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Merl R. Eppse

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The CHRISTIAN PLEA

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NEGRO DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

VOLUME LI

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, JANUARY, 1944

NUMBER 4

NEGROES CONTRIBUTE \$49,686.02 TO U.C.M.S. NEGRO DISCIPLES IN 1943 YEAR BOOK

State	Churches	Preachers	Vacant Churches	Membership	Offering to U. C. M. S.	Emergency Million
Alabama	15	9	1	1,241	\$ 69.80	\$ 00.00
Arkansas	13	3	7	597	382.84	20.00
California	4	4	0	958	657.68	45.00
Dist. of Col., Washington	2	1	1	243	61.00	00.00
Florida	13	5	6	303	20.60	00.00
Georgia	15	4	4	885	25.64	00.00
Illinois	10	7	3	984	541.41	91.50
Indiana	2	2	0	293	330.50	136.00
Iowa	1	1	0	22	31.35	00.00
Kansas	11	6	5	514	235.15	00.00
Kentucky	46	23	17	3,196	397.09	12.00
Maryland	4	3	0	1,554	286.12	3.91
Michigan	3	3	0	239	58.00	00.00
Mississippi	33	17	1	1,994	554.94	149.25
Missouri	24	12	6	1,744	682.92	181.00
New Jersey	3	3	0	59	5.75	00.00
New York	5	4	1	467	127.50	00.00
North Carolina	165	101	53	18,912	1,332.75	2.35
Ohio	14	11	1	1,951	605.50	167.43
Oklahoma	15	6	7	719	391.00	00.00
South Carolina	25	18	1	1,967	170.92	00.00
Tennessee	15	8	6	1,213	374.85	167.00
Texas	57	33	9	4,295	795.11	122.50
Virginia	31	11	15	1,564	233.35	00.00
West Virginia	1	1	0	146	32.50	00.00
TOTAL	527	296	134	46,060	\$8,404.27	\$1,097.94

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Tennessee A. & I. State College, Nashville, Tennessee

APRIL 17-21

REGISTRATION \$1.00

BOARD AND ROOM \$5.00

Open to all Negro Disciple Ministers, Church Workers,
and interested people.

DR. W. P. HARMON, Director

DR. WM. H. TAYLOR, Dean

Write To:

Prof. Merl R. Eppse, A. & I. State College, Nashville, Tenn.

Money Raised by Negroes and Turned Over To Be Used by The United Society

Jarvis Christian College, raised on the field	\$15,679.20
Southern Christian Insti- tute, raised on the field	21,689.42
Miss Jamison, raised in Missionary Organizations	2,815.19
Negro Churches sent to the U. C. M. Society	8,404.27
Negroes subscribed and paid to Emergency Million	1,097.94

Total amount raised
and sent to U. C. M. S. \$49,686.02
(Continued on page 2)

Money Raised by Negroes

(Continued from page 1)

National Benevolent Association in its 56th Annual Report, reported 12 homes and \$323,393.19 spent on 791 children, 266 aged people and 47 mothers. The slogan was, "Remember the needy in the care of the Church—your giving is their living." Not one Negro was reported as needy or received any help.

Church Development and Evangelism reported aid to the following: Negro Work, Birmingham, Ala., A. J. Jeffries; Little Rock, Ark., J. O. Bowles; Des Moines, Ia., Jesse Hawkins; Mayfield, Ky., Ira Asche; Detroit, Mich., R. L. Jordan; Jackson, Miss., D. W. Heath; Brooklyn, N. Y., R. E. Hancock; Winston-Salem, N. C., C. H. Webb; Cleveland, O., C. E. Craggett; Tri-State Evangelist, R. W. Watson; Christian Plea, Merl R. Eppse; National Secretary of Negro Churches, C. L. Parks; Rural Community Work, S. C. I., Miss., W. K. Fox; Summer Rural Migrant Work, Ernest Culpepper.

There were four Negro Youth Conferences held; 302 pupils, 52 faculty members; 65 Negro churches represented, and 128 character bonds issued.

Emergency Million raised \$1,052,525.00. Some coal was purchased for S. C. I.

Department of Social Welfare and Rural Work reported nothing in Negro work.

Mrs. John A. Towns, Indianapolis, Mr. Cleo Blackburn, Indianapolis, Dr. J. E. Walker, Memphis, Tenn., are on the Board of Managers. Mr. Cleo Blackburn is on the Committee on War Services, and the National Field worker is on the Religious Education Department.

Many have asked the question: Why do the white Disciples fool with the Negroes at all? Another group asks the question: Why do the Negro Disciples fool with whites when they do not want them? Both of these questions can be answered definitely when one goes to the record and studies what goes on behind the scene.

The whites show by their record that the Negro is a good missionary investment, both from the financial standpoint and the opportunity to help a helpless people. The Negroes show by their record that they cannot and will not go it alone. They have not reached that stage of maturity and resourcefulness that they can stand on their own feet and trust Jesus at His own word.

The analysis of the Negro in the year book for 1943 shows that we have 527 Negro Disciple Churches scattered in 24 states and the District of Columbia. It shows that we have 296 Negro Disciple preachers for these churches. Many of the preachers try and serve as many as nine different churches at one time. What a missionary spirit, but what judgment does he express? This could only be evaluated by the Lord. The whites have 155 paid workers in the National Association of State Secretaries to serve their people. The Negroes have none. It appears to the writer that the Negroes have done from the sheer Christian motive of sharing, more than the whites. It reflects good business for the whites and good religion for the Negroes.

The year book shows that the Negroes gave to the United Society, \$49,686.02 with very little encouragement from anybody. The question is: How much would they have given had they had the same salesmanship and pressure as the whites?

Some Negroes who have been the recipients of the dole from the Home Missions Department, have been on it so long that it is a matter of record for years, and yet they are as small and as ineffective now in the community as they were when they started.

A move is on to change the Negro work to Nashville. I am wondering if the change of place is the answer, or would it be better to change the program. The Greeks would not tolerate laziness and indifference; if the child did not show signs of life or the desire to live, they would let him drown.

The National Benevolent Association has been in operation for 56 years. They spend \$323,393.19 for the support of 1,047 white dependents, yet they can live in a democracy composed of Christian people and never see the need of dependent Negroes. Is this the answer to the baffling program of bringing Christ to America?

The Department of Social Welfare and Rural Work never has anything to report on Negro work. I believe that it is a good policy to start charity at home, but how can a Christian act as if all America is not his home? The Negro is just as much a part of his work as the Japanese, Mexicans and others who get a great deal of his attention.

The solution for the whole thing is not separating the Negro and the white work. The solution is not for the whites to ignore the Negro problem. The solution is not for the Ne-

groes to go on as they have been. There must be intelligent planning, intelligent execution, Christian leadership, coupled with a courageous, forward-looking purpose to establish the Kingdom of God on earth—not for whites—not for Negroes—but for all people.

National Christian Missionary Convention News

To the Churches and Brethren Everywhere, Greetings:

When churches are organized in towns and cities where there is no church of our faith, The National Convention will be there with money to help.

When church buildings are destroyed or damaged by some disaster. The National Convention will be there to render financial aid.

When a struggling church is doing all it can to pay its pastor and keep the doors open, The National Convention will be there with a helping hand.

When The Christian Plea is enlarged and made a weekly paper, The National Convention will be there to render financial aid.

Let's get ready for this long range program.

Today The National Convention needs you; tomorrow YOU may need The National Convention.

Send one dollar per member to the National Treasurer, Dr. J. E. Walker, 234 Hernando Street, Memphis, Tenn.

Help your pastor and congregation to join the One Hundred Dollar Club.

Let's raise ten thousand dollars in the Church Department this convention year; for Evangelism. "They that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word."—Acts 8:4.

Church Aid, "Come over into Macedonia, and help us."—Acts 16:9.

Ministers' Aid, "Then the disciples every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea."—Acts 11:29.

The Christian Plea, "What thou seest, write in a book and send it unto the seven churches."—Rev. 1:11.

Brethren, pray for me.

Your friend,

W. H. (Baltimore) TAYLOR,

President.

March, April and May are National Convention months.

**DELINQUENT SUBSCRIBERS
YOUR "PLEA" WILL NOT BE
DELIVERED UNLESS YOU
PAY BEFORE JUNE.**

Miss Jamison's Column

"The larger heart, the kindlier hand."

The poet, Alfred Tennyson, is frequently quoted at the beginning of the new year. The above, in the poem "Ring Out, Wild Bells," is frequently read with our eyes, but slightly practiced in our living.

What does the new year hold? For some there will be new joys as well as new sorrows. For others there will be new hopes and aspirations and opportunities for larger service. The new year does hold for each of us these opportunities and uncertainties, and in the midst of them all we should strive to enlarge our hearts and deal kindly with our hands.

Hearts can be made larger by cultivating daily conversation with God. Kirby Page often said, "Practice the presence of God." We can know him as we seek to know our fellowmen.

This year, 1944, is not the time to clutter up our lives with useless "what nots." I have several friends who are collectors of souvenirs and what-nots—ornaments. At best, they serve as dust collectors and objects for occasional observation and discussion. This is the year when we must fill the houses of our souls with just and durable furniture of love, kindness, mercy, long-suffering and patience. This is not the year for self-complacency. This is the year to work toward justice and opportunity for Christian personality development of all men of all nations.

Our hands tell interesting stories. Some hands express kindness; some hands express bitterness and hatred; some hands show covetousness and like the hands of Judas will betray. Other hands show love in service for faithfulness to families and in rendering service to those in need. What will our hands say of us at the close of this year?

Through the hands of us all goes the regularly earned income. Through our hands it is spent. Will our hands deal understandingly with the empty hands outstretched for food, the empty hands extended for scholarships, the empty hands extended to serve in lands other than our own? These are the opportunities before us in missionary service. To enlarge our hearts and make kindlier our hands.

"The Fields Are White"

The national adult missionary organizations project involved in the enlistment and training of one hundred and fifty new workers for the fields abroad and at home. This project

makes a special appeal to our groups because there is great need and a strong desire to enlist and train missionaries for foreign service and for leadership in Christian Education.

Detailed information concerning this project has gone to every adult missionary organization. The project is participated in only to the extent of an increase in giving over that of last year. So far, results are encouraging. Many groups have already achieved half and more of their annual goal. This is important in a year when ties of understanding and appreciation must be strengthened. This is done by holding the gains which we have made through continued service and by replacing the missionaries at retirement and establishing new and much needed stations. In a war-torn world truly "the fields are white" for Christian service.

Woman's Day Reports

From December quarterly reports blanks came the following information from organizations which observed Woman's Day:

Ninth Ave., Roanoke, Va.....	\$20.36
Morgan Ave., Parsons, Kans....	18.00
Indiana Ave., Chicago, Ill.....	54.00
South Side, Chicago, Ill.....	40.00
Mississippi Bd., Memphis, Tenn.	53.25
Shady Grove, Cason, Texas.....	2.00
Mt. Sinai, Little Rock, Ark....	6.00
Midway Christian, Midway, Ky.	2.00
Fulton Ave., Palestine, Texas...	10.00
Second, Indianapolis, Ind.....	71.00
Boll St., Dallas, Texas.....	47.03
Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Texas	17.97
Second, Muskogee, Okla.....	20.00
Second, Frankfort, Mo.....	2.30
Forest Grove, Tillman, Miss.	
(Individual gift)	1.00

Definite Objects of Support

Missouri churches plan to participate in the support of two hospital beds in Africa at \$25.00 per year each. In a new letter from Bolenge in the Belgian Congo, came this information:

"The Congo mission is steadily advancing. Five hospitals, three of them supervised by doctors, treat over 20,000 patients yearly, giving over 200,000 treatments. We shall leave Mondombe with reluctance because then Miss Stober must act as doctor, for there will be no other to take the doctor's place in all that population of over 140,000 people." Mr. and Mrs. Donald H. Baker.

There are unlimited opportunities for service in 1944. Will you accept?

Miss Rand Marries Sergeant At Little Rock, Ark.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. I. W. Dean, 2024 Howard Street, was the scene of a wedding, when Miss Mary Easter Rand, attractive daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Noble Rand of Jefferson, Texas, became the bride of S/Sgt. Wardell Dean, second son of Mr. and Mrs. I. W. Dean of Little Rock, at 7:30 o'clock Monday evening, January 10, with the single ring ceremony said by the Elder L. B. Facen.

The huge mantle of native stone haloed by orange candle light, marked the place of ceremony. Preceding the ceremony Mrs. Dora L. Hawkins Parker played nuptial music. Miss Fletcher sang "Because" and "Ah, Sweet Mystery of Life." The traditional wedding march was played as the bride entered on the arm of the groom's father.

The bride wore a dressmaker suit of ice blue wool with black accessories. The bridal hat was a cluster of pink daisies. The only ornament which the bride wore was a heart-shape locket, a gift of the groom. Both Miss Rand and Sgt. Dean are graduates of the Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Texas. Miss Rand was a member of the class of '43, while Sgt. Dean was of the class of '42. Both bride and groom were members of the college choir. Sgt. Dean was outstanding in the field of athletics and prior to his call to arms, was employed in dining car service. Miss Rand is a member of the faculty of the Booker T. Washington High School, Greenville, Texas. Both bride and groom are members of the Christian church, and we predict for them a bright and happy future.

Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Cole, Leo Ball, Elder and Mrs. L. B. Facen, Mrs. R. L. Matthis, Miss Carolyn White, Miss Fredica Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Bryant, Miss Doris J. Fletcher, Mrs. Dora Hawkins Parker.

Following a brief honeymoon, Sgt. Dean left upon an emergency call to return to camp.



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THE CHRISTIAN PLEA

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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.

Changin' Figgers— Ode to 1943

BY C. H. DICKERSON
"Old Kentuck"

The time has come around again
To check and change the figgers;
The first half of it may remain,
But shoot out that last jigger.

The 1900 may hold on,
But 43 must go;
Old 43 changes it, you know,
To that new "44".

It ain't no use to argufy
And think of holding on,
The world is telling you good-bye,
And many are glad you've gone.

The crape is hanging on your door,
The death knell has been ringing;
Your doom is settled now for sure,
The choir the dirge is singing.

We'll take you to the "Potter's" half
And plant you to perfection,
And write upon your epitaph,
"There is no Resurrection!"

Old '43 was loathe to go,
Although his time was up;
He dabbled in so many things
That blood had filled his cup.

He'd tried to master land and sea,
And major in the air,
And now unseated he must be,
Pass out into nowhere.

He puffed and tried to grit his teeth,
But nothing would avail;
Now '44 his sword unsheathes
And took him by the tail.

You've had your day, now I am come,
Get up and take your sack;
Move fast, I'm waiting for your room,
And you can ne'er come back.

Now all the evil you have done,
I'll do my best to right it;
If any more wrong is begun,
I'll promise you I'll fight it.

But I can't hold a brief with you,
For you're as dead as Hector;
If to my trust I can be true,
My cup will flow with nectar.

A New Year Prayer

By MRS. DAISY DEAN

2024 Howard St., Little Rock, Ark.
I do not ask for happiness on this New Year. I do not pray the "good old days" will come again. I ask, instead, for strength and willingness to face a changing world. For courage

to accept a taller and wider way of life for all mankind.

I do not ask that I be sheltered from the shock and terror which must come with change; the loneliness that falls upon us when the old ways pass. I know that pain must come with growth, that we must pay for every birth with death—and death is just the prelude to a greater life. I know these truths. Then give me, Father, strength to live then too.

Give me the fortitude to put away my selfish scheme of things; the grief I've cherished for these many years; the heartbreak memories that sap my strength; the bitterness at all time wrongs which still persist; the pettiness, the childish fears, and old intolerance. Give me the courage, God, to shed our bodies, as we grow, and make my spirit fit for this new large life ahead.

Give me the eagerness that laughs at fear; the curiosity that seeks the truth, whatever it may cost; the ruthless honesty to see and judge myself as I would just another; the vision to perceive that high above this chaos looms a cleaner, kinder life, and we who dare to hope can light the way to its bright portal and its shining peace.

I do not ask for happiness on this New Year. I only ask for strength to rise above my fear, my petty prejudice and pride, and take this changing world in my long stride.—Amen.

BIBLE SCHOOL LESSONS THAT ARE *True to the Bible*

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Money Received by the Christian Plea Treasurer, Mrs. Preston Taylor

For the Month of January, 1944

Mr. G. L. Anderson, Route 1, Ewing, Ky., one 1-year subscription	\$ 1.00
Mrs. Maude Davis, Box 462 (Rev. G. W. Taylor), Austin, Tex., two 1-year subscriptions	1.29
Mrs. Orene Cole, 2400 Howard St., Little Rock., Ark., four subscriptions and donation	5.50
Mrs. C. E. Rowan, 852 Polk Ave., Memphis, Tenn., thirty-two 1-year subscriptions	22.25
Mrs. R. M. Fox, Southern Christian Institute, Edwards, Miss., two 1-year subscriptions	2.10
Mr. E. J. Jackson, Route 2, Box 152, Colla, Miss., one 1-year subscription	1.00
Elder C. H. Dickerson, 340 Ohio St., Lexington, Ky., 10 copies January Plea	1.00
Mrs. Mae Potts, 426 Sioux Trail, Chattanooga, Tenn., one 1-year subscription	1.00
	\$34.95

For the Month of February, 1944

Mrs. H. D. Jones, 2037 Madison Ave., Baltimore, Md., one 1-year subscription	\$ 1.00
Miss Evelyn Williams, 4825 S. Parkway, Apt. 27, Chicago, Ill., twenty-eight 1-year subscriptions	28.00
Mrs. Gertrude Horne, 15 Monroe St., Inwood, L. I., N. Y., one 1-year subscription	1.00
Mr. John J. Green, 4563-a Garfield Ave., 5-year subscription	5.00
Mrs. C. E. Rowan, 852 Polk Ave., Memphis, Tenn., three 1-year subscriptions	2.25
Miss R. C. Sneed, Mound Bayou, Miss., one 1-year subscription	1.00
Miss Lessie Boatwright, 929 E. 49th St., Los Angeles, Calif., six 1-year subscriptions	4.50
Rev. R. H. Davis, 218 E. 44th St., Chicago, Ill., sixteen 1-year subscriptions	16.00
Mrs. S. L. Bostick, N. Little Rock, Ark., one 1-year subscription, one 6-months subscriptions	1.50
A. & I. State College, Nashville, Tenn., one 1-year subscription	.50
	\$60.75

For the Month of March, 1944

Mr. J. G. Conway, Route 4, Nicholasville, Ky., one 1-year subscription	\$ 1.00
Mrs. Daisy Williams, 507 4th Terrace, N. Birmingham, Ala., three 1-year subscriptions	3.00
Rev. Eugene Patterson, Box 293, N. Tazewell, Va., one 1-year subscription	1.00
Mr. Robert L. Wilson, 904 Naches Ave., Yakima, Wash., one 1-year subscription	1.00
Department of Religious Education, Missions Bldg., Indianapolis, Ind., one 1-year subscription	1.00
Mrs. Daisy Williams, 507 4th Terrace, N. Birmingham, Ala., five 1-year subscriptions	4.50
	\$11.50

Shaw Christian Church

E. M. TOUSEL
Shaw, Mississippi

The Shaw Christian Church is glad to have the return of their pastor, Elder Edward Griffin. During the time he was away, he left Elder A. L. Keyes to carry on his work. We were glad to have Elder Keyes with us. He told us that "Daddy" was gone, and he was acting "step-daddy." If all the step-daddies are like him, he can go some more and send us a step-daddy. We got along fine while our Pastor was away. Of course, it went hard with us at the beginning because he never had left us before, but it worked out fine. We were carried

NOTICE

Christian Plea
Subscribers

★

THE
ORENE COLE
PRIZE

Will be given to the minister who sends in the most subscribers over ten during the month of April.

★

Get Going Now
WRITE PLEA OFFICE

away with our "step-daddy." We had meeting nearly every Sunday while "Daddy" was gone. It made us do better. We begin to think "Daddy" was not coming back when we heard he was up there in Detroit preaching over the air. We got uneasy. Everyone would begin to ask, "When is the Pastor coming? We are getting along fine, but it's time he was coming home. The Pastor reports a big time.

We had three to join us while he was away: Brother James Lee, Brother Booker T. Williams and wife, all three fine people. Brother Dock Nelums, deacon of our church, reports a fine time after visiting his children in Michigan, Indiana and Illinois. Brother Dock has two sons in Service, one in the Navy and one in the Army.

Brother J. D. Daniel, elder of our church, has been to Vicksburg to visit his nephew; reports a happy Christmas.

Members on the sick list: Riller Foster, Ida Johnson and Arie Light. Hope for them a speedy recovery.

Miss Earnestine Douglas is taking her high school course at Doddsville, Miss. We hope her next place will be at S. C. I., our own school.

Mr. Robert Davis has made his arrival back from Chicago.

Bro. Stocklin Saddler, a trustee of the Shaw Christian Church, has purchased a home near the church. This means a whole lot of help to the church. The church needs attention just like the home. We need more and better church workers.

Jackson District News

ELDER D. W. HEATH
920 Eastview, Jackson, Miss.

Our Christian family is very much uplifted over the financial progress of our National Convention and is looking forward to doing more, but is anxiously awaiting for at least one of some of the projects that the president has appealed for, to be put into action. The family is not prejudice against any of the projects, but it is more interested in Ministerial Relief and Church Maintenance because there are some thirty-four churches here in our own state with about a dozen ministers and four of them are past the age of sixty. This situation is causing many of our churches to become inactive. In fact, it has caused many of them to die out. We hope that something will be done about this situation as soon as possible.

These are some of the people who were loyal to the call of our president last year and stand ready to respond again:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|--------|
| 1. Elder J. C. Norrell | ----- | \$1.00 |
| 2. Mr. J. A. Wilson | ----- | 1.00 |
| 3. Mr. R. L. Lampkins | ----- | 1.00 |
| 4. Mrs. Emmer Hill | ----- | 1.00 |
| 5. Mr. Jim Thomas | ----- | 1.00 |
| 6. Mrs. Lythia Lamkins | ----- | 1.00 |
| 7. Mrs. Eliza Miller | ----- | 1.00 |
| 8. Mrs. Georgia Williams | ----- | 1.00 |
| 9. Mrs. Mary Jane Tucker | ----- | 1.00 |
| 10. Elder G. W. Walls | ----- | 1.00 |
| 11. Mrs. L. J. Wilson | ----- | 1.00 |
| 12. Mrs. Flossie Clark | ----- | 1.00 |
| 13. Mrs. J. M. Wilson | ----- | 1.00 |
| 14. Mrs. Mary Redmond | ----- | 1.00 |
| 15. Mr. Abe Elmore | ----- | 1.00 |
| 16. Mrs. Annie Lee Cobbs | ----- | 1.00 |
| 17. Mrs. H. A. Johnson | ----- | 1.00 |
| 18. Mrs. M. F. Johnson | ----- | 1.00 |
| 19. Mrs. D. W. Heath | ----- | 2.00 |
| 20. Elder D. W. Heath | ----- | 3.00 |

In the next issue we plan to publish the names of the churches that gave to this cause.

First Church of Christ

REV. B. A. DOUGLAS, *Pastor*
Concord, North Carolina
HENSILE MILLNER, *Reporter*
Box 322, Stuart, Va.

To the Churches and Brethren Everywhere, Greetings, from Echoes of the First Church of Christ, Stuart, Virginia.

Under the able leadership of Rev. Douglas, our church has grown from a small acorn to a huge oak in Christ Jesus. Since our pastor came to us less than a year ago, our church has lowered its indebtedness of around

(Continued on page 6)

First Church of Christ

(Continued from page 5)

\$800 to less than \$300, and the Deacon Board has in progress a rally to pay the balance of indebtedness. We are very proud of our pastor and his wife.

From the rally below, you will see that we are supporting our pastor 100 per cent. We are publishing this news in order to make public our congratulations to our friends for the fine way each responded in pushing this rally over the top. We must take time out also to express gratitude to Cpl. Dillard Hill, who sent \$10.00 to George Houchins, Jr., on his card. This certainly shows an interest and love for his church. Names and amounts solicited follow:

Rev. B. A. Douglas, \$15.50; Arthur Clark, \$6.00; J. P. Loggins, \$10.00; John M. Hairston, \$4.00; Albert Thompson, \$6.60; Annie Lee Patterson, \$10.00; Glenn Tatum gave \$6.55 punched out \$2.45; Bobby Jean Ross, \$2.00; Betty Jean Loggins, \$1.10; Estill Ross, \$1.00; Ruth Houchins, \$1.00; Lucy Hairston, \$3.50; Inez Staples, \$7.00; Edna Ziegler, \$3.00; Lois V. Rucker, \$21.25; Mrs. George J. Houchins, \$12.55; Mrs. Lucy Tatum, \$3.60; Mary Staples, \$1.50; Grace Griffith, \$1.00; Mrs. Ollie Clark, \$1.00; Lucy Lee Spencer, \$2.50; Mrs. Mary Millner, \$5.00; Charlotte B. Carter, \$2.00; Reva Staples, \$20.30; Thelma Loggins, \$11.20; Mrs. B. A. Douglas, \$10.85; Mrs. N. J. Loggins, \$6.00; J. C. Clark, \$2.00; Mrs. Wade Staples, \$2.00; Roxie Rucker, \$10.00; G. R. Staples, \$1.00; J. J. Staples, \$3.00; Hensile Millner, \$15.55; O'Neal Spencer, \$2.00; Dessa Houchins, \$5.00; Millard Pullius, Jr., \$16.00; George Houchins, \$25.00. Special: Mrs. C. B. Lindsay, 1614 Leonard Ave., Columbus, Ohio, a friend of Mr. and Mrs. Douglas, gave \$10.00. Total, \$264.95. Grand total, \$206.00.

We are asking our brethren everywhere to pray for our continued success.

S. C. I. News

By JOHN LONG

Students with Uncle Sam:

Everyone is back now from the Christmas vacation. Only one student remained on the campus. All dormitories were closed but Lehman Hall. The Rattens, Thomases, Jacobses and Longs were the only faculty to remain. Mr. Jacobs was away two days to assist Alma Jean in her return to Clark University.

We had our usual Christmas tree parties and the annual all-school ban-

quet with plenty of presents for everybody supplied by our churches across the country. They also helped us to make happy many children of the community by sending boxes of presents for us to distribute. And of course, the annual candy from Miss Maud Henrichs!

Before we left, the complete choir gave a program of anthems and spirituals. This was their annual Christmas program, but it served as a practice period for Group One of the Choir who made a tour during the vacation. There were ten of them with the Director, Mrs. Jackson. Our SCI Club in Chicago wanted them in a program there and they gave programs in several cities up and back. They were in St. Louis, Litchfield, Springfield, Bloomington, Chicago, Stuttgart, and Memphis. They gave three programs each in St. Louis and in Chicago. Excellent reports have come back concerning their programs. In chapel they each shared a part of their experiences with us and reported a delightful trip. They were especially glad to visit Miss Legier in Chicago.

Mrs. Inez Center Shannon, former teacher, sends us the belated sad news that another teacher, Elma Jane Hobbs, died Sept. 22, following an operation in Oklahoma City. Miss Hobbs was an excellent teacher. She left us to become the wife of Rev. E. E. Watson. Our deepest sympathy goes out to him and their son.

Our State suffered the loss of two outstanding men recently. One was Governor Johnson, who helped to make possible free school books, lengthened terms, and increased salaries for teachers. Our school joined Negro schools of the State in getting a fitting memorial to express our appreciation. This project was started before his death. The other great man was H. Vaughan Watkins, white attorney of Jackson. Few citizens of any State have been identified with more worthy causes than was Mr. Watkins. Negroes and whites alike benefited by his untiring efforts to improve our whole area. On two occasions he called me in to talk confidentially about the improvement of Negro schools of our county. In a county where nearly four-fifths of the rural-farm population is Negro, it is tragic that we have not a single high school for Negroes. He was responsible for the recent move to establish a public high school for the Negro children of our county. It is my hope that other civic-minded leaders of our county can be found who will carry forward this

project, if for no other reason than to honor his memory. And it should be called the Vaughan Watkins High School.

Flash. Dean Mosley has the mumps. . . . At a recent meeting of the Southern Association our Junior College was accredited in addition to the high school. Heretofore our college because of its size has merely been approved. This year the examining committee recommended full accreditation. . . . Miss Reubena Stultz did not return after the holidays, although many who see her still address her as Miss Stultz. Officially, she is now Mrs. William K. Fox. She and Mr. Fox were married at her home in Martinsville, Virginia, Dec. 30. Their home now is the north apartment of Eastview dormitory. Just before they went home for the big event, an important faculty meeting was called at the Mansion, at least Miss Stultz and Mr. Fox thought it was a faculty meeting. To the rest of us it was a surprise shower for the Foxes when they were given quite an assortment of articles to use in their new home when they returned. . . . Mr. Thomas and I have enjoyed being officials for several football and basketball games for the white school at Edwards. . . . Our new counseling plan is well under way, with Mrs. Thomas as Director. She has a very effective program worked out wherein each student will have scheduled interviews with nine different counselors in the areas of vocations, social adjustments, and personal religious living. Much of the information obtained by the counselors will become a part of the permanent record of the student. . . . Quite a number of you were back recently and we were happy to see you. A great many of you write letters which were appreciated. Some of you enclosed money to help pay postage, and that also was appreciated. There is not space to give the names of all of you, but I think I shall discontinue that practice anyway since some seemed embarrassed when they could not enclose money and did not write at all. We would rather have your letters.

My chapel talk this morning centered around the story of an old man on a street corner of a small town who was asked by a stranger, "Say, bud, what kind of people live in this place?" In reply the old gentleman asked: "What were the people like where you came from?" "Well, they were a sorry lot; lazy, mean, snobbish, unfriendly, and the kind who

(Continued on page 7)

S. C. I. News

(Continued from page 6)

would take advantage of you whenever they could." To which the old man replied: "Confidentially, that's the kind you will find around here." The first stranger was not out of earshot before a second one said, "Pardon me, friend, would you kindly tell me what kind of people live around here?" In response to the old man's question about the people in the place from which he had come, the man reported: "They are the best people on earth; friendly, neighborly, unselfish, do anything for you. I'm sorry my health requires me to leave them." The old man smiled as he said, "Friend, that is just the kind of folk you will find around here." Whereupon the first stranger came back saying, ":Why, you dirty old liar, you just got through telling me that the people around here are the meanest people anywhere!" "I'm sorry, friend," answered the old man, "but if you will remember correctly I did not tell you that. I told you both the same. I merely said, 'That is the kind of people YOU will find around here,' and I believe I am right in both cases."

I think the old man was right. We usually find what we are looking for in people or in environment. Many times when we are finding fault with others and our circumstances, the blame is not to be found outside ourselves, but within. As Cassius says: "The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars, but in ourselves." To improve others I must first change myself. Maybe after I have changed, I shall discover that the others do not need improving. I closed by reading Moffatt's translation of Matt. 7:1-5. Read it again for yourself.

Romine Street Still Moves On*By MRS. BROOKSIE BROWN, Reporter*

The pastor and wife have returned to us, having been absent for six weeks on account of the pastor's illness. He is recuperating nicely at this writing. The faithful little flock carried on well in his absence.

The annexation to the building is coming on very speedily. When the building is complete, it will be one of the best equipped on the south side of the city.

The pastor is still unable to preach, but his presence in the pulpit means much to the congregation. The vacancy is very well filled by our associate ministers, Elder J. O. Farrar and E. C. Curry. The membership is

still increasing. We are looking forward to a big building and a swelling membership. All other auxiliaries of the church are working and doing fine. May the Lord add His blessing to the flock.

We are planning a great evangelistic meeting for the month of February, with Elder R. L. Peters.

*By ELDER L. H. CRAWFORD, Pastor
To the Readers of The Christian Plea:*

A new day confronts us, are we able to take it?

Having been sick about eight weeks and spent six of them in Kansas City, Kansas, under the treatment of Dr. S. H. Thompson, Mrs. Crawford and I are at home on the job again. We want to thank our many friends that prayed, letters, cards and money that you sent to us, and the pastors of the two cities who played a very fine part in seeing that we did not want for a thing. My church sent me a check every week.

Yes, a new day confronts us, and I am thinking if our local churches realize this one fact, that our ministers are dying out and others are becoming old and looking for retirement. The war is calling our splendid young men to arms. Now the questions that we must face is the new set-up is to take better care of the ministers we have, such as giving them a salary worth while and build a home worth while for him to live in; also see that he takes a rest period sometime during the year and then the officers of the church must take some of the responsibility off the pastor. Let the men wake up and see about the business of the church and the pastor can give his time to study and preach the burning gospel as it is in the Bible. The next thing we must start now and comb our church membership and if we can begin to get young men and women to enter into the Master's vineyard and work while He calls today. We are facing this new set-up unprepared and the only thing to do is to count the cost and prepare to meet it.

I am with the whole Natal program. I believe in the whole gospel, the New Testament Church; the one Lord, one Father, and one baptism. I know and you know we are Christians and Christians only, and in order to do that we must speak as the Bible speaks and keep silent where it is silent. Above everything, let us hold up Jesus and Him crucified. The Romine Christian Church, although they are in a big building program, and the pastor not so well, will be

with that number that will give \$100.00 dollars this year for the National Convention.

Twelfth Street Christian Church, Washington, D. C.

REV. J. F. WHITFIELD, *Pastor*
JOHNNIE HOWARD, *Reporter*

1920 12th St., N.W., Washington, D. C.

On Friday evening, December 10, 1943, the Twelfth Street Christian Church presented Rosa Page Welch in a recital that attracted a large Washington audience of both races. Music critics from leading daily papers were present and gave an appreciable amount of space to write-ups in their publications. The *Washington Post*, considered by most as Washington's leading news journal, and the one that President Roosevelt reads each morning, had the following in its introductory paragraph: "Singing last evening in Lincoln Temple Congregational Church, Rosa Page Welch made an agreeable impression of earnestness and sincerity in the use of a mezzo-soprano voice. There is promise in her simplicity of approach to her art, and in a quality of tone that is now at its best in an open and resonant attack, and in the clarity of the full upper notes." Three paragraphs followed in which various numbers were given special mention.

We were proud of "Our Rosa," and her visit to the Capital has surely put Twelfth Street Christian Church on the map. Many fine remarks were overheard relating to her appearance, voice, and the large audience that was completely won by her. She was presented a spray of thirty-six American Beauty roses by Mrs. Clyde Bell Lomax Coleman from the S. C. I. "folk" who are making Washington their home. Those of us who knew and loved her felt especially enriched when we saw her swamped by autograph seekers. It was good to see how completely she won the audience which was manifest by sympathetic listening and overwhelming applause.

The entire recital was conducted in a manner complimentary to the officials of the church and its membership. Following the recital a reception was held at the hospitable home of Rev. and Mrs. Whitfield. Many friends came in and enjoyed the warmth of Rosa's charm.

The following Sunday morning Rosa sang at National City Church, and at Twelfth Street. "The Holy

(Continued on page 8)

Twelfth Street Christian Church

(Continued from page 7)

City" and "The Crucifixion" were sung as only Rosa can sing them. Hearts were filled to overflowing.

The presentation of Rosa Page Welch was an effort on the part of the Church to raise \$1000, and we are happy to report a receipt of around \$800 to date.

Twelfth Street, under the fine leadership of Rev. Whitfield, has vision and is attempting to pay off its indebtedness and raise a sizable amount on its building fund during these "abnormal" times of "Boom." An elaborate program has been outlined for the new year and with the support of all members we expect to reach the goals set so that in the very near future Washington will have a church edifice of which the entire brotherhood can be proud. The first unit which is serving as the present place of worship gives reason for strong belief in a beautiful and complete building.

Ross St. Christian Church, Montgomery, Ala.REV. G. FRANKLIN, *Pastor*

Dear Christian Friends:

We enjoy so much the fellowship with you all through the CHRISTIAN PLEA. Though we are in different States, we feel so close to you in your Christian work, as we too are trying to carry on the same as you. We send you greetings from the Ross St. Christian Church and the State of Alabama as a whole.

Work is progressing at Ross St. with the young people under the leadership of Miss Sadie M. Williams playing a swell part in its program. The Rose of Sharon Working Club, with Mrs. Ona Evans as president, is to be well commended for the splendid service rendered during the past year. This club has not only a bunch of members who is active in the spiritual life of the church, but has done much in the way of furnishing and beautifying the new sanctuary. We have just received and installed our new pews. Sunday, Feb. 6, the pastor brought a special message, with music by the Senior choir. Sunday afternoon, a dedication program was rendered. Miss Annie E. Williams is doing a

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YOUR "PLEA" WILL NOT BE
DELIVERED UNLESS YOU
PAY BEFORE JUNE.**

splendid job as president of the Missionary Society in trying to get the cooperation of the entire membership in order that we might come up 100 per cent with a report.

An evangelist was put on the field during the State meeting in October to promote a better spirit of cooperation throughout the State and with our National work. We are asking your prayers that we might succeed in this effort. Most of the Christian churches in Alabama are in the rural sections, some report very slow progress, but are being kept alive by a faithful bunch of Christians. Brother Columbus Hinson, young bishop and inspiring minister of Ross St. Church, is doing much to help with this cause. He renders his service at the Mt. Pleasant Church, Matthews, Alabama, every meeting Sunday, and reports a splendid spirit of brotherly love exists there. We are praying much that our State might become a fully cooperative one, such as others, and that we all may be fully united in the spirit of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Very truly yours in Christ,

MISS SADIE M. WILLIAMS,
State Reporter.

18 Lapine St., Montgomery, Ala.

**Corinth Christian Church,
Kilgore, Texas**ELDER E. J. DICKSON, *Pastor*
Kilgore, Texas

The Lord has wonderfully blessed us again with another great day on the second Sunday, Feb. 13th, both spiritually and financially. We are moving on nicely in the spirit of Christ. Sunday school opens about 11:30 by the Superintendent, Bro. Elmo Jacobs. Lessons are good. A splendid review by pastor Dickson. About 12:30 prayer services were conducted by Bro. Hughly Jacobs. Afterward, the sacred hour of prayer.

Music was rendered by the choir. Pastor Dickson brought to us a splendid sermon, which we enjoyed much. Special music given by Miss Bettie Mitchel. We too were grateful to have had with us Rev. and Mrs. Thomas W. Courts, of Jarvis College. He brought to us an untiring lecture. We were also happy to have visiting us Dr. Simon Dixon, of Longview; Mr. and Mrs. Marwel McIntire, of Longview; Bro. Emerson Mitchel, of Pine Tree; Sister Mabel Minor, of Salt Lake City, Utah. Sister Odesia Sanders, "our delegate," attended the board meeting at Tyler. She made a nice report to the church.

May God bless all who do His will. Pray for us that we may be a light—a bright, shining light for God.

ALMETA HENDECKERSON,
Reporter.

Rt. 2, Box 260, Kilgore, Texas.

Loudon Christian ChurchELDER WM. WALKER, *Pastor*

Box 176, Loudon, Ky.

CECILE GERTRUDE SMITH, *Reporter*

Our pastor, who has been very ill, is able to be about his work, for which we are very thankful.

All the auxiliaries of the church are as busy as bees these days, for we realize our church has a very heavy program to carry out this year.

We are planning on sending at least two students to the Youth meet this month.

Three of our boys in Service are on foreign soil.

We have had one addition to our band of Christian workers.

Elder Wm. Walker and Bro. Chas. H. Smith attended the State Board meeting.

Sister Marceline Gibson and Bro. George Taylor were quietly married last month. Brother Walker performed the ceremony.

NOTICE

The Executive Committee and the Program Committee of the National Christian Missionary Convention are asked to meet at the Tennessee A. & I. State College, Nashville, Tennessee, April 20th and 21st, with the National Institute of Negro Disciple Work. Come and enjoy the Institute.

ELDER W. H. (BALTIMORE) TAYLOR
President

The CHRISTIAN PLEA

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NEGRO DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

VOLUME LI

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, FEBRUARY, 1944

NUMBER 5

CLEVELAND, OHIO, CHURCH IN NEW HOME



CEDAR CHRISTIAN CHURCH, CLEVELAND, OHIO

ELDER C. E. CRAGGETT, Pastor

ELIZABETH WELLS, Reporter

East 83rd and Quincy Avenue

This could well start with "once upon a time," but, as a result of constant prayers and cooperation of the congregation, this "myth" became a reality. Several churches were trying to purchase this building, which was the former home of Grace Methodist Church, (white). Through the combined efforts of their district superintendent, Mr. Brown, and the trustee board of the church, we were the "chosen" ones. On March 21, 1943, we entered our present home. Rev. F. Argalander, pastor of Grace Methodist Church, welcomed us to the place that had been their church home for some 40 years. It was a sad occasion for the outgoing group. We sympathized deeply with them, having

gone through the same experience a few years ago.

The ensuing months found us hard at work. Many fine programs were rendered through the efforts of our Senior and Gospel choirs, and the Deaconess Board. The Senior choir traveled from church to church, and from city to city singing. Their songs were highly appreciated, as shown by the large contribution to the building fund. The Deaconess Board, whose chairman is Mrs. Melvira McCall, presented many fine musicales with singers of radio fame. The "Life of Paul," portrayed by Elder F. D. Butchart, minister of Glenville Christian Church (white), was presented to a packed house by the Gospel

choir. This portrayal was really a wonder and held our interest from start to finish.

In the midst of all joys, some sadness must fall. Mrs. Judia Stovall, known to all as "Aunt Judia," was a fine, faithful Christian, and loved by all. She was overjoyed at our new church home. Her joy, however, was short-lived, as she was called to a far more beautiful mansion than any earthly home. Her death in September was a great loss to the church, but our loss was heaven's gain.

The climax of the year was our dedication service in September. This service was conducted by the Disciples Union of this city. Elder F. T. Barnett, pastor of the Christian Church in Youngstown, Ohio, acted as master of ceremonies. Mr. Gaines Cook, secretary of the Ohio Christian Missionary Society, delivered the message. Elder F. D. Butchart, Mr. Hahn, our legal adviser in the purchasing of this property, and Elder Geo. C. Campbell, pastor of Central Christian Church, Cleveland, Ohio, took part in the ceremonies. We paused during the services in a brief moment of silent prayer in tribute of our departed brothers and sisters in Christ, and also for our many boys in the Armed Services of our country. Nineteen boys from the church have been inducted in the United States Army.

Elder Taylor, of Baltimore, Md., president of the National Convention, held a ten-day meeting in October. This meeting was a great success, both spiritually and financially. We were all revived and are going forward under the able leadership of our pastor, Elder Craggett. We have been pleased with about twenty-five additions to the church.

Monies raised during the year was \$3,594.64. At the close of our year, Nov. 30, 1943, our balance was \$248.53.

In our 1944 budget, we pledged a definite amount to the National Convention. The twelve captains for the rally are hard at work toward their goal of \$75 each. This rally will be the last Sunday in March and will mark the close of our Anniversary Week. The goal for that week is \$1,000.

Our Sunday school officers are Mr. Alphonso Gray, superintendent; Mrs. Pearl Craggett, assistant superintendent; Della Mae Talbot, secretary; Mr. Anthony Thomas, treasurer; and Daisy Gaffney, organist. These officers are really doing great work with the Sunday school. Our school rooms are large and spacious, giving each class and department a privacy in teaching which is very essential to a successful Sunday school. Our church is not equipped with a baptismal pool, but will soon be through the efforts of this group. The first Youth Meet of the year will be held at the Lakewood Christian Church (white), Cleveland, Ohio.

Our Christian Endeavor is conducted by Mrs. Ila Clark. Their former leader, Mr. Kenneth Dabney, was inducted into the Navy. He was home on a short furlough, Jan. 23. We were glad to see him once more. Kenneth is greatly missed, as he was a good leader among the young people of the church.

The Missionary Society misses its former president, Mrs. Julia Gamby, who now resides in Boston, Mass. We are carrying on with the new officers: Mrs. Elizabeth Wells, president; Mrs. Wynn, vice-president; Mrs. Elizabeth Coles, secretary; and Mrs. Laura Shumate, treasurer. A Brotherhood dinner and program was held Feb. 23, under the auspices of the Missionary Society. Elder Campbell, pastor of the Central Christian Church, assisted our pastor in this observance. We are looking forward to a great fellowship.

On Jan. 23rd, a large group of white and colored people gathered at the church to hear a wonderful message delivered by the Rev. Mr. Staley, former pastor of Grace Methodist Church, our present church home. Rev. Staley visits churches of both races in the interest of better racial understanding. The music was furnished by the young people of First Methodist Church (white). Many ministers of both races were present. His theme, "Our Father," was one befitting all mankind. As he made clear, that when we fully realize the

importance in saying "Our Father" this will be a better world for all concerned.

National Christian Missionary News

February 22, 1944.

Elder P. A. Gray,
4200 W. Cote Brilliance Ave.
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Brother Gray:

I have your letter addressed to the Ministers and Pastors stating that the Christian Board of Publication has a "Negro staff and supervised department of six."

Before I can rejoice with you over this "History" as you call it, I must ask some questions.

First. Is this a Jim Crow Department? The name you gave makes me think so.

Second. Is it because of the manpower shortage that caused them to hire colored people; since so many white people have gone to better paying jobs?

Third. Since we have been taught to buy our literature and subscribe for their papers, are they doing any more than you or any other business concern would do for its customers?

Fourth. Since the CHRISTIAN PLEA is your paper, owned and operated by you and you served as its second editor; with what I call a good salary then, and you had the opportunity of making it as large as the *Christian Evangelist*, aren't you being used as an Uncle Tom to raise a smoke screen and a shout, so that those who are opposed to open membership and discrimination because of color, cannot be seen or heard.

When these questions are answered I will know whether to shout or not.

Yours friend,

W. H. (BALTIMORE) TAYLOR.

A Message to the Bible Schools

By R. L. JORDAN, *President
National Bible School Convention*

It has been a long time since we have discussed with you the program for the National Convention. Many of you are anxious to know the convention in assembly at Columbus adopted a most worthy plan to develop leadership. It was concerned about a Christian philosophy of life for young people and adults. Its basic argument was the whole era of man's life should be brought under

the influence of Christianity. To do this the following plan was approved:

First: The youth and children's work of the Bible School Dept., Christian Youth Fellowship and the Christian Endeavor Dept. be combined and a pre-convention period beginning the Sunday prior to the convention be instituted.

The first combined session to meet this year at the convention in Lexington, Kentucky.

We are hoping to have delegates from all these departments in attendance.

This pre-convention assembly will give more time, which is sorely needed to train and instruct young people, their leaders and the leaders of children, in methods, materials and program planning which is essential for Christian growth in these troublesome days.

Secondly: That each department of the National Convention contribute toward financing the session and that State Bible School, C. E., C. Y. F. presidents, missionary organizations, youth leaders and leaders and the local churches promote the delegates to said meeting and secure funds necessary for expense.

Third: That each State President keep the national program before his or her State and bring to the National Convention an accurate record of the State, the number of schools, pupils and what is being done to help the schools.

Here to the local church will be strengthened for the training these persons will receive will be put into practice in them. So the convention requests the local church to back it by sending the young people and leaders. The convention will back the local church by strengthening and deepening the delegates' lives, thus enabling them to be more effective teachers and leaders.

Now that we have the program outlined for you, I am sure by this time every Sunday school superintendent or representative has received a letter from our newly-elected corresponding secretary, Miss Jane Williams, 530 E. 4th St., Oklahoma City, Okla. If not, you will shortly.

May 5th a group of young people and adults will meet in Indianapolis, Ind., to plan a wholesome program which will carry over into our pre-convention session. Do you want to come? We would like to have you. If so, write Rev. R. H. Peoples, 2700 N. Capitol Ave., Indianapolis, Ind. He is our host for this assembly.

"They Gathered Around the Table"

By CHAPLAIN LORENZO J. EVANS
Captain 76th AAA.GP.

The blessed sacrament has always been an essential part of the worshipers of the Disciples of Christ. Just before Jesus left this earth He, along with His Disciples, gathered around the table together to break bread. It was on this occasion that the Master said to them: "Take, eat: this is my body." (Matt. 26:26.) "Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the New Testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." (Matt. 26:27-28.)

Each Lord's day as we gather around the table to eat of the loaf and drink of the cup we realize that this is done in memory of our blessed Lord. It is a very thrilling experience to watch you men as I serve here in the South Pacific, gather around the table to break bread together. Strong men, robust men men of different faith, all gather around the table together in one band of fellowship to do this in memory of our blessed Lord.

Upon the first day of the week the disciples of Jesus gathered around the table with the expectation of meeting their Lord; as they gathered around the table in the absence of Jesus in person, they remembered that this was done in memory of Him whose life ended at the cross.

Today as the church faces a world shadowed with war clouds, a world where men are groping in darkness, it is essential that the church of our Master gather around the table. Today we have men who are fighting on all fronts, men who are giving their lives with a hope that one day there will come a just and durable peace. Today as we so frequently hear of men gathering around the table to plan peace, it is essential that the church should meet at the table in memory of our Lord.

Many thinkers are expecting an entirely new world after the war is over. They look for a new political, economic, and social order, with peace, justice, and freedom for all. Great minds are already working on such plans. We as Christians, want to share in the new world order. We believe, that apart from political plans, all men need a complete moral regeneration. Without that, all political plans will come to naught. Pride, greed, hatred, materialism

must be eradicated, or humanity will eventually come to destruction, no matter what kind of government may be set up. We Christians believe that only through Christ is it possible to build a new world, based on personal and social righteousness. Therefore, by precept and example, we must lead the greatest number of people to accept Christ as their Saviour and follow His teachings, that they may be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. Let us gather around the table.

S. C. I. Recognized

By NORMAN WILSON

As a reward for less than one and one-half years of service and constant working towards recognition for Southern Christian Institute, Dean Charles C. Mosley, a highly trained university graduate and a drawing card himself backed up indeed by a wise president with a broad vision in the person of President John Long is very pleased to announce the recognition received from the Southern Association of Colleges and Second Schools. The school has an enrollment of 316 and many were turned away because of housing shortage.

NOTICE

Christian Plea Subscribers

★

THE

ORENE COLE PRIZE

Will be given to the minister who sends in the most subscribers over ten during the month of June.

★

Get Going Now
WRITE PLEA OFFICE

DELINQUENT SUBSCRIBERS
YOUR "PLEA" WILL NOT BE
DELIVERED UNLESS YOU
PAY BEFORE JUNE.

Help Brotherhood Cause

Aged ministers, missionaries and their wives need the continued support of their brotherhood in token of appreciation for the years of service rendered; widows and children of faithful workers need the helping hand of the church; underprivileged groups, because of race or class, find our nation less than democratic and the church less than Christian unless some specific help is given—Negro youth throughout our country, the Mexicans of the Southwest, Japanese-Americans in relocation centers, and other minority peoples living in our towns and cities, working for our country, yet not enjoying its privileges. Neglected communities without adequate leadership need assistance in building a Christian program; weak and struggling churches look to the brotherhood for strength and assistance until they can come to self-support.

All of these services are being carried on by the causes of the brotherhood—to the extent that finances make it possible. No cause has ever been able to care for the whole need as presented by deserving groups and individuals. The barrier to a wider service is lack of resource to support workers, to buy materials, or to provide leaders.

It is for these needs that the causes appeal to the churches on Easter to bring the largest gift possible, and thus to support the largest ministry possible to men and women, youth and children within our own country. Every gift made on this day will mean a step forward—toward a more Christian America.

Memphis Churches Aid Negro Congregation

The Christian churches of Memphis, Tenn., have made it possible for the Mississippi Boulevard Church (Negro) of that city to employ a helper for the pastor, B. T. Hunt, who is principal of the largest Negro high school in the city. They have agreed to pay \$50.00 per month for a year if the Mississippi Boulevard Church will pay \$25.00 per month on the salary of an assistant for the pastor. The proposition has been accepted and the plan went into effect December 1.—*Christian Evangelist*, January 12, 1944.

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.

America Needs Christ

America is now the most powerful nation in the world. Her ability to produce has not been impaired by bombs, hunger or disease. Her strength is the strength of youth. Her weakness is the paganism that is within.

—One half of her population remains unchurched.

—The lash of injustice turns race against race, labor against capital, class against class.

—Her children are writing the blackest pages of crime and delinquency in her history.

—Drunkenness and immorality are tolerated and condoned.

—Her idealism is dimmed by her power, arrogance and greed.

America is the hope of the world, and without her there will be no enduring peace throughout the world, but likewise there will be no enduring peace with her unless she is Christian.

America must be lighted with the glory of the Cross whose penetrating light seeks out each hidden dark corner with its beams of truth, whose light will illumine the way for tomorrow.

There are millions of people in our country unreached by the Christian message—some in every community, however large or small and these are the particular responsibility of the churches and the Christians in that community.

There are other millions of people in our country needing more than the preaching of the Gospel and the warm friendliness of a church group. Their needs are so varied and, if they are know the rich fullness of Christian living, the responsibility of a ministry to them is so great that no one church and no one community can carry it. But as a brotherhood of Christians, with members in every state and province, we are able to minister in a Christlike manner through the national causes to whom we delegate this task.

To the Church and Brethren—Greetings:

By W. H. (Baltimore) TAYLOR

When churches are organized in towns and cities where there is no church of our faith, the National Convention will be there with money to help.

When church buildings are destroyed or damaged by some disaster, the National Convention will be there to render financial aid.

When a struggling church is doing all it can to pay its pastor and keep the church door open, the National Convention will be there to give a helping hand.

When the CHRISTIAN PLEA is enlarged and made a weekly paper, the National Convention will be there to render financial aid.

Let's get ready for this long-range program.

Today the National Convention needs you; tomorrow you may need the National Convention.

Send one dollar per member to the National Treasurer, Dr. J. E. Walker, 234 Hernando St., Memphis, Tenn. Help your pastor and congregation to join the One Hundred Dollar Club. March, April and May are National Convention months. Let's raise ten thousand dollars in the church department this convention year for evangelism. "Therefore, they that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word." (Acts 8:4.)

Church aid: "Come over into Macedonia and help us." (Acts 16:9.)

Minister's aid: "Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judea." (Acts 11:29.)

The CHRISTIAN PLEA: "What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches." (Rev. 1:11.)

Brethren, pray for me.

BIBLE SCHOOL LESSONS
THAT ARE
True to the Bible

BOTH Standard's Closely Graded and International Uniform series of lesson helps are Christ-centered and true to the Bible. They are used in thousands of Christian Church Bible schools where leaders believe in the inspiration of God's Word.

WEEKLY STORY PAPERS

That also promote Daily Bible Reading and Study among your boys and girls.

Free samples and information mailed on request. Send your name, address and name of Bible school to

THE STANDARD PUBLISHING COMPANY
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ACTIVITIES OF THE BROTHERHOOD

Arkansas News

Arkansas Woman's quarterly report from all Societies:

Mt. Sinai N. L. R. raised on state apportionment, \$12.00, and Woman Day program, \$6.10.

Cross Street Women on U. S. Day, \$12.00, for state apportionment, \$12.

Russellville Women raised on state apportionment, \$5.00.

Second Church Women raised on state apportionment, \$1.50.

Oak Grove, Scotts, raised on state apportionment, \$5.00.

The District meeting has made up its mind to work.

S. S. Dept., \$115.00.

Men's Dept., \$32.50.

MRS. S. BOSTICK, *Reporter.*

Look Out for Skalawags In the Ministry

Your State Secretaries do not claim or desire any authority over the churches in any matter whatever. But we do consider it as one of the services we should render to assist churches in securing worthy ministers, and avoiding humiliating experiences with "wolves in sheep's clothing." With all our precautions we sometimes make mistakes. But much more often the churches that allow unknown men to come into their pulpits and "steal the show" are victims of unscrupulous men.

We do not have many examples of this in Oklahoma. But one is too many. A man's moral record is of more importance than his pulpit ability. The men who are unworthy of the high calling of the ministry are usually the ones who shout loudest about "ecclesiastics" and "higher-ups" trying to dictate to the churches. The exceptions are the poorly informed or the misinformed.

Better check up on that independent wandering star before letting him crash into your church. And if he has already crashed, better check up on his record anyway. "A bad apple spoils a barrel full."—*Oklahoma Christian.*

East Sixth Street Christian Church

R. L. SEARCY, *Pastor*

Oklahoma City, Okla.

We, the pastor, and members of the East Sixth Street Christian Church are still trying to keep house for the Lord. By the help of God we were able through and by the assistance of our able financial leaders to go beyond our goal for 1943, with better than \$4,000.00 raised. Additions averaged better than one per Sunday—58.

This year our goal is set for \$6,000. January marked a victory month for us with five additions to the church, and \$531.14 raised. And from all evidence, February will exceed that of January. Sunday our general offering for the church was \$100.98. The Christian Endeavor celebrated Endeavor week and their proceeds were \$127.00.

Our Christian Plea office is being set up and you may expect some subscriptions soon for the Plea. And don't forget that the East Sixth Street Church will join the \$100.00 Club this year. Look for us to meet you at Lexington with a round report.

We do appreciate the firm stand that our President is taking, and the program he is presenting for the National Convention. The time has come that we as Disciples of Christ or as local Christian Churches, must cooperate in helping to do that thing that God expects of us. It can't be done divided—together we stand, divided we fall. Together in Doctrine, together in Faith, together in Practice. Let us for this year try preaching and practicing the same thing. If God be for us, who can be against us?

Too much time has been spent revising plans for the church, and yet men are dying out of Christ. "We know in part, and we prophesy in part, but when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away." I know of nothing so perfect as the gospel of Christ. Use it and live, neglect it, and you will meet with perplexities, problems and eventually death.

Yours for a greater fellowship.

High St. Christian Church

By MARY D. NELSON

316 R. R. St., Mt. Sterling, Ky.

The members of the Missionary Society of the High St. Christian

Church had a shower for the two schools, Jarvis and S. C. I., Nov. 2, 1943, at the church and asked every member to take part in the shower and they did so. We got twenty nice towels and wash cloths and was taken to North Middletown to the District meeting and Little Rock Missionary gave a lovely pair of pillow cases and North Middletown Missionary Society gave a lovely tablecloth and a roster. We, the members of the Missionary Society, hope the two schools will find a place for those little gifts.

Dorgan St. Christian Church, Tyler, Texas

The District Board was held at Dorgan St. Christian Church, Tyler, Texas, Jan. 30, 1944.

Bro. A. A. Henry, president of the District Board No. 3; SeceEla Spencer, secretary.

Saturday night preaching by Rev. O. C. Jacobs. Subject: "Come, See a Man." The spirit ran high all day Sunday. Rev. Gill, pastor of Dorgan St. Christian Church, presented the church with the Jarvis singers. A musical was rendered by the Jarvis singers in the afternoon at 3:30 o'clock, directed by Mrs. Odessa Barker. It was enjoyed by a large audience. Dr. D. T. Cleaver preached a stirring sermon at 3 on "Peace," closing his sermon in 15 minutes. It was very inspiring. Delegations from the various churches were Jarvis College, Dorgan St. Church, Tyler, Boll St., Jacksonville, Corinth, Pine Hill, Anadarico. Amount raised during the Board was \$55.02.

The 11 o'clock sermon was preached by Rev. O. C. Jacobs. Prayer service was led by Bro. R. J. Fuller. Bro. Jacobs left to go back to Camp Livingston, La. He has been in the Armed Forces for over a year.

EVA SANDERS, *Reporter.*

223 N. Main St., Jacksonville, Texas.

Kentucky News

The Broadway Christian Church of Germantown, Ky., continues to hold high the banner of Christ. The past year we have taken unto us Rev. J. J. Washington, an outstanding minister of the gospel, who came to us as a scholar, not a minister.

