JANUARY, 1947

THE LIGHT THAT NEVER FAILS
Your Brotherhood Publishing House
Always Ready And Eager To Serve You

Some 35 years ago your brotherhood publishing house was established to provide complete lesson materials for our church schools . . . to offer our brethren the finest religious books . . . to merchandise supplies which meet the specialized needs of our churches . . . and to render all possible service to the brotherhood.

The Christian Board of Publication has been ever faithful to its mission and has been able, as a result of your ever increasing support, to turn over $850,000 to brotherhood missionary, benevolent and educational organizations.

As we grew more services and supplies were added. Now in 1947 the light from your brotherhood publishing house may be seen from Maine to California, across the border in Canada, and in our missions around the world.

As we embark upon "A Crusade for a Christian World," check to see that you are using all brotherhood lesson materials in your church school . . . they will strengthen this great forward movement.

Ready now! Send for our 1947 General and Book Catalogs.

Christian Church, resumed her studies at Howard University. Mr. James Hodge, Clay Street Christian Church, entered the freshman class at Howard University. Miss Dorothy Gaines, Clay Street Christian Church, resumed her studies at Stowe Teachers College, St. Louis, Mo.

Clay Street Christian Church Elects Pastor

The Clay Street Christian Church is happy to report that Elder J. J. Washington of Lexington, Kentucky, formerly of Pennsylvania, has been elected pastor for an indefinite period. He assumed his duties Sunday, November 3. Brother Washington comes to us very highly recommended. He received technical training at Tuskegee Institute, and holds the Bachelor of Theology from Simmons University. He has pastored churches at Germantown, Kentucky, Houstonville, Kentucky, "Asparagus Bed," Kentucky, London, Kentucky, Canton, Ohio, and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The pastor received a very cordial welcome to the church, not by mere words and handshakes, but by a much more tangible way. The welcome was extended in the form of a redecorated parsonage, a pantry full of all kinds of staple and canned foods, including even SUGAR and LARD, a supply which will last almost a year. Elder Washington is married and has two small children. The church solicits the prayers of the Brotherhood for its continued growth and development.

Third District Meeting

It was my good fortune on October 19 to attend a meeting of the Third Missionary District, at Mayslick, Kentucky, that very prosperous part of the state, known as the "Asparagus Bed," and from the food served at the meeting, it might well be called "The Good Food Bed" PERIOD. Elder I. H. Moore is President of the District, Mrs. Moore, President of the Women's Missionary Society, Mrs. Emily Robinson, Bible School, Miss Greta Reese, C. Y. F. Elder E. J. Dickson, Executive Secretary of our National Convention, was present and delivered a very inspiring sermon on Saturday night. Elder E. B. Toles, Assistant Principal of Western High School, Paris, Kentucky, is Pastor of the Mayslick Christian Church. The entire program was inspiring and interesting. This may be slightly off the subject, but it all happened in one day. While at Mayslick, I was happy to see what I consider one of the miracles of the age, a blind man, Mr. Taylor White, owning and operating a store. It is on the single proprietor basis, and Mr. White, himself, is clerk, cashier, bookkeeper, etc., in other words, he does everything that's done in the store. HOW REMARKABLE. This should be an inspiration to us all.

While in that section, I had the privilege of attending two of the revival services at the Christian Church in Paris, Elder I. H. Moore, Pastor. The Revival was being conducted by Elder R. L. Saunders of Lexington, Kentucky.
Vol. LIV
Nashville, Tennessee, February, 1947
No. 6

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NEGRO DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

Women Plan "Crusade for Christian World"

Flanner House
December 6-7, 1946
The National Women's Planning Conference opened its session at 10:30 a.m., December 6, 1946 with Mrs. John A. Towns presiding. Devotional message was given by Mrs. A. L. Martin, Chicago, Illinois.

Remarks were made by the president expressing her appreciation for the women in attendance at the meeting. Introductions were made. The purpose of the meeting was clearly stated by the president.

The first item of business was the presentation of the goals for the Women's Missionary Societies to the State presidents in attendance. Mrs. Eugene Patterson informed the group that all offerings for World's Missions would be sent to The United Christian Missionary Society, 222 South Downey Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana (or Unified Promotion).

Mrs. Towns introduced the president presiding. A period of silent meditation followed by Mrs. J. W. Dean giving closing prayer.

Report of Ambassador of Good Will Mrs. Rosa Page Welch. She reported eighty-four major engagements and twenty-four recitals.

Mrs. Towns reported on the Bien- nial Assembly of The United Council of Church Women held in Grand Rapids, Michigan. She expressed her appreciation for the Disciple Women who were present. Namely: Mrs. Welch, Mrs. Patterson and Mrs. Pirtle of Muskogee, Okla.

Discussion, Hazel Green Academy; Hazel Green, Kentucky. It was moved and carried that Hazel Green Academy would be accepted as the National Project. Women's night, in the National Convention would be set aside for the dedication of the gifts along with a representative from the school.

Mrs. Patterson reported briefly on Children's Work, encouraging State Presidents to assist as much as possible in the promotion of the work with them. She encouraged presidents also to interest Children's Workers to attend St. Louis Laboratory Training School or any Laboratory Training School.

My Brethren in Christ,
Greetings:

Six months of the National Christian Missionary Convention year have passed and very few churches have made reports. We are urging the churches of our brotherhood to make reports regularly each quarter. Do not wait until July or August to send your report, but make the Convention the first item of business for 1947. If you cannot report the full amount of your apportionment, send what you have, and the balance on or before August 1st.

Would you not like for your church report and your state report to be listed in the printed report of the Treasurer? Please commence now to make your church report, your district convention report and state convention report, that your full apportionment may be ready for the printed statement of the Treasurer on or before August 1st.

Every church, however small, should make a report to the National Convention and list itself in the printed report of the Treasurer. Our pastors and officers should give the fullest cooperation in this worthy missionary organization of our glorious church.

The National Convention expects every disciple to do his or her part in fostering the cause of Christ through our united effort. Are we worthy of this great trust?

Our two years experience with the new approach to our evangelistic and missionary program should convince the most pessimistic and non-supporting member that we are moving in the right direction.

The Contributing Agencies of the brotherhood are doing exactly what (Continued on page 2)
Women Plan
(Continued from page 1)

tory School that is possible for them to attend.

Saturday Morning

The meeting was opened on Saturday morning with Mrs. Patterson presiding in the home of Mrs. John A. Towns. Devotions were conducted by Mrs. Bernice Holmes, Oklahoma and Mrs. Rosa Page Welch, Illinois. Hymn—"My Faith Looks Up To Thee." Scripture and prayer, Mrs. Welch gave a brief message after which the devotions were closed with sentences prayers.

Discussion Area Workers: Motion prevailed that State Presidents have charge of area work.

Discussion, Possibility of Organizing the State of Illinois. Motion prevailed that the local Woman's Missionary Society presidents or leaders of the churches in the state of Illinois meet to discuss possibilities of organizing. The National Director of Missionary Organizations should be called in to assist in the organization of the same should the state decide upon this step.

Mrs. Towns outlined briefly the Women's sessions to be held during the National Convention at Cincinnati, Ohio. By common consent it was decided that a Sacrificial Breakfast be held at the National Convention. Committee: Mrs. A. L. Martin, Chicago, Chairman; Mrs. L. H. Ball, Arkansas; Mrs. Katie Yarbrough, Tennessee; Mrs. Bernice Holmes, Oklahoma; Mrs. Floyd Wilson, Missouri.

It was agreed upon that clearance be made with Mrs. L. A. Divine on the possibility of having tea one afternoon for the women.

Discussion, Women's Pre-convention Session. Further clearance with the Host of the convention will be made about the meeting places. A possible speaker was suggested, Mrs. Cora Jordan White.

Persons who attended the National Planning Conference were: Mrs. A. L. Martin, Chicago; Mrs. Daisy Dean, Arkansas; Mrs. Bernice Holmes, Oklahoma; Mrs. Margaret Lee, Ohio; Mrs. Sarah Jones and Mrs. Elizabeth Moore, Kentucky; Mrs. Mary Johnson, Mrs. Martha Galloway, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Peoples, Mrs. Josephine Baker, Mrs. John Towns, Mrs. Eugene Patterson, Miss Jessie Trout, Miss Genevieve Brown, Mrs. R. A. Doan, Indiana; and Mrs. Rosa Page Welch.

Expenses for transportation.

Miss Fenton Hamilton $9.00
Mrs. A. L. Martin 4.52
Mrs. Rosa P. Welch 4.52
Mrs. Daisy Dean 15.00
Miscellaneous item;
Engraving for Loving Cup 2.30

Total $35.34

The conference closed with prayer for a successful year of work to every one.

Mrs. John A. Towns, President
Mrs. Fenton Hamilton, Treasurer
Miss Daisy Dean, Acting Sec.

Here and There

Eternity has declared 1946 History. We hope each of you had a Merry Christmas and that 1947 will be kind to you in every respect.

The month of December was a very busy month at the Clay Street Christian Church. On December 1, Women's Day was celebrated. The principal speaker for the day was Mrs. G. H. Reynolds (white), an internationally known woman, who spent 20 years as a lecturer, made 15 trips abroad, and was at one time, President of the largest Women's Organization in the world, "General Federation of Women's Clubs." She brought a very inspiring message on problems of general interest to all women. On December 8, at 6 P.M., a Welcome Service was held for Elder and Mrs. J. J. Washington. The beautifully decorated church formed a perfect setting for the occasion. Mrs. V. M. Mundy, wife of the leading mortician of the city, acted as Mistress of Ceremonies. Greetings from the First Christian Church were brought by the Pastor, Elder W. J. Parker, Tribute to the Official Board came from Mr. J. V. Bacon, St. James C. M. E. Church, Tribute to Elder Washington was given by Deacon Wilson, Washington St. Baptist Church, Tribute to Mrs. Washington, came from Mrs. Mildred Givens, Teacher at Garfield Elementary School, Greetings from the City of Paducah were brought by Judge Brady Stewart, McCracken County Judge. Greetings from the Business World were brought by Mrs. G. B. Bowles of the Mammoth Life Ins. Co. Musical interests were furnished by Mrs. Velma Hammock, Washington St. Baptist Church, Mr. Charles Diggs of 7th St. Baptist Church, Mr. W. C. Peyton, Instrutor at Lincoln H. S. Mrs. Alease McSpadden presented Mrs. Washington a purse of $15.00.

Plans are being made at present to make 1947 a BANNER YEAR. We are all very highly pleased to have Elder Washington and family. We won't tell you everything now, but from time to time, we will tell you more about our pastor and more about our plans.

During the holidays, I had the opportunity to worship at the Campbell St. Christian Church, Hopkinsville, Ky. It is encouraging to note that the Disciples in Hopkinsville, though few in number, are still carrying on. They have no pastor at the present. It is also gratifying to note that the remnant of the Disciples of the Second Christian Church at Roaring Springs have united with the Church at Hopkinsville. I think it would be a very fine thing if our state and national officials would encourage the disciples at Hopkinsville and also at Clarksville, either by letter or by sending a representative.

Oseola A. Dawson
Clay St. Christian Church
December 31, 1946

SUBSCRIBE TO CHRISTIAN PLEA
My Brethren in Christ
(Continued from page 1)
was promised by them, that is, sending money to the Treasurer of the National Convention each month. Have we less faith in ourselves than others have in us? If you have faith, begin now to show your faith by your works.

Our May issue of the Christian Plea will carry individual gifts, church reports and all monies received for the National Convention since we left New York, August, 1946. We are requesting each church to send a report to be published in this issue of the Plea on or before April 30th.

Yours in His Name,
NATIONAL CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY CONVENTION
J. E. Walker, Treasurer

Mt. Sterling Church
By Mary W. Morton
High St. Christian Church is getting along fine and hopes to make 1947 a banner year. Financial Reports from all Departments of the Church were made Wednesday evening, January 29th, an addition to the regular Prayer Service. Balance in treasury from all departments — $2,969.51.

The “Christmas Spirit” was high at High St. Christian Church during the holiday season as was shown by the exchange of gifts and the many benevolent acts.

Rev. and Mrs. Patterson entertained the Officers, their wives and Company at the Parsonage during the holidays and a wonderful time was had by all. Rev. and Mrs. Patterson entertained the C. Y. F. with a lovely Christmas Party. On Christmas Eve night, the C. Y. F. Fers sang Christmas Carols in the homes of the Shut-ins.

District #6 met at Little Rock January 11, 12 and a nice delegation Meeting was indeed an interesting and profitable one.

Rev. Patterson entertained the Usher Board at the Parsonage, Thursday night, January 30th.

Sunday, February 2nd. was Junior Church Day and the C. Y. F. rendered a Special program at the Evening Service.

The Sunday School is growing numerically and spiritually. The adults are attending as well as the children and are making a valuable contribution to the work.

The Evening Service as well as the Sunday Morning Service is well attended. Our pastor is bringing wonderful messages which are both timely and inspiring.

The Women’s Missionary Society will observe “Week of Compassion.” The Church has purchased new robes for the Senior Choir. They all came out Sunday in good number and sang beautifully.

A Personal Inventory
Miss Marjorie E. Chenault
Office Secretary of National Christian Missionary Convention
Let's take a personal inventory of our present stock of qualities. Are we magnifying the great basic principles of Christianity? These basic principles are centered around education, stewardship, Christian unity, cooperation and world fellowship, relief and reconstruction, and above all a Christian world order. Are we giving our leaders extensive training in promoting a program based on interest and designed to meet our religious needs? Do we know that our part of the Crusade For a Christian World is a call to all of us to assure our rightful place in the forward march of the Christian forces of the world? Are we capturing the imagination and enlisted the support of every member of our churches? Are we helping people to realize that they are a part of the church in their community and around the world? We could ask ourselves a number of questions and answer them; but what are we doing individually to find our means to these ends?

Last year we said “We Must Be the Christian World We Want”. This year we are saying we are able in this kind of world to be Christians. You are the church and you are standing on the threshold to build for the future. This great task of building will demand the time and attention of capable and willing young people. Are you prepared to build? Are you willing to share your time and attention? There will be both deadened streets and great unobstructed paths in this task of building. The door is wide and the way is easy, that leads to destruction; those who enter by it are many. The gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life; those who find it are few. Our desired end which leads to life through the narrow gate will only be attained by unifying and coordinating the total assets and forces of our Brotherhood. You can help others in our group to develop a new appreciation of their origins and of their missions as Disciples. What is our origin and mission? How wide is our field of endeavor? Are we enthusiastic towards our part of the plan of a Crusade For A Christian World?

Our problems in our own individual lives reflect in our national and world life. Are we doing our part as individuals in making this reflection stand for unity, truth, loyalty, courage and initiative?

In making your personal inventory, are you being fair in judging your efforts in this problem of Christian living? Do you find in your inventory stocks of qualities which are assets to you, your community, your church, and your Brotherhood? “The only things we can KEEP are the things we freely give. What we try to keep for ourselves is just what we are to lose”.

Kentucky News
Elder T. R. Everett
Midway, Kentucky
Numbers 13:31 “But the men that went up with him said, ‘We are not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we.’ So they brought an evil report of the land which they had searched.”

The Father of the Restoration Movement dug down into the archive of the minds of truth and made some wonderful discoveries. God blessed their work and gave them the right way to lead an erring nation back to the feet of the Cross, and God. They ran well for a while, but failed to accept the Divine Constitution in its entirety, hence they have been floundering in the wilderness for over a hundred years. The letter of Paul ad overlooked by a majority of those of opinion and not binding, so we have gone on with our self will; determined what we want to stand up for, but at last we have let the door of opportunity pass. The leaders of the movement, acquired popular acclaim and left out one of the main clauses.

Gal. 3:28 “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free; there is neither male or female, for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.”

Had our forebearers held to this slogan, we would not have had division in our ranks over this organization and the other, but we would have still been leading the van. Like the He-

(Continued on page 4)
THE CHRISTIAN PLEA

A monthly publication of the National Christian Missionary Convention of Disciples of Christ of America.

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“If we walk in the light, we have fellowship one with the other.” (1 John 1: 7.)

NOTICE
All news must be in by seventh of each month.

EDITORIAL

President Harry S. Truman will speak on World Convention Program at Buffalo

It is great news that the President of the United States, Harry S. Truman, has accepted an invitation from the World Convention of Churches of Christ to speak on the program at Buffalo on Monday, August 4. The acceptance by the President is on condition that there shall be no critical situation in the government at that time which might compel him to cancel the engagement.

The invitation was extended personally on Wednesday morning, January 29 at 11 o’clock by Dr. Jesse M. Bader, General Secretary of the World Convention. He had been authorized to extend this invitation to the President by the World Convention Committee in Program and Arrangements.

Dr. Bader invited President Truman’s pastor, Edwin Pruden of the First Baptist Church in Washington, to accompany him to the White House. This Dr. Pruden did gladly partly because of his deep interest in the Disciples of Christ and partly because of the friendship that he and Dr. Bader have had for each other through the years.

Concerning the interview, Dr. Bader states, “The President is one of the most approachable men I have ever met. He is friendly and has a hearty handshake. In an interview he looks you straight in the eye, and speaks quickly and frankly. The interview lasted fifteen minutes. After he agreed conditionally to accept the invitation, the three of us discussed our common concern about the moral and spiritual situation in our nation. I am hoping he will say some of the same things is his Buffalo address which he said so splendidly to Dr. Pruden and me.”

With the President’s acceptance of the World Convention’s invitation, and the acceptance of Charles P. Taft, president of the Federal council of Churches, to speak in the International Convention on Thursday, July 31, our Brotherhood has two more reasons, and big ones too, why there should be at least 10,000 in attendance at Buffalo.

Kentucky News
(Continued from page 3)

brews of old, we did not believe God. We went back into our tents and said that we were not able, that this octopus is too big a monster for us, so God has allowed us to wander around these many years in the wilderness of our imagination, to our own hurt. At last, from almost the heart of the South has come a tribe who has declared a complete recognition of God’s law. The North Carolina Baptists have hit the whale, a solar nexus at last, while the majority vote was rescinded because of popular opinion —253 against 158. Joshua’s and Caleb’s who stood for a truth that is as firm as the rock of Gibraltar for God. The Eternal has spoken and his word will not return unto him void. I said some time ago that Jonah must swallow the whale or the whale would get him, which he did.

Just recently, right in the sporting world, some real men were found who said that a man was a man, and they prayed that the day would come when man would be recognized for his worth or ability to do a thing, and not on the texture of his skin or color. Luke 16: 8 “For the children of this world are their generation wiser than the children of light.”

Rev. Meri R. Eppse
P. O. Box 455
Nashville 2, Tennessee
Dear Brother Eppse:
Your paper, “The Christian Plea”, has been received. Let me commend you highly upon the quality of the paper, and the interesting news items contained therein. Be fully assured that the College of the Bible is deeply interested in the work of your people. Wishing you a Happy New Year, I am
Most sincerely yours,
Kenneth B. Bowen
President

A Bit of Information
The Fayette Street Christian Church in Martinsville, Virginia, of the Piedmont district, greets the Brotherhood.

In the December issue of the Christian Plea, a report was given stating that the Piedmont and Tri-State conventions had been merged as one. Because this assumption may be misconstrued or prove misleading to the general brotherhood, I take this opportunity to make a public statement
relative to Fayette Street Christian Church and its stand in this matter.

A merge of the two conventions was effected, after a fashion, but it did not prove satisfactory to all of the churches, and was not accepted by Fayette Street Christian Church of Martinsville.

We want the brotherhood to know first and always that we do not oppose unity, and that we welcome any and all attempts toward a united brotherhood and unified promotion of its programs and ideals. But, the church here at Martinsville, definitely opposes, for legal and other reasons the change of name.

It can not be denied that Fayette Street Christian Church is a very strong link in the chain of churches comprising the Piedmont district. In all modesty, we boast of the record of this church. Not in its History has there been any confusion, or any splitting factions. Not once has it been necessary to have the District President come to us in order to straighten out some church problem.

The word "SPLIT" is not in our vocabulary. This can not be said of other churches in our district who are so loud in their criticism of Fayette Street. We are the only church that has the courage publicly to protest the change of name, with the result that Fayette Street Christian Church is the only church remaining in the Piedmont district and protected by the charter which was granted to this district several years ago.

Much more could be said to substantiate and justify our stand, but to the blindest of critics it must seem an obvious and logical conclusion that since the leadership of the Tri-State convention withdrew to establish a separate convention, there would seem to be more Christianity in the gesture toward merging, and more satisfaction to all concerned, if the original and chartered name be allowed to remain.

We have as usual made our budget for the year, and we plan to carry out as always our obligations to the United Christian Missionary Society, and to the National work.

Though alone, we are not discouraged. With "malice toward none" and with a firm trust in the God of right and righteousness, we go forward under the fine leadership of our Pastor, Rev. J. L. Law.

Signed:

Mrs. J. H. Thomas

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Antioch Christian Church

Oliver Avenue and Lincoln Hi-way
New Brunswick, New Jersey

Rev. S. E. Tillman, Pastor

H. B. Washington, Secretary

"O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good, for his mercy endureth forever"

Surely we can say as David said in the Psalms for the Lord has wonderfully blessed us in the past year. He has enabled us to almost complete our Church which was partly destroyed by fire on March the tenth. Yes, he has blessed us for the month of November, beginning on the fourth. The seventeenth we celebrated the Church's twenty-fifth Anniversary. Our members, and friends and ministers of the various churches of the city, and from Newark and Trenton, New Jersey, gave us their loyal support each night during the twelve nights. The first night was opened by Reverend H. Soloman Hill, Pastor of the Mt. Zion A. M. E. Church of the city. The twelfth night, which was the closing night, was opened by Reverend G. W. Pugh, Pastor of Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Trenton, New Jersey. His members and choir were on hand. Reverend Pugh preached us a wonderful sermon taken from Revelation 2:8-10. Their choir was there to give us spirit in song. At the close of the service we went downstairs where the Reception was held. The Honorable Simon A. Bahr was toastmaster. There were guests from Newark, New Jersey, namely, Reverend O. S. Lucas and wife, Reverend Harris. Reverend Green and Reverend Pugh and wife from Trenton. New Jersey, and Mr. Chandler from U S O City, and many others. They all had a wonderful time. The last month of the year we had another five night meeting with different ministers bringing us spiritual gospel.

We had a double wedding ceremony in our Church December the twenty-second. Mr. Bennie Lee Carter, usher of our Church, was wed to Miss Louise Gavin and Mr. Oscar Gavin was wed to Miss Delores Daughtly. Our Pastor, Rev. S. E. Tillman, performed the ceremony. This was the first marriage ceremony in our New Church.

We held service Christmas morning and our Pastor spoke to us out of the fulness of his heart. We had a nice crowd at our Watchmeeting services.

Now let us speak of the New Year, and we will call it the new day. "A new day has dawned and brought with it experience to make decisions, to solve our problems, and to perform our duties. Each new day is a new opportunity to press onward and do the best we can. Past mistakes and failures have no part in this new day. Let us start this new day in prayer and meditation. Put God before us, Praise and thank Him for another day, or year, in which to serve him.

God grant me wisdom this new day To do the task that comes my way. The many little things to do, The greater work that is mine too." Wishing the entire staff a Happy New Year!

H. B. Washington
169 Seamon Street
New Brunswick, N. J.

Mrs. S. L. Bostick
414 W. 24th Street N.
North Little Rock, Arkansas
1947! To One And All, Greetings To You! Much success and prosperity in all of your businesses, a greater love for one another, and true fellowship.

Now let us act!

To the young ministers I am giving you a little historical sketch of the remainder of Elder M. M. Bostick's work and labor of his hands: In Arkansas as a minister, he was also serving as a secretary and deacon at the Mother Church, Pearidge, in the wedding ceremonies, baptized many people, attended many funerals, and built many churches. We raised quite a bit of money for the State. Personally, we also sent and gave money to different institutions, located in Edwards, Mississippi; Hawkins Texas; Lima, Alabama; and the Louisville Bible School. We paid the first $25.00 down on a college that the Brotherhood of Arkansas had started on High Land, Little Rock. The college had only eight students to begin with. Rev. Bostick was interested in the progress of the Churches of Arkansas, of which he pastored many. We always welcome to our home other Ministers or workers, regardless to what church they belong. We were ready to do unto others as we would have them do unto us.

Arkansas Notes

Mrs. M. E. Hall, Reporter

We are not ashamed of our State Leader and President, Mrs. Mary Franklin. She is a very fine leader. We give praise also to our experienced
Cabinet. January 12th. It was a great success. 

All together. The Pastor has a very agreeable nature to work with him. All members will come up with their one dollar, some only half-way, and sometimes there is only the one dollar paid by the President. Why not follow our great president of the State, Mrs. Mary Franklin, all of the way. She has only five members and they send five dollars, or one dollar per member. Mt. Sinai is second, ten members and five dollars. The others fail to give God a Square Deal. How about it Miss Sisters? and the Church as well. By the end of the year let every scouter come up to the goal. The State must support its work if we are going to do worthwhile Mission work.

Norwood Christian Church

Elder E. W. Wilbert, Pastor
Mrs. Ethel Bass, Reporter
25 Munger Ave.
Dayton, Ohio

Greeting to all our sister Churches. We have formed a Union of the three Disciples Churches (White) and our church. The January Mass Meeting was Thursday night the 30th. Dr. J. Warren Hastings Pastor of the National City Christian Church, Washington D. C. was the Speaker of the Evening. The Meeting was held at the Santa Clara Church.

We are working very hard toward our goal, our New Church. We have a $5,000 drive underway that was launched Sunday, January 19th, and will close June 29th, 1947. We hope to be able to finish paying for our Church by the time we move into it in 1948.

We have a wonderful Pastor and Wife. They make a good team together. The Pastor has a very agreeable Cabinet to work with him. All plans for program and financial drives are the work of the Pastor and his Cabinet.

We observed Woman's Day Sunday January 12th. It was a great success. We had a wonderful Speaker; Mrs. Rita Lee of Dayton. The Missionary offering for the day was $75.83. Two of our sister Churches were with us in the afternoon. Also we had echoes from the other Missionary Societies of the City.

Our annual Roll Call will be February 9th. Each Member will respond to his or her name with a dollar.

The Sunday School and all the auxiliaries of the Church are doing nice work.

Any time a Member from the Churches of the Brotherhood is in the State of Dayton, we will be glad to have you drop in on us, and join us in our Worship.

Emphasis in Building Anew

By Miss Justina Spencer

Highly esteemed teacher, chairman of local branch N. A. A. C. P. Membership Committee, Literary Mission's chairman, and Bible School Superintendent of Mt. Sinai Christian Church, Roanoke, Va. Miss Spencer received her Bachelor's Degree from Virginia State College in 1938 and is Treasurer of the Roanoke Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority.

May we think together for a few minutes on the following scriptures:

"And they that be of thee shall build the old waste places" Isaiah 58-12.

"The Lord shall build up Zion" Psalms 102-16. "Except the Lord build the house they labor in vain" Psalms '127-1. "Upon this rock I will build my church"; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" Matt. 16-18. "Other foundation can no man lay than that which is laid, which is Christ Jesus" 1 Cor. 3-11

From the beginning man has been a builder. Noah's Ark, the Tower of Babel, the Temple of Solomon, the Egyptian Pyramids, the Babylonian Hanging Gardens, Westminster Abbey, St. Peter, Brooklyn Bridge, The Empire State Building, the Panama Canal, the vast network of highways and railroads, the great number and size of the buildings housing our institutions of learning, business, and industry are some of the things representative of the time, the talent, the energy, and the means man has used down through the ages in his efforts to build materially.

The facts that man has progressed from the Indian canoe and the oxcart to streamlined trains, clippers, and airplanes; from sign and picture language to the highest type of college and graduate courses; from the runner messenger to television and the wristradio; from a few ancient herbs to penicillin, flesh and bone grafting, vitamin tablets; and the atomic bomb are sufficient proof of man's wonderful achievements intellectually and scientifically.

Let us look at another side of the picture. Once God walked with man in Eden; later he led him by a pillar of fire and cloud; then he fed him in the wilderness. He gave man a great victory though he was armed with simple candles and pitches. God sent man a law written by his own finger; he spoke to him with a still small voice out of the whirlwind. God spoke out and told man to hear Christ his son. Our Master while here once taught a lesson that covered the entire 5th, 6th, and 7th chapters of Matt. He completed the plan for man's redemption, and sent the Holy Spirit to be our guide. I mention these most familiar instances to remind you that God has not left man without some spiritual "Guide Posts" along with the material, intellectual and scientific accomplishments he has enabled him to achieve.

And what are we doing as spiritual builders? We have forsaken the praying places of our grandparents; our family altars have been removed for something more modern; we have little reverential fear of God; we question the Virgin Birth of Christ and the origin of the Bible. Deep down in our souls we do not believe that God of one blood created all men. While a few are engaged in a goodwill and race-relations meeting in one section of a state, in another section of the same state the lives of four helpless human beings are snuffed out by their more fortunate brothers. To me these things are evidence of the poor type of spiritual builders we have proven ourselves.

Far too often we allow our material and intellectual accomplishments to crowd out our opportunities to build spiritually. Please do not misunderstand me, I have the greatest praise for those who have made such unprecedented contributions in the material, intellectual and scientific fields. All this should have been done, but the other should have not been left undone.

As a member of the C. Y. F. and the G. E. let me beg you to make our convention's theme "With Christ We Build Anew" our motto. Since humanity is blessed with so great a material and intellectual heritage re-
fine speech which was enjoyed by all. The president of the State Missionary Department was with us also.

On December 15, 1946, Elder C. L. Parks, a most welcome visitor at our church, delivered our morning and night sermons.

Texas District Meeting
District No. 3
Rev. T. A. Armstead, President
E. D. Spence, Reporter-Secretary

The second district board meeting was held with the Pine Hill Christian Church on January 24, 25, 26, 1947. The meeting opened with the president Rev. Armstead in charge. Elder W. M. Cox started the meeting with a song, then prayer by Elder J. Henry, and scripture reading by the president. The meeting was conducted by the Missionary Society. Their theme was "With Christ We Build Anew." After the discussion Rev. S. M. Spencer gave a brief talk on the theme and closing remarks were made by the president.

Saturday afternoon the meeting opened with a song by K. C. Loftis, prayer by Elder A. R. Loftis, reading of the scripture by Rev. S. M. Spencer. The men discussed "How the Carnal-minded Man Affects the Church." After this discussion we all enjoyed a talent program. At 8:00 P. M. there was a sermon by one of our young preachers, Rev. S. M. Spencer, whose subject was "It Is Dangerous to Play with God."

 Mississippi Message
To the Editor of the Christian Plea and the many readers:

"I was glad when they said let us go into the house of the Lord."

The first district meeting of the No. 1 district was held at Rose Hill the second Saturday and Sunday of November, with Elder J. C. West presiding. He made a good report, stating that he had visited all of the Churches in his district. The Missionary Society was presided over by Mrs. R. E. Weaver and Mrs. Ada Johnson Barnes. Mrs. Weaver presided because of the death of Mrs. M. E. Mitchael. Mrs. Sadie James was appointed to preside over the Willing Workers in District No. 1. Sunday many were not present because of the rain.

The third Saturday and Sunday we were at Port Gibson to the district meeting of District 2. Elder J. J. Thaxter presided over the church department, Mrs. F. R. Jackson presided over the Willing Workers, and Mrs. Nettie King presided over the Women's Missionary Society. The Sisters of Christian Chapel served dinner Saturday.

The fourth Sunday in November Elder Franklin was at Union Hill at his regular service, and the first Sunday in December he was at Indianola in regular service. The first Sunday night, Brother S. E. Jones, his wife, mother, and Elder Franklin motored to Greenville, Miss. to be present at the Lodge of Sorrow of the Shriner
Hearthstone... for Personal Devotions

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CHRISTIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION
The Bethany Press
St. Louis 3, Mo.
Mrs. Preston Taylor Died March 10th

(See Next Month for Complete Story)

Report of Committee on Christian Plea

The committee on Christian Plea begs to submit the following report: Your committee was appointed to make a general study of the Christian Plea and make recommendations for any improvements or changes which would help it meet more adequately the needs of our churches and the causes represented in the life of our brotherhood. We desire to make the following observations and recommendations:

1. We recommend that the Christian Plea continue to be under the supervision and control of the Executive Committee of the National Christian Missionary Convention.

2. That the paper be under the immediate supervision of a Committee on Publication appointed by the Executive Committee. This committee should recommend the personnel of the editorial staff and serve in any advisory capacity as to editorial policies and the improvement of the paper's services to our churches.

3. Broadly speaking the editorial policy of the Christian Plea should include the promotion of the interests of all the Negro churches of our communion. It should give the widest possible coverage of significant news regarding the activities of our churches and church leadership. It should, however, at the same time promote and interpret the entire Christian world program, especially of the Disciples of Christ at home and around the world. It should not be merely a promotional periodical, but should contain editorials and articles for the cultivation of the spiritual life and for the discussion of the problems which our churches face in their local fields. It should be a voice which would make known to our entire brotherhood the needs, aspirations, and longings of our colored churches, and inform our brotherhood of the advancements which they are making and the victories they are achieving.

4. We recommend the following expense budget for the publication of the Christian Plea:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Printing at present circulation figures)</td>
<td>$1,200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Editor and Secretarial Help</td>
<td>600.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mailing</td>
<td>200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,200.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. We suggest the following possible sources of revenue:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regular Budget</td>
<td>$800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising by Agencies</td>
<td>400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscriptions</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,200.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. The committee has given consideration to two possible plans for the future handling of the Christian Plea. First is to continue as at the present time with an editor outside the staff at Indianapolis, having it handled in an office wherever the editor happens to live. Secondly, have the plea edited by a member of the staff in Indianapolis with all details cared for by the present office force. We have reached no decision up to the present moment as to which of these plans would be the most acceptable, realizing that there are good points and disadvantages in each of the plans. The Committee (Continued on page 2)
Report of Committee

(Continued from page 1)

will seek further counsel from the Executive Committee and others
before making definite recommendations.

Members of Committee:

L. L. Dickerson
Mrs. Elizabeth Herod
Lin D. Cartwright,
Chairman

It was moved and carried that
Recommendations 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 be
approved, and that Recommendation
Number 6 be referred back to the
Committee. It was also moved and
carried that the Committee of Chris-
tian Plea become the permanent Com-
mittee on Publication, and that this
Committee continue its work and re-
port at the next meeting.

Elder L. L. Dickerson asked to be
excused from the Committee on Chris-
tian Plea. The request was granted
and Elder C. H. Webb was appointed
to serve in his place.

Editor Eppse Comments

Greetings to the Brotherhood:

The above report on the Christian
Plea verifies in total the contention of
the editor for the last seven years.
I have gone before every Board, tele-
graphed every committee, and have
written personal letters to the va-
rious individuals who hold responsi-
ble positions to send the facts con-
cerning the Brotherhood life so that
they could be published in the Plea.
To this date, the only thing we have
to show is a few articles concerning
the Brotherhood sent in (usually too
late) from time to time. Therefore,
I wish to go on record that I heartily
endorse everything this committee
has submitted. However, I feel that
the committee, or one member of
the committee, should have come to
the Plea office and gone through our files
to see what our side has to offer and
is doing.

