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Lloyd L. Dickerson

National Christian Missionary Convention

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The CHRISTIAN PLEA

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NEGRO DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

Vol. LV

Nashville, Tennessee, January, 1948

No. 5

DR. L. L. DICKERSON NEW PLEA EDITOR

The Disciples of Christ and Negro Education

CHARLES E. SHERMAN

President of the Jarvis Alumni and Ex-Student Association

A progress step was made on November 25, 1947 when the Texas board of trustees of Jarvis Christian College voted unanimously to elect three Negroes to membership on the board. This step came as a result of the action of the Jarvis Alumni and Ex-Student in requesting that this be done. The request was made in May, 1946. The Alumni Association rapidly gained the support of the Texas C. Y. F. and adult leaders in the state, both white and Negro. At the May, 1947 meeting of the Jarvis board of trustees the chairman of the board appointed a three man committee to study the proposal and report its findings in the November meeting. As indicated above the committee approved and the board accepted the change of policy so as to permit the addition of three Negroes to its membership. The white state convention must finally pass on this action, but there is no reason to

suppose that it will fail to act in favor of the proposal.

This will be the first time in the history of the school that Negroes will have a place on its board of trustees. The Texas board acts in an advisory capacity. The significant thing about the decision to appoint Negroes to the board, however, is the fact that it reveals a hopeful sign that patterns of segregation in the Disciples Brotherhood can be dislocated when the desire is strong enough. The fact that this event can happen in the South ought to be noted by the board of trustees of the United Christian Missionary Society, for it is likewise true that Negroes ought to be appointed to that board. The decision to elect Negroes to the trustee board of Jarvis is significant also in that it reveals what can be accomplished by united action. Furthermore, it demonstrates that support will come when a cause is just. If the fifty thousand Negro Disciples of Christ demanded in one voice that Negroes be placed on the board of trustees of U. C. M. S. something would happen.

(Continued on page 2)

Christian Plea Editor Resigns

Merle R. Eppse to Be Succeeded by L. L. Dickerson, Pastor of Columbus, Ohio, Church

Merle R. Eppse, for the past seven years editor of *The Christian Plea*, a monthly paper published primarily in the interest of the work of Negro Disciples, has resigned to take effect Feb. 1. Professor Eppse is the director of the division of history and geography of the Tennessee A & I State College, Nashville, Tenn. He holds an A.B. degree from Drake University and an M.A. from Columbia University, N.Y., where he has completed one and one-half years' additional work. He is the author of three textbooks which are being used in the public schools of seven states.

L. L. Dickerson, pastor of the Monroe Avenue Church, Columbus, Ohio, will succeed Professor Eppse as editor of *The Christian Plea*. He is a graduate of Bluefield College, Bluefield, W. Va., and has been secretary of the National Christian Missionary Convention for the past seven years. From *Christian Evangelist* Jan. 7, 1948.

NOTICE!

From Now on All News, Subscriptions, Advertising and Inquiries

Concerning "The Christian Plea" Should Be Addressed to:

DR. L. L. DICKERSON, Editor

93 North Ohio Avenue

Columbus, Ohio

The Disciples of Christ and Negro Education

(Continued from page 1)

With Negroes on the board of trustees of Jarvis it is not too much to expect that they will be a big factor in helping to nurture the college into a new life. No one knows better than the Negro what he wants and needs. He wants the same kind of cultured home life and modern conveniences and services as any other respectable citizen. He wants the same kind of excellent schools offering the same kind of thorough and accredited education for his children as the whites have established for their own. Some few are not willing to admit that these are the immediate and legitimate desires and rights of Negroes. The prevalent philosophy seems to say that Negro Disciples of Christ are missionary projects; objects of pity; dark shadows of the landscape. It proclaims that the time has not yet arrived when Negroes should be paid equal salaries for equal training and performance; that racial background is more important in determining ability than merit; that a "shot gun" college is good enough for Negroes; and, perhaps, in another one hundred years it will be safer to be Christian in the whole matter. This is the superannuated philosophy which does not admit the more widespread selection and use of Negroes on the program and committees of the International Convention of the Disciples of Christ. It necessitated the organization of the National Christian Missionary Convention as an organ of Negro expression. This is the philosophy which does not allow Negroes to make regular contributions to the many Disciple publications. It lifts its ugly head every time the question is raised relative to the employment of Negroes in responsible positions in the several Brotherhood agencies. This is the philosophy, which in this enlightened age, is denying the full and creative growth of Jarvis Christian College.

The glaring fact that the Disciples of Christ lag far behind all other denominations in maintaining recognized educational institutions for Negroes is revealed in the 1946-1947 Educational Directory of Colleges and Universities which is published by the United States Office of Education. Statistics from this bulletin show that there are thirty-six four-year colleges which are supported for Negroes by eight Protestant denominations and the Roman Catholic Church.

Sixteen of these colleges are rated "A" class by their respective regional accrediting agency. Of this number one is accredited as an "A" class college by the Association of American Universities, the highest accrediting agency in the country. Eight of these colleges have a "B" rating; two have an "A" rating through the first two years; and ten are unaccredited, in which classification falls Jarvis Christian College. Thus twenty-four out of the thirty-six church supported four-year colleges for Negroes are accredited. A distribution of these colleges according to denominations is as follows:

Baptist	6
Colored Methodist Episcopal	6
African Methodist Episcopal	3
Congregational	3
Methodist Episcopal	2
Presbyterian	2
African Methodist Episcopal Zion	1
Roman Catholic	1

This distribution is interesting from at least two angles. In the first place, the Disciples of Christ, the only other denomination supporting a four-year college for Negroes, is conspicuously absent from the accredited list. In the second place, ten of the accredited colleges are definitely under the management of Negro denominations. All of the denominations listed above have one or more colleges which are accredited as "A" class.

It is generally recognized that the Congregational Church, working through its American Missionary Association, has one of the best records in the matter of providing educational facilities for Negroes in the South. The Disciples of Christ and the United Christian Missionary Society would do well to observe that the American Missionary Association changed its education program for Negroes as the demands of the social and economic life of America changed. As a result the American Missionary Association can now point with pride to several Negro colleges which it sponsored and which can be rated along with the best in the country. These colleges have grown to the point where they have been allowed to become managed by private interests so that now only three colleges are directly controlled by the Congregational Church. And all three are "A" class!

Our Brotherhood must decide at once to launch a progressive educational program for Negroes or allow

its prestige to continue to flounder in the shadow of the light cast by other religious bodies. A crusade for a Christian World is "a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal" apart from a CRUSADE FOR JUSTICE! And in this instance, justice demands that Jarvis become an "A" class college immediately with a view of raising Southern Christian Institute to the level of a four-year accredited college. Justice demands that Negroes be integrated into the total organized life of the Brotherhood. A CRUSADE FOR THE REVIVAL OF THE CHRISTIAN CONSCIENCE is the need of this hour. This would rank as the crusade of all crusades.

Women's Planning Conference Held

MRS. ANNIE GUNNINGS
Reidsville, North Carolina

The Women's Planning Conference of the National Christian Convention was held November 21-22 in Indianapolis, Indiana, under the leadership of our president, Mrs. John Towns.

This meeting was a treat to all of those present. It was a treat to visit the Missions Building. We had received so much literature, and so many letters from 222 Downey Avenue until it seemed as a dream to really be there and see the fine fellowship that existed between members of our own brotherhood and the other staff members. It made us realize that there is Christianity in this world.

The business sessions were all full of inspiration and the entertainment was grand. We had the privilege of attending a banquet at Flanner House, which was a real treat and was enjoyed by all. Mr. Cleo Blackburn, superintendent and Dr. Walter Maddux, director of the Health Center, made us happy by serving as waiters. Our guest speaker for the evening was Mr. Virgil Sly, secretary of African Missions. We all enjoyed hearing him.

On Saturday we held our meeting in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Towns. Our first visit in their home was another enjoyable feast, but our time was limited. The doors of others were thrown open to us and hospitality was so fine that it will always be our desire to visit Indianapolis again. Rev. and Mrs. Peoples made it so pleasant in their home as did others.

We are planning a better year's

work than ever before; we have tried to do our best before, especially last year. We felt that we really put over a fine project by contributing largely to Hazel Green Academy for which we received many thanks.

This year we are really crusading and as long as we have leaders like our president and the other officers, we feel satisfied we will have a successful year.

With the aid of Miss Alva Shackelford, our director, and the other members of the staff, and the help of God, we cannot fail. May God ever bless our missionaries and strengthen them both physically and spiritually.

Letter to the Editor

414 W. 24th Street
North Little Rock, Ark.
December 31, 1947

Dear Editor of Christian Plea:

As I am on my bed I have looked over the PLEA for two months daily. I read most all of the fine letters and reports of churches which are gratifying. Then, reading President P. C. Washington's very grateful letter concerning both races and what was lacking to drive out ignorance, hatred, and malice, I will say to one and all that education is a great thing for all people to have on both sides of the argument. It will be greater, yes greater, influence in the world. The world cannot go forward very fast without education. True leadership is lacking in the Christian world.

The thought I get by reading God's word is that the greatest thing for you to have is love. We are told to love one another regardless of race or color for this is the end of the law says God. How is it with us as a race? As a rule we are our worst enemies. We will not truly cooperate with each other. We cannot properly succeed in any business, physically or spiritually; we cannot hope to be of any service to any nation without the fellowship of each other. What is your view about this? Think on these things in your home, community, state and your church. Have you left God out? If you hope to step with Christ you had better think wisely and get the right ticket and that ticket must be love. What did Christ mean when he said "Love ye one another as I have loved you"? What did the master mean when he said "I have not respect of person"?

I am now reading a book which treats common-sense. I find how I would to God that we all would use

common-sense. What a happy world this would be! My church, and my money, and I, belong to God, so reads the book. My church, my members cannot prosper without love. Christ asked Peter the third time if he loved him. First he was speaking to the sheep, then to the lamb, and last to the sheep. We find that our sheep must be prepared to lead the lamb aright. That means that we must study God's word, teach it, and then live it. Without this there is no salvation.

Read the 2nd Chapter of Epistle, John 4: 7 and see what they said to the church people. If we are born of God and know God, we should speak commendable of one another, for God and his love is the center. Do not fail to keep his commandments. We know that God was first and he loved, Christ was last and he loved. Everything is based on love. If this is fulfilled, will a man lay down his life for his friends? The Book tells us that we shall love our enemies enough to feed them, clothe them, and save them. That is God's spirit of mission to the world.