When on the 2nd day of Jan., 1944 he was ordained into the ministry by Rev. H. Q. Wilson, of Carlisle, assisted by Elder J. A. Johnson and



Choir Pulpit GOWNS

Ushers' Badges, Arm Bands. Fine choir gown, \$3.75. Catalog samples on request. Also church furniture. State needs and name of church.

DeMoulin Bros. & Co., 1131 S. 4th St., Greenville, Illinois.

Elder L. D. Poyntz of Germantown. The ordination took place at the Broadway Christian Church.

Third Christian Church, Louisville, Ky.

REV. F. F. FLOYD, *Pastor*
BUFORD MURRAY, *Reporter*

2621 W. Walnut St., Louisville, Ky.

Progressive actions on the plans for our new annex are being made, of which I hope to give more details in the near future.

Our Sunday school is steadily growing, with adult as well as children attendance and also growing financially.

Our Superintendent, Mr. Bishop McClain, who had charge of the Sunday school programs for the month of January, closed out last Sunday with a delightful program. Mrs. Louise Coleman was the guest speaker. Her subject was "Faith." We were also favored with solos by visitors along with our home talent.

Total amount raised for the month through Mr. McClain's efforts was \$20.83.

During the absence of the Superintendent, Mrs. Cordella French, Assistant Superintendent, had charge last Sunday.

Rev. Floyd gained recognition of the Louisville Council of Churches and was selected and given membership into the Council. He was also chosen to preach over the radio in the near future.

Mr. Buford Murray is raising funds to purchase for the church a new Bible.

Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church, Memphis, Tenn.

With the coming of the New Year, 1943, the Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church started out doing great things in Kingdom Building.

The growth of the Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church has been steady throughout the twenty-two years of its life, under the leadership of its pastor, Elder Blair T. Hunt. There have been a large number of epochal events in this Memphis congregation, but the most promising was the selection of a Social Service Secretary. The official leadership of the church under the chairmanship of Dr. J. E. Walker, for years saw the need of a social secretary. The selection of Mrs. Mildred Riley by the white and colored brethren was a most pleasant one. Her work with the

Youth Group of our congregation has drawn the attention of all local congregations. Though her employment has not exceeded two months, even now we see the fruits of her efforts through increased attendance in all services, which of course means increases in finances and best of all, increases in spirituality. The work of the church is Kingdom Building and this can only be adequately done by going out into the highways and hedges of the community. Out of approximately 200 Negro churches in the city of Memphis, the Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church is the only one fortunate to have such a worker and you may well know that each any every member is grateful. The major portion of the financial obligation of this undertaking is borne by the local white brotherhood.

A rare treat was enjoyed by all when Mrs. Thomas Nelson Coopedge spoke at the church on Sunday night, January 16, 1944, to the Youth Group. Her address was "Christ is the Answer." She held her audience spell-bound, as all seemed to feel the sincerity emanating from her being. Mrs. Coppedge is a nationally known lecturer, a religious, cultural and civic leader of Memphis. She is a member of the Linden Avenue Christian Church of Memphis and Sunday school teacher of a mixed class of college and young business ages. She is past president of Memphis Little Theater, and at present is Vice-Educational Chairman of War Production Board of the Tin Can Salvage Commission of Memphis.

The church sustained a great loss in the passing of Brother J. W. Capshaw on January 14, 1944, at his residence, 621 St. Paul Avenue. He was a staunch member of the church and the congregation sympathizes with the family in their loss but Heaven's gain.

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

Third Christian Church Louisville, Ky.

REV. F. T. FLOYD, *Pastor*
BUFORD MURRAY, *Reporter*

We are glad to have with us on last Sunday night, Feb. 27, Rev. C. L. Parks, of Nashville, who preached a stirring sermon. His text was taken from Job 35:20 and his subject was "Light in the Night."

Miss Elizabeth Green, who headed the delegation of young people to the Youth Council that was held in Lexington, Ky., made their report last

Sunday to the Sunday school, which was very interesting.

Mr. Buford Murray, who has been working to raise funds to purchase a new Bible for the church, reached his goal. The amount raised was \$23.41. He hopes to present it to the church on March 12, in time to be used for morning service.

Mrs. Mattie Williams, who had charge of the Sunday School programs for the month of February, raised for month \$16.40. The subject for the month was "Courage." She secured some very good speakers.

Midway Christian Church North Tazewell, Va.

REV. EUGENE PATTERSON, *Pastor*
EDNA DICKERSON, *Reporter*

The church and all its auxiliaries are moving along fine. They are on the upward go. They are now in a \$1,000 drive. The church has been divided into two clubs. Mrs. Celestine Harmon is captain of No. 1 club and Mrs. Elsie Moore is captain of No. 2. Each club is to raise \$500.

Another fine man, Mr. Barnes Moore, was inducted into the Navy from our ranks a few weeks ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Huff, of our church, are the proud parents of a fine son, Leonard Mills Huff.

In the absence of our pastor, Rev. Eugene Patterson, who has been confined in his room at the parsonage for the past two weeks due to illness from bronchial pneumonia, Rev. J. E. Miller filled his pulpit in his stead and the Junior choir furnished music.

"Our Plea"

By G. M. DICKERSON
North Tazewell, Va.

There are so many people that do not know "Our Plea" and just regard us as another denomination, that I think it would be well if each issue of the CHRISTIAN PLEA carried a brief statement of "Our Plea."

Many members of the Christian Church seem poorly informed as to what our aim is; what we believe and what we stand for.

Our people have so nearly forgotten what we started out to do, that we have almost ceased to preach the blessedness of Christian unity, and the sin of denominational divisions. And we are even *about* to build another denomination.

Remember our Lord's prayer as recorded in John 17:21 is still unanswered, and its answer is necessary that the world might believe, and that we may either help or hinder the answer of that prayer.

If ever we needed a united church it is now. A divided church could not or did not save the world in peacetime. A united church could have and should have led America and the world into paths of peace, and not allowed it to have plunged into this awful war. We talk about building the world after or on a new order.

Had the church followed carefully the "blueprint" of Jesus, we should have or would have a new order, a better world now. But we built without following the "blueprint" of Jesus. What a mess! And no wonder! Look at what we left out or only observed half-heartedly. Look! Brotherhood, Golden Rule, Do justly, Love mercy, Walk humbly, No divisions, One Lord, One faith, One baptism, One body, One hope.

Let us get back to the "blueprint" of Jesus; get on the one foundation. For other foundation can no man lay. Then let us rise up and build.

Antioch Christian Church New Brunswick, N. J.

REV. S. C. TILLMAN, *Pastor*
A. B. WASHINGTON, *Reporter*

We closed the old year with a splendid watch meeting service, which was well attended. Only one resolution made by the entire church and that was that we would cooperate with each department of the church. Our pastor preached two intelligent sermons Sunday. In the morning, "Thorn In the Flesh" and in the evening, "If I Were You, I Would Not Be Moved." So, after hearing such an instructive lesson, we decided to stand together and not be moved. For together we stand, but divided we fall. As in the past eight months, we made great progress in rebuilding our church. We had a mind to work, so God saw our plan and with His help we were able to build an elegant edifice, which we paid for as it was built. This is quite a credit to the vicinity. Since the outside is so beautiful, we are endeavoring to make the interior to look just as nice. We are trusting God that we may do greater work this year. We are indeed sorry to learn that our beloved pastor is confined to his bed with la grippe. Also our senior deacon, Bro. George Edward, is very sick. We pray God for their recovery. We are also asking the prayers of the brotherhood for our success.

DELINQUENT SUBSCRIBERS:

Your "Plea" will not be delivered unless you pay before June.

Report of District Evangelist

MRS. MAUDE F. DAVIS
Granger, Texas

The third quarter of District Board No. 6 convened January 28-30, 1944, in the historic city of San Antonio, which is dear to the hearts of all Texans, and at the sacred church located at 1101 East Crockett Street, which is dear to the hearts of the Brotherhood of Texas.

This church is pastored by Rev. T. S. Lyons, one of our young ministers and is ably assisted by his charming and gracious wife, Mrs. T. S. Lyons, who were host and hostess to the Board. They spared no pains in making it pleasant for the delegates.

The (white) Brotherhood of the many Christian Churches there in San Antonio, attended most all the sessions and were loyal in their support financially and physically by giving food in large quantities. Too much cannot be said of Brother Briscoe and his good wife; also Rev. Lomax of the First Christian Church, in striving to aid in making it pleasant for the delegates.

Our theme was "Christian Stewardship." (I Cor. 4:2.) Friday evening the program was in charge of the local church of which Mrs. Lyons was mistress of ceremonies. She had invited Mrs. Horton, a returned missionary of our faith from Africa, to make an address, which was inspirational and informational.

Among the dignitaries in attendance were our very own Prof. T. W. Pratt, one of our eminent educators of State and National fame, known long for his eloquence of speech, yet humble and serviceable to his church. Prof. Pratt is one professional man, whose pocket book is converted with his heart, and he gives a good account of his stewardship. Through his presence and interest we had contact with many outstanding citizens, who visited our sessions. Through his influence and presence as our guest speaker there were six or seven chapters of the Eastern Star present to hear him, who is the Associate Grand Patron of the Eastern Star of Texas, State President of the Bible School Dept., but to know his true worth as a citizen is to visit the Julia B. Frazier School of Dallas, and observe the beauty of it, which stands as a monument to him as Principal, who supervised the building and landscape and all. His life should be an inspiration to all young men.

Our next dignitary was our very own State President of the State Missionary convention, Prof. I. Q. Hurdle, of Austin, who is the embodiment of humility. He is about the first presiding officer I have seen who never wrinkles his brow when the waves are turbulent in the Convention. Under his leadership the San Antonio Church came into reality. His administration has been one of evangelism, keeping close with his district evangelists, lending aid and help wherever is needed. He gave a commendable account of his stewardship.

Our next dignitary was the State President of the Missionary Society, Mrs. Arah E. Garrett, another character who is principal of the Crispus Attucks High school of Granger, who takes time out to render service for the Lord and give an account of her stewardship. So effective was her missionary address Saturday evening on "Humanity Hungers," Mrs. Briscoe asked her to bring the same message to the First Christian Church Missionary Society.

I am greatly pleased to report Bro. M. T. Johnson as the bulwark Elder of the East Crockett St. Church. He was unstinted in his courtesy and liberality to make the Board meeting all it should be. Bro. Johnson is a graduate of Prairie View State College, a mail clerk, and a substantial citizen of San Antonio.

Wherever we go among the churches we usually find a student or graduate of Jarvis or the S. C. I. At this particular time we found a graduate of the Southern Christian Institute in the person of Bro. Gentry C. Robinson, who is an Elder in the church. He formally pastored Gay St. Christian Church, Nashville, Tenn.

It was my privilege and pleasure to invite a friend of long standing of mine and Prof. Pratt's, Dr. Prince F. Jackson, an eminent minister of the African Methodist Church, who is pastor of St. James A. M. E. and treasurer of Paul Quinn College and a candidate for Bishopric.

Dr. Jackson was a former pastor of my hometown, and I owe much to him in my early ministry for his help and encouragement. He took time out from his many cares and came over and brought his choir and usher board of good looking women all in beautiful uniforms. The choir could not be excelled for their singing. One of the beautiful musical contributions Sunday morning was a trio, Miss Bernice Hurdle, Mrs. Lula V. Allen, and Rothwell Hurdle, the sister, daughter and son respectively of President Hurdle.

Their beautiful renditions of Spirituals added much to the morning service.

Worthy mention may be made of two other ministers of the city, Rev. Cooper, pastor of one of the A. M. E. churches of the city, and Rev. Davis, pastor of the Seventh Day Adventist Church, came to lend their encouragement. They are associate ministers of Pastor Lyons.

We want to express our thanks to the pastor and his dear wife, who is truly a helpmate and who is making a great sacrifice with Bro. Lyons to get the church well established in the city. She does it smilingly and cheerfully.

Bro. Lyons has erected an annex on the rear of the church for living quarters, which is well furnished. He has painted the interior of the church and pews himself and added lovely light fixtures.

As an evangelist, I consider this was one of our best Board meetings, spiritually and financially, having raised \$130.57.

Scholarship Award Given By the Bible School Dep't. Of Kentucky

By EDITH W. BRISTOW

Attention! All who are to be high school graduates this year and expect to study in the Religious Education field as an avenue for your livelihood.

For the first time within the last eight years or more, the Bible School department of Kentucky is offering a scholarship of fifty dollars to the most deserving young man or woman who applies before April 20 to Mrs. Rose Irene Black, Midway, Kentucky. Send to Mrs. Black an application stating the school from which you are to graduate, the pastor's or superintendent's name and address, also your principal's address and name. Tell specifically why you are choosing this field for you life's work and anything else that might give you the award. Do not forget to write to Mrs. Black before April 20. Do not fail! Get that application written now so that you will have plenty of time to re-read it.

All pastors and superintendents should busy themselves and see that young people are aware of this financial aid. If you know of young people who do not take the *Plea*, let them have your copy so that they can get all needed information.

The committee who will judge the merits of all applicants shall be composed of the following ladies:

Mrs. Rose Irene Black, Chairman, Midway, Kentucky.

Mrs. Mary M. Spradling, Miss Nettie Printers, Miss Ellena Jackson.

The reason for getting applications so far ahead is to have them on hand before schools close for the summer. Do not delay! If you are interested see your superintendent or pastor today. Why not write to Mrs. Black or to your district president? Young people, this is a challenge to you.

Plan now young people to enter either Southern Christian Institute or Jarvis Christian College with this scholarship. S. C. I. as you know is in Edwards, Mississippi, and Jarvis is in Hawkins, Texas.

Bible School Reminders

By EDITH BRISTOW
Louisville, Ky.

Dear Kentucky Superintendents and Pastors:

This letter is to remind you of some things that your Bible School should have done by July in order to have a full year's report at our convention. Post this in a conspicuous place and draw a line through each item as your school accomplishes it.

The training development being done—

(1) Do you have regular teacher's meetings where business of the school is done and study of the lesson is had?

Have you had or are you planning to have classes in leadership training?

Are you urging your young people to attend the "youth meet" that is nearest them?

Are you planning now for adults and young people to spend one week at conference?

The financial side of the school—

One-half of your state convention apportionment should have been sent to the treasurer by now. Please do this at once, please!

Did your school send money at Christmas time to the National Benevolence Association? See that this is done as soon as possible, too.

Let's not forget that funds are to be sent to the U. C. M. S. at Easter and for Children's Day? Oh, yes, did you forget that Thanksgiving funds are past due? As you send money to the U. C. M. please state that it is to be applied on the \$500 amount pledged by the state of Kentucky.

Please encourage your young people who are graduating from high school to enter the Religious Education field as a life's work. Tell them of a fifty

dollar scholarship award that is to be made at the convention this year by this department. You will hear more of this later.

It has been some time since I sent your school a letter of this kind. I felt sure that everything was being done as heretofore until one superintendent spoke of the fact that things would slip his mind and of the help that a letter would do. So here it is and I sincerely hope that the waste basket is not its destination. Give your school my best wishes for its splendid work to be accomplished during the remainder of this convention year.

Remind your entire congregation that the first Sunday in April is to be observed as Chenault Day. Each member is asked for fifty cents for this fund. Let's all support this effort.

If you desire further information about anything in this letter write me and I'll gladly send it.

Report from District No. 6

By MRS. MAUDE DAVIS
REV. G. A. TAYLOR, *Appreciation*
(Program Continued)

"Wherefore, by their fruits ye shall know them." (Matt. 7:20.)

So it has been with the Brotherhood of Texas and friends of Elder G. W. Taylor, of Austin, Texas, concerning this veteran of the Cross who has walked in the path of righteousness for seventy odd years.

He writes me that the money is still coming in from our efforts. I give the report here of three worthy churches and three individuals who have sent in their contributions. All six of these, who have remembered Elder Taylor, are to be highly commended, due to the fact I did not have their proper addresses I failed to contact them.

They have read and believed I John 3:17, "And by their fruits ye shall know them."

Anadarcas, Bro. A. R. Loftus—	\$ 10.00
Pine Hill, Eld. J. K. Fuller—	10.00
Wallick Chapel, Dangerfield,	
By Bro. Hurndon—	5.00
Mrs. O. Zoller—	1.00
Mrs. Frankye Hall Brown,	
Taylor, Texas —	1.00
F. C. Seaman, Gus Brown,	
Seattle, Wash. —	1.00

\$ 28.00
112.00

\$140.00

We again thank the Brotherhood and friends who have responded to the Call.

The CHRISTIAN PLEA

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NEGRO DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

VOLUME LI

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, MARCH, 1944

NUMBER 6

CALIFORNIA CHURCH BURNS MORTGAGE



Front—Rev. Baxter Carroll Duke, Minister, burns segment of mortgage.

Left—Mrs. Beatrice Goodwin, representing Deaconess.

Left to right (back row)—D. C. Mitchell, Chairman of the Official Board, Marshal Chatman, Elder Coy Chalman, representing Deacons, J. R. Spencer, Trustee, T. L. Pratt, Chairman of Trustee Board, T. S. Anderson, Chairman of Elders Board, J. E. Rector, President of Usher Board and Treasurer, Dr. A. Thomas King, Chairman of Campaign, Mrs. Harry Wellington, representing Avalon Youth Organization, Harold Ward, President Choir, Mrs. Delores Ennis, Vice-President Brunch Club, Edward Barney, Trustee, Mrs. Dorothy Jackson, Vice-President Usher Board, Dr. Clifford A. Cole, State Secretary, Christian Church of Southern California.

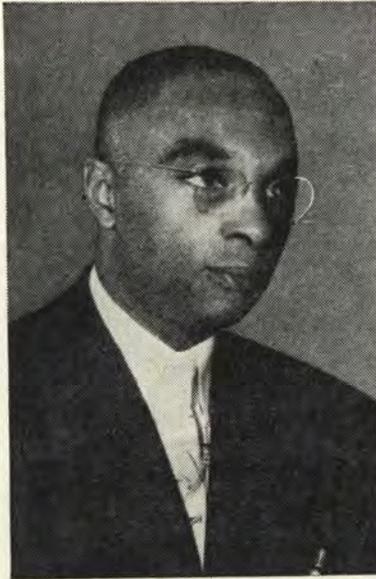
Avalon Christian Church, Los Angeles, California, Burns Mortgage
February 17, 1944

Avalon Christian Church Burns Mortgage

The crowning event of the program held Sunday, February 17, was the burning of the mortgage held against the property of the Avalon Christian Church, located at 43rd Street and Avalon Blvd. Baxter Duke, who founded the church, celebrated along with the church his seventh anniversary as pastor, which began February 27, 1937. From a handful of the faithful, the church has grown to be one of the most influential Christian institutions of the community. Under the guidance of Rev. Baxter Duke and his wife, this institution has developed a community center which direct several programs, among them what is known as the Toy Loan Program, which allows children of every race in the community to enjoy the pleasure of toys that are loaned to them upon application. Another feature is the Gym Program, which fosters a champion basket ball team. The celebration Sunday of the seventh anniversary of the church was begun when two hundred and fifty sat down at a sumptuous dinner prepared by the church officials. It consisted of tenderized ham, broccoli, hot rolls, a vegetable salad, coffee and apple pie for dessert. Mrs. Deloras Ennis, who had charge of the affair, introduced Dr. A. Thomas King as Master of Ceremonies, and with a long list of speakers he was finally able to get them all to the floor and induce each one to shorten his speech to at least three minutes. The most prominent speakers among them were Dr. Clifford A. Cole, Rev. George Tinsley, Dr. Cleveland Kleihauer, Rev. M. Frederick Mitchell, Rev. Ira L. Ketcham, Rev. Walter Bryant, Mr. George F. Elliott, Mrs. Harry Wellington, D. C. Mitchell, Mr. Herod Ward gave the story of Avalon, Its Program and Achievements. Rev. Duke was introduced as the last speaker on the program and gave thanks for the many good returns that had rebounded to the church from its community program. Dr. King, acting as Master of Ceremonies, named the several members of his board that had been consistent in the program of upbuilding the church, therefore encouraging and increasing the support of the membership in general. The members of the several boards and auxiliaries of the church participated in the burning of the mortgage by each taking a strip of the paper, lighting it and throwing it into the crucible, an imposing ceremony. The evening's enter-

tainment closed with the entire audience forming a circle around the wall with a lighted candle provided by the officers and in turn filing out of the door "Carrying of the Light of Jesus to the world."

Mrs. Marjorie Giles, who directs the choir, was responsible for the splendid music with which we were entertained. The Second Baptist Boosters, a splendid group of harmonized voices, gave several numbers at the opening of the program and was so well received that the manager begged the audience to refrain from encoring.



Mr. C. L. Parks Called As National Secretary

Mr. C. L. Parks has been called from the pastorate of the Boll Street Christian Church of Dallas, Texas, to be national secretary of Negro churches in the United States, under the home missions division of the United Christian Missionary Society. He will make his headquarters in Nashville, Tenn.

In this position, Mr. Parks will visit the Negro Christian churches, advising them on their work and helping and encouraging them in every way possible. His experience, both in the pastorate and in other lines of work, have given him a background of knowledge which should be of value to the churches.

Mr. Parks is a graduate of Sardis Normal and Industrial School, Sardis, Mississippi, and of Morehouse College, Atlanta, Georgia. He also studied at Carnegie Technical School, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. After teaching for three years in the Booker T. Washington High School of Atlanta,

and employment in the insurance field, Mr. Parks answered the call to the ministry and was ordained in 1936. He has served the East Annie Street Church at Fort Worth and the East Sixth Street Church of Oklahoma City, as well as the Boll Street Church of Dallas, from which place he is called now. He is succeeding Mr. R. H. Peoples, who resigned some weeks ago to become pastor of the Second Christian Church, Indianapolis, Ind.

Report to the Brotherhood

We have been on the job since January 1st. Our path has taken us to Little Rock, Ark., where we found a good congregation sorely in need of a good pastor; then to New York City to attend the American Home Mission Council meeting and to Brooklyn to witness the dedication of the Stuyvesant Heights Christian Church of which the Rev. R. E. Hancock, Sr., is pastor. While in New York we lived in the home of Rev. and Mrs. Hancock and we have nothing but praise for them and the splendid job they are doing in Brooklyn.

From there we journeyed to Baltimore and spent a very enjoyable night in the home of Rev. W. H. Taylor, President of the National Convention. Rev. and Mrs. Taylor really make a fellow feel at home, and the courtesies extended by them are more than refreshing to any Christian minister. While in Baltimore we also contacted Rev. and Mrs. C. L. Whitfield. They too gave of their best that our stay in the city might always be a pleasant memory. We visited a Girl Scout meeting held in the church under the direction of Mrs. Whitfield and at night had fellowship with Mt. Olive Church members in their mid-week prayer service.

Our next point of contact was Washington, D. C. There we spent the night in the home of Rev. and Mrs. J. F. Whitfield. Rev. J. F. Whitfield is the pastor of our church in the National Capitol. We had a very pleasant evening. Rev. and Mrs. Whitfield are truly pleasant people to meet and no one of brotherly interest can regret spending an evening in their home.

Our next point of contact was Nashville, Tenn., where Prof. Merl R. Epps and wife and their little daughter, Henrietta, did more than their share that we might have courage to brave the snow and ice which blanketed that city during our short stay there. On Sunday we preached at Lee Ave. Christian Church.

It is now the 18th of January, and we were called to Indianapolis for counciling. This trip added to it our share of inspiration as well as sense of responsibility. We sat in on the meeting of the Committee on War Service and attended the meeting of the Trustees. As we sat through these meetings it was a joy to observe that they all were human beings, intensely interested in the uplift of their fellowmen, all men. The clouds of confusion were not permitted to interfere with normal procedure.

Rev. and Mrs. Peoples, in whose home we staid while in Indianapolis, were more than nice; their attitude was grand. If they left anything undone to make our stay a pleasant one we were unable to discover it. On Sunday we worshipped at the Second Christian Church, of which Rev. Peoples is pastor. Rev. E. J. Dickson, Bible Instructor of Jarvis Christian College, was the speaker. Much credit is due Rev. Dickson for his thorough grasp of the needs of a world in trouble and the recommendations set forth in his message were truly the way of Christ.

On the evening of the 26th of January we left Indianapolis for Dallas, Texas, and home. On Sunday, 30th of January, we preached at Boll Street Christian Church and it seemed that we all were happy to be together again. I must always be grateful to these good people for their open-mindedness and willingness to follow leadership.

We visited Paris, Texas, on the 3rd of February, where Rev. H. G. Smith is pastoring and was glad to see him, even though a busy principal of the high school at Roxton, Texas, finding time to serve well two congregations, Paris, Texas, and Center Point, Texas. During the last year Rev. Smith influenced 76 soldiers to take refuge under the banner of Christ. He has a program in his churches which serves the needs of the day in which we live. He learned well the hymn, "To serve the present age, my calling to fulfill O may it all my power engage, to do my Master's will."

February 6th found us in San Antonio, Texas. Rev. T. S. Lyons as pastor of East Crockett Christian Church is doing a fine job. This is not his report but is the report of interested people in the community and of what our own eyes have beheld. Mrs. Lyons has such a helpful attitude toward the work there until nothing short of a miracle can keep them from succeeding.

We returned to Dallas on the 8th and made ready to depart for our new home, Nashville, Tenn. We stopped in Little Rock, Ark., and preached at Cross St. Christian Church on Sunday 13th, and on the 15th landed in Nashville. After being there for four days we left for Covington, Ky., to visit with Rev. L. L. Dickerson, president of Kentucky State Christian Missionary Convention, Secretary of the National Convention of the Disciples of Christ and pastor of our Covington Church. Rev. Dickerson's vision of service is certainly one to be proud of. He is acclaimed, not only by members of our church there as a strong force for good, but also by the worthwhile people of Covington. While there we attended a meeting where he was carrying on as chairman of the Red Cross drive for our people in the Covington community. Rev. and Mrs. Dickerson have become worthwhile fixtures in the Covington community and in their home a man of God will find comfort and contentment.

As we journeyed to Lexington, Ky., we wondered what would we find Rev. and Mrs. Saunders doing. It wasn't a long trip, so we soon had the answer to our query. They had their Fellowship Dinner on the evening of our arrival, and I am sure you are able to see that they could not have been less than busy. My brethren, when the National Convention meets in Lexington you will find a beautifully decorated church with life bulging even from the walk, so to speak. Let every minister in our brotherhood prepare to come to Lexington and our National Convention. Rev. and Mrs. Saunders have wrought miracles there; come and see for yourself.

Sunday morning, Feb. 27th, we preached at Central Christian Church, Louisville, where Rev. Raymond R. Walton, serving as pastor, has completely electrified his people and much good is bound to be done in 1944. The fellowship was warm and a child of God had only to respond to the presence of "His Spirit." Rev. Walton was too grand in entertaining us; he is truly a master at the art. He has many fine members who are responsive to his call and therefore gives him assurance of success.

Sunday night, Rev. F. T. Floyd, veteran of many battles, enthusiastically presented us to the Third Church congregation, of which he is pastor. Again we felt the warmth of friends. The people were there and we delivered our message and from

all outward appearance the message was received. A great church, with a sober leader, is never a terror to good works.

Sermons preached: Boll St., Dallas, additions none, contribution on expense, \$10.00; Cross St., Little Rock, additions three, contribution on expense, \$10.00; Robin St., Covington, additions none, contributions on expense, \$6.00; Central, Louisville, additions none, contribution on expense, \$5.20; Third Church, Louisville, additions none, contributions on expense, \$4.06; E. Crockett, San Antonio, additions one; Stuyvesant Hight, Brooklyn, additions one; Lee Ave, Nashville, additions one.

Districts Three and Six Youth Meet

By NANNIE BUTLER, *Reporter*
322 Marshall St., Paris, Ky.

The Joint Youth Meet of districts three and six convened in Paris, Ky., March 24th to 26th. The general theme of the meeting was, "Lift Christ Nok." Attendance 132, registered young people 52, leaders and adults 30, intermediates 34, children 3, visitors from district two and four, missionary visitor, 1. Cities and towns represented 13 or more, acting Director, Mrs. Edith Bristow of Louisville, Kentucky.

This was the first Joint Youth Meet of Districts 3 and 6 held in Central Kentucky. It was a new experience in this area, therefore, the two districts joined in order to try to create a greater enthusiasm in this worthy project.

The aims of the meeting were: "To seek a realization of Christ in our own life, to find valid ways whereby Christian Youth may lift Christ to meet racial, social and economic injustices in our community and nation. To acquire skills by which the uplifted Christ may be made visible and appealing to all people, to learn to speak fearlessly against the evils of today."

The group was entertained in a most satisfactory way. Among the discussions were the following: "How does my fellowship see people of the world? Finding my Direction, An Adventure in Stewardship, Traveling with Youth, and Children's Story Hour."

The climax of the meeting was the Consecration Service on Saturday night, closing all services and sessions with the Friendship Circle on Paris Western High School campus Sunday afternoon.

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.

1944 International Convention To Be Held in Columbus, Ohio

Arrangements have been completed to hold the next meeting of the International Convention of Disciples of Christ in Memorial Hall, Columbus, Ohio, October 17-22, 1944.

At the Grand Rapids Convention in 1942 it was contemplated that the next International Convention would be held in Cleveland, Ohio, in May 1944, but because of war activities in Cleveland involving hotel rooms, transportation, etc., which do not obtain in Columbus, decision has been reached to hold the 1944 Convention in Columbus, in which decision the Cleveland brethren concur.

Our Columbus ministers, in extending an invitation for the 1944 International Convention, see the importance of an International Convention being held this year and offer the hospitality and facilities of the good city of Columbus for a significant meeting October 17-22.

A Double Task

By DR. HENRY P. VAN DUSEN, Ph.D.
Roosevelt Professor of Systematic Theology

Union Theological Seminary,
New York City

In his striking historical survey, "Many and Society," Professor Sorokin piles up the evidence that, in any time of crisis or catastrophe, both individuals and groups either rise to unprecedented heights of character and heroism or sink to heretofore untouched depths.

Just that is happening all over the world today.

There is no more vivid illustration than in the relations of diverse racial and religious groups. At the very moment when the most barbarous program in history attempts to exterminate an entire people throughout a continent, and its vicious virus threatens to spread in virulent contagion to this hemisphere, the leaders of previously antagonistic religious communions are drawing into closer fellowship for common action than at any date in Western history. This is happening in Holland and Germany and France and other Continental countries where Catholics and Protestants increasingly think and speak and act together, and where a principal united concern is protection of Jewish citizens. The first obligation upon champions of freedom from every faith is to stand shoulder to shoulder to scotch the demons of intolerance,

prejudice and persecution wherever they raise they ugly heads.

But that is not enough. Behind every major type of racial or religious conflict, there is genuine grounds of distrust. These must be faced, and talked and thought through, by those resolved to work together against intolerance. There will be no whole-hearted cooperation between Protestants and Catholics so long as authoritative spokesmen of one church seek to deny to a minority of the other faith in some lands the equalities which they demand for themselves in lands where they themselves are the minority. There will be no secure foundation for inter-faith comity until these profound issues are met and mastered.

Thus a two-fold task is proposed to us—to struggle unitedly against the fanatic expressions of bigotry and to wrestle with each other over the underlying sources of conflict.

To the Churches and Brethren Everywhere—Greetings

It is very easy to give away your liberty, but it is mighty hard to get it back.

The National Convention is your organization; owned and operated by you.

Our fathers organized the National Convention and purchased its charter so that their posterity might worship God according to the dictates of the New Testament. Your National Convention gives you unlimited opportunities and freedom to do Christian service.

You have the sole say as to who is to be your President and other officials.

You also have the sole say as to where and for what purpose your money is to be spent.

With these facts in mind won't you help the National Convention to help you and your congregation.

Send one (\$1.00) dollar per member to Dr. J. E. Walker, 234 Hernando Street, Memphis, Tenn. Help your Pastor and congregation join the One Hundred Dollar Club.

Let's raise Ten Thousand Dollars in the Church Department this convention year.

Your friend,

W. H. (Baltimore) TAYLOR.

March, April and May are National Convention months.

Give with confidence.

Remove not the ancient land mark, which thy fathers have set.—Proverbs 22:28.

ACTIVITIES OF THE BROTHERHOOD

Letter from

Sgt. James L. Killingsworth

Battery "A" 99th AAA Gun Bn.
Camp Stewart, Georgia.
17th March, 1944.

The Editor Christian Plea:

"A Disciple from Foreign Service." Greetings to my fellow disciples around the world. Recently I returned to the U. S. A. after twenty months of foreign duty. I have gone to church several times when duty permitted. I saw one great thing—that was a living church. I'm glad that your work has not been in vain. May their work grow to a well-ripened spiritual age.

May I call your attention to a short message:

"The Two Ways of Life"

For narrow is the gate, and straight is the way, that leadeth unto life, and few are they that find it. (Matt. 7: 12.)

Our lives today are subjected to many rapid changes, not only in an emotional sense, but in a more tangible sense. Today we may find something to make our happiness seem supreme, then before the day is gone we may meet crushing defeat or disappointment. What shall we do when these major crisis face us unaware?

There are two gates opened unto us as we journey through life: The narrow and straight gate that leadeth unto an abundant life; the other which leadeth unto the broad gate unto destruction, and many go therein. But, before we enter either gate, let us consider these two factors—faith and unbelief. Faith is the first and most essential factor in a Christian's life—faith in God—faith in Christ—faith in others—faith in yourself and of all faith in life. Therefore faith is the key which if possessed by a Christian can open that narrow gate that leadeth unto an abundant life. Unbelief is the world's most popular sin. Unbelief is the key which if possessed by any one can open that broad gate that leadeth to destruction. For narrow is the gate, straight is the way that leads unto life and few are they that find it.

May we consider this fact, and question ourselves. How may we follow this narrow and straight path? Why can't we go the open way and accomplish the same purpose? The answer: Jesus followed a straight and narrow path; those who seek to be like Him must do the same. The

wages of sin is death. God's gift is an eternal life. The destiny of our lives depends upon the way we choose. Wisdom is wise judgment. Enter ye in at the narrow gate.

Human nature seeks short cuts. People mar beautiful lawns, shatter homes, wreck powered cars, break their health, and destroy nations in seeking these short cuts. But, worst of all is the loss of the soul through short cuts and sin. So whatever way you choose, watch for signs along the way of life. As a motorist watches at every turn for the road marker, so should we watch for signs of God along the way. The highway of life stretches before us and we must travel it. The trail is not an easy one. This journey each must travel, but you do not have to travel it alone. Invite Jesus as your personal guide. For narrow is the gate and straight is the way that leadeth unto an abundant life.

In Memoriam

E. WINIFRED OWENS

231 W. Broadway, Winchester, Ky.

In memory of our dear mother, Mrs. Nannie Dupree, who departed this life March 23, 1938.

O the joy of precious memories,
O the peace of love divine,
O the comfort that you brought us,
While we held thee, mother mine.

Canst forgive us for our weakness?
Canst believe we loved thee much?
Do'st thou understand our longings
For your cheering healing touch?

We're no longer children, mother,
Babies crying at your knee.
But we still were leaning, dearie,
Still depending much on thee.

In the distance where thou waitest,
In the vast eternity,
Send some word of cheer and comfort,
Help us keep in touch with thee.

Help us keep the faith thou taught us,
Walk the path that thou hast trod.
Bear with patience all our burdens,
Take our all, as thou, to God.

Night for us is fast approaching;
We, too, soon shall fall asleep
In the grave, as thou art sleeping
Knowing God our souls will keep.

True to thee, who toiled and suffered,
That we might in comfort live;
For your gentle spirit, mother,

Thanks and praise to God we give.

Our mother, a member of the Christian church for 74 years; a charter member of the First Colored Christian Church in Louisville, Ky.; a mother of eight Christian children, two sons and one grandson deacons of the church, a son-in-law a Christian minister, all of her family baptized into the church of her faith.

Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church Annual Report

JANUARY 1, 1943, TO DECEMBER 31, 1943

Income (For Current Expenses)	
Balance from 1942	\$ 187.55
January	334.86
February	290.10
March	305.18
April	832.18
May	361.04
June	270.12
July	279.30
August	321.26
September	285.96
October	342.93
November	306.29
December	367.80
	\$4,502.57

Disbursements	
Pastor's Salary	\$ 600.00
Secretary's Salary	60.00
Janitor's Salary and Supplies	180.57
Music	151.00
Unified Promotion, Inc. (Missionary Quota and Gift to Emergency Mission)	150.00
Utilities	151.51
Christian Plea (Subscriptions)	6.00
State and National Convention Fees	10.00
Evangelism	217.54
Church Mortgage	2,376.00
Repairs	67.25
Donation to National Convention	63.00
Negro Chamber of Commerce (Publicity)	25.00
Graduation and Wedding Gifts	23.78
Delegates to State and National Convention (Transportation)	60.00
Miscellaneous	29.97
	\$4,171.62

Balance January 1, 1944 330.95

\$4,502.57

REPORT OF ALL DEPARTMENTS Income	
Church	\$4,502.57
Bible School	367.33
Missionary Society	187.95
Christian Endeavor	49.87
Hi-Tri Group	17.08
Sunshine Fund	134.89
Unified Youth Group	41.70
	\$5,301.39

Disbursements

Church	\$4,171.62
Bible School	293.04
Missionary Society	134.92
Christian Endeavor	26.20
Hi-Tri Group	10.50
Sunshine Fund	116.20
Unified Youth Group	38.43
	\$4,790.91

Net Balance January 1, 1944 510.48

\$5,301.39

MEMBER SHIP INCREASED	
By Baptism	9
From Other Communions	15
From Other Christian Churches	8
TOTAL	32
Loss by Death	0

DR. J. E. WALKER, Chm. Official Board

REV. BLAIR T. HUNT, Pastor

UTILULS R. PHILLIPS, Secretary

The Least We Can Do

By WILLIAM AGAR

Executive Vice-President of Freedom House, Inc.

There can no longer be any doubt that we shall ultimately win a military victory. But that can only be a beginning. Peace can only come as the reward for duties performed; for responsibilities assumed and fulfilled. Our fighters can gain us the opportunity. We must accept unreservedly the tasks that opportunity will impose.

Nothing less will be good enough. Men's souls are tried by conflict as well as their bodies, and become tired. The desire to relax and nostalgia for what was before softens men's wills. Yet we dare not look back. We dare not relax. The old world we knew bred war. And in the face of every urge towards "normalcy" we must assure our fighters a better America—one aware at last of her responsibilities abroad and more true to her principles at home.

Victory for our enemy would doom civilization for generations. It would destroy the last barrier against barbarism and leave the rising flood of savagery to sweep on unchecked until its lusts consumed us all. But what have we to offer to stem the onrush of this evil tide? Victory at arms will only check it momentarily unless we can raise our life high above the level of the thing we fight.

We possess an ideal sufficient to this task. But we must live it. It's no use preaching the right of all men to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness if we permit large numbers to live in insecurity and squalor. If we do not choose to frame economic and social institutions which can overcome this evil that part of our American ideal will wither and die.

The proclamation that all men are created equal means nothing in the face of racial and religious proscriptions. Discrimination because of race or creed or color is a cancer eating away the heart of America. It hurts those subjected to it and it corrupts those responsible for it—the majority. Thus the so-called Jewish problem is really a Christian problem, and the Negro problem becomes a question of how the white majority will behave.

If we fail to solve these things justly a light will go out, a hope which we fostered in the hearts of men will turn to despair.

We fight to replace unrestricted force by justice under law. But, if racialism and prejudice rule our minds; if those to whom economic power grants privilege turn a deaf ear to the

rights and needs of others, there is no mark left which can distinguish victor from vanquished.

Thus our duty at home is clear. Its demands are inexorable. We shall give a new birth to democracy by living what we believe, or our ideal will perish and we shall lose the war even after victory. We owe it to our fighting men that their sacrifice shall bear fruit. It is the least we can do.

NOTICE

Christian Plea Subscribers

★

THE ORENE COLE PRIZE

Will be given to the minister who sends in the most subscribers over ten during the month of June.

★

Get Going Now
WRITE PLEA OFFICE

**DELINQUENT SUBSCRIBERS
YOUR "PLEA" WILL NOT BE
DELIVERED UNLESS YOU
PAY BEFORE JUNE.**

Echoes from Southern Christian Institute

By Mrs. R. M. Fox

The month of February was one bristling with activity for all in the community of Southern Christian Institute. Heart Sister and Big Brother Week (February 7-13); the first annual Institute for Town and Country Ministers (February 14-19); a major planning meeting of the Community Improvement Association (February 21); the gathering of the Eighth Educational District Association of Teachers (February 26); a Patriotic Punctette sponsored by the Sophomore College Class with guest artists from Alcorn (February 27); and two games of basket ball between the varsity of Southern Christian In-

stitute and the Y. M. C. A. of Vicksburg, marked the high points of this period.

During Heart Sister and Big Brother Week emphasis was made on practicing brotherhood principles among those living in our own community. It was the duty of the Heart Sister or Big Brother to do little deeds of kindness for her Heart Sister or his Little Brother; the identity of the Heart Sister of Big Brother is supposed to be kept secret during the week. On the last evening of the week their identities were revealed at a general fellowship and tea.

Despite a week of almost continuous rain, the first Institute for Town and Country Ministers was a success in spirit, interest and attendance. The Institute was held by the school in cooperation with the National Home Missions Council, which represents some 25 different denominations, and the church agencies of Mississippi. President John Long, of S. C. I., Mark Dawber and Ralph A. Felton, of the Home Missions Council, and W. K. Fox, of the Department of Bible and Religious Extension of S. C. I., directed the Institute. Thirty-two ministers attended, representing at least sixty churches and communities, nineteen towns in southern Mississippi and six denominations (i.e., Episcopalian, Presbyterian, Baptist, C. M. E., M. E., and Disciples of Christ). Twenty received certificates of attendance for staying over two-thirds of the week. President Long, James A. Crain of the Disciples of Christ, Department of Social Welfare and Rural Work, Donald Pielstick of the Home Missions Council, and V. A. Edwards, Director of Religious Extension at Fort Valley College, comprised the core of the faculty. Special lecturers from the Agricultural Extension Service Office, Jackson College and Alcorn College, were on the program also.

Over 221 delegates came to the one-day Eighth Educational District Association Meeting of Teachers. The program was characterized by outstanding performances by guest student musical groups (including the Jackson Trio of S. C. I.), stimulating addresses and significant panel discussions on education in Mississippi and its relationship to the current world situation and the possible post-war era.

The Community Improvement Association is gradually gathering momentum in its program under the tactful leadership of Mrs. Charles C. Mosley. At its major planning conference last month it laid the

ground-work for a general community clean-up to be climaxed during the observance of Negro Health Week.

The Sophomore College Class, under the sound supervision of the versatile Mrs. Gertrude Jackson, presented a charming affair in its Patriotic Punchette of the twenty-seventh. The delightful performance of Miss Willie Grays, youthful soprano from Alcorn College, gave the program real aesthetic value.

Coach James Ratten has been spending considerable time trying to sharpen S. C. I.'s sharp-shooters for the coming basketball tournament to be held at Tougaloo College in March. Their two encounters with the Vicksburg "Y" hardwood specialists indicate that they are well on their way. Although they came out on the short end in both attempts, there is every reason to believe that they will be "on" when the big event rolls around. Albert Lee, Oliver (Sharp) Johnson and Henry Gentry are mainstays counted on heavily by Coach Ratten for the coming event.

Dean Charles C. Mosley has been invited to the Alabama Youth Meet of the Disciples of Christ as a resource leader. His prime duty will be to present the outlook of the Negro on the current world picture and stand by and give any needed information during discussion. He will be accompanied by representative students from Southern Christian Institute. The meet is to be held in Birmingham, Ala., March 31st.

Students With Uncle Sam

By JOHN LONG

The concern of the church in the post-war world was evidenced by the Drake Conference with the theme "The Church and the New World Mind." Thomas Brooks and Hazel Stamps accompanied me there to represent our school. Miss Stamps and Mr. Brooks also attended the Christian Youth Fellowship planning conference held in St. Louis a few days prior to the Des Moines Conference. Southern Christian was well represented at Drake. Our alumni who attended were Miss Carnella Jamison, Rev. R. H. Peoples, Rev. R. H. Davis, Rev. S. S. Myers, President P. C. Washington, and Mr. Cleo Blackburn. Mr. Blackburn was one of the principal speakers, having as his topic "The Church and World Peace." There were a number of internationally famous speakers there who more than proved why they are considered great, but I am sure that it is not all

prejudice on my part in believing that Mr. Blackburn's address was the most creative and masterful of them all. Two others of our group attended much of the conference: Nimrod Townsend, who graduates from Drake University this year; and Rev. Jesse Hawkins, who is pastor of our Des Moines Church while attending Drake. To me the most delightful experience of the whole trip was the night when our SCI group was entertained in the Hawkin's home. Mrs. Hawkins is a most charming person, and their little David just about the sweetest baby you ever saw. The ears of you all must have burned for we discussed you and the many rich experiences we have had together at Southern Christian.

Another recent high point was the Institute for Town and Country Ministers held on our campus. Forty ministers from five denominations were present during the week. It was sponsored jointly by the Home Missions Council and our school. In addition to Mr. Fox, Mr. Jacobs and me, the faculty consisted of Mr. Don Pielstick of Chicago, Rev. V. A. Edwards of Fort Valley State College in Georgia, and Dr. James A. Crain of Indianapolis. We were greatly assisted during the week by representatives from Alcorn College, Jackson College, the County and State Departments of Health, Agriculture, and Education, the Boy Scouts, and the 4-H Clubs. The program was concerned not only with helps on Biblical interpretation, sermon preparation, church management, and the like; but sought to enlist the cooperation of every community organization and agency for the improvement and enrichment of the impoverished land and people of our area. From the enthusiasm with which this first Institute was received it seems certain that next year the attendance will be more than doubled.

The really big event on the campus was the meeting last week of the Annual Conference of Teachers of our District. Teachers from six counties attended. There were over 250 registered delegates and a great many more who did not register. You can know that the dining room was really kept busy when they fed all of our regular overflow crowd and then in thirty minutes gave a free dinner to all these visitors. And it was a real dinner, too. We killed the fatted calf for the occasion. The theme of the Conference was "Victory Thru Education." The principal address was by Mr. R. T. Turner, President of our

Hinds County Educational Federal Credit Union. There were three panel discussions relating the theme to the school, to the P. T. A. and home, and to the church and other agencies. Our Rev. Fox represented the church in this latter panel. Judge Luther Man-ship represented the Juvenile Courts of Jackson, and there were representatives of the Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Y. M. C. A., and Community Centers. Parents and former teachers of a number of our students were among the delegates. Dean Mosley and our teachers and students really worked hard to see that the visitors had every comfort and convenience so it was not surprising that they voted that they were better entertained than ever before in the history of the Conference. Mrs. Jackson and our music students certainly added greatly to the program by the special music which they furnished.

Our Senior class made possible a delightful program recently when they presented Miss Willie Grays in a vocal recital. You will remember Miss Grays as one of our recent graduates with a very sweet voice. She is now a Home Economics major at Alcorn College and has continued her vocal training there. We were all greatly pleased at the progress she has made.

Our basket ball team is giving a good account of itself thus far. The season is late and few games are scheduled because of travel conditions

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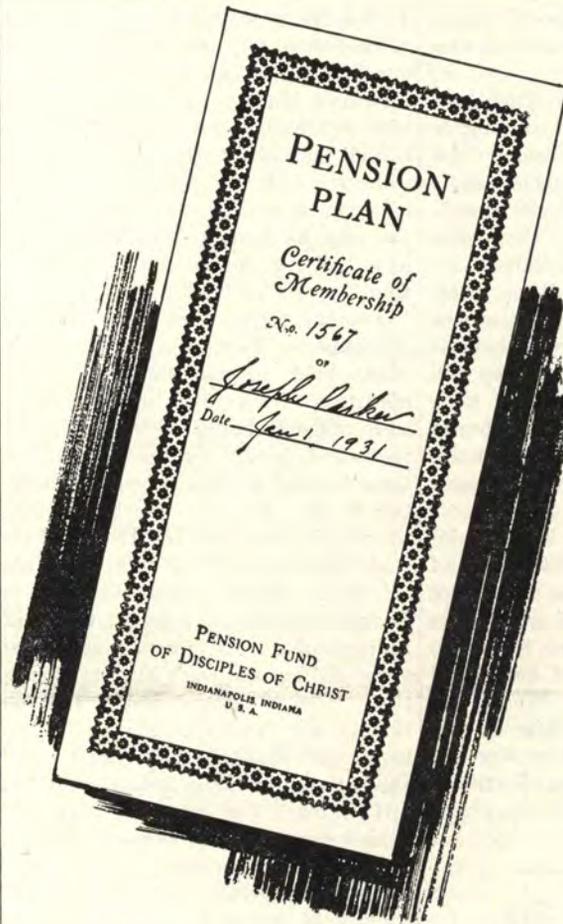
and some of them are postponed because of wet weather on our outdoor court. When Alcorn came it rained, but they carried our team to Vicksburg in their bus so that we could play on the "Y" court. Because of this kindness our fellows were easy on them and only beat them 42-26. A few days later we played them on their campus and the score was 52-41 in our favor. Tougaloo and Utica Institute are the only other schools to play on our campus. We won from Tougaloo 26-21 while the score with Utica was 45-8. Yes, that "8" is correct, and we had the bid end of the score, too. The influence of Coach Ratten is beginning to be felt on our younger fellows.

Mr. Jacobs and Mr. Thomas also gave a good account of themselves and the farm recently in the Eighth Annual Livestock Exposition at Edwards. Against real competition in several classes we won a First, Second, and Third place for sheep; and a Second, Fourth, and Fifth for cattle. Those of you who used to work on the farm would be greatly pleased with the improvement both in quality and in quantity of our livestock.

A number of you have been able to visit us recently and we were happy to see you and to see evidence of your getting along so well. The chevrons and other insignia and the reports of promotions show that you are doing well wherever you are. Sometime ago I talked with a Selective Service official who said that she confessed with shame that she had been rather opposed to Negro education until she had opportunity to deal with so many of our students and your records. The impressions which you made in contrast to those made by the hundreds whom she dealt with who had not had the advantages of Southern Christian, convinced her that our

school was doing more to improve this area than all the other agencies combined. You thus are proving yourselves real missionaries for the cause of better race relations. Keep it up! We are going to need an increasing

number of such missionaries in the days ahead. Wherever you go; whatever you do; always live up to the motto of Southern Christian: "Make the most of your best for the sake of others!"



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The CHRISTIAN PLEA

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NEGRO DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

VOLUME LI

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, APRIL, 1944

NUMBER 7

Convention Dates for Negro Disciples

1. Alabama—G. Frank Lewis, 608 Thurman, Montgomery.
Dates: October.
2. Arkansas—R. F. Hayes, 1111 Jones Street, Little Rock.
Dates: August 2-6 or August 9-13.
3. Kansas—W. S. Simms, 1325 New York, Lawrence.
Dates: June 29-July 2.
4. Kentucky—L. L. Dickerson, 59 Jacob Price Homes, Covington.
Dates: July 18-23—Georgetown, Ky.
5. Mississippi—I. C. Franklin (Member of State Board), Port Gibson or
Dr. J. E. Walker (Treasurer), Universal Life Ins., Memphis, Tenn.
Dates: August 17-20—S. C. I., Edwards, Miss.
6. Missouri—S. S. Myers, 2400 Paseo, Kansas City.
Dates: July 26-30 or August 2-6.
7. Ohio—F. T. Barnett, 9415 Quincy, Cleveland.
Dates: July 26-30.
8. Oklahoma—R. L. Sercy, 1129 N. E. Sixth Street, Oklahoma City.
Dates: August 10-13.
9. Piedmont District—M. L. Lambert, Riedville, North Carolina.
(Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina.)
Dates: August 9-13.
10. South Carolina—R. H. Boyd, P. O. Box 115, Ellenton.
Dates: October.
11. Tennessee—Gay Street Christian Church, Nashville, Tenn.
Dates: July 20-23. Elder.
12. Texas—I. Q. Hurdle, 1416 East 12th Street, Austin.
Dates: August 9-13.
13. National Christian Missionary Convention—W. H. Taylor, President,
1702 Madison Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland.
Date: August 22-27—Lexington, Kentucky.
REV. R. L. SAUNDERS, 224 E 2nd St., Pastor Second Christian Church.
REV. L. L. DICKERSON, Sec'y 59 J. C. Price Home, Covington, Ky.

NEGRO YOUTH CONFERENCES

Write—Carnella L. Jamison, Missions Bldg., Indianapolis 7, Indiana.

Pioneer Camp		
July 9-15	Central, Frankfort, Ky.	June 13-19
Young People's Conferences		
June 18-25	Midwest, Bonner Springs, Kansas	Aug. 7-13
July 9-15	Central, Frankfort, Ky.	
Aug. 13-19	Piedmont, Martinsville, Va.	
Sept. 4-10	Mississippi, S. C. I., Edwards, Miss.	June 25-29



ELDER W. H. TAYLOR

Proclamation!

I, William Henry (Baltimore) Taylor, president of the National Convention of the Christian Church or Disciples of Christ, Inc., call upon every congregation of Christians and individual Christians to observe Lord's Day, May 28th, which is Pentecost; the day on which the Christian Church was established, as a Day of Prayer.

Prayer for those of the International Convention and for those of the United Christian Missionary Society of Disciples of Christ who are responsible for the policy of Jim Crowism and discrimination towards us, simply because God made us colored and we had nothing to say about it.

I, also, urge you to pray for those among us who advocate and practise the evilness of open membership which is contrary to the teaching of the New Testament and has caused divisions among our (white) brethren. Pray that they will "contend for the faith which was once delivered to the saints."

Signed: on this the twenty-third day after Easter and twenty seven days before Pentecost nineteen hundred and forty-four.

William Henry (Baltimore) Taylor, Pres.

**BACK THE ATTACK—Go to the National Convention,
Lexington, Ky., Aug. 22-27—SUPPORT TAYLOR.**

"For Humanity"

I was raised on the farm. How well I remember carrying a basket of 100 ears of corn to feed 16 hogs, making 6 ears plus per hog. But the minute the corn was on the ground, one big "practical," "efficient" shoat grabbed the three biggest ears he could see (all he could hold), and streaked it up the hill like his life were at stake. Silly trick! But worse still, another "enterprising" hog took out after him, turning his back on the abundance on the ground, and all the while squealing (no telling what he was saying) at the top of his voice. And while the quiet, contented, "little pigs" ate about 7 ears each, those who chased all up over the hills. The front one would stop and begin to eat. Then his pursuer would rush him, he would grab up the ears and flee, while the other one cleaned up the shelled corn. Then a repeat performance, until both pigs were tired out, hoarse from squealing at each other, nervous from strain . . . and all for three ears of corn between the two of them. As I watched them I said, "The trouble with you fellows is you act so much like some people."

"Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's . . ." This commandment given 3000 years ago could save the happiness, usefulness and sanity of millions of people who now are nervous, worn out and hungry in body and spirit from chasing each other all over the hilltops of the world, while an abundance of the "gifts" of God lie untouched in the valley of trust and obedience. It isn't money, a big car, or a "mansion on the hill" that you really want. You want happiness, contentment, the ability to live in service, to be free from fear in the daytime, and at night be able to reach up into the dark before going to sleep and say, "Father, today we worked together, we did some real good and helped make this world a better place." — THE BROAD STREET CHRISTIAN, Columbus, Ohio, Floyd Faust, editor.—*The Christian Evangelist*, June 7.

California Church Has Girls' Worker

The Avalon Community Center has been able to get hold of a full-time Girls' Worker in the person of Miss Earlene Wright, of Kansas City, Missouri. Miss Wright will give her attention to the younger boys' and to the girls' work. Already she has be-

Rush Church News to "Plea" Now.

gun to show the results of training in connection with the beginning of her activity at the Center. Chairs and other equipment are being brightened up and provision made for group meetings throughout the week and the general lifting of the character of work among little children and girls. The Boys' Worker, who is a student in U.S.C., gives particular attention to the athletic and group meetings of older boys. The Community Center hopes to have Cleo Blackburn of Flanner House, Indianapolis, give some time in the summer to a survey of enterprises that might be usefully entered into by the Center. George Elliott, the Director, is making vital contacts in the community. We trust our churches will not forget that it is still absolutely necessary for them to undergird the work of the Center by missionary offerings. Miss Daisy June Trout is at present giving part-time to matters of special importance in connection with the work.—*Unified Informer*, May, 1944.

Duke Starts Church Paper

Baxter C. Duke has begun the publishing of a church and neighborhood paper called "Good News." We have received the first two issues and have been impressed with the material contained therein and the general setup of the paper itself. We believe it is a valuable asset to the church life of Avalon.

Cleo Blackburn Speaks

Inter-racial Institute

An Inter-racial Institute for Greater Kansas City was held during mid-April with representation from six racial groups and accent upon the problems of the Negro in the United States. Sessions were held in three churches, in the Grand Avenue Methodist Temple and First Christian Church in Missouri, and in Central Christian Church in Kansas. Cleo W. Blackburn, of Flanner House in Indianapolis, delivered two brilliant addresses. He said, "Whether or not we are to have a third world war is being decided now. In the realm of race relations is where the danger lies. Our world must become a world either of freedom and friendship or of increasing slavery."—*The Christian Evangelist*.

Dean Frederick D. Kershner Answers Correctly

The Christian Evangelist The Optimist's Creed

One of the best illustration of plain ballyhoo which we have observed in many moons came in over the ether a short time ago. The speaker, among other gems of wisdom, threw out the following:

"Promising yourself that you will let nothing disturb your peace of mind."

Imagine Abraham Lincoln saying that or Savonarola or Saul of Tarsus or any of the martyrs! People who do not allow their peace of mind to be disturbed by the sins and sorrows of humanity aren't worth much on this topsy-turvy planet in its present stage of development. Serenity of spirit is desirable, but it is not achieved by disregard for the sufferings and misfortunes of others. The true optimism does not arrive after this fashion. It comes as a result of our doing everything in our power to relieve the misery of humanity rather than by steeling ourselves against the unpleasant facts which surround us.

If "Peace Begins at Home"—Courtesy is the First Step

JOHN LONG

They were all churchmen—two ministers, a teacher, a doctor, and a lawyer. In the panel discussion they were concerned about the improvement of community life. Chiefly, they were concerned with the church and its contribution. They had much to say about the "Christian-Way," about "loving your neighbors," about "respect for every human personality." They said some good things which inspired the large audience to want to act—that is, the white majority of the audience.

The effect on the Negro minority present was different. They heard these professing Christians use such terms as "nigger," "darker," and "pickaninny." One of the preachers tried to compromise by saying "nigger," but that was just as bad. Besides, he as first speaker told a "darker" story; which "reminded" the others in their turn. If the "jokes" had been truly typical and had had some point to them it might have been a little different. But all Negroes are not superstitious, nor afraid, nor do they all use big words without knowing the meaning. And there is just a bare possibility that a few

people of other races possess the same weaknesses. So these Negroes went away from the meeting still more firmly convinced that the most characteristic trait of white people is hypocrisy.

My thesis is that both sides were wrong. These church leaders were not really hypocrites. They just did not know how deeply they were hurting their Negro friends by use of such terms of disrespect. They had not stopped to think that such terms are disrespectful. I honestly believe that the great majority of church people who use such terms and tell such jokes do not do so deliberately to cut to the very soul of other racial and national groups. When they say "nigger," or "darky," or "dago," or "Jap," or "Chink," or "greaser," or the like, they are merely doing what the fictional characters in their so-called jokes are doing—using words of which they do not know the meaning. They merely show their ignorance. But ignorance is never an excuse. Their thoughtless talk still hurts.