I hereby am requesting all people
who are interested in the life of the
Brotherhood and its future program
to help me get the following things
done:

1. Insist and encourage President S.
   S. Myers to have a regular release
   in the Christian Plea each month
   concerning Brotherhood activities.

2. Insist and encourage Dr. E. J.
   Dickson, our Executive Secretary,
to have a regular release in the
   Christian Plea each month. We
   need exact name, date, and place
   of meeting of all of our various

   National, state and local groups.
   We need material on the Crusades
   of Christ. We need definite in-
formation as to when and where
state conventions will be held. We
need information on the long range
program.

3. Insist and encourage Mrs. L. Ruth
   Patterson, our Secretary of Mis-
   sionary Organizations, to be alert
   in sending in information concern-
ing the activities of her program
   and the appointment of Christian
   Plea secretaries among the various
groups with whom she comes in
contact.

4. Insist and encourage Dr. C. L.
   Parks, National Director of Evan-
gelism and Church Development, to
   submit to the Christian Plea for
   publication his itinerary a month
   in advance. He has, since he has
   been director, usually held his
   meetings and has said nothing
   through the columns of the Chris-
tian Plea. What new churches is
   he now about to establish? Where
   will his next ministers' institute
   be held? Where is the next field
   of his activities? Where are the
   subscribers to the Christian Plea
   that he could so easily solicit?

5. Insist and encourage Mrs. J. A.
   Towns, President of the Woman's
   National Convention, to send the
   activities of our women so that we
   could develop a whole page devoted
   to their work. Where is that in-
formation that Mrs. Towns prom-
ised to send regularly to the Christian
Plea? Where is her next meeting going to be held?
Where are the Christian Plea sec-
retaries that her women promised
   to appoint? We would be very
   happy if Mrs. Towns would bestir
   herself in the spirit of our great
program of "A Crusade for
Christ."

The above requests are suggested by
the editor and have been for the past
seven years. We have made appeals
through the Plea and by letter for the
scholars, white and colored, to use
the columns of the Christian Plea
whenever they had a message. We
have refused to take part in any con-
troversy concerning theology, the in-
tegrity of a minister, or any matter
about which we did not have the facts.
Therefore, if the Brotherhood would
fully realize what it means to be "sep-
arate but equal," they would take
renewed courage and grapple with
the great problems as did Paul, Peter,

Preston Taylor, Henry Herod, and
Cleo Blackburn. I am appealing to
all, "It is better to light your candle
in the dark rather than to stand in
the dark and cry."

Yours for a bigger and better

Brotherhood,

Merl R. Eppse, Editor

That New Station in Africa

We have mentioned before that
two new stations were being opened
up in our Congo field in Central
Africa. We are very proud of our
six present stations and the 60,000
native Christians. Although we have
three or four thousand baptisms each
year in Congo, we realize that the
work has been handicapped for years
because of depression and war sit-
uations which limited the number of
workers and weakened their work.
There is need for strengthening all
along the way for all the stations
are still undermanned. This is be-
ing corrected as new missionaries go
out and new funds are available.

But two new stations have long
been contemplated. For more than
a year now Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Ed-
wards have been up at Bosebele get-
ting work started on that station
and helping the several thousand
Christians in that area to do more
effective work under that leadership
of a resident missionary.

Down at Ifumo Mr. H. C. Hobgood
and wife are engaged in opening up
the eighth station. Ifumo is the field
for which Vesta McCune gave her
life. Because there was no man to
20 and the need was so great, Vesta
went in and led the native Christians
in clearing the land and building
church and school. Because she for-
got herself in the task she broke her
health, came down with black-water
fever and died a few weeks later.

So Ifumo has a special appeal to
Oklahoma friends as Vesta McCune.
For the first time a missionary will
be definitely assigned to that area to
lead the many Christians already
there in their evangelistic, educa-
tional and medical work. It is most
appropriate that the Hobgoods should
do this fine piece of pioneering after
many years of building up the work
in Africa—just as the elder Ed-
wards are engaged in opening the
other new station.

If you have not paid your sub-
scription by April 1st, we will
discontinue your paper.
The Murder of a Preacher
That Murder of a Preacher!
Are you killing your pastor? Are you contributing to his early death? Here are some methods for killing preachers:
1. Stay away from the services of the church.
2. When the sermon is over rush out and never utter a word about the sermon.
3. When you get sick don’t let him know about it, and then criticize him for not coming to see you.
4. Pay just as little as you can into the church, then gripe about the church wanting too much money.
5. Never give up your allegiance to your former pastor. Constantly quote him in all matters and mourn his leaving.
6. Always have some weak excuse when help is needed from you.
7. Forget his anniversaries, refuse to say a kind word or invite him to dinner with you (these little remembrances would be too kind).
If this doesn’t kill your preacher it will undoubtedly kill his preaching and finally he will have to give up, and then you can cuss him for leaving the ministry.

Fifth Street Christian Church
Cincinnati, Ohio
Rev. S. C. Devine, Pastor
A Youth Day Program was given at the Church Sunday morning March 2, at eleven o’clock. The theme of the program was, “Youth Share the Christian Fellowship.” Music was rendered by the Senior and Junior Choirs. A symposium was conducted, led by Misses Ethel O’Henry and Sarah Mathis on the subject, “Making Christian Fellowship Real Among People.” A challenge, “Lord We Are Able,” was led by Patricia Brown and C. Y. F. Group. The Speaker of the morning was Mr. C. A. Radford, Instructor of English at Cincinnati University Evening College, who spoke on the theme, “Youth Share the Christian Fellowship.”

Brotherhood Business
(Continued from page 1)
all our church schools. The Board carries in its teaching materials the entire program of the brotherhood and it also gives support to the activities of all national cooperative agencies.
—C. D. Pantle, General Mgr.
Christian Board of Publication.

Port Gibson District
Number 1
Port Gibson, Miss.
By F. D. Rollins
The Port Gibson District No. 1, held its Church Quarterly meeting with Pine Grove Christian Church, Feb. 8-9, 1947. The theme was “Another good chance to improve Christianity.”
The conference Class was taught by Elder I. C. Franklin. Elder James Henderson brought us a short spicy message which was enjoyed by the Quarterly meeting.
Willing Workers Society Session: Mrs. Sadie James presiding. A Five minutes talk was given us by Mrs. I. C. Franklin. Subject “What can the Church do to interest the young people in missions.”
Elder W. K. Fox, Director of Religious Extension, at S. C. I. was present, and brought us some wholesome remarks. He was in the interest of “The Fourth Annual Interdenominational Institute For Christian Rural Leadership.”
The State Evangelist, Elder S. D. Yarbrough was also present and preached his same old sermon. “The need of a State paper.” The State Evangelist pointed out to us how easy we could support a paper through the State Church Convention, and with the help of the State Sunday School Convention, the State Willing Workers Society, and the State United Missionary Society. Elder Yarbrough told us that it would be better to have a “State Paper than a State Evangelist.”
The State Convention president and secretary Elder N. R. Trevillion and Mr. L. J. Page were present, also one of the State treasurers Mr. S. L. Mackey.
There was also another distinguished guest with us on Saturday: Mr. E. J. Jennings, Ex-President of the Church School Convention.
Sunday morning: Bible School conducted by local Supt. After which the house was called to order by Evangelist John West. New and unfinished business.
U. M. Society Session: Mrs. Ada Barnes presiding; we had a very interesting discussion, subject, “Seeking to be a Christian in Racial Relations,” led by Bro. F. D. Rollins and a close by Elder I. C. Franklin. Dr. V. E. Shipp preached a soul stirring sermon. We are indeed glad to announce that we have two Colored Drs. in Port Gibson now. Drs. V. E. Shipp, M. D. and James L. Lowry, M. D.
Money raised in this Quarterly meeting: Brotherhood $100.00; W. W. Society $16.11; U. M. Society $20.35; Total $136.46.

Port Gibson District No. 1
Tillman, Mississippi
Mrs. E. E. Chambliss, Reporter
The Port Gibson District No. 1 Church Schools held their quarterly meeting with the Forest Grove Christian Church near Pattison, Mississippi, January 25th and 26th, 1947. We were blessed to have pleasant weather both days, after having witnessed a few weeks of rain. The district worker, Brother E. M. Williams, was at his post of duty. On the same day, Elder M. Tisdale delivered a wonderful message. He chose for a subject, “Thou hast almost persuaded me to be Christian,” taken from Acts the 26th chapter.
In the afternoon the Christian Endeavor Organizer presided, in the person of Brother C. E. Chambliss. The discussion, “The Necessity of True Leadership” was beautifully discussed. Of course we know that is what the world needs today, “True Leadership,” and the main thought was unless we are true followers we cannot be true leaders.
On the second day we were happy to have with us the State President of the Bible School Convention, Brother John Wilson; Field Secretary, Elder E. L. Brown, and Brother Abe Elmo, State Secretary of the Christian Endeavor. After Sunday School, Elder Brown and Brother Wilson made some inspiring remarks, and also spoke of the monument to be erected to mark Elder Garrison’s resting place.
Conference Class was taught by Brother R. K. Wynn, “The Divisions of the Old Testament History.” After Christian Endeavor, Brother Elmo made some remarks concerning the Christian Endeavor and the meeting that is to be held at Southern Christian Institute. A very nice program was rendered by the young people. Elder Hughes preached a soul stirring sermon taken from the twenty-fifth chapter of Luke and the ninth verse. His subject was, “Learn of Me.”
Money raised in this meeting:
School $39.40
Elder Garrison’s Monument 18.00
Christian Endeavor 14.55
Total $71.95
THE CHRISTIAN PLEA
A monthly publication of the National Christian Missionary Convention of Disciples of Christ of America.

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EDITORIAL

"God Is Greater Than Your Fears"

Today in a world that is filled with fears, unrest, and uncertainty, we find that human relations do not change much. This is not something new to man, because this is stated many times in the book of our best sellers the Bible, which deals with the human relations from the beginning of times. If you read the Bible and understood its meanings as you read, I think, you will find that our associates, like ourselves, our friends, and our families are no different from our Biblical characters of old. We find that people rejoiced, they were downcast, and they complained just as we do today. Yet that is human nature. But they found that God was greater than their fears.

In the athletic contests between colleges we find that the students and faculties rejoice at their team’s victory in the contests of wars people rejoice at their armies’ victory. Yet there is the afterglow that follows all kind of victories. We go back to the same things that we did before our victories. That is natural because human relations do not change much. After VE and VJ days which ended World War II, there was rejoicing and relief that filled human hearts, yes we gave thanks for the change from war to peace.

God too rejoices when a sinner repents himself to become one of his divine children. So we have something in common with our Father in Heaven.

"Let us assert my firm belief that the only thing to fear is fear itself—nameless unreasoning, unjustified terror, which paralyzes needed efforts to convert retreat into advance."

F. D. R.

Fear is mankind’s worst enemy. If we devoted as much time to the conquering of fear as we did talking politics and rumors we could eliminate from the face of the earth the roots of hate, unjustified terror, unreasoning which is the food that feeds wars. So in the spirit of the Kind Father think on these things, to make the Kingdom of God come on earth in the hearts of men. For God is greater than your fears.

Yours in Christ,
James L. Killingsworth

To the Ministers:

One of the most glorious and heartening experiences of my whole ministerial career came to me during the Inservice Institute for Ministers conducted at Second Christian Church, Lexington, Kentucky January 22-23, 1947. A creditable number of Kentucky and Tennessee Ministers attended, but the spirit, enthusiasm and almost unbelievable way the ministers took hold of the “Crusade For A Christian World” was beautiful to behold. Here is a project that visions a world wide need, and yet so simple and clear that one minister commenting said, “This is the first program conference in all of my experience which aims directly at the very heart of local church needs.”

A Crusade For A Christian World must succeed, if it succeeds at all, in the local church. We have no doubts concerning the results of this project in the churches of the Kentucky and Tennessee ministers who attended the Institute.

We leave tomorrow, February 7, 1947, for Tulsa, Oklahoma, Dallas, Texas and Montgomery, Alabama where Institute programs will be conducted as outlined above. We are hoping that all ministers in these areas will seize this grand opportunity for fellowship and study designed especially to furnish solution for their’s and the world’s most pressing need.

Rev. C. L. Parks, National Director
Church Development & Evangelism

On to the National Convention at Cincinnati Ohio
August, 1947
ELDER S. C. DEVINE
Pastor

NOTICE
All news must be in by seventh of each month.

"If we walk in the light, we have fellowship one with the other." (1 John 1: 7.)
Tithing is the Godly Way

I believe as a Disciple and as a Christian that tithing is the godly way of supporting the Church of Jesus Christ, namely the ministry, missions and benevolence as well as the program promotion of the Church.

As a Christian and tither it is a joy to give one tenth of my earnings to God. I find that covetousness is no part of Christian teaching. Tithing is the heartfelt expression of a Christian's thanks to God for the material blessings he has received. Deuteronomy 8:18—"But thou should remember the Lord thy God for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth." I feel that even giving the one tenth is a small way to remember our God; for not only does he give us power, but he gave his Son who also gave His life.

God blesses a tither two-fold and even four-fold. Since I have been a tither my conscience is free, and I find my obligations easier to fulfill than ever before in my life. I love to give to the program of Jesus Christ because I know that the goodness of God will abound. I am of the conviction that tithing does bring blessings from God. "Bring ye all the tithes in brought into my house, and prove me now, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." Malachi 3:10.

Signed,
C. M. Evans
545 North Detroit
Tulsa, Okla.

Bethel Christian Church
Route 2
Colia, Miss.

Elder S. D. Yarbrough, Pastor
Mrs. Carrie Griffin, Reporter

Time has closed the pages of our 1946 record, and we are swiftly making our pages in the 1947 book history.

Both years have had their joys and their sorrows, their successes and their failures.

I pray that each of us will use our time and talents for the betterment of all concerned, with special interest in the advancement of the Cause of Christ.

Bethel is alive, but the severe winter has had its effect.

My husband passed on January 24. I desire your prayers.

---

Young Deacon of Campbell Street Christian Church, Hopkinsville, Ky., Passes

We'll remember Frederick Douglass Dawson (Spud) as a handsome deacon youth, bubbling over with enthusiasm of living and full of new ideas. Still seems unreal that a fatal illness of very short duration has taken its toll at such an early age.

Douglass was a graduate of Central Christian Institute, Shepardsville, Kentucky, and of West Kentucky Industrial College, Paducah, Kentucky. From 1933 to '42, he was Editor of "The Globe Journal" a Hopkinsville paper and from 1942 to '47, served as cement contractor, during which time, he completed some very outstanding work at Baraboo, Wisconsin, Louisville and Hopkinsville, Kentucky.

At the age of 12 years, Douglass began to make preparation for crossing "The Great Divide." It was then, under the pastorate of Elder W. H. Neal, that he was baptized and united with the Roaring Spring Christian Church. Upon going to Hopkinsville in 1933, he united with the Campbell Street Christian Church, in which communion, he spent his last years. He was very active and dutiful to the Campbell St. Church. In November, 1940, he was ordained a Deacon of the Church by Elder J. O. Bowles. He also served as Sunday School Teacher and Church Treasurer.

The sad hour came at 5:30 P. M., Sunday, January 26, at the Moore Clinic, Hopkinsville, Kentucky.

Funeral services were held at the Campbell St. Christian Church, Wednesday, January 29. Elder J. J. Washington, Pastor of Clay Street Christian Church, Paducah, Ky., gave the Eulogy. He was assisted by Elder J. E. Anderson, Champaign, Illinois.

The esteem in which the deceased was held was shown by the large number of extraordinarily beautiful floral designs, telegrams, condolences and other expressions of sympathy which poured in from all points in the country.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Jennie Dawson, a sister, Miss Osceola A. Dawson, Registrar at the West Kentucky Vocational Training School and member of the Clay St. Christian Church, Paducah, a grandmother, Mrs. Harriett Dawson, one uncle, Mr. Nettie Dawson, two cousins, Mesdames Sarah Collins, Louisville, Ky. and Willie Mae Fields, Paris, Kentucky, other relatives and a host of friends.

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Nashville Council Meeting

The Missionary Council of Nashville, Tenn.

On January 19, the Missionary Societies of Gay Street and Lea Ave. churches met and decided to form a Council from what was formally known as The Union Meetings of the Societies.

The meeting was presided over by Miss Beatrice Chandler. Committees were appointed from each church to select a speaker for each church. It is hoped that this will add to the attendance of the group.

The Council will observe "Race Relation Day" February 9, at the home of Mrs. Ruth Kelso.

This Meeting was at the home of Mrs. Annette Matthews of The Lea Ave. Church.

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From the Shores of Lake Erie

Cleveland, Ohio
Charles A. Craggett

Since my last article to the Plea the Church has had many accomplishments.

The Men's Missionary Society is the talk of the entire church under the leadership of W. O. Jackson and Mrs. Craggett. The topic for discussion is Thomas Campbell, and the Early Restoration Movement. The third Sunday in March a Saint Patrick's Day tea will be given by the men's group committee composed of Mark Tisdale, W. O. Jackson, S. L. Bergeon, Jessie Blair, and W. E. Harrison.

The Music Committee, consisting of Mr. Mark Lawson, director of the Senior Choir, Mr. A. Thomas, director of the Gospel Choir, and minister of music; Miss Geneva Grimes, organist for the Senior Choir, Mrs. Ethel Brazer, organist for the Gospel Choir, and Mrs. Craggett has brought to the church outstanding musical programs since the first of the year. For January, Mrs. Vivian Allen, soprano, and for February, Mrs. Hazel Harrison, a soprano. Both of these ladies are members of the church.

Plans for the entire year are being made to present outstanding talent of the city and brotherhood.
The year brought a few changes in the official capacity. Mr. J. Blair, a new Elder, and deacons, Earl Bergeon, Albert Meadows, and James Mays. For the deaconesses, Mrs. Mattie Bergeon, and Mrs. Mattie Blair are new. The church clerks are Mrs. Gladys Talbott, and Kenneth Dubney. The Departmental heads are as follows: Joint Board—W. O. Jackson; Elder—S. J. Bergeon; Deacons—R. Clark; Missionary—Mrs. N. Howard; Sunday School—A. Gray; Senior Choir—W. O. Jackson; Gospel Choir—J. Blair; Ushers—Miss Florence Coles; Trustees—M. Tisdale; Deaconess—M. Blair. Finance Committee is composed of W. E. Harrison, chairman, H. Lowe, treasurer, and K. Cecil, secretary.

The Senior Choir will present its Easter Cantata, Psalm Sunday, titled, "Life Eternal."

The Missionary Society will carry out the Easter Week of Prayer concluding with the showing of the picture, "In the Upper Room," and "The Last Communion" conducted by the Pastor, and Sunrise Prayer Service will be conducted by the Elders Easter Sunday morning.

**Eastern Seaboard Christian Convention**

Disciples of Christ
Rev. C. L. Whitfield, Secretary
228 N. Calhoun St.,
Baltimore, Maryland

Feb. 6, 1947

To the National Brotherhood greetings:
On the 29th. of December 1946 a fond hope of the whole Christian Brotherhood was realized when in the city of Philadelphia, Pa., we organized The Fellowship Christian Church. Disciples of Christ.

The Church is located at 150 N. 50th Street; the acting minister is Elder Hilliard Smith; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. L. F. McKenzie, 142 N. 50th Street. It is to be hoped that ministers and laymen throughout the brotherhood who have former members, relatives and friends living in Phila., will write and urge them to join themselves to this fine group. The Eastern Seaboard district meeting is being held there Feb. 9, 1947.

In His Name.
C. L. Whitfield, Secretary

**United Christian Church**

16th and Forest St.
Detroit, Michigan

Rev. Jordan, Pastor
Miss Irene Harvey, Reporter

The members of the United Christian Church have started their series of dedication programs, after moving into its edifice at Sixteenth and Forest Street, which was purchased this month for forty thousand dollars.

In Nineteen Hundred and Thirty-seven, Rev. R. L. Jordan started this Church in a store front on Lovett Street with only five members. In Nineteen Hundred and Thirty-nine the church moved to Thirtieth Street and has worshiped there until the purchase of the new Church home last month.

Guest Week ran from January 23, through January 30. Worshiping with us were, The A. M. E. Church with Rev. J. D. Howell, pastor; Plymouth Congregational Church, Rev. Horace White, pastor; The Mary Palmer Church, Rev. Bankhead, pastor. Missionary night we had as our guest speaker, Mrs. J. W. Brown.

Sunday, five minute greetings were given by prominent citizens of the community including, Mr. F. H. Williams, representing the Tribune Newspaper; Mr. J. H. Cole, Mortician, and Dr. R. Washington, Business man.

Dedication Week closed with a banquet at the Church. We will celebrate Church anniversary starting February 16, 1947.

**Gay Street Christian Church**

Elder H. G. Fleming, pastor
Mrs. H. E. Braden, reporter.

We are indeed happy to report that Historic Gay Street is still on the upward trend and enjoying constant growth in all departments, both in numerical and financial strength.

It is heartening to know that our church has really returned to the Apostolic teachings and practices under the leadership of our courageous pastor. His subjects for January were as follows: Jan. 5, "Lost Opportunities." Jan. 12, "Drawing Near to God." Jan. 19, "Growth in Grace." Jan. 26, "A Separate People."

The members are working with great zeal and are "endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace."

The pastor attended the Minister's Institute in Lexington, Ky. Jan. 22-23, and brought back interesting reports from the meeting.

On the 4th Sunday in Jan. The Laymen's League met at the church, and Mrs. Minnie Alexander brought the message. The subject was, "Men and Christian Stewardship." The message was inspiring as well as instructive. Much stress was put on Stewardship and tithing and those who were present were much enlightened by such a message. Elder Ernest Foster will bring the message at the next meeting.

The Bible school is showing progress. We observed Youth Week, Jan. 29-Feb. 2, and students from A and I State College gave talks on Youth. On Jan. 29, Mr. Hurd spoke on, "Why Young People Don't Go To Church." On Feb. 2, Mr. Sims spoke on, "The Religious Training of Youth."

The C. E. Society is growing better each week, under the leadership of Miss Lucile Perry.

The Choir is taking on new life. It has purchased a piano, with the aid of the other auxiliaries and the junior members are busy, planning programs for the progress of the choir and the church.

We ask your earnest prayers for the success of Gay Street and our untiring leader, Elder H. G. Fleming.

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Rev. S. E. Tillman, Pastor
A. B. Washington, Reporter

"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed with about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us." Heb. 12:1.

It is true that we have accomplished a great deal in the past year with God's help, and many have witnessed the same. So let us lay aside every weight of sin that may beset us, such as pride, and let every member work together and run with patience the race that is set before us—to complete our church that God has given us through hard struggles. We are still on the firing line trying to do a work for the upbuilding of the Master's Kingdom. Some times the load seems hard to bear, but we must keep pressing on looking unto God, the author and finisher of our faith. We were able to hold services in church all during the past month. Every Sunday morning we have our Sunday School at nine forty-five and regular service at eleven o'clock, followed by Communion. We thank God for the spirit of Christ that exists in our members in opening their homes on Tuesday night for Bible Quiz, and Thursday night for prayer and praise meeting. The mid-week meetings have been very helpful and the prayers have run high in the spirit of the Lord. The Sunday School has taken on new life under our newly elected superintendent, Brother Lehmon Johnson. We are glad to have our young men come forward and take up the work of leading the young in the knowledge of Christ. While speaking of the young let us not forget Brother Nelson who is sick in a hospital in New York. Let us pray for him that he may return to us and to his wife, who is also a member of this church. We are glad to see trustee Moody out again after illness.

The Third Sunday was a high day. The morning message was delivered by our Mother H. B. Washington. The subject was, "He Kept His Promise," taken from John 6:37.

The service was enjoyed by all and one person came forward and joined the Church. At three o'clock in the afternoon Rev. Green from Trenton, New Jersey, and some of his good friends came over and we had a joyful time. After dinner we reassembled and the assistant pastor, Elder G. Edward brought us the closing message of the day. We could not but say that we rejoiced in the spirit of the Lord all day.

The Fourth Sunday was change of pulpit all around. Our pastor preached at a white church and we had Rev. Major of the Hungarian Baptist Church with us at eleven o'clock morning service. He spoke very well on the subject, "United We Stand, Divided We Fall."

Three Mile Creek Christian Church and Bible School
A. L. Brabham, Supt. of the Bible School, Reporter
Olar, South Carolina

Report from the Three Mile Creek Christian Church and Bible School:

We are getting along very well since our last report. We are striving to build up Christ's Kingdom and to do His bidding to sinful men and women, and to draw all men unto Him.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believed in him would not perish but have everlasting life. We must work the work of him that sent us. Our church is moving on very nicely and very praiseful. Our Pastor brings us a wonderful message every second Sunday, and it seems as if the spirit of truth is exercising among us.

Our Bible School is doing fine. We are trying to get our Young People interested in our work as they will be our future leaders. Our District Quarterly Meeting convened with the members of the Magdeline Christian Church, Allendale, South Carolina. We had a grand session and new officials were elected. Elder W. M. Retter, President; A. L. Brabhum, Secretary; Brother A. J. Miley, Treasurer. Our next meeting will convene with the members of the Macedonia Christian Church, March 29-30, 1947, beginning on Friday night.

We beg the prayer of the Brotherhood for our success for this year, 1947.

A. L. Brabham
Route 1, Box 15
Ehrhardt, S. Carolina
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New Oklahoma Church Going Up

East Sixth Street Christian Church in Oklahoma City, E. W. Henry, Jr., Minister, is just now completing a very beautiful and commodious church building. The structure is built of native white stone and was planned by Sorey, Hill and Sorey, Architects of Oklahoma City, with A. L. Wicks of the Board of Church Extension as Advisory Architect.

In addition to the beautiful and well planned sanctuary with elevated baptism and communion table, the building has departmental and class rooms for their growing Bible School.

E. W. Henry, Jr., has been pastor now for nearly two years and the church has grown and developed in many ways under his excellent leadership.

It is expected that the new building will be ready for dedication services on March 30th. Several of our white Christian Churches have already sent contributions to help in the erection of this building, the First Christian Church of Oklahoma City having given $5,000 to this project.

The building and equipment will cost approximately $40,000.00 and will be one of the nicest buildings occupied by any Negro congregation in Oklahoma.

Any churches desiring to send offerings designated for this special building project may send the offerings to the Oklahoma Christian Missionary Society and designated for East Sixth Street Church. There should be many such offerings before dedication day on March 30th.

SUBSCRIBE TO CHRISTIAN PLEA

Corinth Christian Church
Rev. P. C. Washington, Pastor
Mrs. Almeta Henderson, Reporter
Kilgore, Texas

I am still grateful to say that we are doing nicely. We have a splendid Bible School each Sunday under the leadership of Supt. James Hunt. We also had nice services on last second and fourth Sunday. Rev. Washington preached from the subject, “My Yoke is easy, My Burden is Light.”

We still solicit your prayers as we work together. Let us take a bounteous supply of faith, a large amount of understanding, hope, determination and love, and the result will be a pleasing success.

Mrs. Preston Taylor died March 10th. Her remains were laid to rest by the side of Elder Preston Taylor, Friday, March 14th, 1947. Read complete story next month.
Mrs. Preston Taylor Laid to Rest
Funeral Service of Mrs. Preston Taylor

FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 1947, 2 P.M.
LEA AVENUE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
709 LEA AVENUE
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

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MRS. PRESTON TAYLOR
Born November 7, 1877
Died March 10, 1947

Mrs. Preston Taylor was born in Nashville, Tennessee. Her maiden name was Ida Mallory. Mrs. Taylor attended the Public Schools and graduated from Roger Williams University and studied at Fisk University. She was an ardent worker and loyal supporter of all of her late husband’s interests.

Mrs. Taylor took charge of Greenwood Cemetery, the Taylor and Company Funeral Home and managed them from her husband’s death until her passing. This company has been in existence fifty-nine years. Mrs. Taylor was a loyal member of Lea Avenue Christian Church; Trustee of the National Christian Missionary Convention; Board of Managers of the United Christian Missionary Society; Treasurer of the CHRISTIAN PLEA; President of the National Christian Missionary Convention.

She has aided many worthy students through school and equipped the Chapel at Southern Christian Institute, Edwards, Mississippi.

Mrs. Taylor’s favorite songs:

Higher Ground
Lead Kindly Light
Church In The Wildwood
Thou Thinkest, Lord, Of Me
Jesus Calls Us O’er The Tumult

PROGRAM

Prof. Merl R. Eppse, Master of Ceremonies

Processional ................................ Mrs. Hazel Holt, Organist
Song ........................................... United Choirs of the Christian Churches
(Lea Avenue, Gay Street, and Alameda Christian Churches)
Scripture ....................................... Elder R. C. Maloy, Pastor
Alameda Avenue Christian Church
Song ........................................... United Choirs of the Christian Churches
Prayer ......................................... Elder H. G. Fleming, Pastor
Gay Street Christian Church
Song ........................................... United Choirs of the Christian Churches
Resolutions, Telegrams ....................... Elder S. J. Chandler
Obituary ..................................... Mrs. Elizabeth Herod
Indianapolis, Indiana

Song ........................................... United Choirs of the Christian Churches
Remarks (three minutes):

Dr. S. S. Myers, Kansas City, Mo.
Deacon Frank White, Lea Avenue Christian Church
Dr. L. L. Dickerson, Columbus, Ohio
Elder R. C. Maloy
Dr. Henry Allen Boyd
Dr. A. M. Townsend

Song ........................................... United Choirs of the Christian Churches
Eulogy ........................................ Dr. R. Wesley Watson, Former President
National Christian Missionary Convention, Kansas City, Mo.

Benediction .................................. Dr. F. T. Floyd, President
Kentucky State Christian Missionary Convention, Louisville, Ky.

Recessional .................................. Mrs. Hazel Holt, Organist

CEREMONY AT CEMETERY

MT. PISGAH CHAPTER NO. 51 O. E. S.
MRS. LILIE COLE STEWART, Matron
NASHVILLE FUNERAL DIRECTORS

PALLBEARERS
Mr. Andrew Holmes, President
Mr. T. G. Patton, Family Usher
FLOWER BEARERS
United Christian Missionary Societies

At one o’clock, Friday, March 14, the Lea Avenue Christian Church began to fill with Nashville’s citizens come to pay their last respects to one of its most illustrious daughters, Mrs. Preston Taylor, who for many years has been outstanding in Nashville’s civic and religious life. The combined choirs of the Christian churches of the city were in their places with Mrs. Hazel Holt at the organ.

Promptly at 2 P.M., funeral pro-
cession entered the church as the sweet strains of “Crossing The Bar” filled the church. Leading the procession were members of the local ministry and officers of the National Convention of the Christian Church from various parts of the nation.

The ceremony was read by Dr. S. S. Myers, National president, Kansas City, Missouri. The gray metallic bier, topped by a wreath of white carnations and tearose gladioli, was rolled into the flower-bedecked pulpit.

The choir sang one of the favorite songs of the deceased, “Higher Ground.” The scripture was read by Elder R. C. Maloy, pastor of the Alameda Street Christian Church, Nashville.

The choir sang “The Church In The Wildwood”, another of the late Mrs. Taylor’s favorite songs. Telegrams and resolutions were acknowledged by Elder S. J. Chandler. Among them were condolences from Mrs. Tapp and daughters; Mrs. Ella May Alcorn, President, Missionary Society, Third Christian Church, Louisville, Kentucky; R. F. Boyd, Medical Auxiliary, Nashville; Mrs. S. J. Chandler, Sr., and daughters, Nashville; Meadames Mildred and Ivey Bowen, Sumter, South Carolina; Rev. and Mrs. R. H. Peoples, Second Christian Church, Indianapolis, Indiana; Mrs. Ruth Patterson, National Director Missionary Society; Mrs. Geneva Towns, President, National Convention, Indianapolis, Indiana; Miss Bessie Chandler, National President of Bible School, St. Louis, Missouri; Mr. and Mrs. Mack Bender, Omaha, Nebraska; Mrs. Rosa Brown Brady, St. Louis, Missouri; Dr. R. E. Latouche, Chicago, Illinois; Rev. F. F. Floyd, Louisville, Kentucky; Mr. Albert Raines, Chicago, Illinois; Dr. J. E. Walker, Memphis, Tennessee; Elder Emmett Dixon, Indianapolis, Indiana; Elder Watson, Kansas City, Missouri; Mrs. H. L. Horod, Indianapolis, Indiana, Rev. T. R. Everitt, Midway, Kentucky; Mr. and Mrs. William Johns, Nashville, Tennessee; Mr. George Anderson, The Culinary Art Club, Mr. William Patterson, Elder R. C. Maloy, all of Nashville, Tennessee; Mrs. A. W. Davis, Kansas City, Kansas; Mrs. G. A. Cash Frierson; Dr. and Mrs. H. C. Miller; Alameda Christian Church, Nashville; Staff and Inmates of Joseph B. Knowles Home, Nashville, Tennessee; Mrs. C. White Matson; Mrs. Molly Shavers; Members of the Missionary Society of the Indiana Avenue Christian Church, Chicago, Illinois, Mrs. A. L. Martin, President; Rev. S. E. Devine, Cincinnati, Ohio; H. B. McCormick, Indianapolis, Indiana; Mrs. Ruth Eppse, Los Angeles, California; Mrs. P. C. Washington, Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Texas; President John Long, Southern Christian Institute, Edwards, Miss.; Dr. E. J. Dickson, Indianapolis, Indiana; Prof. and Mrs. T. W. Pratt, Dallas, Texas; Second Christian Church, S. B. Walllick, Muskogee, Oklahoma; Twelfth Street Christian Church, Dr. J. F. Whifield, Pastor, Washington, D. C.; 28th Street Christian Church, Cosmopolitan Christian Church, and Avalon Christian Church, Los Angeles, California; Dr. Raphael Miller, Editor, The Christian-Evangelist, St. Louis, Missouri; and the Woman’s Council of the State of Missouri, Mrs. Floyd Wilson, President.

A Resolution was read from the Citizens Savings Bank and Trust Company of Nashville: Whereas, through the will of Almighty Providence, Mrs. Ida D. Taylor has been taken from our midst by death; and Whereas, for a long period of years she served faithfully and proficiently as a Director of Citizens’ Savings Bank and Trust Company, working at all times for the best interest of our institution; and Whereas, through her untiring efforts much good has been wrought in behalf of our community; now

Therefore, we, the Directors of Citizens Savings Bank and Trust Company do hereby express our deep regret in the passing of Mrs. Taylor and extend our sincere condolence to the bereaved family in this hour of sorrow. Henry A. Boyd, President and A. G. Price, Secretary.

Resolution from the Adult Missionary Society of Lea Avenue Christian Church read as follows: It is with deep sorrow that the members of the Adult Missionary Society of Lea Avenue Christian Church records the death of Mrs. Ida Malloy Taylor. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to her relatives. For many years Mrs. Taylor was actively interested in the program of the Missionary Society. When Mrs. Taylor was President of the Society, her service was marked by clear insight, unwavering loyalty and friendliness.

Be it resolved that the members of the Missionary Society remember the inspiration and support which Mrs. Taylor faithfully gave this organization.