It seems that we have three kinds of love in our churches these days; it is like the hydrant.

In the summer we turn on the water because it is hot; then later, we turn back. It is too cold. There is also a steady stream, pure water. That pure water is, to all people, a stream of love, sympathy, kindness, respect, obedience and loyalty.

Pure religion is to visit the sick in their afflictions and to administer unto them and keep yourself unspotted from the world. Can you count them in your church? James says, "Pure religion never fails."

My brethren and sisters, is there a falling away from God? Here are a few facts to the parents of the world. Paul says "Train up a child in the way it should go and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Ofttime parents say this is a modern day. Was God modern? Friends, think seriously on these things. The Book says we have a new heaven and a new earth but not a new God, he remains the same. He was in the beginning, is now and will be forever.

I wish each and every one of you a happy, successful and prosperous New Year. I am now eighty years of age and I hope to live to see another New Year, but the same God.

Very truly yours,
MRS. S. L. BOSTICK

Notes from the Old Asparagus Bed

Mayslick, Kentucky

A. D. GAULT, Reporter

We are entering the year of 1948 which is the beginning of a new year and the midway of our Conventional year.

We are still on the map in the Old Asparagus Bed. Our pastor, Rev. Toles, has been bringing us good sermons each first and third Sundays.

On the first Sunday in December, Miss Susie Cross, became a new member of the church. The following Sunday, the reporter, (A. D. Gault) visited in Germantown. Elder David Cole delivered the sermon. He is a student at the College of Scriptures. Union services were held in Germantown on the third Sunday. Rev. Toles brought a Christmas message, after which there was a baptismal service. It was through the kindness of Elder L. D. Paynitz and the members of Germantown that we were able to have the baptismal service.

Mrs. Emma Santa Cruz, a member of the Germantown Church has on a building program. She is doing a good job. She has already raised over \$500.00.

December 26, we had a good Xmas Tree program. There was a house full of little children and old Santa was there with a lovely gift for each one. The program was sponsored by William Bennett, superintendent of Sunday School. Brother Bennett is one of our leading young men.

January is the time for our second State Board Meeting. Each church is due to report with one-half of their state apportionment paid.

The reporter (A. D. Gault) missed only one Sunday during the year 1947 not being in some church. He hopes to do better in 1948.

Send All

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and Inquiries
to

Dr. L. L. Dickerson
93 North Ohio Avenue
Columbus, Ohio.

Give Him Your Support.

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

Life's Eternal Inheritance

SIDNEY A. SCOTT

I am calling to mind the conversation between Jesus and the rich young ruler, and what Jesus told him to do in order to inherit eternal life. Had the young man done what he was told to do might have caused him to break other commandments and be no better off than at first.

The object of religion is to bring out the best in one's self in an intelligent way. If there was a blanket rule covering all our religious activities the sailing would be smooth. In our social contact and experience in a changing world we are forced to inject new and different ideas into our religious code to bring about the best results for all concerned. The fundamental principles in Jesus's religion are practical and can be used in the every day life of intelligent people.

Religion does not teach us anything; we teach ourselves by putting into practice the principles of religion. Every intelligent person should have faith in what they believe and their belief should be based on the best evidence possible.

I am wondering if there is some unknown power to our sensibilities that guides and directs our activities in life, or is it the activity of our intellectual faculties through the brain? It is apparent that the human brain is the most wonderful piece of animal matter in all creation. Without it, we would be as beasts following our instincts and passions. With the brain we have and know the world as it is today.

The being which we call human, like everything else, is but a part of the cosmos. In accordance to law, order and time, this earth and all things on it, in it, and around it came into existence by some unknown power or energy. Whatever knowledge we have learned of the universe and ourselves is the product of our intellectual brain. Through the process of evolution man, having that kind of brain that forms judgments and reason, has become master and ruler of this earth. The cosmos is the subject matter for study, contact and experience the teacher, the world as we know it today is the lesson learned.

Science, philosophy, religion, music, poetry and art all are the results of brain activity. Man's range is from the astronomical heights to the geological depths. He has cracked the

molecule and atom which have given birth to all kinds of energy and force. He has chained the lightning and made it submissive to his use. He has stepped out upon the watery deep and made the ocean and sea his footstool. Made artificial wings and like the birds has flown from zone to zone and encircled the globe. Now what is going to become of him? Must he divest himself of his riches and earthly goods in order to inherit eternal life?

Self-denial, sacrifice and even torture to one's self are phases of occultism as practiced by people of India. Mahatma Gandhi is an example. I think we should keep such as that out of our religion. Self-denial and sacrifice are things we do to help others and not by so doing look for favors from our God.

We cannot believe in justice and be merciful; we cannot believe in truth and be a liar; we cannot believe in honesty and be a thief; we cannot believe in life and be a murderer. We are gradually learning to be just, truthful and honest, but just whether or not we will ever reach that stage in our civilization that will measure up to our religious ideals is a question. To have a better world we must produce a better human society and that will depend on better cultured brains, which will result in a willingness to respect truth and justice and heed the judgments of the wise.

Indusco Issues Appeal for Young Cooperative Students

Nearly 250 Chinese boys and girls who are receiving intensive training in democratic industrial cooperation through the Sandan Bailie Technical School, face a winter of near starvation, according to a statement released by Indusco, the American Committee in Aid of Chinese Industrial Cooperatives. Indusco is an agency cooperating with United Service to China.

Most of the Sandan students are orphaned peasants or village youth who have decided to devote their lives to the improvement of the destitute villages in China's interior through setting up industrial cooperatives. Besides learning cooperative principles, the students are taught leather, glass, pottery and textile manufacture, machine drawing, maintenance and repair, transport and accounting. All practical work projects are carried out by the youngsters on a cooperative basis in one of the most poverty-stricken areas in China.

"Integrating the Negro Worker into Factories and Offices"

J. J. MORROW
Pitney-Bowes, Inc.

It gives me a great deal of pleasure to have this opportunity to discuss the problem of the Negro worker—and your presence here is an indication of your own concern with a subject which has come to interest me very deeply.

The enactment of Anti-Discrimination Laws has of course brought this problem into sharper focus. Its full solution, however, depends on our willingness to recognize—and accept—our moral responsibility toward a group of citizens whose exclusion from the free opportunity to earn a living, commensurate with ability and training, has for so long been a false note in our American way of life.

While many a personnel man is aware that absorption of qualified Negro workers into his organization is the fair thing to do, he quails before the burdens which it would place upon him. Besides his already numerous worries, he can see before him the added task of laying the groundwork among both employees and management for such a program, with the prospect of innumerable difficulties once it is initiated. His inclination may well be to dismiss it with the question, "Why ask for another headache?"

Based upon our experience at Pitney-Bowes, I think I have an answer for this harassed "Man in the Middle" which may surprise him.

When we started to plan our program for employing Negroes several years ago, we did have the advantage of 100 per cent support from top management. Our president, Walter H. Wheeler, Jr., is particularly interested in fostering understanding and acceptance of the Negro as a skilled worker. All of our offices fortunately share this sympathetic attitude, and we were thus assured of their complete cooperation.

Where we had formerly employed Negroes only in the usual menial capacities, we now began to add several machine operators, assemblers, and other skilled or semiskilled Negroes in the plant. While this meant some headway had been made, we faced our real test a little over a year and a half ago when we employed our first Negro office employee. We placed her in the Personnel Department for several reasons—First, because per-

sonnel's status as a sort of headquarters for the company's employment policies would lend official sanction to her coming, and second, because the employees of this department were better aware of what we were trying to accomplish than the members of other departments. Before this Negro employee started, I talked with the girls with whom she would work, carefully explained our intentions and the company's policy in this connection, and received assurances from them that they would assist me wherever they could. On her first day of work, for instance, she was taken to lunch by my secretary, and they joined the group with which she normally spent her lunch hour.

Frankly, we did hear some discontented rumblings from employees in other departments with whom, due to the nature of her work, our new clerk came into contact. We did nothing about these rumblings, and in a few weeks they were not only discontinued but completely reversed. The young lady's intelligence, conscientious performance and cooperative attitude had resulted in a smooth and accurate flow of work between the departments without the work tie-ups previously encountered.

This was not, of course, just luck—we felt, and still feel, that it is of prime importance that the first Negro office employee hired by any organization should possess intelligence, tact, and diplomacy in a high degree. This we help to ascertain by the use of our regular battery of pre-employment tests, the results of which indicate general ability, aptitudes, temperament and personality, or particular skills, such as typing and stenography.

Equally important is the company's own attitude toward the introduction of the first Negro employees. A half apologetic or uncertain answer to a disgruntled employee might easily doom the whole program before it is well under way. Acceptance comes much more quickly when it is understood immediately that the company's stand on non-discrimination is a firm and irrevocable one.

We followed up our initial step a few months later with the addition of a Negro girl in the Engineering Office. She was intelligent, had an attractive appearance, and was well accepted by her co-workers. However, the work was not to her liking, and she resigned after having been with us a few months.

Before this second employee left, we had placed another girl in one of the manufacturing division offices. That girl is still with us, and doing an excellent job. She also was well received, although it was necessary to explain the purpose of our policy to some of her co-workers, and to gain their support.

Following the resignation of the Negro employee in the Engineering Office, we replaced her with another girl, a Negro, who has proven exceptionally capable. She has considerable poise, and through her actions has acquired the respect of everyone with whom she has come in contact. We recently upgraded this girl to a position more suitable to her qualifications; and she is now in our large Accounting Department, where she has been found entirely satisfactory.

Early this month we hired a fifth Negro office employee who has been temporarily assigned to the Personnel Department pending an opening elsewhere in the offices of the company.

Employment of Negroes for skilled and semi-skilled factory work posed its own particular problem. When one of the first male Negro employees was hired as a machine operator in the plant several years ago, we found there was some apprehension lest this move meant flooding the company with Negro workers who might be willing to work at lower wages and consequently jeopardize the jobs and earnings of our white personnel. Despite the fact that we have hired many Negroes since then in the same or similar types of work, we have proven to our employees that their fears were groundless. Our average hourly earnings at present time are considerably above the average for the community.

Three of the Negroes who left us for service in the armed forces have returned to us. One was a machine operator when he was inducted, and upon his return was assigned to a job which, while somewhat similar, carries a higher base rate of pay. Another, who was what is known as a degreaser, or parts cleaner, when he left us, became upon his reemployment an assembler, which is a much more highly skilled type of work with a correspondingly higher earning opportunity. Our established policy of upgrading every returned veteran, where this is at all possible, is based upon our feeling of obligation and gratitude toward a group of

(Continued on page 6)

The Completion of
PENSION PLAN
ENROLLMENT

Is a

CRUSADE GOAL

Pension Fund of Disciples of Christ

800 Test Building, Indianapolis 4, Indiana

Is Your Minister Enrolled?