To be sure, there are some white people, prejudiced of mind and mean of soul, who say and do things which hurt minority people in order "to keep them in their place"—which always means a place of degrading inferiority socially, economically, and every other way. But surely they are not really within the church. I would rather believe that the great majority of church people who are guilty of such sins against the soul of others do so because they do not know any better.

It is unfortunate that we must use any designating terms at all. Our similarities are far greater than our differences. There really is no difference striking enough to call a "characteristic" of any minority group among us. We are all Americans. Many Negro Americans are from families that have been here much longer than most of ours have. Adventurers with Columbus and De Soto and explorers in their own right, many of them were among the earlier settlers of our country. Theirs was the first blood spilled for American freedom when Crispus Attucks fell on Boston Common. In every possible way they have demonstrated their right to be called Americans. Why then must we always designate them as something other than Americans?

By all means capitalize the word

Negro when it is used. The term should be spelled with a capital letter in the same way as Caucasian and Mongolian. Some publishers of newspapers and magazines and books who would be greatly embarrassed and would fire the proofreader for habitually making other mistakes of spelling will consistently make this gross error. Some of them do it deliberately in order not to appear to place Negroes on an equality with Caucasians. Others do it through ignorance.

These things seem small. Perhaps that is why they are so dangerous and insidious. They certainly offer a point at which we can begin our efforts to promote better relations and understanding among our races and nationalities. We may not think that we are able to do anything about removing the great economic and social and political barriers which are so destructive of personality and blight us all, but certainly you can learn to spell correctly and can learn not to use offensive terms and not to tell derogatory jokes.

In these days when we talk so much about saving our democracy, we should know that we cannot have a first-rate democracy while we treat so many of our people as third-rate citizens.—*Front Rank*, June.

Negro Churches Must Participate

New York, N. Y.—A warning that the churches, through their cooperative agencies, must see to it that they have a voice in community post-war planning committees, was sounded in an editorial appearing in the current issue of the Federal Council Bulletin.

Noting "much disturbing evidence that in many communities the churches are not being included on such committees," the editorial puts the responsibility for seeing that they are not overlooked directly upon the churches themselves. "In many communities," it continued, "it may clearly be their responsibility to take the initiative in forming and guiding an over-all Community Planning Committee.

Pointing out that thousands of servicemen are already being returned to civilian life and that increasing numbers of defense workers are returning to their homes or moving to new communities, the editorial emphasizes the fact that "the time to plan is already upon us."

One of the great social dangers in connection with this growing and urgent sense of need for planning, asserted the editorial, is a "frustrating confusion born of unrelated and uncoordinated planning."

"In a number of our American communities this danger has been recognized and statesmanlike attempts have been made to avoid it by the establishment of overall planning committees or councils.

"In all this process the churches of our communities have a great stake. They, too, as always, are profoundly concerned about what happens to men and women individually and collectively."

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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.

In Good Faith— Lies and Rumors

Plainly speaking, the Second World War was projected by the Nazis on a cleverly conceived and ingeniously constructed web of falsehood and rumor. Now it is well for us to note sharply the lies which were cunningly spread, so that we too—even in the gathering moments of victory—do not allow ourselves to become victims of the deceitful rumor which Fascists both within and without our country have been trying to plant in the minds of the gullible.

One of the biggest lies which was used in a successful attempt to instill fear in the hearts of neighboring countries was the one which established the Germans as a master race. We may laugh today at such claims being even given credence by intelligent men and women. But we do not know today the fear with which this particular lie was received—especially in view of the initial victories which Germany won over her smaller disorganized neighbors at the outset of the war.

In much the same style, the Nazis spread the lie that only the so-called "Aryan" race was the "pure race" and that it must win, because of its selectivity. Of course, we know now as many of us knew before, that the word "Aryan" refers only to a group of languages—and at that they were languages which were spoken by some people who settled long ago in India and Iran. But in the first flush of weakly opposed victories, many were frightened at the thought of the claim to mastery by the Germans on the basis of Aryanism. They did not stop to analyze the fact that this was pure and unadulterated propaganda. And we must not forget either that the claim of a "master race" or references to the "purity" of the Germans as an Aryan race, were also made to bolster the morale—the cruelty—the despicable sadism of the German fighting man.

Another lie which the Nazis spread was that the democracies had become decadent—that they had, through their form of Government and leadership, become soft and unresisting. To prove this fact and to demonstrate their own lust and military might, France was overrun—as was Poland, Czechoslovakia, Belgium, Holland, and other countries then favored with a democratic form of Government. The Germans, in addition, counted on a

quick conquest of Britain and eventually, the United States. Surely the results of the war as of today, prove that the democracies were occupied—not because of their form of Government—but because they had lived in a world in which neighbors were trusted and military gangsterism was considered impossible. Given the time that the Nazis had—to prepare for war in all its phases—the democracies, man for man, have outmatched the Nazis in production, in military techniques and in war time economies. History will note in this country—as in the centuries preceding—that dictatorships cannot stand the gaff of the accumulated discontent of men and women who have learned to live by the principles that all men are created equal, and that each man has the innate right to liberty, equality and fraternity.

Perhaps the most malicious of all lies—by which the Nazis fooled the world—as well as their own people—was the one that any democracy can be broken up from the inside by spreading racial suspicion, incine antagonism and religious strife. In some countries, the execution of this attempt to prove the weakness of the democratic form of living succeeded initially. In most countries, however, these rumors and accusations were recognized for what they were—an attempt at world domination by the technique of "divide and conquer." Some of us may laugh today perhaps, at the thought that any modern country could ever be weakened enough by the mere spreading of rumors to expose itself for easy conquest. But we should cold-bloodedly sit down today and count on our fingers those countries which gave up—not only because of military weakness—but because rumors had weakened faith in the leadership of each. They had succumbed over a period of years to the spreading of this dangerous propaganda which had penetrated from the heads of the army down to the simplest peasant on the farm.

In our country today, this propaganda is still being spread. If we don't recognize it and if we inadvertently pass on unfounded rumors and unpatriotic statements, we are doing nothing more than helping the enemy on one hand, while buying bonds and aiding the Red Cross to help defeat him on the other. Look around you today. Listen attentively to those pseudo-Americans, who spread hate and dissension. Give heed

to what some of these Fascists are saying—what is the real meaning behind the cowardly prejudices you hear expressed? What is the real motive of those who seek to set Protestant against Catholic, Christian against Jew, native-born against naturalized citizen? Let us recognize once and for all that the sinister forces of the Fascist—both foreign and domestic—are behind this far-reaching campaign of hate.

Let us remember that it all began with lies. Help do your part by telling anyone you hear talking viciously about any group of Americans to hold his tongue—to stop doing Hitler's work—and instead, to speak up for unity in our mighty country!

Rev. and Mrs. Zach H. Howard
have the honour of announcing
the marriage of their daughter
Johnnie Alberta

to

Sam Benjamin Calvert
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In Good Faith— Peace Then

By ELEANOR C. C. AGAR,
Editor, Free (House) Digest

It has often been said that peace is not simply an absence of war; that peace implies justice and order. There can be few sensible patriots of the United Nations who are not resolutely committed to our declared policy of unconditional surrender by the Axis. We know that however bitter the price of fighting on to that goal, anything short of it would cancel out all the previous sacrifices in life and wealth and leave the world at least partly enslaved and altogether chaotic.

There is, however, always a lunatic fringe of citizens in any country which can be gathered around an irresponsible slogan. And unfortunately there are always people to invent that slogan and raise the rallying standard. Such a slogan, such a rabble, is at the moment crying for an immediate negotiated peace.

Negotiated? With whom? With Nazi Germany, which has never re-

spected an inconvenient promise? With the German General Staff, which started planning a second bid for world conquest before November, 1918? With the Japanese who were hissing reassurances in Washington while their planes were creeping up on Pearl Harbor? Did Jack the Ripper ever promise to be a good boy?

A casual look at the names of their leaders—or the most articulate among them—tells one a different story. Many of them were active before the war in the America First Committee, which died of a virulent dose of Events. Many others belong to the notorious Mothers of America chain, whose antics under the leadership of Mrs. Elizabeth Dilling did nothing to enhance the prestige of American Womanhood. There are other well-remembered names which for farsightedness and prescience about the war have, on the record, no particular lustre.

It is hard for the sensible patriot to be patient with any of these people. Patience, however, is a requisite virtue in the citizen of any democracy. And so the patriot decides that at worst these people are traitors; at best they are ideologically unemployable.

Ours Is Not a Party Program

A recent writer in a paper founded to promulgate New Testament Christianity scoffs at the idea that in a world where denominationalism exists there can be a body of people who are not sectarian. If the Christ is not the Son of the living God and the church is of human origin and not Christ's, the writer is correct. If the Bible is the divinely revealed Word of God and the Christ of the Scriptures is the Head of the church, then he is wrong. For the church of the Scriptures was divinely commissioned; its faith and practice were given it by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Its test of fellowship was obedient faith in the Christ. Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit it proclaimed the gospel and taught its converts to observe all things that Christ had commanded. During the apostolic age it refused place to sects or denominations. It was not a union of denominations, but an undenominational church.

So today any congregation which follows the Scriptural pattern, which requires obedience to Christ where the Scriptures speak, which permits Chris-

tian liberty where the Scriptures are silent, is building on an undenominational basis. Its members are Christians only. They have accepted the authority of God's Word and there is no element of their teaching or practice which is not sanctioned by the consensus of reverent scholarship through all the Christian centuries. When they believed in Christ and obeyed the gospel they refused to go further and take a divisive name or a divisive position.

Undenominational Christians have a passion for Christian unity. They are not pleading with others "to join our church," but are constantly pleading with all to forsake their hobbies and peculiarities and to return to the New Testament plan for Christian unity and to have unbroken fellowship in that grand church of Christ, which is the common spiritual center of all true believers.

Seeking to be Christians only, to reproduce the doctrine, the ordinances and the life of the apostolic church, and to unite all followers of Christ in His church, universal and local, is not a party program. Christians only are building for Christ and humanity, not for party or self. Christians only can not divide territory and federate and accept a denominational status. They continue steadfastly preaching the Word of life to the lost and testifying, both by precept and example, against the sectarian disposition and denominational interests which have so long and so fatally divided the Lord's body—the church—and hampered the workings of His commission for the conversion of the world.—*Standard*.

Corinth Christian Church, Kilgore, Texas

REV. E. J. DICKSON, *Pastor*

May 14th, 1944, was another high day, which was Mother's Day. The church is still pressing forward and doing good for the Master. On the second Sunday Rev. Dickson brought to us a splendid message for all mothers. In the afternoon we had a nice program. A number of visitors from different places, due to service induction, and war essential work. Our church still has an upward look, and outstretched arms toward her Heavenly Father. May we have your prayer that we may continue in the name of the Lord.

MRS. ALMETA HENDERSON, *Reporter*
Rt. 2, Box 260, Kilgore, Texas



DORIA J. FLETCHER

Mrs. White Chosen "Tennessee Mother"

The "mother of Tennessee for 1944" is Mrs. Walter M. White, of Nashville, Tenn.

Mrs. White, 69 years of age, mother of five daughters and wife of Walter M. White, well-known Disciple minister, will receive the motherhood medal award and citation from the American Mothers' Committee of the Golden Rule Foundation. The nomination and selection was announced April 24 by the Mothers' Committee of Tennessee, a branch of the national committee. She was cited by the group "for more than 50 years of participating in full measure in all the church and community activities where her husband ministered."

Mrs. White is a member of the board of managers of the United Christian Missionary Society, a charter member of the Woodmont Church, and a member of the executive committee of the United Council of Church Women. She was an organizer of the National Council of Ministers' Wives, Disciples of Christ.

For five years she was president of the Y.W.C.A., in Memphis, Tenn., where her husband was pastor of the Linden Avenue Church for 21 years. In 1929 Mr. and Mrs. White were fraternal delegates representing the Disciples of Christ churches in America to Great Britain, and in 1935 they were delegates to the world convention of Disciples of Christ which met in Great Britain.

On Sept. 6, 1943, Mr. and Mrs. White celebrated their golden wedding anniversary.—*Christian Evangelist.*

Cross Street Christian Church Presents Dora Lee Parker and Doris J. Fletcher in Recital

Dora Lee Parker
Doris J. Fletcher

The Young People's Group of the Cross Street Christian Church presented in recital, Miss Doris J. Fletcher and Mrs. Dana Lee Parker, on Friday night, April 7th, 1944, at 8:15 o'clock; Elder L. B. Facen, pastor, Mrs. J. O. Bowles, chairman; Miss Emma Jean Bridges, president; Mesdames I. W. Dean and Orene Cole, sponsors.

The purpose of this program was to raise funds to assist eleven young people who gave their names as wanting to go and willing to work to help raise their expense to the Young People's meeting that was to be held in Memphis, Tenn. There were 600 tickets made with admission of 25 cents, for this program. There were two hundred fifty (250) advertising programs made. We collected for our ads, \$16.00. We collected from our tickets, \$120.00. Therefore, we feel that our efforts were very successful and we hope that each one of the eleven young people will be successful in attending a young people's conference convention, or some form of religious meeting that will prove beneficial to them.

The young people who worked to go were as follows: Mary E. Acklin, Ollie Margrette Bowles, Burnice Brown, Robert Brown, Emma Jean Bridges, Davis J. Fletcher, Floyd Dean, Harold Matthis, Doris Jean Lowe, Charles Smith, Ellora Thompson and Valdana Thompson.

Doris J. Fletcher and Mrs. I. W. Dean left Tuesday night, May 2, 1944, to attend the National Youth Group meeting that is being held in Indianapolis, from May 4, through 7.



DORA LEE PARKER
Adventures in Racial
Appreciation

Rosa Page Welch Tours the Southwest

ARTHUR G. BELL,
Minister, First Church,
Carlsbad, N. M.

Five churches and communities in New Mexico and Southwest Texas have been signally blessed in a recent tour by Rosa Page Welch. They included the church at Santa Fe, the Montevista Church, Albuquerque, First Church, El Paso, Carlsbad and Roswell. In three out of the five communities, she was entertained in the parsonage and in one such home, the minister and wife laid a mattress on the floor and slept there, insisting that their distinguished Negro guest occupy their comfortable bed. The guest in turn was unable to sleep for hours for thanking God for the Christian spirit which prompted such unselfish and undiscriminating sacrifice.

With the exception of the concert at Carlsbad, the concerts were held in the church buildings, in most cases taxing the capacity. First Church, El Paso, refusing to tolerate racial segregation, found all seats taken and people standing, gladly standing, in the aisles to hear the wonderful message in song. At Carlsbad the beautiful and commodious high school auditorium had been secured and between four and five hundred of the citizenry were greatly inspired and uplifted by this great singer.

As Mrs. Welch was scheduled for the Carlsbad concert on Friday, she



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remained there over the week-end, visiting the famous Carlsbad Caverns (a veritable underground cathedral) on Saturday. On the Lord's Day she sang at the church during the morning worship hour. The minister insists that the Lord took his voice away that day (a thing that had not happened at any other time during his ministry there) in order to force him to invite Mrs. Welch to conduct a forum on racial understanding at the evening service. This she did most graciously and gracefully. At the close of the service, the congregation thronged her much as we remember Dr. Dye's audience coming about him after his addresses. We did not hear a word of criticism from the congregation. The people feel that her presence, her concert and messages to us have been one of the high spots of our year. The minister feels that the cause of racial understanding and appreciation has been set ahead for at least a decade. Sunday afternoon, Mrs. Welch addressed the United Christian Youth Movement, with several churches represented, and received the same enthusiastic appreciation.

We believe that many more such itineraries might be arranged throughout the brotherhood to tremendous advantage. We are now hoping that another one can be arranged for this territory next year with more time in each city, that an opportunity may be given for a great city-wide forum on the racial appreciation theme. Carlsbad feels that she had a double advantage that others ought to be given also. The ministers there preached on the racial theme in Mrs. Welch's presence. One of the elders of the church, a leading doctor of the community, and his wife were present. The wife was present for the afternoon session with the youth. She went enthusiastically reporting to the doctor what had been said. In rebuttal, being born deep down in Texas, he said, "Oh, you're as bad as the preacher." But he attended the forum at the church in the evening and his wife reported that he went home "raving" as badly as she had. He said, "Mrs. Welch could get by with murder."

The closing concert of the tour was held at the Roswell Church, where a large enthusiastic audience is reported to have received her. Mrs. Welch has been very happy over the experience, greatly appreciating the sunshine of the Southwest both o'er

the landscape and in the hearts of the folk she learned to know and love.—*Christian Evangelist.*

Elder T. R. Everett Writes From Kentucky

Dear Editor of the Plea, it has been some time since we have attempted to write you about our work here. We are getting on fairly well, I suppose, when we take into account how things are going in this old world—most all of our men have gone from us. Those who the army did not get have left us, and gone where they could get better wages; hence we have but a very few people to work with. We are raising money to meet our obligations, but money is not all of it, nor half in a church of Christ. We need a new baptism of the Holy Spirit in all our churches. Most people seem to think if we give money that is all that is necessary; But God does not need our money. He wants the whole being. Service is required of every member of Christ's body. We all know how essential it is to have all of the faculties of the body to function in our physical well being. Then how can we think of the church getting on with half heartedness?

We cannot get a prayer meeting to go any more in this section of the country, and no night services at all; but we know that one above who rules the universe will do right.

Schools are out in these parts and many of our young have received their certificates of graduation from their local schools. The leader of our youth group here, Mrs. Roserine Johnson Black, teacher in our school here, has just received her master degree from Atlanta University (Ga.).

2:30 a.m. I am in the Christian Church because I believe it is the church that Christ said He was going to build. Then if He built it, it must have started on Pentecost when Peter preached that first Gospel sermon—and all who are familiar with the New Testament history know the results.

Bro. Tibbs Maxey, a white brother who is rich in faith, and the love of God is now touring the country contacting our Colored brethren to see who, and how many are interested in restoring primitive Christianity to its original place in this old earth of ours. He is indorsed by the restoration group, who feels that we should have a training camp where we can train leaders for our group, and our

churches. A camp that is unfettered or hampered by any agencies or ecclesiastic incumbrances. I am for him, and all who believe as he does one hundred per cent. Do not be afraid to hear him nor to lay your heart near to him upon this vital issue. He is a whole-hearted Christian gentleman that is not fettered with racial bearers. I have been in his home, and been accorded the same abundant fellowship that I received in any other brother's home. He is not rich in this world's goods, but rich in faith, and the love of God, and believes as the Apostle Paul did that he can do all things in Christ, who strengthens him.

Now we colored brethren must wake up. There is no need of sucking the breast of a dead mother. We are supposed to have two schools that are preparing, and have been preparing leaders for us over a period of years, and what are the results. We have not started any new work to amount to anything for a number of years, and that we have already started almost in nearly every case where I see has the signs of decay. You cannot build on a sandy foundation. Christ said, upon this rock I am going to build—and the gates of Hell cannot prevail against it. Truth is dynamic when men are trained to preach the book and not some man made theory. The church will grow. The early reformers stood in the pools, and baptismal streams, and turned whole congregations into the proper trend of thinking. These men knew something, believed something, and were not ashamed or afraid to preach what they believed. They did not compromise because they were led by the Spirit of Christ. Friendship was one thing, and Christ was another. For them to live was Christ, but to die was gain. They fought on, some of them were put in prison, some were beheaded, but they fought on. So I say to my brethren, let us fight on. For me and my house I am going to fight on. Fight on my soul till death shall bring thee to thy God and He takes you at your parting breath to His divine abode.

T. R. EVERETT

"The Christian Plea"

The veteran colored educator and minister, T. R. Everett, of Midway, Ky., has recently made the suggestion that it would be of mutual aid if white preachers would subscribe for the CHRISTIAN PLEA, the monthly voice of the colored brethren.

The new readers would learn of the work and problems of the colored churches while their subscriptions would help make it possible for the paper to be continued.

Merl R. Eppse, 449 Fourth Avenue, N., Nashville, Tenn., is the editor, and the subscription price is only 50 cents.

Our colored brethren have learned by bitter experience that their white brethren have little sustained interest in their efforts to build churches after the New Testament order in America. In fact, the average person among us knows much more about the work on the Congo than about the work self-led by the colored people of his own state.—*Christian Standard*, April 22.

Editor's Note: The above article brought many subscribers and well wishes of the Negro Brotherhood from all over America. We are indeed grateful for this support.

No Color Line

Clyde, N. C.—The Haywood County Ministerial Association has invited Negro ministers of the county who are regularly ordained pastors to become members of the association, and has announced that from now on the organization will be interracial as well as interdenominational. The association meets monthly and the Negro pastors met with white ministers as members of the association for the first time at a luncheon just held. In its resolution extending an invitation to Negro pastors to become members, the association expressed a hope that the white and Negro ministers might find mutual benefit from the plan and might work better together in behalf of the Christian ministry.—*Christian Evangelist*, April 26.

Cedar Christian Church, East 83rd and Quincy Ave., Cleveland, Ohio

ELDER C. E. CRAGGETT, *Pastor*
ELIZABETH WELLS, *Reporter*

The fifth anniversary of the ministry of our pastor, Elder C. E. Craggett and his wife was the highlight of the church during the last three months. We had a week (April 10-16) of fine preaching by outstanding ministers of our city. Our senior, gospel and junior choirs furnished the music for the occasion. Elder Geo. C. Campbell, pastor of Central Christian Church of this city, opened the meeting as speaker for church night, Monday, April 10th. Sunday morning,

April 16, Elder E. W. Wilbert, minister of Norwood Christian Church, Dayton, Ohio, delivered the message to a packed house. Elder E. T. Barnett, president of the Ohio Christian Church, Youngstown, Ohio, closed the services with our young people in charge. The junior choir, directed by Mr. Eugene Burrus, made their first appearance and was enjoyed by all.

Elder Craggett made a fine talk as to his ministry and fellowship here with the church. He has made wonderful progress, starting his ministry here during the depression with no church home in view, and a small membership many of whom were without jobs. Due to his fine spiritual life, prayers, and his strong, true faith in Jesus Christ, he won many new members and brought some of the old ones back to the fold. His main purpose was to put us in a Church home, which was accomplished in March, 1943. Mrs. Craggett was presented with a beautiful corsage of American Beauty Roses by the Missionary Society.

Our Brotherhood Dinner, sponsored by the Missionary Society was a great success. We had a fine fellowship with Central Christian Church. Their pastor, Elder Campbell was our guest speaker.

The Youth meeting was held at Lakewood Christian Church (white) of this city. Six of our girls attended; the Misses Ola Mae Martin, Della Mae Talbot, Elizabeth Crawford, Florence Cooley, and Helen and Ruth Howard. Miss Daisy Gaffney, who last year was District County Rep. was elected vice-president, and Helen Howard, Dist. County Rep. We are very proud of our young people, who are really taking an active part in the church.

Third Christian Church, Louisville, Ky.

REV. F. T. FLOYD, *Pastor*
BUFORD MURRAY, *Reporter*

Our Sunday School is still growing in attendance, both with adults and children, the programs for the month of April was sponsored by Mrs. Julia Ramsey. She secured the services of Mrs. Elizabeth Green, Mr. George French, Mrs. Mattie Williams, and Mr. Allie Hodges. The theme for the month was Fellowship.

Mrs. Ramsey's financial report for the month, \$22.40.

Mr. George French will have charge

of the programs for the month of May. The theme for the month will be "Love".

The Holy week services began on Monday night April 3, with Dr. J. W. Haywood, president of Morristown College, as the principal speaker. His services were secured by the Ministerial Alliance. His subject was the Crucifixion which started on Monday night and was continued each night at a different church. Each night he held everyone in high spirits with the way he preached, and he outlined his sermon so beautifully that it seemed as though he was painting a picture. Every one was so well pleased that the program committee engaged his services for 1945.

We were glad to have with us on Sunday morning, April 30, the Rev. Dr. B. N. Henningham, presiding elder of the A. M. E. Church, he made some encouraging remarks.

The G. A. R. of which Miss Ella Mae Alcorn is departmental president of Kentucky held their annual session at our church, beginning on the week of April 24, they had a program on Tuesday night which was enjoyed by all.

Miss Ella Mae Alcorn secured for the Court of Calanthe the services of the Wing of Harmony Quartet of Bowman Field Air Base. They rendered a wonderful program last Sunday afternoon, April 30.

Corinth Christian Church Kilgore, Texas

REV. E. J. DICKSON, *Pastor*
MRS. ALMETA HENDERSON, *Reporter*
Rt. 2, Box 260, Kilgore, Texas

Corinth Christians are still in the hands of the Lord, praying as we journey on for a greater success. On the second Sunday, April 9th, was another wonderful day. It was Easter Sunday. We had splendid services all day and a fine pre-Easter week of services. Rev. Cokes and wife of Jarvis College, and Rev. Brown, of Salt Lake City, were visiting us during the week. We were very much entertained by them, bringing us some untiring messages. On Sunday and Sunday night Rev. Dickson also made our hearts burn within.

Mrs. Dickson, our pianist, along with our choir, made wonderful music of Gospel songs for the occasion.

We were happy to have visiting us Rev. and Mrs. C. H. Wiggams from Jarvis College, with many others.

The CHRISTIAN PLEA

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NEGRO DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

VOLUME LI

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, MAY, 1944

NUMBER 8

Convention Dates for Negro Disciples

1. Alabama—G. Frank Lewis, 608 Thurman, Montgomery.
Dates: October.
2. Arkansas—R. F. Hayes, 1111 Jones Street, Little Rock.
Dates: August 2-6 or August 9-13.
3. Kansas—W. S. Simms, 1325 New York, Lawrence.
Dates: June 29-July 2.
4. Kentucky—L. L. Dickerson, 59 Jacob Price Homes, Covington.
Dates: July 18-23—Georgetown, Ky.
5. Mississippi—I. C. Franklin (Member of State Board), Port Gibson or
Dr. J. E. Walker (Treasurer), Universal Life Ins., Memphis, Tenn.
Dates: August 17-20—S. C. I., Edwards, Miss.
6. Missouri—S. S. Myers, 2400 Paseo, Kansas City.
Dates: July 26-30 or August 2-6.
7. Ohio—F. T. Barnett, 9415 Quincy, Cleveland.
Dates: July 26-30.
8. Oklahoma—R. L. Sercy, 1129 N. E. Sixth Street, Oklahoma City.
Dates: August 10-13.
9. Piedmont District—M. L. Lambert, Riedville, North Carolina.
(Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina.)
Dates: August 9-13.
10. South Carolina—R. H. Boyd, P. O. Box 115, Ellenton.
Dates: October.
11. Tennessee—Gay Street Christian Church, Nashville, Tenn.
Dates: July 20-23. Elder.
12. Texas—I. Q. Hurdle, 1416 East 12th Street, Austin.
Dates: August 9-13.
13. National Christian Missionary Convention—W. H. Taylor, President,
1702 Madison Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland.
Date: August 22-27—Lexington, Kentucky.
REV. R. L. SAUNDERS, 224 E 2nd St., Pastor Second Christian Church.
REV. L. L. DICKERSON, Sec'y 59 J. C. Price Home, Covington, Ky.

NEGRO YOUTH CONFERENCES

Write—Carnella L. Jamison, Missions Bldg., Indianapolis 7, Indiana.

Pioneer Camp		
July 9-15	Central, Frankfort, Ky.	June 13-19
Young People's Conferences		
June 18-25	Midwest, Bonner Springs, Kansas	Aug. 7-13
July 9-15	Central, Frankfort, Ky.	
Aug. 13-19	Piedmont, Martinsville, Va.	
Sept. 4-10	Mississippi, S. C. I., Edwards, Miss.	June 25-29

Mother and the New Era

MRS. LAVINIA S. DUMAS, *Dietician,*
Tennessee State College,
Nashville, Tenn.

The whole world now, as never before in its history, is thinking of the future, of what we call "the post-war period." Many foundations are suggested by brilliant men as such as should be considered capable of assuring us a more permanent, stable, successful world civilization than we have ever known before. Some say that the hope of the future is in literacy, education; others claim it is a world-compact, a league of nations; still others suggest that the hope of the future is in what is called eugenics—the breeding of a higher type of man than has hitherto predominated on earth.

Be the hope of this world's redemption as it may, the fact is very evident that our world is in the greatest dilemma of all ages. The greatest disaster of history has been brought about by a nation that considers itself the most enlightened and educated of all nations, soon after a war that should have been a great lesson, but was not. And all of the conjectures for our future are built upon the assumption of the supremacy of our American Nation. Our principles, we feel, are infallible. Whatever our plans may be after this victory, which we feel is inevitable, these plans must be built upon our foundation already laid. And there arises a question: May not our house be building upon the sand? Shall not the rains descend, and the floods come, and beat upon that house, and great be the fall of it? I would not be unpatriotic as to even hint of anything but the stability and the progress of our "land of the free and home of the brave." I only wonder what will become of our once lofty ideals and standards that are rapidly becoming obsolete, and without a

**BACK THE ATTACK—Go to the National Convention,
Lexington, Ky., Aug. 22-27—SUPPORT TAYLOR.**

trace of such standards a few years hence, what kind of a nation shall we be?

It is but natural for a country that has rapidly developed within a few centuries from the old stage coach days and the covered wagon, to the crude railway train and rapid improvements of that mode of travel; the first horseless carriage culminating in the automobiles that break the record in new models; and now the most wonderful airplanes that promise in a few years to be a common mode of travel—it is but natural that with minds transforming as modes of travel have transformed, generations have passed from the sober, puritanical age swiftly like a whirlwind through a cycle of changes of habits and customs until, having tested out every conceivable idea, exhausted, we wonder what next, and are ready to try out any idea that presents itself, provided that idea is new. Yes, we want something new, something modern.

Now, through all of these changing decades our leading forces have changed too, in some ways for better, some for worse. Probably if the greatest and most effective factor influencing society has not transformed, too, almost beyond recognition, the world might still have some of its more hopeful outlooks. This great influence of which I speak, is our American home.

Oh we still sing "Be it ever so humble there's no place like home," and each year since 1914 we have made more and more ado over the Second Sunday in May when we pay homage to Mother, when we praise her unselfish love, devotion, and sacrifices—and truly there is no more beautiful custom, for to her is a debt which can never be fully discharged. Yet let us pause a while in our eulogies, and, departing from the custom of listing what the child owes Mother, ponder what Mother owes the child.

The greatest heritage for any baby is to be well-born. The eugenic background is formed for the child years before his life begins. What the child may become depends very largely upon what his mother and father were before him. The union of two whose blood runs pure and whose habits of life are wholesome go a long way toward giving the offspring a good beginning.

One of the things for which we are fighting in this horrible war is the preservation of our homes and

the right to develop our families in our own way. Yet is our very effort to preserve the family, in many instances our purpose is suffering defeat. Mother is so busy helping to earn the living, as well as aiding in the war effort that she has little time for solving the home problems. Then as she has so little time for such things, often her interest wanes. The swift society of the day takes her attention. She whirls through the week working by day and living a high life at night so that Sunday finds her so broken down that she feels quite justified in using that day as a day of rest and recreation; no time for church. An hour or two spent in church services with daughter or son would fix that habit upon him or her as well as giving some wholesome food for thought.

A mother's great debt toward the child is the formation of good habits and attitudes toward life. The formation of such habits and attitudes begins years before that child's birth, in the life of the Mother. Now, why should college students be addressed concerning a Mother's debt toward a child? For the simple reason that in one's colleges should be found noble womanhood, and womanhood means Motherhood. You young women are the Mothers of the next generation. Are you to be the hard, dissipated kind whose race is run before she has reached the prime of life, whose memory is filled with rings of cigarette smoke and odors of liquor, whose path has taken the low forms of roadhouses with a trail of men in debauchery and sin, upon whose record her own daughter hangs her head in shame; or, are you to be the Mother whose life has meant a bright beacon light, an example of honor, decency, self-control in whatever group she may be thrown, whose record is clear and above reproach, who has lived and loved the highest ideals, whose daughter can say, "I am proud of my mother"? Which do you choose?

"Make pure thy heart, Oh Mother—
saint, that pure thy son's may be;
Make strong thy soul, with courage
strong, that he may learn of thee;
Make true thy word, thy thought, thy
deed, that truth may make him
free;

And pour thy noble life for his! Thus
safe our land will be."

A mother of this modern era has a tremendous task. This is a world no longer normal, a world full of greed and strife, and shattered

hopes. It is the modern Mother's task to find the beautiful, even in this world of hate, and develop in her son or daughter a faith that there are still beautiful characters, that in this carefree age there are still wholesome lives, that not all men are evil. It is commonly thought among the youth of this day that there are now no longer chaste women, that all women have laid down their moral scruples, that all are, if not openly, secretly indecent. This is a mistaken idea which furnishes our young people an excuse for their misdeeds. They say "everybody does it." No, there are some who still hold to what you may term the old-fashioned ways, who are not afraid to stand alone with their convictions. A mixture of those old ideals and standards with the modern improved ideas of self improvement and youthfulness makes a beautiful combination—a woman who can take in the dances, the clubs, the parties and other forms of amusement, yet retain her high character ideals, her self-respect, her self-control; a woman who has no fear of ridicule because she will not join the crowd, a woman who has resolved within her soul that "If the whole world goes the way which my conscience tells me unladylike, I will be pure. I will not allow any associate to blindfold me and persuade me to overstep the bounds of decency and holy womanhood. I will think for myself and keep my life an open book with no dark pages which later in life I would wish erased. I will be a noble woman, that some day I may be the kind of Mother my country needs."

Many Mothers of the day concerning their sons' calls to service aside from their anxieties for their physical dangers tremble for their moral welfare. She gives to her country all that she holds dear when her son in his teens or barely out of them is taken far from the reach of her counsel, away from the environment which he needs most in his young manhood. May God preserve his character! To die a physical death on the battlefield, though it is grievous to the Mother's heart—for it is said that a Mother dies ten thousand deaths where he dies one—is not so heartrending as to lose his noble manhood, to be lost in immorality and sin, for her care for her son at the battlefield is as it was when he toddled around the home.

"Always a 'little boy' to her,
No matter how old he's grown,
Her eyes are blind to the strands of
gray,
She's deaf to the manly tone.
His voice is the same as the day he
asked,
'What makes the old cat purr?'
Ever and ever he's just the same—
A little boy to her.

Always a 'little boy' to her,
She heeds not the lines of care
That furrow his face—to her it is
still
As it was in boyhood, fair;
His hopes and his joys are as dear
to her
As they were in his small-boy days,
He never changes; to her he's still
'My little boy,' she says.

Always a 'little boy' to her,
And to him she's the Mother fair,
With laughing eyes and cheering
smile
Of the boyhood days back there.
Back there, somewhere in the midst
of years—
3—THE CHRISTIAN PLEA -- --
Back there with the childish joy,
And to her he is never the man we
see,
But always 'her little boy.'

Always a 'little boy' to her,
The ceaseless march of the years
goes rapidly by,
But its drum beats die
Ere ever they reach her ears.
The smile that she sees in the smile
of youth,
The wrinkles are dimples of joy,
His hair with its gray is as sunny as
May
He is always 'her little boy.'
Mrs. Lavinia Dumas has been a
United Presbyterian Missionary for
30 years. Her last place of service
was Arlington, Ala. She is the
mother of eight children.

Christians Learn and Live

MISS J. ELIZABETH JORDAN
Mound Bayou, Miss.

"Study to show yourselves approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."—II Timothy 2:15.

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."—Matthew 5:16.

If the spread of the gospel of our

Lord and Savior is to continue to the uttermost parts of the world, we, Christians of today, must know the word of God and our lives must be in accord with its teachings. We can acquire a knowledge of God's word through prayerful study of the Holy Bible. We can live in accord with the word by surrendering all to Jesus. The way that we live furnishes the strongest proof of our knowledge of the word. "Knowledge is power." To Christians, it is power to liberate the Light, our Savior Jesus Christ, to a dark world in sin and despair.

As Christians we should strive to win others to Christ. That is the duty of missionaries, or in other words, that is our duty. If we are Christians we are missionaries. The name missionary, perhaps, bring to our minds foreign fields that are white with harvest, such as Japan, India and China. All can not go to foreign fields; but here, right here in America are also fields white with harvest.

To some individuals America may seem like a world, and the task of reaching the unreached may still seem too great. However, where there is a will to do, there is also a way to do. For instance, in our homes there are always Christian duties to perform. Kindness, patience, cooperation, and love are some attributes each individual should endorse. Many opportunities for doing missionary work are right at our fingertips. A Christian home of itself may seem small; but when we recall that homes make the communities, communities make the cities or towns, towns make the states, states make the nations, nations make the world. The great wide world ended the list, but the humble home began the list.

Jesus set the example that we are to follow as we serve mankind. As long as we have people who are sick, or naked, or hungry, we have a task; As long as we have crimes, juvenile delinquency, and wars, we have a *great* task; as long as we have people who know not our Lord and Savior, we have a *greater* task. Let us labor diligently while we have the noble privilege to help advance God's kingdom.

Now more than ever Christians should live, for Jesus, lives above reproach. Such living is absolutely necessary if we are to win others for Christ. We can not serve God and

mammon, that is to say, we cannot be missionaries for Christ and do the things that are not pleasing in God's sight. The world has many, many attractions for the people whom we desire to win. The task of winning them is quite difficult; but if we lift Christ in our words and deeds, He will draw the ones who are to be saved unto Him. Let us work unselfishly for the Master, forgetting the things of the world; and strive hard to make the world better by having lived in it.

What does the world need most? Millions would say peace. We would say peace also. Can we as Christians guide the world to peace? The answer is yes. We have but to lift Christ, the Prince of peace, to the world; and the world has only to accept Him. The solution is much easier said than done, but it must be done if we are to have peace. For peace will come when "People Earnestly Act Christlike Everywhere."

CHRISTIANS, let us LEARN more about Jesus AND LIVE for Him every day.

Read before the Woman's Christian Missionary Society, Bethel Christian Church, Mound Bayou, Miss.

Dr. C. W. Longman Resigns

The United Christian Missionary Society announces with deep regret the resignation of C. W. Longman from the department of religious education, to become effective August 31, 1944. Mr. Longman has served as director of leadership training in this department since joining the staff in 1937, making his headquarters in St. Louis. His work has been with local church pastors, church boards, missionary societies, and with other groups in the interest of better trained leaders for the church.

Prior to coming to the United Society, Mr. Longman spent twenty years in the pastorate. His training in Cotner College, Yale University, and Northwestern University was with special emphasis on religious education so that he has made a valuable contribution to brotherhood life in this field.

Editor's Note: No truer Christian has ever bowed out of the brotherhood. A true friend of the Negro has gone. He is truly a great loss to the brotherhood and the Negro part of the brotherhood will miss him.

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.

In Good Faith— Is There No Truth?

A contestant in an essay contest recently wrote a theme on *What American Democracy Means To Me*. In it he said some splendid things. But in it he also betrayed a fallacious manner of thinking into which a lot of us have fallen. He wrote that Americans believe that no one has enough ability "to tell other men what the unprejudiced truth or correct way of thinking is."

If this be so, if there be no unprejudiced truth, no correct way of thinking, then there is no way under heaven for America to be a united country for the simple reason that there are no sound principles upon which it can unite.

But, of course, American *can* be a united country because *there are* truths which underlie our form of government and a way of thinking which leads us to these truths. There is the truth that every man who is born into this world brings his *rights* with him fresh from the hand of God. Christianity affirms this truth again and again, and no Christian doubts it or says that it doesn't matter how one thinks about it. The Declaration of Independence affirms it also. Where is the American who can deny that? Who will deny it? Who will stand forth and say that he doesn't believe in the rights of man, or that he believes in the rights of *some* men only? What happens to democracy—and how much nearer are we to Hitlerism—if we deny this truth of the equality of man with respect to his rights!

There is the truth that government exists for the sake of the individual, not the individual for the sake of the government, and that to secure the rights of men, as Jefferson wrote in the Declaration of Independence, "Governments are instituted among men." We hold that *truth*, don't we?—all of us—Americans of every race and religion and culture. Don't we? We don't want that changed, and we don't want anyone to say it doesn't matter whether we think of rulers as tyrants or as servants of the people. For it does matter. In defiance of tyrants Christians have rotted in dungeons and died at the stake—so much did the difference between tyranny and free government mean to them!

So, let's keep on thinking straight. And let's remember that an American is not a person who has no standards

of truth. He is, on the contrary, a person who *knows* that he has found something so *true* in America that he will die rather than deny it or surrender it.

In Good Faith— Modern Tower of Babel

A recent writer has said that "one problem of our modern world . . . has arisen from the necessity of curing ourselves . . . of every form of blindness which makes it difficult for us to communicate, to achieve understandings, and to act effectively with others in the interest of a common cause."

Unquestionably the world suffers from the inability of its people to understand each other. And people cannot understand each other because the very words that they use to express their minds have lost their meaning. Indeed, the same words can have a different meaning, or no precise meaning at all, to every man who uses them.

As a people, we no longer know what "freedom" means and many suppose that to be free is the same thing as to live without restraint and to follow the instincts and passions as guides. Our forefathers believed that the propositions that all men are created equal and that the source of human rights is in God were so well understood as to be termed "self-evident" truths. Today we can find little general agreement as to what these propositions mean and even less recognition of them as truths in any sense.

This is a real tragedy because words are given to man for the purpose of communicating thought. But unless words have the same meaning for everybody we cannot communicate thought in any case. In these days we stand before a modern Tower of Babel—and America is not the united country it ought to be.

It is not surprising that things should have come to such a pass since so many people do not believe that there are any truths which are so universal and unchanging as to require precise definition. The popular doctrine of "relative truth" has destroyed our language and it is making a bid now to destroy our unity as a nation. It cannot be otherwise if we will not acknowledge that there are truths, capable of definition, which we are all bound to accept no matter what our race or religion might be.

This state of affairs must be corrected. The Church, the home, and

the school, more than any other institutions, have the responsibility to correct it. For the great principles that form democracy have come to us through the Church and the Bible, and our first knowledge of right and wrong comes to us in the home, and the place where much of our thinking is formed is in the class-room.

Opportunity of Religious Liberals

What with the now rising tide of anti-Negroism and anti-Semitism religious liberals have an opportunity within the American boundaries to show their mettle. If they can find new motives and means for genuine cooperation with American Judaism, if they can devise ways of eliminating the anti-Semitism and anti-Negroism that may be found in almost any gathering of church people, if they can find ways of abolishing the barriers of Jim Crowism in church and industry and social life, then they may claim to have the training requisite for work on a larger scale. Unfortunately, we have not had much practice in these matters. And we may be sure that if many religious liberals exhibit a sense of responsibility coupled with a passionate concern for justice, new divisions will appear, for old customs will be seriously brought into question and old privileges threatened. And these divisions will cut through the liberal churches as well as through other segments of society. "I bring not peace but a sword."

But religious liberals who believe in a religion that is prophetic and in a liberalism that liberates dare not desist in face of "religious" people or of "liberals" who do not want a new world.—JAMES LUTHER ADAMS in *The Christian Register*.

Our National Convention

By S. C. DEVINE, *Pastor*
Queen City Church

718 Kenyon Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio

Our National Convention is developing into a worthy and worthwhile organization. Each year, seemingly, we are being able to better sell its benefits. The men and women of our church who are attending the convention are awakening to the fact of what it means to be self-reliant, and self-expressional. We appreciate every and anything that any one does for us, but we are no longer babies. We do not have to be fed milk. We are prepared to eat meat, and are

able to provide it. We believe that a few more meetings like the one in Columbus, our brotherhood will be sold to the idea of doing what we ourselves should do and are able to do.

Our convention has plans, but they must be worked by you.

We have money, we can raise money—let's raise some money at the Lexington meeting. And let's put over in a big way the program that has been laid out.

Our national convention will develop if we are willing to let well enough do. We have drifted into a system that does not mean, and will not prove, to be the best for our convention.

We have what we call a tenure of office relative to our president, thus allowing him to serve two years and then automatically forcing him out. That ought not to be. Had Preston Taylor lived he would have been president yet. When we made that ruling it was made with the idea and purpose of being able to get rid of some and we got rid of them, but we threw open a door for office seekers—men who will aspire and caucus to become president and men who are not prepared in any way. We have a man in the person of Baltimore Taylor who has made and is making a splendid president. It is sad when we realize that because of our system he has to go out of office this year. Friends, we must learn to get the golden egg without killing the hen that lays it.

It takes a president one year to know that he is president, then one year to launch a program and just as his program begins to work he is put out. Such a method keeps us sampling men for the office of president and keeps the work in a state of experimentation.

Some say that International Convention changes president every year. They do, but friends, the president of the International Convention has nothing to do but preside. The work of the International Convention is done by committees. Those committees are appointed and work throughout the year and report their finding at the convention. Baltimore Taylor is a hard worker and a worker who will stand up for his conviction. Let's stand by him and carry out the plans, the purpose, and idea of our lamented Preston Taylor.

I do not know what the regional vice-presidents are doing, but I am asking every pastor in the state of

Ohio to appoint a committee in their church to collect one dollar from each member and send it to Dr. Walker, our national treasurer.

We trust that each member of our brotherhood will give \$1.00 this year and start our convention to doing what our president wants done.

South Baptists to Aid Negro Seminary in Nashville

The American Baptist Theological Seminary, Negro institution located at 1800 White's Creek Pike, will look entirely to the Southern Baptist Convention for support following the withdrawal of a committee recommendation yesterday to the convention in session in Atlanta that the Northern Convention share jointly in the enterprise.

The withdrawal of the recommendation was made after the Rev. E. P. Aldredge of Nashville, chairman of the seminary commission, spoke in opposition to the plan.

Aldredge said that the school was planning a building program under its new president, Ralph Waldo Riley, with funds made available by the Southern Baptist Convention and this program would be delayed if the northern group, which had shown little interest in the proposal, was asked to participate.

The Rev. Ryland Knight, pastor of Atlanta's Ponce de Leon First Baptist Church and chairman of the committee making the report withdrew the recommendation, and the remainder of the report providing for an enlarged program for Southern Negro Baptist colleges was passed.

The report stated in part that while the Baptist denomination was primarily responsible for the Negro's spiritual welfare, other religious bodies, especially "the Roman Catholic Church," were making "serious inroads" into the denomination. The Catholic Church, it is said, has put 2,000 trained workers into the field and has spent hundreds of thousands of dollars in contrast to "the small effort" by the Baptist Church.

The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary announced that the doctor of divinity degree would be made the standard three-year course instead of the master of theology degree. It was also announced that a department of sociology and ethics under Dr. O. T. Binkley, now head of the Bible department of Wake Forest College, as acting dean has been created.

Disciples of Christ Fourth Biennial Youth Meet

The Fourth Biennial Planning Conference of the National Christian Youth Fellowship (Disciples of Christ) met in Indianapolis, Indiana; Second Christian Church, May 4-7, 1944. The conference was attended by 68 young people and their adult advisors from Disciples of Christ churches representing 10 states.

Conscious of the many problems which Christian young people are faced with in a frustrated, confused and war-torn world, this representative group set forth the following recommendations, which it feels that the leadership of the church must act on if the church is to progress and continue to be an effective force for good in the world.

1. We recommend to all our young people throughout the country that they give serious and sober consideration to the urgent need for a highly trained Christian leadership in our Brotherhood. The opportunities are available for young people to become medical missionaries, ministers and leaders in religious education.

2. The young people have noted with a great deal of dissatisfaction that our church paper, the CHRISTIAN PLEA, is not of the highest journalistic and editorial quality which we feel should be representative of our people at this stage of our development.

3. The young people have given a great deal of deliberation and discussion to the place of the church in the present and the post war world. We feel that it is one of our Christian imperatives that our church as a whole should, in keeping with the trend instituted by such other church groups as the Methodists and Baptists, give a clear cut and concise statement of the social aims to which young people, as well as adults, might pledge loyalty and work to realize.

4. In contrast to our lack of a clearly stated body of social objectives toward which Christians might divert their time and attention, our leadership has become distinguished only by its concern for the defense of doctrines and dogmas long since passed up by other religious leaders around the world. In short, we feel that contemporary religion and religion and religious leadership cannot and must not ignore the pressing problems of human and social adjust-

ment which a prophetic religion in every age has championed as central in the religious life of any people worthy of the names of the founders of their religion.

5. That the Christian Youth Fellowship come to the National Convention in August prepared to register and vote so that our influence can be felt to bring about an intelligent and competent leadership in the National Convention.

President Charles E. Sherman presided at all sessions; Miss Ruth Thomas, Acting Secretary; and adult advisors were: Miss Cornelia L. Jamison, National Secretary, Missionary Organization-Education; Rev. and Mrs. R. H. Peoples; Rev. John B. Eubanks; Rev. and Mrs. Foster Craggett; Miss Kathleen Shannon; Mr. Lester McAlister and Mr. Ronald Osborne of Mission Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

To the Adult Advisors of the Fourth Biennial Planning Conference of the National Christian Youth Fellowship of Disciples of Christ—Greetings:

Thanks for the copy of your recommendations for press release. Please say to the Youth Fellowship for me that I am with them One hundred per cent and that they will have my vote of support for an intelligent and competent leadership in the National Convention.

Here are some questions I would like to ask the Adult Advisors before I will be ready to vote.

First. Is it intelligent and competent leadership for the president of the National Convention to be concerned for the defense of the doctrine of the Christian Church which brought it into being and was preached by the apostles and founders of our National Convention?

Second. Is it intelligent and competent leadership for the president of the National Convention to write and speak out against open membership which has carved divisions among our (white) brethren and will do the same for us unless we guard against it?

Third. Is it intelligent and competent leadership for the president of the National Convention to write and speak out against the practice of Jim Crowism and discrimination because of color by people who profess to be children of God and students of the New Testament?

Fourth. Is it intelligent and competent leadership for the president of the National Convention to strive to make the national convention spiritu-

ally and financially strong, so we will not have to play the part of an UNCLE TOM, just to get a hand out over the back fence from the United Christian Missionary Society?

Fifth. Is it intelligent and competent leadership for the president of the National Convention to strive to raise ten thousand dollars this convention year for Evangelism, Church Aid, Ministers Aid and the Christian Plea?

Sixth. Is it intelligent and competent leadership for the president of the National Convention to urge the churches to follow the pattern of the New Testament church founded by Jesus Christ?

Seventh. Do you think that our churches should keep in the trend instituted by the Lord Jesus Christ and recorded in the New Testament; instead of following the trend of the Methodists and Baptists as stated in your recommendation number four?

Eighth. Is it intelligent and competent leadership for the president of the National Convention to be concerned not only for the place of the church in the present and post war world, but in the world to come, when we must all stand before the Judgment Bar of God?

Nine. Do I understand from recommendation number five that the Adult Advisors are saying that the committee on nomination and delegates to the Kansas City and Columbus national conventions did not act intelligently nor competently when they nominated, voted and elected the present administration?

Ten. Do you not think it grand, that our present leadership has become distinguished only by its concern for the defense of doctrine as stated in article five, and not by any political scheme?

Eleven. Have the Adult Advisors overlooked Second Timothy, fourth chapter, second to fifth verse. Acts 2:42. Second John, verse nine?

Twelve. Is it not a fact that the Adult Advisors have outgrown the Christian Church and they should join something that is not related to the New Testament?

Thirteen. Is it not a fact that the Adult Advisors think that we should go out of the church business (like the Christian Endeavor has about gone) and organize some kind of social club?

Fourteen. Are these recommendations the hand and voice of Youth; or are they the hand Esau but the voice of Jacob?

Fifteen. Do you not think that you are advising the young people in the wrong direction; away from the church into a political party; when you urge them in recommendation number five to come to the national convention just to vote out an administration which is contending for those things which the Christian Church has held essential from the first Pentecost to the present time?

Sixteen. Do I understand from these recommendations that some members of the Adult Advisors feel, that since they have gotten a little book learning, with the help of scholarship funds and missions schools supported by so-called (DUMB PREACHERS) and their so-called (DUMB CONGREGATIONS), look with contempt upon their brethren without degrees? Did we educate you for that purpose?

Seventeen. Is it not a fact that a little book learning without common sense will make some folk do funny things and write funny recommendations?

Eighteen. How many churches and congregations have the Adult Advisors built for the Brotherhood? How many church papers like the Christian Plea have they published?

Nineteen. How many churches and congregations have the so-called (dumb preachers) built for the Brotherhood?

Twenty. I note that some members of the Adult Advisors occupy places of leadership in the National Convention; do the other Adult Advisors consider them intelligent and competent?

Somebody said that a fool can ask more questions than seven wise men can answer. I am happy to be a fool for Christ's sake and for the doctrine of the New Testament and for the those things which the founders and fathers of our National Convention lived and died for.

Please answer these questions for me so I may be in a position to register and vote for an intelligent and competent leadership.

Your friend,

W. H. (Baltimore) TAYLOR, *President*
National Convention of the Christian Church or Disciples of Christ.

P.S. Let's raise ten thousand dollars in the church department this convention year. Help your pastor and congregation to join the One Hundred Dollar Club. Send one dollar per member to the National Treasurer.

To the Churches and Brethren Everywhere

If I loved open membership and sectarianism like some folks in the Christian Church, I would stop flirting with God, Christ and the New Testament and join a sectarian church before sundown, and forget about the Christian Church, its doctrine and the New Testament.

I came out of a sectarian church into the Christian Church and all the sectarian believers in the Christian Church, National Convention, International Convention, nor United Christian Missionary Society will be able to move me. I will not be a part of any church, convention or society that wants to go sectarian.

If you want to go sectarian, go on; but as for me, I will earnestly contend for the Faith. I say with Paul in Romans 8:38, 39: "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us (me) from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Brethren, pray for me.

Your friend,

W. H. (Baltimore) TAYLOR, *President*

Report to the Brotherhood

DR. C. L. PARKS, *National Secretary*
1508 Hawkins St., Nashville, Tenn.

Our last report covered the months of January and February, and I hope, by this time, it has been read by you who are concerned about total brotherhood development. Being at home in Nashville on Sunday, the 5th of March, we preached for the Lee Avenue congregation and received on expenses a contribution of \$3.00. On the 6th of March we left Nashville for Frankfort, Ky., to attend, at Kentucky State College, the Institute for Town and Rural Pastors. Only four of our ministers put in their appearance. They were: Elder T. R. Everett, Elder C. B. Gentry, Elder Washington and Elder R. L. Saunders. It was truly a very informative and inspiring fellowship, and our brethren, who were there, went away rejoicing.

We went over to Lexington with Elder Saunders from Frankfort and preached for him on Sunday, the 12th of March. Elder and Mrs. Saunders made it very pleasant for us. The congregation received us with a warmth of fellowship not to be sur-

passed, gave \$10.00 on expense and sent us on our way rejoicing. From Lexington we traveled to Mayfield and found that Elder Ashe had resigned the work there. We spent some time in the home of Elder and Mrs. Ashe and every minute was enjoyable. They are truly Christians and have the interest of the brotherhood at heart.

On our way from Mayfield to Nashville we stopped by Paducah, and contacted Elder Jackson, pastor of our Paducah Church. He seems to be in high spirits and pledges deeper interest in our organized effort. We did not preach for him, since time would not permit our staying over until Sunday, and no prior notice had been given of our coming.

We were in Nashville from March 17th to 24th and on this date we journeyed to Chicago and on Sunday, the 26th, preached at both the Indiana Ave. Christian Church and the Southside Christian Church. We were warmly received by both ministers and their congregations, and were enjoyably entertained during our stay. Southside Christian Church contributed \$5.00 on expenses. We passed from Chicago to Detroit and enjoyed short visits with Elder Jordan, Elder Turner and Elder Johnson. Elder Johnson gave an offering of \$5.00 on expenses and Elder Turner, the new pastor of Chapel Christian Church, pledged support to our organized work.

We are very grateful to the ministers and congregations whom we have contacted for their kind consideration of us while we sojourned with them. We are more than grateful for their interest in total brotherhood development. Come to the National Convention and help set the sails of our ship so that they may catch the breeze that carries us to progressive heights of spiritual attainment.

Christian Ministers' Fellowship 2700 North Capitol Avenue Indianapolis 8, Ind.

Dear Minister:

For many years we have talked a great deal about action at our National Convention. The time has come for the ministers of our brotherhood to lead the way. Last year we organized the Christian Ministers' Fellowship and forty-one ministers signed up as charter members, pledging themselves to become the spearhead of an action program. (See the enclosed list of names.)

We are making an appeal to all the ministers of our brotherhood to join. There is still time for you to get in on the ground floor provided you apply for membership by the time of the National Convention, which meets at Lexington, Kentucky, in August. The membership fee is only one dollar per year, no joining fee at present. We are also enclosing a copy of the constitution which sets forth our purpose to tell something about how we aim to achieve it.

There are many things that we would like to suggest to you which should be done at our next National Convention, but space will permit us to mention only one, that is this: the time is ripe for us to choose our course of action. We can, if we will, determine our status and relationship in the total brotherhood life. If we miss this opportunity now it may be another generation before things will shape up as they are today. New things are in the offing. What shall we do? "Go over and take the land" or admit that we are not ready and spend another "40 years wandering in the wilderness"?

"The field is already white unto harvest, but the laborers are few. Pray ye the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers," who will lead us into the promised land.

The Christian Ministers' Fellowship, under the able leadership of S. S. Myers, proposes to get on the job beginning at this convention. We are counting on all the ministers to join the Fellowship and become a part of this forward movement.

Let us hear from you soon.

Sincerely yours,

S. S. MYERS,

President.

EDWIN M. HURDLE,

Secretary-Treasurer.

R. H. PEOPLES,

Executive Secretary.

CONSTITUTION

of the
NATIONAL CHRISTIAN MINISTER'S
FELLOWSHIP
of the
NATIONAL CHRISTIAN MINISTERS'
CONVENTION

Name—

"National Christian Ministers' Fellowship."

Purpose—

1. To provide fellowship and understanding among ministers of the brotherhood.

2. To provide opportunity for men-

tal and spiritual cultivation of Christian ministers.

3. To provide an effective method for raising the standard among ourselves as ministers.

4. To provide emergency aid to ministers and their families who belong to the fellowship.

Membership

1. The membership shall consist of

- Individual ministers
- District, state, and area Christian Ministers' Fellowships.

2. The National Christian Ministers' Fellowship shall reserve the right to exclude unworthy ministers or groups from its membership.

Organization

1. The officers of the National Christian Ministers' Fellowship shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, and an Executive Secretary. All funds shall be deposited with the National Convention Treasurer.

2. Standing committees

- Executive Committee, composed of the officers and three members elected by the body.
- Discipline committee, composed of the President, Secretary, Executive Secretary and two members elected by the body.

Annual Meeting

The National Christian Ministers' Fellowship shall meet annually at the National Convention. The district, state, and area fellowships shall set their own time of meeting.

Membership Fees

1. Each minister shall pay an annual membership fee of \$1.00.

1. Each district, state, or area Christian Ministers' Fellowship shall pay a membership fee of \$5.00.

Officers Elected in 1943

- S. S. Myers, President
C. L. Whitfield, Vice-President
E. M. Hurdle, Secretary-Treasurer
R. H. Peoples, Executive Secretary.

List of Charter Members

- Barnett, F. T., Ohio
Bradley, D. W., Tenn.
Bryant, W. J., Calif.
Chambers, M. B., Md.
Coleman, F. H., Mo.
Compton, S. J., Sr., Ohio
Crawford, L. H., Texas
Davis, R. H., Ill.
Devine, S. C., Ohio
Dickerson, L. L., Ky.
Dickson, M. C., Texas
Duke, B. C., Calif.
Dupree, J. S., W. Va.
Everett, T. R., Ky.