Be it further resolved that we always remember her as a leader in missions, in education and philanthropy. By her death, we lose a generous supporter and wise counselor. And may the Recording Angel, who records all the good things people say and all the good things people do, record Mrs. Taylor with God’s “Who’s Who”.

Resolution from the Phyllis Wheatley Club read as follows: The Trustees and members of the Phyllis Wheatley Club have come to pay the last tribute of respect to one of its loyal members in the person of Mrs. Preston Taylor.

Mrs. Taylor was, for a number of years, the Treasurer of the Trustee Board. It was during the lifetime of her distinguished husband, the late Rev. Preston Taylor, that she became active in the affairs of the Home. She, with her husband, made large contributions to the Home and the inmates were always remembered by them. They further showed their benefaction by giving those inmates a nice burial when they were unable to pay.

The Home has lost a generous friend and her place will be hard to fill.

We can only say, “Peace to her ashes and rest to her soul.” "Servant
THE CHRISTIAN PLEA

A monthly publication of the National Christian Missionary Convention of Disciples of Christ of America.

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"If we walk in the light, we have fellowship one with the other." (1 John 1: 7.)

NOTICE
All news must be in by seventh of each month.

of God, well done; Rest from thy loved employ; The battle's fought, the victory won, Enter Thy Master's joy." Phyllis Wheatley Trustee Board: Dr. A. M. Townsend, President; Mrs. Clemmie White, President of the Club; Mrs. S. S. Morris, Acting Secretary.

Mrs. Elizabeth Herod, who was selected to read the Obituary, had the following to say of Mrs. Taylor: "I have traveled all over the country with Mrs. Taylor and knew her better than most people knew her. It it with varying emotions that I stand beside this casket for I have lost a friend, sister and benefactor. I'd rather be sitting down there with Margaret.

"For thirty years Mrs. Taylor and I traveled together, visited in each other's homes and I have a great appreciation for her. I was here at the going of her husband. And as the quotation goes. 'As the husband, so the wife is.' He was great, but his greatness was attained by the help of his wife. She was a hard worker.

"I remember the great work she did for her people. During the first World War when they had no place to go for recreation, she worked untiringly at Greenwood Park. She worked daily and at night to make Greenwood Park for Negroes who had no place to go. I was humbled by her courage to carry on her husband's work after he passed. I know it wasn't easy for her to keep the work going; many times during the night she would say, 'Betty, do you think Little Brother knows what I am trying to do?' We know how she held on to things he held dear. How she loved young people. How she helped any number of fine girls and boys through schools all over the country.

"Once there came to me a motherless child who must be sent through school. I got her through Fisk University to her senior; then her father said, 'She just can't go back, I don't have the money.' At this time I had three children of my own in college—two in a graduate school and one in undergraduate—so I could do nothing in a financial way beyond paying her tuition. Then there was nothing left for room and board. I worried and prayed and, finally, one night I called Nashville and said, 'Little Sis, do something for me. I want you to take Jane in your home and let her go to Fisk and finish. This is her last year and I can pay her tuition but can do nothing about her room and board. I know it will mean a lot of change in your household for there will be young people coming in and out, but it is the only way that this child can get through school.' Little Sis only laughed and said, 'Send her on down' Now that girl is an outstanding Social Worker in Indianapolis and has been awarded a scholarship for further study by the Welfare Board; but that girl's life would not have meant a thing had it not been for Mrs. Taylor. Hers was not a case where in the 'evils after her'; her good works will live after her as long as there is a person who can testify to her benevolence. No, hers was not a case where the good was interred with the bones.

"Last Monday morning when she stepped into the presence of a loving God, He must have said, 'When I was hungry, you fed me, and when I was in prison, you visited me'—for we all know of her kindness—'When I was naked, you clothed me, and when she asked, 'Lord, When saw I Thee hungry, and in prison, and naked and ministered unto Thee?' And the Master answered, 'Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.'

"She loved the simple things in life I had; she was too busy; so I would bring clippings to read to her. Among them once was a story they tell that during the first World War when the chaplain would go to pray with ill and wounded and dying soldiers, invariably they would ask for 'The Children's Prayer'—'Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray Thee, Lord, my soul to keep; If I should die before I wake, I pray Thee, Lord, my soul to take.' So I told her I wanted her to hear it. I thought she had been sleeping as I read; but she thought awhile and finally said, 'That's about all there is to say.' And so here and now I would like to read a poem based on the first line, 'Now I lay me down to sleep': 'When my sun of life is gone; When the dusky shadows creep, Say for me before I go, Now I lay me down to sleep. When, at the Journey's end I come, When all life's battles have been won, When the evening shadows creep, Now I
lay me down to sleep. Nothing more to take or bear, Nothing more to give or keep, Say for me the Children's Prayer—Now I lay me down to sleep. What have you more ways to tell, When the evening shadows creep? All is over, all is well, Now I lay me down to sleep."

The choir then sang one stanza, "Thou Thinkest, Lord, of Me," another favorite hymn of Mrs. Taylor, after which Deacon Frank White made the following statement: "Friends, as a member of Lea Avenue Christian Church, I came in young. I was baptized on the first Sunday in February by Preston Taylor and came in contact with Mrs. Preston Taylor constantly. She was always, through forty-odd years, found doing diligent Christian work. She took great interest in the young people in the Sunday School; always spoke kindly to us. We worked on the Trustee Board together and never fell out. I knew her as Little Sis."

In behalf of the National Organization, Mrs. Elizabeth Herod had the following to say: "Mrs. Taylor was closely associated with me in National work. She was the first president of the National Convention of the Disciples of Christ; then she passed her charge over to me, saying, 'The Brotherhood has been most gracious.' She received more beautiful gifts, more tribute than any other president we have ever had. Everybody loved her because of her lovable disposition. I know of no other woman in the Brotherhood who is more widely loved than Mrs. Preston Taylor. The Brotherhood, today, has sustained a great loss."

Elder R. C. Maloy, Pastor of Alameda Street Christian Church, Nashville, had this tribute to pay to the deceased by stating the following: "I received a telegram on Wednesday evening; I was away from home. Upon arriving at home and reading it, I was shocked to learn of the death of Mrs. Preston Taylor. I showed the telegram to my wife and we both agreed that I should come; I had less than three hours, but within that time I got prepared and was on the next train headed for Nashville.

"We do lament the passing of our friends, but if we look at the bright picture of achievements of those about us, we will find something to relieve the bitterness of their going. Every woman here ought to find in the life of this good woman some help to make life happier for herself. She dedicated her life to the service of young people. Nobody grows old who deals with the young. Let me bide with the youth and I will forever remain a young man. As there is a fragrance from the flowers which permeate the space about us, so from her life came essence that helped the low in spirit, the poor in spirit; nothing more in life could you or I want than this. As the angels look down on us and behold her approaching eternity, they can say, 'There comes one whose life has sent before it the experience that will help you who are left.'"

"I entered the National Convention at its second session and Dr. Preston Taylor welcomed me there and always seemed to think a great deal of Brother Pratt. I tried never to disappoint him. May God add a blessing to all the good women who had the pleasure of knowing Sister Taylor."

Dr. A. M. Townsend, Secretary of the Sunday School Publishing Board of the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc., paid the following tribute to his friend and co-worker of many years: "I deem it a high privilege to be here on this occasion to add testimony to all that has been said of this, our sister and friend. I first came to Nashville more than fifty years ago to enter Roger Williams University. I found Ida Mallery there and I have followed her all through her life and we have been friends. There was a very close relationship between her husband and me; he was one of my best friends on earth. He proved his friendship to me in ways which I never shall forget.

"When I was a boy, I thought of Heaven as a great, beautiful, shiny city with great walls and domes and spires; walls of jasper and sapphire because I had been taught that, 'Gates of pearl and streets of Gold.' By and by, a companion of my youth died. Then I thought of Heaven as a great, beautiful, shiny city with great walls and domes and spires and one little fellow that I was acquainted with wandering around within it. Another companion of my youth died, and I knew two people in Heaven. The number of my acquaintances in Heaven began to grow and Heaven became more attractive to me as the number of my friends who were there became larger. It was not until God came and took a loving sister of mine that I began to think of Heaven in a personal way; a great number of relatives have gone since that time. Out of a college class of six, five have gone; out of a Medical College class of 56, 42 have gone; a father, a mother, and many other relatives and friends have gone. Now I don't see Heaven as a great city with jasper walls, and golden streets and domes and spires. Rather I think of the inhabitants of Heaven as kinsmen, loved ones and co-laborers. I know more people in Heaven now than on earth. 'What are they doing in Heaven? I am thinking of friends whom I used to know, Who live and suffered in this world below; But they've gone up to Heaven and I..."
want to know What they are doing there now. There were some who were poor and often despised. They looked to Heaven through tear-blinded eyes, But the people were needless and deaf to their cries, What are they doing there now? There were some whose bodies were full of disease; Medicine nor doctor could give them much ease; They suffered till death brought a final release—What are they doing there now? What are they doing in Heaven to-day—Where sin and sorrow are all done away—Where peace abounds like a river, they say? What are they doing there now? In the spirit now, I am listening to Jesus unfolding his promise again to Sister Taylor: 'I go to prepare a place for you that where I am, there ye may be also.' Soon we, too, shall be going to come to the end of our journey; a few more days and labors, sorrows will be no more. We will be done with afflictions, persecutions, pain, sickness, disappointments. 'A few more marchings weary, a few more storm-clouds dreamy' and we shall be in that 'Land of Unclouded Day', where the Tree of Life is blooming with the Faithful and loved ones who have gone on before, we will praise God forever and ever. We will praise the Holy Spirit who has been with us through our journey; God, who gave his Son to die for us; Jesus, who redeemed us with His blood. 'Be thou faithful until death and I will give thee a Crown of Life.'

The Choir sang "Jesus Calls Us O'er The Tumult", another of the favorite hymns of the deceased.

In presenting the main speaker for the occasion, Dr. S. S. Myers, National President said: "Ida Taylor walked with God and she was not, for God took her. Our Brotherhood mourns, not in the loss, but in the passing of our friend. The name, Preston Taylor, shall live as long as our Brotherhood lives, and it shall live as long as humanity shall live. As I listened to the various tributes being paid to Sister Taylor, I tried to think of a phrase to describe the legacy handed down to us this day. Then, I thought of a phrase which amply portrays the sort of character she was—'She was other-fellow-minded.' Yes, like her Master, Jesus, she was always other-fellow-minded. When one thinks of Preston Taylor and this good woman and the lives that they lived and the services which they rendered, one cannot help but think that their total physical substance is indicative of their devotion and love and interest in humanity and the Kingdom of God.

"The three greatest drives of the human nature are, sex, self, and group. All of these were combined in three great commandments: 'Love the Lord Thy God with all thy heart and with all thy mind and with all thy strength and thy neighbor as thyself.' The Taylors were that love. Our legacy is rich and the challenge is great; the mantle has fallen on us. Pledge today to them to make whatever they lived for, what they gave their lives and substance to, what they would want it to be.

Now I present the man who will bring the eulogy. It was the wish and desire of the deceased that he have this honor; therefore, I passed this responsibility on to him when this was made known to me. We were glad to let Dr. R. Wesley Watson bring the eulogy. He is ex-President of the National Convention, Dr. Watson."

In bringing the main eulogy, Dr. R. Wesley Watson of Kansas City, Missouri, set forth as his theme, "The Last Journey." "My text," he said, "is from the Bible, I must stay in the Bible or I wouldn't be true to her, for she always said to me, 'Watson, preach the word.' The text comes from the lips of a great sufferer, Job, who saw all of his riches and worldly possessions go away. But he was able in his great faith to say, 'The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away.' Friends blamed him. Cover Ida Taylor with a mantle of love and see her as I knew her.

"Solomon said, 'Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them. While the sun or the moon or the stars be not darkened, nor the clouds return after the rain. In the day when the keepers of the house shall tremble and the strong men shall bow themselves, and the grinders cease because they are few, and those that look out of the windows be darkened, and the doors shall be shut in the streets, when the sound of the grinding is low, and he shall rise up at the voice of the bird, and all the daughters of music shall be brought low; also when they shall be afraid of that which is high and fears shall be in the way, and the almond tree shall flourish, and the grasshopper shall be a burden, and desire shall fail; because man goeth to his long home, and the mourners go about in the streets; or ever the silver cord be loosed or the golden bowl be broken, or the pitcher be broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern. Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was; and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.' That is the last journey. 'It is appointed once to man to die and after death, the judgement.'

"It was my privilege to know this great soul for 34 years. I first met her when I had just finished college; her faith inspired me when I came to Gay Street Christian Church in 1934. She was a great convention-goer; a great sharer, who believed in sharing whatever she had with others. She fed us all at one time or another; served us 4 years in the Convention; her car was the convention's car. She loved her brethren and had great respect for the ministers; not only for the ministers, but for their wives as well. When the brethren were wrong, she was with them to get them right. She was a wise counselor; she could always give me guidance. We were fellow-laborers.

"She loved to make others happy regardless of race or color. I remember when she promoted a surprise for retiring president of the Brotherhood, Dr. J. B. Lehman, who had served us faithfully for 44 years. She worked until she had enough in money to purchase and came to me and said, 'Watson, I want you to present the gift.' I presented Dr. Lehman the gift, a token of appreciation for his services— a gold watch. She was inter-racial. Her home wasn't a colored home; it was the people's home. She loved Lea Avenue Christian Church and could sing fervently, 'I love Thy Kingdom, Lord, the house of Thine abode, The Church our Blessed Redeemer saved with His own precious Blood. I love Thy Church, O God, Her walls before Thee stand, dear as an apple of Thine eye, Engraven on Thy hand.' She loved the womanhood of the church.
"It was her dream to have her home where the older ones could go and spend their last days in peace. God has a place in the program for the old man.

"In the shadow of every great man walks a great woman. Preston Taylor was a great man because he had a great wife. I made a covenant to see her once per year. I kept the covenant. Life is just a few years when compared with eternity. I see something in this death. She can't come back to us, but we can go to her.

"How to make the journey. We cannot make it alone; we must make it together. I hope that the Convention will come back together and be re-united. 'Neither pray I for you alone.' Her death is a challenge for me to stay in the old ship. We may not see things together all the time, but we should stick together. In her death, I see a call for a united Brotherhood.

"A man went to look for a job at the home of Sir Albert. He was employed by the wife in the absence of Sir Albert. Finally, when Sir Albert was to arrive at the station upon his return to his home town, the wife sent the newly-hired man to the station to meet his new master whom he had never seen. 'But,' he protested, 'I have never seen Sir Albert; how could I possibly know him on sight?' The wife replied, 'He is a tall, handsome man who is always helping someone.' The hired man went to the train station with only this to guide him. When the train came in, he saw a tall, handsome man alight and, turning, help an old lady with her bundles off the train. He immediately approached the man, greeted him as Sir Albert, telling him that he was the new hired man. Sir Albert wanted to know how could a perfect stranger recognize him so readily. 'Well, Sir,' the hired man replied, 'your wife told me to look for a tall, handsome man who was always helping someone, and that's how I recognized you.' That was Mrs. Preston Taylor. I remember her as always helping someone.

"Make the journey in love, faith and unity. Take it with Jesus, for He has said, 'Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.' Accept her God, just live by Him. Her Sunday School was a Century School—that is, they gave one hundred dollars each year to missions. She was a member of the Star. She had seen the star in the east and she came to worship Him. Her load was not always easy, but she followed on. Our loads will not always be easy, but Jesus has promised to be with us. One by one we are going; the road gets just a little narrower day by day.

"I haven't said all I could have said, but I was trying to justify the request of a friend. To the loved ones, we know of the wealth she has left, but she has left a greater faith yet. I commended you unto God and to the word of His grace which is able to build you up. 'When gray threads mar life's pattern and seem so out of line, Through the mist we see the Weaver, Who made the whole design.'"

The Master of Ceremonies acknowledged the presence of the following persons: Dr. E. C. Dickens, Indianapolis, Indiana; Elder Oliver Thompson, Nashville; Dr. J. E. Walker, Memphis, Tennessee; Dr. F. T. Floyd, Louisville, Kentucky—President of the Kentucky State Convention; Rev. G. W. Gore, Sr., Nashville; Dr. R. L. Latouche, Chicago, Illinois; Rev. T. R. Everritt, Midway, Kentucky.

Mrs. W. H. McGavock, lifelong friend and associate, who is now the oldest undertaker in the city of Nashville (Mrs. Taylor had been the oldest by one year), took charge and was assisted by the Nashville Funeral Directors' Association. Mrs. McGavock and the late Mrs. Taylor had very similar experiences in that their businesses were begun only one year apart; they were both widows and managed their own businesses. Under the direction of Mrs. McGavock, the many friends present to pay their last respects to the deceased, passed the bier and viewed the remains as the sweet strains of "Crossing The Bar", played by Mrs. Hazel Holt, were heard from the organ.

The benediction was pronounced by Dr. F. T. Floyd, President of the Kentucky State Convention. Members of the Nashville Funeral Directors' Association acted as pall-bearers. Mr. T. G. Patton, a member of this association, was family usher. The members of the Christian Missionary Societies of the city acted as Flower Bearers. Many beautiful floral expressions of sympathy were in evidence. The Mt. Pisgah Chapter No. 51 O.E.S. conducted a ceremony at the graveside.

TELEGRAMS

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
Sincere sympathy in the loss of Mrs. Preston Taylor, our Christian friend.

SIGNED: Members of the Missionary Society of the Indiana Avenue Christian Church, Mrs. A. L. Martin, Pres.

CINCINNATI, OHIO

SIGNED: Rev. S. E. Devine

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
The entire United Society Staff expresses deepest sympathy to the relatives and friends of Mrs. Preston Taylor. Sincerely regret I cannot be present.

SIGNED: H. B. McCormick

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
Sorry to hear of the passing of our dear friend, Mrs. Taylor. Cannot reach Nashville in time for funeral.

SIGNED: Ruth Eppse

GLADEWATER, TEXAS
Accept our heartfelt sympathy in your hour of grief.

SIGNED: Mrs. P. C. Washington

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
Thanks for notice. Illness prevents attendance. Condolence sent.

SIGNED: Geneva Towns

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
Will arrive Friday morning by car.

SIGNED: E. J. Dickson

EDWARDS, MISSISSIPPI
Sprained knee in cast prevents travel to funeral. Southern Christian Institute joins with whole Brotherhood in mourning loss of our true friend. Please purchase floral spray for school. Ten dollars follows immediately.

SIGNED: John Long

DALLAS, TEXAS
We were shocked to receive the news of the passing of Mrs. Taylor. All Texas is deeply grieved because it will remove one of our foremost Christian women. I shall leave tonight for Nashville.

SIGNED: Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Pratt

MUSKOGEE, OKLAHOMA
The passing of Mrs. Preston Taylor saddens our hearts.

SIGNED: Second Christian Church, S. B. Wallick

WASHINGTON, D. C.
Characterized by love, generosity, public spiritedness, and devotion to
The children of today are the church leaders of tomorrow. It is the
responsibility of today's church to equip these children, through the
Sunday School, to meet the problems of the world of tomorrow. Bethany
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schools, to meet their specialized needs. The greatest care goes into the
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the most practical, interesting, and inspiring material. Especially now it
is important that every brotherhood church school use only Bethany
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the Disciples' program, "A Crusade for a Christian World."

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Thank God." Each pupil's book has twelve new, lovely child life pictures in
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Since Convention at Brooklyn, New York—August, 1946

August, 1946

National Women’s Missionary Society $149.50
National Bible School and C. E. F. 149.50
Rogersville Church, Tennessee 10.00
Elder D. W. Bradley—Tennessee 5.00
Mason Church—Ohio 15.00

September, 1946
National Women’s Missionary Society 232.00
Balance on Registration at Brooklyn, New York 14.00
Public Offering at Brooklyn, New York 21.00

October, 1946
B. R. Steele—Kansas City, Missouri 7.50
Fayette Street Christian Church—Martinsville, Va. 15.00

November, 1946
Piedmont District Convention—Winston-Salem, N. C. 25.00
Mt. Olivet Christian Church—Baltimore, Maryland 25.00

December, 1946
Mt. Olivet Christian Church—Baltimore, Maryland 25.00
Fairview Bible School—Mrs. Effie Garrett 5.00

March, 1947
Fulton Street Christian Church—Palestine, Texas 9.00
Mt. Olivet Christian Church—Baltimore, Maryland 50.00
Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church—Memphis, Tenn. 300.00
Indiana Avenue Christian Church, Chicago 50.00
Ninth Avenue Christian Church, Roanoke, Virginia 100.00
Southern Christian Institute, Edwards, Miss. (Pres. Long) 50.00
Institutional Christian Church, Kansas City, Kansas 14.00

Total Contributions $1271.00

The above is indicative of the interest in the National Convention program. We are now urging all churches to do likewise. Please report to Dr. Walker at once.

—The Editor

Meet Your Asking Goal Now
Report to
Dr. J. E. Walker

See you in Cincinnati August 19-24.

S. C. I. Reviews 65th Year of Service
By W. K. Fox

Occasionally a faculty member nods during the routine of the chapel exercise; the library is jammed with “scholars” frantically seeking additional notes before attempting to swell the sum total of knowledge via term paper; chatter in a nearby room indicates that the college class is rehearsing a play for its day in chapel; the president is still busy following up surplus commodity sales, buying merchandise for the school or showing an educational picture in some institution, until he is rarely seen; the dean sits in his office, his coat off, sleeves rolled up, with perspiration rolling down his face as he tirelessly tries to put the finishing touches on the plans for summer school; the community school kiddies are buying bigger and better red apples for their teachers; the fragrance of flowers fills the air, while the grass and trees form a heavenly green background all around; the farmer is lining furrows in the soft brown earth—you guessed it—it’s nearing commencement at Southern Christian Institute, Edwards, Mississippi. The institution is about to close its sixty-fifth academic year.

Opening: 1.—The annual Magnolia Youth Conference started the current school year. Reverends Harold Munro and Robert Taylor, State Secretary and minister in Ohio respectively, led over 500 students and 22 faculty members into a week of adventurous Christian living. For most of the faculty this was a familiar experience. For others it was orientation to the immortal spirit of the Southern Christian Institute. Among the latter group was Miss V. Wiggan of Illinois, instructor in music; Miss Paul Bickham of Tuskegee Institute, instructor in home economics; Miss H. Williams of Oklahoma, dining hall (Continued on page 2, col. 2)
Dear Friends:

Many of you have asked for news of the Laboratory Training School for 1947. We are glad to give this information:

Place—The school will be held at Delmar Baptist Church, Skinker and Washington Boulevards, as of last year.

Date—June 15-27, 1947—11 days.

First Meeting—Sunday afternoon, June 15 at 3:00 P. M. to 5:15 P. M. Inspirational service led by Dr. Clark Walker Cummings. Registrations, departmental plans, get acquainted, etc. No children will attend this meeting.

Leaders and Instructors: Nursery—Mrs. F. B. Outman, Instructor, Mrs. L. J. Rogers, Assistant Instructor; Kindergarten—Mrs. Audrey Multinis Simpson, Instructor, Mrs. Bernice Lyon, Assistant Instructor; Primary—Miss Dale Keeler, Instructor, Mrs. A. E. Swedberg, Assistant Instructor; Junior—Mrs. H. L. Caton, Instructor, Mrs. C. J. Lynch, Assistant Instructor. Two theory classes will be offered for each department. One for the beginning teacher and one for the teacher who has previously attended Laboratory School.

How to Teach in Weekday.

Parents' Observation Class In the Nursery.

Parents' Discussion Class—Rev. William D. McDowell.


Open House will be held one night each week to help teachers who are employed and cannot enroll in the school. The instructors will give vital information. No children will be present. A social time will follow. All this will be of interest to parents as well as church-school workers.

Vacation School—The Delmar Baptist Church and Grace Methodist Church will cooperate in conducting the Vacation School. The host churches have adopted the following policy for this year. All children attending Delmar Baptist and Grace Methodist Churches are urged to attend. Parents, students and staff members are invited to enroll their children. This invitation is extended to both Negro and White teachers.

Cost—Registration fee, $5.00. Parents' Discussion Class, $2.00.

Further Information will be sent to you soon. Write to us early if you have any suggestions or questions. Altha Coleman, Director Mildred Adair, Supervisor

"Lord, keep us ever quick to see By guiding children we find Thee."

-M. Niedermeyer

S. C. I. Reviews

(Continued from page 1, col. 3)

matron; Miss Mary Butler of Kentucky, instructor in home economics; and Miss Thelma Moore of Arkansas, a recent graduate of Southern Christian Institute returning to teach in the community school.

2.—Only faculty member doing summer study was Mrs. R. M. Fox who spent nine weeks at Atlanta University, Atlanta, Georgia.

3.—Record for the longest vacation trip went to the C. C. Mosleys who motored to New York. Subsequent honors went to the Longs who motored to Michigan, the Foxes who motored to Wisconsin via Virginia and the Rattens who motored to Oklahoma via Texas.

Student Body: Three factors make the status of the student body noteworthy: first, a record total enrollment for the year of 604 persons; secondly, students coming from over 20 states and the British island of Jamaica; and thirdly, the high enrollment of "G. I.'s."

Curricular Activities: 1.—A major technique of broadening the experience of a student at Southern Christian Institute is the chapel service. Among the many that contributed to this daily experience were the following notable: Harold Munro, State Secretary of Disciple Churches, Ohio; Robert Taylor, pastor in Cleveland suburbs; H. C. Harper, Hi-Y Director for the State of Mississippi; W. Q. Welch, Professor of Rural Church, Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn.; U. Z. McKinnon, Professor of Rural Church, Lane College, Jackson, Tenn.; J. A. Crain, Executive Secretary of the Department of Social Welfare and Rural Work of the U. C. M. S., Indianapolis, Ind.; E. T. Dixon, Director of Religious Extension, Tuskegee Institute; S. A. Rabinozvit, Rabbi of the Reformed Jewish Synagogue, Greenville, Miss.; L. H. Sellers, pastor of the First Christian Church, Oceanside, California; P. Gould and L. Bobbitt, Director of Christ ministers in Ohio and Jas. Sukulino, Executive Field Secretary of the Department of Engineering of the U. C. M. S.

2.—Another curriculum feature is the monthly guidance program pro-
2.—Desirous of continuing the basketball spirit, the Y. C. A. sponsored an intramural basketball tournament. In many ways the going was rough all the way. Class spirit was kettleball spirit, the Y. M. C. A. cleared away five youngsters representing the ninth grade who waded through the entire high school and college classes to the championship and the John Long trophy.

3.—Another scrappy little basketball team was the S. C. I. Boy Scout team which won seven games and lost one. It ran away with the 4-H Club basketball tournament, although they were not given the trophy because they were not a 4-H Club.

4.—The dramatic club, under the direction of Miss Marilyn Hill made a reputable showing in the intercollegiate dramatic contest held at Tougaloo.

5.—The La Jacinto Relays held at Wiley College, Marshall, Texas, gave our green thin clad in the arts of the cinder path. They returned to the South Center Collegiate Conference and made a something better showing. All vow to give sincere attention to the all-important matter of training next year so that S. C. I. will become feared on the oval as elsewhere in sports-dom.

6.—Football was another new venture for Beulah. Coach Ratten tirelessly equipped an eleven when such a task was most difficult. Slowly he whipped his gridironers to a point where they lost to Alcorn College but beat Natchez College in the first two intercollegiate pigskin contests in the history of S. C. I. With many G. 1.'s returning, Skipper Ratten foresees a scrappy Blue Devil eleven that will be nobody's pushover next year.

Additional Extra-Curricular Activities: 1.—At the annual All-School Picnic, the twelfth grade ran off with the track and field honors with 30 points, while the ninth grade was close on their heels with 26 points. High point man for the day was L. C. Sterling of the ninth grade with 10 points.

2.—Under the tutorage of Professors Hicks and Wiggan, the choir, male chorus and quartets of S. C. I. have made several appearances in schools and churches of the state in interest of spreading the goodwill of the school and challenging local groups to a greater appreciation for good music.

3.—Concerned about guiding youth in the creative use of leisure time, Mrs. N. O. Ratten and Miss Marilyn Hill instituted a folk dancing hour for all youths interested. The group recently presented a chapel program of the various folk dances throughout the world.

Field and Extension Activities: 1.—The annual institute for rural church leadership was held at S. C. I. February 17-28. The institute was directed by W. K. Fox and sponsored by the Home Missions Council of North America in cooperation with the Department of Social Work of the U. C. M. S. The theme was "Thy Kingdom Come Through Better Rural Housing." Twenty-six ministers attended.

2.—Forty-seven Disciples of Christ, representing almost every church in the state, attended the Crusade for a Christian World Rally that was held at S. C. I. March 24th. It was the largest group of Negro Disciples assembled on the campus for such type of meeting in years.

3.—One of the projects adopted by the ministerial association this year was the rendering of special services for the boys reformatory at Oakley every second and fourth Sunday evenings. The experience has been most rewarding for the ministerial students as well as the fine boys in the school. Another significant project completed by the association was the complete survey of a nearby rural church membership in cooperation with lay leaders and pastor of the church.

4.—The annual Community Improvement Association Field Day ended with great success this year. As usual, the S. C. I. Community School, under the direction of head coach, Mrs. R. M. Fox and assistants, T. Moore and R. Monicure, won the majority of the declamatory, musical, track and field events. However, the most rewarding thing was to see the cooperation and interest of the 10 rural schools. Under the leadership of Mrs. J. B. Mosley, the C. I. A. is making a most pronounced impression upon the total life of the community.

5.—Under the direction of President Long, the traveling library has continued to make its monthly rounds of the outlaying rural schools, depositing books, magazines and papers which might help the unenlightened catch a glimpse of the larger truth.

6.—A rapidly growing extension activity is the showing of educational pictures in surrounding schools and churches. President Long has assumed the lead in this with the department of religious extension gradually seeking cooperation.

7.—Three years ago there were no extension classes promoted for in-service teachers by S. C. I. Through the energetic efforts of Dean Chas. C. Moosley, this was finally brought to pass. During the current year nearly 150 in-service teachers have received the benefits of these classes. That many or more are expected to enter our summer session. From the very beginning of his administration, Dean Moosley has been concerned in the outreach of the school. Since his coming, the institution has made an increasingly constructive impression upon the rural leadership and common laity in areas rural and urban throughout the state. The extension class program has been one means of doing this.

8.—Under the tactful guidance of Mrs. R. M. Fox, the P.-T. A. has made solid progress this year. Its crowning achievement has been the hot-lunch program which is rapidly becoming a permanent part of the school extension program. This summer, encouragement for the conservation of food will be promoted through food canning fellowships sponsored by the P.-T. A. The canned goods will be given to the hot-lunch program for use next year. (Bigger and better gardens will also receive encouragement.)

9.—Through the efforts of Mr. B. L. Jacobs, Farm Superintendent, the S. C. I. farm has become highly regarded throughout the south. This fact has stimulated progress in our local community. This year our farm was used as a demonstration place for showing farmers of this county how to dig and grade sweet potatoes. Whereas the farm plays a major factor in the maintenance of the school in every respect, it is also a means of community outreach. Closely associated with Mr. Jacobs is Mr. Homer Thomas. The operation and maintenance of much of the modern farm machinery is done by Mr. Thomas. The development of the rich pasture land and ownership of the super-fine breed of cattle is the fruit of Mr. Jacob's twenty-seven years of labor here at S. C. I.

Conferences and Meetings Represented: The administration feels that the school must reach out into (Continued on page 4, col. 3)
FOOD FOR THOUGHT

SINDEY A. SCOTT

We should be very careful how we.censure and blame, for people in the world are not all just the same. The little hill that seems a mountain to you, may to others be but a plain. So why not look with a friendly eye and see the good in things. Shoot not the poison arrow that kills when it stings.

Books are the souls of people who write them. They make that beautiful forever where souls never die.

World peace should be based on the unitary method of solving problems. First establish peace with ourselves, then we can establish peace with any number of other individuals, races or nations.

Happiness is a transitory state of mind filled with all the pleasant ingredients known to our sensibilities.

Religious education will eventually weave out a lot of intellectual religious rubbish and lay the foundation for a new church based on the science of morals, instead of superstitious beliefs and fear.

The end of time will be scientifically calculated; future punishment will be scientifically investigated.

"Laboring with God"

Clinton, Mississippi

REV. S. D. YARBROUGH, Evangelist

Lover together with God. No one knows God or knows how to work with God that does not live with him, so let us move out of self and move with God and he will lead us on to victory.

To live with God we will be strengthened daily. "Not by power, not by might, but by my spirit, saith the Lord." Unless we abide in the spirit and the spirit in us the church is a failure to start with. We must fight this battle to the gate.

We are thinking of a day when there will be one big church, one that is big enough for God, for the task of the church is to bring the world to Christ. That task is too hard for a divided church.

We attended the Ministers' School at Southern Christian Institute, February 17th through the 28th. We had hoped to have had all the State leaders present on the 28th, but only a (Continued on page 5, col. 1)
May, 1947

THE CHRISTIAN PLEA

Laboring with God
(Continued from page 4, col. 2)

few responded to the call. We were fortunate to have had some of our very fine white brethren present. This led into the discussion of plans for better fellowship. The Crusade was explained and on March 24, we held another meeting with State leaders and adopted the Crusade as our chief objective. We also adopted a resolution that the State Board and the United Missionary Society Board work together.

What shall we do about the Crusade? I recommend that the Crusade begin with the individual. I further recommend that each local church put on a church budget, and this can be done by club organizations assigning each member to some specific club.

Now then, let none hear you idly saying, "there is nothing I can do," while the souls of men are dying and the master calls for you.

Yours for the work,

Rev. S. D. Yarbrough, Evangelist.

Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church
Memphis, Tennessee

REV. BLAIR T. HUNT, Pastor
MRS. C. E. ROWAN, Reporter

Rev. E. J. Dickson, Executive Secretary of the National Christian Convention preached at the 11 o'clock and 8 o'clock services on Sunday, April 27, 1947, when the Women of Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church held their Annual Spring Drive. At the 11 o'clock service more than 400 people were present and $1,237.50 was raised. Everyone present felt the power of the great spiritual leader.

The following are thoughts gleaned from his sermons:

"Every once in a while in the Bible a very beautiful life appears on the scene; a woman is doing an essential thing. In the church there is a place for you and me. I think that the church should register as a thermostat—not a thermometer. Now, a thermostat registers the condition, but a thermostat registers the condition and then does something about it. That is what the church should do with its wide impact upon the world. There is in this world a hunger for steadfastness. Men have lost their hope—they have no foundation on which to build, but we stand today in the face of the world's greatest scientific discovery. The people are looking for something, searching and waiting to see. On what can I stand to be secure? "Men are dying for the fact that we want to be somebody. In all this grand structure your importance is gone. Any time you look down on a man because of his creed or race, you lose your importance. There is a longing for unity in the world. This is a small world now. Too little! We once thought it was a big world. Families that are broken up come to America for freedom. People are demanding this unity. The Bible and the church have already said this. If you want a solid foundation, you've got to do more than say—on a solid rock I stand. If you are looking for a guide and a hope, realize that God is in the foundation of the Universe. Every person born into the world is important. Jesus told his people that all men are brothers. Man must love his enemy. The law of love is the thing that works. If you are going to answer this longing for unity, you must get the fundamental principles that Jesus had: that men are brothers. All that you have belongs to God—know what God wants you to do and then get busy and do it.