Is Your Church Enrolled?

**Williamsburg Christian
Church**

REV. L. O'NEIL, *Pastor*

MRS. CHERRIDELL ELLIS, *Reporter*

It seems to me that as the old year went out and the new year came in, our church has lifted itself out of stress to spiritual living and sacrificial giving. We are thankful that we were blessed to have one hundred and twenty-eight added to the fold during the past year.

The word of God is being well-preached by our pastor and he is doing everything to promote the growth of the church. Our Bible School is doing splendid under the leadership of Deacon R. Stevens. Our Missionary Department is doing great work under the leadership of the president, Sister Queen Miley. Definite steps are being taken to raise building funds. Every first Sunday our missionaries will convene with a special program.

The first Sunday in December we were highly entertained by the pastor and congregation of the Mt. Zion Christian Church. Rev. Murdaugh preached out of the depth of his soul on the subject, "The Good of the Lord."

On the first Sunday in January Rev. Dickerson, pastor of the St. Luke Christian Church, and congregation were our guests. He preached a soul stirring sermon and the spirit ran high throughout the day.

Christmas was celebrated with services at 11 a.m. and watch night services greeted the coming in of the New Year.

Pray for us as we begin the New Year drive for God.

"Integrating the Negro Worker"

(Continued from page 5)

men and women who certainly deserve more than an even break. Failure to include the Negro veteran in this policy would surely make the reasons behind its establishment entirely meaningless.

I have already mentioned the necessity for preparation of the people with whom a new Negro employee is to work. Hand in hand with this must go an inspirational talk to the Negro. Before each of our Negro employees started work, I have attempted to prepare him, or her, for the rebuffs which may be experienced from a few people who just cannot divorce themselves from the age-old prejudices and fears surrounding the idea of acceptance of the Negro race on any sort of equal basis. I stressed

to each of our new Negro office employees the fact that she was in effect a missionary for her race; and that her own willingness to undergo a certain amount of embarrassment, her exercise of self-restraint, and her poise, tact, and diplomacy would be the means through which she could best help to combat unthinking prejudice among her co-workers—who, more often than not, needed very little selling. I am extremely proud of our Pitney-Bowes pioneer Negro workers.

Besides the moral and legal compulsion to employ Negro workers, there is another side to the picture which certainly should appeal to our more hard-headed businessmen. In employing a Negro worker, an organization is also buying some qualities which, over a period of time, will mean increased value in dollars through increased work efficiency. The Negro is a handicapped worker in a very real sense, although not physically so. He knows he has a tough row to hoe, and like any human being with more than a normal compulsion of "Make Good" he will generally surpass himself. This is not just a theory—we have watched our Negro employees at Pitney-Bowes progress substantially in their value to our company through their own ambition and effort. And this, more than any other one thing, is what makes a good employee.

If I were asked to select a single fact which impressed me more than anything else in carrying out our program of integrating the Negro worker, I would choose just this: The difficulties one expects to encounter in initiating such a program materialize to the extent of about five per cent of what was anticipated. The "Bogey Man" of race prejudice can hardly fail to disappear when it is really brought into the daylight and put to the test of normal day-by-day contacts.

I cannot urge too strongly that all of us in industry embark wholeheartedly upon a program for the employment of Negro workers—not only because there is a law on the statute books, but because as fellow human beings they deserve, and are entitled to, recognition of their equal abilities and skills. And I think we can at least talk of the day when Negroes, and members of other minority groups, may be hired completely on the basis of their abilities and skills. They have a lot to give,

and all they need is a chance to show it. They have done that at Pitney-Bowes—and I hope they will soon be given a similar opportunity in all other industries throughout our area.

Southern Christian Institute

J. J. Hawkins, Reporter

The first quarter of this school term opened with an enrollment of 448 students, the largest in S.C.I.'s history. With this mass of students packed into the classrooms, S.C.I. was going through great turnover with new teachers filling the vacancies of teachers who went on to other great tasks of service. We are happy to say that all teachers left with the greatest of spirit and S.C.I. was sorry to see them go. It is certain that their services and influence will be felt in many years to come.

There is no doubt as to whether or not these vacancies have been filled with competent teachers at S.C.I. The following method is used to introduce to you our new teachers: Miss Emma R. Bradford of Jarvis College, who did advanced work at Kansas State and Miss Elenora McKey of Drake University are instructors in the English Dept.; Mrs. J. J. Hawkins, who did her advanced work at Drake University, in the Dept. of Sociology; Mr. Lewis Crawford of Tuskegee Institute is instructor of the Industrial Arts Dept. and assistant coach. Miss Annie Lee of Dillard University and Mrs. Geraldine Willis of S.C.I. are instructors at the Community school.

Music Department

One extra-curricular activity at S.C.I. that never has to beg for members is the music department. The general enthusiasm to understand and learn to perform music is so high that not only every choir chair is used but every free period of the music teacher's day is taken. The choir, which provides music for the morning worship each Sunday, has 36 voices. To give other eager students an opportunity in this department, Miss Wiggan organized a girls' Glee Club of 31 voices which is giving stiff competition to the male chorus, which consists of 26 voices. In the past few days these three groups were combined for the purpose of singing together. It's really impossible for me to tell you what these 93 voices can do to an individual who listens to them! This department will present Mr. Edward Brigham of New York, a basso-profundo, in a program of songs and dramatic readings.



for
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IN YOUR
CHURCH**

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

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THE STANDARD PUBLISHING CO.,
20 E. Central Pkwy., Cincinnati 10, Ohio

Typing Department

As we move on into the typing department, we are yet without words to describe that thrill which comes as a result of eleven typewriters "pecking" to the rhythm of music machine which is used in this department. The department is well equipped with books, and other devices. Mrs. J. B. Mosley is head of the department which serves 66 students in typing lessons. This number is broken down into six groups as follows: Mrs. Mosley, one freshman class, one twelfth-grade class, one eleventh-grade class; Miss Mary Ruth Brown, assistant, teaches three twelfth-grade classes.

Home Economics Department

Along with the other departments of Southern Christian Institute the Home Economics Department is developing a functioning program to aid the students in practical everyday living. Special emphasis is placed on acquiring technics and skills of living. Through our courses of food and clothing, students are able to achieve a satisfying and functioning philosophy of life, stipulating personal and family living.



We're in a SPOT!

Since our announcement last month of a new weekly for teen-agers, we have found ourselves in quite a spot. It seems that we are not the only ones—nor the first!—to choose *Now* as a title for a youth paper. As a result, the magazine we told you about is being published under a new name, *Vision*. Nothing is changed but the name . . . in *Vision* you will find the same fine photographs, stories, news items, and special articles originally planned for *Now*. Send your subscription for this new 16-page two-color magazine under either name . . . just be sure to order for every teen-ager in your church school!

Single yearly subscription, \$1.50. Five or more to one address, 33 cents each per quarter.

Some Features of VISION

Sixteen pages of short stories, articles by and for young people, news of Christian youth, and lots of pictures; a Teen Mirror each week, giving up-to-date viewpoints on dates, styles, hobbies, etc.; a special series of articles on "Why I Am Glad I Went to a Christian College," written by famous people.

CHRISTIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION—The Bethany Press—St. Louis

In the courses in clothing, in which Miss Paula Bickham is instructor, students get experience in making aprons, blouses, and dresses. This is just their beginning in sewing and they are always anxious to continue their work throughout the year at home. Each quarter the work is exhibited in the form of a fashion show during the assembly period for chapel. Not only do the students learn to sew under Miss Bickham; they learn to cook under Miss Mary Butler.

Pres. and Mrs. Long attended the State Convention of the white churches of the state held at West Point. Mrs. Long is Secretary of the State Women's Board. Mr. Long addressed the convention and was chairman of the nominating committee. On Sunday he preached for the Mary Holmes Seminary, Presbyterian Junior College for Negroes in West Point.

Prexy Long attended the United Nations Seminar in New York this month and already has made several interesting reports of the many things learned at that meeting. He makes a similar report this week when he

speaks at the chapel of Tougaloo College. He reports that one of the things which impressed him greatly is the fact that of the leaders representing the 57 nations now members of the United Nations the majority are colored, and that one does not observe their deliberations very long without becoming aware that they are the equal or better of the keenest minds of our or any other nation. He feels that the United Nations offers the only hope for the continued existence and future peace of the world presented by any man-made organization, and that it is imperative that the churches give it their full support.

Southern Christian Institute

Edwards, Mississippi
J. J. HAWKINS

VISUAL EDUCATION

For December we enjoyed, here on the campus, these films: "Grapes of Wrath"—Henry Fonda and others; "Charley's Aunt"—Jack Benny and Kay Francis; and "Keys of the King-

dom"—Gregory Peck, Roddy McDowell, Christmas program. For January 3, 1948 we enjoyed "A Bell For Adano"—Hodiak, Bendix, Gene Tierney. The rest of January will be as follows: January 10, "Selected Shorts"; Jan. 17, "Berkeley Square"—Leslie Howard, Heather Angel; Jan. 24, "Selected Shorts"; Jan. 31, "The Count of Monte Cristo"—Robert Donat.

CHRISTMAS MUSICAL CELEBRATION

The Choir, Male Chorus and Girl's Glee Club presented an adaption of Fred Waring's "Song of Christmas" in carols, narration and pageantry. Among the selections presented were: "Gloria" by Mozart. "Carol of the Bells", arranged by Wilhousky and two selections from Handel's "Messiah"—"And He Shall Feed His Flock" and "The Hallelujah Chorus". The Male Chorus and Girl's group were heard in "March of the Turenne" and "Oh Holy Night". Respectively, the choir and choruses were seated in the balcony while on stage the manger tableau and procession of visitors to the manger was enacted.

The CHRISTIAN PLEA

April 1, 1948

COLUMBUS, OHIO

\$1.00 Per Year—Single Copy 10c

The National Convention

With this issue the Christian Plea begins its campaign to make the Detroit convention the greatest ever. We believe our National convention is one of the most important factors in our Brotherhood life. It does several important things. First: It provides an opportunity for fellowship, for both ministers and laymen (and laywomen too) from all parts of the country. Second: It furnishes information and inspiration to those upon whose shoulders rests the responsibility of building the Kingdom of God in the hearts of men. Third: It provides a medium through which our entire Brotherhood can work together for the accomplishment of those things that the local church nor state organizations can do of themselves.