- Fox, W. K., Miss.
Frey, J. W., Md.
Hairston, S. H., Va.
Heath, D. W., Miss.
Hurdle, E. M., Texas
Hurdle, I. Q., Texas
Lakes, G. E., Kan.
Lambert, M. L., N. C.
Johnson, J. S., Mich.
Moore, I. H., Ky.
Myers, S. S., Mo.
Nelson, A. G., Mo.
Whitfield, C. L., Md.
Owens, W. M., Ky.
Parks, C. L., Tenn.
Peoples, R. H., Ind.
Roland, G. W., N. C.
Searcy, R. L., Okla.
Sims, W. S., Kan.
Stephens, M. F., Mo.
Strickland, W. T., Fla.
Taylor, W. H., Md.
Tillman, S. E., N. J.
Trevillion, N. R., Miss.
Watson, R. W., Mo.
Webb, C. H., N. C.
Wilbert, E. W., Ohio



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The CHRISTIAN PLEA

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NEGRO DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

Volume LI

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, JUNE, 1944

Number 10

NATIONAL CONVENTION TO LEXINGTON, KY., AUG. 22-27

National Institute on Disciple Negro Work Held Good Session, April 17-21

Nashville, Tenn.—The Negro brotherhood of the Disciples of Christ were well represented at the third annual National Institute on disciple Negro work, which was held at Tennessee State College campus, Nashville, Tenn., April 17-21.

The program started at 8:00 o'clock with a Bible course taught by Dr. George Campbell, of Cleveland, Ohio. Dr. George Holwager conducted an hour of Evangelism; Dr. C. L. Parks, our National Secretary, conducted an hour on the Local Church. Elder R. L. Jordan, Mrs. Carnella Jamison, Elder C. W. Webb, Dr. W. H. Taylor, and many others participated on the program.

The executive board held sessions in the evening and at other times. Many of the brotherhood problems were discussed at these meetings.

The college gave a beautiful reception for the group on Friday evening. Among the people attending were: R. L. Jordan, Detroit; R. L. Saunders, Lexington, Ky.; Elder C. W. Webb, Winston-Salem, N. C.; Elder J. J. Washington, Lexington, Ky.; Elder C. W. Arnold, Columbus, Ohio; Elder R. H. Peoples, Indianapolis, Ind.; Miss Carnella Jamison, Indianapolis, Ind.; Mrs. Henry Herod, Indianapolis, Ind.; Elder G. W. Gore, Nashville, and many other people. President W. H. Taylor acted as Dean of the Institute and Elder L. L. Dickson was secretary.

The Tennessee State Christian Missionary Corporation paid for five scholarships for this Institute and furnished lecturers for the meeting. Dr. W. P. Harmon, Director.

NOTICE TO PLEA READERS

The war has caused us to look for another printer. We have finally found one, after much effort.

We have everything intact and now we are sending you your "Pleas" as rapidly as we get them from the printer.

Send your news, notices and subscriptions to the "Plea" office at once. We are not going out of business. We are no quitters.

Thanks for your confidence and support. Renew your subscription at once. Send your news at once.

PROF. MERL R. EPPSE,

Editor.

Mrs. R. C. Clay, National House- wife League Officer, Speaks at Tenn. A. & I. College

We want to talk very frankly with each other, because the time has passed when beautiful, eloquent speeches and singing praises, and giving gifts, suffice. These things perish, but it is through our deeds that we build huge monuments to ourselves or hills for ants.

The records show in 1942 that: 60,000,000 people in the United States were unchurched.

33,000,000 adults are still unreached by the church.

Over one-half of the children and youth of America are receiving no formal Christian instructions.

In 16 southern states, 77 out of every 100 are not enrolled in any Sunday School.

95 per cent of the criminals are from the more than one-half who are without Christian instructions.

50,000 of those who are in jail are youths.

200,000 children appear annually in our juvenile courts.

(Continued on page 2)

National Convention Meets Aug. 22-27 at Lexington, Ky.

All roads head to the Bluegrass State—the cradle of the Disciples of Christ. Elder R. L. Saunders, pastor of Second Christian Church, 224 East 2nd St., Lexington, Ky., is the host pastor. At the Executive Board meeting they approved of the board and room fee being raised. Elder and Mrs. Saunders are asking that all delegates write in early, telling how many are coming, husband and wife, children, male or female, so that ample arrangements can be made.

President W. H. Taylor is on the firing line. He is asking all churches to send in their dollar per member to Dr. J. E. Walker at once. It is rumored that much opposition is gathering from the younger element of our brotherhood against Elder Taylor. Let it be known that the old stalwarts are backing Elder Taylor for president for the duration and longer. He is fighting for the life of the church. He is rigorously opposed to the modernist. Let all old stand-bys come to the convention. Let's keep Taylor as our president.

These modernists want to wipe out the old leadership. They cannot and must not do it. The PLEA is backing Elder Taylor and his program. Come to the convention ready to fight for what we have and thus do not lose what we have. Write to Elder Saunders and tell him what you intend to do.

Rush Church News to "Plea" Now

Delinquent Subscribers:

Your "Plea" will not be delivered unless you pay before July.

MRS. R. C. CLAY

(Continued from page 1)

One home out of every four is touched by crime each year.

There is one divorce for every six marriages in the United States.

The nation's youth under voting age accounted for 15 per cent of all murders; 35 per cent of all robberies, 58 per cent of all car thefts, and 50 per cent of all burglaries.

The arrest of girls under 21 years of age for offenses against common decency have increased 76 per cent.

Young men and women that is why I want you to know how important it is to be a Christian and get a Christian education, because of the crime committed by our young people. Let us face facts and do something today about it.

You have a new interest in the nations of the world. You have been studying geography, world resources, and international problems. You need also to face the challenge and to become aware of the possibilities for service in Christian missionary work in the years ahead. There are cities to be rebuilt, starving peoples to be fed and clothed, and wounded and diseased persons to be healed. But there are millions of people whose lives should be brought under the influence of the mind of Christ.

Christian youths may have a part in building a new world on the foundation of justice, mercy, and faith in God.

But to do this you will have to experience a spiritual rebirth; you must be converted or born again. Now I know that this phrase has fallen into disrepute with us modern Christians, but I know of no other expression that gets at the heart of this matter. If we are to see life, and to be able to discriminate between temporary and abiding creative values; and if we are to catch the vision of God in Christ, we must possess and be possessed by an influence that is not of earthly origin or the creation of human ingenuity.

Conversion means a turning around from a self-centered to a Christ centered life. It is a change in character, and conduct from wrong to right, from selfishness to service, and from attitudes of indifference toward God to a sense of joyous fellowship with Him.

Conversion is the supreme need of every life. One cannot be saved spiritually by racial inheritance, or moral excellence, or cultural equip-

ment, or even religious zeal. Saul is a good example.

Conversion is the first step toward victorious living. We cannot live victoriously until the power of evil within the heart has been conquered. This can come only through the cleansing and redeeming power of Christ and through the mastery of his spirit in one's life.

A Christian is kind, humble, gentle and strong. He puts Christ first in his life. He is guided by the power of God, and even in the midst of hardship and trouble he has the peace of God in his heart.

Christ is the center of culture. So to be thoroughly educated you should have a knowledge of Christ.

Education is the knowledge of how to use the whole of oneself, and learning to do difficult things easily and irksome things cheerfully.

There is an advantage in having knowledge in the natural sciences, sociology, psychology, and geology or any of the other fields; each branch of knowledge has contributed to making the efforts of Christian leaders more clear. Our main field should be Christian religion, and in this we should be a specialist both in its theory and practice.

Christian education magnifies Christian ideals. It requires specific Christian instructions, and it equips one for Christian usefulness. It capacitates for the greatest possible service to God and to man. It puts down wisdom as the principle thing, places character and conduct above clothes and cash, and puts first things first, in declaring—"Seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and His righteousness and all these things will be added unto you."

To you who are going out in life, some are destined to become leaders and will have to train and teach others to try to develop in life and understanding and appreciation of the personality, the life, and the teachings of Christ, loyalty to Him and His cause, and manifest it in daily life and conduct.

Try to lead persons into a Christian interpretation of life and the universe, and the ability to see in it God's purpose and plan.

Develop in them the ability and disposition to participate in and contribute constructively to the building of a social order throughout the world, embodying the idea of the "Fatherhood of God, and the Brotherhood of man."

Disciples of Christ's Fourth Biennial Youth Meet

By R. THOMAS

5622 Wabash, Chicago, Ill.

The Fourth Biennial Planning Conference of the National Christian Youth Fellowship (Disciples of Christ) met in Indianapolis, Indiana, at the Second Christian Church, May 4-7, 1944. The conference was attended by 68 young people and their adult advisors from Disciples of Christ churches representing 10 states.

Conscious of the many problems which Christian young people are faced with in a frustrated, confused and war-torn world, this representative group set forth the following recommendations, which it feels that the leadership of the church must act on if the church is to progress and continue to be an effective force for good in the world.

1. We recommend to all our young people throughout the country that they give serious and sober consideration to the urgent need for a highly trained Christian leadership in our Brotherhood. The opportunities are available for young people to become medical missionaries, ministers and leaders in religious education.

2. The young people have noted with a great deal of dissatisfaction that our church paper, the Christian PLEA, is not of the highest journalistic and editorial quality which we feel should be representative of our people at this stage of our development.

3. The young people have given a great deal of deliberation and discussion to the place of the church in the present and the post war world. We feel that it is one of our Christian imperatives that our church as a whole should, in keeping with the trend instituted by such other church groups as the Methodists and Baptists, give a clear cut and concise statement of the social aims to which young people, as well as adults, might pledge loyalty and work to realize.

4. In contrast to our lack of a clearly stated body of social objectives toward which Christians might divert their time and attention, our leadership has become distinguished only by its concern for the defense of doctrines and dogmas long since passed up by other religious leaders around the world. In short, we feel that contemporary religion and religious leadership cannot and must not ignore the pressing problems of human and social maladjustment which a pro-

phetic religion in every age has championed as central in the religious life of any people worthy of the name of the founders of their religion.

5. That the Christian Youth Fellowship come to the National Convention in August prepared to register and vote so that our influence can be felt to bring about an intelligent and competent leadership in the National Convention.

President Charles E. Sherman presided at all sessions; Miss Ruth Thomas, Acting Secretary; and adult advisors were: Miss Carnella L. Jamison, National Secretary, Missionary Organizations-Education; Rev. and Mrs. R. H. Peoples; Rev. John B. Eubanks; Rev. and Mrs. Foster Craggett; Miss Kathleen Shannon; Mr. Lester McAllister, and Mr. Ronald Osborne of Missions Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Editor's Note: Rev. Peoples, Foster Craggett and John Eubanks represent a type of leadership which mean nothing to the masses of Negroes. Eubanks and Craggett could do nothing but criticize the PLEA. They neither subscribe or write anything for the PLEA. Rev. Peoples' record is too well known throughout the brotherhood for comment here. Why do these leaders seek subsidy from white people and advise youth to criticize. The PLEA is ready and willing to publish anything they may write. If I were these "Brown Nut" Leaders, I would not hide behind children. I would announce my platform and defend it with my life. You do not have to wait until the National Convention. If any of you want to edit the PLEA you can have it now. I will at least pay for a subscription and that is more than you do.

The Three R's in Africa

HATTIE MITCHELL

When Mondombe station was opened in 1920 one of the first tasks was to erect a church building, where not only the worship services were held, but also the classes in the three R's. But finally a school building of poles, mud and thatch was constructed and all felt a step forward had been made. That building was used until it became too small for the constantly growing enrollment, and then another building of like construction, but larger, was erected. That building, too, was outgrown before our first brick school building was completed in 1942. While it was in the process of construction, some of the older students supported themselves

in school by making brick, bringing wood from the forest for the kiln, and wheeling bricks to the school location. Other students helped with the actual construction of the building, and all were happy to have a part in it. People throughout our district have come in, eager to see a building so large. The students are very proud of it and are trying to improve their standard of work as the building has been improved.

Across the front is the assembly room, with doors leading out onto a grassy court, and classrooms along either side of the court. There are eleven of these open to the court. The combined office and book room is the only one at present that can be locked. Across the back of the court is a building for the kindergarten and primary groups.

Our cupboards, desks and benches have been made from hand-sawn, hand-planed boards and we rejoice each time a carpenter brings another piece of completed equipment. Someday we hope to have the floors cemented.

At 6:00 a.m. each school day the practice teachers come for a thirty-minute period of instruction before their pupils, the women and girls, arrive. The women bring their small children who are cared for while the mothers are in class for two hours. They get fruit to eat, and are taught to wash their hands and have their "thank you" before eating. There are about one hundred for this first period, divided into classes according to their school ability, and the girls and women separated. The women do better when they are in classes with others of about the same age. Some classes have only two or three while others have ten or more.

From 10:00 to 1:00 o'clock the first degree school for boys is held, and these same practice teachers and others more advanced do the teaching of the fifteen or more classes. Attendance here is from 180 to 250 students. These boys are taught reading, writing, arithmetic, Bible, hygiene, games, and some French. We are beginning to translate the Boy Scout material into the native language and use some of it in our opening exercises. They are happy when they are selected to play ball.

The advanced, or second degree school meets from 2:00 to 5:00 o'clock, with from eight to ten classes, and the most advanced teachers doing the teaching. The student

preachers are in this group, and we have special classes for them. There are about 130 students in this advanced school.

In addition to our school work, the arrangement of the building makes it possible for us to use it for pageants and for moving pictures. Then on Sundays the rooms are used for the classes of the Sunday school.

The only school opportunities in Congo are those provided by the Christian missions. The five hundred students whom we serve on the station, and the other hundreds out in the villages, are only a small part of the total population who must be taught if Congo is ever to be truly Christian.—*The Christian Evangelist*, May 17.

Work in Jamaica, B. W. I., Growing

LUKE D. ELLIOTT
Santa Rosa, Calif.

In a letter from C, Leo Battieste, native minister, dated April 1, he states: "We are having a severe drought and cannot get water to hold our baptismal services. We are planning on a leaders' meeting the last of this month, and a big annual leaders' meeting in July. Please send lesson materials for this meeting. Also, will appeal to the brethren for some special financial help for this leaders' meeting in July. We shall have to feed at least 150 from the various churches for three or four days. Food is scarce and high. During March we secured two new pieces of land for the congregation at Red Ground and Tydixon. These will fill a great need . . . the Corporation in Kingston has granted us one and one-half squares of land in the May Pen Cemetery to bury our dead in the Kingston and St. Andrew area."

A letter from Wm. W. Ashley, in the Clarendon District, dated March 30, states, "We are in the grip of a devastating drought—*island wide*. Only those whose livelihood is connected with the soil can fully appreciate the present distress. Then there is the ever present monster of unemployment demoralizing thousands—add to these the unprecedented high cost of living and you will realize the real state of things. Many are trying to deceive themselves, but you can not evade facts. The master Pilot is on board. I am not afraid."

Brother Stewart writes, "We are suffering much from a hard drought

(Continued on page 5)

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.

Report of President

To the Executive Board of the National Christian Missionary Convention of the Christian Church or Disciples of Christ in session at A&I State College, Nashville, Tenn., April 20, 1944—Greetings:

It has been a pleasure for me to work with you as your president since the National Convention at Columbus, Ohio.

First. Because you believe as I believe concerning the doctrine of the Christian Church as laid down in the New Testament and preached by the Founders and Fathers of our National Convention.

Second. You believe as I believe what the Apostle John says in his second epistle eighth to eleventh verses. "Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward. Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God speed is a partaker of his evil deeds."

Third. You believe as I believe what the Apostle Paul says in Galatians first chapter sixth to eleventh verse: "I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, if any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed. For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet please men, I should not be the servant of Christ. But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man."

Fourth. We have been taught to speak where the Book speaks. The Book speaks against the evilness of open membership, Jim Crowism and discrimination because of color by people who profess to be children of God and students of the New Testament.

If open membership is right, the New Testament is wrong and we are

in need of another Book to guide us to heaven.

If Jim Crowism and discrimination because of color by people who profess to be children of God and students of the New Testament are right, then the Constitution of the United States, the Bill of Rights and the New Testament are all wrong.

Fifth. You believe as I believe that the National Convention will never amount to anything more than a RUBBER STAMP for the United Christian Missionary Society as long as we play the part of an UNCLE TOM, just to get a handout over the BACK FENCE.

Since these evils are forced upon me because I am colored by people who profess to be children of God and students of the New Testament; I would rather suffer with the National Convention.

Since the Columbus Convention we have cared for our pastoral work at home and visited twelve states. Some states we have visited twice. Conducted two revivals. Spoken in schools and colleges, brought greetings from the National Convention to clubs and other organizations throughout the country.

Money donated to the president for service rendered on the field:

South Carolina State Convention	\$25.00
Mt. Olive Christian Church, Charleston, S. C.	4.00
Cedar Ave. Christian Church, Cleveland, Ohio.....	75.00
Monroe Ave. Christian Church, Columbus, Ohio	61.50
Antioch Christian Church, New Brunswick, N. Y.....	3.00
Stuyvesant Height Christian Church, Brooklyn, N. Y.....	10.00
Williamsburg Christian Church, Brooklyn, N. Y.....	21.00
St. Phillips Christian Church, Brooklyn, N. Y.....	7.00
First Christian Church, Reidsville, N. C.....	6.00
Mt. Pleasant Christian Church, Greensboro, N. C.	3.00
Cleveland Ave. Christian Church, Winston-Salem, N. C.....	25.00
Antioch Christian Church, Winston-Salem, N. C.....	6.50
Total.....	\$247.00

The above amount was donated to the president for service rendered to the churches of their own free will. They promised to send one dollar per member to the National Convention and help their pastor to join the

(Continued on page 5)

WORK IN JAMAICA

(Continued from page 3)
from December last until now. We who are in Kingston are not as bad off as the poor people in the country parts. Please remember us in your prayers."

The Work Continues to Grow

During the first two months of this year, Brother Battieste reported 98 confessions—35 baptized—8 weddings, 658 miles traveled in visiting the churches, properties purchased and the work generally improved in spite of extreme hardships.

Funds Needed Now

Funds are needed so Brother Elliott can send extra help for the July leader's meeting and to help those in need because of drought conditions. The Elliott and Hughes families are also making preparations to go to Jamaica as soon as possible. Four thousand dollars will be needed before next spring. Nearly \$1,700 of this has been raised. Equipment is now being purchased, the land is being paid for at Ewarton, on which the mission house and school will be built. Less than \$250 remains to be paid on this property, and it should be completely paid for before next spring. As soon as the \$4,000 is raised, application will be made for passage. All the leaders in Jamaica write of the urgent need for the Elliotts to return to the field as soon as possible.
—*Christian Standard.*

REPORT OF PRESIDENT

(Continued from page 4)

ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR CLUB.
Money received for the National Convention:

Monroe Ave. Christian Church, Columbus Ohio, for National Convention -----	\$110.00
Second Christian Church, Hagerstown, Md., for National Convention -----	20.00
Emmanuel Christian Church, Baltimore, Md., for National Convention -----	20.00
South Carolina Bible School for National Bible School -----	5.00
Elder John Barker for National Convention -----	8.00
Elder P. H. Turman for National Convention -----	1.00
Total -----	\$164.00

We have visited the following cities with the idea of establishing the New Testament Church: Wilmington, Delaware, Philadelphia, Pa., Harrisburg, Pa., York, Pa., and Pittsburg, Pa. There are members of our faith

in all of these cities and they are anxious for a church even if it is to be in a store front.

Prayerfully submitted,
Elder W. H. (Baltimore) TAYLOR,
President.

It was moved and carried that the report of the President be received and adopted as the guiding principle of the National Board.

L. L. DICKERSON,
Secretary.

**News of the Death of
Elder R. B. Cothran**

Several years ago in Maury County, Tennessee, a son was born to Charles Cothran and his good wife, Annie Stockard Cothran. The child was named Richard Baxter Cothran. These Christian parents worked hard to train this son, together with their other children, to live useful, Christian lives.

Early in life this son, Brother Richard Cothran, became a Christian. He moved to this city and forty years ago he became a very active member of Lea Ave. Christian Church. So very active and Christ-like was his life that he was soon made an Elder of this church. As long as he was able to go, he was one of the first members to arrive at any service of his church. He never tired of his duties as an Elder. He was constantly looking after the spiritual welfare of the church. He believed in doing the work of his Master and in doing it on time. Whenever we became a little tardy about the time of opening any service of the church he would, in his father-like manner, insist that we come to church on time. It was always his earnest plea that all members be present when the eleven o'clock morning service opened.

During these past months that Lea Avenue has been without a pastor, Brother Cothran saw to it that the pulpit was filled by a competent preacher each Sunday. If he was unable to secure one elsewhere, he delivered to us a sermon that he had studied and thoughtfully prepared.

Brother Cothran was married to Mrs. Sarah Winston September 12, 1918. On April 20th of this year he became very sick and this good wife and his devoted sister, Mrs. Elmora Ball, have been constantly and untiringly at his bedside administering to him.

A few days ago he told his wife the things that he wanted and his funeral plans. She tried to get his mind off the idea of his leaving us,

but in his practical way he replied: "I want you to know these things. If I get well, no harm will be done. If I don't get well, you will know the things that I would like to have done."

Last week, when some of the brethren visited him and told him how much we missed him from church and that we were praying and longing for the day when he could return to worship here, he sadly replied, "I won't ever be able to go back to Lea Avenue again."

On June the 12th, at 2:30 P. M., the Master called him to his reward. The dark swollen stream held no fears for him for he was crossing it to join his parents and others dear to him who had gone on before him, and to meet his Lord face to face. I am sure that he wonders why we should grieve as we do when we know the bliss that is his in the Eternal City and why we are so blind that we can not see the ray of light shining in the darkness of our grief, where the beautiful gates opened to receive him.

He leaves to mourn his loss: A faithful wife, Mrs. Sarah Winston Cothran; two devoted sisters, Mrs. Elnora Ball and Laura Crow; two brothers, Mr. Mose Cothran and Mr. George Beaden; two step-daughters to whom he was a real father, several nieces, nephews and other relatives, a host of friends; every members of Lea Avenue Christian Church, and the entire brotherhood of the Disciples of Christ.

The Builder

An old man going on a lone highway
Came at the evening cold and grey
To a chasm vast and wide.

The old man crossed in the twilight
dim;

The sullen stream had no fears for
him;

But he turned when safe on the other
side

And built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim near,
"You are wasting your strength with
building here.

Your journey will end with the wind-
ing day;

You never again will pass this way;
You've crossed the chasm deep and
wide,

Why build you this bridge at evening
tide?"

The builder lifted his old grey head,
"Old friend, the path I have come,"
he said,

"There followeth after me today

A youth whose feet must pass this way.
The chasm that has been as naught to me
To that fair haired youth a pitfall may be.
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim,
Good friend, I'm building this bridge for him."

—Anonymous.

To the Memory of Mr. R. B. Cothran

When this beautiful life ended and went to another shore, we will just remember he went upstairs and shut the door. In this world he had his joys and sorrows while traveling below, but now he has quietly gone upstairs and gently closed the door. Then may we all remember down here he comes no more, but up yonder we will meet when we too will shut the door. The sweet perfume of his memory will linger until we greet him in the land of fadeless day. He was a vessel of the Lord. Although quiet in his personality, he was forceful and strong in his convictions and made his influence felt wherever he went. He was like "the shadow of a great rock in a weary land." Heaven is surely the richer as earth is poorer for his going. When next we meet it will be among the throng of the redeemed from all the earth; there we shall meet him with many whom he has shown the way to God.

Resolved, That we the 1800 Scovel Street Design Club, express our sincere gratitude to Almighty God for lending to us this choice life for so long a period, for the helpful enthusiasm, inspiration and devotion to duty which he has contributed to those who have been privileged to come under the influence of his life, for the splendid type of Christian manhood which has been revealed through his life.

To the bereaved widow and family, an expression of sympathy and understanding, offered with the wish that there may be much faith and comfort to sustain you in your shadowed hour.

Respectfully submitted,

The 1800 Scovel Street Design Club.
Mrs. Oshea Hardy, President.
Mrs. M. L. Fowler, Secretary.

Resolution of Lea Avenue Christian Church

June 15, 1944.

"So we fall asleep in Jesus. We have played long enough at the game

of life, and at last we feel the approach of death. We are tired, and we lay our heads back on the bosom of Christ, and quietly fall asleep."

Whereas: God, in His allwise providence, has seen fit to call our beloved brother, Elder Richard B. Cothran, from labor to reward; and

Whereas: Our departed Brother Cothran has walked, worked and labored in our midst most of his life. He was known as an upright, devout, calm and humble Christian gentleman. The activities of his life are a testimony to the qualities expressed above. For more than forty years he held the high office of Elder in Lea Avenue Christian Church. This is the highest church office that man can hold. The fact that he was elevated to this office and the congregation continued him in it year in and year out, is sufficient testimony to the high esteem in which he was held. He had a great love for people. He gave his life to his people, to his Church, to his home and to his work; and

Whereas: Brother Richard B. Cothran was removed from us June 12, 1944, to return no more in the flesh, we the members and officers of Lea Avenue Christian Church wish to express our sympathy to the family. We realize with you that his place is not only vacant in the home, but in the church. We cherish the fond memories of the good life that he lived and now pledge ourselves to live more like him. Therefore,

Be It Resolved: That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family; a copy published in the CHRISTIAN PLEA and that our reverence for his memory be ever before us as a "light unto our feet and a guide to our pathway."

"How beautiful it is for man to die on the walls of Zion; to be called like a watch-worn and weary sentinel. To put his armor off, and rest in heaven.

Respectfully submitted,

The Official Board and Members of
the Lea Avenue Christian Church.
Brother Frank White, Chairman.
Brother A. J. Chandler,
Brother Jake Anderson,
Brother Merl R. Eppse.

News From Oklahoma

R. L. SERCY, *President*

E. M. BARRETT, *Secretary*

The Thirty-sixth Annual Session of the Christian Churches of Oklahoma will convene with the Second Christian Church in Muskogee, Elder Z. H. Howard, Pastor, August 10-13, 1944. An ideal program is being planned

and the people of Muskogee are going in a big way to make this one of the largest conventions held in years.

We are inviting the Rev. C. L. Parks of Nashville and Miss Jamison to be our guests. We have only one vacant church in the state now. The Lord has blessed us with another minister, Rev. J. M. Cox, of Texas, who is now pastoring the churches at Boley and Boley Rusk two Sundays each month. The churches of the state are giving a supplement each month to his salary: Muskogee, \$7.50; Chickasha, \$7.50; Tulsa, \$5.00; Sapulpa, \$2.00; Okmulgee, \$2.00; Oklahoma City, \$10.00. This year the churches of Oklahoma have doubled the work of last year with baptisms. Let us pray that this be a victory year with the church universal. We appreciated the presence of several of our ministers this year, namely: Elders C. W. Arnolds, S. S. Meyers, R. W. Watson, and Mrs. E. G. Titus, of Dallas. We always appreciate good ministers coming by. I fear that we as Christian ministers don't visit enough to stay in harmony with each other. If we were to have the constant fellowship with one another, our churches would more or less be teaching and advocating the same thing. We have eight ministers in Oklahoma who are together on proclaiming Christ as the only answer and the gospel as the only cure for the ills of our churches today. Should any of our ministers be taking their vacation in August and come through Oklahoma, stop over a day or so in the state with a big heart.

We will be seeing you all in Lexington. Let us hope for a great time.

Dr. C. L. Parks' Report to the Brotherhood for May

On the 28th of April we left Nashville for Memphis and on the 30th preached at Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church. We were very cordially received and the fellowship of the brethren during our stay there shall ever remain a pleasant memory. The Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church, under the leadership of Elder B. T. Hunt and his fine staff of officers has really launched out into the deep in its effort to serve the community's needs and to support the total brotherhood program.

We left Memphis on the night of the 30th of April and arrived in Nashville on the morning of May 1st and left on the 2nd for Jacksonville, Florida. We went to Jacksonville to search out the possibilities for estab-

lishing a church there. However, it was not a wild goose chase, because Mr. Samuel C. Taylor, a white brother there, invited us to come and make the survey. Our finding is this: The churches are great. We found a mission there that has been intact for the last 16 years under the leadership of Mrs. R. M. Phillips. Its membership consists of 18 adult and a fine group of children. About six months ago, Elder A. J. Roberson, a Christian minister, who was living in Jackson before the birth of this mission, found them and they in turn accepted him as their pastor. When the idea was conceived to establish a church in Jacksonville, neither Elder Roberson nor Mr. S. C. Taylor knew that there was a Christian mission in the city.

We do want to express our appreciation to Mr. Taylor, our white brother there, for his deep interest in our Negro work. He has purchased a church building and is having it remodeled. This remodeling will be completed within the next sixty days and ready for occupancy. Then the mission, with Elder Roberson as its pastor, will move in. The Jacksonville mission gave \$6.06 on expenses.

We left Jacksonville on the 18th of May for Birmingham, Ala., and found Elder Jeffries on the job as a building contractor. We really enjoyed our stay in Brother Jeffries' home. He and Mrs. Jeffries are very fine Christian people. Bro. Jeffries has done a fine job in Birmingham under the conditions in which he had to labor. Under his leadership a nice brick building has been erected and they hope to finish furnishing it this year. He has a live membership that desires greater progress. Brother Jeffries nor any other brother can serve the Birmingham Church adequately unless he gives full time to its ministry. We were made to rejoice when the church board indicated its willingness to pay Brother Jeffries for full time service. On the 21st we preached for the Eleventh St. congregation. We must confess, we have never met a more appreciative audience. They contributed \$10.00 on expense.

The 28th of May found us in Jackson, Miss., with Elder Heath. We preached at the North Jackson Christian Church during the morning worship. They were entertaining their District. Four churches were represented. We were warmly received and graciously entertained. The District gave \$2.00 on expenses. At night

we preached for College Addition Christian Church, and there again we met souls reaching out for the truth. The fellowship was fine and the spirit was high. The contribution on expenses was \$10.00. Elder and Mrs. Heath certainly were royal in entertaining us.

We left Jackson on the 29th for Nashville and home.

Jackson District News Jackson, Miss.

By D. C. HEATH
Jackson, Miss.

Our churches have shown a progress in the recent months, especially in a financial way. Our last District Meeting showed a definite increase. We had a fine meeting and Bro. Long, President of Southern Christian, was the guest speaker. The meeting was held at the Vicksburg Church, in Vicksburg. This church has been hit very hard on account of our present day conflict. All of its main members have been called to war industries in different parts of the country. Therefore, it leaves just a precious few to carry on the work.

The Southern Christian Church is still moving as the schools move. Of course, the time will soon arrive when most of the students will be off the campus, making their way to their many different homes.

The college Addition Church has started planning to raise its apportionment for the state convention. We will have a one-day rally on the second Sunday in May in order to clear out the sum which is to the amount of \$25.00.

The North Jackson Church has just come out of an Easter revival, which was a very nice success. After being disappointed greatly by our National Evangelist, Bro. Brooks, who is our state evangelist, came to our rescue and did a very nice job. We carried on for one week and succeeded in taking in one for baptism and raised around \$78.00.

Bro. D. W. Heath was the guest speaker for the Ninth Ave. Christian Church, Roanoke, Va., April 30th. There was a lovely audience, which was very receptive and contributed to the service that day the sum of \$70.00. Bro. Heath will remain over the entire week for the purpose of stimulating interest among the members, since they have no pastor. A mighty fine group of people are here and seemingly are anxious to keep going forward as they once have under the leadership of Bro. M. C. Dixon.

Money Received by the Christian Plea Treasurer for the Months of April, May, and June, 1944

1. Rev. J. E. Miller, Tazewell, Va., 1 year sub.	\$.50
2. Mrs. Lola Jones, 1470 Texas Ave., Beaumont, Texas, 1 year sub.	1.00
3. Rev. S. E. Tillman and Bro. Harley, New Brunswick, N. J.	1.00
4. Chaplain Lorenza Evans, APA 708, P.M., San Francisco, Calif.	1.50
5. Rev. Geo. H. Alexander, 624 Anderson St., Braddock, Pa.	1.00
6. Howard B. Smith, U. S. Sub Base, New London, Conn.	1.00
7. James DeForest Murch, Standard Pub. Co., Cincinnati, Ohio.	1.00
8. Rev. Park H. Netting, Box 745, E. Gary, Indiana. ....	.50
9. J. R. Crandall, Springport, Ind. ....	.50
10. Rev. E. J. Waterstripe, Sweet Valley, Pa. ....	.51
11. Rev. William James Cary, 10 W. Tillman, Lake Wales, Florida. ....	.50
12. Mrs. M. A. Keeler, Millville, Pa.	1.00
13. S. M. Hamilton, Rising Sun, Ind. ....	.50
14. Paul L. Stacy, 4933 W. 24th St., Cicero, Illinois.	1.00
15. Mrs. L. E. Allumbaugh, 2272 Mc- Millan St., Eugene, Oregon.	1.00
16. Elder Jessie Robinson, 606 E. Brainard St., Pensacola, Florida.	1.00
17. Mrs. Sophie Smith, 6217 So. Park Ave., Chicago, Illinois.	1.00
18. Rev. Stephen O. Redacre, 801 N. Central Ave., Phoenix, Arizona. ....	.50
19. Rev. John E. Grasty, 605 Bordeaux St., Chadron, Nebr.	1.00
20. Kenneth B. Holsinger, Route Box 112, Del Mar, Calif. ....	.50
21. R. L. Allen, 3416 Moncrief Pl., Denver, Colo.	2.00
22. Blake Gaunt, General Hospital, Wood, Wisc.	1.00
23. Prof. James A. Burns, 2906½ Uni- versity Ave., S.E., Minneapolis, Minnesota.	1.00
24. Rev. C. E. Wyatt, Lakeland, Fla. ....	.50
25. Pres. Geo. W. Bon Durant, At- lanta Christian College, Atlanta, Georgia. ....	.50
26. S. S. Ocutt, Brownsburg, Indiana	1.00
27. Mrs. Rosa Page Welch, Chicago, Illinois.	5.00
28. Mrs. Mary A. Southall, 815 South St., Nashville, Tenn.	3.00
29. Mrs. Rosa Page Welch, 3402½ Giles Ave., Chicago, Illinois.	3.00
30. Mrs. Johnnie H. Calvert, 307 So. St. Vrain St., El Paso, Texas.	1.00
31. Mrs. Kittle Sonnanstine, 10 Wentz Ave., Shelby, Ohio.	1.00
32. Eld. W. H. Taylor, 1702 Madison Ave., Baltimore, Md.	1.00
33. R. M. Phillips, 744 Florida Ave., Jacksonville, Florida.	3.00
34. Mrs. R. H. Peoples, 2700 N. Capitol Ave., Indianapolis, Ind.	2.25
35. T. B. Frost, Hawkins, Texas. ....	.50
36. Eld. W. H. Taylor, 1702 Madison Ave., Baltimore, Md.	2.50
37. Rev. W. L. Lucas, Port Gibson, Mississippi. ....	.50
38. Mrs. E. B. Merchant, Short & De- wese, Lexington, Ky.	1.00
39. R. A. Jackson, 1407 Phillips St., Nashville, Tenn.	1.00
40. T. R. Everitt, Box 192, Midway, Kentucky.	4.25
41. Mrs. Nancy Martin, Higbee, Mo.	2.00
42. Mrs. D. Williams, 612 N. 6th St., Birmingham, Ala.	1.60
43. Mrs. Mattie Wallick, Box 164, Hawkins, Texas.	1.00
44. Eld. C. H. Dickerson, 340 Ohio, Lexington, Ky.	1.00
45. Mr. W. E. Dixon, 2449 Frances St., Baltimore, Md.	1.00
46. National Christian Missionary Con., J. E. Walker, Treas.	100.00
	\$158.11



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Robbin Street Christian Church News

By L. L. DICKERSON
Covington

The Robbin Street Christian Church of Covington sends greetings to the brotherhood. Sunday, June the 24th, was a great day for us. It was our "Mortgage Burning Rally." We owed a balance of \$752.00 on a debt that was \$6,100.00 made six years ago. We decided that we would pay it off on the first Sunday in June. We raised \$788.64. Rev. Kenneth B. Bowen, pastor of Madison Ave. Christian Church, Elder S. C. Devine of Kenyan Ave. Church and a large number of the pastors of the White Christian Churches of Northern Kentucky and a large number of members from these churches were with us in the afternoon.

The Covington Church has paid \$2,000.00 on its debt in the past 15 months. In the past 7 years the membership has increased over 100 per cent and the per capita giving for adult members average \$1.00 per week. In addition to paying off the mortgage, the church has increased the pastor's salary 600 per cent in 6 years, making it possible for its minister to give full time at a living salary.

In proportion to its numerical strength, the Robbins Street Christian Church claims to be the leading church in our brotherhood in giving.

The average giving of \$11.00 per week per member represents the amount actually contributed, after deducting all monies raised through public support.

On April 12, 1920, a group of Christians, who were members of the Christian Church in Cincinnati, organized in Covington a club, the purpose of which was the organizing of a Christian Church in this city. Mrs. Addie Davis was elected president; Mrs. Alice Washington, vice-president; Mrs. Elizabeth Brooks, secretary; Mrs. Sarah Wilson, assistant secretary, and Mrs. Mary Hawse, treasurer.

Other members were J. J. Conway, Albert Wilson, Henry Hawse, John H. Davis, Julian Davis, Henry Brooks, David Brooks, Alphonso Brooks, and a Mr. Thomas Robinson as associate member. These faithful men and women worked hard to secure enough money to purchase a place of worship. On August 17, 1920, they made the first payment on the property at 246 E. Robbin Street. In October they

were organized into a church with the following persons as trustees: Brother Albert Wilson, Brother J. J. Conway, Brother Henry Hawse, Brother John H. Davis.

On October 15, 1920, they had their first meeting and communion in the property they had purchased. The same month the above named men were ordained. Elder Richard Ewell served as the first pastor. Two years later Elder Salvadore Johnson was called as pastor. Under his leadership a small house was built, and the congregation worshipped there for several years.

The following men served as pastor following Elder Johnson: Elder Woodie, Elder F. T. Floyd, who paid off the debt and burned the mortgage; Elder R. E. Hancock followed, and under his leadership this present building was erected. Elder T. B. Frost, W. D. Campbell, H. E. Fowler, and the present pastor, L. L. Dickerson, followed in succession.

Three Mile Creek Christian Church, Ehrhardt, S. C., Pays National Dues

By DR. J. E. WALKER
ELDER R. H. BOYED, *Pastor*
H. W. EDWARDS, *Reporter*

H. W. Edwards, Elder, \$1.00; J. Sparks, Elder, \$1.00; W. D. Falk, Deacon, \$1.00; A. Ealy, Deacon, \$1.00; Murphy Breland, Deacon, \$1.00; H. L. Breland, Deacon, \$1.00; M. C. Breland, Deacon, \$1.00; R. F. Breland, Deacon, \$1.00; A. L. Brabham, Superintendent, \$1.00. Total amount sent, \$9.00.

News From Cleveland, Ohio

By DR. G. CALVIN CAMPBELL
Editor of the Plea:

I had planned to send you an article for publication concerning the very fine meeting which the Executive and the Program Committees of our National Convention held in connection with a ministerial institute at the A&I College, Nashville, Tenn., April 17-21, 1944. Just as soon as I returned home, on attack of the "flu," which kept me in bed and in the house for three weeks, made it impossible for me to do so.

However, I hope that I am not too late in letting our brethren know what a helpful and instructive meeting it was. The spirit and fellowship of the meeting were most commendable in every way, and the discussions most instructive.

The meeting showed the results of

the commendable and constructive work which is being done by our National President, Rev. W. H. (Baltimore) Taylor, for the churches throughout the brotherhood.

He has emphasized with all of his power the preeminence of the "faith once for all delivered unto the saints," and this emphasis is on the New Testament teachings as the only rule of faith and practice comes at a most opportune time.

The president should receive the hearty support and endorsement of the entire brotherhood, because of the outstanding piece of work which he is doing.

I want to let those who failed to attend the meeting know, also, that they missed one of the most royal and hospitable entertainments that it has been my privilege to enjoy at any time.

Prof. Eppse had spared no pain to see to it that all of our wants were supplied and our comfort secured. He, the faculty, and the student body did everything in their power to make our stay there a most enjoyable one. We did not anticipate the grand reception which we were to receive, and those who failed to attend certainly missed a most hospitable and cordial welcome.

Those who were there were so highly pleased that they voted unanimously "On to Nashville and A&I State College in 1945."

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The CHRISTIAN PLEA

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NEGRO DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

VOLUME LI

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, JULY, 1944

NUMBER 11

NATIONAL CONVENTION TO LEXINGTON, KY., AUG. 22-27

1943 Disciples of Christ Year Book

May 2, 1944.

Mr. Merle R. Eppse, Editor,
The CHRISTIAN PLEA,
449 Fourth Avenue, North,
Nashville 3, Tennessee.

Dear Mr. Eppse:

My attention has been called to the table which you show on the first page of the January, 1944 issue of THE CHRISTIAN PLEA, headed "Negroes Contribute \$49,686.02 to U. C. M. S. Negro Disciples in 1943 Year Book."

We note that in the fifth column you show figures under the heading "Offering to U. C. M. S." totaling \$8,404.27. This showing is in error according to Year Book figures. Let us take North Carolina as an example. You show \$1,332.75 as an offering to the U. C. M. S. from Negro Churches and organizations in North Carolina. You have evidently arrived at this \$1,332.75 by adding \$26.00 contributed to Unified Promotion by Church, \$29.00 by Bible Schools, \$151.00 by Adult and Children's Missionary Organizations, \$7.00 by the Youth Groups, \$2.25 to the National Benevolent Association, and \$1,117.50 Miscellaneous Missionary, Organization, \$7.00 by the Youth Groups, \$2.25 to the National Benevolent Association, and \$1,117.50 Miscellaneous Missionary, Benevolent and Emergency Relief Offerings, for the sum of these items totals \$1,332.75. However, the U. C. M. S. does not participate in National Benevolent Association Offerings, nor Miscellaneous Missionary, Benevolent and Emergency Relief Offerings, and only participates in Unified Promotion Offerings to the extent of its percentage in the respective states—which, in the State of North Carolina (as shown at the top of page 453) is 55.408%.

NOTICE TO PLEA READERS

The war has caused us to look for another printer. We have finally found one, after much effort.

We have everything intact and now we are sending you your "Pleas" as rapidly as we get them from the printer.

Send your news, notices and subscriptions to the "Plea" office at once. We are not going out of business. We are no quitters.

Thanks for your confidence and support. Renew your subscription at once. Send your news at once.

PROF. MERL R. EPPSE,
Editor.

55.408% of the total of Unified Promotion Offerings in North Carolina, which was but \$213.00, makes the amount which the U. C. M. S. received from Negro Churches and Organizations in North Carolina 55.408% of \$213.00, or \$118.02 instead of the \$1,332.75 as shown by you; or \$1,119.75 less than the amount you indicate having been received by the U. C. M. S.

Arriving at the correct amount of U. C. M. S. money in the other states in the same way makes the correct "Total Offering to U. C. M. S." \$3,650.47 instead of \$8,404.27—or \$4,753.80 less. We attach a copy showing the correct figures.

In the interest of accuracy so far as the Year Book is concerned, we suggest that you print the corrected figures so far as Offerings to The United Christian Missionary Society are concerned, in an early issue of THE CHRISTIAN PLEA.

Cordially yours,

H. B. HOLLOWAY,

Executive Secretary,
Year Book Pub. Com.

Editor's Note: I am glad to get this explanation and to note the total

(Continued on page 2)

National Convention Meets

Aug. 22-27 at Lexington, Ky.

All roads head to the Bluegrass State—the cradle of the Disciples of Christ. Elder R. L. Saunders, pastor of Second Christian Church, 224 East 2nd St., Lexington, Ky., is the host pastor. At the Executive Board meeting they approved of the board and room fee being raised. Elder and Mrs. Saunders are asking that all delegates write in early, telling how many are coming, husband and wife, children, male or female, so that ample arrangements can be made.

Bilbo-Christianity

According to a leading news magazine Senator Bilbo of Mississippi made the following statement in a recent address: "The white man is the custodian of the gospel of Jesus Christ," and "We will tell our Negro-loving Yankee friends to go straight to hell."

So far as we know, there is nothing in the New Testament to indicate that any race or nation or people has been made the guardian of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Paul said, on the contrary, that in Christ Jesus there is neither Jew nor Greek, neither bond nor free. The early Christians carefully avoided monopolistic pretensions on the part of any special group. It was probably for this reason that Christianity made such rapid progress throughout the world. All this doubtless sounds elementary to pretty nearly everybody except the United States Senator.

Delinquent Subscribers:

Your "Plea" will not be delivered unless you pay before July.

1943 D. of C. YEAR BOOK

(Continued from page 1)

of \$49,686.20 is not denied as raised by Negroes.

1943 DISCIPLES OF CHRIST YEAR BOOK

State	Unif. Prom.	Per Cent	U.C.M.S. U.C.M.S. Propor.
Alabama	\$ 69.80	63.757	\$ 44.50
Arkansas	204.66	62.847	128.62
California, South	232.68	66.820	155.48
Dist. of Columbia	51.00	66.759	34.05
Florida	20.60	73.763	15.20
Georgia	20.70	65.748	13.61
Illinois	423.45	72.678	307.75
Indiana	330.50	78.572	259.68
Iowa	31.35	73.514	23.05
Kansas	124.95	88.989	111.19
Kentucky	253.64	74.692	189.45
Maryland	211.12	66.759	140.94
Michigan	58.00	59.905	34.74
Mississippi	495.94	54.367	269.63
Missouri	476.37	77.267	368.08
New Jersey	5.75	66.918	3.85
New York	127.50	66.918	85.32
North Carolina	213.00	55.408	118.02
Ohio	352.50	78.581	277.00
Oklahoma	191.00	73.622	140.62
South Carolina	107.92	42.718	46.10
Tennessee	358.30	63.840	235.12
Texas	727.61	71.945	523.48
Virginia	233.35	52.232	121.88
West Virginia	5.00	62.137	3.11
Totals	\$5,336.69		\$3,650.47

What Will Negro Service Men Get From the Disciples?

One of the most significant interdenominational meetings of the year will be the National Conference on the Ministry of the Church to Returning Service Men, which has been called for May 17-18 by four interdenominational commissions representing the Interdenominational Council of Religious Education, The Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, the Home Missions Council of North America; and the United Council of Church Women. The meeting will be held in Baltimore, Maryland.

Preliminary details of the conference, which will bring together outstanding representatives of government, education and social agencies, as well as the Church, were announced today by the Rev. Marion J. Creeger, Executive Secretary of the Christian Commission for Camp and Defense Communities, and Chairman of the Steering Committee for the Conference.

According to Mr. Creeger, the conference has been called in response to a growing demand on the part of local churches and church groups over the country for information and guidance on their responsibilities in ministering to returning service personnel now and in the post war period.

Noting that more than a million members of the armed forces have already returned to civilian life and are continuing to return at the rate of almost 100,000 a month, Mr. Creeger pointed out that numerous

governmental and social agencies are concerning themselves with the problems and needs," he declared.

The conference program is designed to furnish knowledge of the plans of governmental and other agencies; to give information concerning the specific attitudes and needs of returning service men and women; to provide opportunity for considering the distinctively religious needs involved; and to make plans to meet these needs.

The four agencies sponsoring the meeting are: the Christian Commission for Camp and Defense Communities, the General Commission on Army and Navy Chaplains, the Commission on Religion and Health of the Federal Council of Churches, and the Service Men's Christian League.

In addition to Mr. Creeger, the members of the Steering Committee are: Rev. Seward Hiltner, Secretary of the Commission on Religion and Health; Rev. Ivan Gould, General Secretary of the Service Men's Christian League, and Dr. William Barrow Pugh, Chairman of the General Commission on Army and Navy Chaplains and the Service Men's Christian League.

Paths of Service

By CARNELLA L. JAMISON

As early as 3:00 P. M. Wednesday, delegates were arriving in Indianapolis for the fourth biennial National Convention Christian Youth Fellowship Planning Conference which began Thursday, May 4, and closed Sunday, May 7. The purpose of these sessions was to evaluate and make recommendations concerning the program of Christian Youth Fellowship as it operates in our local churches, youth meets, summer conferences, youth sessions in state and national conventions, and in cooperative relationships between Disciple churches.

The Commission on Future Plans had as its task the development of plans in light of the needs in our world and the participation of youth in the postwar world; a consideration of what preparation is being made by youth in our churches for leadership in Christian education, the ministry and missionary service.

Future Plans in the lights of these:

1. Thorough understanding of the essence of religion in relationship to total human needs.
2. Freedom for all (minority and oppressed).

3. Abolition of segregation and discrimination in all forms.
4. Economic security in postwar employment.
5. Religious education for all young people.

We offer these suggestions:

1. We note that in some sections a few of our young men and women are interested in entering the several fields of Christian education, the ministry and missionary service. This is a healthy sign and we shall continue to encourage the dedication of life into these avenues of Christian service.
2. Our brotherhood has the resources whereby the young people who qualify can receive aid to assist them in preparing for a more intelligent and consecrated leadership. Young people so interested should contact first of all our local leaders, then our national workers, and make application for scholarships and candidacy to the persons carrying administrative responsibility.
3. We suggest that our local churches continue to contact and recruit young people from their local churches, and that our national workers continue their efforts to interview and explain to young people the demands and qualifications for the several aspects for leadership now open.

The conference was not all work. There were worship services of inspiration. The stimulating messages by John Eubanks of Chicago University will challenge those who heard him for some time to come. An evening of fun was enjoyed by all who participated.

The interracial, interdenominational, interfaith banquet was the high point of the conference. The theme, "We the people," was shared by persons representing six racial and national groups.

The play, "Barabbas," was a part of the brief consecration service at the close on Sunday.

The pastor, R. H. Peoples, and members of the Second Christian Church were hosts to the conference. The committee and commission sessions were held during the day at the Phyllis Wheatley Y. W. C. A.

The sixty-eight delegates from ten states and twenty-four local churches returned to their local communities petitioning earnestly of God, "Thy Paths Our Chosen Way." — *World Call*, June 1944.

Negroes to Be Part Of National Study

A National Study Conference on the Church and Minority Peoples will be held in the spring or early summer of 1945 to consider action which should be taken by the churches in view of the problems posed by America's racial and cultural minorities, according to an announcement by the Rev. Bradford S. Abernethy, Director of the Commission on the Church and Minority Peoples. The Conference, which will bring together appointed representatives of the various denominations, was authorized by the Executive Committee of the Federal Council at its May meeting.

The Commission on the Church and Minority Peoples was instituted by the Federal Council in September, 1943, "to aid the churches of America to become more effective in dealing with racial and cultural problems. Its chairman is Dr. Will W. Alexander, consultant on racial minorities to the War Manpower Commission and vice-president of the Rosenwald Fund.

During the last few months regional consultations have been held by the Commission with church leaders in all parts of the country to determine the specific areas in the total problem or racial and cultural minorities which are of major importance to the churches. Out of these consultations grew the selection of ten subjects which will be studied by the conference. In preparation for it, papers will be written by outstanding authorities in each field, and will be submitted in advance to the conference delegates.

Topics of the papers, as tentatively worded, are:

- The Christian Teaching on Race.
- The Church and Current Minority Tensions.
- The Teachings of Modern Science Regarding Race.
- Segregation in Church and Community.
- The Church and the Question of "Social Equality".
- The Church and Constitutional and The Local Church and Racial Issues.
- Racism and the World Research of the Church and the Nation.
- Racial Attitudes in Children.
- Christian Youth and the Race Question.

Following the conference the papers will be published in the form of a

"Pamphlet Library on the Church and Minority Peoples" for the information and study of the churches. Names of the authors will be announced later.

How To Cure Race Paranoia

FREDERICK D. KERRSHNER

Those of us who have been disturbed by the race riots in Detroit and elsewhere will welcome the new book by Doctors Alfred McClung Lee and Norman D. Humphrey upon the subject. These eminent authorities tell us that race hatred of the kind which flares into a riot is really a form of paranoia and should be treated as such. The symptoms of the disease may be detected for months before an outbreak if attention is given to the matter. When the rioting actually begins, the authors of the book in question make the following recommendations:

1. Demand state militia or the U. S. Army; do not count on local police to quell the riots.
2. Quarantine the race riot district.
3. Keep the children in school, overtime if necessary, especially the high school students.
4. See that accurate reports of what is going on and constructive official statements reach the public.
5. Do not experiment with halfway measures. A race riot is dynamite!

This is no doubt good advice, but it would be still better to give careful attention to the symptoms and thus prevent the disease from reaching its climax. The volume to which we refer is, *Race Riots*, published by the Dryden Press.

Whites Must Change For Peace

The churches can exercise a decisive role in creating a pattern of world order that will assure peaceful solutions of differences between nations which inevitably will arise when the task of preserving civilization once again passes from the military to the civilian, said John Foster Dulles in the commencement address to the 1944 class of the Princeton Theological Seminary.

Mr. Dulles, New York lawyer, chairman of the Commission on Just and Durable Peace and a Princeton University alumnus, said that only after 30 years of experience with futility in international affairs had he come to recognize the relevancy

of the Christian gospel to the practical solution of world problems.

Analyzing the causes of the failure of the Versailles peace conference and other international diplomatic conclaves in which he personally participated he enumerated them — idolatry, hypocrisy, blindness and evil emotion.

There was idolatry, he said, in the practice of national representatives personifying their state as quasi-god; hypocrisy in considering their own national group to be endowed with virtue and all others with vice; blindness in their inability to see beyond what served their own short-range material interest and evil emotion in their readiness to become suspicious, resentful and angry.

"And there was little good emotion," Mr. Dulles added. "Few were inspired by a great vision or a sense of mission in the world. They saw their tasks as isolated events in a materialistic world, rather than as elements in some progression towards human betterment. They were ineffective because they lacked a righteous faith."

The lessons learned from past mistakes and the adoption of Christian principles point the way, Mr. Dulles said, "in which the churches and Christian ministers like yourselves can decisively aid the cause of world order. By and large your greatest contribution will be to implant the qualities of soul and mind that Christ taught and then to get these qualities into actual use."

In this connection he spoke of the Versailles peace conference. While the members of the American delegation were adherents of either the Christian or the Jewish faith he doubted that any of them "invoked the tenets of his faith to qualify his mind and spirit to solve the concrete problems which confronted him."

"This is the kind of omission, which, if opportunity offers, you must seek to correct," Mr. Dulles told the graduates.

In Mr. Dulles' opinion, the voters of this nation "need to realize that leadership can safely be entrusted only to those who possess and will exercise, not only in word but by competent deed, the qualities taught us by the great religions. Your greatest contribution towards world order will be to bring Christian citizens to realize that their political leadership will be futile and end only in disaster unless it is the leadership of

(Continued on page 5)

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

Christian Unity—How a Young Minister Feels About It

CHARLES E. SHERMAN

At such a moment as this, when lives are confused and frustrated, the matter of Christian unity becomes increasingly important.

The quality of unity is invaluable in all areas of human activities. A football team functions best when each player subordinates his urge to be the star to the main interest of the team, that is, to achieve the final goal. In married life, unity and oneness of purpose of the two individuals concerned is basic. The happiness of any marriage will to a large degree depend on how well husband and wife can succeed in organizing and integrating themselves around common interests and objectives. Again the value of unity is exemplified on the field of battle. Teamwork is that quality of mutual support which exists between members of a group. It cannot be denied that strength is inherent in unity. Where there is no unity division and disintegration take place. One might well ask the question, "What about Christian unity?"

Long before the Protestant Reformation, the church became divided. The division between the Greek and the Roman Churches was due to political, racial, and cultural, as well as to theological, differences between the peoples of the East and the West. Hence these two sections of Christians followed their separate lines of development, each convinced that it had the final truth beyond all points of contradiction.

In 1517 Martin Luther became the leader of the movement to reform the Roman Catholic Church. Very soon the movement became a complete revolt. This revolt is commonly known as the Protestant Reformation. America had been discovered only twenty-five years before the Reformation. Persecuted Protestant groups in Europe regarded this discovery as providential. They looked upon America as a haven for them. To the New World they came in great numbers.

The experiences of the first disciples were determined by the culture in the midst of which they found themselves, and Paul's interpretation of Christianity was directly related to his cultural and social environment. So the historical development of Christianity in Western civilization cannot be sep-

arated from its political, economic, social, and cultural patterns. Once planted in America, Christianity developed in many forms. Thus the growth of denominations is essentially a product of Western civilization. At the present time there are about two hundred and fifty-six denominations in the United States, each with its own interpretation of the Scripture, and each with its own particular creed, dogma, or doctrine. Imagine the Christians of two hundred and fifty-six religious bodies united and working together cooperatively in great spiritual and social causes!

It is apparent that the greatest hindrance to Christian unity today is that of creeds and theological formulas. Creeds follow from two things, either an attempt to justify action or an attempt to explain religious experience. Once a creed is set up, an immense amount of time and energy must of necessity go into the defense of it against the attacks of those who disagree. Such a situation, rather than producing lasting benefits, makes for misunderstanding and disunity. It is, however, desirable to work for mutual understanding of those groups with differing opinions and points of view. Such an attitude is in complete accord with the concept of love as the criterion of Christian ethics.

A basis for unity is the fact that all communions have in common the values and ideals which are associated with the teachings of Jesus. These values and ideals have been preserved and enhanced by the Christian community, that is, the Church. There is common agreement on belief in the Bible as the sacred Christian literature, God as Creator and Father, and Christ as Savior. But beyond these points of agreement, doctrinal differences render unity on theological grounds almost impossible.

There is, however, an avenue open to all by means of which unity is possible. Denominations and churches can get together by working together. Joint action in social and community activities will make the church immeasurably more effective as a force for right and good in the world. Once all Christian groups unite in a practical way for the purpose of meeting the tasks and problems which face the church, it will no doubt be observed that their differences of opinion are not nearly so numerous and significant as their similarities of conviction.—*Front Rank.*

WHITES MUST CHANGE FOR PEACE

(Continued from page 3)

men who have and will use the qualities of the kind Christ taught."

Mr. Dulles, however, warned Christians against overlooking the obstacles which lie in the way of realizing a perfect world order. He said: "That is the partial blindness which frequently afflicts Christians. They see so far that they overlook what is near. They are so concentrated on ends that they ignore means. They enthusiastically embrace leadership that utters fine words. They do not judge critically the practical possibilities of converting those words into deeds. That had led to the common opinion that what Christ taught is of little practical value.

"I think the vision Christ taught was total vision, which sees all the facts. Like Pilgrim, we must move forward through obstacles; we do not soar above them. Unless we see those obstacles we shall stumble and get nowhere."

Many are discouraged by the realization that permanent peace cannot be easily and quickly assured by military victory or by some treaty formula, but Mr. Dulles regarded that as encouraging. "All great wars give rise to visionary hopes that victory itself will assure lasting peace," he said. "Now we know, in time, that to win a victory and to proclaim a peace does not suffice. To know that is the beginning of wisdom."

Mr. Dulles concluded: "To achieve world order is a long, hard task. It is not for those who are weary or faint of heart. It calls for men who are clear of vision and strong of faith. We need many who possess and use the qualities Christ taught. To assure that is your task."

Our Place As Members Of Disciples of Christ

3402½ Giles Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois,
June 10, 1944.

Dear Editor:

Since Pres. Taylor's answer to Rev. Prince Gray was published, I take it that anyone who reads the PLEA might express his opinion.