"Apostle Paul said this: Be not ignorant, brethren, but know what the will of God be. Be not drunk with wine but with the Holy Ghost. Be enthused about it. You can know that Jesus saves from sin. Get on God's side and know he forgives you for your sins. Your sins may be as crimson, but he will make them as white as snow. Know the availability of God's law; Lo, I am with you always even unto the end of the world. When your best friend fails you, when the devil, himself, takes possession of you, God is available.

"Let your light so shine that men may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in Heaven. The Christian people must retain their spiritual glow. You would not light a candle and put it under a bushel. If we are to save people as they come into our fold, we've got to see to it that a plan of Christianity is given them where they will glow. The spiritual light has to be developed. Let your light shine until the mountains crumble. Jeremiah kept his spiritual glow because he answered God when he called him. You can keep your spiritual glow by singing. Daniel kept his spiritual glow by prayer. Keep your spiritual light shining by prayer."

The officers of the Drive were:
Mrs. Sallie Bartholomew, Chairman;
Mrs. Nettie Wynn, Co-Chairman;
Miss Mable Grays, Secretary;
Mrs. Anne Hall, Publicity, Mrs. Laura Cade, Decoration; Mrs. C. E. Rowan, Treasurer; Miss Emma L. Wilson, Music; Mrs. Cecelia Roach, General Supervisor.

Morgan Avenue Christian Church
2315 Morgan Ave., Parsons, Kansas

ELDER G. ELLISON LAKES, Minister

Plans are being made to have one of the greatest evangelistic programs we have had since I have been here. We hope to have it to begin the last week in April and end on the first Sunday in May. The first Sunday in May will close 6 years of my service here as pastor of the Church. This is the longest period that any pastor has been here in the 40 years of the church.

I have really enjoyed working with this church for the past six years and the very fine fellowship that I have had with the entire state. I have had several experiences in working with the District and State World Fellowship Meets that I will never forget and I am sure that none will ever be able to convince me that we cannot have unity.

The men of our church closed a very fine service last Sunday, which was sponsored by Elder R. W. Malloy. The program was a success both spiritually and financially. They have been encouraged enough now to organize a Men's Club.

Our Church is launching the "Crusade" program and we hope to meet all the requirements.

High Street Christian Church
Mt. Sterling, Kentucky

REV. EUGENE PATTERSON, Pastor
MRS. MARY W. MORTON, Reporter

The church was full to witness all the services on Easter Sunday. Rev. Patterson brought a wonderful message on "The Risen Christ." All departments together raised approximately $122.00.

The Sunday School had their Easter Egg hunt Monday, April 7, at the Parsonage. A new room has been built to the Parsonage and everything has been greatly improved. Rev. Patterson attended the National Board Meeting at Indianapolis, and reported a fine meeting.
was a fine Christian gentleman and his passing is regretted by his many friends.

Mr. Amos Hawkins, also a good member of High Street Christian Church, passed.

The Golden Harp Quartet of Louisville, Kentucky, rendered a musical program at the church Sunday evening, April 13.

A son was born Sunday, April 20, to Rev. and Mrs. Eugene Patterson. He has been named Eugene Patterson, Jr.

We are having “Bible Study and Reading” every Wednesday night at Prayer Service. Wednesday, April 30, the young people are having a Sock Social, and a sermon by Rev. Davis of the C. M. E. Church. The senior choir of that church will sing.

We are going over the top with our state money. $79.65 has been paid for the year. Mother’s Day, May 11, will be National Convention Day. All are asked to pay their dollar on that day for national work.

A large delegation from Mt. Sterling attended the District Meeting at Fairview, April 12, 13. The meeting was an excellent one and well attended.

The Woman's Improvement Club rendered a program at the church Sunday, May 4.

“Passing of a Faithful Woman”
Mrs. L. V. Isaac
Henderson, Texas

On February 6, 1947, God saw fit to select from a mass of citizens our faithful member, Sister Otha Dunn Loftis. She was a resident of the city of Henderson for twenty years. She not only has been a neighbor for some, but to quite a few she has been a mother.

The home of Mrs. Dunn has served as a home for kindred, friends, ministers, and all.

We do not want to think of Sister Dunn as being deceased, but it is quite fitting to consider it a call from the Almighty, who saw fit to use her in his program of higher and better things. Realizing that this good woman is gone from labor to receive her reward, her loving personality leaves an imprint on our tablet of memory, “Service.” Service for humanity.

Realizing that this good woman is sleeping and not dead, we look around and find some of the handiworks she helped to perform, we then realize that, “God just touched the hem of another garment to save another Soul.”

The poet so beautifully expresses the fulness and naturalness of sleep, and we quote the following:

“It is so natural that we fall asleep
Like tired children when the day is done,
That I would question why the living weep,
When death has kissed the laughing lips of one;
We so not sigh when golden skies have donned
The purple shadows and the gray of night.
Because we know the morning lies beyond,
And we must wait a little while for light.
So, when grown weary with the care and strife,
Our loved ones find in sleep, the peace they crave,
We should not weep but learn to count this life
A prelude to the one beyond the grave.
And thus be happy for them, not distressed,
But lift our hearts with love to God and smile,
And we, anon, like tired ones will rest,
If we will hope and wait—a little while.”—Ella Bently.

3402½ Giles Avenue
Chicago, 16, Illinois
April 13, 1947

Mr. Merl R. Eppe
Nashville 2, Tennessee
Dear Mrs. Eppe:

I am very sorry I have not gotten this in the mail sooner, but my schedule for the past four months has been extremely busy and I have been away from home almost constantly.

I have just received the recent issue of the PLEA. Glad for your reply to the report, and I am ashamed of myself, for I too, was one of those whom you asked to write an article some time ago, and I kept putting it off. It is certainly true that if we say the CHRISTIAN PLEA is our paper, then we must support it, not only by sending in subscriptions but by supporting the editor with accepting his requests for articles, and by the national staff recognizing its obligations to supply the information, inspiration, and aims for the Brotherhood through the departmental columns afforded.

Again, I am glad our paper is not used to ridicule and fight persons and organizations. That is cheap business, but true Christians started proving their Christianity and loyalty to the Cause by Christian living, rather than by fighting and arguing about it. The time and energy used in this sort of tactics would be used better in efforts to inspire and persuade our young people to give themselves in Christian Service. The number in training now is mighty small, and those who have recently completed their training do not have very much to encourage them. Whether they develop into the kind of dynamic, forceful, and deeply spiritual leaders which our churches so desperately need now, depends to a large extent upon the kind of fair, honest, consecrated, spiritually strong personalities we express ourselves.

I hope we realize our responsibility and opportunity to become a part of the Crusade for Christian Living and not continue our apparent interests from selfish motives.

With best wishes for renewed interest and support of our CHRISTIAN PLEA and with appreciation for your efforts to make it a worthwhile paper I am

Sincerely,

Rosa Page Welch

Antioch Christian Church
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

REV. B. A. DOUGLASS, Pastor
MRS. VIRGINIA E. STURGIS,
Church Reporter

The Antioch Christian Church of Winston-Salem, North Carolina has made great progress, under the leadership of Rev. B. A. Douglass. Since being Pastor, the church has been successful in buying three lots on the north side of the city on Underwood Avenue, and is planning to build in the near future.

April 13, 1947, is a day long to be remembered by the Pastor, officers, members and friends of the Antioch Christian Church, located on North Main and 12½ Streets, in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. On the above date, the Rev. Trelissn R. Gentry was ordained a licensed minister. The Rev. S. Kinney of Johnson City, Tennessee, delivered the ordination sermon, and the Rev. R. L. Peters and the Rev. B. A. Douglass officiated.

S. C. I. Reviews
(Continued from page 4, col. 3) be the usual colorful affair. Although the baccalaureate and commencement speakers have not been announced, an educational and inspirational experience is in store for all.

Read the June Issue of the Christian Plea
NEW MT. OLIVE
CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Henderson, Texas
Rev. T. A. Armstead, Pastor
Mrs. L. V. Isaacs, Reporter

Realizing that the new year is growing older, that spring is just around the corner, that work is accumulating, we must make our say brief so as to leave more space for action, and as one has put it, "action speaks louder than words."

During these seemingly short months our church work moves along normally, with high spiritual progress.

Sunday School has been very well attended. There are quite a few who never fail to attend, and this of course is highly appreciated and much needed.

New Mt. Olive had the pleasure of hearing our State Evangelist three nights and Sunday morning. He spoke Sunday morning on "Taking a Policy with the Church." In discussing this type of policy he emphasized the eternal validity of a church policy. In comparing the church policy with regular policies of the Life Insurance Companies he said, "God's policies could not go bankrupt." Our congregation sat motionless as the interest continued from the beginning to the end.

Evangelist Page has proven to be a God-sent character. We should appreciate such characters and give them their flowers while they live and can see them.

We solicit the prayers of all Disciples who wish us well.

We are yours in Christ,
The New Mt. Olive Church
Henderson, Texas

CORINTH CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Kilgore, Texas
Rev. P. C. Washington, Pastor
Mrs. Almeta Henderson, Reporter

I am reporting a splendid Bible School each Sunday. Our young superintendent, Brother James Hunt, is doing a fine job.

As the spring is nearing, everyone stands with out-stretched hands ready to do what is in their power to make all strong and powerful in the service of the Master. Pastor Washington brought an inspiring message on last Sunday. His subject was, "Meditation and Prayer." His sermon made our hearts burn within.

We were very grateful for having us on the Fourth Sunday, young Rev. Robert Brown, and a nice group of young men students from Jarvis College. Rev. O. C. Jacobs came with them also.

We are planning on a nice Easter program sponsored by Sister Azzie Lee Sanders, who is a very loyal and faithful worker. We are still trying to face the future in the spirit of love, goodwill, cooperation, meditation, and prayer.

WEHRMAN AVENUE
CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Cincinnati, Ohio
Rev. J. L. Dickerson, Pastor
MRS. Lillian Barber, Reporter

As we have not sent news to your paper for some time we feel that it might interest some of your readers to get a brief summary of some of our activities during that time. Our Christmas holiday was merry, yet somewhat shrouded in sorrow by the passing of one of our upright and dearly beloved deacons, Brother Albert Parks. He passed to the great beyond early in December after some months of illness and patient suffering. Some of our young mothers with Sisters Ethel McDuffy and Bessie Stone as leaders, put over a lovely program with our Sunday School tots as participants. We adults were surprised at their talents.

At our January Board meeting our officers drew up some new and helpful plans for our church as a whole. Our pastor called on each club of our church for some program that would bring in finance to help reimburse our Sinking Fund, formerly our church for some program that we thank God. The young peoples' group did a fine job with their seasonable decoration for this occasion. Pieces of palm were given to everyone present. Our own Brother Raymond McDuffy did a magnificent piece of work on the programs for that day. He willingly prints all our church programs but made those for Palm Sunday very impressive.

For the cover, he chose to depict Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. This was a sermon in itself.

Needless to say, we enjoyed a spiritual feast at our 3:00 p.m. service as Rev. E. W. Wilbert of Dayton was the speaker. Our choir sang sweetly. Our soloist, Mrs. Mary E. Harvey, rendered one of her soul-stirring numbers for us. There were short talks by visiting ministers and professional men. We next had the offering and then the burning of the mortgage. The mortgage was cut into pieces small enough to supply each member and friend with a piece to burn. Two Junior Choir girls, Eleanor Simpson and Mary E. Harris, looked very angelic as each held a silver tray containing the pieces and ashes. We are proud of them. Our former pastor's wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Frazier, burned the first. The second piece was burned by Mrs. Eila Cordell who has had membership longest with the church. The next by our present Pastor, our officers, then the congregation. This service will be long remembered by us.

We desire your prayers that our church may continue to strive to please Christ.

Read the June Issue of the Christian Plea

Convention Announcements
"Learning by seeing" has proved faster and more complete than old-fashioned methods. Pupils enjoy learning the audio-visual way, therefore they learn more quickly and more thoroughly. To keep pace with this modern educational trend, churches everywhere are turning to this new medium to do a more effective job of Christian teaching. See that your church has the advantages offered by audio-visual education . . . you will be more than repaid in alert, well-informed pupils.

A $1,000 BUDGET FOR YOUR CHURCH
You can buy complete visual aids facilities for under $1,000. By buying a little at a time, even a church with a limited budget can rapidly accumulate the full line of equipment listed here, the total cost of which is only $980: S. V. E. Tri-Purpose Projector (illustrated at right) for slides or film strips, $80; Bell and Howell "Filmosound" projector for 16mm. silent or sound movies, $579; Spencer Delineascope for projecting opaque material, $155; Radiant glass beaded screen, 50"x50", $30; turntable for playing records, $102; and a microphone, $34.

Dear Church Member:

In considering the participation of your church in the Pension Plan on behalf of the ministry of our church the following facts should be kept in mind.

1. The support of the ministry in active service and old age is the scriptural obligation of the church.
2. The minister's estate is in the church and his economic future should be identified with the investment of his life.
3. Your church has in the Pension Plan, a means of meeting this obligation for the many ministers who serve throughout the years.
4. Ministers are not included in Social Security.
5. Ministers move from place to place. The benefits of the Pension Plan go with them. Other forms of security, farms, houses, or businesses cannot be moved so readily. The minister is not in business for himself.
6. The monthly dues in the Pension Plan are based on the minister's salary. 15% of the cash salary is added in computing the salary basis for dues when a parsonage is given rent free.
7. The minister pays 2½% of his monthly salary each month. The church pays 8%. 8. The death protection of the Plan is in full force upon the payment of the first month's dues. Total permanent disability protection is available after twelve months of membership. Retirement is possible at age 65 or anytime thereafter. A minister in active service may become a member of the Plan at any time.
9. Two-thirds of our present active ministry will be retired from active service before death overtakes them. One-third will die in active service or in total permanent disability. Through the Pension Plan all three exits from active service are covered. Your cooperation is invited.

PENSION FUND OF DISCIPLES OF CHRIST
800 Test Building
Indianapolis 4, Indiana

Send Christian Plea News Now to the Plea Office
National Convention At Cincinnati Aug. 19-24

TENTATIVE
NATIONAL CONVENTION, Cincinnati, Ohio
Programme of the Thirty-First Annual
NATIONAL CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY CONVENTION
Disciples of Christ
August 19-24, 1947

THEME: "CRUSADE FOR A CHRISTIAN WORLD"

Education Evangelism, Stewardship

TUESDAY—August 19
10:00 A.M. Board Meeting.
3:00 P.M. Recommendation Committee.
7:45 P.M. Local Church Night Program—Pres. S. S. Myer’s Address.

WEDNESDAY—August 20
7:00—8:00 Breakfast.
8:20—8:30 General Convention Session. Devotions—F. L. Sledge.
8:30 Sermon—E. W. Henry.
8:55 Special Music.
9:00 Appointment of all National Convention Committees.
Presentation and Discussion of New Constitution.
General Announcements.
9:30 Inspirational Address—EVANGELISM—Spencer Austin.
10:00—12:15 Educational Conferences.
12:30—1:30 Lunch.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON
2:00 Devotions—George Frazier.
2:15—4:30 Stewardship Accounting. National Board, Staff, Secretary, Treasurer, Missionary Organizations, Area-workers, Church School, CYF.
4:30 Address—CHRISTIAN MINISTRY—Paul Preston.
5:30—6:30 Dinner.

WEDNESDAY EVENING
7:30 Musical Feast.
8:00 Devotions—E. W. James.
8:15 Address—LAYMEN IN THE CRUSADE—Henry W. Rowan.
8:40 Special Music.
8:50 Sermon—C. H. Webb. Offering and Announcements.

THURSDAY—August 21
7:00—8:00 Breakfast.
8:20—8:30 Devotions—E. W. Wilbert.
8:30 Sermon—J. F. Johnson.
8:55 Music.
9:00 Presentation of Goals, Program Activity and Finance—Staff.

(Continued on page 2)

MEET NEW EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Lorenzo J. Evans
Born Marion, Alabama
February 21, 1911

Education
Graduate of Lincoln Normal Industrial High School, Marion, Alabama, 1930.
Junior College, Southern Christian Institute, Edwards, Mississippi, 1933.
Senior College, Clark College, Atlanta, Georgia, 1939 with A.B. degree.
Gammon Theological Seminary, Atlanta, Georgia, 1941 with B.D. degree.

Work
Pastor of the Evergreen Church, Valdosta, Georgia and state evangelist, 1935-1937.
Pastor of the Mercy Christian Church, Thomasville, Georgia, and state evangelist, 1937-1941.
Pastor of the Second Christian Church, Muskogee, Oklahoma, 1941-1942.

(Continued on page 2, col. 3)
LORENZO EVANS
(Continued from page 1)

Chaplain in Army of the United States, March 1942-October 10, 1945. Membership Secretary of the Butler Street Young Men's Christian Association, Atlanta, Georgia, November, 1945 to the present. Pastor Rocky Mount Christian Church, December 1, 1946.

The Certificate of Award to Chaplain Lorenzo J. Evans for Meritorious Service to God and Country in World War II from the General Commission on Army and Navy Chaplains was presented on June 3rd by Mr. Edgar Lloyd Smith, Field Executive on the Committee of Military and Veteran Service, at the Chapel Services in Graham Chapel - Missions Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

To the Readers of the Christian Plea

GREETINGS: I want to take this opportunity to greet all of you as I come to assume my new duties as National Director of Christian Education. The harvest truly is great and I feel sure that we are going to be able to do the type of work that will be an inspiration not only to us as we work together, but with those whom we work with as well.

It is with high hopes that we look forward to building an atmosphere that will surround our home, our church, and our community that will cause these young people to want to dedicate their lives to the building of God's Kingdom. That type of atmosphere can be built by working not as individuals, but as brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus—working to attain one common end.

As I write this article, I am reminded of the words of Jesus when he said: “But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.” Matt. 23: 11. It is with that type of spirit that I come to you. For the purpose of serving you, you and you. Not to work for you, but to work with you that we might build God's Kingdom together.

It is with great anticipation that I look forward to meeting you personally as I go about the country. Through this fellowship with you it will give me new inspiration to carry the torch on and share it with others. I am yours for the building of his Kingdom.

Lorenzo J. Evans
National Director
Christian Education
Come to Cincinnati, Ohio

NATIONAL CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY CONVENTION

WHERE—808 Poplar Street, Cincinnati, Ohio
TIME—August 19th to 24th, 1947
PLACE—Fifth Street Christian Church
WHOM TO CONTACT—Elder and Mrs. S. Devine
Theme: "A Crusade for a Christian World"

INFORMATION

Registration and Home Assignment—Tuesday, Aug. 19, 8 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.
Dinner—6:30 P.M.
Local Program—7:30 P.M.
Meals will be served each day as follows:
Breakfast—7:00 to 8:00 A.M.
Dinner—12:30 Noon
Supper—5:30 to 6:30 P.M.

REGISTRATION FEE

Adults $14.00
Children, Two to Ten Years 6.00
All Persons Over Ten Years—Full Fee 14.00

Full amount of registration will be collected for duration or any part of the Convention.
Delegates arriving early will be charged extra, with exception of President, Secretary and Director of Music.

National, State and Youth Convention Dates

Texas—Palestine, Texas
Florida—St. Petersburg, Fla.
Kentucky—Mayfield, Ky.
Tennessee—Knoxville, Tenn.
Georgia—Oconee, Ga.
Missouri—St. Louis, Mo.
Washington—Norfolk—Washington, N. C.
Goldsboro—Raleigh—Wilson, N. C.
Eastern seaboard—Brooklyn, N. Y.
Ohio—Oxford, Ohio
Piedmont Tri-State
Oklahoma
National Convention—Cincinnati, Ohio

Summer Young People Conferences

Piedmont—Martinsville, Va.
Central—Kentucky (Uncertain)
Alabama—(Uncertain)
Midwest—Bonner Springs, Kansas
Eastern seaboard—Harper’s Ferry, Va.
Magnolia—S. C. I.

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Alabama—(Uncertain)
Midwest—Bonner Springs, Kansas
Eastern seaboard—Harper’s Ferry, Va.
Magnolia—S. C. I.

Come to Cincinnati, Ohio

NATIONAL CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY CONVENTION

WHERE—808 Poplar Street, Cincinnati, Ohio
TIME—August 19th to 24th, 1947
PLACE—Fifth Street Christian Church
WHOM TO CONTACT—Elder and Mrs. S. Devine
Theme: "A Crusade for a Christian World"

INFORMATION

Registration and Home Assignment—Tuesday, Aug. 19, 8 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.
Dinner—6:30 P.M.
Local Program—7:30 P.M.
Meals will be served each day as follows:
Breakfast—7:00 to 8:00 A.M.
Dinner—12:30 Noon
Supper—5:30 to 6:30 P.M.

REGISTRATION FEE

Adults $14.00
Children, Two to Ten Years 6.00
All Persons Over Ten Years—Full Fee 14.00

Full amount of registration will be collected for duration or any part of the Convention.
Delegates arriving early will be charged extra, with exception of President, Secretary and Director of Music.

National, State and Youth Convention Dates

Texas—Palestine, Texas
Florida—St. Petersburg, Fla.
Kentucky—Mayfield, Ky.
Tennessee—Knoxville, Tenn.
Georgia—Oconee, Ga.
Missouri—St. Louis, Mo.
Washington—Norfolk—Washington, N. C.
Goldsboro—Raleigh—Wilson, N. C.
Eastern seaboard—Brooklyn, N. Y.
Ohio—Oxford, Ohio
Piedmont Tri-State
Oklahoma
National Convention—Cincinnati, Ohio

Summer Young People Conferences

Piedmont—Martinsville, Va.
Central—Kentucky (Uncertain)
Alabama—(Uncertain)
Midwest—Bonner Springs, Kansas
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THE CHRISTIAN PLEA

A monthly publication of the National Christian Missionary Convention of Disciples of Christ of America.

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“IF we walk in the light, we have fellowship one with the other.” (1 John 1:7.)

NOTICE
All news must be in by seventh of each month.

EDITORIAL

On Misplacing Emphasis
THOMAS J. GRIFFIN
Route 2, Box 184
Jacksonville, Texas

To me, it is very obvious that most of the troubles and problems of the past and the present are due to misplaced emphasis. This seems to be true, it matters not what area of life is observed—whether it is economic, educational, social, political or religious.

Here, however, I am particularly concerned about misplaced emphasis in our religious life since it should be directly concerned with every phase of life.

Whether the church wants to admit it or not, it is guilty of this sin. And in the words of Dr. Benjamin E. Mays: “She cannot shake it off with the wave of her hand or the shrug of her shoulders.” In using the term “church” I do not merely mean the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), instead, I have in mind the universal church of which we are a part. Of course, we too must admit as a group, that we are quite guilty of misplaced emphasis also.

To illustrate what I am talking about, I think the little story that follows, which is altogether a true story, will bring out the thought:

The preacher came in and said to one of his colleagues, “I came over to see what night you and your congregation are to appear on my program.”

Confirming the night, he continued by saying, “Now I want you and your people to set a precedent. I want you to go as high as possible. (Meaning money, of course.) You know, living expenses are so high until one can hardly make it. I suppose we all have that something in us to want to outdo the next person. For example, if you notice the board and see that so much and so much was raised the night before, quite naturally, you will want to go beyond that.”

Then he turned to his colleague and said very, very emphatically, “There is one thing that we ministers must stick together in, and that is these ‘appreciations.’ Well, I will be looking for you. Do your best for me. Good day.”

If one should visit the town where this minister is pastoring and view the Negro sections, conditions such as these would be found: Streets that are practically impassable when it rains, and too dusty to sit on the porch when it is dry. Approximately ninety per cent of all the people have out-of-door privies, both the pit type and the dry type which is a direct menace to health. Approximately fifty per cent have no running water or city furnished water in their homes. Instead, open wells are used, which is another direct menace to health. Yet, “We preachers must stand together in these appreciations.”

There are no playgrounds or any type of recreational facilities for the children of the colored. There are boys and girls who want to further their education in various fields. Yet, “We ministers must stick together in these appreciations.”

The NAACP, one of the militant organizations of which I know anything, has a membership for less than one hundred. Yet, “We ministers must stick together in these appreciations.”

How must more beautiful, in place and utterly necessary it would have been if the preacher had said, “I have found these conditions (above) existing in our community; let us get together with our members and do something about them.”

Shall we strive to place emphasis on those things that tend toward the raising of the standard of humanity, or shall the emphasis be placed on personal or group aggrandizement? The time has come and now is, that the religious leaders, not should do—but must do some sound reasoning, constructive thinking and durable building in every area of life.

In a few days, a number of us will be heading toward Cincinnati for the National Convention. I cannot help wondering just where the emphasis will be placed there. Will it be on the crowd? Will it be on the amount of money raised? Will it be on who shall hold what office from the petty standpoint? Will it be on political maneuvering and undemocratic practice to put over this or that? Or will it be on those people, places, and things that have a tendency to help us live more abundantly.

I am of the opinion that institutions such as the home, school, church, etc., should be concerned primarily with those things wherein the greatest number of people can benefit from for the longest period of time.
"Calling All Ministers' Wives"

MRS. E. WINIFRED OWENS
231 W. Broadway
Winchester, Kentucky

I am still wondering why the Christian ministers' wives do not help fill "their" columns each month in the PLEA. Each year at the National Convention we get all "worked up" because we do not get enough recognition and each year we make our donation to the upkeep of the PLEA, and each year we are told that the "pleasure" is all ours, the space, and the chance to send in more subscriptions. Then we go home and "pit." Brother Herod used to call us the "grievance" committee, and I am beginning to believe it, even if we are the best workers, and the most sacrificing members of any man's church group. "Reading matter" helps keep a paper alive, too, if it is worthwhile; and we, of all people ought to know the inside of the workings of our church. It is we who sit in the bleachers and cheer whenever anyone makes a "base" in any department of our church. We have a ringside seat in every "fight," and sometimes we have to even referee the rounds to see to it that there is fair play—and let the preacher know when the "count" is out. Sometimes we have to pull his "coat-tail" without even touching his coat.

Every preacher's wife should know when to appear and when to disappear, when to "pull" and when to "push." For forty-three years I have been trying to find my place, and now, at last, I think I have found it; down by the side of the poorest and humblest of God's handmaids, willing and ready to wash the feet of the least of his children. We, here at our church, are beginning to find that cheerful, freely given, "all out" service is the only pleasing service in God's church, and as we enter into this great Crusade for a better world, we are starting with ourselves, our church, our city, and at the same time reaching out into all the world.

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National Christian Preaching Convention
To the Christian Brethren and Disciples of Christ Everywhere

GREETINGS:
We are hereby extending to you an invitation to fellowship with us at the National Christian Preaching Convention, which will hold its second assembly in Little Rock, Arkansas, August 8-12, 1947, at the Ringo Street Christian Church. This will be one of the most timely assemblies that has ever been held among the Negro Christians and Disciples of America. We would like to have all the leaders of all the churches present. The theme of the convention will be "The Supremacy of Christ."

Our program will be as follows:
1. To restudy the Church and its names—(a) Christian Church, (b) Church of Christ, (c) Church in Christ, (d) Disciples Church.
2. Recheck the primitive doctrine and ordinances: (a) Its evangelistic approach. (b) Its approach today.
3. Restudy the restoration movement: (a) Its beginning, (b) Its program today.
4. Restudy the Disciples of Christ movement in America: (a) Its benefits. (b) Its disadvantages. (c) As a denomination.
5. Restudy the Negro Disciples of Christ movement for the last fifty years. (a) Its leadership. (b) Its program. (c) Its results.

There will appear on the program men who are qualified to translate Greek, Hebrew, and Latin into our tongue for the purpose of having primitive church doctrine before us.

Yours in Christ,
Elder A. G. Nelson, Pres.

Fellowship Christian Church
Disciples of Christ
5417 Wyalusing Avenue

Elder James Wellman, Acting Pastor
Mrs. Lillie F. McKenzie, Secretary and Reporter
142 North 50th Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

To some, this may be quite a surprise, but there are others who know about our newly organized church in this city. To every church from east to west, from north to south of our United Brotherhood of the Disciples of Christ, we greet you in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

We are pioneers of the first permanent Christian church in the state of Pennsylvania. This church was gotten up by members of the Christian churches who came here from other states, its leader being Mrs. Lillie F. McKenzie and husband, W. M. McKenzie, who led this group assisted by Brother and Mrs. H. Smith of Birmingham, Alabama. We were officially organized December 29, 1946, by Elder C. L. Whitfield of Mt. Olivet Christian Church, Baltimore, Maryland.

On February 9, 1947, we were host to the Quarterly Convention, Baltimore and Washington churches being our guests. The meeting was a success. Officers for the year were elected from our group: Mrs. L. F. McKenzie, Vice-President, who presided in Washington in May on Mother's Day at the second Quarterly meeting. This, also, was a wonderful meeting.

We have now on roll twenty-eight members; some are active and are helping to do things to put over the program of the church-building fund. We are up against the proposition of making a purchase of a church building for a permanent place in which to worship. With such few members we are doing our best, but our number is too small to reach the required amount to make the payment. Therefore, we are making an appeal to the United Brotherhood of Christian Churches, individually, to please help us to raise this $2,500.00 we are expected to pay by August 30. This will help us to get possession and get started. I am sure you want to know that we are inside of a building which we can call our own rather than renting as we are now doing. We have raised $500 ourselves; certainly you can see what the situation is and you know how difficult it must be for so small a group to raise $2,000.00. We won't say we can't and give up. We must keep trying and, with your help and God's help, we will not fail. The following are names of members and friends, some of whom you may know personally who helped to raise this:

- Lilie F. and W. M. McKenzie, members—$52.00; Edith and Ralph Bowen, members—$50.00; Charles and Rebecca Denson, members—$40.00; Elder J. Wellman, acting pastor—$31.00; Hilliard Smith, member—$10.00; Louvienia Smith, member—$20.00; W. M. Foster, Sunday School Superintendent—$20.00; Virginia L. Goolsby, member—$20.00; Calla L. Joseph, member—$21.00; John Foster, member—$9.00; J. C. Smith, member—$3.00; Richard Paston, baby of Elder Paston—$5.00; Berry Drake-
ford, a friend—$1.00; Margaret Drakeford, member—$10.00; Mrs. L. Smith, friend—$1.00; Mrs. Annie Carter, friend—$1.00; Elder E. Garland, friend—$2.00; Dr. J. E. Walker, friend (Memphis)—$5.00; Second Quarterly Convention—$90.60. All other was friend—$1.00; Dr. J. E. Walker, friend—$1.00; Elder E. Garland, Smith, friend—$1.00; Mrs. Annie Carter-and your donations in this pioneering brotherhood of man. Three were interpreting the teachings of Jesus and not the setting sun.”

Mrs. Lillie F. McKenzie.

Antioch Christian Church

New Burnswick, N. J.

Rev. S. E. Tillman, Pastor

169 Seaman Street

Mrs. Mary E. Mickens, Reporter

19 Richmond Street.

“When all is done, say not my day is over, and through the night I seek a dimmer shore, say I seek the dawn and not the setting sun.”

Since we are able helpers together with God, our church is progressing with our pastor who, as a Disciple, is doing a great deal toward interpreting the teachings of Jesus on the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. Three were united with the church on Sunday, May 4, 1947. The church choir rendered a program in the afternoon which was enjoyed by all.

On May 11, 1947, the pastor preached out of his soul a wonderful sermon, subject, “Mother.” We are still feasting on spiritual food and wish everyone could have been out to hear him. On Sunday, May 25, 1947, we had another soul-stirring sermon by the pastor who used as his subject, “And He Went a Little Further,” Matthew 15: 28. One more was added to the church, Sister L. Fisher. We had one visitor, Mr. O. P. Mickens, who is serving with the Armed Forces at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey. On Sunday, June 1, 1947, the church membership went to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to visit a new church, the Philadelphia Church of Christ. There the pastor preached a wonderful sermon.

The Church Cornerstone Service was held on Sunday, June 1, 3:00 P.M. The service was opened on Monday, June 2, with the Rev. Decoster, Pastor of the Reformed Church of Milton, New Jersey. The C. E. Society was in charge. The Cornerstone was laid by the Grand Lodge of Masons, AF and AM, of the State of New Jersey. Grand Worshipful Master Hall was in charge of the service at 4:00 P.M. The service was under the auspices of the pastor and assistant pastor of the church. We went to thank God for the workers in the church and the Woman’s Home Mission Society of which Sister Tillman is President. These are but a few facts about the women of our church: They are willing to go to the end with the church. We have Mother A. B. Washington, who is out on the field of Missions; Sister Ora Johnson and Sister L. Foat and the pastor’s wife, Sister Tillman; Deacons Zelmon Johnson and Monday who are willing to give all they have for the upbuilding of God’s Kingdom on earth.

Come one, come all, to the church where there is a home-like feeling. A cordial invitation is extended and a hearty welcome awaits you.

Bethel Christian Church

Carroll County, Mississippi

Elder S. D. Yarbrough, Pastor

Mrs. Carrie A. Griffin

Route 2, Box 53

Colla, Mississippi

Bethel is yet alive and is carrying on fairly well for a rural church with location in an area of unfavorable weather conditions.

The minister, Elder S. D. Yarbrough, spent a while in Kansas City, Kansas, during the Spring.

Very good services were held on last Second Sunday preceded by a Mother’s Day program.

The Mound Bayou District met with the Itta Bena Church, a new evangelist point, Itta Bena, Mississippi; as a whole, it was a success and a fine spirit existed throughout the meeting. Quite a few of our State Officers were present among whom were our state president, Elder N. R. Trevillian; the Evangelist Yarbrough; Elder E. L. Brown, boardman; Bro. Elnoo; Bro. C. A. Watt, and others. These persons represented Jackson, Port Gibson, Hermanville, Clarksdale, Mound Bayou and Clinton. Although Brother Watt, Brother Linzie Holmes and the evangelist are members of the Mound Bayou District, they were in attendance.

Mrs. S. L. Bostick Speaks

Mrs. S. L. Bostick Speaks

414 W. 24th Street

North Little Rock, Arkansas

To the readers of the Christian Plea I wish to say positively that, after discussing plans concerning the organization of the National Colored Woman’s Missionary Convention which was set up at Nashville, Tennessee, August, 1918, the writer asked that a series of prayers be offered for the officers to be elected. After this had taken place, we elected—without controversy—the following women as officers: First President, Mrs. Hattie A. Singleton of Kentucky; First Vice-President, Mrs. W. M. Alphin of Missouri; Second Vice-President, Mrs. K. R. Brown of Mississippi; Third Vice-President, Mrs. Preston Taylor of Nashville, Tennessee; Fourth Vice-President,
Mrs. Hattie Mallory of Illinois; Recording Secretary, Mrs. H. L. Herod of Indiana; Assistant Secretary, Mrs. Fannie Hay Johnson of Texas; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Lizzie Brown of Kentucky; and Treasurer, Mrs. M. M. Bostick of Arkansas.

The writer was asked by President Preston Taylor and Professor P. H. Moss to attend the brothers’ National Convention; this we did, organizing the following year using the officers listed above.

Arkansas expresses her deep grief at the passing of Mrs. Taylor whom we know had a big heart and great vision for the Negro work at large. We know that her place cannot be filled.