Perhaps it is true that many have attended the conventions and feel that they did not receive any benefits from it. This no doubt was the fault of the individual and not the fault of the convention. To be benefitted by attending a convention, you must at least do two things: First, know the purpose of the convention. Second, become a part of the convention in spirit as well as in person. If one goes to the convention for the above mentioned things, to enjoy the fellowship of other Christians from across the Brotherhood, to get information and inspiration, and third, cooperate with others in promoting the cause of Christ around the world, then the convention will seem important.

In our long range program our Brotherhood assumed certain obligations and responsibilities that we cannot shirk. One of those responsibilities for this year is to contribute \$7700.00 to the total National Convention budget of \$2400.00. The U. C. M. S. and other Brotherhood agencies have agreed to contribute the other \$1700.00. The Executive Committee of the National Board has obligated itself to the full amount of \$24,000.00. One of the things we JUST MUST DO is raise that \$7700. The Christian Plea believes that our Ministers and Laymen will accept this challenge. The Detroit Convention should be the greatest yet. We should

(Continued on Page 2)

"Miss Jarvis" and Attendants



Reading from left to right: Miss Doris Marie Wesley, Greenville, Texas; Miss Willie Maurice Champion ("Miss Jarvis"), Greenville, Texas; Miss Rubye Hester, Paris, Texas; Miss Nina M. Durham, Greenville, Texas.

Jarvis Coronation

Homage was paid to Miss Willie Maurice Champion of Greenville, Texas, who was crowned "Miss Jarvis" at the homecoming game between Jarvis Christian College and Southern Christian Institute, at the Coronation on January 31.

This gala affair was held in the Recreation Hall and music was furnished by the LaSalle Gunter orchestra from Tyler, Texas.

The throne was placed upon a dais with semi-circular steps leading up to the throne seat. Artistic lattice work entwined with yellow roses formed the background of the throne chamber. Ample space was provided for the queen's court which consisted of three young women from each class and their escorts, flower girls, and crown bearer.

"Miss Jarvis" and the members of

her court entered the Recreation Hall from the south side and traveled to the throne down an aisle of misty blue. The color combination used in the decoration represented the school colors.

During the ceremony, "Miss Jarvis" was crowned by Mr. Carzie Petty, captain of the football team.

Miss Champion is a junior and has participated enthusiastically in many of the campus organizations.

A good newspaper and Bible in every house, a good school house in every district, and a church in every neighborhood, all appreciated as they deserve, are the chief support of virtue, morality, civil liberty, and religion.

The reason some people don't recognize opportunity is that it usually goes around wearing overalls and looking like hard work.

“RIGHT MAKES MIGHT”

THE CHRISTIAN PLEA

Published monthly by the National Christian Missionary Convention
Eld. S. S. Myers, President
Eld. E. J. Dickson, Executive Secretary
L. L. Dickerson, Editor

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Publication Office

93 North Ohio Ave., Columbus, Ohio.

We shall make an earnest effort to have the Plea in the mail by the 1st of each month. All news must be in by the 15th of each month. All news received after the 15th day of the month will be published in the following month's edition.

Editorial

At the last meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Board in Indianapolis, I was elected Editor of the Christian Plea, to succeed Prof. M. R. Eppse of Nashville, Tenn. I appreciate the honor conferred upon me, and I am keenly aware of the accompanying responsibility. A number of good men have preceded me in this position, men better prepared by both training and natural ability. They all made their contribution, serving well and faithfully under various conditions and circumstances. To make the Plea the kind of paper that our brotherhood desires has not been an easy task.

The present editor is not so presumptuous as to think that all the problems confronting the Plea have been solved with his appointment to this position. However I do pledge myself to do certain things. First: I will see that the Plea is published regularly, and that it comes out at a specified time. Second: I will see to it that those who subscribe for the Plea get it. Third: The Plea will support wholeheartedly our entire brotherhood program. Fourth: We shall refrain from dealing in personalities at all times, and never stoop to mud-slinging. Sixth: Earnestly contend for the faith once delivered to the saints. And finally, sincerely endeavor to keep the Plea from being a one man paper.

The wholeheartedly cooperation of both ministers and laymen is earnestly

solicited. We invite suggestions and welcome criticism. The Plea shall endeavor to interpret the hopes, aims and aspirations of one hundred thousand Negro Disciples scattered across the nation. We urgently solicit the cooperation of our white brethren, in order that the Plea will be a "Brotherhood" paper and not a "Negro" paper.

Democracy and Civil Rights

A recent news item stated "A group of Southern Governors called on Democrats everywhere to revolt against President Truman's Civil rights program, and preserve American Democracy." What a strange anomaly. Preserve Democracy by denying Civil Rights to one-tenth of our citizens. It is almost unbelievable that America, founded upon the principle that "All men are created equal," with its Bill of Rights and other Constitutional pronouncements and safeguards, that have been held up as the model for progressive organized social life, should find some of its finest citizens and leading statesmen would rather destroy the Union than allow fourteen million of its loyal though dark-skinned citizens, enjoy even the elementary rights of American citizenship. An anomaly that's "almost" unbelievable.

Spiritual Mobilization

For several months I have been receiving bulletins from Spiritual Mobilization. I have been trying to find out what it is all about, and what are the real motives behind it. It has a lot to say about freedom. On the surface its objectives seem worthy enough. However, I seem to detect a slight odor of conservatism, if not reaction. Some of its preachments sound as if they came from the propaganda Office of the Republican National Committee. What we would like to know is, Does Spiritual Mobilization seek to mobilize the spiritual forces of America for social justice, or is it attempting to preserve the concept of "rugged individualism and laissez-faire".

ABOUT WOMEN

For every woman who makes a fool out of a man, there are two who kept him from making a fool of himself. (Anon)

I could sooner reconcile all Europe than two women. (Louis XIV)

Most persons would succeed in small things if they were not troubled with great ambitions.

National Convention

(Continued from Page 1)

have 1000 delegates, at least 200 churches reporting direct to the convention, and total receipts of \$7000.00. A large number of our churches that have been supporting our National convention indirectly, that is, through the State convention, should be urged to accept an apportionment to be sent directly to the National convention treasurer, Dr. J. E. Walker, 234 Hernando St., Memphis, Tenn.

On to Detroit, 1000 delegates, 200 direct supporting churches, \$7700.00 in cash.

LORENZO J. EVANS

National Director of Christian Education

Dear Christian Co-Workers:

At Easter time the Churches of our Brotherhood are called upon to make a special offering for the support of Home Missions, Church Extension, Christian Unity, and Ministerial Relief.

I know that your church will want to share in this grand effort of our Brotherhood. At this season of the year it is a privilege for us to have an opportunity to give; to give at a time when giving to help others should mean so much to us.

Your Easter offering is an investment in the building of Christian Character. If we would have Christian men and women we must be willing to invest our dollars to see that they are produced.

You can get your Easter material to aid in the planning of your program from Christian Board of Publication, St. Louis, Missouri. Won't you make special plans for your church to give sacrificially during this particular season of the year, when the needs of our world are so great. These needs can only be met by the church.

Your Easter offering should be sent directly to National Headquarters. I am sure that we can count on you to share in such a worthy cause for the building of The Kingdom of God.

ANTIOCH CHRISTIAN CHURCH

The most brilliant talents become useless when they are not sustained by force of character.

A man can fail many times, but he isn't a failure until he begins to blame somebody else.

Mrs. Moore Dies

Mrs. Elizabeth Moore, wife of Eld I. H. Moore, Pastor of the Seventh St. Christian Church, Paris, Ky., died at her home Sunday, February 21. Sister Moore was the President of the Kentucky Women's Missionary Society of the Kentucky State Convention. She was one of the most loyal and tireless workers in both the local Church and the State Convention, and will be greatly missed. She was the mother of several children, all grown, some having preceded her in death. Eld. Moore has given many long years of service to the Kentucky churches. He and Mrs. Moore both were graduates of Knoxville College. Eld. Moore is also a trustee of the National Convention. The sympathy of the brotherhood goes out to him in this sad hour.

Antioch Christian Church
New Brunswick, N. J.

Mrs. Sarah A. Peacock, Reporter

Greetings from Antioch Christian Church, which is still progressing under the leadership of our beloved pastor, S. E. Tillman, with clubs moving in a very prosperous manner.

On Sunday, Jan. 11, 1948, we had our assistant pastor to preach for us, Elder Geo. G. Edwards our State Evangelist). His sermon was taken from the Gospel according to St Luke the ninth chapter and the twenty-third verse. "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up the cross and follow me." This profound sermon was well delivered and the spirit was in our midst. The senior choir rendered the music. Our guest was Mr. and Mrs. Fisher.

Sister S. E. Tillman and Mother A. G. Washington, who are very active members, have been on the sick list and are now able to be with us again.

Our State Evangelist, Geo. G. Edwards, has proven to be a God sent man, we should appreciate such character and give them their flowers while they live and can see them. We solicit the prayers of all Disciples who wish us well.

United Christian Church
Detroit, Michigan

Hello Friends,

It has been some three months since you have heard from me. The United Christian Church of Detroit wishes to extend greetings to every one. The pastor wishes to announce at this time that the National Convention will be held in Detroit at our church from

New Mt. Olive



According to Eld. C. L. Whitfield, Pastor, the Mt. Olive Christian Church of Baltimore, Md., work is to begin immediately on its remodeling program. Eld. Whitfield is in his fourteenth year

at Mt. Olive, and under his consecrated leadership great progress has been made. Above is the architect's drawing of how the new building will look when completed.

Co-President Serves On Executive Committee Of The International CYF Commission At Lawrence, Kansas

Rayford Pouncy Co-President of the CYF for the National Christian Missionary Convention, and senior at Jarvis Christian College Hawkins, Texas served on the Executive Committee of the International CYF Commission which met at the University of Kansas in Lawrence December 27-31, 1947. Pouncy made a very fine contribution

to this committee in the planning of the work for the young people of our total brotherhood.

I am sure that all of the young people are looking forward to some very fine leadership this year from our Co-Presidents, Rayford Pouncy and Paul Sims. Paul is a student at the University of Kansas and one of the six which represented the young people of our total brotherhood at Oslo last summer.

It would be a real challenge I am sure for your local CYF to have Paul come and share with you first hand some of his impressions of the destructions which he found in Europe. The young people of the Centennial Church in St. Louis under the leadership of Miss Chandler of which Bro. P. A. Gray is minister had Paul to share with them some of his experiences he had while traveling in Europe, and reports that it was a very successful meeting. I recommend that you try it. It will be a real challenge to you I am sure.