Frankly I cannot appreciate that coming from a Christian minister and the head of such a large Christian organization. Perhaps I'm mistaken in my interpretation. I would like to think I am.

Before I go farther I want to say

that I know opinions are already formed (by some) about me, and there are those who will perhaps call me a certain name because of what I'm going to say, but I can take it. I'm learning to love all of God's children in spite of, regardless of race, color or creed. I also know how easy it is to form opinions and develop attitudes if we don't know and understand each other, and too many of us, in all races, are like that.

But sarcasm and bitter criticism are very unchristian weapons to use at any time and against anyone. Because of experiences of not only myself but many others, because I know first hand what many people are doing constructively, my conscience leads me to write this.

Suppose all the suppositions as stated in the answer to Rev. Gray's letter are true, instead of criticising and deciding that these new steps are taking place because of emergencies, (and I know in many cases that this is true) let's use these opportunities in such a way as to prove our worthiness and perhaps put to shame any person who has been responsible for not allowing us the opportunity.

I know too that Negroes are in many, many jobs that they would never have gotten but for the shortage of labor caused by the war. This is especially true in the secular world. I also know how many of our people, as well as others, are abusing these privileges solely because he realizes how badly he is needed. But is it helping him or anybody? If and when we have access to these new opportunities we will do the job so well, not because as a Negro we've gotten it, but because every worker should merit his job and pay, it won't be so easy for them to let us go, and we'll have a right to demand to stay on.

It seems to me that many of us fail to realize that we have a tremendous responsibility too to do all we can to help God build the kind of world we ought to have, by using every opportunity to practice Christianity.

When we hate because we're hated we put ourselves on the level with the person who hates us and we're no better. When we spend most of our time fussing and fighting about what the other fellow does not do for us or what he does to us, without doing what we can for ourselves, then we're no better.

One of the reasons for all our racial troubles is a lack of knowledge and

understanding on the part of the White American about Negro American, and most of us aren't willing to make the least sacrifice to help educate him about us.

We are a sensitive people, many times overly sensitive, and what we've had to undergo and still have to undergo makes us so; any people in the same situation would be the same and maybe more so, but I've decided to try never to let my sensitiveness stand between me and an opportunity to help any person understand my people, which will in turn help him be a better Christian. And I don't use any "Uncle Tom" methods. That is never necessary. I try to use the Spirit of Jesus, and I ask His guidance always. Because of this, I've had many more pleasant experiences; however, I never fail to also try to take advantage even of unpleasant experiences.

And I could relate for a long time amazingly beautiful and interesting results and reactions because of my effort to do what I believe Jesus would do in a similar situation. And the most amazing result is the spiritual help and strength I receive myself because of it.

When I have an experience of injustice from any white person, I have learned not to lay my religion down nor feel sorry for myself, but rather feel sorry for the person who does me the injustice, and I pray for him and myself.

Do you think I forget our plight and situation? Do you think it is easy for me when I face discrimination? Do you think my heart does not ache when I know of the tremendous odds my people suffer *everywhere*? For it isn't just a Southern problem anymore, it's everywhere we find ourselves. Who knows that God has not brought us to such a time as this, a time when He can use us, even the Negro, to help give real Christianity to American and the world? I believe this.

But it seems to me He has a lot of concern for us too. Seems to me we're doing an excellent job of developing the wicked art of hate too. At the rate we're going, we might surpass the other fellow.

In my discussions of the racial situation with groups of white people, I very often read the fourth chapter of first John, but you know that Scripture is of the Holy Bible, written for us too, for all of God's children.

Very sincerely,

ROSA PAGE WELCH.

Corinth Christian Church

REV. E. J. DICKSON, *Pastor*
MRS. ALMETA HENDERSON, *Reporter*
Kilgore, Texas

Our church is still progressing in its spiritual stride. On the second Sunday, June 11th, was Children's Day. It was a glorious day. The young people took an active part in the services. Pastor Dickson brought to us a splendid message. We regret the absence of Mrs. Dickson and hope she will return soon. We love Rev. Dickson because of the warm personal feeling inspired in our hearts by his kindly and unselfish life. Our motto is: May we continue to pray and "look to the hills from whence cometh our help." If our spirit is right, all else necessary for the building of Christ's kingdom will come in due season.

We ask the prayers of all, that we may continue to grow strong.

Mississippi Blvd. Christian Church, Memphis, Tenn.

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

Woman's Day was observed April 24, 1944, at the Mississippi Blvd. Christian Church, Memphis, Tenn., with Elder Cleo Blackburn of Indianapolis, Indiana, as guest speaker. Elder Blackburn is Superintendent of Flanner House and an authority on Social Economics. He spoke to a large and appreciative audience and his eloquence will be long remembered as he spoke on "A Post War World" outlining the physiological and psychological effects of same.

The Musical Program under the auspices of Miss Lucille Rhine was a rare treat and consisted of numbers from St. Stephens and Salem Baptist Churches. As a whole, the entire day way quite a gala affair with \$1,315.00 raised.

The chairman of the drive was Miss Gladys Martin and her nine captains and others reported as follows:

Mrs. Johnetta Kelso	\$330.00
Mrs. Cecelia Roach	246.88
Mrs. Corinne Whittaker	195.00
Mrs. Elnora King	143.00
Mrs. Bernadine King	117.20
Mrs. Jimmie Mitchell	92.00
Miss Ceneta Washington	60.25
Mrs. Aline Lowe	54.80
Miss Ida Garrett	50.70
Juvenile Choir	11.00
Missionary Society	10.00
Miscellaneous	4.17
Total	\$1,315.00

We were fortunate to have Rev. Parks, National Field Worker, visit us Sunday morning, April 31. He preached a soul stirring sermon, leaving everyone spiritually revived.

In Good Faith—Both Conservative and Liberal

We are both conservative and liberal. We are conservative in the sense that there are certain truths and institutions, inherited from the past, which are necessary to life and progress in the present. We must keep them.

We must keep our belief in God who is the Creator of all things and, without reference to whose will for mankind, life can have no lasting meaning. We must keep our belief in our religious institutions which proclaim and interpret the will of God for men. We must keep the integrity and sanctity of the family as center of security and sound moral training for children. We must keep the concept of private property on the principle that what a man earns by the sweat of his labor belongs to him. We must keep our belief in democratic government, the rights of man irrespective of race and religion, the validity of constitutional procedure, impartial justice in the courts, government by law, and the sovereignty of the people. We are conservative. There are some things inherited from the past which must be kept, not because they are old, but because they are true and right.

We are liberals in the sense that sound liberalism, as distinguished from the policy of expediency which often passes for it, is always based upon moral principles. It is the extension and application of these principles in new areas of life.

Liberalism does not mean the denial of God. It means interpreting His will for man and society in better and broader ways than has ever been done before. Liberalism does not aim to destroy religious institutions. It aims to increase their influence. Liberalism does not consist in denying the principles which underlie and have formed American family life. It consists in making better homes on the basis of these principles. Liberalism does not mean the destruction of private property. It means that more people ought to own property because the possession of property is good for men. Liberalism is not the enemy of democratic government. It is its friend, insisting that there be more

recognition of democracy's worth and more application of its principles to more people. We are liberal because we believe that there are certain great principles that do not die, or change from age to age, but which, in order to live on, must be expended and applied afresh to meet the demands of life in every new generation.

A Victory Worthy Of Banners

BY ROBERTA WHITE

The ivory colored chapel was strangely still—not with empty quietness but with an eager silence. Intent with purpose the men and women gathered there were seeking insight and moral courage in expressing the will of Christ for the life of today. The chapel was silent save for one voice, that of a singer whose lyric words questioned each listener personally.

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Oh! sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

These listeners had been involved in earnest discussion as to whether or not Negroes and Caucasians can worship God together, can work and fellowship together. Opinions varied with experiences. And now they were paying tribute to the singer, to her race, and to her talent by standing as she sang this great spiritual for the benediction to the meeting.

It was the Marian Anderson of the Disciples of Christ—talented and gracious Rosa Page Welch—who was leading these seeking men and women at the Drake Conference in an experience of worship they will not soon forget. She was giving from the spiritual depths of her heart and soul in the song she sang. Rosa Page Welch was leading these listeners forward to a victory worthy of banners, a victory in human relationships—the achievement of respect and understanding among the races.

It may be the cynic who is hastening to say that it was mob psychology at work which caused the audience in the chapel that day to rise of one accord to its feet when this beloved singer approached the platform to sing. But could it be mob psychology which brought tears to some eyes during her song? Could it be only mob psychology which led these

people together to such sincere respect, some perhaps for the first time in their lives?

To know Rosa Page Welch, Mississippi born, but now a Chicagoan, is to know a charming personality. To talk with her is to learn a greater appreciation for her race. To listen to her sing is to hear a person with humility of soul and selfishness of purpose seeking to interpret to mankind through her talent the commendable characteristics of her people.

Those intimately acquainted or associated with Rosa Page Welch have felt that she has some of the same admirable qualities possessed by the late George Washington Carver. Of this renowned scientist, Mrs. Welch has said, "He is one of the greatest men who has ever lived. No one has ever been closer to God than he was. His utter unselfishness toward everybody was his greatest characteristic."

Living close to God herself, Mrs. Welch is striving to create the feeling of the brotherhood of all mankind which is one of the tenets of her faith. That is the victory she seeks.

She, like others, has suffered rebuffs and scornings because of her race. She recalls a poignant memory of early childhood when prejudice first became a reality to her. She and a little white girl had played together, the white girl frequently sharing the hospitality of Rosa's home for meals. So close was their companionship that the moving day which took the white girl from Rosa's neighborhood was a sad one for both playmates. Since that time neither girl, now in adulthood, has had any communication with each other. A few years after their separation, Rosa relates, she did meet her friend on the street. They both looked at each other. Rosa spoke but the other girl turned away without showing recognition. "Then," remarks Mrs. Welch, "I know the childhood friendship was gone, crushed by acquired prejudice. Little children are free from race prejudice."

Mrs. Welch's rise to an enviable place in the music world through the help of a benefactor while attending Southern Christian Institute, through her own musical ability, and through opportunities which came to her through the winning of a Chicagoland Music Festival nine years ago, has not spared her from the indignities and embarrassments often visited upon members of her race. Nor has the fact that she is married and is the

mother of a musically talented son and daughter lessened the difficulties under which those of the Negro race labor to raise the status of their own people.

She tells of difficulty she encountered while traveling with her son, Gale. Then only a little fellow, he was thoroughly excited at prospects of a bus trip. With boyish enthusiasm he proclaimed to his mother as they boarded the bus that he wanted to sit by a window where he could see everything. For that reason alone he picked out a seat near the front. His mother entered the bus, relinquished her ticket, and without explaining the practice of Jim-crowism guided the lad to a back seat of the bus. The lad took no time at all in discovering that the corner window was curtained. Then on finding a black curtain hanging in front of him and his mother, he burst out, "Mother, why do we have to sit back here behind this black curtain?" What would you tell a little lad in such a situation?

In an interview, Mrs. Welch pointed out that the white race is not the only race with prejudice. "The Negroes, too, have race prejudice and it is getting worse." The solution? "It must come," she opined, "through the combined efforts of Christians, white and Negro, working together." That is a part of the victory she desires.

The present seriousness of the situation was voiced by Mrs. Welch when she said that she fears the Negroes may seek a concerted effort to do something for their own welfare and bring about by this method a worse situation than in Europe. The present condition of many Negroes can be cited as an illustration of the way in which the majority race in America has been at fault. But the Negro today is working in places he has never worked before and is earning now more money in one week than he formerly earned in a year. The war has brought him this opportunity to earn more, but his education in the poorest schools of the nation, during the shortest terms of the year, has not taught him how to spend that money or how to save it. What he has been taught he has assimilated but he has not been taught enough to prepare him for the new situations which confront him.

After the war what? With a long-range view toward that time, Mrs. Welch stated that the Negro will not be willing to be put back in the place he occupied before the war, although

she predicted, "the whites may try to put him back in that same place." The return of the Negro soldier will create a problem which must not be attacked as it was at the end of World War I when some of the returning colored soldiers were lynched before they were out of uniform.

To free the postwar world of the existing racial tensions will be one of the greatest victories that can be attained by mankind. It is the task of both the Negroes and whites, and it must start with those of the Christian fellowship.

When asked to suggest some of the things by which this victory is to be obtained, Mrs. Welch expressed the necessity of a dual effort on the part of both races to understand each other. The white people find it very easy to watch the Negro and to condemn him for the very actions that pattern after those of the white man. Let a Negro become jocular and he may become over-enthusiastic in the manifestations of his mirth. Since the white people look askance at loudness as uncouth, Mrs. Welch urges all Negroes to be more quiet in their speech and laughter. As a rule the Negro voice is more deep and resonant than that of a white person's; hence he is capable of making more "noise."

Mrs. Welch also offered the advice of not judging a race by the worst that is portrayed by a member of that group, but by the highest and most commendable persons. Just as the white race does not care to be thought of as being typified by the notorious characters that furnish crime copy for the daily newspapers, so also does the Negro race not want to be judged as a whole by the actions of the knifers and peace disturbers. Both races desire the best thought of them by the other.

Do you relate stories telling of the ignorance or stupidity of the Negro? If you do, Mrs. Welch suggests that you refrain. It is not a lack of a sense of humor on the part of her race. When the time comes that the Negro race has equal rights and opportunities, when it is no longer in chains, then they tell jokes on themselves as readily as the Jew and Scot.

There is a victory to be won by the white race and the colored race. Rosa Page Welch is striving for that victory. Leaders of both races are working for the victory. If we so desire, it can be a victory worthy of the banners its leaders have waved.—*Christian Evangelist*, April 23.

Third National Institute On Disciple Negro Work

Yakima, Wash., April 18, 1944.
Prof. M. R. Eppse and
Members of the Institute,
A & I State College,
Nashville, Tenn.

Dear Friends: My mother forwarded the notice of the Third National Institute on Disciple Negro Work, and I am happy to know of such. Only wish I could have the opportunity of participating in it. Perhaps some day I shall.

I'm glad too to note the cooperation of our White brethren in Tennessee. All of you are aware of my deep interest in interracial fellowship, which certainly brings about understanding, and goes far in our effort to build a world of brotherhood and peace. Keep it up and make the best of it! Our people, the Negroes, have a very definite responsibility and opportunity to help tremendously in this great task.

During the month of February I went on a concert tour, singing in our Disciple Churches at Albuquerque, Sante Fe, Carlsbad, and Roswell, New Mexico, and at El Paso, Texas. This was arranged by our minister at Carlsbad, and no one anywhere could have been received more cordially and graciously than I was in all of these churches. I was especially proud of our minister at El Paso, Texas, for Texas has laws favoring segregation, but Rev. McElroy did not allow it in his church for my concert. The church was packed, people standing and seated on the platform. There were large, enthusiastic and exceptionally appreciative audiences at every place. I wish you could read the letters I have gotten from the ministers from these churches; I had the privilege of speaking to large groups too and in each case they asked me to talk on and discuss with them the Racial Situation.

I'm here in the Northwest leading singing and soloist for evangelistic meetings in the State of Washington. I was at Wenatchee two weeks, Chelan five night and will be here two weeks and then go to Bremerton for two weeks. I never met finer people, and they are very appreciative of what I try to do. While at Chelan I spoke for the Rotary Club, and a mass meeting, sang at High School and gave a sacred concert besides the meetings. At Wenatchee I spoke for Women's Council, was soloist for one

of the Holy Week services in the theatre. Our minister, Rev. Van Winkle from Spokane, was speaker that day, and I gave a sacred concert at Wenatchee.

Came here Saturday and started work Sunday morning. I was already acquainted with the minister and associate minister and many of the young people here. I met them two years ago in a youth conference at Seabeck, Wash., a beautiful resort across Puget Sound from Seattle.

The church here is a large active one with a membership of 2,500 people. One of the oldest and most active members is our own Brother Robert Wilson, who is loved and highly respected by all in the church. His pew is right down front and they tell me he's always there. Sunday morning when I sang my solo his face just beamed, he was so proud of me and I was happy to make him proud of me. He's a fine looking man, but quite crippled with arthritis in his legs. The first thing he asked was, Why he hadn't gotten his CHRISTIAN PLEA. He loves it because it keeps him in touch with our work. The minister told me how proud Mr. Wilson was when our convention made him an officer. I've met two others who are of the Christian Church, but are connected with the Baptists here.

Well, I'm sure I've taken too much of your time, but I felt like writing to you and congratulating you on the work you're doing.

Enclosed is a money order for \$5 as my contribution towards the work. I'm planning to attend the convention this summer. It was a keen disappointment to miss last summer, but my mother's sudden illness hindered me.

With best wishes to you all, I am,
Sincerely,
ROSA PAGE WELCH.

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The CHRISTIAN PLEA

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NEGRO DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

VOLUME LI

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, AUGUST, 1944

Number 12

Brotherhood Mourns Loss of Elder L. H. Crawford

Dallas, Texas.—Members of the Christian churches all over the United States were shocked to learn of the death of Elder L. H. Crawford, stalwart minister of the gospel, former President of the National Convention of the Disciples of Christ in America, and pastor of Romine Street Christian Church here, Saturday, July 1, at 6:15 A.M.

He had been ill for some time, but in bed only two weeks preceding his passing.

He died in the pastor's apartment of the church. At his bedside when relief came from his suffering were Mrs. Roberta Crawford, his wife; Mrs. E. G. Titus, a sister, and other members and friends of the family.

He knew the end was coming soon and died as a good soldier of Jesus Christ—preaching sermons, completing the construction of unit 2, the educational plant of the Romine Church, and making preparation to attend the National Convention in Lexington in August. He stated that he wanted to be there to stand firm in the faith of the New Testament Church.

Funeral services were conducted in the auditorium of the church, Thursday, July 6, at 2 P.M. Prof. T. W. Pratt was master of ceremonies.

The eulogy was offered by Elder W. H. Taylor, pastor of Emmanuel Christian Church, Baltimore, Maryland and president of the National Convention. Other participants on the program were Elder C. L. Parks, National Field Worker; Elder H. C. Poston, Kansas City, Kans.; the writer, and local church members.

There were many expressions from friends, numerous telegrams, and several cards of condolence.

The body was carried to Paris and Greenville, Texas, where it lay in state Wednesday, July 5. Elder Raymond

(Continued on page 2)

National Convention of the Christian Church or Disciples of Christ

AUGUST 22nd to 27th, 1944

EAST SECOND STREET CHRISTIAN CHURCH
LEXINGTON, KY.

ELDER R. L. SAUNDERS, Pastor
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Mrs. Rosa Page Welch and Mrs. Roberta Craggett, Directors of Music

GENERAL THEME

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AUGUST 22 - 27, 1944

Tuesday

10:00 A.M.—National Board Meeting
12:30 P.M.—Dinner
2:00 P.M.—National Board Meeting
8:00 P.M.—Welcome Program, Local, Church Response to Welcome.
Mrs. C. W. Arnold, Ohio. Presentation and Greetings of National President, Elder W. H. Taylor, Baltimore, Maryland.
Benediction, Elder C. H. Dickerson, Kentucky.

Wednesday Morning

7:00 to 8:30 A.M.—Breakfast
7:00 to 8:45 A.M.—Minister's Conference
Minister's Wives' Conference
8:55 A.M.—Convention Session, President presiding
Scripture, Elder F. T. Floyd, Kentucky
Hymn, Prayer, Elder S. E. Tillman, N. J.
Adoption of Convention Program
9:00 A.M.—Address, "The Restoration Movement," Elder G. Calvin Campbell, Ohio
10:00 A.M.—Hymn
President's Annual Message—Elder W. H. Taylor
11:00 A.M.—Report of Secretary-Treasurer—Report of National Board
11:30 A.M.—Worship—Christian Youth Fellowship
Sermon—Elder C. W. Arnold, Ohio
12:00 A.M.—Benediction—Elder W. F. Keyes, N. Y.

Wednesday Afternoon

2:00 P.M.—Group Conferences
Directed by Field Staff
3:00 P.M.—Business Period
Scripture—Elder F. T. Barnett, Ohio
Hymn—Prayer, Elder, W. J. Bryant, Calif.
Report of all Convention Officers
Report of Christian Plea—Prof. M. R. Eppse, Editor
Report of Trustees
Report of States and Churches
5:00 P.M.—Benediction, Elder R. C. Molloy, Tenn.
6:00 P.M.—Supper

Wednesday Evening

8:00 P.M.—Worship—Christian Youth Fellowship
Testimonial for Dr. J. E. Walker, Tenn., for 28 years Treasurer of National Convention
Sermon—Elder B. T. Hunt, Tenn.
Offering—Benediction, Elder H. J. Johnson, Ga.

Thursday Morning

7:00 to 8:00 A.M.—Breakfast
7:00 to 8:45 A.M.—Conference—Ministers—Ministers' Wives

- 8:55 A.M.—Convention Session Missionary Society
Hymn—Prayer, Mrs. J. A. Townsend, Ind.
9:00 A.M.—Address—The Restoration Movement, Elder G. C. Campbell
10:00 A.M.—President's Annual Message, Mrs. Johnnie Kirkpatrick
Drama—"The Fields are White"
Address—Mrs. Cora Lee Miller, Ohio
11:30 A.M.—Worship C. Y. F.
Missionary Sermon—Elder J. F. Whitfield, D. C.
Missionary Benediction. Adjournment

Thursday Afternoon

- 2:00 P.M.—Committee Meetings Only. All Departments
3:00 P.M.—Ministers' Wives' Hour
Mrs. J. F. Whitfield, D. C., presiding
4:00 P.M.—Business Period
Report of Field Workers—Miss C. L. Jamison
Elder C. L. Parks
Reports of Committees
5:00 P.M.—Benediction—Mrs. Maude Davis, Texas

Thursday Evening

- 8:00 P.M.—Worship—C. Y. F.
Special Music—Mrs. Rosa Page Welch, Ill.
Address—Mrs. Rosa Brown Bracy, Ala.
Offering
Presentation of State Presidents
Awarding of Loving Cups
Benediction

Friday Morning

- 7:00 to 8:30 A.M.—Breakfast
7:00 to 8:45 A.M.—Conference—Ministers—Ministers' Wives
8:55 A.M.—Convention Session. Bible Schools
Scripture—Elder H. C. Poston, Kansas
Hymn—Prayer—Elder J. J. Washington, Kentucky
9:00 A.M.—Address—The Restoration Movement—Elder G. C. Campbell
10:00 A.M.—President's Annual Message—Elder R. L. Jordan, Michigan
Drama—"A Good Bible School,"—Miss Bessie Chandler, Mo.
11:10 A.M.—Address—Prof. A. I. Terrell, N. C.
11:30 A.M.—Worship—C. Y. F.
Sermon—Elder M. C. Dickson, Texas
Benediction—Elder W. C. Strickland, Florida

Friday Afternoon

- 2:00 P.M.—Group Conferences
Directed by Field Staff
3:00 P.M.—Scripture—Elder B. A. Douglas, Virginia
Hymn—Prayer, Elder O. B. Garner, Oklahoma
Business Period
Report of Committees
5:00 P.M.—Benediction—Elder J. J. Hawkins, Iowa

Friday Evening

- 8:00 P.M.—Worship—C. Y. F.
Educational Program
Jarvis College—Mt. Beulah College
Offering for Bible School Department
Adjournment

Saturday Morning

- 7:00 to 8:30 A.M.—Breakfast
7:00 to 8:45 A.M.—Conferences—Ministers—Ministers' Wives
8:55 A.M.—Convention Session
Scripture—Elder D. W. Bradley, Tenn.
Hymn—Prayer, Elder N. R. Trenillian, Miss.
Address—The Restoration Movement, Dr. G. C. Campbell
10:00 A.M.—Young People. C. E. and C. Y. F.
12:00 A.M.—Dinner

Saturday Afternoon

- 2:00 P.M.—Scripture—Elder O. Zollar, Texas
Hymn—Prayer, Elder R. H. Boyd, S. C.
All unfinished business of all departments
3:00 P.M.—Benediction—Elder M. B. Chambers, Maryland

Saturday Evening

- 8:00 P.M.—Young People's Program

LORD'S DAY MORNING

- 9:30 A.M.—Bible School, Elder R. L. Jordan and Mrs. A. C. Stone, in charge
11:00 A.M.—Worship Service, Elder R. L. Saunders, Pastor
Prayer, Elder H. G. Fleming, North Carolina
Scripture, Elder M. F. Mitchell, California
Sermon, Elder W. H. Taylor, Maryland, President
Invitation, Elder P. A. Gray, Mo.
Benediction, Elder R. H. Davis, Ill., Vice-President
3:00 P.M.—Communion Service
Music
Scripture, Elder A. L. Jefferis, Ala.
Prayer, Elder Thomas E. Brooks, Miss.
Sermon, Elder R. W. Watson, Mo.

ELDER L. H. CRAWFORD

(Continued from page 1)

Walton gave the eulogy in Paris. There was no service in Greenville.

Elder Crawford had pastored in Greenville and many friends were there.

His body was laid to rest here in Lincoln Memorial Cemetery under a bank of flowers.

Our noble servant is survived by his wife, Mrs. Roberta Crawford; his mother of approximately 100 years in age; sisters Mrs. Tommie Madison, St. Louis; Mrs. M. O. Lewis, Paris; Mrs. E. G. Titus, Dallas; and a brother, Murphy Crawford, Paris.

Born in Paris of Christian background and influence, Brother Crawford rose to prominence by pastoring and improving some of the largest churches of the Christian Faith. They were Clark Street, Greenville, Texas; Centennial, St. Louis; Armstrong Avenue, Chicago; Eighth Street, Kansas City, Kansas; Lea Avenue, Nashville, and Romine St., Dallas. The latter church is a commodious two-unit structure of brick, with church auditorium, educational plant and pastor's apartment. It was his dream to equip Romine so that it would, as an institutional church, largely serve the community.

Ministers of our churches who came from far and near to the funeral rites were Elder R. W. Watson, Kansas City, Mo.; D. W. Heath, Jackson, Miss.; A. A. Henry, Corsicana; J. E. Quarles, Palestine; S. J. Sanson, Fort Worth; M. C. Dickson, Dallas; R. L. Sercy, Oklahoma City, Okla.; T. A. Armstead, Marlin; Pres. P. C. Washington, and E. J. Dickson, Jarvis College, and W. M. Waterhouse, Dallas.

Several friends of the other groups were present at the service.

The brotherhood will miss the dynamic personality of Elder L. H. Crawford. He truly "wrought a great work."

EDWIN M. HURDLE,
Correspondent.

To the Churches and Young People Everywhere—Greetings

For your personal information I am sending you these facts.

The National Convention and its leadership are doing an important work for our young people.

We are helping our young people get ready to carry on tomorrow all that we are working, fighting, praying and being criticized for today.

We are working for our young

LORD'S DAY EVENING

8:00 P.M.—Worship Service, Elder R. L. Saunders, Pastor
 Scripture, Elder S. S. Myers, Mo.
 Prayer, Elder B. C. Duke, California, Vice-President
 Sermon, Elder O. A. Trinkle, Indiana
 Subject, "A PECULIAR PEOPLE"
 Invitation, Elder R. H. Peoples, Indiana
 Benediction, Elder T. R. Everett, Ky.
 Those attending the pre-convention session should notify pastor in advance. His address is on the front page.

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people today so they will find a better brotherhood on tomorrow than we found yesterday and today.

We are fighting open membership today so our young people will find the church strong in the faith on tomorrow when they return from college.

We are fighting Jim Crowism and discrimination in our brotherhood today, so our young people will not find on tomorrow what we found yesterday and today.

We are trying by the help of God to make the National Convention spiritually and financially strong today so our young people on tomorrow will not have to play Uncle Tom like some of us had to do yesterday and today.

We are going to, by the help of God, to raise ten thousand dollars in the church department today, for Evangelism, Church Aid, Ministers' Aid, and the CHRISTIAN PLEA; so our young people will have a spiritual and financial foundation on which to stand and operate the National Convention on tomorrow.

With these facts in mind won't you

help the National Convention and its leadership to help you and other young people build for tomorrow?

I plead with you in the language of Solomon, remove not the ancient landmark which thy fathers have set. (Proverbs 22:28.)

Your friend,

W. H. (Baltimore) TAYLOR

Founder of the One Hundred Dollar Club and president of the National Convention of the Christian Church or Disciples of Christ.

P.S.—I urge you to examine the record of my life, both private and public at home and abroad and see for yourself if I have been interested in young people; not only in words, but morally, spiritually and financially.

To the Churches and Brethren Everywhere—Greetings

A mother found her modern young daughter deep in a book on "Child Training." "Why are you reading that book, my dear?" her mother inquired. "I should think you could

find something more interesting."

"Oh, I'm just checking up on you," replied the youngster.

I am happy to say that our young people are checking up on us as elders, deacons, ministers and leaders of churches.

In a recent trip that carried me into several states, I had the opportunity to talk face to face with many of our young people.

Let me say here that our young people have common sense, intelligence, ideals as well as ideas and they can and do think, especially in this day and age when there is the radio, schools and many other means whereby they can see and understand life.

They are asking us to guide them. They want to do what is right. They want to see a National Convention spiritually, morally and financially strong.

They believe what we believe, that Christianity. They believe that it should be lived as well as preached.

They believe what we believe, that the doctrine should be practiced as well as preached.

They believe what we believe about Jim-Crowism and discrimination because of color. They believe that it is un-Christian and un-American. May God bless our young people for the belief which they have. May God give them strength to keep their lives, their bodies and their minds clean, pure and wise, that they may fulfill their destiny.

Your friend,

W. H. (Baltimore) TAYLOR,
 President of National Convention of the Christian Church or Disciples of Christ.

Large Delegation Expected To Attend Lexington, Ky., U. C. M. Convention

REV. R. L. JORDON, *President*

Dear Bible School Members:

We are expecting large delegations from all of our schools this year. It looks as if the United Christian Missionary Convention, the Piedmont District Convention and the Tri-State will come to Lexington, Ky., in large numbers. Of course this spirit of coming and support of the Bible School Convention will be exhibited by every school we are sure. Delegates will come not only from the Atlantic Seaboard States but from the far away Pacific, the Great Lakes

(Continued on page 5)

THE CHRISTIAN PLEA

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

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THE CHRISTIAN PLEA OFFICE
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Nashville 3, Tennessee
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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.

Eppse Answers Foster Craggett, Hayes Peoples and John Eubanks

In answer to the controversy over a better edited PLEA, Professor Eppse, who has been the editor for the past five years, answers his critics:—"The fault, Dear Brutus, is not in the stars (Old People) but in ourselves that makes us underlings."—*Shakespeare.*

EDITORIAL

Editor Eppse announces a platform for future Negro brotherhood work:

1. The Negro brotherhood should work with perfect cooperation with the United Christian Missionary Society. There should be no discord in any area. I believe that when the Negroes study their condition and present facts and figures that a mutual basis for operation will emerge.

2. A broad comprehensive plan should be made out after a scientific study of the Negro brotherhood has been made. No prejudices or opinions will work. It must be made in a spirit of helpfulness, both to the whites as well as the Negroes. This program should be administered by Negroes for Negroes. And no Negro should be employed unless he has character, education and courage to act in a Christian manner. He must not be a shameless mendicant of pecuniary favors and lucrative offices. These begging friars cannot see both sides of the issue. We must have leaders who work for Negroes and not on Negroes.

3. The Negro headquarters should be in the heart of the Negro population. It should have sufficient tradition and glamour of the glorious past of the Negro to instill pride and purpose to the office. Nashville Tennessee seems to have all of this for the Negro.

4. These leaders should be selected, employed, responsible for, and administrators of the program of the Negro brotherhood. They should be responsible for the proper functioning of the total program. This program should be acceptable to all Disciples and all agencies which have anything to do with the Disciple brotherhood.

MONEY RECEIVED BY THE CHRISTIAN PLEA TREASURER FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 1944

1. J. E. Beans, 408 E. Locust St., Mt. Sterling Ky., 15 subs.....	\$11.25
2. J. E. Bean, 408 E. Locust St., Mt. Sterling, Ky., 15 subs.....	11.25
3. Mrs. Rosa Page Welch, 3402½ Giles Ave., Chicago, Ill., 2 subs.....	2.00
4. Mrs. E. V. Meiller, 1101 South 5th Ave., Maywood, Ill., 1 sub.....	.50
5. Mrs. W. J. Sharp, 1339 E. Adams, Los Angeles, Calif., 2 subs.....	.50
6. Farris Clifton, 214 N. 12th St., Leesburg, Fla., 1 sub.....	.50
7. Rev. John Compton, 2431 13th St., N.E., Canton 5, Ohio, 6 subs.....	5.25
8. N. T. Trevillian, Route 1, Box 131, Port Gibson, Miss., 1 sub.....	1.00
9. Rev. Tibbs Maxey, Box 3, Loveland, Ohio, 2 subs.....	1.00
10. Mrs. Lillie F. Troublefield, R.F.D., Box 85, Faison, N. C., subs.....	1.50
11. G. E. Lakes, 2317 Morgan Ave., Parsons, Kans., 8 subs.....	8.00
12. Rev. John R. Compton, 2431 13th St., N.E., Canton 5, Ohio, 5 subs.....	3.75
	\$48.00

East Second St. Christian Church, Lexington, Ky., Welcomes Convention

R. L. SAUNDERS, *Minister*

Dear Fellow Workers:

As you read this article, the members of E. 2nd St. Church, Lexington, Ky., are all concerned with making your stay in our city a pleasant one. We want you to feel that each of you have a personal invitation to attend the National Convention here in our city.

The whole church is mobilized to assure you a good religious time. Registration is \$8.00; preconvention registration is \$2.00. Headquarters is the Y. W. C. A. on 4th and Upper Street. Delegates arriving in the day come to convention headquarters. Delegates arriving between the hours of 8:00 P.M. to 10 P.M. come to the church, East Second St., 146-148. Delegates arriving after 10:00 P.M. call Shelby 2258 Y.

We have been informed by the Local Ration Board that all persons attending the National Convention seven days and eating eight, or more, meals in the seven days are required to bring their No. 4 War Ration Book. Seventeen points will be taken from the book, 10 points for processed foods, and seven for meats, fats. We are asking that this be kept in mind.

Before coming, feel that you are welcome. We await your coming.

Delinquent Subscribers:

Your "Plea" will not be delivered unless you pay before August.

LARGE DELEGATION

(Continued from page 3)

area and lo, they shall come up in large numbers from those states on the Gulf.

The Pre-Convention session will convene Sunday, August 20. An excellent program has been planned. From all indications a large delegation will gather before the assembly of the General Convention which opens Tuesday afternoon, August 22.

Some of the things to be considered in the National Bible School Convention this year is a Constitution and the possibility of giving \$100 scholarship to some worthy person to begin the work of the P. H. Moss fund. Over a period of years we have been raising money to be set aside for this fund. Up to now our efforts have not amounted to much. This year we have set out to raise \$1,000 for that fund. All schools are requested to give liberally for this effort.

The program for the Bible School will be of high caliber, one of its speakers will be Dr. Robert M. Hopkins, President of the United Christian Missionary Society. So come.

The following persons have been asked to serve as chairmen of committees:

Committee on Constitution—Rev. Raymond Walton

Committee on Future Work—Rev. Baxter Carrol Duke

Committee on Awards—Mrs. Edith Bristow

Committee on Nominations—Rev. Clinton Whitfield.

Last year the following schools won awards: Centennial Christian Church, St. Louis, Mo.; London Christian Church and the State of Ohio. Similar awards will be given this year to schools competing with others of comparative membership.

Let each school strive to win one. Start now to get your report and delegate ready.

It will be a pleasure to greet you at the convention. This comes as a final word.

Church to Sell Its Property to Negroes

Members of First Christian Church, Aubert and Fountain Avenues, decided yesterday to sell the church property to the St. Louis Christian Missionary Society, trustee for the Centennial Christian Church for Negroes, according to Rev. R. A. Harmon, pastor.

Arrangements will be made to consummate the sale for no less than \$25,000. The church board previously had recommended the sale of the property because recent property transfers indicate the area in which the church is situated will soon be populated chiefly by Negroes.

Members of the Centennial Church, 4400 Aldine Avenue, voted last week to make the purchase, according to Rev. Harmon.

Eleventh St. Christian Church, Birmingham, Alabama

F. E. BARNES, Reporter
415 Delta Street
Birmingham 4, Ala.

The Eleventh Street Christian Church paused to pay tribute to the boys in service on Sunday night, May 28. The church was decorated beautifully with flowers and in the center a table was placed with candles of red, white and blue to represent each boy in service. The candles were lighted by the parents or some relatives of the boys. Cards to the boys each month are sent by our pastor, Elder Jeffries, letting them know just how much they are missed from the various positions they held while here.

Our new National Secretary, Rev. C. L. Parks brought us a day and night sermon that will linger with us for a long time. He met with the Official Board, giving them some advice on how to continue the work we are now doing for our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

United Christian Convention News

ELDER C. L. WHITFIELD
1833 Division Street
Baltimore, Md.

The first Sunday witnessed the culmination of the First Annual Session of the United Christian Missionary Convention, which is a consolidation of the Eastern Seaboard Convention and the Maryland State Convention. Every church in the area except one represented, and we had a great convention from every point of view.

The program was very interesting and inspiring. We were favored with the presence of Elds. C. W. Arnold, L. L. Dickerson, C. H. Webb, C. S. Sherman. Elder W. H. Taylor, Nat'l President, was elected evangelist for the district. The president is Mr. T. R. C. Bragg, of Washington, D. C.; Vice president, Elder W. F. Keys, of

Brooklyn, N. Y.; Secretary, Elder C. L. Whitfield, of Baltimore; Md.; Assistant Secretary, Elder D. L. Kinard of Brooklyn, N. Y.; Treasurer, Mr. Hayston Miley of Brooklyn, N. Y. Receipts \$400.00.

The meeting was held in Williamsburgh Christian Church, Brooklyn, N. Y., and bids fair to signal the beginning of an era of good feeling and progress throughout the eastern part of our brotherhood. We had splendid preaching, speaking and music. The business was expeditiously handled and we left looking forward to a greater meeting in 1945 when we will meet with the Twelfth Street Christian Church, Washington, D. C., Rev. J. F. Whitfield, Pastor.

Prominent Nashvillian Passes

Mrs. Mary Williams Southall, daughter of the late A. N. C. and Malissa Williams, attended the public school of Franklin, Tenn., and finished Normal at Fisk University at an early age, and received her B.A. degree from Fisk University in 1935. She began teaching in the public schools of Williamson County at the age of 16, where she taught for many years. She taught in the city schools of Nashville for many years, until she was retired in 1940. Mrs. Southall excelled in the fine arts, such as sketching and china painting. She received much praise for a fine bust of the late Supt. of Education, Mr. Webber.

Mrs. Southall was married to Felix G. Southall. To this union were born two children, Felix and Fred Ostranda. Felix passed when he was a young child.

Mrs. Southall accepted Christ at the age of 12 and was baptized by her father in the Christian Church of Franklin. She lived a consistent Christian life. She was a faithful worker and member of Gay St. Christian Church, but never failed to support her childhood church at Franklin. In case of inclement weather or when she felt her service was needed, she would worship at Lea Ave. Christian Church.

No snare, no fowler, pestilence or pain;
No night drops down upon the troubled breast,
When heavens aftersmile earth's tear-drops gain
And Mother finds her home and heavenly rest.

Studying Our Record

WILLIAM J. ALPHIN

4108 Page Blvd., St. Louis, Mo.

In this study I am scrutinizing the figures given in the January, '44, issue of the CHRISTIAN PLEA. In order to allow for errors in reasoning some assumptions are made. In some cases they are ridiculously high; others ridiculously low.

The report shows a membership of 46,000 contributing \$13,000 to the U. C. M. S. Let us say that 50% of this membership is inactive or non-cooperative, it means per capita our giving was about 50 cents.

The \$37,000 reported as field receipts of our schools helped greatly in caring for their annual operating expenses; but I'm sure some had to be supplemented by the Society.

Scan the spending budget. Fourteen (14) churches received monthly aid. If each was given \$25 a month by the U. C. M. S., the annual total would be \$4,200. We have three (3) field workers receiving \$1,200 annually or \$3,600. A contribution to the CHRISTIAN PLEA of \$200. In all we receive about \$8,000 annually to aid our work. What a condemnation, we give \$13,000 to preach the gospel to others; yet we use over half to help preach it to ourselves!

We realize the hub of our National and State work is the local church; aren't we strong enough to support ourselves? Consider these two statements: (1) If each of our 23,000 active members would give one dollar a year each thru their church for missions we could care for our present reported expenditures; add another field worker; substantially underwrite our CHRISTIAN PLEA; and still give \$10,000 for others; (2) If a church had 35 active members earning \$10 a week and gave according to the Scriptures, its receipts would be more than \$1,800 a year, which should care for the pastor's salary and some of its operating expenses.

Some are advocating secession from the U. C. M. S. Before we act give thought to these pertinent questions. Could the 14 churches immediately exist without help? Could we immediately support our schools? Could we immediately substantially underwrite our publication? When we can answer all in the affirmative then it is time not to secede but to assume our responsibilities and continue the Christian cooperation and fellowship which now exists with the U. C. M. S. and the International Convention.

Congratulation Young People On Charter Drawn Up

July 28, 1944.

Prof. Merl R. Eppse
Editor, Christian Plea
449 Fourth Avenue, North
Nashville (3) Tennessee
Dear Sir and Brother:

As a member for many years of the Southside Christian Church and a subscriber of the CHRISTIAN PLEA, I would like very much through the CHRISTIAN PLEA, to congratulate the young people on their charter drawn up during the Biennial Conference of the Christian Youth Fellowship. It is encouraging to know that young people are not standing still, for it is well known that many young people are leaving the Christian Church because the adults refuse to permit them to practice the very things they learn in Sunday School and the Church.

I also wish to compliment you for printing their charter twice because so often adults jump to conclusions before reasoning a situation pro and con.

However, from the twenty questions submitted by the President of the National Convention, it appears he has been insulted and taking the charter as a personal reference. Also the men who were mentioned in the Editor's Note appear to be persons who are fully in accord with giving the young people a place in the church—in other words it appears that the adults hate to admit that their time is passing by and it is time for a new leader or leaders with new followers. We adults are losing sight of the very thing we preach about.

Will we hold the men who are returning from the war theatre with ideas as we have? I wonder?

Yours in Christian Fellowship,
EMILY LITTLE.

3822 Indiana Avenue
Chicago 15, Illinois

Antioch Christian Church, New Brunswick, N. J.

ELDER S. E. TILLMAN, *Minister*
MRS. A. B. WASHINGTON, *Reporter*
169 Seaman Street

We are moving along nicely in the spirit of the Lord, for He is bringing things to pass that we least expected. Since we are worshipping in our new church, we have added new members by conversion and restoration. We are hoping to baptize five or more on the second Sunday who have accepted the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ as

their personal leader. The first Sunday in June was observed as Children's Day. We had a very nice program. The Sunday School is taking on new life, which is our future church. The second Sunday in May the church ordained Bro. George Edwards. We had as our guest the Rev. Green and some of the deacons and members of the Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Trenton, N. J. We had a wonderful time in the spirit of the Lord. On the fourth Sunday our choir, under the leadership of Mrs. Roberta Sanders, had a grand rally and realized \$65.00. Our pastor and choir were invited to the Mt. Olive Church, Trenton, N. J., the former church of our brother, G. Edwards, where Elder G. Edwards preached a wonderful sermon. The spirit of the Lord ran high and we could say as did the disciple of old, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us by the way."

On Sunday, June 25th, our pastor, choir and members went to Roselle, N. J., where our pastor, Elder S. E. Tillman delivered a stirring message to members and friends of the United Holiness Church, Rev. Brown, minister. The message was enjoyed by all.

Our church is not yet completed, but with the faithful few, we are trusting that it may be finished in a few months. We are asking the brotherhood to pray for us.

Corinth Christian Church, Kilgore, Texas

REV. E. J. DICKSON, *Pastor*
MRS. ALMETA HENDERSON, *Reporter*

I am happy to say Corinth is still moving on nicely. We find ourselves in Bible School each Lord's Day. We had splendid services on the second Sunday, July 9th. Pastor Dickson is still bringing to us spiritual food each sermon. We are also doing fine in finances. We are grateful to know Sister Mildred Waldon has not forgotten us since being in California. She send us a donation of \$5.00. May God bless her. We were proud to have had visiting us Bro. Viness Holton of Waco, and Bro. Bob Jacobs of Tyler. We are looking forward to the Convention at Boll St. Christian Church. We are praying for the success of the Convention.

The CHRISTIAN PLEA is the mouth-piece of the brotherhood. If you can help the PLEA, evidently the PLEA can help you.

We are still asking for your

prayers, yet we feel that God is still in the midst of His people, and the church shall not be moved.

Funeral services of Sister Sallie Sibley were held at Corinth Christian Church, July 11, 1944. Pastor, Rev. E. J. Dickson. Processional, Mrs. Barker. Scripture and prayer, Pres. Washington. Message of comfort, Rev. H. G. Smith.

With feelings of deepest regret the passing of one of its most beloved sisters of Corinth and because of the warm personal feeling inspire in our hearts by her kindly unselfish life.

Therefore, be it resolved, that we inscribe upon our records this tribute of her memory that future generations may know and appreciate her splendid Christian character.

Therefore, be it further resolved that a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to the husband and family of our deceased sister, together with the assurance of our sincerest sympathy. May our heavenly Father console them in their sorrow and may these words of appreciation and high regard be a solace in years to come.

Midway Christian Church, New Tazewell

REV. EUGENE PATTERSON, *Pastor*

The church here and all its auxiliaries are still on the upward go. We just closed a successful 90-day drive. The membership of the church was divided into two groups. Mrs. Celestine Harman was captain of club No. 1 and raised \$577.00. Miss Elsie Moore, captain, raised \$461.00, making a grand total of \$1,040.00. This money was raised to build a basement and Sunday School rooms. We have on a contest drive between women and men of the church.

High St. Christian Church, Mt. Sterling, Ky.

PROF. J. E. BEAN, *Reporter*

It may be that we have just stretched our "time out" period a little too long, as it has been some time since we sent notes to the CHRISTIAN PLEA. We note with much pride the PLEA is still on its mission of information, sowing good seed throughout the brotherhood. It has been some time since the High St. Christian Church has sent in a communication, but we have been "listening in" and taking notice of what is going on throughout the brotherhood. East High St. Christian Church has been able to keep her head above the

storms and is moving along nicely. Since we wrote you last, among the good ministers that have ably ministered unto us are the following: Elders Wm. Owens, L. L. Dickerson, R. Walton, I. H. Moore, T. R. Everett, J. E. Letton and H. C. Poston. All did excellent work and assisted in putting the program over in a big way. Elder Hayes Oldham supplied our pulpit from November to April and the early part of May was called by the State Board to take charge of the evangelistic work in Kentucky until the convention, and is serving in that capacity now. The church is very busy in a financial drive for the annual rally which takes place the first Sunday in July. The Planning Committee is composed of Sisters Eliza Jackson, Susie Lee Elster, Amy V. Stockton and Mary E. Jones. They have working with them ten leaders and their groups. All are working hard to put over the program. An excellent program was rendered Sunday afternoon by the young people under the leadership of Mrs. Fannie George.

The Sixth District Institute meets at Little Rock Saturday and Sunday. Delegates from all departments of the church will attend and have their appointments ready. Mrs. Zella Hathaway's group will have a Pew rally Sunday. The Rev. Davis of Key's Chapel will preach and his choir will furnish the music. Among those who worshipped with us lately out of the state are Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Hunt and daughter, Thelma, of Columbus, Ohio; Mrs. Jennie Mae Caywood and daughters, and Miss Marian Douthitt, of Eliria, Ohio; Mr. and Mrs. Cleo Chenault, of Flint, Mich.; Mrs. Estella Magowan, of Washington, D. C.; Mrs. Groves, of Covington; Mr. and Mrs. Paul Thomas, Dayton, Ohio.

Elder Crawford Mourned HE WAS MY FRIEND

By W. H. (Baltimore) TAYLOR

The passing of Elder L. H. Crawford is a distinct loss to our National Convention. He occupied a unique place in the hearts of our people and especially among those who love the doctrine of the church as laid down in the New Testament.

As a preacher, he believed that the gospel is the "power of God unto salvation." He preached it with fervor and conviction. His sermons were clear and positive. He sounded no notes of uncertainty or doubt.

When I think of the support he

gave me and how he encouraged me to fight for those things which the Christian Church has held essential from the first Pentecost to the present time, I sense my great loss most keenly.

Words are inadequate to express what is in my heart as I try to realize that in this life I shall meet him no more at our National Convention, but the influence of his life and the memory of his stalwart Christian character will long remain with me.

To his dear mother, wife and family, I commend you to God, and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

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The CHRISTIAN PLEA

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NEGRO DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

VOLUME LII

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, SEPTEMBER, 1944

Number 1

TAYLOR CLOSSES SUCCESSFUL PRESIDENCY, \$4,000 RAISED

Taylor Closes Successful Presidency, \$4,000 Raised

The first quarter century of the existence of the National Christian Missionary Convention has closed. The launching and running of the Convention extends from Preston Taylor to "Baltimore" Taylor. The type of program launched at the Lexington Convention definitely proved that it was the close of an era.

One of the major issues settled was for seven or more representatives of the White Brotherhood agencies to have representatives on the National Board of the National Convention. Another was the establishment of a headquarters for the Negro work some place where it would be near the center of the Negro population. The premises upon which these moves were made was that all money for the Negro work would be turned over to the National Board and that all Negroes as well as more Negroes would be hired to work and that Negroes would direct their program without any intefereference from any source.

There was much contention over doctrine, open membership, and segregation, but the "Peace" forces were strong enough to quiet the storm and move on.

President William "Baltimore" Taylor served the Brotherhood for two years. He was the most active and vigorous president that the Negro Brotherhood ever had. The fact that he influenced eleven churches to give \$100.00 each and one church to give \$200.00 was a huge task to be accomplished. He brought us out of the "red" and the whole Brotherhood is grateful.

The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted in Reverend S. S. Myers, Kansas City, Missouri, President; Mrs. Geneva Towns, Indianapolis, Indiana, President of the

Women's Department; Elder R. L. Jordan, Detroit, Michigan, President of the Bible School; and Mr. William Sherman and Miss Ruth Thomas, both of Chicago, co-chairman of the young people. All of the other officers were retained. The next convention will be held at Nashville, Tennessee.

New Leadership for the Women's Department

Always new leaders are heralded and much is expected of them as the duties of office are assumed and the routines of organizational responsibilities are carried. Compliments can not always go to the new leaders alone, but much appreciation must be expressed for those who have worked the years before.

The women who retired from national leadership this year have set a challenge which will demand respect



MRS. JOHN A. TOWNS
Indianapolis 7, Ind.

for years to come. Each served a noble term, made her contribution in the office and has received from it the enriching reward of faith and confidence bestowed upon her by the women of our churches.

Let us become better acquainted with our new leaders. We shall take them one by one.

National President:

Mrs. John A. Towns, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Mrs. Towns is a native of Indianapolis, and has received her Christian nurture in Second Christian Church. She is married to John A. Towns, an elder and trustee in the Presbyterian Church. She has served as Bible School teacher, Counselor of a Triangle Club, President of local Adult Missionary Society, World Call secretary, Group leader, editor of the Church Bulletin, and assistant to the pastor of the church since 1933.

Not only has Mrs. Towns been a useful member of her own church and three of its organizations, but she is known in her community for service. She is President of the Alpha Home for Aged Men and Women (a Community Fund Agency) Indianapolis, Secretary of Flanner House Board, Member of the Executive Committee of the Council of Social Agencies, serves as First Vice-President of the Indianapolis Council of Church Women, Treasurer of the Missionary Education Institute, and Treasurer of the Women's Council, a Federated Club (Negro Women). She serves also on two Interracial Committees in city organizations. She was elected and served as President of Chrispus Attucks High School P. T. A. through her interest in two neices for whom she has shared guardianship for nine years.

Mrs. Towns is acquainted with our Brotherhoods work at large, having attended our National Christian Mis-

(Continued on page 2)

WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT

(Continued from page 1)

sionary Conventions, International Conventions of Disciples of Christ, Young Peoples Conferences at Lakeside and Hiram, Ohio, Southern Christian Institute and Jarvis College. She has appeared twice on National Convention programs of the Council of Church Women. Mrs. Towns is also a member of the Board of Managers of the United Christian Missionary Society.

In 1944 the fifth Cable Award for outstanding volunteer service in the community was presented by Dr. Cable in memory of his father to our New National President, Mrs. John A. Towns.

First Vice-President:**Mrs. Arah Garrett, Granger, Texas**

Mrs. Garrett was once a student Arah Evans at Southern Christian Institute. Her background and religious experience has been in the Christian Church. She has completed her college training and is at present principal of the public school at Granger, Texas. Mrs. Garrett is the efficient president of the Women's Department—Texas State Convention.

Second Vice-President:**Mrs. Deetsy Blackburn Grey, St. Louis, Missouri**

Much inspiration came into her life for fuller cultivation of the Christian life at Southern Christian Institute. The family in which she grew up has made an indelible mark upon the work of our church through the contributions made by that family. Mrs. Grey—then Miss Blackburn—served with Professor P. H. Moss as National Director of Children's Work for our churches. Later she was married to the Reverend Prince Albert Grey. They now serve efficiently as the leaders in Centennial Christian Church, one of the outstanding churches in our brotherhood because of its program of Christian Education with an exceptionally strong missionary program.

Recording Secretary:**Mrs. Edmonia G. Starling, Martinsville, Virginia**

Mrs. Starling is one of the faithful women of our church. She says of herself, "There is little to say, I've just been working all the time." No better record that to have been at the job of being a Christian in her community throughout her life. Mrs. Starling is a graduate of St. Paul Poly. Institute, Lawrenceville, Virginia. She has served as missionary secretary and church secretary for the Piedmont District for eight and

seventeen years respectively. She now serves her fourteenth year as president of her local Missionary Society and as local director of the Piedmont Young People's Conference. In 1943 Mrs. Starling served as our National Corresponding Secretary of the Women's Department.

Corresponding Secretary:**Mrs. Daisy Dean, Little Rock, Arkansas**

Mrs. Dean was a student in the first Young Peoples Conference at Southern Christian Institute under the directorship of Prof. P. H. Moss. The inspiration for service received in her early years has not been dimmed for she has rendered invaluable service in her community and in her local church. She has attended many National and State Conventions and has been a faithful supporter of the program of missions. She is a member of Cross Street Christian Church which won the Loving Cup (1941) for outstanding achievements among women's groups in our brotherhood.

Treasurer:**Miss Fenton Hamilton, Chicago, Illinois**

Miss Hamilton is a member of the Indiana Avenue Christian Church. Her membership dates back to the original Wehrman Avenue Christian Church, Cincinnati, Ohio. She has served as President of the Woman's Council and Missionary Society of Indiana Avenue. Miss Hamilton was elected treasurer of our Women's Department in 1943.

Chairman of Children's Work:**Miss Bessie Chandler, St. Louis, Missouri.**

Miss Chandler succeeded Mrs. Deetsy B. Grey in service as National Director of Children's Work and served efficiently for several years. At present she is Director of Christian Education including Missionary Education in her own church, Centennial Christian. This is done on a co-operative basis with the leaders of the departments.

Miss Chandler is regularly employed as a Kindergarten Public School teacher and is a member of the Executive Committee of the St. Louis Negro Grade Teacher's Association. She has membership in the City Nursery Education Board and is Co-Chairman of the Nursery Schools Advisory Committee. Membership is also held in the Children's Work Committee of the St. Louis Metropolitan Church Federation. She is one of the original members of the Personnel Committee of the Week Day School of Religious Education. Distinct honor came to

Miss Chandler when she served as Associate Dean and Supervisor for the St. Louis Laboratory Training School. By vote of the Trustees, Miss Chandler is a regular member of the Curriculum Committee of the Division of Christian Education of U. C. M. S.

*Note: Due to the shortness of time it is regretted that it was not possible to have a more full description of each of our executive officers. We hope also to have pictures of each for you later.

Disciple Flashes

Rev. H. C. Poston has been approached concerning a new field of work in the deep South.

Rev. D. C. Heath has been considered for the work at Roanoke, Virginia. He has done a great job in Jackson, Mississippi.

Dr. L. L. Dickerson of Covington, Kentucky, has been extended a call to Monroe Avenue Christian Church, Columbus, Ohio.

Elder Foster Craggett has left the work at Wichita, Kansas, to go to Cleveland, Ohio, to assist his father.

President John Long of Mt. Beulah College, Edwards, Mississippi, very seldom ever finds time to come to the National Convention. However, we do hear of him making many trips during the year. Let us hear from Mt. Beulah College more.

Dr. J. E. Walker, President of the Universal Life Insurance Company and Treasurer of the National Convention, has requested that he be relieved of the Presidency of the National Negro Business League. It was granted and Mr. Roscoe Dungee of Oklahoma is the new president. The Business League regretted the decision of Dr. Walker.

Elder William Kappan Fox and Mrs. Fox are expecting a blessed event soon. Maybe this accounts for their staying home so close.

Dr. Williard Wickizer took his own good time at the convention. The first day he stayed outside. The second day, on the rear seat. The third day, middle way the auditorium. The fourth day, he was in the pulpit, and the fourth night he threw bouquets at everybody. Wickizer is taking his time, but he really is getting better and better.

Disciple Flashes

Elder Cornelius Arnold has resigned his pastorate of Columbus, Ohio. It is rumored that he has worked upon a good subsidy and will soon open up a New Testament church in California.

Women's Executive Meeting

Letters are now out to national officers, state presidents, and area workers in order to secure a desirable date for the fall meeting of our Executive Council. Our New President, Mrs. John A. Towns is anxious to meet with these leaders for conference and planning.

Will you urge your state representative to be present. Several very important matters are to be considered. Dates suggested are October 13-15, Columbus, Ohio; December 1-3, 1944; January 5-7, 1945, Indianapolis, Indiana. It is hoped that many will be able to accept the October date and also attend the International Convention of the Disciples of Christ.

Thank You for the Gift

It was a moment of great humility and appreciation when the women of our brotherhood presented me with a lovely leather purse on Sunday at our Lexington National Convention. My sincerest thanks can best be expressed in service which I shall render joyfully with all my strength.

Carnella L. Jamison,
National Secretary.