Field Report

C. L. Parks, National Director
Church Development and Evangelism

We have just returned from an extended visit to the West Coast. Starting at Los Angeles in Southern California, we passed through the coast areas of California, Oregon and Washington; spent the last five days of the trip in Seattle.

During our stay on the coast we contacted Rev. B. C. Duke, pastor of Avalon Christian Church; Rev. M. Frederick Mitchell, pastor of Cosmopolitan Christian Church; and Rev. W. J. Bryant, pastor of 28th Street Christian Church. The ministers we contacted who are not now pastorizing were Rev. Faulkner, Rev. R. R. Turnage, and Rev. A. H. Patterson, all of Los Angeles. We spent considerable time in conference with Dr. Clifford A. Cole, State Secretary of Missions for Southern California who is keenly interested in the development of Negro churches any place in this area where possibility for establishing self-supporting units may be found. In our humble judgment, such possibilities now exist in Los Angeles, Fresno, Berkeley, San Francisco, all in California. At San Francisco, to be exact, we conferred with Dr. Galen Lee Rose, State Secretary of Missions for Northern California. Here again we found in Dr. Rose a deep concern for the loose Disciples in Northern California and he had already made a survey designed to give spiritual relief to our brethren who have been and are still moving into Northern California where we have not established any medium of church worship for Negro discipli

dies. Dr. Rose lives in Berkeley, California and has given some consideration to establishing a church there in his home city. Rev. Elders, formerly of Dallas, Texas, is now living in Berkeley and has succeeded in bringing together a nice group of Texas Disciples to worship in the home of Rev. and Mrs. Elders. Pending further development.

I also contacted Elder C. B. Fisher, formerly of Texas and Arkansas and Elder J. L. Browder who recently moved to Fresno, California from Detroit, Michigan. All of the above named persons are anxious that we take advantage of the opportunity to establish new church units on the West Coast.

In Seattle, Washington we had a very fine fellowship with some of our white brethren. We preached Sunday evening, May 25th, at the University Church of which Dr. Burton R. Brown is pastor, and on Tuesday evening, May 27th, we met with the city Missionary Organization at the First Christian Church of which Dr. Warner Muri is pastor. Dr. C. M. Ridenour presided over the meeting and we believe later developments will prove the wisdom of such a conference.

Most of our time on the West Coast was spent in Los Angeles. We already have three cooperating churches there and this being our first trip since being on the field, it was imperative that some time be given to all three congregations.

We think that our visit was inspirational, not only to the churches, but to ourselves as well. It seems that hitherto have been and are still moving into the membership; we have made marvelous progress under the able leadership of our newly-elected pastor. He has proven to the church that he is a man of God and willing to take up the task and lead us to greater heights in Christ Jesus. The spiritual life of the church has shown much improvement for we are striving to build up a standard for Christ.

We will not fail to express our sincere appreciation to all the ministers who came to our rescue, but Rev. O’Neil was one who stuck very close to the church.

On Mother’s Day, the spirit was in evidence and our pastor preached an inspiring sermon out of the depth of his soul. Ten precious souls were added to the fold. On Sunday afternoon, May 18, nine were baptized. On Sunday, June 1, our pastor preached a heart-searching sermon on the subject, “What Think Ye of Christ?” Three souls were added. At 3:30, our many friends and various churches and ushers boards joined our ushers board in their Eleventh Anniversary observance. The annual sermon was preached by our pastor on the subject, “I'm Doing a Good Work and I Can't Come Down.” Offering raised was $456.34.

Every Lord’s Day morning at 10 o’clock, our Bible School assembles, striving to know more about the word of God. It has been a pleasure as well as a duty for our superintendent, Deacon Stevens, to put forth every effort in building a great Bible School in a spiritual manner.

We are asking the Brotherhood for prayer that we will have a mind to follow Jesus for, if he leads us, we cannot fail.

High Street Christian Church
Mt. Sterling, Kentucky
Rev. Eugene Patterson, Pastor
Mary W. Morton, Reporter

We are looking forward to our annual Homecoming Rally, Sunday, July 6th. The leaders are: Elders Joe Jackson, J. E. Bean, and Tom Elster. All members are asked to give three dollars. Rev. H. E. Jackson, choir and members of Robbins St. Christian Church, Covington, will be with us on that day.

The Church Aid and Woman’s Mis-
A home which has its foundations in HEARTHSTONE is like a house built upon a rock. It is deeply rooted in Christianity and the Bible, and enables the family or individual to face problems and temptations with great spiritual strength. HEARTHSTONE is a treasure-house of inspiring meditations, prayers, Scripture verses, and articles. For less than one cent a week, you can enrich the lives of yourself and your loved ones.

50 cents per year. 59 or more to one address, 10 cents each per quarter.

Chicago Disciples Hold
Womens' Day Program

Indiana Avenue Christian Church, Chicago, Illinois, observed its eighth annual Women's Day Sunday, April 27, with special services at the regular morning worship hour and in the afternoon. Capacity audiences attended both the services which were most instructive and inspirational.

Speaker for the morning program was Mrs. Varina W. Riley of the Indiana Avenue Methodist Church. Mrs. Riley’s subject was “Negro Women, Have You Done What You Could?” The Rev. Dorothy L. Sutton brought the message for the afternoon service.

Mrs. Lulu A. Perkins served as mistress of ceremonies for the morning program and Mrs. Edna Walker presided at the afternoon service. General chairman of the nineteen area leaders, who had charge of raising the finances for the observance, was Mrs. Irma Mendota. She was assisted by Mrs. Mattie D. Anderson and Miss Henrine Tucker. Proceeds from the affair were added to the church’s building fund.

Thousands of copies are being distributed every quarter to every family in every congregation. Christian Home Life is a Christian magazine for all the family.

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Daily Devotions A Bible verse, a meditation, and a prayer for every day. Many Articles and Stories are provided to encourage and aid in today’s Christian living.

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THE STANDARD PUBLISHING CO.,
20 E. Central Pkwy., Cincinnati 10, Ohio
National Convention At Cincinnati Aug. 19-24

NATIONAL CONVENTION, Cincinnati, Ohio
Programme of the Thirty-First Annual

NATIONAL CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY CONVENTION
Disciples of Christ.
August 19-24, 1947

THEME: "CRUSADE FOR A CHRISTIAN WORLD"
Education Evangelism, Stewardship

TUESDAY—August 19
10:00 A.M. Board Meeting.
3:00 P.M. Recommendation Committee.
7:45 P.M. Local Church Night Program—Pres. S. S. Myer's Address.

WEDNESDAY—August 20
7:00—8:00 Breakfast.
8:20—8:30 General Convention Session. Devotions—F. L. Sledge.
8:30 Sermon—E. W. Henry.
8:35 Special Music.
9:00 Appointment of all National Convention Committees.
Presentation and Discussion of New Constitution.
General Announcements.
9:30 Inspirational Address—EVANGELISM—Spencer Austin.
10:00—12:15 Educational Conferences.
12:30—1:30 Lunch.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON
2:00 Devotions—George Frazier.
2:15—4:30 Stewardship, Accounting. National Board, Staff, Secretary, Treasurer, Missionary Organizations, Area workers, Church School, CYF.
4:30 Address—CHRISTIAN MINISTRY—Paul Preston.
5:30—6:30 Dinner.

WEDNESDAY EVENING
7:30 Musical Feast.
8:00 Devotions—E. W. James.
8:15 Address—LAYMEN IN THE CRUSADE—Henry W. Rowan.
8:40 Special Music.
8:50 Sermon—C. H. Webb. Offering and Announcements.

THURSDAY—August 21
7:00—8:00 Breakfast.
8:20—8:30 Devotions—E. W. Wilbert.
8:30 Sermon—J. F. Johnson.
8:35 Music.
9:00 Presentation of Goals, Program Activity and Finance Staff.

Rosa Page Welch Speaks

It would take too long a time and a lot of paper to write about most of the wonderful experiences I have had during the past few months, so I will give some of the highlights.

In October I was used as one of the leaders for the National Children's Workers Conference in St. Louis, and during the first week in January at the National Staff meeting of state secretaries of Religious Education and Missionary Organizations at Turkey Run, Indiana. Both conferences were stimulating and enlightening. We had good representation in both conferences.

After the latter conference I spent
Read the August Issue of the Christian Plea

Convention Announcements

(Continued from page 1)

ROSA PAGE WELCH SPEAKS

four strenuous, but marvellously interesting days in Toronto, Canada, under auspices of Fellowship of Reconciliation (Canadian). I spoke and sang for student groups at the University of Toronto, two large women's clubs, an A. M. E. Church, interviewed on radio and made a transcription for a radio broadcast (both programs carried on hook-up in several provinces), at the largest high school in Toronto and also at a large elementary school. I was on panel discussions in two of the large United Churches, and finally, gave a concert at Carlton Street United Church, of which Rev. James Finlay is the efficient minister.

My sister, Mrs. Lesly Smith, and Mrs. Georgia Cannon and I went to Los Angeles for three weeks to visit Linnie, my daughter, who is a student at Chapman College, as well as to see California. I was guest in the home of Dr. and Mrs. A. T. DeGroot and their daughter, Patricia.

We worshipped at our three churches of which the Revs. Duke, Bryant, and Mitchell are the pastors, and also the Hollywood - Beverly Christian Church. I filled a concert engagement at All Peoples Church, Twenty-Eighth Street Christian Church, Chapman College Auditorium and at Riverside, California. The latter was under the auspices of one of our prosperous Negro Baptist Churches. I did solos at several clubs and church groups including Wilshire Boulevard Christian Church, a Presbyterian Women's Meeting, an interracial Women's Club at Pasadena, California, spoke at Chapman College Chapel, and spoke at Huntington Park High School. Linnie, who is majoring in music, was accompanist for all of my concerts. She is fine and likes California exceptionally well.

One of the most exciting experiences was our visit with the triplets and their parents. I wish all our folks could see those precious, fine, healthy little babies. They are so sweet and such happy babies, in fact, the whole family seemed bubbling with happiness every time we were there. Really, it is heartening to note and hear of the great generosity of the
July, 1947 THE CHRISTIAN PLEA 3

Come to Cincinnati, Ohio
NATIONAL CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY CONVENTION
WHERE—808 Poplar Street, Cincinnati, Ohio
TIME—August 19th to 24th, 1947
PLACE—Fifth Street Christian Church
WHOM TO CONTACT—Elder and Mrs. S. Devine
Theme: "A Crusade for a Christian World"

INFORMATION
Registration and Home Assignment—Tuesday, Aug. 19, 8 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.
Dinner—6:30 P.M.
Local Program—7:30 P.M.
Meals will be served each day as follows:
Breakfast—7:00 to 8:00 A.M.
Dinner—12:30 Noon
Supper—5:30 to 6:30 P.M.

REGISTRATION FEE
Adults $14.00
Children, Two to Ten Years 6.00
All Persons Over Ten Years—Full Fee 14.00

Full amount of registration will be collected for duration or any part of the Convention.
Delegates arriving early will be charged extra, with exception of President, Secretary and Director of Music.

Write Call Contact
ELDER S. DEVINE
808 Poplar Street, Cincinnati, Ohio

National, State and Youth Convention Dates
Texas—Palestine, Texas July 16-20
Florida—St. Petersburg, Fla. Sept. 25-28
Kentucky—Mayfield, Ky. July 22-27
Tennessee—Knoxville, Tenn. July 24-27
Mississippi NOTES
Ohio—Oxford, Ohio July 29-Aug. 3
Bro. G. F. Williams and wife have
Oklahoma
Piedmont—Martinsville, Va. August 19-24
Piedmont—Martinsville, Va. July 26-Aug. 2
Central—Kentucky (Uncertain)
Alabama—Uncertain
Midwest—Bonner Springs, Kansas June 16-21
Eastern Seaboard—Harper's Ferry, Va. (Uncertain)
Magnolia—S. C. I.

ROSA PAGE WELCH SPEAKS
(Continued from page 2)

women's organizations of our Christian Churches in Southern California, under the efficient leadership of Miss Grafton. California and its people are wonderfully generous in every way, especially in their efforts to show you its beauty and constant entertainment. You are sort of worn out when you leave, but two or three days on the train gives one time to catch up with oneself.

I went from Los Angeles to Oregon for three concert engagements at Eugene, Tillamook and Salem. We have fine, progressive churches in each of these cities. I was also chaplain speaker at our Northwest Christian College at Eugene. I was impressed with our College there, too. In fact, I am hoping some of our young people would attend Chapman College at Los Angeles and Northwest Christian College at Eugene. At both colleges, Negro students can live in the college dormitories, and have every privilege of any other student. Chapman has no scholarships, but President Griffith told me that scholarships are available at Northwest Christian College. He, and also Dr. DeGroot, are anxious that our young people enter their colleges.

For each of my concerts I had a large appreciative audience. The people of Oregon are the fine, genuine, and gracious kind too, so typical of the West and Northwest.

Hurrying home from my western trip I had just two days at home before leaving for West Palm Beach, Florida, where I sang two concerts, one at the Everglades Club in Palm Beach, and one at West Palm Beach, for the benefit of a detention home for Negro youth. This was one of my greatest successes so far as establishing myself as a concert singer and so far as real constructive interracial accomplishment is concerned. I wish there were time and space to tell you about it all, but perhaps so later.

Florida apparently is a ripe field for establishing our churches. Our very fine and progressive Mirror Lake Christian Church at St. Petersburg is anxious and ready to lend its support to a minister. We used to have a church there.

There is no more satisfying and stimulating field of service than Christian service when one enters it unselfishly and with a determination to help God in the establishing of his Kingdom in the hearts of men.

Of course there will be disappointments, grief, and many things to discourage, but when we learn to use adversities for the testing and strength of our own Christian living, the compensation is worthwhile and lasting.

MISSISSIPPI NOTES
Bro. Robert Alexander is improving after undergoing an operation.
Bro. George Williams has purchased a grist mill and is making meal for the community.
Mrs. Willie Mae Buck is principal-teacher in one of the public schools in Sharkey County near Anguilla.

The third Sunday in December we were at Hermanville at the First Christian Church of Hermanville, Miss. This is one of the churches Elder Franklin pastors. The Bible School lesson and the praise service were very good. The responsive reading was from Matthew 5:1-16. The pastor preached from Matthew 2:2, his subject being "Where is He that is born King?" After the addition of one new member, the Lord's Supper was served. Sister F. A. Jackson led in singing "I Gave My Life for Thee." Sister F. A. Jackson and her daughter Pinkie have been bringing lunches each third Sunday for the pastor and his wife. Also sister Lyda Wadkins, sister J. A. Wilson, sister Bobo, sister Norrells sister Netter, sister Phelps, sister Minnie Walls, and sister Lucille and sister Thomas have been bringing food to the pastor and his wife. Bro. Levi Thomas
and his mother served dinner each day during the convention to the pastor and Elder N. R. Trevillian, the president of the convention.

After services on the third Sunday at Hermanville

Sister Maggie Straughter, the oldest member of the church, suggested having new Santa come to the pastor and his wife. To our surprise, Santa was hidden in the choir stand. Bro. J. A. Wilson and sister Pinkie read a list of all the presents. There were things to wear and some of everything to eat except sugar. Articles came in from both white and colored citizens, from many who did not belong to church at all, from members of the Baptist Church, from all the members of the Hermanville Church who knew it, and from some of the members of the St. Elmo Church. Bro. Jessie Neter, whose membership is at St. Luke's, played his part as he always does.

I am closing with this prayer:

"Teach me that sixty minutes make an hour, sixteen ounces one pound, and one hundred cents one dollar. Help me to live that I can lie down at night with a clear conscience, without a gun under my pillow and unhaunted by faces of those to whom I have brought pain. Grant that I may earn my meal ticket on the square, and that in earning it I may do unto others as I would have them do unto me. Deafen me to the jingle of tainted money. Blind me to the faults of other people, but reveal to me my own. Guide me so that each night when I look across the dinner table at my husband, I will have nothing to conceal. Keep me young enough to laugh with little children, and sympathetic to be considered of old age.

"Then when comes the day of darkened shades and the smell of flowers, and the tread of soft footsteps and the crunching of soft wheels in the yard, make the ceremony short and the epitaph simple—here lies a woman."

Sincerely yours,

Annie Franklin

Antioch Christian Church

Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Rev. B. A. Douglass, Pastor
Mrs. Virginia E. Sturgis, Reporter
1046 North Trade Street

Greetings from Antioch Christian Church which is still progressing under the wonderful leadership of our beloved pastor, Rev. B. A. Douglass.

Church resolution and obituary of Mr. J. A. Beal of the Antioch Christian Church of Winston-Salem: "We, as members and friends of the Antioch Christian Church, do humbly bow our heads in submission to God, who doeth all things well. Brother Beal was faithful to his church and was loved by all who knew him. We loved him, oh yes, we did; we will miss him, oh yes, we will; he has finished his work and gone to be with the Lord. He has paid the debt we all must pay. And we will meet him some sweet day."

"Brother Beal was in Sunday School and Sunday morning devotional services on the 20th of April; when death came for him, the pastor had just read his Text. Brother Beal was born in Spencer, Virginia, in 1890. He departed this life, April 20, 1947. He was 53 years, 3 months, and 17 days old. He leaves to mourn his loss a wife, Mrs Birdie Beal, three sons, one daughter, three daughters-in-law, one son-in-law, four sisters, five brothers, three grandchildren, two aunts and a host of relatives and friends."

The Hubert Walker Area meeting convened at the Antioch Christian Church, Saturday, May 17, 1947. The devotional services were opened by singing song No. 162; scripture lesson; prayer by Rev. R. S. Taylor; song No. 173; Business session; registration of delegates; hymn led by Rev. R. L. Peters; welcome address by Mrs. Virginia E. Sturgis; response by Miss Josephine Williamson; solo, Rev. G. W. Roland; address by the President, Rev. R. S. Taylor; song led by Elder Green. Theme: "The Disciples Task in Relation to a Great Opportunity or a Great Tragedy." Opening of a round-table discussion of the theme was begun by Rev. L. L. Gray of Cool Spring Christian Church followed by Mr. W. L. Hairson of Cleveland Avenue Christian Church; Rev. T. A. Coleman; Rev. P. E. Carter; Miss Pauline Staple, president of the Youth Department.
Reports of the churches were as follows: Cool Springs—$9; West End Mission—$10; Little Salem—no report; Cleveland Avenue—$25; First Christian Church—$25; Little Bethlehem—no report; Middle Fork—no report; Mt. Pleasant—$7.50; Spencer Memorial—no report; Antioch—no report; Center Tabernacle—no report; Mt. Olive—no report; Walnut Cove—no report; Phillipa—no report. Adjournment for lunch.

Noon Devotional service: song, "Draw Me Nearer"; prayer by Rev. L. L. Gray; song, "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"; minister period, President G. W. Roland in charge.

His main discussion was the theme which he opened up wonderfully. Report of the Aged, $14.00. Greetings from the other areas came from Rev. M. L. Lambert who, also, discussed the theme. President also gave greetings from other areas and gave a remarkable discussion on the theme.

Remarks based on the theme were given by Rev. R. L. Peters, Field Secretary. Announcements, Benediction, Rev. R. S. Taylor, President. Mrs. Agerona Millner, Secretary. From Delegation Fees: $12.00; Reports, $76.50; Aged report, $14.00; Total $102.50.

Names of delegates who were present are as follows: Mrs. Carrie Wright; Rev. P. E. Carter; Miss L. Getta Taylor; Mrs. Stella Gwyn; Rev. R. S. Taylor; Mr. Fred Black; Rev. R. L. Peters; Miss Lillie Courts; Rev. T. R. Gentry; Miss Josephine Williamson; Mr. W. L. Hairson; Mrs. J. T. Green; Rev. C. H. Webb; Miss Theresa Penn; Mr. Oscar Wright; Mr. W. F. MILLNER; Mrs. Agerona Millner; Miss Pauline Staple; Rev. G. W. Roland; Rev. B. A. Douglass; Rev. M. L. Lambert; Rev. L. L. Gray; Mrs. Gill; Mrs. Lillie B. Graves; Registrars: Mrs. Virginia E. Sturgis and Miss Elizabeth Dillard. The ladies who served lunch were: Miss Annie Mae Dillard; Mrs. Callie Dillard; Mrs. Ada Gentry; Mrs. Dora Simmons, and Mrs. Jinnie Dalton.

Mrs. Ada Gentry, president of Willing Workers, Club No. 4 of Antioch Christian Church has returned home from the hospital and is recuperating nicely.

The Senior Choir is progressing nicely under the leadership of Mrs. Virginia E. Sturgis. Our beloved pastor, Rev. B. A. Douglass, will preach the Dedication Sermon for the Senior Choir, Sunday night, June 3. On May 25, Rev. A. W. E. Apprach of Cape Coast, Gold Coast, British West Africa, was guest speaker at Antioch. His primary education, 1906-1913, was obtained at the AME Zion Mission School in Cape Coast; secondary education, 1913-17, at the English Church College at Cape Coast. He taught school for 29 years before coming to America and is now at Livingstone College, Salisbury, North Carolina, on scholarship. He is the founder of two schools on the Gold Coast; the second, now called Aggrey Memorial AME Zion College, Cape Coast, was founded in 1940, turned over by Mr. Apprach to the Zion Mission, which is paying his tuition, in 1947. He is studying in order that he might take over the principalship of Aggrey College upon his return to Africa.

New Churches

REV. S. E. TILLMAN
169 Seaman Street
New Brunswick, New Jersey

We have now two real churches in the state of New Jersey. When I attended the Ministers’ Institute at Baltimore, Maryland, I became acquainted with one Dr. O. S. Lucas, who was minister of the Disciples Church, and formerly of North Carolina. We were both told that it was the hope of the general body that such groups as we would get together. We came back to New Jersey and began to work together, and neither of us have regretted it since. We have just set up a State Union and June 26 will mark our first Union Service. We hope to build a few new churches in the state of New Jersey.

We hope to have every CHRISTIAN PLEA that is sent to the state of New Jersey to publish our church throughout the East.

I am getting some names of persons that belong to other denominations who would like to know more of our work. I have had men to come to me and ask me what our work stood for. I think that if I spend a few pennies and send our paper into their homes they would see some of the things that we are doing.

Port Gibson District No. 1

Tillman, Mississippi

MRS. E. E. CHAMBLISS, Reporter

The Port Gibson District No. 1 Church Schools held their quarterly meeting with the St. Luke Christian Church at Pattison, Mississippi, April 26, 27, 1947. The theme was, “Unity Through Christian Organizations.” The district superintendent, Brother E. M. Williams, presided. After a spiritual devotion the delegates enrolled with a fee of fifty cents. Members and friends enrolled with twenty-five, ten and five cents. The enrollment was very good. The weather was pleasant both days.

On the first day Elder Dan Brooks delivered a wonderful message from the Twenty-Third Psalm. He chose for a subject, “The Goodness of God.” After dinner was served, the Christian Endeavor program was presented with Brother C. E. Chambliss presiding. The program was very interesting as it always is. It seems impossible for the quarterly meeting to exist without the Christian Endeavor. It has caused our young people to become more interested in attending the meetings, and by so doing we are able to reach them. They cannot be trained for leadership unless they can be reached.

Our guest for the first day was Brother M. N. Brown from District No. 2, who made some very timely remarks. He had some explanations of the work that was done at Southern Christian Institute concerning the Crusade program. All officers
were re-elected for the following year.

On Sunday the lesson was taught by Brother C. E. Chambliss. The Christian Endeavor program was conducted by one of the young ladies from Pine Grove Church School, who is finishing high school in May. Conference class was taught by Brother R. S. Wynn. His topic was, "The Books of the New Testament." Elder Anthony Gordon preached a wonderful sermon from the fourth chapter of St. John and the sixteenth verse. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth on him shall not perish, but have everlasting life." The theme was, "The Supreme Sacrifice." The sermon was very interesting and inspiring.

Money raised in the meeting was as follows:

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Williamburg Christian Church

MRS. CHERIDELL ELLIS, Reporter
REV. L. O'NEILL, Pastor
211 Snediker Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

We can truthfully say that the activities of our church are moving forward in a prospering manner.

On Sunday morning, March 9, Rev. L. O'Neill was elected as Pastor of our church, and six precious souls were added to the fold. Each Lord's Day morning he preaches the word of God out of the depth of his soul.

Palm Sunday morning our pastor preached an inspiring sermon on the subject, "I Want to See Jesus."

The Quarterly Union convened at our church. It began Friday night, March 28, and ended Sunday afternoon, March 30. The three-thirty sermon was preached by the Rev. D. S. Kinard, Pastor of the Calvary Christian Church, and also president of the Quarterly Union. His subject was, "My House Shall Be a House of Prayer."

We had a distinguished visitor with us, Elder Thomas C. R. Bragg of the Twelfth Street Christian Church, Washington, D. C.

We are asking the Brotherhood to pray for us as we continue our task.

Eight Street Christian Church

REV. J. E. BLAIR, Pastor
750 Everett Avenue, Kansas City 2, Kansas

"O give thanks to the Lord for He is good and his mercy is everlasting." We are able to say these words out of a sincere heart, because the Lord has certainly blessed us in sickness, and in health he has not left us alone.

The church is moving along in high on the highway of Christian service. We are having large attendance each Lord's Day, and our offering is usually about $50.00. All of the members are in a very high spirit and always at their posts on the Lord's Day. The Lord has added twelve new members to our fellowship since we took charge in September, 1946. On March 23, we presented a splendid program which had as its theme, "Crusade for a Christian World." We had in attendance that day about four hundred and seventy persons.

Mrs. O. S. Bond is our local secretary for the CHRISTIAN PLEA.

Mrs. Clara Blair is improving in her home after having been ill for the last seven months.

We are planning to have at least one hundred CHRISTIAN PLEA readers in Eight Street Christian Church within the next few days.

Chicago Society Sponsors Souvenir Tea

The Missionary Society of the Indiana Avenue Christian Church, Chicago, marked its third milestone in the sponsoring of the Souvenir Tea. In a very gala and picturesque atmosphere some two hundred and fifty persons were made welcome by hostesses of all ages. Ten beautifully set tables were arranged in the banquet room of the church at which the following hostesses served: Mrs. Minnie Ramsey and daughters, Mrs. Sallie Cotter, Mrs. A. L. Martin and Mrs. Irene Abernathy; Mrs. Elma Dupree and the Messengers Club, Mrs. Nellie R. Smith and Mrs. Lilian Blythe, Mrs. Fannie H. Clark and the Young People, Mrs. Olive Watson and Mrs. Susie Simpson, Mrs. Lucille Palmer and Miss Mamie Robinson; Mrs. Elizabeth Pickard and daughter, The Tiny Tots and Juniors supervised by Miss Fenton Hamilton, Mrs. Garrison and Mrs. Lennis Mahone and Miss Patricia Shirley and the South Side Missionary Society. Mrs. Neomi Nunnery who did not have a table reported contributions received from friends.

The program which was arranged by Fenton M. Hamilton, Fannie H. Clark and Evelyn Smith Lawson was a very unique one. An Indian Skit and several readings pertaining to the Missionary material for the present six months was presented by the Indiana Avenue Church Christian Youth Fellowship. Several choral numbers were presented by the Youth Chorus of Christian Hope Baptist Church. While the guests were indulging in refreshments instrumental music was played by Owen M. Lawson, violinist and Evelyn Smith Lawson, accompanist. Each guest was presented with an orchid bible bookmark on leaving.

Mrs. A. L. Martin, President
Rev. R. H. Davis, Pastor
Miss Mamie Robinson, Reporter

3747 LaSalle Street
Chicago, Illinois.
April 7, 1947

Dear Brother Eppse:

I enjoyed reading the paper and I was very sorry to hear of Mrs. Preston's death. I will be glad to get one of the papers about her death.

The reason I have not been keeping the paper up is because I have been sick a long time. I can hardly
July, 1947

The National Convention is around the corner. Every minister and leader of the church should put forth their best effort to make the attendance to the convention this year its greatest. Brother and Sister Devine and his good members have informed me that they have met every requirement of the convention for its entertainment.

The emphasis last year was a “Resurgence of Christian Life.” We are a part of a great Brotherhood. Our honor is at stake. We must keep step and carry our share of the load.

Many good things have been provided for our group. This, as well as our interest in others, should constrain us to do our best. Brother minister and leaders of the church, it is up to you to lead and inspire the members of your church and organizations of the church and State to give their full cooperation. We appreciate your support of the past and solicit for the Kingdom of God this year nothing less than your best.

The National workers, under the leadership of Mr. Emmett J. Dickson, Executive Secretary, are doing a wonderful piece of work. The National Board is satisfied as well as inspired by the result of their labors. They will make full report of their work at the Convention.

The Convention has come into full heritage of the Preston Taylor gift. A report on the status of the estate will be given at the Convention. The gift of Preston Taylor is a living memorial of his love, devotion and interest in Crusading for a Christian World. His example in stewardship is a beacon unto us. It is ours to prove worthy of this glorious gift by accepting his faith in us, demonstrating stewardship ability by giving our substance and managing well our legacy. We can do nothing less than choose to be faithful.

Rev. S. S. Myers, President.

President’s Letter to the Brotherhood

July 3, 1947

The National Convention is around the corner. Every minister and leader of the church should put forth their best effort to make the attendance to the convention this year its greatest. Brother and Sister Devine and his good members have informed me that they have met every requirement of the convention for its entertainment.

The National Convention budget has been increased $1500 over last year’s budget to make possible a full time National Evangelist. The evangelist emphasis must be supported in the life of our Brotherhood. Therefore every church that supported the National budget last year must give what they gave last year with a plus. If your church was one of the churches that did not give your financial support to the convention last year, you should consider having fellowship in this glorious task of evangelizing the world.

Evangelism must be at the heart of the Christian program. To truly Crusade for a Christian World is to enlist and train Christian citizens for the Kingdom of God. We can do this task best when we choose to do it together.

The program for the National Convention has been planned to emphasize evangelism, education and stewardship. It will be necessary for the leaders of your church to be present at the convention to receive the information, inspiration and challenge of our Brotherhood program. The emphasis this year is built around the second general objective of a Crusade for a Christian World.

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Rev. S. S. Myers, President.
Use More Audio-Visual Aids This Fall

Spencer Delineascope

Projects Maps, Hymns, Pictures, Flat Objects and Charts from Magazines and other Sources

Send for a free Copy of the Visuals Aids Equipment Catalog, containing full descriptions of the Delineascope and many other visual education aids.

Help Your Area Director

Help your area director establish a fund for promoting visual education in your area. Ten percent of the list price of visual aids equipment ordered from the Christian Board of Publication is credited to this fund, when the order is routed through your area director’s office.

Food for Thought

Sidney A. Scott

By nature every normal man has two feet to support himself while standing, and by nature the whole earth is his to stand on, providing he is here by himself. But when there is another man, by nature the whole earth becomes a place for both of them to stand. As no two things can occupy the same place at the same time, the two men must occupy different places. Now, the earth is large and each man has plenty of space from which to choose. They together can choose a portion of the earth and share alike with each other, or they can choose separately and share individually.

The choosing and sharing portions of the earth is the basis from which comes all our social contacts, successes and failures, conflicts and wars. Few people choose together mutually and agreeably. It seems to be instinctive in man not to share agreeably with other individuals, groups, tribes and races. Each one wants the bigger or biggest portion of the earth and the benefits divided therefrom.

Now this sharing of portions of the earth to the betterment of the moral welfare of mankind is an age-old problem. We have but to read history, starting with Herodotus, the father of history, Plato, Aristotle, Plutarch, and on down to the present, but to witness the struggle man has had in solving this problem of sharing portions of the earth to the greatest general good. Science, philosophy and religion have been put to the test. Individuals have fought duels, tribes, races and nations have fought, bled and died over this problem of sharing portions of the earth.

Our present-day affairs individually, nationally and internationally are but a repetition of past history. At this time it looks like we are on the verge of another World War. It seems strange when we think back over the many centuries of intellectual culture and development, educationally, scientifically and religiously. We have not yet developed enough intelligence to know how to share together portions of the earth without fighting and killing each other.

Something is lacking, what is it?
Christian Leaders Flock to Cincinnati Convention

Dr. J. E. Walker, Memphis
National Treasurer
Most dynamic force in the Convention

Dr. S. S. Myers
Kansas City, Mo.
President, National Convention

Rev. L. L. Dickerson
Columbus, Ohio
Secretary, National Convention

Rev. R. Wesley Watson
Kansas City, Mo.
Former National Convention
President

Elder & Mrs. C. H. Dickerson
Former Editor and dynamic missionary
North Tazewell, Virginia
Elder R. H. Davis and a group of his Indiana Avenue Christian Church members of Chicago, Ill., celebrating the progress of the Church.

Indiana Avenue Christian Church Holds Seventeenth Anniversary of Rev. R. H. Davis

Chicago, Ill.

Members and friends of the Indiana Avenue Christian Church, Chicago, observed the closing of the seventeenth year of the pastorate of the Rev. Richard H. Davis with an Anniversary Tea held at the church Sunday afternoon, July 20. The affair, which was one of the outstanding events on the church’s calendar this year, was in charge of a planning committee and patrons’ group headed by Mrs. Alma P. Cummings.

Highlights of the program, for which Miss Mary Lou Wheeler of the Tabernacle Baptist Church served as mistress of ceremonies, included the anniversary address delivered by Miss Dorothy Pelton, special musical selections by Lawson’s String Ensemble and the Indiana Avenue church senior and gospel choirs, and the presentation to Rev. and Mrs. Davis of the gifts of members and friends by Miss Ruby Ramsey. Following the program Mrs. Mattie Pelton presided at the beautifully appointed tea table.

Under the leadership of Rev. Davis the Indiana Avenue church has achieved a number of significant accomplishments. Among them are the purchase in 1936 of the present church home and by 1940 the complete liquidation of the debt incurred, the making of building improvements amounting to over six thousand dollars, the increasing of the church membership from 125 in 1935 to 575 in 1947, and the building up of a church school with an enrollment of over two hundred pupils with 16 classes, 20 teachers, and 10 officers. A new organ was dedicated in December of 1946.

The following auxiliaries and clubs have been organized and are functioning regularly: Men’s Council, Gospel Chorus, Junior Church, Messenger Club, Senior Usher Board, Ladies’ Aid Society, Pastor’s Aid Society, Deaconess Board, Christian Youth Fellowship, Senior and Intermediate Christian Endeavor Societies, Triple C Club, Boy Scout Troop No. 590, and 12 Birthday Clubs. An outstanding project has been developed, the Summer Vacation Church School, which is in session for three weeks following the close of the public schools and which serves children in the community. The church has initiated a four year building fund drive which involves the raising of $35,000 for the erection of an educational plant; nearly $3,000 on this fund has been raised this year.

Richard Hyatt Davis was born in St. Mary’s Parish, Jamaica, British West Indies, where he spent his boyhood. He came to the United States in 1909, to enter the Southern Christian Institute at Edwards, Miss. In 1914 he graduated from this school and was ordained to the ministry during the commencement week. Following a year of teaching at Martinsville Christian Institute in Virginia he attended Wesleyan College, Bloomington, Ill., and Eureka College, Eureka, Ill., being graduated from the latter school. He has also attended the Universities of Cincinnati and Chicago.