August 17-22 and we do wish the presence of all our Christian friends.

The pastor and members are planning for a lovely time for all. We are also proud to say we are celebrating the first anniversary in our new church. We had a number of additions to our membership. We know that your prayers are giving us strength and hope that you will continue to do so. God bless all of you.

Arthur L. Posey, Reporter
Rev. R. L. Jordan, Minister
532 Theoder St.
Detroit, Michigan

February 2, 1948
231 W. Broadway St.
Winchester, Ky.

Columbia Church Plans For Crusade

Sunday, January 18, 1948, I spent the day in Columbia, Missouri with Brother F. W. Colman and the fine christian people of that city. It was my privilege to present the Crusade Goals to the church at both the morning and evening service before bringing the message.

The thing that struck me most, in talking with Brother Colman the good minister of that church, was when he said "We can reach our goals." If our christian ministers and laymen would all say that same thing and do it, there would be no doubt, that by June 30, 1950 we could look back and see a job well done. It must begin within our hearts.

I was onscience of the fact, that Brother and Sister Colman are doing their share in Columbia, Missouri in building the Kingdom of God. You and I must also do our bit in order that the Kingdom of God might be established in the hearts of men.

Lorenzo J. Evans
National Director of
Christian Education

Miss Clark and Eld. Evans
President and Executive Secretary
of Dept. of Christian Education
Speak

Dear Fellow Workers:

There has been about four months since we were last together in our first State workers conference. Therefore, we are anxious to know how much of the program you have been able to project in your State or area.

With the approaching of Spring and Summer there will be many opportunities for introducing into your State program the program of work as developed in the Fall conference.

The National Staff would appreciate hearing from you about your progress in the new program. If we can be of further help, please write me.

Best wishes for a successful spring and summer training program.

TO SIN BY SILENCE

To sin by silence when we should protest
Makes cowards out of men. The human race
Has climbed on protest. Had no voice been raised
Against injustice, ignorance and lust;
The inquisition yet would serve the law.

To the Ministers' Wives of Ky. and the National body. I wonder sometimes if the ministers' wives do not underestimate their value to their husbands and churches which they serve. Recently Ky. has lost two very, very efficient minister's wives. Women whose sacrificial lives have stood as very foundations of the work their husbands have gladly given their time, talents and lives for. They did it for the sake of the success of their husbands.

We speak so often of the sacrifice the preachers make for the sake of the on going of their churches, but the criticism and trials and self denials of the wives, as they strive with the problems of rearing their families and keeping their homes together, seeing and not seeing, hearing and not hearing and fearing, lest one little mistake may kill her whole life's influence. All of these worries, with the constant praying for her husband's success, is more than the life of sacrifice one preacher ever makes.

We were anxious to see Ky.'s ministers' wives organization achieved this year at our state meeting and had counted greatly on the efficient service of Elizabeth Moore, the splendid and beloved wife of Bro. I. H. Moore, to helpin the plans of the organization of the body; but in our planning we forget that God's plans are always greater and more perfect than ours. On Sunday, Feb. 1, 1948 at 4 A. M., God called our beloved State President, minister's wife, faithful mother of many fine children—Sister E. Moore, a dynamic leader of the missionary work of Kentucky. We were shocked and hurt in heart, as we were at the passing of Sister Katie Dickerson, another minister's wife a few short years ago. We bow in humble submission to His will and because they once lived and carried on with us. We are determined to work and walk as they worked and walked in order that our light may be as theirs, a beacon on the sea of life, drawing all others into the safety zone of God's great mission field. May Sister Moore ever be remembered as an example of a true Christian Minister's Wife, sacrificing all in life to gain all in death.

E. Winfred Owens,
"A Minister's Wife"

Subscribe for the Christian Plea now. Send your subscription to Eld. L. L. Dickerson, Editor, 93 North Ohio Ave., Columbus, O. Only \$1.00 per year. Help make the Plea bigger and better.

Some Things You Should Know About Ministerial Pensions

The support of the ministry in active service and old age is the scriptural obligation of the church. "Even so did the Lord ordain that they that proclaim the gospel should live of the gospel."

The minister's economic situation, both present and future, should be identified with the investment of his life in the service of the church.

Ministers are not included in Social Security.

Two-thirds of our present active ministry will retire from active service before death overtakes them. One-third will die in active service or in total and permanent disability.

Every congregation has an economic and satisfactory means of meeting the obligation for the minister's protection and security through Pension Plan participation.

The minister pays 2½% of his monthly salary. The church pays an amount equal to 8% of the monthly salary. Where a parsonage is supplied rent free, 15% of the salary is added to determine the salary basis upon which dues are paid.

Benefits include a Cash Death Benefit for death in active service, a pension for total and permanent disability (after one year's full membership in the Plan), and a retirement pension when the member elects to retire after age 65, of 1/70 of all salary upon which required dues have been paid. Widows and minor children of members also receive pensions under the Plan.

No medical examination is required to enter the Pension Plan.

Dues are payable monthly in advance.

Protection begins with the payment of the first month's dues.

Dues increase or decrease with the salary, thus making the payment of dues possible on either high or low salaries.

The cost of Pension Plan protection is lower than can be secured anywhere else.

**PENSION FUND OF
DISCIPLES OF CHRIST**
800 Test Building
Indianapolis 4, Ind.

**Fayette St. Christian Church
Martinsville, Virginia**

Mrs. S. P. Watkins, Reporter

The Fayette St. Christian Church under the leadership of Elder J. L. Law has just completed one of the most successful financial drives in the history of the church, and as a result the church has been completely renovated as well as having an oil furnace installed.

The Bible School under Supt. Geo. Foster is progressing nicely. The Junior Church, where the young people have complete charge, is our most prized department.

On Dec. 17, the Women's Missionary Society sponsored a surprise birthday party in honor of our beloved pastor, Elder J. L. Law. Representatives from every department of the church were present and took an active part. While the honoree was recovering from the "shock", games were played, after which the versatile Mrs. V. M. Early, Mistress of Ceremonies, opened the program by giving a very splendid address, commending the great work done by our pastor, and pledging continued support in helping him to carry on the great Crusade for a better community and a better world. Responses were given by Deacon Geo. Foster, Bro. Joseph Millner, Deacon David Wade, Mrs. R. E. Williams, Mrs. Lucy Bannister and Miss Roberta Brown. Mrs. Jno. D. Hairston brought greetings from the High St. Baptist Church.

The Women's Missionary Society under our faithful and efficient leader, Mrs. E. G. Starling, put over two big financial projects recently, a tea and a plate dinner.

The Willing Workers' Club, guided by the modest Mrs. Jessie Williams, surprised the church by having the inside decorated as a Christmas gift to the church.

We can say that all departments of our church are working harmoniously for one great cause, a better community and a Christian World.

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

**Eld. C. E. Craggett, Pastor
Elizabeth Wells, Reporter**

The Cedar Church closed the past year with a substantial balance in all its treasuries, and is looking forward to a prosperous New Year. We have been blessed with a fine minister and his wife, Eld. and Mrs. C. E. Craggett. They have brought us through many dark days and are still carrying us on through much praying and sacrificing.

We have the same officers as of the past year. The Church compliments each officer on their good work in the past. They were installed Sunday night,

Jan. 25, in a beautiful and impressive candle-light service. We were seated in a circle with our pastor and his wife at the head, symbolic of the "Christian Family in Action." It was beautifully portrayed by the talks of Mrs. Natalie Howard, President of the Missionary Society, and Mrs. Pearl Craggett. Our pastor's closing remarks stressed the importance of each officer to the Church. We were likened to the wheels in a watch, that is, when one wheel stops or slows up the watch is impaired. He urges us on in cooperation as in the past. We closed this service by lighting each other's candle and singing "I Gave My Life For Thee."

The Missionary Society is proud of her Men's Group. These men are under the able leadership of Mrs. Pearl Craggett. When visiting this group, you will be thrilled at the way they have grasped the missionary program and are carrying it on. They are ready when called on and a full discussion follows with every man giving worthwhile thoughts. These men never allow anything to stop their attendance at the meetings which are the second Sunday in each month.

The President, Mrs. N. Howard and I visited the group last month and were well repaid. She praised them highly on their work. These men are planning a big banquet, Feb. 20. All foods will be planned, cooked, and served by "men only."

**Second Christian Church
2417 Fremont St.
Rockford, Illinois**

February 7, 1948

Greetings from Rockford,

We hope that the Christmas season with all its gaiety and beautiful colors, the Christ Child and the greatness of his birth, has somehow transferred into the life of every sincere Christian. We at Second Christian are trying to do just that, our Christmas spirits must be transplanted into our everyday church life.

The month of January brought us two outstanding services. The first was the Homecoming on the first Sunday. The program itself has set a precedent within the church which all other organizations of the church are trying to reach. This program was under the leadership of the chairman of our Elder Board Bro. Lucian C. Carey, one of the leading business men of the city of Rockford. The church was packed and a very wonderful message was brought by the Rev. Mr. Russie, pastor of the Bethel Baptist Church of the city.

The second event was a musical sponsored by the church choir. Sister G. C. Richardson is president of our

choir. This program was assisted by a Quartet, all a part of the music department of the church. It was enjoyed by every one who attended. We are looking forward to many more such programs during the year.

The rest of the month was taken in looking back over our past year's work and checking the places where we could improve as we start the new year. Not much news at this time.

So may the blessing of the master be on you till we visit again.

Thanks for your time,
Rev. F. B. Bradley

**The Federal Council of the Churches
of Christ in America
297 Fourth Avenue
New York 10, N. Y.**

NEW YORK — "Community Help on Pastoral Problems," a report dealing with concrete ways in which ministers in both urban and rural communities may make more effective use of health and welfare resources in their communities to help meet the particular needs of parishioners, has been published by the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America.

The 48-page booklet, written by John L. Mixon and Seward Hiltner, and published jointly by the Council's Department of Pastoral Services and the Department of Christian Social Relations, will be useful to health and welfare leaders in the community, as well as to the clergy.

A number of social workers, leaders in welfare programs and ministers of local churches were consulted in the preparation of the pamphlet, which is now available at 25c a copy from the Federal Council at 297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

**Easter Dawn Service From Radio City
Music Hall, With Rockefeller
Center Choristers,
To Be Broadcast by NBS**

NEW YORK, Mar. 3—The annual Easter dawn service from the auditorium of Radio City Music Hall here will be broadcast under auspices of the Protestant Council of the City of New York over the NBC network (Sunday, Mar. 28, 7:30-8:00 a. m., EST).