As I See It

T. R. EVERETT
Midway, Ky.

We have had one of the most stormy convention in the history of our convention. While the entertainment was all you could hope for, yet that was not the convention. A convention is the act of commitment of the constituency who make up the body. They tell me that men in war or on the battlefield never know what has been done until the smoke screen has been cleared away; then the ambulances, nurses and doctors have a chance to make a report, such is after the case with our convention. Whatever is said or may be said of W. H. Taylor, he has given us one of the best administrations we have ever had in my way of seeing it; and yet I did not agree with him on many points, but I believe him to be an honest man. A convention should be divested of political schicenery whenever the game of politics get into an

organization or church, there you have corruption. Why should we have a delegated convention, if the will of the people is expressed openly, and it is rushed into a committee room and thrown into a waste basket? Why have a convention if few men must do all of the thinking and planning? We could certainly save some time and expense by just picking these wise gentlemen out, and let the rest of us just write them letters and let them think them through and make our decision. Brother Taylor spoke wiser than most of us thought, when he said: "He would take a walk." I think it is walking time for most of us. Since 1914 Kentucky has been on the down grade; not much has been accomplished in the way of building up the kingdom of Christ. It was at this point that the agencies entered, and they have tried in a measure to dictate the running of our churches, and a good many of our people have accepted their lead, not because they liked it so well, but because they thought the church extension fund belonged to the U. C. M. S. and they got a loan. They thought that they must support all of the agencies that were connected with the Society to get a loan; which was and is misleading. The church department is separate from the pension and church extension agencies. The church department has failed in this respect. They have always picked the leaders for our Negro work with little or no council from the Negro brotherhood; they have usually given us just what they wanted us to have; they have felt always just because a boy or girl has gone to our schools that they were Christians, and prepared to go out and lead the host. But not so. And in some cases that has not been considered. They have the ears of some of those whom they have already coached and their words were final. If a child has been reared in a Catholic home or even a Baptist home, I do not care how many schools he attended, it will not make him a Christian leader. I have proof to know these facts and lines of procedure have not been observed in some cases. You may say we have members on the Board who make out the program for our group, that may be true in some respect, but when the appointments are made I understand that not many of the members of the Board know anything about it until they read it in the papers, so you see that it is just a pretense, just enough to keep you blind. Anything

that I am a part of, I feel that I should be consulted when changes are made. Our school in Kentucky was moved, that is the old Louisville Bible School, to Hopkinsville, where we never even had a church. The same is said of our school at Martinsville, Va., The colored people were not even given a chance to bid on it. If we are to be dealt with like stock—horses and hogs—then we who have minds and brain ought to get out and start something for ourselves. The convention is no longer a convention, but has become an institute where we train workers for the different parts of the church, except the pulpit for preaching. It seems more like we are at a circus, so many rings going at the same time, that when it closes you don't know where you are, nor where you started. We ought to cut out the name convention and give it something else or close shop. The convention, properly understood, is a gathering, or coming together of the brotherhood, to give a survey of the work done in the past in each local church who wish to link with such an organization. One main object should be to get acquainted with each other and to promote evangelism. Preaching the gospel should be the biggest object in our meeting. Those who attend these meetings should go away inspired and impressed with the different type of preachers, that they would know who would be the suitable man to conduct meetings as well as those who are best fitted for pastors. That, to my mind, is the idea of a convention. Men and women who take their vacation at this time to attend the convention, come ready to hear preaching and to get a mountain top view of the brotherhood.

NOTICE

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THE ORENE COLE PRIZE

Will be given to the minister who sends in the most subscribers over ten during the month of October.

THE CHRISTIAN PLEA

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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.

A Year of Dedication, 1944-45 In the Local Church

The program of each local church should be prepared this year to bring these five points in the special emphasis before every group in the church. It is the success or failure of the local church which determines the impact of the Christian message on the life of the nation, and of the world.

Interpretation. Each minister is urged to set aside a day on which the emphasis of a Year of Dedication will be laid before the leadership of the church, including the members of the board, officers of missionary organizations, councils, Ladies' Aid Societies, and leaders and officers of all youth and children's groups.

Following Through. The success of emphasis of dedication will be measured by the depth of its penetration into the life of the people of the church. The means of this penetration is through the organizations which provide ready channels for its flow; the church board, especially the committees on evangelism, education, finance, and missions; the Sunday school, with all teachers alert to opportunities to lead to fuller dedication; adult missionary organizations, which are already in a national movement to provide \$300,000 to train, equip and send out 150 new workers; other women's groups which can incorporate into their programs the objectives of the emphasis; youth groups, which will find each objective of significance to them.

The following suggestions for September are adapted from the plans for Southern California as reported in the *Unified Informer* for June:

September

Christian Education and Dedication to the Program of the Total Church.

The Educational Committee will have its final meeting before releasing plans for the year. Sermons and mid-week meetings might give emphasis and a preview to the year's program of dedication. Total programs should be gotten in shape by ministers and special committees for release.

In Church Program Planning Week, September 24 should be used as homecoming or rally day. If meetings are held nightly during the week or on one or two evenings, they should take the form of definite commitment to the items to be emphasized by your church during the year. First, get

your members to face the necessity of a program of life dedication. A wide field of service, from church attendance to winning people to Christ and teaching in the Sunday school, etc., should be offered. The plan is to commit each on to "something." To make this definite there should be commitment cards.

This week should lead up to a great climax of dedication on World Communion Sunday, October 1. This Sunday should be used not merely to stress the communion service, but as a day of Life Dedication.

A Year of Dedication

The church possesses tremendous vitality. Never before has its outreach been so widespread, its influence so penetrating, its membership so inclusive. Yet the church has not been truly convinced that it could change the world, and it has been unable to create conviction beyond the limits which it held.

The times in which we live call the church to a rededication to its mission of world redemption. "As though in preparation for a time like this," says the Archbishop of Canterbury, "God has been building up a Christian fellowship which now extends into almost every nation and binds the citizens of them all together in true unity and mutual love. No human agency planned this . . . Here is one great ground of hope for the coming days." The churches of the United States and of other lands must be concerned with the task of laying a spiritual foundation for world order. The church and its members are the custodians of the truth by which nations may be saved. The church must speak of salvation, deliverance from sin, and the redemption of the souls of men, directly to the nations of the world.

The church must plan its program, not in terms of its limitations in personnel or money but in terms of the souls that must be saved, the world that must be redeemed, regardless of the cost or the sacrifice that is necessary to achieve it. The call is for dedication comparable to the need.

Dedication of self, the personal commitment of the individual to Christ, involving continual growth and active witness in behalf of the Kingdom of God.

Dedication of life, life enlistment of the youth of the church for leadership in the churches of America, or for missionary services in the home land and in all other fields including the countries of Europe which will be

faced with a serious loss of leaders when the war is over.

Dedication of possession, the generous giving of material wealth, a part of the very life of the individual for the Kingdom of God.

Dedication of service, volunteer workers in the church, reaching out to meet every need in the community.

Dedication of purpose, the granting of first call on spiritual resources to the Kingdom of God.

To Those Who Stand on the Principles of the New Testament Church

REV. AND MRS. R. F. HAYES
1111 Jones St., Little Rock, Ark.

"Were you there when they crucified my Lord?"

Well might this question be asked of all the members of our Christian Brotherhood. Because if you had attended our National Convention last week you would have seen Him crucified by those who claim to be His followers.

You would have seen Him crucified by having His sacred institution (the Lord's supper) taken from its proper setting. Which is to be observed on the first day of the week and not on Saturday night as was done at the convention.

You would have seen a man of God betrayed by his advisors. As long as they could advise secretly they did so. But when they were called upon to take their stand with him and the principles upon which he stands, they did as Peter did, who denied Christ. Bro. Taylor was betrayed by his advisors and so-called friends.

You would have seen our youth, whom it was said, "Suffer little children to come unto Me and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of God." You would have seen these youths, whom God loves so dearly, crucify Him by being disrespectful toward the ministry.

We cannot however, blame the youth too much. But the leaders of our youth conferences. We do not get something for nothing for our boys and girls. So parents, beware of those who offer to send our children to these conferences, with all expenses paid or partly so. Be sure you know who the leaders are and what they stand for. Be sure they stand for the faith for which our fathers stood.

Do not send them to conferences unless you know that their leaders will teach them that all men are created equal. Do not send them unless you know that they will be taught to cling to that which is good and abhor that which is evil.

Do not send them unless they are to be taught the steps into the Christian church. Faith, repentance, confession and baptism. Our children are being taught to deplore our ministers who teach these principles.

If all who had attended the convention had been firm in the doctrine they would have seen that the children who had attended the Youth Conference in Indianapolis are not biased. If they had been left to use their own judgement twenty-five of them would not have voted the way they did.

It is sad but true. Sectarianism has crept into the Christian church. Many of our ministers are practicing and endorsing open membership. They are becoming worse than the Baptists. One cannot become a full fledged member unless he is baptized. But some of our ministers are taking them in without baptism and allowing them to active parts as members.

There were so many who endorsed open membership that a recommendation did not pass: "That any minister practicing or endorsing open membership could not hold an office in the convention." There were those whom we have looked upon as our intelligent leaders and whom we have been willing to follow who fought to keep this from passing. And they were successful.

What are we who stand for the principles of the New Testament church to do? Where shall we go? Shall we continue to have fellowship with these brethren who do not believe in the principles of the New Testament church? And who refuse so persistently to conform to these principles? We are sure there are thousands who are asking these same questions. If no answer is forthcoming, we are prepared to give the answers ourselves.

These will not go forward with overlord ecclesiasticism. But will seek the fresh air of freedom and stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free, and not entangle ourselves with the yoke of bondage.

So let us who stand for the principles of the New Testament church sing together:

Faith of our fathers, living still,
In spite of dungeon, fire and sword,
O how our hearts beat high with joy
Whene'er we hear that glorious word.
Our fathers, chained in prisons dark,
Were still in heart and conscience free.
How sweet would be their children's fate,
If they, like them, could die for thee.
Faith of our fathers, we will love
Both friend and foe in all our strife,
And preach thee, too, as love knows how,
By kindly words and virtuous life.
Faith of our fathers, holy faith,
We will be true to thee till death.

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ON TO COLUMBUS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
October 17-22

Report of the Christian Plea, September 1943 to Sept. 1944

Receipt of Money

Subscriptions and Adv. -----	\$ 455.30
National Convention -----	300.00
United Christian M. Society -----	366.63
	\$1,121.93

Expenditures

Secretary, 12 months -----	\$ 360.00
Hemphill Press, Sept., Oct., and Nov. -----	136.45
McQuiddy Printing Co.—Dec., Jan., Feb., Mar., April, May, June -----	475.89
Returned Postage -----	3.50
McQuiddy Printing Co. -----	100.00
Envelopes, Cards & Station. -----	42.21
	\$1,118.05

Balance in Bank -----	\$ 3.88
Balance owed to McQuiddy—	\$ 101.00
Office & Incidental Expense for the year—Editor -----	137.82
	\$238.82

Distribution of Pleas, 1944

Complimentary -----	47	Missouri -----	68
Alabama -----	31	Nebraska -----	2
Arkansas -----	30	New Jersey -----	17
Arizona -----	1	New Mexico -----	1
California -----	26	New York -----	9
Colorado -----	2	North Carolina -----	74
Connecticut -----	1	Oklahoma -----	49
Dist. of Columbia -----	3	Ohio -----	119
Florida -----	15	Oregon -----	3
Georgia -----	15	Pennsylvania -----	4
Illinois -----	91	South Carolina -----	30
Indiana -----	38	Texas -----	88
Iowa -----	2	Tennessee -----	107
Kansas -----	27	Virginia -----	27
Kentucky -----	119	Washington -----	5
Maryland -----	36	Wisconsin -----	1
Michigan -----	16	West Virginia -----	21
Minnesota -----	3		
Mississippi -----	80	Total -----	1,152

Subscriptions Received at the National Convention, Lexington, Kentucky, August 22-27, 1944

1. Pvt. A. D. Gault, Sec. F. 3013,AAF, Base Unit, Deming, New Mexico-----	\$ 1.00
2. Mr. S. B. Wallick, 460 Howard St., Muskogee, Oklahoma -----	1.00
3. Rev. R. L. Sercy, 1129 E. 6th St., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma -----	1.00
4. Rev. J. J. Hawkins, 1007 14th St., Des Moines 14, Iowa, 6 subscribers -----	4.25
5. Elder T. R. Moore, 2800 Willer St., North Little Rock, Arkansas -----	.50
6. Mrs. Lillian Barker, 1328 Chapel St., Cincinnati, Ohio -----	1.00
7. Mr. Dane McFarlen, R. 2, Box 20-B, North Little Rock, Arkansas -----	1.00
8. Mrs. Laura Shumate, 3179 E. 119th St., Cleveland, Ohio -----	1.00
9. Mrs. Ila Clark, 3177 E. 119th St., Cleveland, Ohio -----	1.00
10. Elder O. D. Henry, 515 North Lottie St., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 2 Years -----	2.00
11. Rev. S. S. Myers, 2400 Paseo St., Kansas City, Missouri -----	1.00
12. Rev. Walter J. Bryant, 223 1/2 E. 43rd St., Los Angeles 11, Calif.-----	.50
13. Elder A. G. Nelson, 1921 E. 24th St., Kansas City, Missouri -----	1.00
14. Elder G. E. Lakes, 2317 Morgan St., Parsons, Kansas -----	.50
15. Elder E. A. Daniels, 310 Temperance St., Knoxville, Tennessee -----	.50
16. Elder M. L. Lambert, 204 Jackson St., Reidsville, N. C. -----	.50
17. Elder Herman Turner, 987 East Philadelphia St., Detroit, Michigan -----	1.00
18. Elder R. L. Lofties, 648 Westminster St., Detroit, Michigan -----	.50
19. Elder N. R. Travillion, Route 1, Port Gibson, Mississippi, 10 Subs. -----	10.00
20. Rev. R. F. Hayes, 1111 Jones St., Little Rock, Arkansas -----	.50
21. Elder H. E. Fowler, 232 E. 9th St., Covington, Kentucky, 2 Years -----	1.00
22. Mrs. G. E. Campbell, 2343 E. 77th St., Cleveland, Ohio, 1 Year -----	.75
23. Mr. Willie Dabney, 5669 Harrison Ave., Maple Heights, Ohio -----	.75
24. Mr. Oliver Dickey, 2339 E. 61st St., Cleveland, Ohio -----	.75
25. Mr. Harold Dickey, 7007 Cedar Ave., Cleveland, Ohio -----	.75
26. Mrs. Lucy Coleman, 6711 Belvidere Ave., Cleveland, Ohio -----	.75
27. Mrs. Kathleen Elliot, 10714 Englewood Ave., Cleveland 8, Ohio -----	.75
28. Mr. Henry Doolin, 2664 E. 65th St., Cleveland, Ohio -----	.75
29. Mr. Roosevelt Freeman, 3614 E. 143rd St., Cleveland, Ohio -----	.75
30. Mrs. Amanda Van Dross, 2276 E. 89th St., Cleveland, Ohio -----	.75
31. Mrs. Dollie Barnes, R. 2, Newton, Falls, Ohio -----	1.00

32. Elder R. L. Peters, 614 Hickory St., Winston-Salem, N. C. -----	.50
33. Elder J. E. Blair, 2064, Carver Pl., Benton Homes, Warren, Ohio -----	.50
34. Mrs. Justine K. Spencer, 534 9th Ave., N. W., Roanoke 17, Virginia -----	1.00
35. Mrs. S. R. Shaifer, Box 142, Port Gibson, Mississippi -----	1.00
36. Prof. I. Q. Hurdle, 1416 E. 12th St., Austin, Texas -----	1.00
37. Mrs. Nola Scott, 2249 E. 84th St., Cleveland, Ohio -----	.75
38. Mrs. H. Arnold, 1270 High St., Akron 5, Ohio -----	1.00
39. Rev. Baxter C. Duke, 4272 Avalon Los Angeles, California -----	1.00
40. Elder W. C. Kinnard, 295 Gates Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y. -----	1.00
41. Elder W. F. Keyes, 252 1/2 Bainbridge St., Brooklyn, New York -----	1.00
42. Mrs. Letitia Marsh, 403 Ahorn St., Wynne, Arkansas -----	1.00
Rev. Travillion paid for the following:	
Mrs. J. B. Killingworth, R. 1, Box 137, Port Gibson, Miss. -----	1.00
Mrs. Mary L. Smith, R. 2, Box 226 1/2, Jackson, Miss. -----	1.00
Mrs. Mary E. Mitchell, R. 1, Box 122, Port Gibson, Miss. -----	1.00
Elder I. C. Franklin, Port Gibson, Miss., 2 Years -----	1.00
Elder G. W. Walls, R. 1, Box 113, Shaw, Miss., 2 yrs. -----	1.00
Mrs. D. A. Jenkins, Port Gibson, Miss. -----	1.00
Mrs. I. S. Spiller, R. 3, Box 30, Port Gibson, Miss. -----	1.00
Elder L. T. Thompson, Hermonville, Miss. -----	1.00
F. D. Rollins, R. 1, Box 68, Port Gibson, Miss., 2 Years -----	2.00
Total Amount -----	\$48.25

Money Turned Over to Mrs. Preston Taylor, Christian Plea, Treasurer, for the Month of September, 1944

1. Mrs. L. V. Isaac, Box 974, Henson, Texas -----	\$ 1.00
2. Miss Margaret Lee, No. 6 Carl St., Dayton, Ohio -----	1.00
3. Mr. Joseph C. Riffe, 627 S. Williams St., Dayton, Ohio -----	1.00
4. Dr. Martin L. Edwards, Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Texas -----	1.00
5. Mrs. Adah B. Campbell, 59 Chestnut Ave., Wyoming, Ohio -----	1.00
6. Mrs. Zulah A. Jones, 1311 Ann St., Kansas City, Kansas -----	1.00
7. Mrs. N. E. Turner, 116 7th Ave., N. W., Roanoke, Virginia -----	1.00
8. Mr. H. H. Harris, 2804 Cottonwood St., Apt. 485, Portland 17, Oregon -----	3.00
9. Mr. E. R. Williams, Box 233, Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Alabama -----	1.50
10. Mr. F. J. Armstrong, Route 2, Box 104, Scotts, Arkansas -----	1.00

11. Elder William Walker, Box 176, London, Kentucky -----	.50
12. Elder Taylor E. H. Cole, 411 East 7th St., Little Rock, Arkansas -----	1.25
13. President P. C. Washington, Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Texas -----	1.00

Second Christian Church, Midway, Ky.

T. R. EVERETT, *Pastor*

Old Midway is still on the up grade. Dr. R. L. Sercy, of Oklahoma City, is at present holding us a meeting. We are having rain almost every day, yet in spite of the weather, we are having a great time. Rev. and Mrs. O. B. Garner of Tulsa, Okla., were also house guests of Elder T. R. Everett a few days after the National Convention.

Report to The Brotherhood

DR. C. L. PARKS, *National Director Church Development and Evangelism*
1508 Hawkins Street
Nashville 4, Tenn.

During the months of July and August my journey carried me to the Kentucky State Convention, held at Georgetown, Ky., the Ohio State Convention, held at Cleveland, Ohio, the National Planning Committee, held at Second Church, Indianapolis, Ind., Tulsa, Okla., to visit Pine Street Christian Church, the Texas State Convention, held at Boll Street Christian Church, Dallas, Texas, the Mississippi State Convention, held at Southern Christian Institute, Edwards, Mississippi, and the National Convention, held at Second St. Christian Church, Lexington, Ky. In all of these experiences we noted that there were visible signs of restlessness. The spirits of the people who attended the meetings, seemingly, were reaching out for something which would give poise and balance and direction to the deep yearnings of their souls. Some few were very much disturbed by this unrest, while to us it meant life, not in a passive form, but life, vigorous life, surging against the forces of placid complacency and domination, which seek to set limits and boundaries for outreaching spirits of the souls of men. In all of our gatherings the spirit to move forward was active and determined, and when the counseling was over we all stood where a commanding view of the goals we seek could be had.

Nothing could be more inspiring than our morning conference with the Kentucky brethren. They were there ready and willing to identify, plan and attack all problems, whether local, state or national. The convention as

a whole, under the leadership of Elder L. L. Dickenson, produced results which must be placed in the category of success.

Moving over to the Ohio State Convention, our work there was not with the ministers but the laity. Yet, the spirit was the same. They came with inquiring spirits, open minds and a willingness that can be matched only by such as make up the Ohio Convention. Elder Barnett, a young man of commendable ambition, led the convention in this year of its greatest success.

Journeying to Texas we found President Hurdle, a veteran of many years, leading his forces to heights of accomplishments never before attained during my knowledge of the convention. The ministers' morning conferences were truly spirited and sought to grasp things which abide while feverishly divesting themselves of temporary inexpediencies. This year Texas adopted the Ministers' Institute Plan, which will permit its ministers to take subjects, taught by accredited teachers and for which they will receive credit and certificates when the course of study is completed. We brought the Sunday morning message during the convention and we must say it was a pleasing task since we had been so cordially received and royally entertained.

Next, we found ourselves in the Mississippi State Convention. Under the leadership of Elder N. R. Trevillion, Mississippi, among the large contributors to our united causes, registered a large increase in giving over last year's effort, than any other large contributing State. However, we must commend Kentucky for working herself into the group of larger givers by more than doubling her last year's effort and with a percentage increase better than Mississippi's. We hasten to say here, that we earnestly appreciate all givings, large and small, for all were small once and with the spirit of expansion and solid growth actuating our brotherhood, we believe the small will become large and the large larger.

We found some hungry and inquiring spirits among the Mississippi brethren, which was discovered elsewhere. Our morning gatherings were greedily attended and every preacher and layman (and we thank God for those spirited laymen who attended) was reaching out to lay hold on things that count most in Christian endeavor.

We travel now to the National Convention, held at Second St. Christian Church, Lexington, Ky. The same

high spirit was there and all ministers who attended the Ministers' Breakfast Conferences gave zest to the questions of the hour.

To Elder and Mrs. Saunders, the Board of Officers and the members of Second Street Christian Church we extend thanks and appreciation for the grand way you entertained the convention.

Lest we forget, we must say how we enjoyed the visit to Tulsa. Everybody there was so kind and congenial. Every minute spent there was full of interest plus the joy of seeing the grand and worthwhile accomplishments wrought by Bro. and Sister Garner in the short period of one year. Such records, as well as those to the contrary, never fail to affect our total brotherhood life.

A Summary of Alabama Disciples

MISS SADIE WILLIAMS
19 Lapine St.,
Montgomery 5, Ala.

Much praise should be given Mrs. Callie Brayboy, widow of the late D. C. Brayboy, who for many years was president of our State Convention, for her splendid work as field worker for the missionary department. She really awakened the missionary spirit during her visits to several churches. This was known by the wonderful response at the State Sunday School and Missionary Convention at Gordonville in June. Alabama was very happy during this meeting to receive a letter from its representatives to the St. Louis Labatory Training School, stating that they lead all states with the most representatives. Five young ladies were sent from the Eleventh St. Christian Church, Birmingham, Oxmore and Ross St., Montgomery. These young ladies are leaders of youth in their respective churches and studied in the field of training juniors, primaries, and intermediates. Already they have put into practice some of the many helpful suggestions and experiences brought back from this training course.

The Alabama Youth Fellowship Meet was held in Montgomery, July 21-23, as guests of the Ross St. Church. Elder A. J. Jefferies, of Birmingham, did a swell job as promotional secretary, as one of the largest and best attendance yet encountered was enjoyed by all. Miss Carnella Jamison was greatly missed this year, as it was impossible for her to attend, but I (Sadie Williams) was very happy, though insufficient, to try to carry on as co-director, with

Bro. W. K. Fox, of Edwards, Miss., who was very helpful and full of inspiration. My trip to St. Louis was very much appreciated, as this was a wonderful chance to share with others some of the things I had learned. We are very grateful to Miss Jamison, Miss Bessie, and others who helped to make this trip possible for us. We will try to prove ourselves worthy of their consideration as well as the fine training and fellowship we enjoyed at the West Presbyterian Church.

Alabama is on the march. We desire your prayers, brethren, that we too may be stronger and do a bigger and better job for the Master. We are praying for the success of the National Convention and hope to be able to share its blessings with you all.

Little Bethlehem Christian Church, Leadville, N. C.

MISS GAYDELL BINGHAM
Rt. 3, Box 163, Reidsville, N. C.

Sunday morning the meeting was spent by a short prayer service, after which the service was turned over to the choir and the pastor, Elder P. E. Carter. The service was continued as follows:

Hymn by Choir—"Must Jesus Bear the Cross."

Responsive Scripture Reading.

Prayer and prayer response by Bro. Frank Broadnax.

Hymn by the Choir—"Amazing Grace."

Following, the pastor arose and read for a Scripture lesson I Samuel 11-17 verses.

Prayer was offered by Bro. W. M. Bingham.

Hymn by the Choir—"The Unclouded Day."

The pastor arose and made a few remarks on parents and children. He preached a soul-stirring sermon and it was enjoyed by all. The invitation was extended. Following the official committee came forth and lifted an offering. The announcement committee came forth and made the announcements. Closing hymn and benediction by Elder P. E. Carter.

Sunday evening, the men had charge of the services entirely. The meeting was opened by a short prayer service. The program was turned over to the master of ceremonies.

Opening hymn—"A Charge to Keep."

Responsive Scripture Reading.

Prayer by Elder A. C. Perkins.

Song by the Group—"Just a Closer Walk."

Selection by Little Bethlehem Quartette.

Solo—Mr. Robert Hamlin, a representative from St. John A. M. E. Church, Leaksville, N. C.

A talk by Bro. Johnnie Hamlin, a representative from Penig Park Primitive Baptist Church.

Bro. Richard Williams song a solo, a representative from St. Paul Baptist Church, Draper, N. C.

Talk by Bro. Del Roach, a representative from Coal Spring Christian Church.

A solo and chorus was rendered by the men.

Solo—Bro. D. C. Galloway.

The financial committee came forth and lifted an offering. Announcements and closing hymn. Total offering for the day's service \$73.80. Benediction by Elder Carter.

Third Christian Church 16th and Chestnut Sts. Louisville, Ky.

REV. F. F. FLOYD, *Pastor*
BUFORD MURRAY, *Reporter*

2621 W. Walnut St., Louisville, Ky.

Our church is progressing wonderfully and I am proud to report at this writing that the new annex I wrote about some time ago I promised to give more details of the project.

The annex is now being built and will be completed in the near future and when completed we will have a modern building, comprising a modern kitchen, ladies' and men's rest rooms, dining and Sunday School room and a pastor's study. The entire church has been painted, also the new Bulletin Board that was presented to the church by the Men's Progressive Club has been erected.

The dedication services will be held in the near future.

Rev. Floyd has been elected president of the State Convention for Kentucky, and during the election of officers at the National Convention, he was elected President of the Christian Preachers Fellowship. He is asking the prayers of the brotherhood and Christians everywhere that he may be a successful leader during his stay in office.

Rev. Floyd is calling a meeting of the Missionary Board on October 20 at Prall St. Christian Church in Lexington, Ky.

During the absence of our pastor attending the State Convention, we were glad to have Rev. R. E. Hancock fill the pulpit, Sunday, July 23, which he so ably did. He delivered a wonderful message. His text was taken from Matt. 14:30. His subject was

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Mention the "Plea." Write direct to the author

"Realizing the Need of a Saviour." Our hearts were made glad with a real spiritual sermon and a new joiner into our church. He also conducted the night service.

We were also glad to have Rev. Earl Jackson, of Paducah, Ky., stop off on his way home from the State Convention and pay us a visit Sunday night, July 23. He left with us some encouraging remarks.

Rev. C. Roach filled the pulpit while Rev. Floyd attended the National Convention.

We are having our Men's Day Rally on Sunday, Sept. 24th. The men have been asked to raise \$1,000.00. The chairman, captains and these groups are working hard to reach the goal. Will give a full report in the next issue.

Then Men's Progressive Club is having a musical on Thursday night, Sept. 7th, for benefit of Men's Rally Day.

Corinth Christian Church Kilgore, Texas

REV. E. J. DICKSON, *Pastor*
MRS. ALMETA HENDERSON, *Reporter*
Rt. 2, Box 260, Kilgore, Texas

On August 13th our revival began. We are all rejoicing over the wonderful success during this week.

Pres. P. C. Washington, "our" evangelist, came with the spirit of the conqueror from his home, to help us rout sin and build up our Zion here for Christ. He also brought us spiritual food in each sermon. We were grateful to have eight to confess Christ and be baptized. Their names are: Jials Napese Daniels, Orell Daniels, Jr., Tom Sibley, Joe Winson Sanders, Willie A. Daniels, Travis Daniels, Maud Emma Sibley, Vernita Sibley. May God bless these little Christians and may they grow strong in the faith. We wish to thank the churches and well wishers for their

cooperation during our revival. We, too, wish to express our thanks to the Bethel A. M. E. choir of Longview, for the gospel songs which were rendered. The Lord blessed us wonderfully, both spiritually and financially. We succeeded in raising \$191.63.

Our pastor, Rev. Dickson, is carrying on a religious work trying to deliver the message to those who are thirsting after God's word. We wish him much success in the work. May God bless all who do His will. We are asking the prayers for our continued success.

Mound Bayou District Notes

ELDER GEORGE WALL

Rt. 1, Box 113, Shaw, Miss.

For eight years I've served this district. At present, most all of the congregations have fairly good houses of worship and out of debt and are very well owing to the number of membership. I've just returned from S. C. I., where I attended our state convention which was good. Two ministers were ordained. Elder I. C. Franklin gave the solemn charge. We had as a guest to the convention Elder C. L. Parks, a field worker for C. W. B. M., who said many good things of which the church needs. I also read an article of praise and encouragement to young people. I hope to have a group who will learn to speak the things that become sound doctrine and not teach unbelief of the Bible nor group all organizations with Christ's church nor birth some Sisters only use the definite word church. Christ is the Lamb and the church is his bride, not mine nor yours. Rev. 19:7-9; also 1st Cor. 12:12, 13. Read John 20:30, 31; also 2nd Peter 1:20, 21. Young folks I hope you will observe these Scriptures and be governed by them. If so, you will not be removed from the ancient and mark which thy fathers have set.

The CHRISTIAN PLEA

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NEGRO DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

Vol. LII

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, OCTOBER, 1944

Number 2

UNITY SPIRIT RISES OVER BROTHERHOOD

Soon after the great National Convention which was held at Lexington, Ky., August 22-27, the CHRISTIAN PLEA office notified all subscribers that they would not be mailed any more PLEAS until they became financial.

We reported 796 subscribers delinquent. We mailed out a circular letter to all, and to the surprise of the PLEA Secretary many have paid up, with many making donations of five dollars.

This is one of the greatest demonstrations of unity and goodwill that we have ever experienced. We hope and have all indications to believe that this spirit will continue.

The Executive Committee of the National Convention met in connection with the International Convention in Columbus, Ohio, October 21st. In their meeting they pledged their full support of the PLEA with articles and subscriptions. This is a very hopeful sign.

There is soon to be established a permanent headquarters for the Negro work. It is hoped that they will have a full time secretary and an enlarged staff of field workers.

We are calling upon all churches and church workers to exert every effort to make this a banner year. We now ask all pastors to make their churches one hundred per cent PLEA readers; to appoint a PLEA secretary; to send us the news of your locality; to cooperate with the National President in the total program. Rev. S. S. Myers is an outstanding leader. He inherits the great work that has been begun. He will need the support of all.

**DELINQUENT SUBSCRIBERS
YOUR "PLEA" WILL NOT BE
DELIVERED UNLESS YOU
PAY NOW.**

S. C. I. Offers Short Courses for Ministers

Realizing the great need for the in-service training of many of our ministers, Southern Christian Institute is co-operating with the Home Missions Council of North America to offer short courses in the field of religion to ministers of all ages and school background. The first term began October 16, 1944, and will continue until December 16, 1944. The second term will begin January 9 and will go until March 9, 1945. President John Long and Director W. K. Fox will teach regular classes. Members from the faculty will be called in from time to time to lecture on their respective fields as they relate to knowledge needed by the minister. Elder W. K. Fox, Head of the Department of Bible and Religious Extension at the school, is supervising and directing the work as a part of the religious extension program of the school.

The courses are taught from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Monday through Thursday. Certificates of Achievement in Religion I will be given all those who attend two terms. A man may attend one term this year and another next year. He will then receive this certificate from the institution. Certificates of Achievement in Religion II will be given all those who attend another two terms. Certificates of Ministerial Merit will be given all those who attend a third two terms. This certificate will have on it the seal of the Department of Bible and Religious Extension and the seal of the institution, signifying graduation from the Short Course Division of the department.

The following courses are being offered the first term:

No. B. 100—English Based on the Bible.

(Continued on page 2)

News Notes

Dr. Robert M. Hopkins, President of the U.C.M.S. was the typical Democrat at home. You know, he is a son of the bloody hunting ground—Kentucky. He showed he was full of the spirit of brotherly love. He showed that the impact of the war had given him a strategy which brought results. The brotherhood was helped by his presence.

Elder Tibbs Maxey was present enrolling Negroes in his one-man school for ministers. Elder T. R. Everett, 72 years old, is rumored as the first student. It was not announced where the school will be, but we think it will be as John Wesley said, "The world is my parish."

Elder D. W. Bradley, President of the Tennessee State Missionary Convention, was highly entertained by Elder T. R. Everett during the National Convention.

Elder and Mrs. R. L. Saunders highly entertained the National Convention. Most people agreed that the church was the cleanest and best in the brotherhood.

Elder R. L. Peters, our National Evangelist of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, was married to Mrs. Mary L. Bailey this past summer. It was good news because the old "Gospel Wagon" was lonely without a helpmate. Congratulations to both of them!

Elder R. L. Searcy, of Oklahoma City, conducted a great meeting at Midway, Kentucky. Elder T. R. Everett, Minister.

Elder T. H. Moore, Paris, Kentucky, closed a successful meeting at Mt. Olivet Church, Baltimore, Maryland. Elder C. L. Whitfield, Minister.

(Continued from page 1, column 2)

No. P. 100—Preaching from the Parables.

No. S. 100—The Community Program of Your Church.

The following courses are being offered the second term:

No. A. 100—Raising Money In Your Church.

No. P. 101—Preaching from Old Testament Stories.

No. S 101—How to Beautify My Church.

An enthusiastic group of ministers are already taking advantage of this great opportunity. Southern Christian Institute is anxious to have more and more of our Disciple ministers to write in for more information and to plan to come in for the courses. Here is a chance of your life time! Regardless of how old you are or how far you have gone in school, you can come. The entire faculty and outside lecturers will come to you from time to time! The fine library and other facilities of the school are at your disposal! Ask your church to help you go. If you are far away ask for a leave of absence. You can't let this pass you by. Write President John Long or Elder W. K. Fox at Southern Christian Institute, Edwards, Miss., if you want more information.

Miss Jamison's Column Woman's Day

The first Sunday, December 3, as well as November 26 and December 10, are observed in our churches as Woman's Day. The president of each missionary society has receive the material sent out from the national office.

There are three pieces of material and an order blank: (a) Woman's Day—Its history and Its Observance; (b) Woman's Day—Theme, Sermon suggestions, suitable hymns, suggestive ideas for the speaker; (c) "The End is the Beginning," a one act play by Maude Taylor Sarvis. The play has not only a message to adults but a challenging appeal to young people. It will not only raise questions but it will point the way. Ask the young people's group to assist adults in the missionary society in the presentation of this play. (Price, 10c per copy, 3 for 25c).

Woman's Day offerings are for the world missionary task of your church and apply on your annual missionary society goal. Send your offering in soon after your observance to the United Christian Missionary Society, 222 So. Downey Avenue, Indianapolis 7, Indiana.

Tri-State Notes

R. WESLEY WATSON

It was our good pleasure to visit the Arkansas State Convention and enjoyed a fine fellowship, the work under the leadership of Elder T. R. Moore assisted by the faithful ministers. The Armstrongs, Elder Hayes, Facen, Forbes, Sister Bostick, Franklin, Woodward, Marsh, Moore, Rainey, Armstrongs again, Dean, Facen, Watson and many others are making some progress. Elder Taylor Coles is doing a fine part leading out the Bible School. Their theme was "Speak unto the people that they go forward." Many fine messages were brought. Every courtesy was shown the worker and we were privileged to appear many times in institutes, conferences and also delivered the Ordination Charge and conducted the ordination services of L. B. Facen, after the ordination message by Elder R. F. Hayes. Elder Facen is doing a splendid job as supply pastor at Cross Street Church.

Both Kansas and Missouri Conventions were excellent. W. S. Sims was elected President. Missouri held a good convention and Wm. Martin of Fulton was elected President. S. S. Myers had given faithful service for about seven years, but declined to serve longer.

Wm. Martin is doing a most creditable work in Fulton. They have installed a new furnace and are now in an effort to raise funds to build a parsonage.

The work at Jefferson City goes on under the leadership of their able minister, J. P. Washington. All of Missouri is greatly concerned with them over a new building. \$790.00 was raised for that purpose and they are still going good.

F. H. Coleman, the faithful minister at Columbia, has paid their church out of debt and now they are raising funds to put in new pews.

The writer held a meeting at Madison, Mo. It was a great meeting and the entire town turned out. Minister E. K. Burton has served his home church well there and also pastors Salisbury, where he paid off a debt of many years and burned the mortgage. He also preaches at Frankford.

H. D. Griffin and members are busy at Hannibal, where they are now re-decorating the church and hope to have their reopening soon.

We preached a few nights at Chamois and had a good crowd. One made the good confession. M. F. Stevens reports two confessions at

Plattsburg, Mo. Our work in Kansas moves on with some improvements. Eighth Street has a very beautiful auditorium, made possible under the leadership of H. C. Poston. Parson, Kansas, Church moves along well with some improvements under the leadership of G. Ellison Lakes. Frank Bradley has been visiting the work at Emporia. Bro. Bradley is a coming young minister with a future. Any church, who wishes the services of a growing minister, would do well to contact him.

The group at Lawrence is greatly concerned over a location and has a very good prospect in sight. W. S. Sims and faithful wife, with the help of the faithful few, are at work over it.

W. H. Brown celebrated his ninth anniversary in the ministry at his church in Topeka, Kansas, last week. Institutional Church, under the leadership of Elder Cotton and Sister Amanda Davis is having a good program. We have a minister in that church who has some ability, Sister Grey. She could be used for special occasions and meetings. Anyone desiring her services may write her at 2215 N. Fifth St., Kansas City, Kans. Our work at Atchison moves on well under the leadership of A. H. Thomas.

M. F. Stephens has been called to Third Church, Kansas City, Kansas. We wish for him a very good year. We are now starting a building fund drive at Wichita, Kansas. Elder Adkins and Graves are holding the fort well and work moves forward.

S. S. Myers celebrated his 13th anniversary at Kansas City, Mo. Quite an affair was observed with President P. C. Washington of Jarvis bringing the anniversary sermon. A banquet was given him by the church and many gifts given him and family.

A planning meeting for Missouri was held at St. Louis under the leadership of Elder Wm. Martin. Those present were Miss Jamison, Miss Bessie Chandler, Miss Willis, Mrs. Oneida Reed, Mrs. Harrison, Mrs. A. E. Gilmore, Bro. and Sister Doolan and the writer.

P. A. Grey celebrated his sixth year with the St. Louis Church in a week of anniversary services with the visiting ministers preaching. A great service was enjoyed all the week.

We are all happy over the fact that at last St. Church has a new church home, having bought the First Christian Church. It is a building that will take care of all of their needs. We congratulate Elder Gray and his good people upon their achievement.

Ready to Serve the Churches

Every church of Disciples of Christ in the United States has available these sources of help in program, leadership, and materials:

A State Missionary Society whose leaders are ready to serve the local church in every possible way.

An era or state director of Religious Education for helps in this specific field of work.

Seven National Directors of Religious Education from whom advice and council are available to any church.

A Christian Church college, or a Disciples' Foundation at a state school, for the training of the youth of the church. The Board of Higher Education serves these colleges and foundations. Four Bible Chairs at University centers have also been established by the brotherhood.

A summer training program of intermediates—65 Pioneer Camps were held last year.

A summer training program for young people—91 young people's conferences were held last year.

A summer training program for adults—16 adult conferences were held last year.

Materials and leadership for training workers in the church, 10,830 credits were issued last year in Leadership Training Schools. Twelve Laboratory training schools and Observation practice schools were conducted across the nation.

The Thanksgiving offering from our churches helps to provide these avenues of assistance to the churches.

UNIFIED PROMOTION

Irvington Station, Box 5636
Indianapolis 1, Indiana

Report to the Brotherhood

DR. C. L. PARKS, *National Secretary*
1508 Hawkins St., Nashville, Tenn.

We spent September 10th to October 10th in Jacksonville, Florida. On the 10th, the Mission, which had been worshipping at 744 Florida Avenue, moved into a new church building. This whole outlay was presented to them by Elder Samuel C. Taylor, a white brother of Jacksonville, free of indebtedness. It is a beautiful frame building, located on Evergreen Street, corner Fourth and East Jacksonville; painted, lighted, two class rooms, in addition to the auditorium for educational purposes and a baptistry worthy of any church in our Brotherhood—a great blessing, born of a true Christian heart.

September 10th was truly a great day for Evergreen Christian Church in Jacksonville. It is the first church ever established for Disciples of color in that city. The little group there took over in grand style. They spent the whole day in the church thanking God for the reality of a dream of many, many years. They are a humble group, a working group, and ready and willing to be lead.

We spent the first week in pre-evangelistic services, wherein, our spirit were lifted and prepared for the attack. During the following three weeks, even though it rained half of that time, this small group, plus many of their friends, gave us their hearty support.

The results of this meeting were encouraging—sixteen additions, eleven by baptism, and five by transfer. Seven of the sixteen came, not as direct result of our effort, for Elder A. J. Robinson, who has labored with this mission for the last ten months of its sixteen years existence, had already committed these young people who were members of the Mission Bible School. The other eight were all adults, except one.

We do want to commend Mrs. R. M. Phillips for the admirable way she organized and labored with this mission for sixteen years, and Elder A. J. Robinson for his ten months' service with them.

Elder Samuel C. Taylor, who gave the grounds, the buildings and equipment, will always occupy a warm place in the hearts of those of us who are deeply concerned over the inadequacy of many of the places of worship found among our colored brethren. We must also be appreciative for the deep and moving interest, shown by the white ministers of Jacksonville and the State of Florida in our Jacksonville Project.

The Evergreen Church contributed twenty-four dollars and seventy-two cents on the expense of the meeting.

A Visit to Southern Christian Institute

C. H. HAYGOOD
12 Tenth Avenue, North
Birmingham, Alabama

About two weeks before school opened I had the wonderful experience of returning again to my Alma Mater, Southern Christian Institute. For two reasons I had eagerly anticipated this trip.

First, it was my first return to the campus since 1939, and I was anxious to see what changes had taken place

in those years and second, the trip that I was now making was to accompany a boy who was entering the school because of the impression that I had made as a representative graduate of the institution upon his father.

As we drove into the campus I was impressed by the new buildings. The Teachers' Cottage meets a great need and is beautiful and inviting. The new Boys' Dormitory is a modern fireproof structure having every convenience. (I thought of how happy we would have been to have occupied such a fine dormitory when I was there in "the good old days" of 1926-1931.)

The number of boys enrolled in the school is smaller than in former years due to the pull of the army draft on the older boys and lure of job opportunities upon those younger, but the spirit of the institution is yet preserved and the work moves on creditably.

So creditably is work being done now at Southern Christian and so thoroughly prepared are the present faculty members until the school has been given an excellent rating by the Southern Association of Colleges.

Growth and improvement of the school is evident in improved building facilities, in better prepared faculty members, and also in better equipment for every phase of the work of the school.

Even the agricultural development program shows more and better stock, better farms and modern implements of farming. Much of the work must be carried on by instructors who are "short" of boys. But the work goes on and in a fine manner.

In short, Southern Christian Institute is a growing and a rapidly developing institution for the training of Negro youth in this great southland and one of which we should be proud.

NOTICE Christian Plea Subscribers

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THE ORENE COLE PRIZE

Will be given to the minister who sends in the most subscribers over ten during the month of November

THE CHRISTIAN PLEA

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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

Our Motto

BOB BURDETTE

My son, remember you have to work. Whether you handle a pick or wheelbarrow or a set of books, digging ditches or editing a paper, ringing an auction bell or writing funny things, you must work.

Don't be afraid of killing yourself by overworking the sunny side of thirty. Men die sometimes, but it is because they quit at nine p. m. and don't go home until two a. m. Its the intervals that kill, my son. The work gives you appetite for your meals; it lends solidity to your slumber; it gives you a perfect appreciation of a holiday. There are men who do not work, but the country is not proud of them. It does not even know their names; it only speaks of them as "old so and so's boys." Nobody likes them; the great busy world does not know that they are here. So find what you want to be and do. Take off your coat and make dust in the world. The busier you are, the less harm you are apt to go into, the sweeter will be your sleep, the brighter your holidays, and better satisfied the whole world will be with you.

Money

ARTHUR D. GASKINS

617 Clifton Place

Dayton 8, Ohio

We cannot get along without money, we need it to obtain food, clothing, shelter, protect our health and to enjoy life, but above all we need money to worship the Lord. Now right at this point there will be some of our good church officers who will disagree, and will bring up the argument that, "Religion is free and we can serve the Lord without a cent," and then I'll say, if that is true why do you allow so much "money begging" in the church that it kills the spirit of the whole service?

We were lifting the offering in my Sunday School class, and I ask the class, why we took an offering, and each of them said, "to help the missionaries on the foreign fields." I agreed that it was a noble thought, and then I asked them, where we got the money to pay for the literature they were now using, who paid the delegates' way to conventions, where the money came from when we served refreshments to the little tots, where the money came from when we fixed a Christmas basket for a needy family. They had not thought of our offering

doing anything here so near them and it was truly a revelation to them, that by giving their little offering they were really helping out about something they could see and understand. There are thousands of good church people today that will drop only a dime or a quarter in the offering basket, because they do not realize the exact purpose of the offering they give. It makes quite a difference to give your money and have it sent away, when you can so plainly see it is needed at home, (the church). I am not against sending to the missionaries or any other needy cause, but I am for taking care of the home church first.

The members of the church do not give enough, and there is someone to blame, and that is the officers of the church for not educating the people to give, there are too many officers that still believe in the begging method and ninety-nine per cent of members are becoming bored with this method of getting money with which to run the church, so what must we do? Train the officers so they can train their congregation? Why not in this convention organize a "Finance school for officers?" Surely there are some few churches in the brotherhood that have no begging in them, if so, appoint officers from such churches to instruct officers from the begging churches. I imagine such an instructor would say, and give an example, "If your state and national apportionment is \$100.00 per year put that down on paper, Pastor's salary \$1,800, fuel and lights \$300, repairs \$200, custodial service \$300, and delegates to conventions \$150. Now let's add those figures. What is your total? The begging church officers would say \$2,850.00, then the instructor would say, have copies made of those figures and give one to each member of your congregation and personally see each of your 200 adult working members and have them pledge \$20.00 each for the year which will bring in \$4,000.00 enough above your general expenses to donate to charity, missionary and especially the needy of your own church. Show each member that the pledge of \$20.00 is only \$1.66 2/3 per month. Now doesn't that sound simple? Well, it is just as simple as it sounds and if the officers of the church will put forth first a little effort we will each enjoy more spiritual services in the future than in the past." The instructor is silent while his pupils fold and pocket their papers, then he speaks, "Somewhere in the Bible we learn that to be great

we must serve, and though you hold offices in the church your duty is to serve the congregation, and it is vitally important that you make your congregation know that you are there to serve them, and that the money they give is not for you, but you are only handling it for them as their agent. Give them this example, if a \$200.00 bill is to be paid it would cause a lot of confusion for two hundred members to take a dollar each to the creditor and pay this bill, but instead we officers pay it for you if you leave the money here. Invite or welcome each organization of the church to look over the books to see where the money goes, invite them to the board meetings, in short, make the congregation feel that you are working for them and not them working for you." "Class dismissed brothers and may the Lord bless your every effort to make His church a church of worship rather than a church of begging."

Southern Christian Institute, Edwards, Mississippi

Dear Mr. Eppse:

Your occasional "plugs" for me and for the school and the carefulness with which you check every item for its veracity before its publication in our brotherhood organ, THE CHRISTIAN PLEA, proves you to be a very competent editor, a warm personal friend, an earnest and sincere Christian, and a true brotherhood man with a keen interest in everything that will advance all the causes of our brotherhood and especially the cause of Christian education among our people.

I wish to express my gratitude to you.

Cordially,
JOHN LONG.

Cross County Training School, Wynne, Arkansas

Dear Prof. Eppse:

I came home from our national convention, in Lexington, Ky., with a prayer in my heart to do more for the cause of Christ this year, and the Lord has wonderfully blessed me.

I have been teaching school in Arkansas for the past five year, and ever since I have been here in Eastern Arkansas, I have wanted to see a Disciple of Christ Church organized in this, my home town. We do not as yet have a church organized, but I have organized a Bible School and we meet each Lord's Day. We have

fourteen members enrolled to date. When we organized, September 17, 1944, we had only nine. Our number has increased to fourteen, and more have promised to attend next Lord's Day.

We named our Bible School the Second Christian Bible School. I am a member of Cross Street Christian Church, Little Rock, Arkansas.

We ask the prayers of the entire brotherhood. I shall be expecting my CHRISTIAN PLEA this month.

Sincerely,

LETITIA POSTON MARSH.
*Instructor of History and Geography,
Cross County Training School.
403 Ahorn Street, Wynne, Ark.*

Henderson Christian Mission

MRS. L. V. ISAAC, *Reporter*
P. O. Box 974, Henderson, Texas

We have planned several times to send news to the PLEA. Now that we have made a start we hope to keep all our Christian friends informed of our struggle for a church here.

For five years this mission at Henderson, Texas, has been struggling to set a foundation of true fellowship in Christ here.

"We have not given up and will not."

Now, as to our regular program of church work. We have Sunday School every Sunday. Membership ranges from ten to twenty, offering always good, from \$2.00 to \$7.00. As we are dismissed for five minutes recreation, we go immediately into worship service with Rev. T. A. Armistead acting pastor.

Now that we have a piano for our church, we are putting forth double effort to have a choir unexcelled by any in town. Mrs. L. V. Isaac, the former Lura V. Henry, is a high school and junior graduate of Jarvis College and Senior from Texas College, Tyler, Texas, is our church clerk and choir directress. Along with other faithful members are Bro. Jesse Rodges and wife; Dr. D. T. Cleaver and wife, Mrs. Lela Gipson and son, A. C. Gipson, Mrs. Otha Dunn and little Ruby Lee Henry, Mrs. Mildred Liggins and two sons. We have other members however who are faithful, but space will not permit a very long print. We will be happy to send news often and whatever the cost to send our news to the PLEA. We will send it, we are not suffering "financially, it is fellowship and good will." May we all look forward towards more news from all Christians.

Iowa Churches Help Negro Disciple Work

Roland Hayes Recital,
State Convention.
Dear Friend:

I am enclosing an announcement of the recital to be given by Roland Hayes, the famous negro soloist. This recital will close our State Convention. The Convention will be held October 29, 30, 31 and November 1. The Roland Hayes Recital will be Wednesday evening, November 1, at 8:15 P.M.

This recital is given for the benefit of our new Des Moines Negro Church, the Westside Christian Church. Roland Hayes is not receiving any money. When he found that this was for the benefit of a church of his own race he very generously donated his part of the receipts. Naturally, we have to pay the overhead expense. But Roland Hayes personally will not receive any pay. The usual charge for a Roland Hayes Recital is from \$2.50 up. This recital will cost only \$1.00, plus the war tax of twenty cents, total \$1.20.

The recital will be held in the University Church, and it is being furnished free. This church will seat 2,200. Not only is the University Church back of this, but all our Des Moines churches are also backing it, and our churches and friends in the state are too. People will attend this recital from all Iowa and of course the music lovers of our denominational friends will be present. We will fill the University Church. We have reserved a large block of seats for our freinds from out in the state. How many tickets will you want? The music lovers of your church and your neighbor churches will want to hear Roland Hayes. Get in touch with them and send me the reservations. You may send the money direct to me and I will personally see that you have a ticket reserved. As soon as I receive the money, I will mail you the tickets.

Our Negro Church (Westside Christian Church) is prospering. We have just bought a property at 9th and School. This property is a large lot, 125 x 150 feet. It now has a fourteen room house on it. This house can be converted into a church and living quarters for the minister. After the war we can then build a real church. We paid \$3,300 for this property. It will cost us around \$1,000 to alter the building so that it may be used as a church. We are using the Roland Hayes Recital proceeds to fix up the property and make the down

payment. Rev. Jesse J. Hawkins is the minister.

When you attend the State Convention, you will want to drive past this new property. We will get possession the 15th of this month. We will then begin alteration. This Negro church is an Iowa movement. This is our first and at present only Negro church. Every church in Iowa will want to help us make this church the best Negro church in our Brotherhood.

Now, how many tickets will you want? At \$1.20 we will have no trouble selling out the space. Please let me know as soon as possible how many tickets you will want. Mail your check or money to the State Office. We will mail you the tickets.

Arkansas State Convention, Oak Grove Christian Church, Scott, Arkansas

Mrs. S. L. BOSTICK

Route 2, Box 32,

North Little Rock, Arkansas

I wish to report the success of our State Convention, which was held at Oak Grove Christian Church, at Scott, Ark. We were greatly entertained by these good people. Our convention opened with a very fine spirit indeed, and closed with the same. The programs were excellent by all departments. The finance was better than it has been for some time. We were greatly blessed by having Elder Watson, who came to us from Kansas City, Mo. He was of much help to us in all our conferences and councils. He is expecting to be of much help to Arkansas and we should cooperate. We had some fine sermons from these good preachers: Elder J. W. Forbes, Thursday noon; Ordination sermon, Elder R. F. Hayes, Friday, 11:30; a great message Thursday night by Elder Haywood Armstrong, which was very interesting, Friday night; a soul-stirring message by Elder T. R. Moore, State President, Sunday morning; A Wide Awake Sunday School. Bro. Taylor Cole, President.

At 11:30 A.M., a sermon worthwhile by Elder B. H. Armstrong, who gave his last sermon as State evangelist. Offering was \$20.00. We closed with a spirit of going forward with the help of the Lord in Arkansas.

Our officers for the State for 1944-45 are: Elder B. H. Armstrong, president; Elder T. R. Moore, evangelist; Elder J. W. Farber, district superintendent; Prof. H. A. Armstrong, secretary; Bro. F. J. Armstrong, treasurer. Officers for the

Women's Department: Mrs. Mary Franklin, retained as president, of Russellville; Mrs. Mahala Moore, recording secretary, North Little Rock; Mrs. Bettie Armstrong, treasurer, Scott, Ark.; Mrs. S. L. Bostick, chairman of state board, 414 W. 24th St., North Little Rock; Mrs. C. Mathis, vice; Miss Mary V. Moore, general secretary of state, Scott, Ark. Mrs. Facen and Mrs. Dixie Martain are secretaries of state board and district, and Mrs. Pearl Armstrong, vice-president of state convention.

With new talents and new visions.

To the Bible Schools Everywhere—"Greetings"

As your President, my heart's desire is to lead our schools forward and to get every person to dedicate their life, finance and talent to Christ so that we may have a Christian world. We have such a long journey ahead, so I am calling on every State President, Bible School Superintendent, teacher and fellow learner to pull a little harder this year.

The financial goal is \$1,000.00 The P. H. Moss fund at last is at work; \$100.00 was deposited with the scholarship committee to be used this year for some worthy student, the first time in the long, long period of its development.

This does not mean we have raised the necessary \$10,000.00 to be known as the P. H. Moss fund, but \$100.00 of the amount raised to carry on the Religious Education phase of our convention has been given to get this fund out of cold storage and let you see it at work. Perhaps this will make you understand. The \$1,000.00 asked for this year will include \$500.00 for the P. H. Moss fund, so double your gift.

Other recommendations were: To encourage interested laymen in cities where we ought to have a church and haven't any to organize a Bible School.

That the program committee give the Bible School convention more time so that we can have space for presentations of our children workers and children display.

That we continue to be a part of the Pre-convention session.

All of these recommendations, plus those recommended last year, were approved this year. So our task lies ahead. We can achieve our goal if we all pull together. Kentucky won all of the awards this year—Mrs. Bristow should be commended for this achievement. Will your state and schools have this honor this year?

This is the third time you have honored me with this position. I trust with your help I may do for you the task assigned well. With every appreciation for your confidence in me.

R. L. JORDAN,
Bible School President.

In Memoriam

In loving memory of my dear sister and my darling mother, Ida M. Smith, who departed this life October 11, 1942. Two years have passed since you went away and left us with sad hearts. Your gentle face and patient smile with gladness we recall. You had a kindly word for every one and was loved by all. How bitter was the trial to part from one so good as you. You're not forgotten, loved one, nor will you ever be. As long as life and memory last we will remember thee.—Ella B. and M. E. Thompson.

MONEY TURNED OVER TO MRS. PRESTON TAYLOR, CHRISTIAN PLEA TREASURER, FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 1944

1. National Convention (for the month of August) by J. E. Walker	\$ 75.00
2. Mrs. Rosa Wicks, 1206 T St., Washington, D. C.—1 sub.	1.00
3. Rev. D. W. Heath, 815 8th St., N. W., Roanoke, Va.—1 sub.	1.00
4. Mrs. Mary B. Franklin, 911 Court St., Russellville, Ark.—3 subs.	3.00
5. Mrs. Corinne B. Chase, 1116 E 23rd St., Kansas City, Mo.—10 subs.	7.50
6. Mrs. Z. M. Peoples, 2700 N. Capitol Ave., Indianapolis, Ind.—6 subs.	4.50
7. National Convention (for the month of September) by J. E. Walker, Treasurer	25.00
8. Mrs. Alma Cummings, 4109 Prairie Ave., Chicago, Ill.—2 subs.	2.00
9. Mrs. Mary E. Graves, 1048 Pavone St., Benton Harbor, Mich.—1 sub.	1.00
10. Rev. W. Q. Gill, Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Texas—1 sub.	1.00
11. Mrs. Pearl G. Clark, 1619 Westwood Ave., Baltimore 17, Md.—2-yr. subs.	2.00
12. Mrs. Ella T. Roberts, 627 Vine St., Wyoming 15, Ohio—1 sub.	1.00
13. Rev. C. L. Whitfield, 544 Laurens Baltimore, Md.—1-sub.	1.00
14. Mrs. Julia D. Cave, 56 Chestnut Ave., Wyoming 15, Ohio—donation	5.00
15. Rev. P. E. Carter, 905 Druid St., Greensboro, N. C.—1 sub.	1.00
16. Dr. C. L. Parks, 1508 Hawkins St., Nashville, Tenn.—1 sub.	1.00
17. Ed. P. Graves, Route 3, Box 171A, Winston-Salem, N. C.—2-yr. subs	2.00
18. Mr. Matthew Carter, 556 Dolphin St., Baltimore Md.—3-yr. sub.	3.00
19. Elder F. T. Barnett, 9415 Quincy, Cleveland, Ohio—1 sub.	1.00
20. Mrs. Helen Piersaw, 640 Vine St., Wyoming, Ohio—donation and subs.	5.00
21. Mrs. Daisy S. Frierson, 825 Sherman Ave., Springfield, Ohio—1 sub.	1.00
22. Miss Ella Mae Alcorn, 2345 W. Walnut, Louisville, Ky.—donation and 2 subs.	5.00
23. Miss Elizabeth Givens, 2616 Belle Glade, St. Louis 13, Mo.—12 subs.	8.75
24. Rev. N. J. Dickerson, Box 83, Bluefield, W. Va.—7 subs.	5.00
25. Prof. L. C. Williams, 238 Roosevelt, Indianola, Miss.—1 sub.	1.00
26. Mrs. Ann G. Adams, 3721 So. Central Ave., Dallas 15, Texas—1 sub.	1.00
27. Mrs. Gertrude Williams, 132½ Williams Ave., Hagerstown, Md. 1 sub.	1.00

\$185.75

Ninth Avenue Christian Church, Roanoke, Virginia

REV. D. W. HEATH, *Pastor*
815 8th St., Roanoke, Va.

The Ninth Avenue Christian Church is taking on new life after having been without a pastor for a period of several months. As their newly-elected pastor, I can truthfully say that my induction was one of the finest that I have ever witnessed in my whole ministerial career.

We took the work here the first Sunday in September, at which time we met a very large group of enthusiastic members and friends, who were anxious to see the church take on new life. Every action and movement that went on in our worship that day gave an indication that the Spirit was very high, and the church, as a whole, was overly proud of the fact that they had secured a pastor. This was shown in the offering, because it was said that it went higher.