Rev. Davis served as pastor of the (Continued on page 4)

Mrs. A. E. Martin, Chicago, Ill.
Dynamic area missionary worker
Elder Blair Hunt, Pastor, Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church, Memphis, Tennessee, celebrating progress of the church.

Mrs. S. F. Bosdick
Dynamic missionary of Little Rock, Arkansas

Mrs. C. E. Rowan, Memphis
Brotherhood Leader in securing CHRISTIAN PLEA subscriptions

Dr. Cleo Blackburn, Indianapolis
A Pioneer in Social Administration; Superintendent of The Flanner House

Dr. Baxter C. Duke, California
Second Vice-President and Pastor of Avalon Christian Church
Children in The Crusade School of the Centennial Christian Church, St. Louis, Mo., making plans for the launching of the "Crusade For A Christian World."

Children of the Centennial Christian Church practicing a skit which they have prepared to show their mothers the Christian way of life.

Dr. P. A. Grey is the minister

INDIANA AVENUE CHURCH

(Concluded from page 2)

Kenyon Avenue Christian Church, Cincinnati, from 1916 to 1920 during which year he was called to the pastorate of the Indiana Avenue Church. In 1920 he was married to the former Miss Mable Isles of Cincinnati.

Rev. Davis, who is first vice-president of the National Convention, served for two years as president of the Bible School Department of that organization and for two years as corresponding secretary of the Church Department. At present he is also president of the Chicago Ministerial Fellowship and Service League, an interdenominational community organization of ministers and laymen and vice-president of the Chicago branch of the National Negro Congress. Rev. Davis has been president and secretary-treasurer of the Chicago Christian Ministers' Association and for three years was a trustee-at-large of the Chicago Church Federation.
MRS. ELBIE TITUS, Dallas, Texas
Dynamic missionary leader and CHRISTIAN PLEA Representative

MRS. CORNELLA JAMISON BARNES
California
Former Missionary Secretary and now mother of triplets

MRS. WILMA ERVIN
Knoxville, Tennessee
Widow of the late President J. E. Ervin, faithful missionary

MRS. JOHNIE KIRKPATRICK
Louisville, Kentucky
Former President Woman's National Missionary Convention

MRS. CORNELLA JAMISON BARNES
California
Former Missionary Secretary and now mother of triplets

MRS. L. RUTH RATTAN PATTERSON
Former Director of Missionary Organizations, now a proud mother of Mt. Sterling, Ky.

MRS. ROSA BROWN BRACEY
St. Louis, Mo.
Former National worker
Elder S. E. Tillman
New Brunswick, N. J.
Our great church leader of the Northeast

Miss Osceola Dawson
Paducah, Kentucky
Dynamic church leader

Elder I. C. Franklin
Port Gibson, Mississippi
Former National officer and church leader

Elder John Thompson
Palestine, Texas
Our young and dynamic minister

Professor T. M. Pratt
Dallas, Texas
National Board member

Dr. William Kappen Fox
Edwards, Mississippi
Our dynamic, young religious education leader
GREENWOOD CEMETERY, Nashville, Tennessee

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MRS. IDA M. TAYLOR
March 10, 1947
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Dallas, Texas
National Board member

Dr. William Kappen Fox
Tennessee State College
Nashville, Tenn.
College Pastor to 2300 students

Ministers and Laymen will accept this challenge. The Detroit Convention young women from each class and their escorts, flowers, gift and
Church Leaders Preparing to Do a Better Job

LORENZO J. EVANS, National Director of Christian Education

The task of every Christian man and woman is to measure himself or herself against the opportunity that is theirs and try to achieve the highest in personal growth and Christian service. It was with this fact in mind that Miss Bessie E. Chandler, President of the Department of Christian Education, and I planned the National Study Conference on Christian Education in connection with the National Christian Missionary Convention held in Cincinnati, Ohio, August 19-23.

It was gratifying to see ministers, women of missionary organizations, state presidents of the Bible School Dept., and young people gather together in the various conferences for study; to learn new techniques of approach to problems which face them in their local churches. We hope, through such avenues of approach, these leaders in the local churches will be able to sense the needs of the people in their community and realize their obligation as leaders to that community.

The task of reconstruction, after such a devastating war as World War II, demands the efforts of every Christian leader to work together if we are to build a Christian Community.

We appreciate the many interesting comments and suggestions made about the study conference because this conference was designed to help you equip yourself to do a better job in your local church. We hope that you are beginning to select leaders from various departments of your church, and have them attend one of the conference sessions at the next National Convention.

Adult education is more of a cooperative venture between leader and group members. Therefore, we feel that as we venture out on this effort together in Christian Education, all of us can prepare ourselves to do a better job for building the Kingdom of God. We will be counting on you to help make the next conference for study, at the National Christian Missionary Convention, a better one. It will be better because you are willing to make it so.

READ THE CHRISTIAN PLEA

An Open Letter to Christian Youth

LORENZO J. EVANS—National Director of Christian Education

Dear Young Friends,

If the world is ever to be won for Christ, it will be because we will bind our forces together and go out to do this job for him. It means that you and me and all of God’s children have a responsibility in seeing that this job is done.

Many times we are not sure just what we can do or sometimes we may feel that our contribution to the building of the Kingdom of God is so small that it does not matter. But whenever you fail to make your contribution, that much is missing in the total program of the church.

Might I suggest some specific things that you can set up as your goal and work hard in order that you can accomplish them. (1) Try to get every young person in your church to make a contribution to the Christian World Friendship Fund. Last year the young people of our total brotherhood fell short some $25,000 in reaching its goal of $75,000. We fell short of our goal because many of our young people did not make their contributions—whether they were large or small it made a difference. All offerings made to this fund should be so designated. (2) During this Crusade For A Christian World, won’t you become a Crusader of the Cross? That is, you will commit yourself to go out and win three young persons for Christ during the year. Only as we are winning someone to Christ are we living up to his great commission. This task of making Disciples belongs to you and me. (3) To enlarge our church school. We will have the kind of church school that we will be willing to build. If we want to enlarge our church school, we will enlarge it. This will be because we will be willing to do the work that will be required to enlarge it. Our church school will be one, two, three or even five years from now the kind of church school we want. If we want an enlarged church school, we will build it. What kind of church school do you want?

I think these are a few suggestions that should serve as a challenge to all of us. We should be willing to accept these challenges as representatives of the Kingdom of God, and then dedicate our lives to the task of seeing that the job is done. Can God count on you to do your share?

Corinth Christian Church

DR. P. C. WASHINGTON, Pastor

MRS. ALMETA HENDERSON, Reporter

Route 2, Box 260

Kilgore, Texas

We can truthfully say that the activities of our church are moving forward in a favorable manner. The August revival was an outstanding one. Rev. M. C. Dickson of Dallas, Texas, assisted by Rev. O. C. Jacobs of Jarvis College, carried on the services.

Each sermon was full of spiritual fire and we are still feasting on that Gospel food. Four souls were added to the fold. May God bless them all to grow strong in the faith of Christ. There is nothing more satisfying and stimulating than Christian service when one enters it unselfishly and with a determination to help God in the establishment of his kingdom.

We had splendid cooperation. All the neighboring churches attended. We were grateful to have Pine Hill Christian Church with us on Thursday night. Their singing group, the “Humble Hearts,” under the direction of Mr. Robert Johnson, and also the Junior Choir of the St John Baptist Church, rendered music. Money raised during our revival was $175.00.

May the spirit continue to exist for years to come. “Together we stand, divided we fall.” “Where there is unity there is strength.”

New Mt. Olive Christian Church

MRS. L. V. ISAACS, Reporter

Box 974, Henderson, Texas

Again, Christian friends, we are happy to say that the activities of our church are moving along in a prosperous manner.

Sunday school each Sunday is a climax of all our services as the attendance is regular. Whenever some leader is absent from any department, we always are blessed to have on hand some Good Samaritan, who will fall right in line and carry on. We are small in number, but large in heart and spirit.

Brother Rodges and Dr. Cleaver represented us at the State convention, which was held in Palestine, Texas July, 16th to 19th. Their reports were favorable, timely as well as informational.

Rev. M. C. Dickson was our guest revivalist on Friday, August 1st. Remember your prayers are appreciated.
THE CHRISTIAN PLEA
Report of the Editor for
September, 1946 to August, 1947
Inclusive

Money Received from all Sources:  
1. Dr. J. E. Walker—National Convention $800.00  
2. Advertising:  
   a. Christian Board of Publication $179.42  
   b. Pension Fund 30.00  
   c. Standard Publishing Company 38.40  
   d. Miss R. C. Sneed 15.00  
3. Subscriptions 262.82  
TOTAL MONEY RECEIVED FROM ALL SOURCES $1573.43

Money Paid Out:  
1. McQuiddy Printing Company:  
   a. September PLEA, 1200 copies $87.50  
   b. October PLEA, 1200 copies 86.50  
   c. November PLEA, 1200 copies 102.62  
   d. December PLEA, 1200 copies 95.80  
   e. January PLEA, 1200 copies 96.95  
   f. February PLEA, 1200 copies 91.45  
   g. March PLEA, 1200 copies 88.00  
   h. April PLEA, 1200 copies 97.75  
   i. May PLEA, 1200 copies 88.00  
   j. June PLEA, 1200 copies 91.29  
   k. July PLEA, 1200 copies 88.00  
   l. August PLEA, 1200 copies 88.00  
   TOTAL $1102.06
2. CHRISTIAN PLEA Secretary 360.00  
3. Hemphill Press, September 1—18,000 wrappers 37.25  
4. Davidson County PLEA Postage 3.60  
5. Post Office deposit for mailing 8.84  
6. Post Cards, 2,000 20.00  
7. Commercial Letter Shop for multigraphing Post Cards 7.64  
8. Postage for 500 letters 15.00  
9. To Misses Simon and Greene for typing wrappers and addressing cards 105.00  
10. Nashville Office Machine Company for repair of typewriter 15.00  
11. Returned PLEAS and Change of Address notices 3.20  
TOTAL MONEY PAID OUT $1677.59  
$1677.59 - $104.16 RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
Merl R. Eppse, Editor  
THE CHRISTIAN PLEA

Arkansas Christian Missionary Convention
MRS. SARAH BOSTICK, Reporter
414 N. 24th St.
N. Little Rock, Arkansas

The state convention for Arkansas was held in Russellville in a small church, which is at present without a pastor. The people of the church entertained us royally. Brother Johnny Woodard, Mrs. Mary Hanklin and Mrs. Sally Woodard live such Christian lives that as leaders they are able to gain the help of other religious groups.

The Convention was not long, but excellent in spirit, with good reports from the churches and fine speaking by the preachers. Elder Watson, who is always good, brought an inspiring message as did Elder O. B. Garner, of Cross St. Church. Elder Forbes of Pine Bluff, Elder L. B. Forin, of Peace Church, and also Wright Will, who is an up and coming young man. He will soon be where he can take care of his church properly.

Our State President, Elder B. Armstrong, also brought a fine message. Elder J. R. Moore, our part time Evangelist, did not fail to declare the whole truth.

The Woman's department went over very nicely, Mrs. Bostick giving the Historical sketch on the Mission of work of our Negro women. Mrs. Franklin, the President, had a wonderful paper. All enjoyed it, and also Mrs. Moore had a paper on "Time."

Both papers were asked to be sent to the Plee. There were some little changes in the State affairs for 1947.

The Bible School went on very nicely, with Brother Taylor Cole as leader. The reports from all sources were good.

Cowherd at Lea Avenue
A revived church program has been instituted under the administration of Elder W. B. Cowherd, graduate student at Fisk University and recently called pastor of the Lea Avenue Christian Church, Nashville, Tennessee. Increased attendance and growing financial contributions have marked initial efforts. The church is planning a program of expansion in all areas next year.

Lorenzo J. Evans
NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Figure 1: The report of the editor for The Christian Plea from September 1946 to August 1947, focusing on the financial transactions and the contributions received and paid out. The report also includes a section on the Arkansas Christian Missionary Convention and an overview of the Cowherd at Lea Avenue church program.
THE CHRISTIAN PLEA

A monthly publication of the National Christian Missionary Convention of Disciples of Christ of America.

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National Christian Missionary Convention

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National Director of Evangelism and Church Development

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THE CHRISTIAN PLEA OFFICE
P. O. Box 456
Nashville 2, Tennessee
Phone 6-4395

“IF we walk in the light, we have fellowship one with the other. ” (1 John 1: 7.)

NOTICE
All news must be in by seventh of each month.

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
(Continued from page 3)

for Brother M. C. Dickson at the morning service, and spoke for Brother Lawrence Hall of the Romine Street Church at the evening service. July 7-12 I was at Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Texas serving in the South-west Young Peoples Conference. Twenty-nine young people attended this conference, an increase of about one third over the previous year. July 12-13—Romine Street Church, Dallas, Texas to meet with the District Board No. 2.

July 16-19—Palestine, Texas to attend meeting of State Missionary Christian Convention. July 25—St. Louis, Missouri, to attend State Convention. July 27—9th Street Christian Church, Roanoke, Virginia, speaking at both the morning and evening services for Brother Heath.

July 28-Aug. 2—Fayette Street Christian Church, Martinsville, Virginia

Piedmont Young Peoples Conference. Sixty-nine young people attended this conference for an all-time high with a faculty of twelve serving them. Here I served as vespers speaker as well as teaching a two-hour course.

August 4 found me back at the office to make preparations for our National Convention.

To me this was a very challenging experience and one which demands the best that anyone has to offer. Because the task of Christian Education is the responsibility of the church, and because God must have men and women who are willing to answer this call, I am sure that we will cry out as did the prophet of old: “Here am I, send me.”

YOUNG PEOPLES CONFERENCE FOR 1947

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Director</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Attent.</th>
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<td>Mid-west,</td>
<td>Bonner Springs, Kansas</td>
<td>R. Westley Waston</td>
<td>June 15-21</td>
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<td>Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Texas</td>
<td>Charles Sherman</td>
<td>July 6-12</td>
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<td>Fayette St. Church, Martinsville, Va.</td>
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<td>Fee Memorial Institute, Nicholasville, Kentucky</td>
<td>Mrs. Edith Bristow</td>
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<td>Magnolia,</td>
<td>Southern Christian Institute, Edwards, Mississippi</td>
<td>Mr. John Long</td>
<td>Sept. 8-14</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To date three young people conferences have been held with an attendance of one hundred sixty-seven and a faculty of thirty serving them. We hope that by the time the other two conferences are over, we will have been able to serve at least three hundred fifty young people.

The Alabama Conference was not able to meet because of the lack of facilities which were destroyed by fire. However, we look forward to being able to get this conference going another year with the local director, Brother A. J. Jeffries. It is also our hope to get a conference going in Baltimore area with Brother C. L. Whitfield serving as local director to the Baltimore, Washington, and New York churches and any others that might come in the Eastern Seaboard Area.
National Director of Christian Education

LABORATORY TRAINING SCHOOL

Again this year our National Christian Missionary Convention made it possible for leaders to attend the St. Louis Laboratory Training School under the direction of Miss Bessie Chandler of St. Louis. Eighteen children workers attended this school for two weeks, June 16th to the 27th, representing six states: Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, Ohio, Alabama and Virginia. Three of the workers completed the four year accredited courses.

With the aid of the Kentucky Missionary Society and the National Department of Christian Education of the National Convention, eight children workers were able to attend the laboratory training schools in their local States.

Children's work is so important we hope that at sometime in the near future we will be able to have employed a full time National Worker to devote his entire time and service to Children's work.

In cooperation with the National office of Children's Work in Indianapolis, we were able to have two of our children workers to attend the International Workers Conference, namely; Miss Roberta Brown of Martinsville, Virginia and Mrs. Margaret Webb of Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

This conference was held in connection with the International Sunday School Convention which met in Des Moines, Iowa July 23-27.

We want to keep in mind, however, that the core of the educational program in all churches, and the sole program in some, is the school program that meets every Sunday, namely, the Church School or Bible School. Therefore, we feel that if we are to do a good job in Christian Education it means that we must have the full support of every State President of the Bible School Department as well as each local school superintendent.

Knowing the importance of Christian Education we feel that as we launch out as Crusaders for a Christian World, we all will want to rededicate our lives to doing this job together.

REPORT OF NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF CHURCH DEVELOPMENT AND EVANGELISM

C. L. Parks

TO THE NATIONAL BOARD of the NATIONAL CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY CONVENTION

The only field trip I made between April 10-30 was made in company with Mr. Howard Dungan who had scheduled a conference with representatives of Michigan State Missionary Society, Central Christian Church, Flint, Michigan and Vermont Christian Church, the newly organized mission of Flint. This conference was held in Flint and the agreement reached, made it possible for Mr. Thomas W. Courts to become full-time pastor of the new mission. The rest of April was spent in the office taking care of correspondence and other routine matters of the office.

On May 1st, I left Indianapolis for Los Angeles, California, arriving Saturday evening May 3. Sunday May 4, I preached for Brother Mitchell and his congregation at Metropolitan Christian Church. On Monday May 5th, I contacted Dr. Clifford Coles, Executive Secretary of Southern California Missionary Society and arranged a conference for Tuesday May 6. In this conference, details of a plan to establish a new congregation among our Negro brethren in Los Angeles were discussed and definite decisions were made as to policies to be followed during the launching and developing periods of the project. The church building is located in West Los Angeles. In this area there are more Negroes than any other racial group. The white Disciple Congregation voted to turn this property over to the State Missionary Society since most of the original members have moved into other areas and there seems to be no possibilities for future growth. Dr. Coles suggested that the State Society permit this property to be used as a worship center for a new Christian church, and that the Society would support a minister financially, until the organization becomes self-supporting. Whenever the new organization shows signs of being permanent and self-supporting the State Missionary Society will deed the property to said organization and require only that the new congregation reimburse the State Society for monies spent in developing the new organization; no charge for the church property. This project is still in the making and I hope it will be launched in late September or early October.

(Continued on page 6)
Before leaving Los Angeles, I conducted a ten-days Evangelistic meeting at Avalon Christian Church, preached two nights at 28th Street Christian Church, and held one union meeting which brought together the three cooperating churches of the Los Angeles area.

From Los Angeles I traveled to San Francisco and contacted Dr. Galen Lee Rose, Executive Secretary of Northern California Christian Missionary Society. Dr. Rose lives in Berkeley, California, just across the Bay from San Francisco. Dr. Rose's interest in making available worship privileges for the large number of Negro Disciples who have moved into the Bay area, goes beyond mere words, this proven by the fact that he had already contacted two Christian ministers in searching for a worship location that would be both adequate and promising for the group of fifty-two Disciples whom Brother Elders, one of the ministers mentioned above, has brought together to worship in his home. Dr. Rose got Elders Fisher and Elders together and we four had a conference which I believe will bring to fruition their effort to get a church properly organized in Berkeley.

Before leaving for the West, Elder J. L. Browder who formerly worked with the North American Home Mission Planning Council at Willow Run, Michigan, but who now lives in Fresno, California, wrote me picturing what he termed great possibilities for establishing a Christian church in the Fresno area. Not knowing that I would pass through Fresno on route to San Francisco, I suggested that he meet me in San Francisco; that he promised. But, I was disappointed when I reached Frisco because he did not meet me. However, before I left he called me by long distance telephone and expressed regrets for not being able to keep his promise and suggested that I come back to Fresno and check the situation. This contact was made Monday morning and because I was dated to preach in University Church, Seattle, Washington on Sunday May 25th, time would not permit me to make the trip. However, Dr. Rose promised that he would gladly contact Elder Browder when in Fresno, and give support to the effort if possibilities are as so stated in Elder Browder's communication.

I left San Francisco 6:00 o'clock Friday and arrived in Seattle, Washington Saturday afternoon at 4:35. Sunday, May 25th, I preached for the University Church in Seattle and on Tuesday evening May 27, appeared in conference with the Seattle City Mission under the sponsorship of Rev. Ridenour, president of the Mission. This missionary Organization evidenced sustained willingness to help establish mediums through which worship opportunities in their own communion will be opened to Disciples who have moved into the Seattle area. Dr. Warner Muri, Minister of Broadway Christian Church and host pastor on the night of our mission conference, observed that he had contacted several Negro Disciples through the small numbers of his church and invited them into the fellowship of Broadway Christian Church. This effort on the part of Dr. Muri to integrate Negro Disciples into the fellowship of his church failed except in the initial stage. Some who were invited came once or twice and then fell away. Since Christian churches are already established in almost all areas where Negro Disciples migrate, it was expressed by some attending this conference that the ideas of integration, being idealistic, should always be tried out before turning to any other solution. No definite decision was reached during this conference other than a promise by the Mission group to give serious consideration to the need of a worship center for Negro Disciples in the Seattle area.

I came directly from Seattle to Indianapolis and spent practically all of June in the office taking care of correspondence and preparing Crusade Evangelistic Goal quotas for all churches whose Crusade Goal quotas have not been figured, compiled and sent out by the State Secretaries. The one field trip made in June was to the Kenyon Avenue Christian Church, Cincinnati, Ohio, now host to the National Convention. The visit was pleasant and all signs pointed toward a very welcome reception for the National Convention. Rev. and Mrs. S. C. Devine were certainly giving of their all to make the convention's stay both profitable and enjoyable. The Cincinnati trip was made the last week in June.

July 3-6, I visited with the Eastern Sea-Board United District Christian Convention convening at St. Phillip Christian Church, Brooklyn, New York. In the convention I was permitted to hand out and promote Crusade Goals. All ministers present received their goal quotas and promised to urge ac-
For the sixteenth successive year, the PENSION FUND invited all of our churches to share in celebrating THE WEEK OF THE MINISTRY.

The dates are October 12-19, 1947.

We are beginning a great CRUSADE. The need of pastors, evangelists, teachers, and general church workers is urgent. The enlistment of our finest young people in full-time Christian service is one of the goals of the Crusade. Therefore, we are asking each church to sound "THE CALL TO SERVICE."

The Apostle Paul reminds us in his letter to the Ephesians: "And he gave some to be apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, unto the work of ministering, unto the building up of the body of Christ...."

The PENSION FUND is interested in recruitment. It is also interested in the active ministry, and in the ministry in days of retirement. Because of these interests, every full-time servant of Christ in the brotherhood is urged to enroll; and every church is asked to participate in the plan.

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Is Your Church Enrolled?

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Former President Woman's National Missionary Convention

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CONVENTION LAUNCHES "CRUSADE FOR CHRIST"

Convention Launches Crusade—Meyers Re-Elected

Walker Inspires

“We must have new persons if we are to have a new church and a new world. Let us gird ourselves for a united Crusade for a Christian World.” Thus was the challenge left by President Cyril Meyers at the climax of his annual address to over 400 delegates attending the thirty-second annual meeting of the National Christian Missionary Convention which convened at the Fifth Avenue Christian Church, Cincinnati, Ohio, August 17 through 24th.

The largely attended institute program under the directorship of Miss Beissie Chandler and Mr. Lorenzo Evans, National Director of Religious Education, emphasized the stewardship, evangelistic and educational phases of the Crusade program at all age levels.

Other highlights of the convention included addresses by Rev. Spencer Austin, National Director of Evangelism and Dr. J. E. Walker, National Convention Treasurer and Nationally known business man. Mr. Austin admonished Christians to begin “preaching the Gospel of shoe leather” that men might be won for Christ. Dr. Walker made two dramatic presentations, challenging Negro Disciples to express true manhood in churchmanship especially in matters of finance. He stated that any Negro who could successfully administer a two million dollar institution for years merited a place on the trustee board of the United Christian Missionary Society where he could cooperatively assist in the administration of a million dollar concern. He emphasized the fact that the backbone of the institutional church is the “almighty dollar” and until competent Negroes are given responsible positions in the administration of such they cannot feel themselves a vital part of the eternal crusade for a Christian world.

Executive Secretary E. T. Dixon appealed to the convention for whole-hearted support in meeting crusade objectives. The entire delegation voted the same.

Elder Cyril Meyers of Kansas City, Missouri was re-elected president for the ensuing year.

Schools Lose Bible Men

Southern Christian Institute and Jarvis Christian College lost their religious education directors to state institutions this year. Elder Charles S. Sherman, formerly of Jarvis and Elder W. K. Fox, formerly of S. C. I. have assumed duties as Dean of Men and college chaplins in Alcorn College and Tennessee A. and I. State College.

In going to Tennessee State, Mr. Fox is returning to his Alma Mater and assisting in the department of his college major professor (Prof. Merle R. Eppse). In accepting the new position at Alcorn, Mr. Sherman has an opportunity to do a pioneer work in the field of personnel.

Mr. Fox was to have become full-time director of religious extension, promoted exclusively by the Home Missions Council of North America. Another man was to be employed as full-time Bible instructor. As yet the Bible instructor has not been secured.

Mr. Sherman’s resignation leaves quite a vacancy in the Jarvis faculty. Both presidents state the manifold contributions of the respective men to their institution will be greatly missed from the total school program.

Resident faculty members at Southern Christian Institute gave the Foxes farewell entertainment September 8.

Ministers Rededicate

“A new world needs a new ministry” said Dr. C. L. Parks, National Director of Church Development and Evangelism, as he addressed the Ministers Council convening with the National Convention at Cincinnati August 17-24. Nearly one hundred Disciples of Christ ministers pledged themselves to a revitalized ministry and loyalty to the sanctity of the ministry. All progressive minded and cooperative Disciple ministers are members of the Council and receive annual membership cards to certify such.

Jarvis Christian College

Hawkins, Texas
August 18, 1947

President P. C. Washington
Jarvis Christian College

Dear President Washington:

I hereby offer my resignation from the faculty of Jarvis Christian College as Director of Religious Activities and Instructo in the Department of Religion. Before taking this step I gave the matter careful and thoughtful consideration. I have considered your counsel. I have also taken into account the counsel of other persons, many of whom are in responsible positions in our Brotherhood. My reasons for leaving at the present time are contained in the following paragraphs.

In the first place, the steady rise in the cost of living has made it an economic necessity for me to seek a better paying job. The teachers at Jarvis are employed on a nine-month schedule. This means that there are three months in the year during which they must live on credit, unless they are fortunate enough to secure employment teaching in a summer school or are otherwise employed in a job which is consistent with their training and intelligence. This prac-
tically means that the teachers at Jarvis are dependent for twelve months upon a salary which is not sufficient even for the nine months during which it is received.

In the second place, as a graduate of Jarvis Christian College, it causes me great pain that the school is not accredited. To keep its doors open in the name of a four-year college is doing injury to the lives of the youth who pass through these doors and out into a world where they must compete on losing grounds with other young people who are graduates of recognized institutions. The world in which we now live places a premium on the quality of training according to prescribed standards as well as on the quality of performance. The failure of Jarvis to offer the best training in accordance with the standards of the regional accrediting agency constitutes an unpardonable sin.

In the third place, despite the fact that building materials have been available for a considerable time since the conclusion of the recent war, the housing situation on the campus is grievous—for both faculty and students. The idea of a family living in two rooms and sharing bath and toilet facilities with another family living in two rooms is repulsive. Conditions such as these are not only a health hazard but are also detrimental educational influences. The women's dormitory has for a long time been in a dangerously advanced stage of disintegration. The men students have been in need of a dormitory for years. Nothing concretely has been done to remedy the evils related to housing. Nor is it apparent that anything will be done in the near future.

Finally, the system which permits all of the above named conditions to exist borders on negation of Christian ethics. It stands close to a denial of the Kingdom of God in a world made good. The bitter irony of the entire matter is that the system operates in the name of the God of Christian worship while at the same time violating the most sacred of God's creations, namely, the personality of man. The question which has been a relentless source of trouble for me in regards to Jarvis is why the missionary supported college of the Disciples of Christ must be so seriously inferior to the colleges supported by other religious bodies. This question becomes exceedingly painful to me when I consider that on the property of Jarvis are twenty or more oil wells and yet Jarvis is still advertised as a project for missionary contributions. Can it be that our religion has become so sick that it is more interested in protecting its own vested interests and sure organized power than it is in ethics and people and the creation of a Christian environment wherein people can grow into their highest fulfillment? If this is the present dilemma of Christendom then D. Elton Trueblood in his book, The Predicament of Modern Man, is right in his assertion that:

"The signs of decay of the Christian faith are so great on every side that only wishful thinking can deny it... It is possible that Christianity is now lingering very much as paganism lingered on into the Christian era. Those men in Rome who supposed their woes came from disloyalty to the pagan gods were fighting a hopeless battle, and the same may be true of the contemporary apologist for the Christian faith.

"We continue to call our era the Christian era, but this may be for no better reason than the difficulty of changing a frame of temporal reference when it has once been established all over the world.... Regardless of the personal position he takes, it is not possible for a thoughtful person to view lightly the apparent crumbling of the Christian pattern. Whether for good or ill, such a development is momentous."

You will recall that last spring, after consultation with you and others, I refused to take the job as National Director of Christian Education in our Brotherhood. At that time all of us had well-founded hopes that Jarvis was about to experience a new birth, and it was felt that I could render a more valuable service at an institution dedicated to the task of training youth. But recent developments have scattered these hopes. Jarvis sleeps while the rest of the world moves on. One cannot help recalling to mind the ancient proverb of Jewish wisdom:

"How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? When will thou arise out of thy sleep?"

I acknowledge with gratitude the past contributions of Jarvis Christian College, but feel that the hour has come and gone for Jarvis to fill a larger destiny. Instead of meeting the changing demands of a changing world, its talents, which are the gifts of God, lie buried. Several centuries ago St. Matthew had occasion to write about a slothful servant who buried his Lord's talent in the earth. The Lord directed that "the talent be taken from him, and given unto him which hath ten talents. For unto everyone that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath. And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Buried talents which the powers that be do not want to set free from interment—there is the heart of the problem of Jarvis Christian College.

I leave with reluctance and with regret. Friendships and memories associated with the college are among my most treasured possessions. It is my hope and prayer that the day will not long be delayed when Jarvis will become a first-class instrument working in the interest of a first-class Kingdom of God. To be anything less and to work for anything less is to play the role of the unprofitable servant.

I will be delighted to return to Jarvis, if I am needed, at any time the college gives positive and aggressive indications that it is willing to get ready to do a first-rate job in helping to build the kind of world worthy to be called the Kingdom of God.

Best wishes for the future.

Very cordially yours,

CHARLES E. SHERMAN

**High Street Christian Church**

Mt. Sterling, Kentucky

Rev. Eugene Patterson, Pastor

Miss Mary W. Morton, Reporter

The Kentucky State Convention at Mayfield was well attended by a large delegation from Mt. Sterling.

Rev. Patterson of Mt. Sterling, Prof. James Ratten, Mrs. Mosley and Miss Nichols of Southern Christian Institute attended the World Convention at Buffalo, New York. They reported a wonderful convention; there were thirty-two nations represented and ten thousand present for the Communion Service. En route from New York, Prof. Ratten, Dean and Mrs. Mosley stopped at Mt. Sterling and were guests of Rev. and Mrs. Patterson. Prof. Ratten was the guest speaker for the morning services and brought a wonderful message. Miss Ingram and little Miss Mosley of S.C.I. were also guests of Rev. and Mrs. Patterson.

The National Convention which convened at Cincinnati was a splendid one and well attended by the Mt. Sterling delegation.

Six Young People and two Adult
Leaders attended the Young Peoples' Conference at Nicholasville, Aug. 25-30.

The Laymen's Conference met at Mayslick, Sunday, August 31st. Rev. Lorenzo Evans, National Director of Religious Education, was present at the morning worship and brought the message. His message was indeed a challenging and timely one: subject—"Can God Count on You?"

The Pastor, Choir, Usher Board, Officers and members are to go to Covington and be present with them in all day service, Sunday, September 26th.

**Newly Called Minister**

Mr. Clifford B. Spears of Chicago, Illinois, called by the State Board Committee of the Christian Churches of California, began his work, September 1, 1947, as minister of the Western Avenue Christian Church of Los Angeles, California.

Mr. Spears, former Chaplain in the United States Army during World War II, recently assigned officer of the 599th Organized Reserve Composite Group of Chicago, former principal of Carthage High School, a graduate of Southern Christian Institute and LeMoyne College, a student of Butler University, School of Religion, Indianapolis, Indiana, has commenced his work with great enthusiasm.

**Report of United Christian Missionary Convention**

Eastern Seaboard, Disciples of Christ

MABLE G. LEWIS, Reporter

THOMAS C. R. BRAGG, President

The Fourth Annual Meeting of Disciples of Christ convened July 4th through 6th at St. Phillips Church, Gates Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

The Theme of the Convention was "Evangelism."

The convention opened Friday, July 4th, with the President, Mr. Thomas C. R. Bragg, presiding. Inspiring Sermons were delivered throughout the convention by the various ministers. Music for the convention was directed by Madame Rose A. Slade McCrea. Special music was rendered by Mrs. Curtycce Louise Archer.

Messages brought to us by our National Director, Rev. C. L. Parks and our National President, Elder S. S. Myers were very enlightening.

Elder Myers stressed the program of A Crusade for a Christian World. He gave four points: Through Evangelism, Proportionate Giving, Education and World Fellowship.

A Panel Discussion "Youth in Evangelism" was held Saturday. Those participating were: Miss Edith Friend, Baltimore; Mr. Lyles, Baltimore; Mrs. McKenzie, Philadelphia; and Mrs. M. Lewis, Washington. Elder David L. Kinard, Brooklyn was the Moderator.

Churches reporting were St. Phillips, Williamsburg, Mt. Zion, St. Luke, Calvary and Styvesant Heights all of Brooklyn; Fellowship Church, Philadelphia; Mt. Olivet, Baltimore, Md.; and 12th Street Christian, Washington, D. C.

A Laymans League was organized by the President, Mr. Bragg.

We were happy to have two additions, one to the St. Phillips Church and one to Fellowship Church.

Mrs. McKenzie, who is one of the leaders and organizers of the Fellowship Church, reported they have now purchased a building. They are asking for the prayers and aid of the membership. The Fellowship Church is located at 5417 Wyalusing Ave., Philadelphia, Penn.

The following recommendations were adopted:

1. Philadelphia Day be observed by all churches of this area the first Sunday or before, in September.

2. That the convention elect an Executive Secretary to aid and inspire the churches in this area.

3. That a Scholarship Fund be created to aid young people in their studies.

4. That we adopt and encourage the program of "A Crusade For a Christian World."

The convention gladly welcomed our new Ministers, Elder Leon O'Neil of Williamsburg, and Elder James Welmon of Philadelphia.

The following officers were elected:

Mr. Thomas C. R. Bragg, Pres.; Mrs. Miley, Pres., Missionary Soc.; Mrs. Ellis, Pres., Bible School and Miss Friend, Pres., Youth Fellowship.

Installation of officers was conducted by Elder S. S. Myers on Saturday Evening.

Communion Services climax the convention on Sunday Afternoon.

**The Williamsburg Christian Church**

REV. L. O'NEIL, Pastor

211 Snedike Avenue

Brooklyn, New York

CHERRIDELL ELLIS, Reporter

The month of September has come, and we are prepared to build a solid foundation of spiritual work for Christ.

We thank God for our pastor, Rev. O'Neil, who is preaching the word of God out of the depths of his soul, and does not neglect to warn us that Christ is looking for a clean church and a people with working spirit. He is putting forth a great effort to win souls and to promote the growth of the church.