The Rev. Robert James McCracken, pastor of Riverside Church, New York, will deliver the sermon. The Rev. Earl Frederick Adams, executive director of the Protestant Council, will pronounce the benediction.

Music by the Rockefeller Center Choristers will include Handel's "Let Their Celestial Concerts Unite" and his "Hallelujah" Chorus.

This will be the 29th Easter dawn service sponsored by the Protestant Council, and the ninth to originate in Radio City.

Crusading In Christian Education

The Crusade in Christian Education must first begin with you and I. If we are to become Crusaders in Christian Education we must first become new creatures ourselves. New to the extent that we will have a burning passion in our hearts that will make us cry out as did the Apostle Paul "Woe is me"; if I teach not the message of Christ.

There are some vital decisions which are to be made by you and I if we are really to become Crusaders in Christian Education. (1) Do we really believe in the gospel of Jesus to the extent that we will cry out "Woe is me," if I teach not this gospel? (2) Are we really convinced that Jesus' way of life is the salvation for our world? (3) and are we willing to pay the price to teach and demonstrate the Christian message? If we can answer these questions in the affirmative then for us as individuals two thirds of the battle has been won. These are decisions which must be made by you and I. If we are to have a Crusade we must be able to answer yes. The Crusade must begin with us as individuals.

There comes a time when important decisions must be made in the life of every individual, and to a very large extent those decisions determine the future for us. You remember when Jesus had to make the great decision in His life. Out there in the place called Gethsemane alone with God; Jesus made the decision that determined the course for His life.

I think the church has come to the cross roads of life; to our Gethsemane where we must make the great decision. The decision that we make during this period of Crusading will determine the future of our church. If we can go to our Gethsemane and there in the presence of God make our decision with Him, then we can come out as did Jesus saying, "O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, Thy will be done." We will then be ready to give ourselves to this great task of teaching boys and girls, men and women Jesus' way of life.

Let us look at some of the minimum goals set up by our brotherhood to be achieved by 1950. Two hundred new churches; 2,000,000 resident members; 300,000 new members of the Church School; 30,000 unreached disciple students; 10,000 leaders in training; 500,000 homes reached for Christ; 250,000 proportionate givers; 250,000 tithers; 2,000 recruits for the Christian Ministry; 1,000 recruits for missions and other types of full-time Christian service, and \$14,000,000.

Your local church already has its suggested minimum work goals. What is your answer to this great need? We can't reach these suggested goals alone, but with the help of God the task can be done. In the words of Paul: "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." With Christ we can become Crusaders in Christian Education, and through the teaching of Jesus build a Christian world.

The Crusade in Christian Education must begin with you. Upon you, you, and you will determine in a large measure whether or not we shall reach our minimum goals. The needs of our world today can only be met through the message of Jesus.

Lorenzo J. Evans
National Director of
Christian Education

The Executive Committee of the National Board will meet in Indianapolis, Ind., at the Flanne House Thursday, April 22nd. Some of the important matters to be acted upon will be the reports of the staff, reports of the trustees, and arrangements for the 1948 convention in Detroit. The members of the Executive Committee are S. S. Myers, Mrs. Geneva Towns, Miss Bessie Chandler, Mrs. Jessie M. Trout, Paul Simms, Mrs. Elizabeth Herod, Mrs. Rosa Page Welch, J. E. Walker, T. W. Pratt, R. H. Peoples, F. T. Barnette, J. F. Whitfield, R. H. Davis, D. W. Heath, Wm. Wickizer, Geo. O. Taylor, Paul Preston, Mr. Weisner, Mr. Sherwood, Lin D. Cartwright, Wm. T. Percy, C. O. Hanley, Dr. W. H. McCormick, L. L. Dickerson, Eric Carlson.

for Daily Devotions . . .



HEARTHSTONE

It is up to you to make of your life what you choose. Why not make yours a rich one? A few minutes spent in meditation and prayer each day as given in HEARTHSTONE will bring a closer communion with the Lord and be a source of renewed spiritual strength and hope.

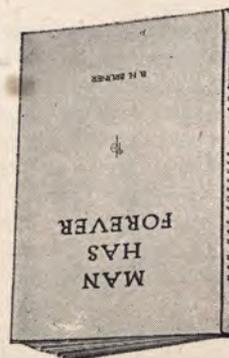
50 cents per year; 5 or more to one address, 10 cents each per quarter

for Comforting Bereaved . . .

GLORIOUS DAWN

Far more effective than any spoken words, GLORIOUS DAWN with its prayer, poems and Scripture brings comfort and hope to sorrowing hearts. Pastors and church leaders! Leave a copy with a bereaved family when making a call. 25c per copy; \$2.75 per dozen

for Pre-Easter Reading . . .



MAN HAS FOREVER

This attractive little book subtitled Assurances of Immortality is a fortress of faith in today's turbulent times. B. H. Bruner offers us here courage and strength in a series of clear, concise studies on the relationship of immortality to the unseen, the human heart, physical death, and the empty tomb. \$1.00

CHRISTIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION
The Bethany Press St. Louis 3, Mo.

In Memoriam

Mrs. Margaret G. Kirk

Mrs. Margaret G. Kirk of Greeneville, Tennessee, passed away in a local hospital, January 4, 1948. She leaves one son, Mitchel, Atlantic City, N. J., one daughter, Margaret, Greeneville, Tennessee, three grandchildren, three sisters, Mrs. Wade DeHill, Atlantic City, N. J., Mrs. Will Miller and Mrs. J. N. Ervin, Knoxville, Tennessee, several nieces and nephews, other relatives and a host of friends.

Interment Wesley Cemetery, Greeneville, Tennessee, January 6, 1948.

James McFarlin Ervin

James McFarlin Ervin, youngest son of the late J. N. Ervin, passed away suddenly December 22, 1947, in Los Angeles, California. He leaves a wife, Mrs. Olivia Flint Ervin, two daughters, Jana Maxine, 17, Marilyn, 5, two sons, James Jr., 15, Charles, 12; one brother, Dr. L. M. Ervin, Chicago, Illinois; one sister, Mrs. Gertrude Ervin Ward, Los Angeles, California; step-mother, Mrs. J. N. Ervin, Knoxville, Tennessee; one uncle, Los Angeles, California; one aunt, Topeka, Kansas; one niece and nephew, Carmea and L. M., Jr., Chicago, Illinois.

Interment Rosedale Cemetery, Los Angeles, California, December 27, 1947.

Lorenzo J. Evans
National Director of
Christian Education

South Third Christian Church
Dallas, Texas

R. E. Hancock Jr., Pastor
Mrs. Ann G. Adams, Clerk

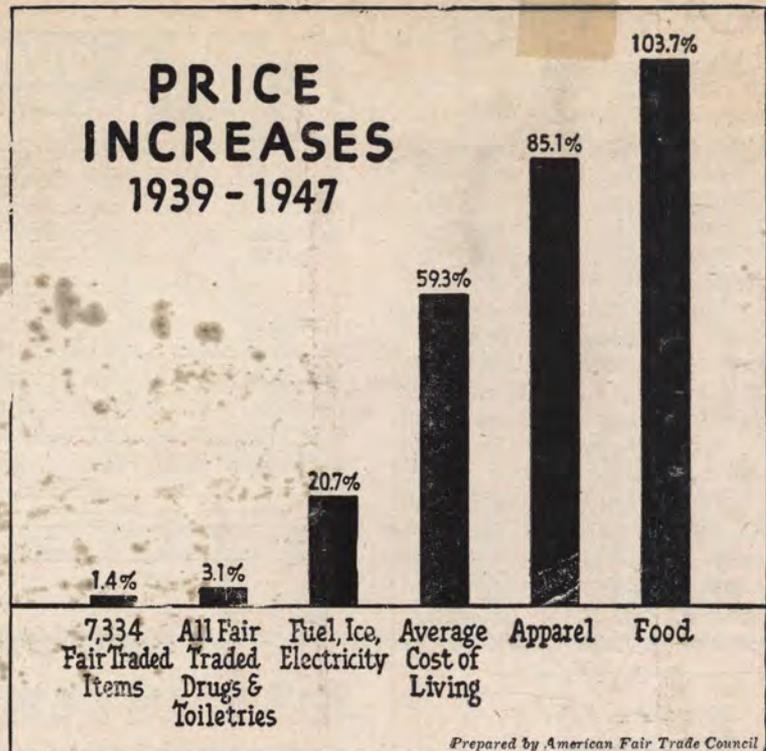
South Third Christian Church was organized May 16, 1945 at the home of Sister Ann G. Adams at 3721 Central Ave., with 18 members. Here we remained until the building of our new church. In this critical time we were able to purchase a church site consisting of four lots for the sum of (\$2,000.00) two thousand dollars.

God has blessed us thus far to keep all of our indebtedness up to par. Paying our pastor a reasonable salary. The church has a membership of 60. Large attendance of young people for Bible school, a growing Missionary Society, and four active clubs.

Having a fine, intelligent, God-sent young man for our pastor, R. E. Hancock Jr., formerly pastor of Maple St. Christian Church, Nicholasville, Ky., is the son of Rev. R. E. Hancock, pastor of Stuyvesant Heights Christian Church, Brooklyn, N. Y.

The pastor and members wish to take this opportunity to thank all of our friends for their fine co-operation in helping us to make this a successful Crusade effort.

PRICE INCREASES 1939 - 1947



CYF SPECIAL

Dear Christian Youth Fellowship Member:

Have you heard the news? Well, let me take a minute to tell you about it. The fifth Bi-annual CYF Planning Conference will be held this spring at the Centennial Christian Church, 4950 Fountain Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri, April 16, 17 and 18, 1948.

You have been invited to attend this Conference and help plan the National CYF Program. We are asking each state or area to send their representative to this Planning Conference.

The National Office will provide for your room and board while attending the conference. Hurry and get your name into the National Office in order that we can make the necessary arrangements for you.

Sincerely yours,

Lorenzo J. Evans
National Director of
Christian Education

The Christian Plea has a number of papers returned because of "wrong address." The following were returned recently. We will be glad to get the correct addresses.