The church began its Installation Service on the 25th of September, lasting throughout that week. It was here that I got a chance to see a cross section of the brain power of the church. The program Committee was made up of three elders and two deacons of the church. They saw that the best and most respected ministers were represented on this program. Every night was a high night with Sunday being the climax, at which time the main Installation Sermon was brought to us by Elder C. H. Webb of the Cleveland Avenue Christian Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina. The audience also seemed to have been larger than it had been since we have been here.

There was also a reception given in honor of the pastor and his wife, at which time a great many presents were presented of many descriptions and values. Even a beautiful \$159.00 dining room suite was placed in the parsonage for our use.

I am praying that this enthusiasm will remain, and if it does, I can say that I have been blessed with the church that I have prayed for all of my ministerial life. I also can say that I believe, without a shadow of a doubt, that the Roanoke church is one of the best in the Brotherhood.

Morgan Ave. Christian Church Parsons, Kansas

G. E. LAKES, *Minister*
ESSIE GARRETT, *Secretary*
2010 Grand Avenue

We have had some wonderful achievements through the months of June and July.

The first Sunday in June was a high day. This was the third anniversary day for our pastor. We had as our guest Elder W. S. Sims, Lawrence, Kansas, who brought us the morning message and Elder R. Wesley Watson, who gave us the anniversary message at the afternoon meeting. Both messages were inspiring. Elder Watson remained and preached for us the following week. We are glad to have the Lakes with us. We think that he is doing very fine work. We are praying for his success. Proceeds for the day were \$87.73. The anniversary offering was \$54.64, which was Elder Lakes.

All of the organizations of the church paid their apportionment to Unified Promotion for the year ending June 30, 1944.

June 18 was another day that will be long remembered. Miss Alva Shackleford, Dallas, Texas, who graduated from Jarvis Christian College with a B.S. degree, brought to us a splendid recital. She held the audience with her most excellent voice as she sang the beautiful numbers. Her accompanist was Mrs. Odessa Steward Barker, head of the Music Department, Jarvis Christian College. We hope to have them come to us again. We served refreshments after the recital. Proceeds, \$90.64. Total amount of money raised for the month of June, \$244.17.

July 20-23 we were very happy to have the State Convention in its 48th Annual Session. Elder W. S. Sims, State President, Elder R. W. Watson, Tri-State Evangelist and others expressed themselves as having had a very fine time here. This marked another milestone. Proceeds for July, \$189.46. We can do all things with God. Without Him we can do nothing.

We are looking forward to the National Convention, which will convene in Lexington, Ky. Our pastor is planning to attend. We are praying for the untiring efforts of the President, who is doing a fine work by the help of the Lord.

Some of the recent visitors include Elder F. B. Bradley's mother and sister, Mrs. Annie Parrot and Mrs. Lula B. Gettis of Port Gibson, Miss.; Bro. Lakes' brother and sisters, Pfc. and Mrs. Clarence Simms, Jr., and son, Camp Sutton, N. C.; Mrs. Alice Chatman and Mrs. Josie Hamberlin and son, Vicksburg, Miss.; and Miss Willie B. Simms of Sahara, Utah. Elder Lakes' mother, Mrs. K. E. Simms, has been living with Brother Lakes for quite a while.

Third Christian Church, 123 Fulton St., S.W., Warren, Ohio

ELDER FRANK CRENSHAW
Chairman of Church Board

We just closed the celebration of the first anniversary of our beloved Pastor, Rev. J. E. Blair, who came to us a little better than a year ago, and I am glad to say we feel that our pastor is one of the very best preachers in the brotherhood. He is possessed with a very pleasing personality, and has won the friendship of all of the pastors in Warren, both white and colored. Under his very efficient leadership the Lord has added to our fellowship fifty-three new members. I think I am safe in saying that we have taken the lead in soul winning in the State of Ohio. Our Pastor is both pastor and evangelist. In the community he is an outstanding pastor, and in the pulpit he is an outstanding evangelist. Our church building is really getting too small to take care of the large crowds we have in attendance each Sunday. We are now planning a building fund rally on the second Sunday in November, at which time our members have planned to give twenty-five dollars for the new project. Rev. Blair is now serving as chairman of the War Service Committee of Warren Urban League and is a member of the executive committee of the Warren Branch of the N.A.A.C.P. and is a member of the Ministerial Association of Warren (white). At the close of the anniversary services last Sunday I presented to our Pastor \$169.09 as a token of our appreciation for his service for one year. We are asking the prayers of the brotherhood that we may continue the great work. You will hear from us again soon.

Lea Avenue Christian Church, Nashville, Tenn.

ELDER S. L. SLEDGE, *Pastor*
MISS LENA HARRIS, *Reporter*
915 Jefferson St., Nashville, Tenn.

Sunday morning, Sept. 24, 1944, services were conducted in honor of the men of Lea Ave. Christian church, who are now in the service of our country. Dr. C. O. Hadley, guest speaker, gave a very interesting speech, which was in order with the occasion, after which the pastor, Elder Sledge, rendered a short sermonette. Each star on the service flag means that the following men are still in Lea Ave., not bodily, but spiritually: Storekeeper 3/c Samuel F. Davis, Sgt. Eslye L. Dodson, Cpl.

Garfield Sanders, Cpl. Earnest Lorenzo Powell, Jr., Cpl. Edwin Murray, Pfc. Earnest L. Powell, S/Sgt. Chas. Elmer Powell, Pvt. Coley Thompson Holt, Sgt. J. H. Ball, S 3/c Walter Thomas, S 1/c Leonard Harris, Pvt. Bruce Prince, Pvt. Ralph Winters.

Antioch Christian Church, Oliver Ave., Lincoln Highway, New Brunswick, New Jersey

ELDER S. E. TILLMEN, *Pastor*
A. B. WASHINGTON, *Secretary*

It was just a year ago that the Antioch Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) became interested in your loyal paper, and since that time we have tried to let you know what Antioch is doing. Although very small, we try to do things in a big way. Our Missionary Society is to be commended for its great work. It was through this society that we were able to send our pastor to the National Convention in Lexington, Ky. God bless the missionary society. Our pastor came back feeling fine, after being with the brotherhood. He was able to give us the highlight of the convention, especially the youth program. After telling us so much concerning it, one of our young men, Bro. Lemie Fryer, came forward and offered to take charge of the young people. God bless Bro. Fryer in his great undertaking. The church is coming along nicely, but we are praying that we may send more laborers into the vineyard, as the harvest is truly ripe, but the laborers are few.

Elder S. E. Tillmen, regional vice-president, has returned from the national convention, with high inspiration, going throughout the state, endeavoring to present a good report to the national convention by August, 1945. He has contacted the church in Asbury Park, N. J., of which Elder James A. Evens is pastor, and through them we are formulating plans to organize a district union by Oct. 31, 1944. He also has in the mail at this time a letter to the church in Bonogat, N. J., of which Elder C. C. Simes is pastor. Brother Tillmen seems to feel that though the two churches have failed to be a part of our national body and if he works sincere into them, it may be possible to be represented in the national convention in 1945. Elder Tillmen is making contact with workers in Trenton, N. J., where he expects to set up a work. He believes that New Jersey is large enough for a dozen churches to be represented in the national convention. He also intends

to visit the state of Pennsylvania and the city of Philadelphia to investigate the possibility of a church there before the first of November. His next move will be York, Pa., where there are a dozen or more Christian Disciples of Christ

May I state, as secretary, that our Regional Vice-President, Elder S. E. Tillmen has never thought of and I think never will attempt to support a split in this or any other convention. Since he has been a part of the United Christian Missionary Convention since the year 1917 he will remain so until the final end. I have been secretary to Elder Tillmen for several years and I don't think that he would contest a split and as for myself I don't believe in a split. I hope and trust this may be printed in your paper so that others may see that together we stand, but divided we fall. We hope and trust that the brotherhood may stand fast.

Corinth Christian Church, Kilgore, Texas

REV. E. J. DICKSON, *Pastor*
MRS. ALMETA HENDERSON, *Reporter*
Rt. 2, Box 260.

On October 8th was another splendid day. Sunday School opened on time by Supt. James Hunt; afterward Devotional Service conducted by Bro. Hughly Jacobs. Scripture reading by Pastor Dickson. Then silent prayer. Rev. Dickson gave us a soul-stirring sermon, which we always enjoy. Words cannot express what it means to have him with us.

Corinth, as a whole, attended the Dedication Services of the new Mt. Olive Christian Church, Henderson, Texas, Sunday afternoon. Visiting them were Rev. M. C. Dickson of Dallas; President P. C. Washington, of Jarvis College; many other ministers. Rev. M. C. Dickson preached the Dedication sermon. We are very proud of the new Mt. Olive Christian Church. Where there is unity, there is strength. Many churches represented loyal, succeeded in raising \$600.00 in the name of Christ. May God bless them in their undertaking. I'll make myself a committee that the PLEA may circle in that section.

Third Christian Church, 16th and Chestnut Sts., Louisville, Ky.

REV. F. T. FLOYD, *Pastor*
BUFORD MURRAY, *Reporter*
Our Sunday School is getting back into full action since the restriction was lifted, due to the Polio epidemic.

There has been a steady increase in attendance by both children and adults.

The superintendent and teachers sponsored a social for the children Friday night, October 13th. Ice cream and cake was served.

We were glad to have with us on Sunday morning, Sept. 24th, Rev. C. E. Craggett, who filled the pulpit and delivered a soul stirring sermon. His Scripture reading was Luke 10: 23-27. His subject was, "A Philosophy of Life." His sermon was highly enjoyed.

On the night of September 24th, Shiloh Lodge No. 8, Good Samaritan, held their annual sermon at our church. Our pastor, Rev. Floyd, preached the sermon. His text was taken from Luke 10:34. He used for his subject, "Benevolent."

The men were divided into five separate groups and were proud to report up to this writing \$847.72. Mr. Bishop McClain was chairman of the drive.

Our new annex is rapidly being completed. Floor coverings are now being laid and the pastor's study has been equipped with office fixtures.

Woman's Day observance will be held on November 26th. The women have also been divided into five groups. Their goal has been set at \$1,000.00. Mrs. Rose Henderson is chairman of the drive. The captains are Mrs. Rose Henderson, Mrs. Lulu Hicks, Mrs. Julia Ramsey, Mrs. Elizabeth Green, and Mrs. Elsie Murray.

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The CHRISTIAN PLEA

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NEGRO DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

Vol. LII

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, NOVEMBER, 1944

Number 3

ELDER S. S. MYERS LAUNCHES NATIONAL PROGRAM

The National Convention, held in Lexington, Kentucky, is history. The unanimous vote of the delegates, approving the commission's report on Long Range Program, were most significant. The constitution of the National Convention was changed to provide in its framework a medium through which to make real the recommendations of the commission. This plan is most democratic and Christian in its nature and purpose than any plan I know of, that has been offered to unite the National Convention with UCMS and all the agencies of our brotherhood, who are interested in serving our churches.

Since the National Convention in Lexington, Kentucky, I have presented the commission on Long Range Program to UCMS, Christian Board of Publication, Board of Church Extension, Pension Fund Board, Board of Higher Education and National Benevolent Association. All of these boards have indicated their willingness to cooperate with the plan. During the International Convention in Columbus, Ohio, the Board met with the representatives of all the above named boards, to consider putting in operation the services and program described in the commission's report. Two committees were appointed to make a detailed study, as well as, to harmonize the relationship and to determine the policy of the cooperative plan. The report of the committee will be presented to the Board December 20th for adoption. We are striving to have the plan in operation by the first of the year.

The National Board in Columbus, Ohio, appointed the following men to serve as Regional Vice Presidents:

- A. J. Jeffries (Alabama)
- B. H. Armstrong (Arkansas)
- W. J. Bryant (California)
- J. F. Whitfield (Dist. of Columbia)
- W. T. Strickland (Florida)

(Continued on page 2)



ELDER S. S. MYERS

Executive Committee Meets at Columbus, Ohio

By R. WESLEY WATSON

The International Convention at Columbus was one of much information and inspiration. Dr. Mordecia Johnson, President of Howard University, brought a great message upon the theme: "The Hour Is At Hand." In his own able manner Dr. Johnson pleaded for the rights of men way over in Europe and other nations of the world that were depressed, and also asked that the same considerations be given to our group here in Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Texas and other States where they need it. His message was greatly cheered with a very lengthy ovation. Many favorable comments were made by the delegates and we believe that such messages will have a great part to play in bringing our group to the front.

President C. E. Lemon brought a very inspiring message on Tuesday

(Continued on page 5)

Dear Brethren:

The Christian Church should move forward with greater momentum spiritually, financially and numerically than in the history of the National Convention.

Our meeting in Lexington was an index of our strength and capacity for work.

The great vote of confidence given to Elder S. S. Myers, without any solicitation, should inspire him to do everything in his power to lead us into a greater service. False accusations will not deter us from contending for the principles, aims and objectives of Preston Taylor and his associates for which the Convention was organized.

Every pastor and local congregaton should urge the entire membership to subscribe for the CHRISTIAN PLEA and other brotherhood literature. I am requesting that we make our goal 1,500 subscribers by August, 1945. Appoint a CHRISTIAN PLEA secretary and request him or her to report regularly to the Official Board the number of subscriptions in the local church. Pull together, make our official organ what it should be.

The plans outlined at the recent National Convention for closer supervision of our work under the National Board is a forward step to promote the church to a greater effort in every sphere of our church development. I am happy that great Christian souls like Dr. Hopkins and others see the need of this forward step to inspire our brotherhood. This is one of the great objectives of the National Convention and it was adopted without a dissenting vote. Some of those who have fervently contended for this plan over a period of years, began to see "spirits" when the realization was almost at hand. Their prayer was answered, but not as expected.

J. E. WALKER,
Memphis, Tenn.

ELDER S. S. MYERS

(Continued from page 1)

R. L. Jordan (Georgia)
 R. E. La Touche (Illinois)
 R. H. Peoples (Indiana)
 J. J. Hawkins (Iowa)
 W. S. Sims (Kansas)
 B. L. Jacobs (Mississippi)
 F. H. Coleman (Missouri)
 S. E. Tillman (New Jersey)
 R. E. Hancock (New York)
 S. C. Divine (Ohio)
 R. L. Searcy (Oklahoma)
 Joseph Ephraim (South Carolina)
 E. A. Daniels (Tennessee)
 M. C. Dickson (Texas)
 S. H. Harriston (Virginia)
 R. L. Saunders (Kentucky)
 C. L. Whitfield (Maryland)
 J. S. Johnson (Michigan)
 G. M. Dickerson (West Virginia)
 Robert L. Wilson (Washington)

These men have been asked to share the following responsibilities of the National Convention:

Chairman of Recommendations: R. Wesley Watson (Missouri)

Secretary: M. L. Lambert (North Carolina)

Chairman of Finance: T. W. Pratt (Texas)

Chairman of Program Committee: R. H. Peoples (Indiana)

Historian: P. C. Washington (Tex.)

Program Director: William Martin (Missouri)

Parliamentarian: C. H. Webb (N. Carolina)

Editor of CHRISTIAN PLEA: Merl R Eppse (Tennessee)

Auditor: A. I. Terrell

Statistician: I. Q. Hurdle (Texas)

The success of the National Convention program will be determined by the cooperation of all these leaders, churches and members. Everyone of you are essential and necessary for a successful administration.

The National Convention passed a recommendation that the ministers appoint a CHRISTIAN PLEA secretary in the churches whose responsibility will be to secure subscriptions from the members of the church. If this is carried out, we can more than double our present subscriptions. As President of the National Convention I am calling upon you to give your full cooperation to the end of making the CHRISTIAN PLEA a great religious paper. Remember it will be just what we make it.

The National Convention will be in need of your financial support as never before. It shall endeavor to increase its services to the brotherhood in proportion to the increased gifts from the churches. When our new plan is set in operation, the staff will

be increased, at least, to three more persons. There will be an expense for office maintenance. These and other operations will demand an increased budget for the National Convention. The churches are our only source of revenue. We would appreciate the churches sending monthly or quarterly gifts to the National Convention Treasurer, Dr. J. E. Walker. As soon as the new program has been adopted and set in motion, we will apportion all the churches of the brotherhood. We are mindful of the splendid financial cooperation many of the churches have been giving through the years. We have the utmost confidence that you will continue this support.

It has been a pleasure to work with the retiring President for more than ten years. Serving with him on the recommendation committee and supported his administration to the best of my ability. Being appointed by him to serve as chairman of the commission on Long Range Program. During these years we have been friends. We have differed on many occasions but in and through it all, the spirit of Christ has kept us brothers.

All the Presidents of the National Convention have made great contributions to the growth and progress of our national life. The brotherhood is deeply indebted to every one of them. What they have contributed to our progress is a definite challenge to every Disciple to make the National Convention greater as the years come and go.

It is with a deep sense of humility that I accept the election of President of the National Convention of the Disciples of Christ. I, do hereby dedicate my life as an expression of appreciation for this signal honor which you have bestowed upon me. I shall endeavor, with the help of my Master, and your cooperation, to make the Convention year one of its greatest.

Faithfully yours,

SERE S. MYERS,

President of the Nat'l Convention.

November 4, 1944.

To the Public At Large:

It becomes our unpleasant duty to give to the public the following information about one who has taken a great deal of pride in spreading false propaganda against our pastor and church. He took it upon himself to write to the President of the National Convention, W. H. Taylor, stating that the Woodland Ave. Christian Church was an open membership church. The purpose for this was to

start a whispering campaign to defeat our pastor, S. S. Myers, from becoming President of the National Convention. The author of this statement was very busy at the National Convention, in Lexington, Kentucky, in cooperation with those who were interested in re-electing W. H. Taylor as President of the Convention.

Since the Convention, someone writing in the circulated press, branded our pastor, S. S. Myers, as a liberal and stating, that, since the National Convention had elected a liberal, it was time for them to take a walk. So a few of the preachers deserted the Convention to establish a National Preaching Convention, with C. W. Arnold as President. The *Christian Standard*, in their October 14th issue, gave an entire page to the reaffirming "that S. S. Myers, pastor of Woodland Ave. Christian Church was alleged to be an open membership man by those who knew him." All of these statements and publications were based upon the erroneous un-Christian and foul statement of A. G. Nelson, pastor of the East Side Christian Church, who wrote W. H. Taylor, ex-president of the National Convention, stating that Woodland Ave. Christian Church was an open membership church.

A. G. Nelson, once superintendent of the Bible School of Woodland Ave. Christian Church and an Elder of the church, was thoroughly informed as to the needs and program of the church and its future plans to re-locate the congregation in a new church building. He also knew the interest and cooperation that the Joint Board of the white Christian churches were manifesting. October 11, 1943, the members of the Joint Board met in their annual meeting in the Independence Blvd. Christian Church with 390 members present. The program of the evening was built around the needs and the building program of the Woodland Ave. Christian Church. A. G. Nelson was present and witness the addresses and many talks in behalf of the Woodland Ave. Christian Church. After feasting sumptuously on the evening meal and the program of the evening, he went out (like Judas of old to betray his Master). After the benediction, he approached Rev. C. H. Holcomb, pastor of the Budd Park Christian Church, in the interest of interesting him in securing the Central Christian Church, 27th and Wabash Ave. Following this conversation, he made several telephone calls and wrote him a letter, trying to get his cooperation to influence the Joint Board to aid him

in securing the above mentioned church. October 29, 1943, A. G. Nelson wrote Otto M. Westerfield, then chairman of the Joint Board, asking the moral support and endorsement of the Joint Board. The executive committee of the Joint Board considered these letters and reached the conclusion that they were untimely, dangerous, and deceptive in nature. The chairman turned these letters over to our pastor, S. S. Myers, who in turn called the writer of the same in council with the Elders to discuss them. They were read in his presence and he was asked to explain his motive for his action. His explanation was evasive and misleading. Before the Elders could meet again, he resigned as Elder of the church, also withdrew his resignation. The Elders counceled with him two more times with no avail. Then the Elders silenced him for one month, setting a date of trial for February 14th, giving him ample time for reconsideration. In that final meeting of the Elders, A. G. Nelson threatened the Elder Board with this statement, "If you silence me, you will be sorry."

On the night of the trial the communications, written by Nelson, was read to the Joint Board of the church with 25 members present. After the reading of the communications, A. G. Nelson was given privilege to make a statement in his defense. Then the members of the Board asked him questions about the communications he wrote to the Joint Board. He was asked to define his intention and motive for writing the Joint Board. In his letters to the Joint Board he offered endorsements from some of the ministers including the President of the National Convention. But referred to his own pastor, S. S. Myers, of which he had no endorsement, as follows: "I am sure S. S. Myers will give me an endorsement when the time comes." All these actions were without the knowledge of the pastor and the leaders of the church.

The man had no respect for the truth. In his letters to the Joint Board, he said many things concerning himself. "I have preached as an evangelist in some of the outstanding churches, both white and colored, and feel that I am qualified to offer myself as a minister." When he was asked by the members of the board to name one of the white churches, he could not name one. The truth is, he had not held an evangelistic meeting, even in a colored church. He also asked the Elders of the church to make him assistant pastor of Woodland

Ave. Christian Church. After some discussion, they denied him his request. In the light of this denial, he took the authority to write himself up in the *Kansas City Call* as assistant pastor of the Woodland Ave. Christian Church. He told all those whom he came in contact with, the same story. Such actions as these give you the true character of the individual involved. The board advised him not to start or organize a church without the consent and cooperation of the mother church. The board felt that it was not timely to begin another church. He stated, in defending himself, that it was not his intention to divide the church or to solicit any members of Woodland Ave. Christian Church to become a member of the new church. He did not keep his word. Many members have testified that he has called on them to secure their membership. No one is surprised in him writing to the President of the National Convention false statements about the Woodland Ave. Christian Church and its pastor.

After the board had considered the facts and testimony of A. G. Nelson, he was given a chance to acknowledge his wrong and promise to cease his activities in the interest of a new church. This he refused to do. The board looked upon his action as sabotage. The board interpreted his motive and intention to hinder, destroy and defeat the program of the church. It felt that his conduct had unfitted him for an Elder of the church. Twenty-four members of the board voted to take from him his Eldership status, and condemned his action to go ahead with a new church at this time.

We, the members of Woodland Ave. Christian Church, take this method in informing all those who are concerned, that the statement made about our church and pastor by A. G. Nelson, is untrue and is designed to mislead and direct people against our pastor who has been elected to the presidency of the National Convention of the Disciples of Christ.

Mrs. Nettie J. Miller,
President of the Chair.
Mr. J. W. Womack,
Chairman of Elder Board.
Mrs. Katherine Jones,
Chairman of Women's Council.
Dr. M. M. Queen,
President of Men's Club.
Mr. T. E. Hayes,
Secretary of Elders' Board.
Mr. J. E. Beard,
Vice-Pres. of Deacon Board.
Mr. Dayton B. Ragland,
Chairman of Trustee Board.

Mr. James T. Walker,
Church Clerk.
Mrs. Pinkie Harris,
Chairman of Deaconess Board.
Mr. D. M. West,
Elder.
Mr. J. L. Steele,
Chairman of Joint Board.
Mrs. Corinne B. Chase,
Secretary of Board.

November 13, 1944.

Dear Brethren in Christ:

The Christian Ministerial Alliance of Greater Kansas City takes this opportunity to go on record in behalf of our Brother Pastor, the Rev. S. S. Myers, of the Woodland Ave. Christian Church of Kansas City, Missouri. We commend him as a man of high integrity and Christian in all of his relationships. We congratulate him upon his election to the office of President of the National Christian Ministerial Convention.

The Christian Ministerial Alliance, after a duly appointed committee met with his Church Board of the Woodland Ave. Christian Church, un-animously joins with that Board in stating that the Woodland Ave. Christian Church has never practiced "Open Membership" or that Bro. Myers is an "Open Membership" adherent. This resolution has been presented in behalf of the good name of one we know as a brother, minister, and fellow worker, S. S. Myers.

Yours in Christ,

CHRISTIAN MINISTERS' ALLIANCE OF
GREATER KANSAS CITY.

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R. B. Briney,
Claude G. Large,
C. H. Holcomb,
Horace N. Moore.

Executive Committee

Tom. W. Toler, President.
Max C. DeWeese, Vice-Pres.
Carroll F. Gravely, Sec.-Treas.

Copy to:

The Christian Standard
The Christian Evangelist
THE CHRISTIAN PLEA.

Second Christian Church, Hagerstown, Maryland

ELDER W. H. TAYLOR, *Pastor*
Second Christian Church, Hagerstown, Maryland, gave the minister, Elder W. H. Taylor, a Harvest Home, under the leadership of Mrs. Christene Brooks. The members brought a truck load of good things to eat.

Emmanuel Church, Baltimore, Md., is in the midst of a rally. Elder W. T. Taylor, Minister.

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

NOTICE

Elder Blair T. Hunt, Minister Mississippi Boulevard Church, Memphis, Tennessee, will write an article on Baptism. He will also write an article on Stewardship.

Every Disciple should read these articles.

Brother Pastor, please announce this to your congregation.

These articles alone are worth a year's subscription to the Christian Plea.

The Editor solicits other writers to send manuscripts.

PROF. MERL R. EPPSE, *Editor.*

Report to the Brotherhood

By C. L. PARKS

1508 Hawkins St., Nashville 4, Tenn.

You remember our last report covered the thirty days we labored in Jacksonville, Florida, September 10th to October 10th. On the 12th of October we arrived in Nashville and spent three days readying ourselves for the International Convention, which convened in Columbus, Ohio, October 17th-22nd. On the 16th of October we journeyed to Columbus seeking the inspiration which we felt would surely come from our experience in fellowship with this great throng of men and women who, by their humble submission to the will of God, had been lifted above the stagnant level of religious intolerance and bigotry, of Theological differences and opinions and of racial intolerance, to get a true vision of God's will among men. From the tenor of the sermons and addresses were privileged to hear and the many conferences we chanced to attend, we gleaned that those who steered this great gathering plainly saw that God is interested more in men doing the right they know than He is in men gasping for the higher code of righteousness while leaving the known code undone.

The Executive Board of the National Convention attended the International Convention as well as many others of our colored brethren; in all there were between twenty-five and thirty of us and none reported a dislike for the experiences had during these five days.

The meeting of the Executive Board was held in the roomy agency hall of the branch office of the Mammoth Life Insurance Company there in Co-

lumbus, and we feel sure that our National Executive Board and the whole brotherhood will ever be grateful to the Mammoth Life Insurance Company and to our own Bro. Stone, the local manager, for the extension of this courtesy.

On the evening of October 22nd, we left Columbus, Ohio, for Indianapolis, Indiana, where we spent two days at our Home Office. On Wednesday morning, October 25th, we left Indianapolis for Nashville, however, a night stop-over in Louisville, Kentucky, prevented us from reaching Nashville before the morning of October 26th. On the evening of the same day we left Nashville for Calhoun, Alabama, to attend the Alabama State Convention, which was held at Big Union Christian Church. In all of our convention experiences, none have been more cordial and none have presented us with a greater and promising outlook for future development. There in Lowndes County, Alabama, we have nine rural churches, the farthest one being less than fifteen miles away from Calhoun. These people are hungry for and willing to accept and, I dare say, entitled to all the cooperative service that our brotherhood may be capable of rendering.

Bro. Chas. Mitchell, the president of Alabama Church State Convention, is a fine, progressive young man and Bro. A. J. Jeffries, president of Alabama Bible School Convention, was a great stabilizing force in this convention. I must say that all of the ministers of the convention whom we met were fine, congenial and forward looking in their views on the task of the Christian Church.

We were called upon to appear several times before the convention and on Sunday morning, brought the message. Our whole experience there was truly a spiritual feast. Fifteen dollars was the contribution of the convention on our expenses. Many thanks.



Choir Pulpit GOWNS

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(Continued from page 1)

evening on "The Hour Cometh." It was a great plea for a forward step on part of the church. The Executive Committee of our National Convention was present: S. S. Myers, Pres.; L. L. Dickerson, Sec'y; Mrs. Edith Bristow, Sec'y of Ex. Group; Mrs. Geneva Towns, Pres. of Women's Work; R. L. Jordan, Pres. of National Bible Schools; Charles Sherman, Pres. of Young People's Work; Dr. J. E. Walker, C. L. Whitfield, C. H. Webb, Mrs. H. L. Herod and R. Wesley Watson. Others attending the convention were Elder and Mrs. Foster Craggett, Mrs. Pearl Craggett, Mrs. George Colvin Campbell, Mrs. Camie Doolan, Mrs. I. W. Dean, Elder C. L. Parks and wife, Mrs. Eleby Titus, Miss Carnellia L. Jamison, Mrs. F. C. Walker, Mrs. A. L. Martin, Mrs. Rosa Page Welch, Pres. P. C. Washington, Pres. of Jarvis College. The group was guests to some excellent dinners and luncheons served at the Deshler-Wallick Hotel.

Members of the Monroe Ave. Christian Church opened their homes to delegates. Mr. and Mrs. Wade Baldwin and Elder and Mrs. Charles Bush entertained for the group while there. Quite a number of the delegates worshipped Sunday morning with the Monroe Ave. Church Sunday morning. Elder Dickerson preached he called the church, Elder Arnold being in charge of the services up to 11:45. Elder Arnold presented Pres. J. W. Long of Mt. Beulah College. After Elder Dickerson preached he called the names of those attending the International Convention and expressed appreciation for their presence. It was the privilege of the writer to worship with the church Sunday night and heard a splendid message from their new pastor, after which the writer was asked to bring greetings to the church. We enjoyed a fine fellowship with the group.

After the meeting we visited our daughter, who is teaching in Cleveland, Ohio, and fellowshipped with the two churches. We found Cedar Ave. Church just entering into an evangelistic meeting with Elder Richard Davis of Chicago, Ill., doing the preaching. We spoke for the Central Church of which Dr. George Colvin Campbell is minister. This group has about \$2,400.00 in treasury towards a building. Elder Craggett and his good people plan to pay off their debt in March, 1945.

While in Cleveland, delightful dinners were served for all of the

preachers; one was for the preachers only, Mr. and Mrs. Paul M. Scott, Elder and Mrs. C. E. Craggett, Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Elliot opened the doors of their homes to the writer while there and Mr. Elliot entertained Dr. George Colvin Campbell and the writer to a very tasteful dinner at the Wade Park Manor. I had the pleasure of visiting many old friends, among them were Bro. and Mrs. Felix White and we also fellowshipped with our Timothies in the gospel. Elder J. E. Blair and Elder Fulton T. Barnett. Bro. Blair is a very good evangelist and is doing a good work at Warren, Ohio. Elder Barnett completed a financial drive of \$500.00 making now \$3,000.00 in their building fund. They hope to buy or build in the near future.

The churches expressed themselves as being greatly inspired by the sermons brought by the writer. Dr. P. C. Washington and Elder T. W. Pratt worshipped with the Centennial Church in October and we made our usual visit with the church. A great fellowship was enjoyed. Mrs. Madison (a sister of our late Bro. Elder Crawford) and her good husband entertained Elder Pratt in the usual Lone State manner. Elder P. A. Grey and good wife and very pleasant daughter, Jewell, and Mrs. Oneida Reed and son, Hugh, joined in making it pleasant for the evangelist and Dr. P. C. Washington.

We hope to write up the entrance of Centennial Church into their new building in the early part of 1945.

The Executive Committee of the National Convention of Disciples of Christ meeting in Columbus, Ohio, see the Lexington, Ky., meeting as the turning point in the development of the Negro Brotherhood.

1. The ratification of the program presented by the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission was set up three years ago to work out ways and means to realize the goals of the National Convention. The founders of the National Convention sought to find a way to share in the policy making and program directing of our churches. The goal was partially realized under the operation of Joint Executive Committee that met three times a year and gave direction to the program of our churches, but during the depression this committee ceased to function except at the meeting of the National Convention because there were no funds to finance the gathering. During these

years the United Christian Missionary Society was asked by the Joint Executive Committee to assume full authority of directing the program, viz.: setting the budget and promoting the offerings through the local churches. During the past six years there has been quite a deal of discussion about questions of who had the responsibility to employ and dismiss field workers, the National Convention or the United Christian Missionary Society.

Under the proposed plan presented by the Planning Commission and ratified by the convention, this question, along with all other questions of policy making and program directing will be in charge of the Executive Committee of the National Convention.

2. For more than fifty years the work among Negro churches has been the primary responsibility of the Christian Woman's Board of Missions and the United Christian Missionary Society. However, with the adoption of this plan other brotherhood agencies interested in the development of Negro work are being invited to share in this great undertaking.

S. S. S. Myers served as chairman of the Executive Committee.

S. S. Myers, Pres.

Mrs. Edith Bristow, Sec'y.

R. Wesley Watson, Chmn.

R. H. Peoples

Mrs. Geneva Townes

Mrs. Elizabeth Herod

Dr. J. E. Walker

C. H. Webb

C. L. Whitfield

R. L. Jordan

L. L. Dickerson

Charles Sherman

Mrs. Preston Taylor

Watson Defends Myers

This comes as to let the entire public know that the Woodland Ave. Christian Church, of which I am a member and which is one of the churches under my supervision, does not now or never has practiced "Open Membership." I have been personally acquainted with our church for the past twenty-five years, since the days of Elder Wm. Alphin and through the days of Elder C. E. Craggett and now being pastored by S. S. Myers. It must be stated in all fairness to these loyal, self-sacrificing preachers that all have been true to our church and our teachnigs.

S. S. Myers, the present pastor, enjoys the fullest confidence and support of our great brotherhood and as

a token of appreciation of his loyalty to the Word of God he now occupies the highest office of our church and has a very able Executive Committee working with him and we have the promises of the best years under his most excellent leadership.

This statement is written without solicitation from any one but for the defense of the church and truth.

Signed,

R. WESLEY WATSON,
Ex-President of National Convention
and Tri-State Evangelist of
Christ Churches.

National C. Y. F. News

RUTH O. THOMAS, Reporter
5622 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago 37, Ill.

A MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICERS OF THE NATIONAL CONVENTION, CHRISTIAN YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

We wish to congratulate the young people for their splendid work and contributions to the success of the young peoples activities during the sessions of the National Convention in Lexington, August, 1944. Our thanks also go to the adult advisors. Through the cooperation of everyone our program will undoubtedly be put on the records as the best in the history of the C. Y. F. The young people have definitely established for themselves a place of significance and influence in the life of the church through their activities at the National Convention and through prior activities.

It is now required of us more than ever before that we marshal and unite our forces throughout the nation in the interest of peace, cooperation, and progress which should be the concern of all true Christians.

Chas. E. Sherman,
Co-president.

Ruth O. Thomas,
Co-president.

Thomas Griffin,
Secretary-Treasurer.
Margaret Bundy,
Assistant Secretary.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.—The Christian Youth Fellowship group of the Southside Christian Church, in an effort to help raise their apportionment for the Christian World Friendship Fund, have taken over the Sunday evening services.

From 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. each Sunday, speakers who have a message of interest to bring to the youths, as well as the adults of the community are presented by this young people's organization, which is under the able leadership of its president, Linnie Welch.

As a part of this new undertaking two plays, "Good Morning Parson" and "A Certain Just Man" will be given during the month of November. Monies collected from these meetings will be used to enlarge the local youth program.

RUTH O. THOMAS

5622 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago 37, Ill.

Dear Co-Workers:

In order that all of the local young people's groups might keep in closer touch with each other through the power of the press, the Christian Youth Fellowship and Christian Endeavor organizations have been given a portion of the CHRISTIAN PLEA.

All local and national news will be published herein, as well as articles of interest by youth leaders and advisors of youth.

This is your page, and only through your efforts will it be a success. All news contributions should be sent to

RUTH O. THOMAS
5622 S. Wabash Avenue
Chicago 37, Illinois

on or before the 30th of each month.

Conventions days are over, but let us hope that the spirit of cooperation and enthusiasm that existed in Lexington, Ky., in August has not waned.

LOS ANGELES.—In order to utilize all of their ideas and in order to make a stronger young adult organization, the 25th Street Christian Church held a Christian Endeavor Institute for six (6) Monday nights. The members of this C. E. organization attended classes in Christian Endeavor Essentials; Songs and Worship and Junior and Senior High Societies.

Knowing that there is a greater need for racial and inter-racial unity, a committee on inter-racial affairs has been set up. Mr. Elmer W. Faulkner is chairman. While yet a new group, its work has been felt throughout Los Angeles.

LESSIE BOATWRIGHT,
929 E. 49th St., Los Angeles 11, Calif.

ST. LOUIS, MO.—The youth counselors of the Centennial Christian Church, led by Miss Bessie Chandler, are doing a splendid job in promoting interest in the local Christian Youth Fellowship group.

In their new plan the schedule of meetings has been extended and definite periods for recreation, fellowship, study groups, reports and worship have been stipulated.

JEWELL GRAY,
4200 W. Cote Brillante,
St. Louis 13, Mo.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR LEA AVE. CHRISTIAN CHURCH, NASHVILLE, TENN. FROM SEPTEMBER 10th to OCTOBER 29th, 1944

BALANCE IN TREAS. Sept. 10th	\$229.21
Sept. 10th	34.65
Sept. 17th	20.85
Sept. 24th	29.71
Oct. 1st	31.00
Oct. 8th	38.40
Oct. 15th	15.05
Oct. 22nd	32.20
Oct. 29th	21.55

Total Collections (including balance) \$452.62

Expense Report for the Lea Ave. Christian Church From Sept. 10th to Oct. 29, 1944

Items Pd.	Amt. Pd.
Janitor	\$ 22.00
Secretary (including month of Nov.)	9.00
Organist (including month of Nov.)	15.00
Nashville Electric Service	6.13
Elder L. F. Sledge (including week of Nov. 5th)	143.75
Placards	2.00
Keys	.35
Organ Repair	10.00
Montgomery-Ward (furnace payment in full)	225.00
Entertainment	9.35
Janitor Supplies	4.50

Total Expenses Paid \$446.08

Summary

Total Collections	\$452.62
Total Expense	446.08

Balance in Treasury \$ 5.54
Respectfully submitted, this the 5th day of November.

ELDER L. F. SLEDGE, Pastor
E. F. CHANDLER, Secretary
FRANK WHITE, Chairman.

MONEY TURNED OVER TO THE CHRISTIAN PLEA TREASURER, MRS. PRES-TON TAYLOR, FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER, 1944

Mrs. Carrie A. Griffin, Route 2, Box 94, Corlia, Miss.—10 subs.	\$ 7.50
Mr. A. I. Terrell, Winston-Salem Teachers College, Winston-Salem N. C.	5.00
Mrs. H. B. Marx, 222 S. Downey Ave., Indianapolis, Ind., 3 yr's sub.	3.00
Mrs. Thomas H. Callens, 539 Arlington St., Youngstown, Ohio—3 subs.	3.00
Mrs. Amanda Davis, 2217 N. 5th St., Kansas City, Kans.—1 yr. sub.	1.00
Mrs. Eunice Miller, 76 O'Harris St., Charleston, S. C.—22 subs.	16.00
Mr. Robert L. Wilson, 904 Naches Ave., Yakima, Wash.—1 yr. sub.	1.00
Rev. O. L. Lawrence, 554 Laurene St., Baltimore, Md.—Donation	1.00
Rev. James K. Dickerson, Elbert, W. Va.—Subs. and Donation	3.00
Miss Virginia Nichols, S. C. I., Edwards, Miss.—3 yr. subs.	3.00
National Convention (check for October, 1944, by Treasurer, J. E. Walker)	25.00
Elder R. H. Armstrong, Route 2, Box 105, Scott, Ark.—Sub.	1.00
Miss Mary R. Moore, Route 2, Box 102, Scott, Ark.—Sub.	1.00
Rev. R. L. Jordan, 11331 Oakland, Detroit 11, Mich.—2 yr. sub.	2.00
Miss Sadie M. Williams, 18 Lapine St., Montgomery 5, Ala.—7 1-yr. subs.	4.50
Mrs. Sarah Bostick, N. Little Rock, Ark.—2 1-yr. subs.	2.00
Mrs. Ella Hobart, La Harpe, Ill.—2 yr. sub.	2.00
Elder O. B. Garner, 1628 N. Peoria, Tulsa 6, Okla.—1 sub.	.50
Mrs. Grant K. Lewis, Route 2, Ann Arbor, Mich.—1 yr. sub.	1.00
Mrs. Kennv Smith, 456 Sherman Ave., Springfield, Ohio—1 yr. sub.	1.00
Mrs. A. B. Washington, 169 Seaman St., New Brunswick, N. J.—7 1-yr. subs.	4.50
Mrs. Thula Mae Criffin, 3317 Cedar St., Greenville, Texas—11 1-yr. subs.	8.25
Mr. John T. Smith, 469 W. Walnut St., Danville, Ky.—2 1-yr. sub.	2.00
Mr. J. E. Shepperd, 3668 South Normandie, Los Angeles 7, Calif.—1 yr. sub.	1.00
Miss Annie M. Smith, Route 2, Box 81, Oconee, Ga.—1 1-yr. sub.	3.75
Mrs. M. M. Stinnett, 1028 2nd Ave. S., Nashville, Tenn.—8 1-yr. subs.	6.00

109.00

Second Christian Bible School Organized at Wynne, Ark.

By MRS. LETITIA POSTON MARSH
Teacher in Cross County Training School
Wynne, Ark.

To the Editor of the CHRISTIAN PLEA and the Brotherhood, Greetings.

I came home from our National Convention in Lexington, wanting to do more for the cause. We do not have a Disciple of Christ Church here in Wynne. I am a member of Cross St., Little Rock, so I decided to organize a Bible School. Our National President, Elder R. L. Jordan, recommended in his annual address at the National Convention that we organize Bible Schools in areas where we have no churches, and that is what I have done.

I called a group of nine together Sunday, Sept. 17, 1944, and organized. We meet each Lord's Day at 3 P. M. in my home. Our school has increased to 16. These children, as well as the adults, are anxious to learn more about Christ.

I hope to have some good minister come and preach for us a week or more, in the future. We ask the prayers of the brotherhood.

The Church of Christ, Canton, Ohio

ELDER JOHN S. COMPTON, *Pastor*
MRS. ARDELLA HERRING, *Reporter*
436 East Tuscarawas Avenue
Canton 2, Ohio

We realize that we have been "shirking our duty" in regards to our communication with the CHRISTIAN PLEA. However, we are not guilty of not keeping up with our fellow churches through this wonderful "Little Magazine."

The Church of Christ has been wonderfully blessed, both spiritually and financially since the last report.

Our young minister, John Robert Compton, has returned to Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Texas, where he will resume his studies in ministry. While here (visiting his family, the Elder John S. Compton and wife) he ran a week's revival for the Woman's Missionary Organization and several rallies. Children, women and men reports are as follows: Amounts raised — Children, \$160.00, Women \$114.00; Men \$78.00, total \$352.00. He is progressing very well indeed, and from the results of his revival and rallies, I know that you join in with me in offering his Godspeed and congratulations.

I would like to take this opportunity

of saying a word in behalf of our young people. They are doing a wonderful job in helping us to carry on. It is very encouraging to know that they are "holding their own."

Our pastor, Elder John S. Compton, never fails to deliver to us the good advise and teachings that he should. The Lord willing, he will continue to do so.

Until next month, when he shall again correspond with you, we ask your prayers for our continued success.

Activities of Lea Ave. Christian Church, Nashville, Tenn.

ELDER L. F. SLEDGE, *Pastor*
MISS LENA HARRIS, *Reporter*

We secured Elder L. F. Sledge, as pastor the first of July. He is a member of the Miss. Boulevard Christian Church, Memphis, Tenn., and also a recent graduate from the Department of Theology at Morris Brown College.

Our church has gone on a budget plan, which has proved, so far, to be a great success, spiritually and financially. The majority of the members cooperated with the pastor. Over \$100 is raised monthly. The present membership is 60, about 40 active. During the month of August, a special rally was carried on, and approximately \$300 was raised. A furnace was purchased, the organ repaired, the pastor attended the National Convention, and the convention fees were paid out of the effort.

On the fifth Sunday in October the pastor's mother, who is also a member of the Miss. Boulevard Christian Church, visited her son in his first pastoral charge.

The choir is growing both numerically and spiritually. At present there are 10 or more members, who are making preparations to entertain the National Convention.

Corinth Christian Church,

REV. E. J. DICKSON, *Pastor*
MRS. ALMETA HENDERSON, *Reporter*
Kilgore, Texas

Our church is progressing wonderfully under the leadership of pastor Dickson. We are looking forward to a wonderful day on the second Sunday, our pastoral day. We are expecting the Informer Singing Group of Longview on that day. I am grateful to say our Sunday School has grown from a small acorn to a huge oak in Christ Jesus, under leadership of Supt. Elmo Jacobs. We have a large attendance each Sunday. Class B is the banner class for last month.

Sister Mattie Zora Jacobs, teacher. Our Missionary Society is working splendidly. Delegates to the District Board meeting were Bro. Elmo Jacobs and Sis. Mattie Zora Jacobs. I am praying that we continue to keep pressing on the upward way, new heights we're gaining every day.

Antioch Christian Church Disciples of Christ,

REV. S. E. TILLMEN, B.D., *Minister*
A. B. WASHINGTON, *Secretary*

To the Editor of CHRISTIAN PLEA:

"The stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner." (I Peter 2:7.)

The world will never get rid of Jesus Christ. People may reject His message, but they cannot set Him aside. Antioch Christian Church has been rejected and set aside, but through prayer and faith in the Almighty God, she has become a light-house on the hill that cannot be hid. We are moving along in the spirit of the Lord. He is bringing things to pass. On October 8th our assistant pastor, Elder T. T. Taylor, preached in the morning a wonderful sermon. At 3 o'clock our pastor and choir journeyed to Metuchen to Baptist Church. The pastor delivered a sermon to the deacons. The spirit of the Lord ran high. At 7 P.M. a dinner was given in honor of our assistant pastor, Elder T. T. Taylor, for his grand work on the church, who was leaving on a vacation to Hampton, Virginia. We presented him a purse of forty dollars (\$40.00). God bless Elder Taylor. On the 22nd was our missionary day. They really put the program over, both spiritually and financially. The Rev. L. P. Lewis, a chaplain in the armed forces, stationed at Camp Kilmer, preached to us. We could but say as days of old, did not our hearts burn within while the man of God talked to by the way. On 29th our Sunday school which is our father church, rendered a splendid program at 3 o'clock, after which our pastor, Elder E. Tillmen and choir journeyed to Metuchen and Rev. T. Holman and E choir to speak for them. The missionary text was "Dry Bones." The spirit of the Lord ran high it seem like on the day of Pentecost, when all rejoiced in the fullness of the Lord. May God bless Elder Tillmen. May he continue to preach until God shall say, "Well done." If you desire to have your spiritual soul renewed and feel the power of the Holy Spirit from on high, come to Antioch Christian Church. There is a welcome awaiting you.

The Christian Church N. Little Rock, Ark.

By S. L. BOSTICK

414 W. 24th St., N. Little Rock, Ark.
Dear Editor of the CHRISTIAN PLEA:

I wish to report that the work still moves on favorably in Arkansas. Our district meeting was held a few days ago with Elder J. W. Forbes presiding, at the Cross St. Christian Church.

The report of the work in the financial way was very good. Saturday and Sunday there were about \$100.00 from all departments, with four churches represented. At 11:30 A.M. Rev. Forbes preached a wonderful sermon on the organization of the church. At the close of his sermon two young ladies came forward and gave their confessions for baptism. Elder T. R. Moore, our part-time evangelist, is trying to revive the churches that have no pastors. Miss Mary V. Moore, our field worker, will soon be on the field giving part time service.

Now to the brotherhood at large and churches. We will have to go back preaching more love and more cooperation for one another, if we expect to reach heaven and make it our home. Paul said, "Mark them that cause division in his church." We had better watch ourselves if we want to see God's face. We should like to hear our word of quietness and confidence to our fellow ministers and to our fellow witnesses in the church of our living God.

Will you again think of the word God spoke to the prophets in the dark days as this, when He said to the Son of man, "Stand upon thy feet and I will speak with thee." I should like to say to myself and to you that God has no message for a prostrate and a fearful and debating and defeated church. Oh that it were given in a day like this, for the church to know her danger and her glory. Oh! that it could be given to our witnesses for Him to know of our oppositions and opportunities. We are nerveless men. You can pull us apart. I see the men pulling the Bible down by getting hold of one text, one chapter and one verse. I see them unravelling it to a heap of rage. Have we forgot the unity and harmony of God? I see them also pulling down the law of God trying to unravel the laws of Mt. Sinai and trying to drag down the highlights of the gospel.

I want to say to one and all, watch yourselves.

Clark St. Christian Church

MRS. THULA M. GRIFFIN, *Reporter*
3317 Cedar St., Greenville, Texas

Clark Street Christian Church at Greenville, Texas, is doing fine in every way. We have good services every Sunday. We also had a wonderful meeting during the month of October.

Elder Carey celebrated his 6th anniversary during the meeting. We had different churches in the city to visit us each night. On the following Sunday, Dean Gill, of Jarvis Christian College, brought a thrilling message, which was enjoyed by all to the highest.

Elder Carey also brought a wonderful message that night.

Many gifts were presented to him by Prof. James Stacks.

\$146.26 was raised at the meeting and this amount was given to the pastor. Two additions were added to the fold. The meeting was a success. Through Elder Carey we have been able to secure a good road extending from Polk Street through Clark, which was needed very badly. All members of the church were asked to give five dollars (\$5.00) for this cause. Most of them paid it.

We are very glad to have Misses Johnson and Taylor to join us this year, while teaching in the high school. They are graduates of Jarvis Christian College. We have five Jarvis-ites teaching in our public school system. Clark Street as well as Jarvis College are proud of these young people.

The choir brings us wonderful songs each Sunday. The Junior Choir sings in the morning, with little Eugene Finnie at the piano. We are very proud of our young folks. Every department is doing their best to help carry on the work of the church.

The Missionary Society had an interesting meeting Sunday, Nov. 5.

We are still praying that God will continue to shower his blessings upon us that we may continue to grow in faith and works.

Midway Church of Christ, North Tazewell, Virginia

Midway Church of Christ moves on under the leadership of Elder Eugene Patterson, the Pastor. The Church has been remodeled at a cost of something over \$2,000. The remodeling consists of putting in a large basement (by raising the church), building a vestibule, and elevating the floor of the auditorium. The improvements when finished will also consist of furnace, kitchen, and baptistry.

The people are very enthusiastic and happy, and expect to cancel most of their indebtedness before 1945. They began in January of this year.

Our two rallies have amounted to \$3,000.00 and in our November rally we are trying to raise \$900.00. There are many young people and children in our church here and we have been greatly handicapped on account of not having sufficient room for all the activities of the church with its youth and its auxiliaries.

We are praying for a continuation of God's blessing and hope to do a larger work in kingdom building as the days go by. Pray for us.

The Philippi Christian Church, Cuckoo, Virginia

MRS. HELEN HARRIS, *Church Clerk*

The Philippi Christian Church at Cuckoo, Virginia held a five days' meeting, conducted by Elder Eugene Patterson, of North Tazewell, Virginia. (This is one of the oldest of our churches in Virginia.) It was greatly enjoyed and well attended. It was a revival in the truest sense. The people were stirred spiritually till they were revived enthusiastic and happy, and their liberal offerings amount to \$150.00. They were encouraged to continue to carry on under the able leadership of their pastor, Elder J. A. Belcher.

The Church at Philippi still believes the "Old Jerusalem" Gospel and receives with meekness the engrafted word which is able to save their souls.

Elder Patterson goes to Mt. Sterling, Kentucky, where he is to conduct a 10-days' revival at High Street Christian Church. He will be assisted by Mrs. Mae Patterson Irving, gospel singer. The meeting in Mt. Sterling began Sunday, October 1st.

The gospel in sermon and song by this team was a spiritual feast for Mt. Sterling.

Jones Street Christian Church, Bluefield, West Virginia

G. M. DICKERSON, *Pastor*

We are entering this year's work with faith and courage. Having closed our record for last year clear of debt for the first time in many years, we are happy to attempt new tasks for the Master.

There is urgent need for improvement along at least seven lines:

First—Evangelism. The fields are white unto harvest and we need more workers.

Second—Spirituality. The church is too cold and lifeless. We need a revival.

Third—Financially, we need a parsonage so that we can locate a resident preacher and not have to pay rent.

Fourth—Education. Christian Education is needed in all churches.

Fifth—Music. We need to study and pray much to be able to get the best results from singing and playing the instrument.

Sixth—Preaching. We preachers need to spend much with our Bibles, on our knees with God, and ministering to our people. With God's help we hope to make progress along all these lines.

Seventh—Last, but not least, let us at all costs improve our living.

Williamsburg Christian Church, Brooklyn, New York

REV. W. F. KEYES, *Pastor*
CHERRIDELL ELLIS, *Reporter*

Under the leadership of Reverend W. F. Keyes, our church is getting more faithful and fruitful. We have been having a fair amount of members added each month. Our Pastor's Anniversary went over in a big way. We raised six hundred dollars. He spent three weeks visiting the Southland, where he enjoyed himself very much.

Reverend R. H. Boyd of Bomberg, South Carolina, pastor of the Three Mile Creek Christian Church, first pastor and organizer of the Williamsburg Christian Church, visited the city of New York. He spent four happy weeks with his daughter and many friends. He rendered a week of an old-fashioned revival meeting at our church that stirred the hearts and minds of everyone and the spirit was high. We are expecting him to return to us soon.

Reverend C. L. Anderson of Alledale, South Carolina, visited the city and conducted a two-weeks revival meeting which fed the church highly with the gospel.

We are asking the prayers of the entire Brotherhood that we may climb to success.

Southern Christian Institute Edwards, Mississippi

L. C. TERRY, *Reporter*

The 1944-45 term at Southern Christian Institute began September 4th with a week of conference for youth. The conference faculty was as follows: Rev. Foster Cragget, Dean; Mrs. Alberta Cragget, worship director; Misses Louise Calcote, Louise Fenoglio, Marilynne Hill and

Isabelle Butler; Rabbi Bray, Rev. Wm. K. Fox, Rev. Fred S. Nichols, Mr. Chas. Mosley, Mr. Jas. Ratten, Miss Carnella Jamison, Mr. Chas. Mosley, Mr. Jas. Ratten, Miss Carnella Jamison, conference director, and Mr. John Long, local director.

The conference theme was "Thy Paths our Chosen Way." Students and teachers were equally active and interested. The vesper services were built around Bible scenes and sermonettes were delivered at evening by Rev. Fred S. Nichols. Each service seemed more impressive than the previous one, climaxing with the consecration service and the fellowship circle flanked by a blazen cross before which each participant lighted a candle and dedicated himself to service.

A special financial effort was made through which more than forty dollars (\$40.00) was raised to assist Reuben Speaks, former SCI student, now studying at Drake University and Character Bonds were sold amounting to forty-nine dollars (\$49.00).

An "Indian Trail" hike was one of the enjoyable outings of the week. The graduation address was made by the conference Dean and diplomas presented by Mr. Long.

The second week in September found the classrooms and dormitories filled to capacity with students eager to learn and teachers anxious to impart—The insufficiency of missionary giving was felt when many were turned away. The enrollment had reached 305.

The new faculty members are Miss Ruth Cobbins of Jackson, Mississippi. Former student who returns and is director of music; Miss Louise Fenoglio, Spring Valley, Ill., instructor of languages; Mrs. Lenora Terry, Fort Worth, Texas, teacher in the community school and Miss Mary Ann Ratten, a substitute at the community school.

Among the visitors to the campus were: Mrs. P. C. Washington, Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Texas; Mrs. L. B. Jennings, Port Gibson, Miss.; Mrs. N. V. Berry, Jarvis Christian College; Rev. and Mrs. La Touche, Chicago, Ill., and many parents and relatives of students.

Miss Jean Long, former teachers in the Bible School and member of the choir is studying at Drake University, and Miss Alma Jean Jacobs has returned to Clark University.

The two Sunday night faculty suppers have been something to write home about. The first, given by the

Longs on the Mansion lawn was preceded by deck tennis which whetted the appetites for the menu of fried rabbit and Waldorf salad with punch and the rest of the trimming, served by the light of bonfire which burned the word "love" into the heart. The President's short talk which followed was inspiring.

The second, given jointly by the Rattens and the Thomases, had the setting and beginning, but took on the form of a weiner roast and was followed by folk and State songs. It was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Mrs. Jacobs was hostess to the Missionary Society and Miss Basset led the group in a study of the American Indians.

Mrs. Fox, Miss Hill and Mr. Ratten had birthdays. Mrs. Fox was given a surprise birthday party, Miss Hill received candy, Mr. Ratten beat them all, he got a year older.

The young ladies at Smith Hall had open house, Sunday, Oct. 8th. They were all pretty for the occasion, so was the building and speaking of pretty, you should have seen the Sophomore College Class when they went to Vicksburg to visit the Jewish Synagogue.

Mr. Long, Mr. Jacobs, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Ratten, and Dean Mosley attended a Fellowship Boy Scout dinner at the Y. M. C. A. at Vicksburg, Oct. 4th.

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Columbus, Ohio

By PEARL S. ALLEN, *Acting Secretary*
Columbus, Ohio

The State Board meeting of the Women's Missionary Society of Ohio met in a planning and study conference at 8:00 P. M. The meeting was called to order by the President, Mrs. Edie Campbell. After song and prayer Mrs. Campbell stated the purpose of our meeting and presented Mrs. Dorothy Siegling, who, with Miss Cornella Jamison, were leaders. Mrs. Siegling began by saying she thought it would be well to review the work of the area committees, which was begun in our state convention, and the work of the following committees were discussed:

1. Spiritual Life, by Mrs. Clara Bush.
2. Stewardship, by Mrs. Pearl Allen.
3. Christian Family Life, by Miss Margaret Lee.
4. Missionary Education, by Mrs. Daisy Frierson.
5. Social Issues, by Mrs. Alice Collins.
6. Literature, Church Life and Outreach, by Mrs. Jamie Smith.

SPIRITUAL LIFE RECOMMENDATIONS

First, develop ourselves spiritually, spend much time in prayer and meditation, and see the Christ in everyone.

Observe the hour of seven o'clock for joint meditation. Books to read.

A call to service, Ration Days the Hearthstone; read the Bible with an objective.

Many who had not read the Hearthstone were told about its contents by Miss Jamison.

STEWARDSHIP

Friday Morning, 9:15 A. M.

A threefold emphasis on stewardship—Dedicating our money, Intelligent giving, Dedication of time and talent. Budgeting, tithing and sharing. A few of the women present told of their experiences in tithing and recommended it to all.

Our giving should be more spiritual, teach people to be more Christian in all of our vocations.

It was recommended that the churches set a time in the year for the whole church to tithe; also have someone to talk on tithing and stewardship for the whole church at stated times.

Some books to read on stewardship: "Income and Outgo;" "Sharing Love's Treasures;" "Are You a Christian?"

CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE

As the chairman, Miss Lee couldn't be present, it was agreed to send her a copy of this meeting's findings.

As the first week in May is observed nationally, we agreed to continue to observe it as Christian Family Week, both at home and in our churches.

Some things we may do: Sit together in Bible School and church services as families, eat together at church and the Cradle Roll parents to come to church and the minister invoke a blessing on the parents and children. Honor mothers; also the mothers and wives of service men. Encourage family worship; visit the shut-ins.

Books: "Thoughts of God for Boys and Girls." "It Runs In the Family."

MISSIONARY EDUCATION

Missions is the church at work in the world. The question, what shall we recommend for this year?