The majority of us have gotten ourselves in a working and spiritual mind to put over this endeavor for the Lord. We have been fortunate in adding souls to the fold every Sunday. At ten o'clock every Sunday morning our Bible School is assembled and under the worthy leadership of our superintendent, Deacon R. M. Stevens, the four classes strive to know more about the word of God.

The Lord has blessed Rev. R. H. Boyd, of South Carolina, first pastor and organizer of the Williamsburg Christian Church to visit the city again. He conducted a five-night revival at the Mount Zion Christian Church. Rev. C. R. Murdough, on August 15, 1947, preached for us a soul-stirring sermon on the subject, "The Church."

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Beim of 107 Clinton Street, New York City. Little Falima Louise was brought to the altar and a blessing of God was asked for her future life by our pastor. Also a daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Kearse of 682 Lexington Avenue, Brooklyn, New York. Both mother and daughter are doing fine.

We are asking prayers of the brotherhood that our accomplishments be great for the Lord.

**READ THE CHRISTIAN PLEA**
EDITORIAL

The Necessity of Higher Education Among Negro Disciples

By P. C. Washington, Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Texas.

We are living in an age when education is essential to the general welfare and happiness of mankind. This generation is unusually conscious of that fact. But education has always been essential to humanity through the centuries. This fact may be substantiated by turning the pages of history.

Unfortunately or fortunately, I represent a section of the country where racism stands out and where we have a dual system of education, and a plurality of systems that operate in a multiplicity of ways that finally add up to the confusion of our thinking. This confusion as to our thinking expresses itself in both the white race and the black race, and both have need for higher Christian education.

Among the forty-eight states in the union, we have two educational Institutions for Negro Disciples and only one is attempting to do senior college work (Jarvis Christian College). It has been talked about and criticized, but little has been done to raise its standards to the high level of acceptance by the best accrediting agencies. As Disciples of Christ, we ought to have several colleges of note for Negroes throughout the country. I am sure that the majority of you will agree with me when I say that we ought to develop the two schools we have and make them what they ought to be.

Higher education and better educational opportunities for Negro Disciples should challenge the Disciples of Christ at large. We should be challenged by our selfish pride to see to it that these injustices in our brotherhood such as a poorly trained Negro ministry, poorly trained Negro leaders and workers in our churches, inadequate Christian educational opportunities for Negroes on a higher level are removed.

Christian education on a high level among Negro Disciples means mental strength and moral strength that will lead to spiritual strength for the entire brotherhood. In short, for personal selfish reasons, we should desire the best for ourselves and work to the end that the results will be the best.

I am certain that the way of higher education is the best way to travel, but we cannot trust in education alone; we must have a desire for the highest moral and spiritual side of life.

We recognize that nations who placed confidence in educational pride, cultural attainment, and scientific inventions at the expense of moral and spiritual attainment lost themselves in the haze of a bewildering situation. Therefore, I call upon the church supported and church affiliated college and university to Christianize their educational policies and programs to the extent that the total life of our youth might be spiritualized through the process of receiving a higher Christian education. The church should not expect the state to produce leaders for the church. The church must go into the business of Christian education on a higher level on an ever increasing scale.

Negro Disciples need this process of Christian training more than any other group. Negroes at large have been neglected in so many ways. Read the history of the African slave traffic, read the history of Negro slavery in the United States, then consider the present situation—the present expressed attitudes toward Negroes and this neglect will stand out as prominently as the ears on a mule's.

Give the Negro Disciples Christian education on the highest possible level in order to strengthen the Disciples brotherhood. Give him the best in order that the best might come back to the brotherhood program.

The Negro stands ready to make his contribution to the brotherhood, but he cannot make the contribution he should until he is adequately trained. As Disciples, it is our responsibility to see to it that this training takes place.

Because my hair is curly and some of you have the audacity to call it 'nappy', because my eyes are brown and skin is tan, that is no guarantee that I cannot, according to native ability, appreciate the cultures of life or the ethical characteristics of the highest and the best that is in mankind.

The Disciples of Christ have an opportunity to demonstrate the value of justice on all levels especially at the point of higher Christian education for Negro Disciples. Such an expressed spirit put in practice is good.
for the country, it is good for the world, and it is good for our international relationships.

Justice and fair play for all people can come through Christian higher education and until this is brought about locally, nationally, and internationally, we will always have troubles, wars, misunderstandings.

The best way to get justice and peace in the world is to begin at home, because individuals and groups are like nations. They are concerned more about their selfish desires and their superior position in life than they are about the peace and welfare of the human family. We have the unique opportunity to teach the nations of the world how to serve humanity, but the question is will we accept this opportunity?

Dr. Dubois makes the following observation: “America should be proud of the fact that she is a nation with increasing democracy composed of the most unlikely peoples and groups on earth; that out of criminals, paupers, and slaves, she has built this land of promise. But America should be ashamed that despite this known historical fact, we are trying to build up class and race difference and refusing to carry out the democratic methods which we profess, because we deal with people too stupid, diseased, and criminal to make our own democracy work.”

When we all become sufficiently imbued with the Christian spirit on a high educational level, we will no longer face such a sweeping irrefutable criticism. More than that, we will cease to dash ourselves to pieces against the moral and spiritual laws of a just and loving God.

Ignorance keeps us divided, it keeps us in the dark. In short, it keeps humanity fighting a losing battle against the will and spirit of God.

Let us have higher Christian education for Negro Disciples as well as for all Disciples in order that we as a brotherhood might win the battle of love over hate, peace over war, justice over injustice, and wisdom over ignorance. This is the will of God and His will must prevail.

**Eleventh Street Christian Church**

**Birmingham, Alabama**

**RUTTEDGE AND I. SWANSON, Reporters**

The laying of the cornerstone of the Eleventh Street Christian Church took place Wednesday night July 30th, 1947. Historical facts about the church were given by Mrs. Inez Guss.

In the early twenties a band of members of the Christian faith met together to form a church. The organization of the Eleventh Street Christian Church was the result of this meeting. The late Elder H. J. Brayboy was the first pastor, and the late William Walkins, first Sunday School superintendent.

On July 1, 1920, a very small building on the corner of Eleventh Street and Sixth Avenue was purchased. The little congregation worshipped, for the first time, on this site.

The membership continued to increase. Then suddenly Elder Brayboy passed away. The present pastor, Rev. K. J. Jeffries, came to us in November, 1923. The membership has steadily increased. The building fund also increased. The indebtedness was cleared and the building program got under way. In September, 1942, the present building was begun. It was completed the following year.

**Second Christian Church**

2417 Fremont Street

Rockford, Illinois

August 5, 1947

Dear Christian Friends,

Greeting from the Second Christian Church at Rockford, Ill. Things are still on the progressive side, and the outlook for another year is much better.

The church has had regular services throughout the year. We have had three additions during the year. Below is an estimated report of the work done by the church from July 1, 1946 to June 30, 1947.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL MONEY RAISED FOR LOCAL EXPENSE</td>
<td>$3,621.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disbursements for the year from July 1, 1946 to June 30, 1947</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pastors' Salary</td>
<td>$1,325.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuel</td>
<td>110.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lights</td>
<td>84.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxes</td>
<td>34.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor Repairs</td>
<td>10.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total disbursements</td>
<td>$1,494.37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REPORT OF BUILDING FUND FOR THE YEAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cost of new property</td>
<td>$7,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash down payment made by the Church</td>
<td>1,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loan granted by the Church</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid back to the Church</td>
<td>830.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total paid out by building fund on property</td>
<td>$2,330.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance to the Church Board Extension</td>
<td>$5,170.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unified Promotion</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday School</td>
<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church</td>
<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delegate to the National Convention</td>
<td>50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Convention</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Gifts to cooperating Causes</td>
<td>$77.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above statements are written that the friends of the brotherhood may know that the Church here is alive and to note that we are still doing our best to keep the Kingdom alive in this great industrial City.

The church has the enrollment of 74 an active membership of 44 a nonresidential membership of 8. We are hoping to do better next year. With your gifts and prayers, I am sure we will.

Very Truly Yours,

SECOND CHRISTIAN CHURCH

MRS. ALYCE CAREY (Clerk)

MISS HARRIET TUCKER (Finance Clerk)

REV. G. C. RICHARDSON (Chairman of board)

REV. F. B. BRADLEY (Pastor)

*These figures do not include money given by church clubs and individuals which was not reported to the finance department.

**Antioch Christian Church**

Winston-Salem, North Carolina

REV. B. A. DOUGLASS, Pastor

MRS. VIRGINIA S. STURGIS, Reporter

Under the leadership of our beloved pastor Rev. Douglass, the church has purchased three lots, located on the north side of the city and by Spring we hope to start erecting a nice church building.

In our church we have organized four clubs, Queen Club, Sure Winners Club, Willing Workers Club, and the Best Yet Club, which consists of the young folks of the church. In the past calendar year the four clubs have raised over $1500.00.

We made a splendid report at the Piedmont Tri-State Convention,
which was held in Reidsville, N. C., from the 6th to the 10th of August.

Our delegates were: Mr. Leon Harris, Mrs. Annie Dillard, Miss Elizabeth Dillard, Miss Mary Lee Thompson, and our pastor, Rev. Douglass.

We began the 38th anniversary of our Church by putting on a 60 day rally on the 15th. Each member is to pay $1.00 per year. On the 29th the Sure Winners Club had a “round-the-world” trip and had a wonderful time.

Brother Fred Thompson chairman of the deacon board is on our sick list, and we ask of our fellow workers in Christ their prayers for his speedy recovery.

Crusade for a New World
B. A. DOUGLASS, Minister
Chairman of Trustee Board of Christian Institute
151 Wheeler St.
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Men and women now in school may well determine whether we are to have one world or none. The only kind of Christian education which can make a beginning at this difficult task is a universal study of Christian ideals in schools of all types.

In the Crusade for a Christian World one must have better homes, better schools, and better churches. We are asking that you send someone out of your church for the ministry and missions field. This means that we must increase our enrollment.

Every member of the church should be given an opportunity to have a share in the Christian education of the church mission. With the support of all our ministers and churches we can become more effective in our own Christian Institute.

Therefore, may we challenge every congregation to join hands and hearts and thereby lend moral, spiritual and financial help to our common task. We must support our Christian School with a spirit of love and sacrifice if we are to Crusade for a Christian World.

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THE CHRISTIAN PLEA

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Recently Opened Up!

Lots for Sale
Beautiful Location
Reasonable Prices
Seven minutes’ walk from either Bus Station or Railway Station

MOUND BAYOU
The All-Negro Town is an Ideal place for Colored People
Seven Churches, Hospital, Clinic, Training School, Park, Swimming Pool, Theater, Fine Business Places and Beautiful Homes—Surrounded by Large Tracts of Farm Land Owned and Operated By Negroes

For Further Information
Write or Call To See
MISS R. C. SNEED
Box 212
South Main Street
Mound Bayou, Mississippi

Elder John Thompson
Palestine, Texas
Our young and dynamic minister

Elder S. E. Tillman
New Brunswick, N. J.
Our great church leader of the Northeast

This Christian Home Life is a Christian magazine for all the family.
Really Attractive, well printed in two colors throughout.
DAILY DEVOTIONS A Bible verse, a meditation and a prayer for every day.
Many Articles and Stories are provided to encourage and aid in today’s Christian living.
A Wealth of Features Include Holiday Section, Children’s Corner, adventure picture story, novel almanac, problem studies, etc.
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MOUND BAYOU
The All-Negro Town is an Ideal place for Colored People
Seven Churches, Hospital, Clinic, Training School, Park, Swimming Pool, Theater, Fine Business Places and Beautiful Homes—Surrounded by Large Tracts of Farm Land Owned and Operated By Negroes

For Further Information
Write or Call To See
MISS R. C. SNEED
Box 212
South Main Street
Mound Bayou, Mississippi
ELDER PRESTON TAYLOR
April 13, 1931

Our great benefactors left for us a heritage forever to be dedicated to the purpose for which they labored.

MRS. IDA M. TAYLOR
March 10, 1947
Here's the Perfect Answer

for Intermediate Evening Meetings

A brand new pack of 39 leaflets for the Intermediates and 9 for the adult counselor, each crammed with resource materials, suggestions, and plans for inspiring meetings. You will need at least three for each evening meeting group. $2.00 per set (a full year's material).

Ideas! Aids for Counselors! Projects!

CHRISTIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION
The Bethany Press
St. Louis 3, Mo.

The Christian Plea
Should be in
Every Christian Home
Send Your Subscription Today
$1.00 Per Year

Write - Secretary P. O. Box 455
Nashville, Tennessee
To the Brotherhood: If you would like to know what the programs of these leaders are, I am appealing to you for help.

As editor of the Christian Plea, I have recommended that each one have a page in the Plea. They refuse to answer.

These leaders have been told by the board to send their itinerary, their program, solicit subscriptions for the Plea and to report to the Brotherhood. Would you please urge the board to see that the Brotherhood gets full use of the $12,000.00 invested in these leaders?

Write the board today.
The campus activity was most fruitful. As I look back over the years, I count this area most basic in the furtherance of the whole cause of rural life. During the past year we taught two courses to freshmen and sophomore college students. One course was in the area of church history. A considerable amount of time was spent emphasizing the rural church and its program. Home Missions Council material having to do with the rural minister and the rural church problems was read by all the students. Such books as the Life of John Oberlin and Dark Glory were eagerly digested by the entire class. We also taught a course in Bible in which the rural or pastoral values of the Bible were lifted up and given particular attention. In view of the fact that the majority of these students had rural backgrounds, the materials were well accepted and appreciated.

Another area of campus activity which was most fruitful was the Ministerial Alliance. This was an extracurricular group of young men aspiring to learn more about Christian leadership. We carried on a short course during which time we gave attention to the rural church program. There was also a field work experiment attached to the Ministerial Alliance program. In this we were able to go out into the surrounding churches for observational purposes, conduction of worship and the guidance of rural people in various church program experiences. I will say more about that later on.

Field Approach

One of our great concerns was to tie up theory with practice. In this light we endeavored to sponsor an experimental project with a local minister. Through his cooperation and the cooperation of his people, we were able to integrate ourselves into the total local church program. ("We" and "our" refers to the Ministerial Alliance). We were able to conduct a parish survey scattering the Ministerial Alliance members on the various survey teams. In this survey we endeavored to get a picture of the church in the way of finance, of abilities, of domestic living, and of personal Christian growth. The project was completed and presented to the entire congregation in pictorial fashion. The results were: (1) an increase of knowledge regarding what a church program was; (2) a more critical mind in regard to church program; (3) a desire on the part of those taking part to learn more about church programs; (4) a new vision on the part of the pastor as to what members would do if given a specific project.

This was followed up with the recommendation that study groups be set up. Upon leaving the field, all groups were busily engaged in studying the educational program of the church.

The Ministerial Alliance

Through the Ministerial Alliance we were also able to carry on the regular program of worship and recreation for the Oakley Institute, located at Oakley, Mississippi. The fourth annual Ministerial Institute was held February 14-28, at which time some 25 ministers attended. The Institute emphasized the coming of the Kingdom of God through better rural housing. It was a new venture in the area of institutes for ministers. We were ably assisted by the Reverend E. T. Dickson of Tuskegee Institute, the Reverend W. Q. Welch of Fisk University, the Reverend A. Cox of Tchula, Mississippi and various agents from governmental departments such as county agents, health officers and the like.

We held our third annual institute for rural women June 30 through July 4. Some 30 persons were in attendance. Twenty-five received scholarships. The Institute emphasized better homemaking. We were happy to have on our faculty women who were able to present the factual side of homemaking along with a personal Christian philosophy. Forty percent of the women present had been coming to the institutes for the past three years.

Out-of-State Institute Program

We engaged a live group of young ministers in discussions on Preaching to Rural People at an institute conducted by the Reverend U. Z. McKinnon at Phillips School of Technology, Lane College, Jackson, Tenn., January 20th through 24th.

March 11 through 14, we returned to Mississippi Industrial College, Holly Springs, Miss. for our second time to assist the faculty of the Institute for rural ministers. We guided laboratory experiences in rural church buildings.

Though upon short notice, we had the good pleasure of closing out our institute for rural ministers at Storer College, Harpers Ferry, W. Va., July 7 through 11.

Youth Activities and Experiences

I have long believed that along with in-service training for rural min-
ists and other rural leaders, there should be an increasingly intensified rural youth program. In this light, we have always sought to promote some kind of project for rural youth each year. Last year we conducted three youth fellowships and were a part of one youth conference. The youth fellowships were held at Port Gibson, Mound Bayou and Green-wood. The youth conference was held at Bluffton, Ohio. The youth fellowships were totally rural. For a period of two days the young people engaged in a study of church missions, worship and recreation. An effort was made to stimulate more meaningful youth groups in the local church. The crowning feature of these youth fellowships was the fact the faculties consisted of women who had been coming to our annual institute for rural church women for the past three years; they had given their services voluntarily. In each case this meant traveling at least 100 miles and staying overnight for two nights. The youth conference was an experiment in interracial relations. I was asked to become a part of the faculty and teach a course in Bible and Christian convictions. A most wholesome experience resulted.

Newsletters
One of the most effective ways of binding the total field together was found to be the newsletter. For the past four years we have tried to issue such publications to all of our rural ministers and to anyone else concerned with the cause of rural life. Last year we issued eight numbers of "The Torchbearer." We received many comments from the ministers expressing the helpfulness of such an effort. The project also afforded us an opportunity to make a running summary of activities.

Special Meetings
During the month of November and December we were asked by the Home Missions Council of North America to attend a workshop at Fellowship Center, Wallingford, Pa. This workshop emphasized techniques of low-cost rural housing and community improvement. At this six weeks' session we studied various areas of rural community life. Some of these were: cooperatives, community workshops, family-built houses, education and recreation. From this meeting we were able to glean ideas for a program of work for the ensuing year. As a result we formulated the emphasis and procedures for the February ministerial institute held at Southern Christian Institute.

Associations
Through the Baptist Associations we were able to reach many ministers that we could not have reached through our regular channels. For example, at one association meeting we were asked to teach the Bible course. During the time we were able to bring out some of the moral and ethical teachings on rural living.

Conventions
Through the past four years we never lost an opportunity to make contact with the various denominations through the conventions. Last year we were given a booth whereby we could sell material on the rural church program at one convention. At the Disciples of Christ Convention we were given three days in which time we were able to give lectures on rural church programs.

Future Plans
Just before leaving the field we worked out specific plans with Dr. H. H. Hubert, State Agent at Jackson, Mississippi, for a state-wide program. We were to be invited into county agent meetings and given an hour's time for the purpose of tying up farming with a Christian philosophy of life. (I certainly hope that the next man will make a definite effort to contact Mr. Hubert immediately to carry forth this project. It seems to me that it has wide-spread implications for the work.)

We had also contemplated calling a meeting of all Council workers in the state for the purpose of integration of work.

In view of the fact that we were to give full time to field work this year, we had thought in terms of field classes and a more intensified project program.

During the past four years we feel that the following things have been done:

1. Created a more wholesome spirit of cooperation between the various schools in the state.
2. Affected a spirit of cooperation between the denominations.
3. Inspired a small but significant group of rural ministers to the need for continuous training and experience.
4. Caused the various schools cooperating with the movement to realize their real need for community out-reach.
5. Encouraged the various denominations to promote similar programs on their own.

Respectfully submitted,
W. K. FOX.

Truths for Ministers

A View from the Pew
Preach only what you can prove without an induction leap that would break the average man's leg. Preach simply, using plain and simple texts. Give a saving gospel.—Pentecostal Herald.

God, Our Vindicator
We make a mistake in trying always to clear ourselves; we should be wiser to go straight on, humbly doing the next thing, and leaving God to vindicate us. "He shall bring forth the righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noon day." There may come hours in our lives when we shall be misunderstood, slandered, falsely accused. At such times it is very difficult not to act on the policy of the men around us in the world. They at once appeal to law and force and public opinion. But the believer takes his case into a higher court, and lays it before his God.—F. B. Meyer.

How Big Are You?
Are you big enough to apologize? To take the small place in life, whether it be in the church, school or home? It takes a big soul to forgive and to forget. A man must be big enough to be charitable in his views and opinions and believe in others.—American Holiness Journal.

The Wesleyan Methodist.

These Glorious Days
C. H. Dickerson
N. Tazewell, Virginia

All North and South and West and East
People are crying out for PEACE. Our Lives, Love and Let must stretch it For that is what it takes to fetch it. The "you's" and "me's" must understand that God made all from the same sand. Too bad we never understood He made us just one brotherhood. Then all this "difference" would cease And in come stepping "Peace, sweet Peace." Then love your neighbor, we all know it But that won't get, we must do it. Then we can pray "thy Kingdom come On earth, in heaven, thy will be done." Love God and fellowman, take warning To welcome the eternal morning.
Greetings from the National Missionary Board
Mrs. J. L. TOWNS
846 W. 26th Street
Indianapolis, Indiana

Greetings to all of you. The vacation period is over and you are back at work, I trust.

I was glad to see so many women in attendance at the Convention in Cincinnati. It means that you are promoting and supporting the work of kingdom building in your churches.

Officers of our department, elected by the convention, are the same with the exception of Miss Margaret Lee, who was elected Treasurer. Miss Lee is the efficient Ohio president. I appreciate the officers you have chosen: from year to year to be my co-workers. You have no idea how fine they have been. I appreciate, also, the faithfulness of all of you in the societies and councils to the task. As you know, we have been without a director of missionary organizations for nearly three years. This means that you have carried on with little help.

We now have a director of missionary organizations in the person of Miss Alfa Shackelford. She has been in the office since the first of September. When she visits you she will need and will, I know, receive your help and support.

And the Convention, our second project in three years, was quite successful. The women brought useful articles for the Hazel Green Mission. Miss Katherine Schutz, from Hazel Green, was with us and was our guest speaker on Thursday night. She accepted our gifts, which were presented by Mrs. Mosby, from the Southern Christian Institute. Miss Schutz captivated us with her sincerity and graciousness. Our project as you remember, was the gift of money for the support of native evangelists in Africa. Another guest at our meeting was Miss Bertha Park, secretary of Women's Work in Ohio, who presented program material.

An unusual event was the tea given for us at the Women's Federated Club House by the Minister's Wives Council. This pleasant event was made possible by our hostess, Mrs. L. Devine.

There are many things that I could tell you about the week but I am sure you have already heard reports. I trust you are already at work on your plans for Woman's Day.

Use every opportunity to present and promote the crusade.

We are planning for a conference with the National officers and State presidents, November 21st and 22nd, here in Indianapolis. The purpose will be for consultation with some of the members of U.C.M.S.

May I hear from you from time to time?

Arkansas President's Message
State Convention
Mrs. MARY B. FRANKLIN
Russellville, Arkansas

We are ambassadors of Christ and as we think in terms of disciples, we think of how they learned, how they grew, how they reached attainment and perfection, and thus we as disciples have a great mission.

The preacher of the gospel spends his life communicating to others what he has learned about the Bible; the physician spends his time and energy doing for people what he has learned about the body and medicines; the teachers spend their lives giving to others what they have learned through education. As we look through the situation, all discipleship is like that. It is a two-way life, a life of expression and giving as well as receiving.

The law of discipleship means that as we receive, we freely give to others. The Christian eyes are on the far horizons. He looks beyond Jerusalem, beyond Judea, beyond Samaria and out to the uttermost parts of the earth. That is what we, as disciples of Christ, are thinking about today. The world is our field.

The Christian feet are eager for long trails to the last continent, the last island, the last village and until the last human has heard the word of God. This is the pathway of a Christian.

We, as disciples, are looking for peace which can only be found in Christ Jesus. He destroyed the enemy by his death on the cross. The only way to destroy an enemy is to make a friend. That was Jesus' way of destroying the enemies. He said, "Love your enemies, bless them, and you will gain the enemies who are sinners by action."

To follow the Christian path we need more unity and love toward our fellowmen. Jesus prayed for unity. He wants his church to be united as one. Unity with God, the church and mankind will make us meek and humble. It will break down the wall that separates us and we will learn to live together in peace.
On one occasion Jesus spoke to his disciples and said “If I be lifted up from the earth I will draw all men unto me.” It is our task to lift up Jesus so that sinners may see him through us and believe on him.

We are the only Bible the careless world will read.
We are the sinner’s gospel, we are the scoffer’s creed.
We are the Lord’s last message given in deed or word.
What if the type be crooked?
What if the type be blurred?

New York Quarterly Union
MRS. IDA MURDAUGH, Reporter

The Quarterly Union of the Churches of Christ has become history. Meetings were held August 29-31, at the Mt. Zion Christian Church. Our president, Elder D. L. Kinard, has just returned from the National Convention.

The ministers’ group conference was very outstanding. A meeting was held on September 29, at the Calvary Christian Church.

The officers who served for the New York Quarterly Union were: Elder D. L. Kinard, President; Elder J. L. Leadholt, Vice President; Elder C. R. Jurdough, Secretary. Other representatives were: Mrs. Ruth Kinard, Christian Endeavor Society; Mrs. Adell Wright, Usher Board; Elder J. Dickerson, Bible School; Mrs. Rose A. McCrea, Missionary Society; and Elder L. O. Neal, Elder J. Dickerson, and Elder D. L. Kinard, Ministers.

Notes from the Old Asparagus Bed
Mayslick, Kentucky
A. D. GAULT, Reporter

We, here in the old Asparagus Bed are moving along rapidly. Since our State Convention in July we have started to work in this conventional year.

Our annual meeting was held in Caneridge the third Sunday in August. We were well represented by members and our pastor, Rev. E. B. Toles. On the fifth Sunday, we were hosts to the State Layman’s Conference. We were represented in the National Convention by Mrs. Izella Washington, Miss Carolyn Washington, Mrs. Geraldine Greene, Miss Frances Anderson and Mr. A. D. Gault.

In October Elder A. G. Gault, Elder Vernon Hotz, Mr. William Cross, Mrs. Maggie Cross, Miss Susie Cross, and Mrs. A. D. Gault helped perpetuate a two weeks’ revival held in Little Rock. Our annual basket meeting was held on the 12th of October. Money raised was $190.00. We were well represented in our District Meeting at Millersbury and also the State Record Meeting in Lexington.

Kentucky is going forward in its work because our president, Elder A. D. Anderson is the man with a program who only asks our support. You will hear more from us in the future.

In Memoriam
We have lost a friend, Brother Archie Wilson, who departed this life October 18, 1947. His presence a second Christian Church is as an empty seashell, but we feel that our loss is heaven’s gain. We have lost a brother.

MRS. ESTELLA IVY
2125 Magnolia Street
Rockford, Illinois

East 28th Street Christian Church Welcomes Return of Pastor
1001 East 28th Street
Los Angeles, California

Rev. Walter J. Bryant, the dynamic, spiritual pastor of the 28th Street Christian Church, has returned after an extended trip to the East Coast. He visited many Christian churches in the Empire City and was special guest speaker for the New Day Star Baptist Church in New York City and Stuyvesant Avenue Christian Church in Brooklyn. Rev. Bryant also attended the National Convention of Christian Churches in Cincinnati, Ohio.

The seventh anniversary of our going pastor will be celebrated in December. The 28th Street Church is a church of spirit, warmth and welcome and invites each of you to worship with us in your hours of convenience.

Port Gibson District Holds Quarterly Meeting
Tillman, Mississippi
MRS. E. E. CHAMBLISS, Reporter

The Quarterly meeting of Port Gibson District No. 1 convened at Providence Christian Church October 25-26, 1947, with Brother E. M. Williams presiding. The meeting opened with devotion, remarks and enrollments after which a discussion of the theme, “Christian Fellowship” was held by Mrs. Loula Mae Washington, Brother Floyd Rollins and Joe Uley. Interesting points were brought out by each. Elder Johnnie West was main speaker for the first day. His subject was “A Crusade for a Christian World.” The Christian Endeavor sponsored a very entertaining program consisting of representatives of the various societies. Brother C. E. Chambliss presided.

On the second day, Sunday School was held. The subject of the lesson was “Living Your Religion.” It was well taught by Elder Norrel who conducted the adult class. This would be a better world if we would live our religion each day instead of talking it.

The Christian Endeavor again brought highlights with interesting speakers and songs.

Three schools in the district were represented: Providence Church School, Master Hoover Chambliss; Pine Grove, Mrs. Lillie B. Williams; St. Luke, Miss Florida Jean Rollins. Elder J. C. Norrel was speaker for the day. His subject was “Teach Them to Observe All Things I Have Commanded.” Matt. 28.

Money raised was as follows:
Church School $45.87
Christian Endeavor 14.75

Total $60.62

The Food Situation in the Winter of 1947-48

In view of the continuing desperate need for relief overseas, due to war devastation far greater than has been realized in this country, as well as to drought in Europe, flood and famine conditions in Asia and lack of mechanical equipment, the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America recognizes that our churches face a situation of far longer duration and more appalling magnitude than we had estimated. Furthermore, prolonged exhaustion and discouragement have combined to produce widespread frustration and despair overseas.

Therefore, we appeal to our people individually and in groups to accept a continuing responsibility on behalf of our country and especially on behalf of our church organizations for more effective action, even at the cost of a reduction in the general standard of living.

We would stress the urgency of the following proposals:
I. To the United States Government
(a) That the American people should be clearly informed of the peril of imminent bankruptcy in many nations and that plans be made to ship sufficient quantities of food, fuel, and clothing, even if this should involve the re-establishment of public controls on particular items.

(b) That the American people, who now have the highest level of income payments (wages, salaries and every other kind of personal income) be urged in this extraordinary emergency voluntarily to reduce their present consumption by 10% or more on such foods as can readily be transported for relief overseas.

(c) That the people should be informed that the high costs of food in this country are caused far more by the level of income payments than by the relatively small percentages of food shipped overseas.

II. To the Church people of the United States
(a) That they should in groups and constituencies the church agencies which are efficiently administering the program of reconstruction and relief.

(b) That they should give the American people, whom they minister.

(c) That they should give the American people acquaintance with the intentions of this situation and afford them special opportunities to respond to the urgent plight of the churches overseas and of the peoples to whom they minister.

I. To the Denominational Relief Bodies
(a) That they present to their constituencies the grave spiritual implications of this situation and afford them special opportunities to respond to the American Christian Voluntary Services. It is intended not only to help relieve the suffering among children of our former allies, but also to extend the hand of friendship, just at its name implies.

Moreover, it is something which anyone can do. You can do it, whether you are a member of the AWVS or not, and no matter where you live. All you need is an empty cigar box, a few pretty pictures to paste on the box for decoration, and a list of the items to put in it. The AWVS will supply you with the list and will tell you where you can send the completed box. You can make up a box for any country you wish. You can select the age child you would like to help. You can say whether it is to be a boy or girl. And you can write your new friend a letter.

Personally, I don't see how you could resist making up at least one of these AWVS Friendship Boxes. So I'm going to suggest that you ask your local AWVS or write to the AWVS National Headquarters at 99 Park Ave., New York 16, N.Y., for the Friendship Box instruction leaflets. Do it today!

Friendship in a Cigar Box
Can you imagine life without soap, without a toothbrush or comb, without shoe laces or pins of any sort, without a needle with which to sew a button on, or, for that matter, without any thread to use in the needle if you had one, and without any buttons to be sewn? I know I can't. And yet it is the sad truth that in many of the war-ravaged countries of Europe there are practically none of the necessities I mentioned. There are no school supplies for the children either, no pencils, no writing paper, no anything.

I know this is true, and that is why I was so happy to hear about the new AWVS FRIENDSHIP BOX. This is a project devised by the American Women's Voluntary Services. It is

AWVS FRIENDSHIP BOX. This is a project devised by the American Women's Voluntary Services. It is

-The Christian Plea, November, 1947
East 28th St. Christian Church Doings
1001 East 28th Street
Los Angeles, California

What would the present day church do without its women?
The Sunshine Study Group, an alive bunch of women at East 28th Street Church, held its Second Anniversary Fall Tea during the month of October in the church Social Room. Under the very capable chairmanship of Mrs. Alice Stafford, the tea was a high success. The ladies who assisted Mrs. Stafford were: Meredith Lewis, O. Hill, W. Floyd, C. Wilburn, V. Sautter, G. Hobson, B. Reid, M. Thomas, L. Eatman, A. Allen, M. Lee, L. Ursin, H. Faulkner, P. Wilson, and H. Cloyd.
The coffers of the club were replenished to the tune of some sixty odd dollars.

November was ushered into activity with Mrs. A. M. Dumas of East 28th Street as guest speaker for the Avalon Christian Church at their Women's Day Program. Many were pleasantly rewarded by attending and hearing the timely message which Mrs. Dumas gave.

The Progressive Bible Class, which has as its leader, Elder E. W. Faulkner, took time out to enjoy a moment of fellowship on the first Sunday evening in November. Elder Faulkner was host to his class in the church Social Room at a well-planned party. All present had lots of wholesome fun and enjoyed an impromptu program and sandwiches and coffee.

The month of December, 1947, will mark the forty-second anniversary of the East 28th Street Christian Church and will also note a seventh milestone for its present pastor, the Rev. Walter J. Bryant. A simple, but effective program is being planned to observe the occasion.

Hannibal Church Pastor Resigns
Second Christian Church
Hannibal, Missouri

Rev. Raymond R. Walton, pastor of our church in Hannibal, Missouri, offered his resignation effective as of January 1, 1948. Reverend Walton will accept the pastorate of the Ninth Street Christian Church in Des Moines, Iowa. While pastoring in Hannibal, he has to his credit many improvements in the church, including a recreation room, a baptismry, new lights in the auditorium and money raised for the installation of new rest rooms for men and women.
The church is one of the leading churches among Negroes in Hannibal. It is noted for a fine choir and a large group of young people active in both the Sunday School and C.Y.F.
A number of courtesies have been planned in honor of Rev. Walton's leaving. Any minister interested in the church may contact the area evangelist, Brother R. Wesley Watson, 3704 Olive Street, Kansas City, Missouri, or Miss Lena Peyton, 207 N. 8th Street, Hannibal, Missouri.

Revival a High Success
Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church, Memphis, Tennessee
Rev. Blair T. Hunt, Pastor
Mrs. C. E. Rowan, Reporter

One of the greatest revivals in the history of the church was held at Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church, September 21 through October 5, 1947. Rev. Wm. Keyses, evangelist of Brooklyn, New York, conducted the revival and it was attended in large numbers each night. The spirit shown by members and visitors was commendable. The Laymen's League under Mr. J. T. Chandler did their part in getting people to attend as well as unite with the church.
The members were divided into two kingdoms, the Northern and Southern. Professor J. A. Swayze ruled the Southern Kingdom and Mr. Fred Mitchell ruled the Northern Kingdom. Each Kingdom was divided into five tribes. An imaginary line was drawn in the center of the church and all members and visitors of the Northern Kingdom sat on the Northern side. All members and visitors of the Southern Kingdom sat on the Southern side. This friendly rivalry helped the effort very much. Ten people were added to the church at the end of the revival.

Jarvis Christian College
Hawkins, Texas
Campus Happenings
Gay Christian College has begun its thirty-fifth year with an encour-
UNIFORM LESSONS

New York Union Report
Received Heartily

The report of Madame Rose A. McCrea, delegate from the New York Union of the Christian Disciples of Christ, was received with much interest and appreciation. Madame McCrea is a conscientious worker in the east section of New York and is president of the Missionary department of the New York State Union.