Mrs. Ida Murdaugh, 617 Greene St., Brooklyn, N. Y.
Mrs. Aline B. Lowe, 1229 Davis St., Memphis, Tenn.
Mrs. Minnie Brinkley, 1229 Davis St., Memphis, Tenn.
Mr. James H. Kittrell, 1434 N. W. Cloud St., Chicago, Ill.
Mr. Richard H. Crawford, 7344 North 20th St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Mrs. Lillie Mae Font, 72 Throp Ave., New Brunswick, N. J.
Eld. Geo. R. Rucker, 1239 Avenue M, Birmingham 8, Alabama.
Mr. J. H. Holliday, 1410 N. 7th St., Kansas City, Kansas.



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EVERY HOME IN YOUR CHURCH

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

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Daily Devotions A Bible verse, a meditation and a prayer for every day.

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THE STANDARD PUBLISHING CO.,
20 E. Central Pkwy., Cincinnati 10, Ohio

The CHRISTIAN PLEA

Volume LV, No. 5

Columbus, Ohio, May 1, 1948

\$1.00 Per Year—Single Copy 10c



NEW 2nd CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Historic Second Christian Church located at 702 West 9th Street has undertaken the purchase of the University Park Christian Church at 29th and North Kenwood Avenue. The new home of this 82 year old church is being bought at a price of \$60,000, which includes in addition to the large brick building and its facilities, two adjacent lots measuring 45x125 feet each. The main auditorium has a comfortable seating capacity, when expanded, of more than 600 people. A large dining room which accommodates 400 at dinner tables; a well equipped kitchen; a small chapel; fifteen class rooms; eight pianos, a wonderful pipe organ; a spacious church office with equipment, and a pastor's study. The

(Continued on Page 6)

CENTENNIAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH HOLDS PRE-EASTER MEETING

L. J. Evans, Dir. R. E.

It was my privilege to serve with Brother Gray in a Pre-Easter meeting during the week of March 22-28. Brother Gray is doing a very fine job there in St. Louis. He and his fine congregation are doing a job that will be a credit to our total Brotherhood.

During the week we had a total of five additions by confession of faith. His church has sent in all of its accepted goals for this year for all departments, the church, Women's Council, Bible School and CYF. They have also made a payment of their first \$100.00 on their Crusade Goal.

I am sure that Brother and Sister Gray, with their fine congregation, are leading out in the way that all of us will want to follow. Let us all join in and make this a real Crusade for a Christian world. This job depends upon all of us. I am yours for a Christian world.

The Missionary Year closes June 30th. Hurry and get your apportionment in to Unified Promotion.

Hurry! Send your National Convention money to Dr. J. E. Walker, Treasurer, at once.

"MIGHT MAKES RIGHT" The Christian Plea

Published monthly by the National
Christian Missionary Convention.
Eld. E. J. Dickson, Ex-Sec.
Eld. S. S. Myers, Pres.
L. L. Dickerson, Editor.

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All news received after the 15th of the
month will be published in the follow-
ing issue.

Editorial

We never thought we would live to see the day in America, when public officials, sworn to uphold the constitution of the United States, to preserve law and order, and protect the rights, the life and property of all citizens regardless of race, creed, color or political persuasion, would not only "allow" but by utterances and prolonged silence, condone mob violence, certainly not in the great State of Ohio.

But that's what happened in Columbus, Ohio, March 30th—when a mob of some 40 persons, whipped to a frenzy by inflammatory news items in the daily press, wrecked the home of Frank Hashmall, the Executive Secretary of the Franklin County Communist Party.

We are not Communist, and we are not in sympathy with Communist theories or practices. We believe in the American form of Government and we are unalterably opposed to all subversive and un-American activities by Hashmall or any one else.

But we are shocked that mob violence in any American city can escape public condemnation by elected officials and no attempt be made to bring the perpetrators of the crime to justice.

It is only incidental that the victim in this case was a Communist. But it's important and shocking, that from our Senators on down to the policeman on the beat, not one official voice has been raised in protest.

Even our newspapers, the so-called guardians of liberty, justice and freedom, have by silence given their consent to the "rule by mob."

If we have to resort to mob violence and a violation of the 5th amendment to the constitution to preserve democracy, then may God have mercy upon us.

Antioch Christian Church New Brunswick, N. J. S. E. Tillman, Minister

Greetings from Antioch Christian Church which is still progressing under the leadership of our beloved pastor, Rev. S. E. Tillman.

On Feb. 16th to Feb. 21st, we had our revival service which was conducted by Rev. Keyes of the Friendly Christian Church in Brooklyn, N. Y. His messages were inspired by all who attended.

On Feb. 19th, sadness came to our pastor and family, through fire which destroyed everything they had. Through the courtesy of the different churches, members and friends, he was able to secure aid. He is very grateful to one and all and asks the prayers from all for him and family.

The Missionary Convention was held on Feb. 27th-29th at the Philadelphia Church of Christ, Newark, N. J. Dr. O. S. Lucas, Minister. This meeting was well attended. There will be a youth meet March 12th-13th in Baltimore, Md. Starting March 8th-15th our pastor will begin his week of broadcasting over station WCTC at nine o'clock for fifteen minutes. Then, beginning May 1st, the church will broadcast directly from the pulpit for one month, time 11 o'clock till 12 o'clock. We are looking for the year 1948 to be most outstanding of the church history.

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

Mrs. Sarah A. Peacock, Reporter

Mt. Beulah College Club (S. C. I.) Chicago Chapter Chicago, Ill.

Dear Alumni and Friends,

The S. C. I. Club of Chicago is in the preparatory stage of celebrating its Silver Anniversary this June. The kick-off affair was a dinner last Saturday night which was socially and financially a success. In May we plan to charter a coach to go to S. C. I. for homecoming at Commencement. President Long has expressed himself as desiring all Alumni to be present for this reunion. We hope to meet you there.

In June, as the climax for our Anniversary, all S. C. I. and Jarvis students who can sign or play an instrument in a creditable manner are asked to join the group for a fine musical. The date and place to be named later. This, we hope, will be a credit to both schools.

Please register with Mrs. Lulu Perkins, 6021 S. Racine Ave. Telephone Walbrook 2861.

Our financial goal has been set at \$750.00. There are four groups from which you may choose the amount you wish to give. Namely, 10c, 25c, 50c, or \$1.00 for each year. If you wish to contribute more than \$1.00 per year, you

may do so. We welcome whatever contribution you make, for this money will go for scholarship for some deserving girl or boy who wishes to attain higher education. Please begin making your payments now.

Lesly Smith, Cor. Secretary
4533 Champion Ave.

Central Christian Church Louisville, K. Eld. T. P. Green, Pastor

Central Christian Church was host to youth meet. Mrs. E. W. Bristow, director, did great work with the help of many others from Hill St. Third and Central Churches. There were fourteen states represented and one Missionary from India. Our National Director, Miss Shackelford, was a great help to the program of the youth. There were about one hundred and twenty youths to attend this meeting and we felt that they left with a burning desire to crusade for a Christian world.

The youth established the following objectives for 1947-48: To prepare for effective leadership; to exchange methods; to get ideas in planning; and to understand more fully the implications of the Christian way of life. The meet was closed with the Friendship Circle.

The Church is looking forward to its fifty-third anniversary, and the first of the pastor in April.

Gwendolyn Craighead, Reporter

Rand Endorses Sherman

To The Editor of Christian Plea,
Dear Editor:

I write this letter as an endorsement of the two recent articles written by Mr. Charles E. Sherman, President of the Jarvis Christian College Alumni and Ex-Student Association, and published in the Plea. In the very outset I must say that it makes my very soul happy to see someone become concerned about the affairs of Jarvis Christian College and the United Christian Missionary Society's program of development, to the point of making it known to the people of the brotherhood. However, I am fully aware that this man, Mr. Sherman, the one person in the Negro Disciples of Christ Brotherhood, who has the courage of his convictions, is recognized by many of the Disciples' Leaders, and especially Negro, as only a "Radical Upstart." This to me is most unfortunate. Nevertheless, it appears to me that the cause for which Jesus Christ came, lived, and died is blessed to have such an "upstart."

It may be wondered by some as to why I take this position. In order to

relieve any anxiety please read the statement which follows.

It has been my experience to be connected with the Disciples Brotherhood in some capacity throughout all of my memorable life. I have been connected with Jarvis either as a student, a member of the faculty, or as an active alumnus over a period of twenty years. Eight of these twenty years I served as a member of the faculty, and in some of the most important positions on the faculty. As a result I do know something of the operations of the institution as well as the Disciples' brotherhood program. It is my opinion that I should know something of its strong points as well as the weak ones. Most of all, I am concerned about the immediate needs of Jarvis.

It would appear to me that the most immediate need of Jarvis is the awakening of a sleeping Disciples Brotherhood (especially Negroes). In the second place Jarvis needs a new guiding philosophy which will in turn give her a new spirit and a new birth. It is my contention that these needs can not be supplied apart from an awakened Negro LEADERSHIP.

Then, these are the reasons why I endorse without equivocation Mr. Sherman's most recent article in the Plea. In his article he challenges the Disciples, and especially the United Christian Missionary Society, to dare to do right and to give up the old philosophy of the days of "Freedman's Aid" and that which continues to hold on and say, "the time is not ripe." Such points of view may be understood on the political field, but in a Christian organization, it appears to me, it has no place. Certainly such is not understandable in a Christian Fellowship.

No, it is left for one considered by the "powers that be" as an unexperienced, ill-advised upstart, standing on the periphery of the situation to make a move to bring about some adjustment or at least disturb the peace of those who would be perfectly satisfied to go on and on feeling smug in their paternalistic philosophy that, "that's good enough for a Negro." I hope that he can keep his courage and conviction. I personally believe that he will. As I know him, he is not the kind who is willing to sell himself and the principles for which he stands. In the meantime, there are those who are willing to move around the country with "an olive branch" point of view and living a life of make believe. They say, things are moving on nicely at Jarvis. To me this is only a method used to mislead people and confuse the real issues involved. It is our candid opinion (Alumni and Disciples) that everything that would make for the clarifying of the issues for the good of the institution should be done, and that the Negro

Disciples leadership should definitely take the lead in the move. Not only that I personally feel that the United Christian Missionary Society has procrastinated long enough. There is no question of the definite establishment of Jarvis and its need in Texas. There is no time for hedging on its purpose. The Disciples of Christ (Negro) in Texas and in the United States need a college, not for the underprivileged, but for men and women from all ranks. The day for the school for the underprivileged Negro is over in Texas. Therefore, Jarvis needs, and I repeat, a new philosophy which will define its purposes and thereby determine its destiny.