First, the regular Study Packet for the year, "The American Indian, Southeast Asia, and the Church and New World Mind.

This is the Indian, the Disciples of Christ and the American Indian were recommended.

The matter of Christian citizens, our voting, also other people voting.

Post war problems, returning service men and their problems, the G. I. Bill of Rights were discussed under the area of Social Issues.

The Negro women in Industry, Negro history, also the Negro in World War No. 2.

Achievements some of our Negro men and women it was brought out in our talk that a young Negro man learned how to dehydrate eggs, hence is helping the war effort, also earning a good salary.

Participation in group and interracial organizations should be encouraged. Employment and health problems should have close attention.

It was agreed that the church should look around and help with community problems and assist organizations who are doing this work.

At this point, Miss Jamison was asked to take charge and she asks, "How are we going to work in these areas?"

The young people's work was brought to our attention and she advised the missionary organizations to organize the Christian Youth Fellowship Group and Children's Work, as there are very few in Ohio that are active.

Financial goals and definite projects were discussed and the special project for Ohio was brought to our attention and it was agreed to give one hundred dollars (\$100.00) above our giving of last year and this increase to go to the national project. "The fields are white."

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

The continuing of our sessions and a planning of a year's program for Ohio.

A model program for a monthly meeting was given by Mrs. Campbell. Miss Bertha Park gave a very helpful talk on planning a program.

After a program was planned our National president Mrs. Towns and Mrs. Daisy Dean, the national corresponding secretary, and Mrs. Dolling of Kansas, were asked to say something and each one told of the interest they had in our conference and agreed it was a good program for all states.

With the forming of the Friendship Circle we closed this meeting and were invited to stay for the National Executive Meeting that would open that evening.

Wynne, Ark.

By LETITIA POSTON MARSH, *Reporter*
Instructor in Cross County Training
School

Wynne, Ark.

Our First District Convention was held at Cross St. Christian Church, October 21st and 22nd, with Bro. J. W. Fobbs, President, presiding.

The highlights of the convention were a discussion by the Elders and Deacons. Subject, "Duty to the Church and Members." Reports from our delegates to the National Convention at Lexington, Ky. Reports were given by Sister Letitia Marsh, Sister L. B. Facen, and Sister Sallie Woodward. Other delegates to the convention were Eld. T. R. Moore, Eld. B. H. Armstrong, Bro. Taylor, E. H. Cole, Sister Orene Cole, and Sister Daisy Dean. Sister Dean was attending the International Convention at Columbus, Ohio, at the time of our District Meeting.

Sister Mary V. Moore of Scott, our General Secretary of the State Convention, made an address, and Sister S. L. Bostick, of North Little Rock, gave a message the subject being "Watch Yourself." This message was very timely and was enjoyed by all.

Eld. T. R. Moore, our State Evangelist, preached a soul-stirring sermon on Saturday morning.

On Sunday, our President, Elder J. W. Fobbs, of North Little Rock, brought the message and two united with the church. This was a wonderful message.

Our next meeting will be in February at Mt. Sinai Church, North Little Rock.

Our new organized Bible School at Wynne reported in our meeting.

The CHRISTIAN PLEA

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NEGRO DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

Vol. LII

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, DECEMBER, 1944

Number 4

The President and Ex-President Look—Brotherhood

S. S. Myers, President

R. Wesley Watson, Ex-President

Ex-President: Mr. President, we both have been interested in the welfare, program and growth of our National Convention and Brotherhood life. I am of the opinion that we should sit down together and face what has been going on and what is now going on in our Brotherhood life because of the unrest, misrepresentations and attitudes that are beclouding the thinking of some. Also to keep before our Brotherhood its great heritage which has been bestowed upon us by the fathers. This heritage is our challenge; it demands the devotion, sacrifice and cooperation of every disciple throughout the Brotherhood, to make the National Convention program still greater.

Mr. Pres. and Bro. Ex-President, I am very happy you came over and to note your interest in the National Convention. Why should I expect anything different? Inasmuch as you have given twenty years of thought and service, plus serving as Vice-President, then as President for two years. Not only do I welcome counsel and advise from you but from all of our brethren and sisters who have the convention program at heart. This job is no one man's job, but it is the job of every disciple, for we are workers together with God. You have made a good observation about the things going on in our Brotherhood life. I agree with you that something must be done to correct the false impressions and to keep before our brethren the purpose of our convention. Your statement raises many questions. Time will not permit us to review the history of the fathers, so let us begin with the convention in Lexington. I think it was one of the great conventions of the Brotherhood. What do you think?

Ex-President and Mr. President, It
(Continued on page 2)



ELDER A. G. NELSON

A New Church in the Brotherhood

Organized Sept. 3, 1944

Rev. A. G. Nelson, Pastor and Organizer

The Rev. Mr. Nelson, an outstanding gospel minister of the Christian group had vision for many years for a sister church in this great metropolitan city of approximately 70,000 negroes, feeling that Kansas City was a very fertile field for possible disciples. With this vision, he launched out to what is now known as the East Side Christian Church, located at 22nd and Prospect. He was assisted in the organization and installation by the Rev. H. C. Poston of the Eighth Street Christian Church who is now pastoring at Covington, Ky.; Rev. S. L. Simms of Lawrence, Kans., who is pastor of the Christian Church there; Rev. J. H. Cooper, pastor of the Lathrop Church in Lathrop, Mo.; Rev. M. F. Stevens, pastor of the Third Christian Church, Kansas
(Continued on page 2)

North Carolina Sets Pace For White Disciples

International Relations Committee
We recommend:

1. That the general officers of our State Missionary and Educational enterprises continue to maintain their connections with the leaders of the Negro Disciples of Christ of North Carolina with the view to rendering them every possible assistance in the improvements of their work.

2. That the Director of Religious Education make a special attempt to promote organization of Religious Education among the Negro Disciples.

3. That we assist in all training institutes of the Negro Disciples, especially in the building and construction of the Goldsboro Christian Institute.

4. That appropriation of \$300.00 be made to be used at the discretion of the committee in the assistance of worthy projects among Negro Churches.

5. That we aid in securing an adequate report of the Negro Churches and Bible schools in the National Year Book.

6. That as far as possible our ministers aid in the formation of new Negro congregations, especially when this assistance is sought.

H. S. Hille, Chairman,
J. Wayne Drash,
Olin Fox,
C. H. Hamlin,
Robert M. Johnston,
C. C. Ware.

The Christian Plea Staff

Wishes a

MERRY CHRISTMAS

and

HAPPY NEW YEAR

To All

City, Kans. With these fine ministers around him, he proceeded with his church program to organize the Christian church which was set forth and promoted by the Holy Spirit through the Apostle Peter on the Day of Pentecost. This church's growth in membership in the last sixty days has been very encouraging, satisfactory, and inspiring. It promises to take its place with the outstanding churches of the brotherhood. It has as its goal one thousand members in the next two years. In addition to its membership growth, it has a financial growth which brought to the treasury over three hundred dollars (\$300). A ten-day Inspirational Revival was promoted with the Rev. R. L. Sercy of Oklahoma City conducting the services. This was a great success in gathering souls and served as an inspiration to the young offspring.

The church has been organized and conducted according to all churches of Christ that are in the Christian organization. They are planning a School of the Scripture in March and are seeking a Restoration Convention during the year of 1945 or 1946. Under the leadership of this great gospel preacher, the church looks forward to a great growth of Christians in this community. The Rev. Mr. Nelson is a militant leader, having forged his way to the top in the business world as a business man. At present he is one of the executive members of the board of the National Negro Business League which directs the inspiration for Negro business in America. He represents the state of Missouri on this board. He is also regional vice-president of the Mid-Western Chamber of Commerce which gives him the position as president of Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri Chambers of Commerce. Locally, he is President of the Negro Chamber of Commerce of Kansas City, a member of the Urban League, a century of the Y.M.C.A. and a member of the Negro Citizens' War Committee. He is also president of the Disciples Alliance of Greater Kansas City.

His training for ministerial work has the following background: His early theological was achieved through the School of Theology of the Presbyterian School of Theology, Arkadelphia, Ark.; also the Baptist college of the same city; Chicago University; the Union Bible Academy. He holds scores of certificates and diplomas from Bible institutes and other similar organizations. He is the son of a minister, the Rev. W. H. Nelson, Sr., retired. He was an in-

structor in Bible and Doctrines and pastored for 56 years in the churches of Christ in the South. He liked Paul sitting at the feet of Gamiel, the great Bible scholar, inherited the great legacy of knowledge. The Rev. A. G. Nelson sitting at the feet of Rev. William Alphin for nine years who was one of the brotherhood's greatest doctrinals of preachers and has demanded respect by all in this field, has dropped his mantel upon this great minister, Rev. A. G. Nelson. With this great legacy which comes to the minister the brotherhood may expect great leadership for Rev. Nelson. He pledges himself to stay with the gospel that was preached on the Day of Pentecost.

The East Side Christian Church has the following official family: Mr. Edward S. Jones, chairman of joint boards; Elder Moses F. Allen, chairman of Elders' council; Mr. George Curry, chairman of Deacon board; Mrs. Hazel Curry, superintendent of Bible school and education and also chairman of Ladies' council; Mrs. Majorie S. Booker, leader of youth group. With the Sunday School now of approximately 25 growing youngsters and with a neighborhood of 1,000 growing children, the Bible School and future church is very promising.

The members of the East Side Christian Church are planning a new church which involves an expenditure of about \$30,000. The doors of the church stand ajar to those who wish to become disciples of Christ. We seek the brotherhood's prayers for a greater church of Jesus Christ.

The President and Ex-President Look—Brotherhood

(Continued from page 1)

was truly a great convention, great in attendance, in raising finance, great in preaching but to my mind it reached its climax when it adopted the report of the commission on "Long Range Program" which roots back to the purpose that motivated the fathers to organize our National Convention.

Mr. President and Bro. Ex-President, What you have said is true. The thing that caused the fathers to organize the National Convention was to have a part in the program planning, staff election and administering the program. The men and women who have attended the conventions have kept alive these objectives through the years. The first effort to make real these objectives was to organize the Joint Executive Committee, whom the conventions felt shared the total responsibility of

planning the work, hiring the workers, and administering the work among our group. For many years they labored under this impression, finally discovering that the Joint Committee was only a rubber stamp. This caused much unrest and selection of a field worker representing the National Convention and the appointing of a commission to study the National Convention Program. You remember that a committee was appointed to rewrite the constitution, to provide frame work and a trackage for the accomplishment of this program. I am thoroughly in accord with you that the adopting the Long Range Program was the crowning act of our convention. To me it is the most democratic and Christian method ever offered to obtain our great objectives. Bro. Ex-President, a great deal has been said and is being said by the outgoing administration. What has been your observations?

Ex-President and Mr. President, We have had great leaders from Taylor to Taylor, each administration has had its faults and its virtues, but, "Thank God," its virtues have always been predominant. And Bro. President, your heritage and responsibilities are great, but with your background and experiences thoroughly qualify you for the job: served as a pastor 22 years, President of Missouri State Convention 8 years, served on recommendation Committee 8 years, on Joint Committee (Executive) 8 years, member of Commission on Revising the Constitution, Chairman of Commission on Long Range Program, and President of National Bible School 2 years. I think that your success is further assured because you are surrounded with a great national board plus a great Brotherhood who loves the National Convention and the program for which it stands.

Mr. President and Bro. Ex-President, the time we have spent together is very profitable and I trust that this conference will be a blessing to our work.

Please Take Notice!

The Christian Plea has changed its mailing address to
P. O. Box 455
Nashville 2, Tennessee

Please send all news and mail to this address.

Sister J. O. Bowles Passes

By MRS. LETITIA POSTON MARSH
Vice-President of the Bible School
Wynne, Ark.

We were all shocked and grieved by the sudden death of Sister J. O. Bowles, Saturday morning, October 14th, in Little Rock, Ark. Sister Bowles had been ill only a short time.

She had attended Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Texas. She was a faithful Christian woman. She worked untiringly with the ministers' wives at the National Convention in Kansas City, Mo., in 1942.

Sister Bowles will be greatly missed in Arkansas. Her husband, Eld. J. O. Bowles, was formerly pastor of Cross St. Church, Little Rock, Ark.

Her remains were carried to Texas for final rites. Sister L. B. Facen, wife of the pastor of the church at Little Rock, accompanied the family to Texas for the funeral.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Elder Bowles and daughter, Ollie Margaret.

Elder Thomas J. McLemore Laid to Rest

Nashville, Tenn., lost one of its most valued citizens. Gay Street Christian Church lost its Senior Elder in the person of Elder Thomas J. McLemore.

Elder McLemore was born May 15, 1866, at Spring Hill, Tenn. He moved to Nashville at the age of thirteen and soon joined Gay Street Christian Church, where he rose from a member to Senior Elder.

Elder R. C. Maloy, former pastor of Gay Street Christian Church, delivered a beautiful eulogy. Elder W. T. Moore and Elder S. F. Sledge made remarks.

The Alameda Street Christian Church choir rendered appropriate music with many solos.

He died December 2, 1944, and was buried from Gay Street Christian Church, December 7, by the Taylor & Company, Undertakers.

Dr. Coyden H. Uggams Passes at Jarvis

Shocked was all of Texas and the entire Brotherhood to receive the news of the passing of Dr. Coyden H. Uggams, November 18th at 11:25 on the campus of Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Texas.

He was identified with the religious life of his people for a good many years. He was a graduate of Lincoln University, Pennsylvania, and

had done further study at other schools.

He had worked at Jarvis College for a good many years and had done extension and lecture work throughout the State of Texas. He married Miss Lillian Jacobs of Des Moines, Iowa, some 20 years ago and made his home on the campus of the college.

He was buried from the Mary E. Ervin Chapel, Thursday, November 23, 1944. The Brotherhood has suffered a loss at his passing and his widow is the recipient of many messages of sympathy.

Mrs. C. H. Dickerson Passes at Lexington, Ky.

The Brotherhood of the Disciples of Christ was shocked to learn of the passing of Mrs. Kattie Dickerson, prominent Disciple leader, both National and State wide, prominent school teacher of Kentucky, and best of all, a sweet, devoted, loving wife of one of the old stalwarts of Kentucky, Elder C. H. Dickerson.

It is trite to speake of the Dickerson home and their home life, if you attended the National Convention at Lexington, Ky., last year. If you were there, you would see a beautiful two-story brick building at 340 Ohio Street. You would see this saintly looking matron who showed that Father Time had kissed her temples with silver lips and anxious eyes watching both time and tide to supply the wants of this God-fearing man, Elder C. H. Dickerson. This is a short preview of Mrs. Dickerson.

It was on November 22, 1944, that our Heavenly Father called her from labor to reward. It was during the Thanksgiving season that she was returned to her Maker.

The whole Brotherhood stands in bowed submission to the parting of this great woman. The Brotherhood all send words of sympathy to the husband and bereaved to soften the sorrow that must come at her parting.

Mrs. S. L. Bostick Reports From Arkansas

Dear Editor of the Christian Plea:

I wish to make report of the Woman's Day Program which was held at Mt. Sinai Christian Church, December 3rd. The program was very interesting. Mrs. Bertha Collins gave a paper, subject, "The Call," which was very interesting. Miss Mary V. Moore, the field worker, made an address. The subject of her address was "To the Women of This Day

and What it Means." It was enjoyed by all. The next was an address by the writer on "The Schools and What They Mean to the Races." This address will be sent to the Plea later. Mrs. Mattie Hall, our President, gave remarks asking for everyone to give a dollar, this being "Dollar Day." Those who gave \$1.00 were: Elder J. W. Forbes, Mrs. Mattie Hall, S. L. Bostick, Mrs. Mahala Moore, Mrs. Alvah Bynum, Elder T. R. Moore. Those who gave 50c were: Mrs. Bertha Collins, Miss M. V. Moore, Mrs. H. C. Morehead. Those who gave 25c were: Mrs. Anne Brook, Mrs. E. Peyton, Miss Bernice Peyton, Mr. G. L. Brock and Brother Foster. Mrs. Clara Williams and Mrs. LenDora McFarlen gave 10c.

We would like to make our report for the State Developing Fund, November 5. In our State Convention our Future Work Committee gave a plan to raise State Development Funds November 5 of each year for the expenses of the Field Worker. Those who rallied on that day were: S. L. Bostick, Elder T. R. Moore, Mrs. Mahala Moore, Mrs. Alvah Bynum. Each gave \$1.00. LenDora McFarlen and Brother Williams gave 50c, and Brother G. L. Brock gave 25c.

We presented an outstanding minister in the city of the Methodist church. He gave a worthwhile message. He was Rev. Achin. This message was enjoyed very much. He and his officers gave \$2.25. He gave \$1.00 himself. We were glad to have the fellowship of these people. Public offering and what all gave was \$9.75.

On the following Thursday night Rev. O. B. Garner of Oklahoma gave a message on "Victory." He explained several kinds of victory, but emphasized the victory expressed for the cause of Christ.

Russellville work sent \$5.00 to the treasury.

NOTICE

Pastors and Christian Plea Secretaries

January, February and March are Christian Plea months in all Churches.

Please send all News and Subscriptions before the 7th of each month.

We want to double our record. Please help.

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

CHRISTMAS DAY

By Alexander Smith

There is one more good thing about Winter—he brings Christmas. Through the bleak December the thought of the coming festival is pleasant—like the reflection of a fire on our faces. We taste the cake before it is baked, and when it is actually before us we find that it is none the worse for the fond handling of imagination. Christmas is the most pleasant day in the whole year. On that day we think tenderly of distant friends; we strive for forgive injuries—to close accounts with ourselves and the world—to begin the New Year with a white leaf, and a trust that the chapter of life about to be written will contain more notable entries, a fairer sprinkling of good actions, fewer erasures made in blushes, and fewer ugly blots than some of the earlier ones. And to make Christmas perfect, the ground should be covered and trees draped with snow; the bleak world outside should make us enjoy all the more keenly the comforts we possess; and, above all, it should make us remember the poor and the needy; for a charitable deed is the best close of any chapter of our lives, and the promise, too, for the record about to begin.

KEEPING CHRISTMAS

Are you willing to forget what you have done for other people, and to remember what other people have done for you; to ignore what the world owes you, and to think what you owe the world; to put your rights in the background, and your duties in the middle distance, and your chances to do a little more than your duty in the foreground; to see that your fellowmen are just as real as you are, and to try to look behind their faces to their hearts, hungry for job; to own that probably the only good reason for your existence is not what you are going to get out of life, but what you are going to give to life; to close your book of complaints against the management of the universe, and look around you for a place where you can sow a few seeds of happiness—are you willing to do these things even for a day? Then you keep Christmas.

Daily Prayer

By Prof. M. L. Morrison,
Tennessee A. and I. State College,
Nashville 8, Tenn.
Lord, may I live to help the men who

try to keep me down.

May I greet him with a smile who greets me with a frown.

And may I be too big to see bad things that others do to me.

Lord, may I never hold a grudge nor hunt up scattered strife.

And may I never seek to judge faults found in another's life,

And may I be too big to see bad things that others do to me.

Lord, may I always use good common sense and always take the stand.

To me, nothing is offense as there's no perfect man.

And may I always be too big to see bad things that others do to me.

Letter From the Board of National Convention

By Edith Bristow

2216 W. Chestnut St.,
Louisville 11, Ky.
November 17, 1944.

Dear Sister Taylor:

This letter is from the Board of the National Convention inquiring of your health with the expressed hope that you are very much improved. The entire convention has repeatedly asked of you and petitions in your behalf continually.

When invitations were received for places to entertain the convention in 1945, the committee returned with Nashville as the recommended area. Such a lovely time was enjoyed in 1941 that the majority wished to return. Then, too, we knew that you would again be in our midst without the ordeal of travel.

No doubt you are ready with your plans for a joyous Thanksgiving season. These verses from the 92nd Psalm are quite appropriate:

"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, Most High: To show forth they loving kindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night, with an instrument of ten strings, and with the psalter; with a solemn sound upon the harp, for thou, Lord, hast made glad through thy work; I will triumph in the works of thy hands. How great are thy works, O Lord! thy thoughts are very deep."

It may be that you will desire to read the entire Psalm at your leisure. Our wishes are that you will recuperate quickly and be one of us as formerly.

Your very close and fine friend,
Mrs. Herod, always speaks very lovingly of you.

Disciple Jottings

Elder Foster Craggett has gone to Akron, Ohio, to do religious work among Negroes for the white disciples.

* * *

Elder C. H. Craggett of Cleveland, Ohio, was called to Virginia because of the illness of his mother.

* * *

Elder R. C. Poston of Kansas City, Mo., is pastoring at Covington, Ky.

* * *

Rev. Zack Howard has been called to the church at Birmingham, Ala.

* * *

Elder Thomas Griffin has been looking over the work of Central Christian Church at Louisville, Ky.

* * *

Elder Raymond Walton has left his work at Louisville, Ky. His whereabouts are unknown at the present time.

* * *

Elder James Taylor Moore, formerly a Methodist, Baptist and what-have-you, is now in the Disciple fold. He is at Gay Street Christian Church, Nashville, Tenn.

* * *

Dr. J. E. Walker, Mrs. Walker, son and daughter and daughter-in-law were the guests of President and Mrs. W. S. Davis during the Thanksgiving season. Dr. Walker was one of the speakers at the Inaugural ceremonies.

* * *

Mrs. Rosa Page Welch gave a recital to a large appreciative audience for the Maple Street Christian Church, Wyoming, Ohio, October 29th. Mrs. Julia Cave was leader and Rev. H. E. Fowler, pastor. Mrs. Welch is now in California.

* * *

Rev. O. B. Garner of Tulsa, Okla., has been called to the church at Nicklosville, Ky.

Rev. James Taylor Moore Ordained at Gay St. Christian Church, Nashville, Tenn.

Sunday evening, November 22, 1944, at the Gay Street Christian Church, 704 Gay Street, Nashville, Tenn., the Rev. S. Sledge, pastor of the Lea Avenue Christian Church baptized the Rev. James Taylor Moore.

The Gay Street Christian Church, after these ceremonies, extended him a call to the church. The Rev. Moore comes to our communion well prepared. He was born at Covington, Va., forty-three years ago. He attended the University of Buffalo. He received his B.A. degree from Roger Williams College, Memphis, Tenn., in 1938, and his B.L. degree from LaSalle University, Chicago, Ill., in 1938. He received his M.Th. degree from the American Baptist Theological Seminary, Nashville, Tenn., in 1941. He is now studying toward his doctorate degree at the McKinley-Roosevelt University, 4062 Sheridan Road, Chicago, Ill.

He has supplied as pastor of the Central Garden Baptist Church, Los Angeles, Calif., and the Pleasant Green Baptist Church, Nashville, before coming to our communion. He resides with his wife on Rogers Avenue and White's Creek Pike, Nashville 7, Tenn.

Nineteenth St. Christian Church News, Des Moines, Iowa

By V. L. Hawkins, Church Clerk

The November work showed in many ways progress for our church.

The young people's group has been divided into smaller groups who occupy different rooms during the regular worship service hour at 11:00 a.m. This age range is from 2 to 8. Material for these classes consists of paint books, water colors, slates and chalk, crayons and other interesting articles.

The early teen age group receives instructions on Saturdays as to how they can keep peace and order without the aid of adults in these classes.

The Membership Committee is made up of six enthusiastic persons to work from now until Easter to increase the membership.

Mr. Ruben L. Speaks has recently been appointed as assistant pastor.

We are also launching a \$5,000 building fund program for the next two years. We are not yet completely satisfied with this building as a church.

A Voice From the Army

By Pvt. A. D. Gault,
Sec. F., 3013 A.A.F. Base Unit
D.A.A.F., Denning, N. M.

MEN OF TOMORROW

In these times of crises we must think of the future and look and hope for a brighter day, look for the time when the lights go on again all over the world. Our future depends on the men of tomorrow.

In times of peace, as in times of war, a nation's strength is in its manpower. Not primarily in the number of its men, but rather in the quality of its manhood. This is especially true in nations which dedicate themselves to peaceful pursuits and occupations to be truly great among the nations of tomorrow. A people must be led by men of wisdom and men of broad human sympathy, devoted to freedom and brotherhood.

Small men will not do; men whose thoughts and interests revolve about themselves and their affairs; men who think only in terms of material things and for their own day. The need is for men of vision; men who see that a better day will dawn only when "I am my brother's keeper"; when I am willing to labor also for the benefit of my neighbor and to stand ready at personal sacrifice to share the good things of life with others less fortunate.

Our day cries out for men of integrity; for men who dare to do right and to follow truth even when it leads to the loss of friends and fortune; men who fear and love God above all things, and to whom the will of God is the supreme law. Are there such men among us? Can we look for them to rise in our midst in sufficient numbers to make an impact on the community and country? Indeed, there are such men today; they are scattered throughout the length and breadth of the land. Most of them within the Christian church.

There can be many more such in the next generation if every noble father of today will dedicate much time and thought to the inner growth of his sons. Nothing that the fathers of today are doing can contribute more to the welfare of our land and to the world of tomorrow than guiding the lives of their sons into channels of worthy and unselfish service of their fellowmen.

To have these men of tomorrow, the church and the home must take the lead. They must have a big part in the post-war world.



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Ushers' Badges, Arm Bands.
Fine choir gown, \$3.75. Catalog samples on request. Also church furniture. State needs and name of church.

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YOUR "PLEA" WILL NOT BE
DELIVERED UNLESS YOU
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Church of Christ, Canton, Ohio

Elder S. J. Compton, Pastor
Ardella Herring, Reporter

On November 4 the members and friends of our pastor gathered at his home to surprise him on occasion of his 42nd birthday. Many lovely gifts were received, including a large satin bag containing 42 small bags of 42 cents each. This was only a small way in which the members of Elder Compton's congregation tried to express their appreciation of his untiring efforts. I am happy to announce that his efforts have not been in vain, as we are really thriving financially and gradually adding to our membership. We have had some most inspiring and soul-stirring messages taken from a series of sermon subjects and presented in such an intelligent way that even a child could understand.

We were quite sorry to lend one of our fine young men to the service November 15 in the person of Edward Lloyd, recently turned 18 years of age. He was one of the most active in the Junior Church, a deacon and an outstanding Sunday school pupil. On occasions he has composed inspiring poetry. He was also active in the Christian Endeavor group. Needless to say, we will certainly miss young Lloyd. In a letter received by his Sunday school teacher, Mrs. Elsie Wooten, he says "And as for the Sunday school class, tell them to study hard that they may learn the method and ways to keep the next generation from fighting one another. I am trusting in the Lord and keeping the faith and ask that you all pray for me." Edward Lloyd is in the Navy at Bainbridge, Md.

The youngsters are getting under way with their Christmas program, and Mrs. Viola Bradley and co-workers Miss Eleanor Williams and Margaret Bradley plan to turn out a fine piece of work. Included in the program will be a Christmas Cantata and a Pageant.

We ask that the rest of the Brotherhood pray for us that we may continue steadfast and diligent and increase in membership and faith.

Ross St. Christian Church, Montgomery, Ala.

Elder Z. H. Howard, Pastor
Sadie M. Williams, Reporter

At the close of the church year we have certainly packed two years of experience and enjoyment into it. At the beginning of the year we set out

to gain new heights to give better cooperation to the brotherhood and to create a better missionary spirit among our people. We are very happy to have accomplished some of all of these and hope to go the full limit this year.

We have been blessed with another pastor, Elder Z. H. Howard, from Muskogee, Okla. The congregation is well pleased with him and hopes to do great things under his leadership. The entire membership of the Alabama State Convention deemed it a very high honor and great pleasure to have had Bro. C. L. Parks of Nashville with us the entire weekend during the meeting. He was most helpful to us and found great joy in helping to solve difficult problems. He worked in every capacity he could be of service and expressed himself as having had a glorious fellowship with the brethren of Alabama.

Bro. Parks' greetings from our national work and the fellowship with him made us feel very close to all of our brethren and more than ever a greater need for cooperation. Elder Chas. Mitchel, president of our State Convention, presided for his first term, having served a couple of years as vice-president. The former president, Elder G. F. Lewis, is now serving as chaplain in the Army. Rev. Mitchel is a very promising young minister, and hopes to be able to bring Alabama up to the top in the very near future. We are asking the prayers of the brotherhood that we may continue to climb.

New Mount Olive, Henderson, Texas

Rev. T. A. Armistead, Pastor
Mrs. L. V. Isaacs, Reporter

Many a heart has "been made happy." Above which you will notice is the name of our church.

Now that a building for worship has been purchased, our task is just begun for actual work.

Brothers D. T. Cleaver, T. A. Armistead and Jesse Rodgers have truly exhibited an untiring effort toward the purchase of the building.

Our regular program of work goes on regardless to the small membership.

During our October Rally three were added to the membership roll.

With the coming of the New Year, we are continually praying and steadily working toward a larger fellowship in our new Christian home.

Editor Eppse Entertained at Cleveland, Ohio

November 22-27 was a joyous time for the Editor and his wife and daughter, Henrietta. His family visited friends in Columbus, Ohio, while Professor Eppse attended the 24th Annual Meeting of the National Council of Social Studies.

The meeting was held in the Statler Hotel, and the sessions were all that one could expect.

While in Cleveland, the editor called many of our church friends. Among these were Elder and Mrs. C. E. Craggett, Elder and Mrs. Foote Craggett, and Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Shumate.

Mr. and Mrs. Shumate invited the Editor to Thanksgiving dinner. Among the guests were Rev. and Mrs. J. E. Blair, 2064 Carver Place, Warren, Ohio; Mr. and Mrs. Washington McCall of Cleveland; Mrs. Nancy Stoval; Mr. and Mrs. Jessie Blair, 2276 E. 89th St., Cleveland; Mrs. Mae McCall; Mr. and Mrs. Roosevelt Clark; Mrs. Melvina Johnson; Gloria Jean McCall; James Lowell Blair; Brenda Joan Clark; Patricia Ann Clark; Janet Ann Clark, and Norma Rose Cheek.

True Discipleship

We have dreamed of true ideals,
That will take our love and zeal
To live and teach.

We'll hold our standards high,
To every passer-by,
And labor you and I,
Our goal to reach.

Oh, may we not in haste,
Our strength and talent waste
In idle song.

But may we dare and do,
With hope and courage true,
For still those values true
To us belong.

Our future lies in store,
And there is at our door
A chance to work.
Our glory or our shame,
Will rest in the church's name,
So let us have true aim
And never shirk.

Then Christ the true and tried
Will judge us justified
If we hold on.

So let us fight the fight,
And push with all our might,
Lest when we see the light
Our soul be doomed.

(Arranged by R. L. Searcy and dedicated to the members of the Christian Church throughout the nation.)

East Sixth St. Christian Church, Oklahoma City, Okla.

R. L. Sercy, Minister

We are still trying to keep house for the Lord. The interest is still high and we are looking forward to the time when we can start building. With our material, we have cash on hand about \$8,000 with the promise of \$10,000 to be given when we make our amount equivalent to same. The Lord blessed us with four persons for baptism in November. We are looking for December to be a victory month for East Sixth Street. December 3 we had Women's Day. Dean W. O. Gills was the speaker and brought us a long remembered message in title, "Put on the Whole Armour of God." Our Brotherhood under the leadership of Bro. S. R. Parker, in addition to our building program, have purchased a house and lot for the amount of \$3,000 that will be used for expansion. We wish for each of you a happy New Year and abundant success.

Report of District No. 6, Texas

By Mrs. Maude Davis

Our District Board convened in Holland, Texas, October 27-29. We had a great meeting. All seven churches reported, and even Milan coming in to make the eighth. Our president was absent but his little son, Rothwell, gave an account of the Austin Church and himself as a No. 1 steward as well. Rothwell is scarcely in his teens, but what a little man and a little Christian, following in the steps of his illustrious father, Prof. I. Q. Hurdle, and his grandfather, Elder Hurdle, one of our pioneer ministers. Rothwell brought the second largest report from any district and the largest one Austin has had since I have been district president.

Our guest speaker, President P. C. Washington, was at the International Convention and stopped over in Kansas City and could not be with us. But Elder Ralph McClelland preached everybody happy, and we had a fine time in general.

We had a large delegation from Austin and Taylor. Due to tire and gas rationing our delegation from Davilla and Lyons was cut short. Mrs. I. Q. Hurdle, the wife of our state president, and Mrs. G. W. Taylor, the wife of the venerable Dr. G. W. Taylor, were with us and added much to the meeting as well as Elder Hubbard and Rothwell Hurdle from the Austin Church.

Taylor was represented by our

State Missionary President, Mrs. Arah Garrett, who had charge of the Missionary Program and furnished the music. Mrs. F. H. Brown, who made a glowing report for the Taylor Church, Deacons John Nix, R. L. Marshall, Elder Wm. F. Hatcher, Sr., and Mrs. Susie Marshall represented the Taylor Church.

Too much praise cannot be given the Holland Church, who barbecued mutton galore for everybody, and the sisters loaded the table down with the most delicious food imaginable. Everything the heart could wish or your appetite may call for was on the table, which was not surprising, for Holland always takes care of her delegates when it comes to feeding them.

Elders Ralph McClelland, Frank Venable, Ben Early and Deacons David Willis, Henry Willis, Will Author and Bro. Fulcher looked after the meat. Sisters Ella Early, Lena Fulcher, Cora P. Ward and Irene Willis, Katie Ford, Mary McClelland and the principal of the school, Mrs. Vera Lee Robinson, and Lilly Author looked after the food, with the assistance of many other. We raised in this board \$73.89.

Third Christian Church, Louisville, Ky.

Elder F. T. Floyd, Pastor
Buford Murray, Reporter

Through the able leadership of our superintendent, official and teachers, our Sunday School is continuing to grow in attendance and financially. During the past month Elder Floyd has had charge of the Sunday school programs. He secured guest speakers from other churches. The topic for the month was "Thanksgiving." The total amount of money raised was \$16.00.

For the past four months our church has been one of the liveliest spots in the city. For the past two months the men were busy with Men's Day Rally. It was very successful. They raised a total amount of \$788.44. Through the last two months the women observed "Woman's Day," with Mrs. Henderson as chairwoman and captain along with five other groups of women. Their rally, too, was a success. They closed their drive with a splendid program. For their morning program, they had as their guest speaker Mrs. Ruby Jackson, one of our brilliant school teachers and a member of the R. E. Jones Temple. She used for her subject, "A Great Faith." Under her theme she spoke from the following topics:

"Harmonious Faith," "Saviour, Hood of Jesus," "Sins of the Flesh," "Sins of Temperament," "Sins of Omission," "Universal Faith," and "Victorious Faith." She completed her talk with a timely poem. Every one was electrified with the way she spoke and how she brought out each point. Mrs. Cordelia French introduced the speaker. For their afternoon program, they had as their guest speaker Miss Hazel Ross of New Albany, Ind. She is also one of our city school teachers. She used for her subject, "Post-War World, What Are You Going to Do?" She spoke of the problems the church will have to face when the young men return from war and the part women should take and also child delinquency.

The musical part of the program consisted of solos and group singing of the Senior and Junior Choirs.

Then came the anxious moment, the report of the captains and their groups. The captains were as follows:

1. Mrs. Rose Henderson.....	\$181.45
2. Mrs. Elsie Murray.....	104.72
3. Mrs. Lulu Hicks.....	89.15
4. Mrs. Elizabeth Green.....	184.10
5. Mrs. Julia Ramsey.....	120.80
6. Mrs. Tyler	225.22

Total Amount Reported

for the Rally\$905.44

Late reports are expected. Every one is rejoicing.

Antioch Christian Church Disciples of Christ

Rev. S. E. Tillman, Minister
Mrs. A. B. Washington, Sec'y
169 Seaman Street,
New Brunswick, N. J.

To the Editor of the Christian Plea:

We are about to come to the close of the year of 1944. We are glad to say that during the year the Lord has wonderfully blessed us. As last year this time, we were without a church, and we worshipped in the home of our pastor. But today we can say as David of old said, "I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord. Our feet shall stand within the gates of Jerusalem." The faithful few lived up to the resolutions as made in the beginning of the year. This was to pull together, some of which they did in prayer and faith to the day that we could praise God under our own vine and fig tree. Although not completed, we can praise God for his wonderful blessings that he has bestowed upon us.

On the 14th of November, we cele-

brated our pastor's 13th anniversary in the basement of the church. A testimonial dinner table was spread for 65 which were filled and the others were served in their seats. There were guests from Painfield and Metchen. Elder Nuhe, pastor of the Church of God in Christ of Plainfield had charge of the program. Mrs. Thomas Holman, wife of Rev. Thomas Holman of Metchen, was mistress of ceremonies.

There were solos and songs rendered by members of the church in Plainfield. Mrs. Janie Williams of the First Baptist Church of New Brunswick recited an essay which took the attention of all. A violin solo was rendered by Mr. Arthur Anderson, the new undertaker of our city.

After a delightful program, the presentation of gifts to the pastor by our organist, Miss Dorothy Edwards of Jersey City, the granddaughter of the founder of the church.

The pastor received a handsome overcoat from members of the various auxiliaries, a pair of kid gloves from the Sunday School, and about forty-five dollars in donations from friends. This was followed by another violin solo, after which the secretary gave the history of the church.

Rev. S. E. Tillman started the church in the home of Mrs. Mary Edwards in the year of 1931 with just her family which consisted of three persons. After worshipping there for several months, he was able to get a small place 20x30, a frame building which rested in on found under posts. After fixing up the place with seats, lights and heat, he began to gain followers, which were about thirty or more members. In 1934, he resigned and took work on New Street. He organized the Rescue Christian Mission which was a charitable institution, to which he gave his utmost attention to give shelter, help, food, and clothing to the poor and needy in their distress.

It was the year of 1938 that Rev. Tillman was recalled to the church. After there had been five or six ministers that had tried to make it go, but failed. Rev. Tillman, after considering the call for more than three months, he finally accepted. He started to rebuild the same structure, and when he made application for a building permit, they told him to tear it down, as it had been condemned a year before. Now they were without a place of worship, and for several years. By this time the members had been scattered. Some joined other churches, and Mrs. Mary Edward, the founder, had passed to the great be-

yond. But still there was a remnant who still had faith. These three women still clung to God's unchanging hand to carry on the work of Antioch Christian church. They were Sister Esther L. Tillman, the pastor's wife, Sister Lillie McFont, and Mother A. B. Washington, who kept the church together until now. In 1941, the pastor, seeing that these three women could not be shaken by the wind, decided to open up his home for service. He spoke out of the fulness of his heart as God would give him the message.

While so doing, the people passing by would stop and listen and come in and some joined us. On September 17, 1942, four members raised our first \$10.00 towards the building of our church. In June, 1943, we started to build on the same site where the little church 20x30 stood, and today we have a church that is credit to the community. It is being without mortgage, as we pay as we go. We have on the church roll about thirty members. We have a choir that cannot be beat under Mrs. Roberts Sanders, President, Missionary Society; Mrs. Lillie McFont, President, Pastor's Aid Society; Mrs. Cora L. Johnson; President, Sunday School; the father church mother, A. B. Washington, Superintendent, Sunday School; Elder McFont and Elder G. Edwards, assistant pastor, Elder T. Taylor, and our good dear brother, Samuel Sanders.

We are asking the prayers of the Brotherhood for our continued success. Our pastor and choir will go to New York, December 11, to Elder Brodie's Church, where our pastor will preach and the choir will render service.

Report of Forrest St. Christian Church, Beaumont, Texas

Mrs. Maude F. Davis, Pastor

I returned to Beaumont after our National Convention to resume my duties as pastor of Forrest St. Christian Church. It has indeed been a pleasure to work with these great people of whom I have met and loved for the past fourteen years.

I have always felt that the church in Beaumont should be one of the leading churches in the Brotherhood from a financial standpoint as well as intellectual. We are blessed with a goodly number of very substantial members. We have on our roll seven young women employed by the city school system, five outstanding musicians and some of the very best people in the city. The church is rated very highly for its membership

of worthwhile people. It is praised by both white and colored of the city for its outstanding moral intellectual membership.

I trust I shall be able to look back upon them as the Apostle Paul did the Philippian Church as my joy and my crown. I began my pastoral work last June. For the first few months we put over a good program. Since I have returned we have stepped up our program. We are endeavoring to meet our goals which has been assigned us by State and National.

We have had several nice programs on my return. We had an Appreciation Program for all members who had been members of the church for 25 years or more. Those who had served over 40 years were given little tokens and greeting cards of love and appreciation. Brother Glenn, who was 90 years of age, was given an anniversary, when he received a lovely birthday cake, some money and many useful gifts. The church served refreshments.

Our Bedspread Contest netted us \$23.80. Our Popular Baby Contest, \$75.25. Our Missionary Society had a Spiritual Feast which was quite a success spiritually and financially. Sunday, November 12, we had our Memorial and Dedicatory Service for our new church hymnals. Our own Bro. Hadnott presented the hymnals to the church in memory of departed loved ones, which was given by the members of the church.

Sunday, November 19, we had the unveiling of a beautiful picture of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane given to the church by Mr. and Mrs. Marvin M. Davis of Fort Worth, member of the East Anna Christian Church and a niece of the writer.

The Silver Tea given by Mrs. Charles Young at her beautiful residence was quite a success. The home was decorated with cut flowers, beautiful linen and china. Mrs. Margaret Jones and Mrs. Johnette poured tea.

The Halloween party given by Mrs. M. H. Hadnott at her palatial residence and assisted by Mrs. Hazel Gilder was quite a success. Every one had fun, the goblin walked, there was gumbo, popcorn balls, witches and fortune telling—everything to make a Halloween festival was enjoyed by all.

Mrs. Hennie Bean, one of our wealthy widows, has had a number of barbecue picnics on her beautiful lawn of her spacious estate where her beautiful colonial residence is located on the Grill Road for the benefit of the church.

Mrs. Bennie Hayes and Mrs. Ira

Caldwell, who have been vacationing in Colorado, have returned and have opened the doors of their lovely homes for the benefit of the church.

This church has the distinction of having two of the best and most faithful members who run at every beck and call of the church, whose lives are wrapped and tied in the church, the Titian haired twins, whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life and will surely be in the number that St. John saw in Revelation, Sister Lula Smith and Sister Lola Jones, the mother of Bro. Ira Caldwell. The church is looking forward to a gala celebration on March the 9th, their birthday. I am sure they are the oldest twins of the Brotherhood, and I trust they shall receive greetings from the entire Brotherhood. Their address is 1470 Texas, Beaumont, Texas.

The second week in December there will be a bazaar which Mrs. Mollie Fowler and Mrs. Della Murdock will sponsor, assisted by Mrs. Laura Haines and Mrs. Blanche Eames.

Bro. R. C. Sapp is one of our Bible teachers and an elder of the church. Bro. J. G. Gilder is one of our oldest elders and helps me to put the program over. Both of these stalwart characters can be counted on.

Last, but not least, some years ago there was a brother, M. H. Hadnott who came to our church from the Baptist faith. If anybody in the whole wide world would ask of me to picture to them an ideal Christian brother, I would hold up Brother M. H. Hadnott. Here is a Christian brother, unassuming, and an educated young man. He is superintendent of the Bible School and president of the Endeavor Society. He leads the prayer meeting and is the church clerk, and is a clerk who keeps an accurate account. Aside from all his church duties, he is commander of the American Woodmen. He is an officer in the Elks. He holds an office in the Y.M.C.A. He headed up the bond drive and the Community Chest drive and is employed by the government. He has the first time to say he is too busy to fill his church obligation.

We have Bro. H. Wyche who can't attend regular, due to the fact of government service but sends his money by \$8.00 and \$10.00 at a time.

With such members and Jesus as our guide, we will succeed.

Please send me ten Pleas to sell, and I will try to get some subscriptions.

MONEY TURNED OVER TO THE CHRISTIAN PLEA TREASURER, MRS. PRESTON TAYLOR, FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 1944

1. Dr. J. E. Walker, for National Convention	\$25.00
2. Mrs. Pearl Allen, 5634 Helen St., Elmwood Place, Ohio	1.00
3. Mrs. Maude Davis, 1370 Forrest St., Beaumont, Texas	.50
4. Rev. G. W. Taylor, Austin, Texas, paid by Mrs. Davis	.50
5. Mrs. S. A. Pirtle, 641 Altamont St., Muskogee, Okla.	1.00
6. Mrs. J. E. Banks, 243 Young St., Bluefield, W. Va.	3.00
7. Miss Irene Harvey, 335 Wreford St., Detroit, Mich.	3.75
8. Pvt. A. D. Gault, Deming, N. M., for A. Gault	1.00
9. Mr. J. K. Butler, 100 E. 6th St., Oklahoma City, Okla.	3.00
10. Rev. Tibbs Maxey, Box 3, Loveland, Ohio	1.00
11. Elder Taylor E. H. Cole, 411 E. 7th St., Little Rock, Ark.	1.00
12. Mrs. L. B. Isaacs, P. O. Box 974, Herndon, Texas	5.00
Total	\$45.75

Corinth Christian Church, Kilgore, Texas

Rev. E. J. Dickson, Pastor

We are glad to report that the faithful flock of our church is still carrying on the good work for the Lord. We had splendid services on the 2nd Sunday. Bible School opened on time by Asst. Supt. Bro. J. B. Sibley. Afterward Devotional Services were in charge of Bro. Hughly Jacobs. The choir rendered wonderful song services. Sacred hour of prayer. Scripture reading by Pastor Dickens, 100 Psalms. He also brought to us an untiring message. His subject was, "What Are You Going To Do With the Rest of Your Life?" We enjoyed it much. The Spirit came and made our hearts glad.

We, too, were grateful to have had visiting us the Informer Singing Choir of Longview, Mrs. Ezzie Faye Jones, music directress. This group sings over the air each Saturday night over KFRO, Longview, at 10 o'clock.

We have one more pastoral day in this year, and hoping all members be present. With God's blessings we are looking forward to a bigger and better meet next year.

"God is our refuge and strength."
Mrs. Almeta Henderson, Reporter,
Rt. 2, Box 260, Kilgore, Texas.

Wichita, Kansas

By Rev. A. D. Little

Greetings:

At this time may heart goes out in sympathy for Rev. J. O. Bowles and his little daughter, Ollie Margaret, who is in the sanitarium at this writing.

Mrs. J. O. Bowles departed this life the 14th of October.

I knew the family like no other

preacher in the brotherhood did. They have made a tremendous sacrifice for the Christian Churches in Texas, Kentucky and Arkansas.

I watched his ministry from the very beginning, and I know what they went through and the type of work they did.

Joe O. Bowles is a Christian statesman and a gospel preacher way above most of the congregations. He thinks in large terms and puts these thoughts in action.

A number of us disagree with him in our opinions but yet that doesn't discourage him. I marvel sometimes how he has paid churches out of debt when the so-called leadership of the church was sitting tight with their pocketbooks trying to starve him in order to bring him over to their point of view. Bowles says he doesn't work for a compromising God and doesn't have to preach a compromising gospel.

I remember when Brother Bowles and Sister Bowles walked out of a large school in Texas to go to Beaumont and take a church. Brother Bowles was the principal and had the privilege of hiring and firing his teachers. Yet he left a good salary to go to a church that was \$2,240 in debt that paid him about \$7.00 per week, and in eighteen months he and his wife with a young baby led the church out of debt.

Then they received a call to Paducah, Ky., with a broke down church. No men attending church; about three elders, Jack Pearson, Dr. H. B. Pleasant and Brother Nucholls.

Yet Brother Bowles had reached almost every man in the church before he left, and left a fine working board. And I wouldn't doubt that the board is made up of the men he went and picked up.

He led the Cross Street congregation out of debt, put new pews and an automatic heating furnace in the church.

Not only is Brother Bowles a church financier; he preaches the gospel with power that convinces, and he baptizes. I thought he was going to baptize everybody around him in Paducah. His motto is to leave the church in better condition than it was when he found it.

My friends, we may differ with the man in his methods, but we must admit that he is first of all a Christian preacher scholarly, profound and full of logic. He is a church statesman, looks way in the future for his church, and gets results

I do not know his plans, but I do

hope he will continue with the ministry, for the fact that he can reach the men of the church better than any man I know. As I said, we may not like the man because he thinks for himself, but we have his record. And personally I am proud of any preacher who does his own thinking.

My heart goes out in sympathy for Rev. J. O. Bowles and his daughter. I know he would enjoy letters from his many friends, especially the preaching brothers. His address is 2522 West 18th St., Little Rock, Ark.

C. Y. F. News

By Ruth O. Thomas,
5622 S. Wabash St., Chicago, Ill.

LEST WE FORGET

At our recent National C. Y. F. convention held in the city of Lexington, Ky., August 20-22, this organization pledged itself to raise \$2,500 as its share of the \$40,000 goal of the National Christian World Fellowship Fund.

The plan for the division of this sum is three-fold: (a) \$5,000 for Christian education; (b) \$5,000 for the Indian Yakima Mission; (c) \$5,000 for the Mexican Mission in Texas, and (d) \$25,000 for missionary travel. Twenty dollars is the goal for the young people's group of each local church.

Many of our state and local C. Y. F. and C. E. organizations have stipulated the amount they will be able to raise by the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 1945. If your local group was not represented at the convention and this plan has not been introduced, please contact at once:

Miss Carnella L. Jamison,
222 S. Downey Avenue,
Indianapolis 7, Ind.

To those of you who have made their pledges, "let us not forget." Let not those promises of support be empty ones. Ruth O. Thomas.

* * *

SOUTH SIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

The South Side Christian Church's C. Y. F. held its election recently, at which time the following officers were elected and installed: Hazel Colbert, President; Vera Yarbro, Vice-President; Fannie Williams, Secretary; Charles Rampley, Treasurer.

Miss Vera Yarbro, Vice-President and Chairman of the Program, is including a series of religious slides, a visit to the Chinese Christian Church and an Annual Oratorical Contest for the first quarter of the new year.

Representing the South Side in the contest with the young people of Indiana Avenue C. Y. F. group will be Linnie Welch, who won first prize last year; Fannie and Priscilla Williams, Charles Rampley, Gale Welch, Hazel Colbert, Caron Watson and Perry Jackson.

The C. Y. F. regular third Sunday morning Youth Services are continuing to prove inspiring and highly spiritual both to the youth of the church as well as the adults. The evening services from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. are also very enlightening, thus acquainting the community with its needs and the part the church is playing in the community.

* * *

Los Angeles, Calif.
November, 1944.

Dear C. Y. F.'s Everywhere:

November for me in California with its mild climate is a unique experience. The leaves are still very green and the birds, including the sparrows, sing as merrily as if it were spring.

I extend greetings to you from our fine young people here on the coast. Especially do I send my personal greeting to our ambitious national C. Y. F. officers in their endeavor to make our Christian Youth Fellowship real and operative in the lives of Disciple youth everywhere.

This National C. Y. F. News Column in the Christian Plea is a new venture sponsored by our young people—(with an occasional interruption by the "oldsters"). It is yours to support by reporting your ideas, plans, and news items as well as being certain that it is really read by our young people.

Our officers will tell you where we shall need to place our emphasis from now until June 30 and the next National Convention—so here's a tip; read every word.

You remember that this year our theme is a worthy challenge to make "Thy Paths Our Chosen Way."

Carnella L. Jamison,
Nat'l Sec'y Miss. Org.,
U.C.M.S., 222 S. Downey
Indianapolis 7, Ind.

A Voice From the Army

Pvt. Arthur D. Gault, 35877206
Sec. F., 3013 A.A.F. Base Unit,
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Hello, Friends! It has been some time since you have heard from me, and it has been some time since I have heard from you. I have had the pleasure of meeting a lot of my good friends at the National Convention

in Lexington, Ky., my old home state. It was a grand Convention. Our next Convention will meet in Memphis, Tenn. I hope that I shall be able to attend as a civilian.

I am down Mexico way. It is a long ways from the Brotherhood, but you live in my heart. I feel that I am here for a cause. If we are to have a peaceful world after the war is over, the church must have a part in the post-war plan for peace. I hope that the levelers of our National Brotherhood will plan a program for us to go by.

We elected Rev. S. S. Myers, our National President. We should stand by him and give him our support. He is our President, and we, as the Christian Church, must stand by Christian doctrine and support the preachers that preach it.

We must remember that there will be a lot of young men returning from the war looking for something. The question is what will the church have to offer them.

Of course, we are much concerned about the National Election of the President of the United States. There is much effort to get the Negro to vote. There is much effort here being made to get the Negro soldiers to vote.

I attend the Service Men's Christian League. It is on the order of a Christian Endeavor. White and colored attend together. The officers are elected quarterly. The writer is past vice-president of it. Private John Thomas of North Carolina is now president of it. I certainly enjoy reading the Plea, and reading of my good friends. I also want to thank my friends for the letters I have received from them. You will hear more of me.

Baptism

By Elder Blair T. Hunt,
Mississippi Boulevard Christian
Church, Memphis, Tenn.

Frequently the question has been asked, "Do you think a man can be saved without being baptized?"

In answer to this question, we can only say what Jesus said: "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." Too, let us ask one inspired Apostle Peter by name. Peter, can you tell us whether a man can be saved without baptism? The inspired Peter said, "For Christ also both once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us unto God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the spirit; by which also he went and preached

to the spirits in prison; which sometimes were disobedient when once the long suffering of God waited in the days of Noah while the ark was preparing, wherein few, that is eight souls were saved by water. The like figure where unto even baptism doth also now save us (not putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God). By the resurrection of Jesus Christ."

Too, let us ask the inspired Apostle, born out of due season. (I am talking about Paul.) Let us ask Paul the same question. Paul says in Gal. 3:27, "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ."

In answer to the question given in the first statement of this paper let me give an analogy, perhaps a crude one, I heard years ago.

My oldest son is dangerously ill. My family physician comes. He tells me my boy has pneumonia. He prescribes for my boy. Eagerly I read the prescriptions. Here it is, "Ipecac and ammonia." "Why that, doctor?" "I want to make your son expectorate; that will aid his breathing. Then give him quinine and acetanilid." I inquired what is that for? "This will reduce the temperature. Put antiplogistine on the chest." What for? "It is a local application and will remove the pain. Then give him digitalis; this will act on the heart. These things will break up the disease. Then give him this tonic every hour in the day. Be careful what he eats and you son will get well."

My doctor leaves. I get the medicine from my neighborhood druggist. I give him everything but the digitalis; my boy breathes well; the fever subsides; the pain is eased and he falls asleep. Later I awaken him to take the digitalis. My son says, "Daddy, I feel all right now. I will not take the digitalis."

Soon my boy is dead from heart failure. Who is to blame? Nobody but my son. My boy refused to take the medicine. Here is the lesson: The sinner is sick of soul. Jesus Christ the great physician has left the prescription in the Bible. The preacher is the nurse. First the sick patient must take a spoonful of faith mixed with love. For this will purify his heart. Then he must take a big spoon of repentance. This works on his life. Next a tablespoon of confession; he has a stiffness of the neck. This will work on his pride. Fourth, a big dose of baptism. This changes his state. But when he believes, repents, and con-

fesses he feels good and decides he does not need baptism. He is lost; he alone is to blame. After he obeys the gospel, take this tonic every hour; shake it well before taking—virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, Godliness, brotherly kindness, love. Look well to your spiritual food and you are sure of salvation.

Go to the water (Acts 8:36); where there is much of it (John 3:23); down into it (Acts 8:38); buried (Rom. 6:4); planted (Rom. 6:5); raised (Col. 2:12); come up out of the water (Acts 8:39); body washed (Heb. 10:12).

No man can dispute baptism after you follow the word of God.

Notes From Mt. Sterling, Ky.

By Prof. J. E. Bean

A great two weeks' revival was held at the High St. Christian Church, beginning the first Sunday in October. The church was greatly revived spiritually, financially and numerically. The church was filled each evening and the large audience was overjoyed by the soul-stirring sermons of the pastor, Elder Eugene Patterson, and the gospel songs of Mrs. Mae Patterson Irving. What a wonderful team this combination makes as they unite and coordinate their gifted talents in carrying on God's work. The results were highly pleasing and acknowledged by the church members. Four hundred and twenty-five dollars, six additions by baptism and a spiritual reawakening.

Rev. Patterson and sister were honored and entertained by being invited out to sumptuous and wholesome dinners and suppers every day. A large number from Mt. Sterling attended the Laymen's Conference that met at Winchester. The Junior Church is carrying on in an excellent way at the High St. Christian Church.

Now that both conventions are over, it is a matter of history. Planning and working the plans for the future is the big task of the church. After remodelling and beautifying the parsonage, the December goal is the roofing and painting the parsonage, and for that purpose a \$1.00 rally has been set for the third Sunday in December.

The Sixth District meeting was held at the High St. Christian Church in October. The meeting was largely attended by delegates and members and a very interesting program was executed. Our new State President, Elder J. T. Floyd; Mrs. Edith Bristow, Bible School President, Mrs. Willie Mae Hunter, and other state and district officers were present and made a big contribution in putting

over the program. Prof. J. E. Bean presided. The next institute meets at Winchester.

The Buckeye Harmonizers rendered an excellent program at the High St. Christian Church Monday evening to an over-crowded house. The program was well received. The interpretations of the songs and renditions and other selections by the blind quartet was wonderful. Besides the door receipts, the singers sold over thirteen dollars' worth of pictures. The quartet carried with them best wishes of the good people of Mt. Sterling.

A club composed of men known as "Minute Men" has been organized by Elder Patterson, with Bro. Strother Prewitt as its president. Eighteen men have joined and others will increase the number, and planning is under the way for some very fine projects.

The Junior Choir sang Sunday and was much enjoyed by all. Outstanding numbers were the solos rendered by Gladys Garrett and James Robert Jackson.

The Christmas exercises will take place Sunday, December 24th. The third Sunday in December will be a big day at High St. Church. It will be Dollar Day. The goal for that day is \$290 to paint and cover the parsonage. This objective is to be accomplished and clear the way for the major objective that is to start the first part of the New Year.

A new building is the word that is ringing in the ears of the pastor and the members. Plans, hopes, work and prayers are all centered upon that big idea. Large audiences are hearing Elder Patterson each Sunday and the church is taking on new life with all auxiliaries and departments being fully organized. The newly added members were given their baptismal certificates Sunday.

Elder Patterson preached at Fairview Sunday afternoon. Those attending the annual planning committee at Lexington Saturday were Mesdames Susie Lee Elster, Eliza Jackson and Miss Irene Jones. The young men officiating as the Junior Church deacons were Walter and Chester Garrett. Many compliments were passed upon the excellent way they performed their duties. The prayer meetings are being largely attended. The Planning Committee, composed of Mesdames Amy V. Stockton, Susie Lee Elster, Julia Garrett, Viola Grubbs, Mary Lizzie Jones, Isabel Morton will meet with the Church Board the 15th of this month. Business of importance.

NOTICE

Elder Blair T. Hunt, Minister Mississippi Boulevard Church, Memphis, Tennessee, has written an article on Baptism. He will also write an article on Stewardship.

Every Disciple should read these articles.

Brother Pastor, please announce this to your congregation.

These articles alone are worth a year's subscription to the Christian Plea.

The Editor solicits other writers to send manuscripts.

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Reflections . . .

As we look back for a moment, reflecting on the year just past, we realize how much your friendship has meant to us. We appreciate your cooperation when shortages of help and materials are causing unavoidable delays.

We are glad that so many friends ordered Bethany Sunday School materials, books, and other merchandise during the year. It was the biggest sales year in our history.

Looking Ahead Into 1945

We anticipate still more opportunities to serve you in 1945. Some of the Graded Lessons will be new, and the improved Uniform Lessons will be well launched. New electives are on the way, as well as some wonderful Bethany books for your enrichment and inspiration. Please let us know in what way we can be of service to you.

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