She reported a very fine and inspiring time at the National Christian Missionary Convention held in Cincinnati, Ohio, during the month of August. She also brought back a wealth of good and helpful information and has pledged herself to aid as much as possible in the further development of the work in her area.

The entire Union seemed as much uplifted as Mrs. McCrea and has expressed a determination to work hard in this "Crusade for Christ."

December 7—Missionary Society (Women’s Day).

December 14—Rev. Foster Craggett.

December 21—Rev. Austin R. Rey

December 28—Chapel Closed for Christmas Vacation.

Messrs. Edward Newsome and Arthur Randall and Misses Dorothy W. Evans, Arthur Lee Brown, and Rilla Jean Hollingsworth made a grade point average last year which made them eligible to become members of the Alpha Honor Society. Their initiation was in progress from October 13 to October 25. Now they are "full fledged" members of the society entitled to all the rights and privileges thereof.

The Tidy Teen Club and Triple C Club have had their introductory programs. Both programs were interestingly presented.

The Jarvis College Troubadours are scheduled to appear at the Texas State Teachers Association which holds its meeting this year in San Antonio, Texas. They will make many other appearances this year in Texas and surrounding states.

V. C. W.

Plain Pension Facts
It is a Fact

That the brotherhood of Disciples of Christ has a Pension Plan.

That cooperation of both minister and church is anticipated in the Plan. Full benefits are available only on this basis.

That partial benefits are possible where only the 2½% dues are paid. Benefits are 5/21 of the full amount.

That the minister pays 2½% of his monthly salary and the church pays an amount equal to 8% of the monthly salary.

That full-time workers of the church or church-related institutions are eligible for membership.

That the Pension Plan provides for its members a cash death benefit, a disability pension, and an old-age retirement income.

That the widows and minor children of members of the Pension Plan are also protected.

That nowhere else can you receive the same amount of benefits for the same amount of money as in the Pension Plan.

That no minister and no church should be without Pension Plan protection.

That membership may be started in any month, and dues are payable monthly.

That a postcard requesting information and addressed to the PENSION FUND OF DISCIPLES OF CHRIST, 800 TEST BUILDING, INDIANAPOLIS 4, INDIANA, will bring an immediate response.
BROTHERHOOD DEMANDS REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

To answer the demands of the Brotherhood, Editor Eppse submits a report from the records submitted at the National Convention, August 19-24, 1947, at Cincinnati, Ohio. Total income for 1946-47:

Balance in Treasury $3,747.81
Income 19,771.85

Total Money to Use $23,519.76

Money Spent What Brotherhood Got

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Money Spent</th>
<th>What Brotherhood Got</th>
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| Dr. E. J. Dickson: | No members  
Salary | $2908.33  
Travel | 1400.00  
Total | $4308.33  |
| Dr. C. L. Parks: | No itinerary  
Salary | $3708.33  
Travel | 1175.00  
Total | $4883.33  |
| L. Ruth Patterson: | No churches  
Salary | $1575.00  
Travel | 490.00  
Total | $2065.00  |
| Dr. Lorenzo J. Evans: | No itinerary  
Salary | $458.30  
Travel | 350.00  
Total | $808.30  |
| Miss Majorie Chenault: | No reports  
Salary | $1508.33

Total for salaries $9,158.32
Total for travel 3,419.00
Total for phone 158.03
Total for insurance For Dickson, Parks and Lorenzo Evans $91.44
Total for office supplies and rent 2,967.15

Total disbursement $20,336.50
Total spent on office and staff $16,200.94
Total left to help Brotherhood $3,133.26

TOTAL RECEIVED: No reports
No churches
No itineraries
No members

Total Christian Plea

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Money Spent</th>
<th>Brotherhoold Received</th>
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| September | 1200 PLEAS  
$66.66  |
| October | 1200 PLEAS  
$66.66  |
| November | 1200 PLEAS  
$66.66  |
| December | 1200 PLEAS  
$66.66  |
| January | 1200 PLEAS  
$66.66  |
| February | 1200 PLEAS  
$66.66  |
| March | 1200 PLEAS  
$66.66  |
| April | 1200 PLEAS  
$66.66  |
| May | 1200 PLEAS  
$66.66  |
| June | 1200 PLEAS  
$66.66  |
| July | 1200 PLEAS  
$66.66  |
| August | 1200 PLEAS  
$66.66  |

Total CHRISTIAN PLEAS released 14,400
Total spent for CHRISTIAN PLEA $890.00
Total money raised by advertising $3252.82
Total money raised by subscriptions $510.61

GRAND TOTAL $1573.43
Editor's salary for year $900.00
Secretary's salary 360.00
GRAND TOTAL SPENT FOR PLEA $1677.50

NOTICE: The staff could have used 14,400 PLEAS to have published their itinerary, their notices and reports.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

May the Yuletide Season cause us to rethink the significance of the Birth of our Lord
— I come that you might have life and that you may have it more abundantly.
The Disciple Message and the Negro
(First in a series of five)
By W. K. Fox

Introduction

The Disciple church had been officially launched barely twelve years when on a Sunday afternoon in Burlington, Kentucky, in 1823, a group of young, ragged but eager Negroes huddled about Thomas Campbell in his church as he taught them the religious ideas and principles of the Christian Church. There was a law in Kentucky, however, which forbade a lone white man to address a group of Negroes. He must at least have had another white man present. Thomas Campbell did not comply with this regulation because he was the only white man in the group. Neighboring white people soon found out this out and in consequence he was severely criticized and warned not to repeat such an act. Mr. Campbell immediately left the state in search of other areas where he could conduct himself freely in such matters without being molested.

There may be doubt as to whether the implications of this incident should be magnified to great proportions. However, it seems to be important in at least two aspects: first, it gives us an account of an initial religious relation of a Disciple to Negroes and the attitude taken by that Disciple; secondly, that Disciple was the initiator of the principles which launched the Disciple movement.

From this point on, records of the relationship of Negro and white Disciples and the early development of the Negro Brotherhood, are scattered and scarce. In discussing the problem with Merl R. Eppse, noted Disciple and historian, he said, "I am afraid that most material on Negro Disciples are like African stories—it is in the minds of men."

Mr. Eppse has been the most diligent among Discipledom in trying to solve the problem of the historicity of the Negro Disciple. In his famous radio speech over the Wings Over Jordan program of March 17, 1940, he stated that his research had lead him to discover that in 1858 there were forty slave members in the Lexington, Kentucky African Christian Church. "In Van Alstyne, Texas the most brilliant among them were ordained preachers."

A detailed history of the Negro Disciples calls for a long period of research involving the use of all the scientific and improvised methods of gathering data employed by the modern historian. In the brief amount of time we have to form this study, we cannot do that. However, an evaluation of the appeal of the Disciples and their "message" to the Negro and the social trends which conditioned and condition such an appeal can, we believe, be made in an interesting and helpful way. We shall attempt to do this in a comprehensive manner in the following pages.

THE RELIGIOUS DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEGRO BEFORE THE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

Before the Disciples of Christ organized their first church in 1811 and before their first united concern for the religious education and evangelization of the Negro in 1875, there is much evidence of a rich development of the Negro in the Christian religion. Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians, Episcopalians and others had concerned themselves with the education and evangelization of the Negro for many years. Dr. Chas. C. Jones, a Presbyterian minister of Savannah, Georgia, worked and instructed Negroes. By 1842 the catechism that he had published for them was widely used. The "Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts" which was organized by the Church of England under William III, June 16, 1701, sent Rev. Samuel Thomas and Dr. Le Jeu to South Carolina where they instructed Negroes from 1702-1714. Throughout the Colonial period the Episcopal church carried on a large campaign for the evangelization and education of the enslaved Negro. In 1738 the Moravian church attempted the establishment of an exclusive mission to Negroes.

Though the Methodists only came to this country in 1766, by 1769 Mr. Pillmore, one of their missionaries, reported the impressive assembly of a "number of blacks" in his meetings. The great revival carried on in Virginia and North Carolina between 1773-1776 by the Methodists and Mr. Jarrett of the Episcopal church won hundreds of Negroes to Christianity. In 1779 the spiritual fervor of the great awakening in Kentucky was spread throughout the South by Presbyterians, Methodists and Baptists. Three to four thousand Negroes were won to Christianity.

By 1903 the Baptists, through their district associations, had enrolled 18,000 Negroes and had many colored preachers preaching to their own color on plantations. The Methodists were the most zealous in such an attempt, however. They had started the idea of a separate roll for the Negro communicants in 1786. By 1815 they had a Negro membership of 43,187.

Not only had the Negro been vigorously evangelized and religiously educated by many religious groups before the Disciples made their united approach of him in 1875, many institutions had already been established for Negroes by these bodies. The Congregationalists established Hampton at Hampton, Virginia in 1861; Fisk at Nashville in 1865; Atlanta U. at Atlanta, Georgia and many others. The American Baptist Home Society started a building movement for Negroes in 1862 which resulted in the founding of Morehouse College, Atlanta, Georgia; Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina and Spelman for Negro young women at Atlanta, Georgia. The Methodists had started Gammon Theological Seminary in Atlanta, Meharry Medical College in Nashville and others. The Negroes had become interested in taking the initiative in advancing themselves. The African Methodist Episcopal Church established Wilberforce in 1856. The Negro Baptists had established Arkansas Baptist College at Little Rock, Arkansas.

THE EARLY FREEDOM OF THE NEGRO IN HIS CHURCH

Merl R. Eppse reports that there were Negro slaves in Van Alstyne, Texas performing as Negro Disciple preachers apparently by 1858. We must realize, however, that by this time this was not a novelty or new experience for the Negro. There were many great Negro preachers between 1770-1800 in Virginia. Between 1773-1775 a Mr. Palmer started the first Negro church at Silver Bluff, South Carolina. The first Negro Baptist church was organized in

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2Papers of the American Society of Church History, Sec. Series—vol. 4, p. 179, 1914.
3Ibid., p. 181.
4Ibid., p. 185.
Petersburg, Virginia in 1776. Henry Evans, a free Negro of Virginia won the favor of the town council of Fayetteville, North Carolina who had previously opposed him. He was allowed to erect a Methodist church there in 1790. John Stewart, a free Negro of Virginia, organized white people into a church in Marietta, Ohio.

These are a few events which can give one the general tone of the progressive nature of the Negro's initial religious life. True, he was uneducated. Much of his preaching was copied after the white missionaries he had seen in revival meetings. However, by his possessing a rich emotional capacity and his experiencing of almost unbearable hardships of life, he was able to find a real haven of spiritual rest in Christianity. He knew what it was to have his family torn asunder; his back beaten until it bled; his wife or child brutally treated because of some misdemeanor. Out of these shadows which would cast themselves across the path of his life's way arose the seed for the Negro spiritual.

From this also came the strong passion for the comforting God who would by and by deliver His people from the oppressor. It is no wonder that the Christian message of these early church bodies was a great comfort to them. By the outbreak of the Civil War at least one-eighth of the four million Negroes belonged to a church. The rest heard the gospel preached and many had religious convictions but because of various circumstances could not join a church.

**THE IMPORTANCE OF THE RISE OF THE NEGRO CHURCH**

It is interesting to note that the Negro, to a certain extent, received freedom in the church long before the Emancipation Proclamation of January 1, 1863. Many Negroes exhibiting potential preaching ability were freed to organize Negro churches. Many Baptist and Methodist preachers especially, were to be found on plantations preaching to the slaves. They were believed by the slaves to be divine prophets who had received the "call." They had a great influence over the Negro slaves and therefore were considered by the whites as a valuable means of keeping the Negroes contented. As long as the Negro was told of God in the heavens who would come by and by and relieve them of their troubles if they would only keep praying, the white man knew he had nothing to fear from the rapidly rising Negro slave population.

Like a child with a new toy, the Negro became fascinated over this new trinket called religion. The Methodists and Baptists spurred him on. They rapidly outgained the Presbyterians and Episcopalians by letting the Negroes take his new gadget off to himself and do with it what he wanted to.

The rise of race-consciousness caused by the controversy over slavery during the years of 1750-1859, played no small part in furthering the development of the Negro church. Because Richard Allen and Rev. Absalam Jones, Negro Methodists, were pulled from their knees in the St. George Methodist church of Philadelphia, they broke from the Methodists and formed the African Methodist Episcopal denomination in April of 1816. When the white members of First Baptist Church of Richmond, Virginia moved to other quarters in 1841, 1,706 colored members remained and formed the first Negro Baptist church there. In 1844 a group of Negroes in Philadelphia received the authority of the Presbytery to organize the Lombard Street Central Presbyterian Church.

Gradually the slavery question heightened causing denominational splits. The Methodists parted in 1844, the Baptists in 1845, and the Presbyterians in 1861. This left the great enslaved mass of Negroes in the South in a position where they had to develop churches of their own. This was probably a great blessing in disguise because it gave the Negro an institution in which he could develop the leadership qualities that he possessed. However, the insurrection of Nat Turner had occurred in August, 1831, thirteen years before the first denominational split. When it was found out that Turner was a Negro minister, and had planned the revolt through his church, the total Negro ministry was looked upon as a dangerous avenue for insurrection propaganda. As a result, the development of the Negro church by Negroes and by interested white bodies during this immediate pre-war period and also during the war, was checked somewhat.

After January 1, 1863, however, the progress of the Negro church rose to new heights. Baptist and Methodist churches, especially, sprang up like mushrooms above and below the Mason-Dixon Line. We have not time here to elaborate on the hectic rise, use, and abuse of the Negro church during this period. The most important thing for us to be aware of at this point is, that it was to the Negro of such a religious heritage that the Disciple "message" was first earnestly delivered.

**Norwood Christian Church Conducts Institute**

Lorenzo J. Evans, National Director Christian Education

The Norwood Christian Church, under the leadership of Brother Eli W. Wilbert, conducted a five-day institute November 17-21. The project was the first of this nature attempted by any other churches of our Brotherhood. It is a very fine gesture that others might follow.

Sixty-three members of the church, along with Brother and Sister Wilbert, came together for five nights of intensive study on how they might prepare themselves to do a better job in their local churches right here in Dayton.

Three of us from the National Office were able to be with Brother Wilbert for this Institute. The Institute began at 7:00 p.m. and closed at 10:00 p.m. During the first hour a course was taught by Lorenzo Evans, National Director of Christian Education. The second hour, Miss Alva Shackelford, Director of Missionary Organizations, taught a course on missionary work. The last, from 9:00 to 10:00, Mr. E. J. Dickson, Executive Secretary of the National Christian Missionary Convention, taught a course on the history of our Brotherhood and the work and duties of elders and deacons.

Response of the people was very encouraging and at the close of the Institute, many expressed their willingness to do a better job.
If Jesus Christ should visit us during this Christmas season, would He be pleased with our celebration? When He observed our hilarious Christmas parties enlivened with cocktail, or knew about our dinner invitations issued with an anticipated return engagement, or witnessed our excessive eating when the other half of the world is starving, would He think we had been observing a Christian season or a pagan festival? We would be embarrassed should He visit us at this season. We could be reminded that He knows how we act anytime whether we are aware of the fact or not.

For many years commercialization has dimmed the religious aspects of the season. High pressure advertising, gaudily decorated windows and radios with their musical jingles enticing the public to buy are not conducive to a spirit of worship, thankfulness, or reverence. Something is missing the religious aspect.

Yet not all of the picture is unfavorable. There are many churches which have unselfish white Christmas services, many organizations make it a practice to omit nobody in sharing the Christmas baskets. Many are the homes where the true spirit of Christmas is felt and where the story of Jesus is told. Not all the giving is done selfishly. Cheer will be brought to the homes of thousands of people who because of misfortune, poor health, poverty, or inefficient management would have no Christmas. Hearts are touched at this season as in no other; even the most calloused old Scrooge is motivated to make this a happy time for somebody else.

New Teen-Age Weekly

An important event this month was the appearance of VISION, a brand new weekly magazine for teen-agers which succeeded “Highway” on January 4. It is being published by the Christian Board of Publication (St. Louis) as the result of a careful study of the needs of Intermediates and Seniors and of a belief in the importance of youth in the church today. VISION is as fascinating and different as its name. Its sixteen pages many of which are printed in two colors, are filled with articles, stories, worship meditations, news and lots of appealing pictures... all with a Christian viewpoint.

The features include such varied topics as sports, new books, music, vocational possibilities, mummies, hobbies, dates, fascinating interviews, and activities of young people from Washington to Melbourne and Shanghai. The entire magazine stresses the actions, thoughts and decisions of teen-agers today.

It is a magazine written by young people and for young people... to meet their interests and fill their needs. The publishers have invited youth everywhere to send in pictures, news items and articles.

Christmas

By W. K. Fox

Life would be worthless without Christmas. Hopelessness would soon engulf the world and the struggling church would eventually give up in despair if it were not for the Light and Life of the yuletide season. It is in this sacred moment when the whole of humanity pauses that the universal ear might listen afresh to the singing of the angels. It is the Christ of Christmas that brings Light to a darkened world and renewed Life to a militant church.

No matter how confused the world has been in the past over the content of treaties with nations, the blood and fury of a current war, the increase or decrease of the national treasury or threats to domestic tranquility, the celebration of the advent of the Christ-child always seems to cast a momentary peace over the universe which passeth all human understanding. This fact is most vividly attested whenever a Santa Claus parade comes to town. It is during this very mundane and American experience that one sees the affect of the Christmas Spirit on human life. Recently we attended such an event in our city. As we drove down the course designated for the parade, we could glance on either side into the faces of babies, mothers, grandmothers and grandfathers—faces smiling, eyes eagerly looking, though bodies shivered in the late November cold. Santa Claus—the embodiment of the Christ-Spirit was coming to town!

It is the miracle of the ages that a mother of a despised race should eventually be the embodiment of the Christ-Spirit who eventually was to become the leader of a movement for world revolution and human salvation. Yet it is true; it actually happened! It is by this miracle that the church has lived, too, these many years. Christ says to us daily but with great emphasis to all on Christmas: “If I can overcome
broaden the program of the Church Christ spirit! It is work! Work to hearts for the acceptance of the cause which evil in the present! It come all of the mistakes of the past answer-It is work! Work to over-spirit of the Babe in the Manger. The Crusade is characterized by the or display of interpretative materials. us we can avoid any long definition Crusade? With Christmas almost on it must flow afresh in our blood listless and impotent. Thank God church) is content to remain docile, the United Nations Organization-operating within the framework of thing yet advanced by any committee or the messages of our leaders in those returning from hungry Europe will give the Light and be subjected to betrayed by those I was' trying to show the Light and be subjected to what they thought was a common and humiliating punishment—SO CAN YOU!" Through this spirit of Christ's we are more than conquerors. It is by this miracle that the church has lived!

Christmas could not have come at a more appropriate point in the flow of Disciple of Christ history. We Disciples need to gain the new inspiration which is forthcoming from a fresh glimpse of the Babe in the Manger. If we are going to Crusade for a Christian World we must have it. It is only through the Christ-Spirit that we will reach the Holy City of our crusade objectives.

When one listens to the reports of those returning from hungry Europe or the messages of our leaders in government one might think that the world is indeed badly in need of a way out of it all. But one cannot meet a more hapless and dispirited group than that contacted in the average Disciple of Christ church. With a challenge to the Body of Christ which reaches the very soul; with a Balm which if correctly used will heal the wounds of the world; with a program of action which far outstrips anything yet advanced by any committee operating within the framework of the United Nations Organization—yet it (the average Disciple of Christ church) is content to remain docile, listless and impotent. Thank God for Christmas! We must have it now: it must flow afresh in our blood stream if we are pushed on in the Crusade!

A question most frequently asked us as we have gone throughout the brotherhood has been: What is the Crusade? With Christmas almost on us we can avoid any long definition or display of interpretative materials. The Crusade is characterized by the spirit of the Babe in the Manger. The Christ-child gives the dramatic answer—It is work! Work to overcome all of the mistakes of the past which cause evil in the present! It is work! Work to prepare men's hearts for the acceptance of the Christ spirit! It is work! Work to broaden the program of the Church program that the Christ-Spirit might be shared with all in the whole of life experiences! The Crusade is imbued with the Christmas spirit—the Crusade means work!

As Disciples of Christ pause with the world to hear the singing of the angels, let us also hear in the background the Great Commission—"Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel . . . " telling men even as I have overcome heredity, persecution, misunderstanding and the Cross, through my spirit you can too.

**Jones St. Christian Church**

Bluefield, West Virginia

Miss Leola Holley, Reporter

We are very happy to report that the Jones St. Christian Church is on the upward trend. We have noticed an increase both numerically and financially. Our minister, Rev. N. J. Dickerson, is constantly at his post of duty rendering soul-stirring messages for the up-building of humanity and the advancement of the cause. Baptismal services were held at the church November 8 with two candidates for baptism.

On November 16, Men's Day was observed. The program planned for the entire day was well attended with good financial returns.

The Willing Workers Club was organized on November 13, under the direction of Mrs. Cora M. Carter. The purpose of this club is to help in the planning of the Junior Choir activities. The Junior Choir, under the direction of Mrs. Carter, is presenting the "Bethlehem Story" in a Cantata December 14. Mrs. Carter has labored with unthining efforts to make this one of the outstanding affairs of the Yuletide season.

The Missionary Society observed the fifth Sunday in November with a Missionary Program. Mrs. N. J. Dickerson brought the message for the morning hour. The subject was "Missionary Education." The message was inspiring as well as instructive. Mrs. Eva Johnson gave the message for the evening service using as her subject "Love." Those present were enlightened by such a message. Others appearing on the program were: Mrs. Oreta Johnson, Mrs. Josie Brown, Mrs. Lillian Dickerson and Mrs. Robert Morrison, Jr.

The Christian program, under the direction of Miss Leola Holley, with Mrs. Cora Carter, music director, will be presented on December 22 by the members of the Bible School department.

Rev. N. J. Dickerson, president of the Bible Schools of the Piedmont-Tri-State District Convention attended the Christian Education Planning Conference held on November 28-29 in Indianapolis, Indiana. This meeting was held for all State presidents and youth leaders.

The members of the Jones St. Christian Church mourn in the passing of Rev. C. H. Dickerson of Tazewell, Va., brother of our former pastor, Rev. George M. Dickerson. We loved him, but God loved him best. "The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away. Blessed be the name of the Lord."

We ask your sincere prayers that we may have continued success in our church.

**Second Christian Church of Hannibal Loses Loyal Minister**

Mrs. D. M. Griggsby

Did you ever answer your doorbell, to find a messenger boy with a telegram, and knew you had to take it whether you wanted to or not? That is the way the members of the Second Christian Church felt when their pastor, Rev. R. R. Walton, offered his resignation to go in effect January 1, 1948.

Rev. Walton feels that a higher education is necessary for him to carry on the Christian work as Christ would like it and he is proceeding further. We hope and pray that the Lord will guide another leader to fill our pulpit.

To know Rev. Walton was to love him and love is what made the church cooperate beautifully with him. He has a way of working with every one, especially the young people, who are our churches in the future. Some gardeners are known to have a "green thumb," for anything they plant reaches maturity. We are not sure what Rev. Walton had, but whatever he started always turned out successful. During the time he had been here, a baptistry, a recreation room for the youngsters, a redecoration of the church and other things too numerous to mention have been to his credit. They were made possible by the offering from Hancock Day, which he originated, and has now come to be an annual affair of the church.

God works in a mysterious way, so we know he is doing the right thing in taking this leader from us. We know his new church will be as proud of him as we are; not only as minister but as a musician as well.

We could write and write and never get tired of telling the good deeds of
Rev. Walton. There is a song that says, "I want to live the life I sing about." Rev. Walton is truly living the life of a young Christian minister, with a mind to carry on the work of the Lord.

May God bless him and watch over him when he enters his post. We, the members, of the Second Christian Church will miss him and will welcome him back in our community at any time he returns.

Dear Co-Workers:

At this season of the year we usually think of giving. Giving gifts to our friends in order to show our appreciation and gratitude for their friendship. This year I would like for us to think of giving with different emphasis. An emphasis on giving where it is needed most. The National Benevolent Association offers you this opportunity.

National Benevolent Sunday is December 21 and I hope that your church will share in this giving. As you give, remember that you are giving to those who would not be able to have gifts for Christmas if it were not for people like you around the world.

Because God gave centuries ago, we today are blessed with that privilege. How long this privilege will be ours will in a large measure depend upon how freely we are willing to give today.

Best wishes to you for a large Christmas benevolence offering in your church. I am

Sincerely yours,
Lorenzo J. Evans, National Director, Religious Education

Christian Education Department Holds Planning Conference

Lorenzo J. Evans, Reporter

The Department of Christian Education of the National Christian Missionary Convention called together the State Bible School presidents, Functional Committee Leaders, CYF presidents and Children Workers for a planning conference November 28-29 in Indianapolis, Indiana. This was the first attempt of the department to call the leaders of the states together with the National Staff to plan a program of work.

The conference opened at 2:00 p.m. Friday in the conference room at Missions Building with Miss Bessie E. Chandler, president of the Christian Education Department of the National Christian Missionary Convention presiding. The evening session was held at Flanner House and here the representatives had an opportunity to get an idea of the community program that is being done by this institution under the direction of Mr. Cleo W. Blackburn. Saturday, we met in the home of Mrs. J. A. Towns, president of Women's National Convention and member of Second Church, Indianapolis, for our closing session.

Those participating in the conference from the National Staff were: Miss Ida M. Irvin, Director of Leadership Education, U.C.M.S., St. Louis, Missouri; Mr. Emmett J. Dickson, Executive Secretary, National Christian Missionary Convention, Indianapolis, Indiana; Miss Ruth Reynolds Children Worker, U.C.S.M., St. Louis, Missouri; Miss Alva Shackleford, Director of Missionary Organization and Education, National Christian Missionary Convention, Indianapolis, Indiana; and Lorenzo J. Evans, Director of Christian Education, National Christian Missionary Convention, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Other representatives attending the conference were: Mr. R. H. Peoples, pastor Second Church, Indianapolis; Mesdames Thelma Dickson, Myrtle H. Evans, Josephine Baker, Z. M. Peoples, Misses Jamie A. Marshall, Geneva Marshall, Marjorie Chenault and Mr. Marshall of Indianapolis.

Representatives of other areas were: Mrs. Daisy Dean, Youth Advisor of State, Little Rock, Arkansas; Mrs. E. W. Wilbert, Chairman of Children Work Committee of National Convention, Dayton, Ohio; Mrs. Christiana B. Johnson, State President of Bible School, Dayton, Ohio; Mr. N. J. Dickerson, President, Bible School, Piedmont Tri-State Area, Bluefield, W. Va.; Mrs. Emily Robinson, representing State Bible School, Paris, Ky.; Mr. A. J. Jackson, President, State Bible School, Birmingham, Ala.; Mr. Thomas J. Griffin, Adult Advisor, National CYF, Evanston, Illinois; Mrs. Susie L. Elster, State Youth Advisor, Mt. Sterling, Ky.; Mr. William Elster, Mt. Sterling, Ky.; Miss Roberta Grown, State Children Worker, Martinville, Va.; Mrs. Cerise Palmer, President, State Bible School, St. Louis, Mo.; Miss Elizabeth Johnson, Co-President, State CYF, Paris, Ky.; Miss Dolores Smiley, Co-President, CYF Area, St. Louis, Mo., and Miss Fredia Hall, Co-President, State CYF, Paris, Ky.

From this meeting a very constructive program of work was formulated. Out of this we hope to see the results in the areas which represented as they put into execution some of the things we planned together. Only as we come together and plan our program of work, set up our goals and out methods of approach will we be able to meet our objectives. Therefore we hope that this is only the beginning in our planning program and that you will begin now looking forward to next year when you can have your area or state representative present. Only as we plan will we be able to do our task.

Death Takes Faithful Member in Concord

Mrs. Viola Douglas Wagner, a faithful member of the First Christian Church in Concord, North Carolina, departed this life Saturday, November 22.

Mrs. Wagner had suffered a malady for more than four months. She is survived by her husband, C. M. Wagner, four sons, and a number of other relatives and friends.

We will miss the presence of Mrs. Wagner, but although we would like for her to have remained, God knew best.

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THE STANDARD PUBLISHING CO.,
20 E. Central Pkwy., Cincinnati 10, Ohio
Former Editor of Plea Killed

Elder C. H. Dickerson and His Good Wife Are Gone

Rev. C. H. Dickerson Killed

The sudden and untimely death of Rev. C. H. Dickerson came as a shock to friends and relatives throughout the nation as they learned of his fate.

Rev. Dickerson was struck and fatally injured as he walked along on the outskirts of Tazewell. The driver of the car which struck him has been charged with drunken driving.

Rev. Dickerson was the retired pastor of the Christian Church at Lexington, Kentucky and the brother of Rev. G. M. Dickerson of Tazewell.

Funeral services were held Friday, December 5, at the Midway Christian Church in Tazewell, Virginia.

Second Christian Church

2417 Fremont Street
Rockford, Illinois

Rev. F. B. Bradley, Pastor

Greetings from Rockford:

Again may I take a few of your busy moments to enlighten you on the things that have happened since last we met.

After the National Convention we came back to start our Fall activities. We had a very beautiful Fall and a great job before us. But it was taken in its stride as the time came.

Early in September we called together a group of young ladies and formed an organization which has proven to be very helpful to the church. We were surprised with a fish dinner given by two of our members, Mrs. G. C. Richardson and Mrs. Archie S. Wilson. It was carried out very nicely. The church realized $9.60. One of the most entertaining events of the Fall was a chitterling supper given by the young ladies. It carried city-wide publicity. Mrs. Jasper Webster and Mrs. William Aileen were co-chairmen. A sum of $32.00 was realized by the church.

On the 14th of November the church was entertained with a bazaar by Mrs. Ella Holt, one of the older members of our church. She has done many outstanding things for the church. She was assisted by her daughter, Mrs. Alyce Carey. The church realized $33.50.

Sunday, November 16, marked the end of our second year’s work. It was celebrated with an anniversary. Many of our friends were with us. In fact we had a full house. The timely message was brought by the Rev. J. W. Turner of Freeport, Illinois. There was a gift offering of $42.00. On Sunday, November 30, the young ladies sponsored a “Stitch in Time” rally for the benefit of the church. They had as their guests the Junior Matrons of Bethel Baptist Church. Rev. Trigs, pastor of the C.M.E. church of the city was their guest speaker. The church received $54.00 in gifts and offerings. I am sure you will agree with us, that with the help of God we are carrying on.

We are at work on our Crusade program. It has not progressed as it should, but it is alive in the church. We are working on membership development and evangelism. Committees on visitation have made personal visits and the results have been notable. The ten-day evangelist meeting was postponed due to the cold weather.

Sunday, December 7, the Missionary Society will present Mrs. Rosie Page Welch as their guest speaker. We are planning a fine time. It is very cold here. We hope it is more pleasant where you are.

Williamsburg Christian Church

Rev. L. O’Neill, Pastor
Brooklyn, New York
Cherridell Ellis, Reporter

We, the members of Williamsburg Christian Church, are happy to thank God for the fruitful months, October and November.

During the past two months, we have been feasting upon the soul-stirring sermons of Rev. Summers, Rev. Mingo, and Rev. Adams. Forty-six souls have been added to the fold. As these ministers journey onward, we pray God’s special blessing upon them.

Our Bible and Sunday school is coming along nicely. Our very capable superintendent, Deacon R. Sleaven never fails his duty in opening.

Pray for our continued success in Christ.

Mt. Beulah College Club

(S. C. I.)

Chicago, Illinois

Mrs. Lesly Smith, Reporter

Twenty-five years ago the Mount Beulah College Club of Chicago was organized. At the present time we have approximately seventy-five members who have pledged themselves to support the club financially and otherwise.

Through the years, under the leadership of fine executives, worthwhile contributions have been made to our school through scholarships and gifts.

One of the purposes for which we organized was to keep in touch with each other so that we might lend our support if the occasion arose. To that end we give financial aid to our sick and in times of bereavement we assist in whatever way we are needed.

Aside from this, we have expanded our efforts by connecting ourselves to such civic organizations as the
Now

When we say NOW, we mean two things. First, we refer to NOW, the new 16-page weekly for Intermediates and Seniors, which will make its appearance January 4. Second, we mean that NOW is the time to subscribe to this important publication. As up-to-date as its name, NOW will be packed with vital articles, news items, short stories, meditations, poetry, sports comments, book reviews . . . most of them written by young people. Lively illustrations will be used lavishly. All teen-age boys and girls, whatever their interest, will find NOW fascinating and stimulating. Just remember . . . order NOW! Individual yearly subscription, $1.50; five or more to one address, 33 cents each quarter.

The majority of us are connected with and work faithfully in our church. We are proud of our club and hope that other alumni will organize, because S.C.I. and Jarvis will be just as strong, just as outstanding as the alumni who represent them.

We have been informed by President Long that there will be an official "Homecoming" at S.C.I. next commencement, Monday, May 24, 1948. This is the first since the war and they are anxious to see all of us. The Chicago Alumni will celebrate its Silver Anniversary by attending this "Homecoming." Won't you join us? Let us make this an occasion never to be forgotten. Best wishes to all of you.

In September we observed Education Day at Indiana Avenue and Southside Churches. The ministers, Rev. Davis and Rev. LaTouche, worked with our program committee, giving us a place on their morning worship program in order that S.C.I. and Jarvis Colleges might be brought to the congregations. Mrs. Ruby McFarland, Miss Ruth Robinson and Rev. Thomas Griffin did a splendid job in that direction.

In October we took a part in the Annual Tea sponsored by the Chicago Council of Negro Organizations. This was a very beautiful affair and a financial success.


The first Sunday of each month is regular club meeting days and the fourth Sunday is devoted to executive meetings. Our program chairman, Mrs. Lula Perkins, sees to it that we have a leader for each meeting. They, in turn, bring outstanding visitors who furnish the program. We have had speakers from the Field of Religious Education, Social Service, and Labor.

One speaker chose "Games" for her subject and we enjoyed an hour of fun because every one had to take part in the games. This was different and very entertaining.

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The Chicago Board of Publication – The Bethany Press – St. Louis

Plain Pension Facts

It is a fact

That the brotherhood of Disciples of Christ has a Pension Plan.
That cooperation of both minister and church is anticipated in the Plan. Full benefits are available only on this basis.
That partial benefits are possible, where only the 2½% dues are paid. Benefits are 5/21 of the full amount.
That the minister pays 2½% of his monthly salary and the church pays an amount equal to 8% of the monthly salary.
That full-time workers of the church or church-related institutions are eligible for membership.
That the Pension Plan provides for its members a cash death benefit, a disability pension, and an old-age retirement income.
That the widows and minor children of members of the Pension Plan are also protected.
That nowhere else can you receive the same amount of benefits for the same amount of money as in the Pension Plan.
That no minister and no church should be without Pension Plan protection.
That membership may be started in any month, and dues are payable monthly.
That a post-card requesting information and addressed to the PENSION FUND OF DISCIPLES OF CHRIST, 800 TEST BUILDING, INDIANAPOLIS 4, INDIANA, will bring an immediate response.

Read

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