Yes, Mr. Sherman is correct—what we need is "a revival of the Christian consciousness"; such a revival as will force us to cease to think of education and religion as Negro or white education but will think of them as education or religion. I consider it our task as alumnae of the institution and as Christian men and women, to carry the struggle on and on until someone, somewhere, becomes conscious of its validity and joins hands for a new Jarvis. No, we do not intend to give up. It is our conviction that the Great God of JUSTICE and RIGHT is on our side and we can not fail. How soon will the Disciples Brotherhood as a whole join us?

Yours for greater service,
E. W. Rand, Director
Division of Arts and Sciences
Alcorn A & M College
Alcorn, Miss.

Bible School President Speaks

Dear Co-workers:

The Convention year has almost come to a close. We trust that you have had a very meaningful year in promoting an all around program of local and national work.

Our National Program has grown in scope to the extent that we have not been able to meet the many requests that have come to our attention.

However, we have been able to accomplish a few things, namely: Educational Conference at the National Convention, Cincinnati, Ohio; Fall Planning Conference in Christian Education, Indianapolis, Indiana; Biennial CYF Planning Conference, St. Louis, Missouri; Crusade Conferences, and State Conventions. Many more have been left undone because of the lack of funds.

We would like to call your attention to the future work committee's report on local schools and State Bible School Department representation fees. "That the State and local Bible Schools be urged to increase their giving to meet our immediate needs.

That each school report at the National Convention with \$5.00 and each State with \$10.00."

We are asking that you will comply with the above recommendation in reporting your National representation through your State. If you do not report through your State, then send in your report to the National Convention.

The extent and scope of the Christian Education program depends in a large measure upon your spiritual and financial support.

Sincerely yours,
(Miss) Bessie E. Chandler
National President of Dept.
Christian Education
Lorenzo J. Evans, Director
Christian Education

Rev. Hunt Honored

Rev. Blair T. Hunt, Pastor Miss. Blvd. Christian Church, was the recipient of a citizenship award made by the Negro Junior Chamber of Commerce last month. Rev. Hunt, now in his 26th year as pastor of Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church and his 16th as principal of Booker T. Washington High School, in the last year headed the Colored Division of City Beautiful Commission; advisory board of Shelby County T-B Society, in which capacity he headed a drive which raised \$4100.00, largest which Negroes had raised for the purpose before; advisory committee, Travelers Aid; Girl Scouts, in which he helped raise \$1100; served as vice chairman of Lauderdale Branch, YMCA, and chairman of finance committee, chairman of building fund drive; colored speaker in Community Chest and Red Cross; is first vice commander Autress Rusesll Post, American Legion; director of Cotton Makers Jubilee, chairman of Red Cross Negro Disaster Group; vice chairman Colored Tri-State Fair; director of Tri-State Boxing Association; president of West Tenn. Teachers Association; vice chairman Youth Service Council.

Shaw Christian Church

On December the 26th, a very fine program was rendered at the Shaw Christian Church by E. M. Tounsel, Sadie Belle Sadler, and Stocknon Saddler. J. B. Daniel, general manager. After the program the Pastor, Eld. Edward Griffin, preached a wonderful sermon. Eld. Griffin is a wonderful speaker. He only missed being with us once during 1947. After the sermon the little folk and grown ups were made happy with gifts from the tree. Old Santa did not forget anyone. Those who were unable to be present, gifts were sent to them. The Pastor was presented with a purse of \$14.00. A most enjoyable time was had by all.

Miss Shackelford Speaks To Young People

Dear Friends:

Most everyone is interested in rebuilding the world and making it Christian. This is quite a task, but you can play a great part in such a program through the Christian World Friendship Fund.

The total goal for Disciple young people of the United States and Canada is \$75,000. Of this amount the leaders of youth attending the Christian Education Planning Conference in November accepted a goal of \$1,000 for the young people of the National Convention. We have from now until June 30th to reach this goal. In attaining it we will be among many Christian young people who are witnessing for Christ around the world.

Together we witness for Christ in world evangelism.

Half the world is in need of food, clothing, shelter and a spirit of hope. Fortunately, we are yet able to help, and certainly we should be concerned about those in need. We have a special responsibility of building in the hearts of millions the love and generosity which will make all youth respond to the need that the "other half may live."

Sincerely,

Alva B. Shackelford
Director Missionary
Organizations-Education
National Christian Missionary
Convention

A Memorial To Prof. Thomas

By William Knox

In the year of 1900, the officers of the Piedmont District Convention, the Fayette St. Christian Church and the Christian Woman's Board of Missions decided to build a Christian school in Martinsville, Va., Prof. J. H. Thomas was selected as Principal. We feel that enough has not been said about the good this man has done for his own community, the Piedmont District, our brotherhood, and our race in general. I remember very well the opening of the first session of the school in the Fayette St. Christian Church. It was my privilege to be one of the happy group of students on that first day. Later the old Bocker house was secured.

By hard work, clever thinking, and deep consecration to a most worthy cause, the first class was graduated in 1903. Of the seven graduates I was one. I believe that it has been truly said that in each of the seven graduates who finally chose the teaching profession, there were to be found some of the ideals and fine qualities of Prof.

Thomas. With a devoted wife who worked devotedly by his side, sharing his responsibilities, joys and sorrows, the work continued to grow until the second building was erected. In later years he was called to the Pastorate of the Fayette St. Christian Church. He performed faithfully these additional responsibilities, part of the time receiving no pay whatever from the church. Though frail and in poor health, he labored bravely and unselfishly for the good of others. He was held in great esteem by members of both races. Among the many who paid high tribute to Prof. Thomas were the mother of the Mayor of our City, Rev. Morris of the High St., Baptist Church, and Rev. John Wade.

O, why should the spirit of mortal be proud? Like a swift fleeting meteor fast flying cloud. A flash of the lightning, a break of the wave, He passeth from life to rest in the grave. The head of the King that the sceptre hath borne, The brow of the Priest the mitre hath worn, The eye of the Sage and the heart of the brave, Are hidden and lost in the grave.

Coila, Mississippi

Mrs. Carrie A. Griffin, Reporter

Dear Readers,

I come to you after a long slumber, to say hearty greetings to the entire brotherhood. I do hope that I've not been exactly classed with the lower class of animal life that hibernates during the winter. However, I do hope for you and me that we will awaken to the full sense of our duty and carry on to the extent that we will see more fruit as we are known by our fruits.

As to general conditions here local, districts, and state have not progressed as we had wished because of the severe winter. I have enjoyed the news in the past issue of the plea and do hope to contribute more myself for the cause.

Clark St. Christian Church

Greenville, Texas

Eld. F. C. Gary, Pastor

We are very proud to say the New Year has been blessing in "Soul Winning" as thirty-nine were added. Spiritually and financially we are moving up the king's highway. This month our pastor is serving his place over our local station at seven-fifteen a. m. for the Ministerial Alliance.

Plans are being made to erect an auditorium at an early date not only for our church but for the community as well. The usher board sponsored a program April 4th with Lawyer Betts, nationally known, speaking to a large audience. All departments of our churches are working for one great cause, a better community and a Christian world.

Some Things You Should Know About Ministerial Pensions

The support of the ministry in active service and old age is the scriptural obligation of the church. "Even so did the Lord ordain that they that proclaim the gospel should live of the gospel."

The minister's economic situation, both present and future, should be identified with the investment of his life in the service of the church.

Ministers are not included in Social Security.

Two-thirds of our present active ministry will retire from active service before death overtakes them. One-third will die in active service or in total and permanent disability.

Every congregation has an economic and satisfactory means of meeting the obligation for the minister's protection and security through Pension Plan participation.

The minister pays 2½% of his monthly salary. The church pays an amount equal to 8% of the monthly salary. Where a parsonage is supplied rent free, 15% of the salary is added to determine the salary basis upon which dues are paid.

Benefits include a Cash Death Benefit for death in active service, a pension for total and permanent disability (after one year's full membership in the Plan), and a retirement pension when the member elects to retire after age 65, of 1/70 of all salary upon which required dues have been paid. Widows and minor children of members also receive pensions under the Plan.

No medical examination is required to enter the Pension Plan.

Dues are payable monthly in advance.

Protection begins with the payment of the first month's dues.

Dues increase or decrease with the salary, thus making the payment of dues possible on either high or low salaries.

The cost of Pension Plan protection is lower than can be secured anywhere else.

**PENSION FUND OF
DISCIPLES OF CHRIST**
800 Test Building
Indianapolis 4, Ind.



Pictured above is Dr. J. E. Walker (center) receiving the Award of Achievement for being the most outstanding Negro citizen of the year 1947. Rev. A. J. McDaniel of the Urban League makes the presentation. Other officers of the Memphis Urban League are Mr. M. W. Bonner to the left of Rev. McDaniel; to the immediate right of Dr. Walker is Prof. J. A. Swayze; Elder B. T. Hunt is on the extreme right.

Mississippi Blvd. Christian Church
 Rev. Blair T. Hunt, Pastor
 Mrs. C. E. Rowan, Reporter
 852 Polk Ave.
 Memphis, Tennessee

With palms and lilies forming a beautiful background, Dr. J. E. Walker was awarded a certificate of recognition by Opportunity Magazine, a Journal of Negro Life and official publication of the National Urban League. The ceremony was held during the 11 o'clock service on Palm Sunday, March 21, 1948 at the Mississippi Blvd. Christian Church in the presence of more than 300 people.

Rev. J. A. McDaniel, Executive Secretary of the Memphis Urban League, in presenting the award said he thought of no other place more fitting for the occasion than the Church that Dr. Walker loves so well. The award was made to Dr. J. E. Walker for his distinctive contribution of racial advancement in business, community welfare and good will during 1947. The following week Dr. J. E. Walker and Rev. Blair T. Hunt, pastor of Mississippi Blvd. Christian Church and Principal of Booker T. Washington High School, were voted the two most outstanding citizens

of Memphis for 1947. The campaign was conducted by the Negro Chamber of Commerce. The following is a record of achievements for Dr. J. E. Walker:

Treasurer of National Christian Missionary Convention.

Founder and President of Universal Life Insurance Co.

President of Delta Penny Savings Bank, 1912-1922.

President of Mississippi Life Insurance Co., 1917-1923.

Organized and served as first President of the Memphis Negro Chamber of Commerce.

Assisted in the organization of the Memphis Community Welfare League (Memphis Urban League) and served as its first President.

Elected unanimously President of the National Negro Insurance Association for two terms.

Elected unanimously President of the National Negro Business League for five terms and declined election for the sixth term.

Listed in Who's Who in Colored America.

Founder and President of Memphis Tri-State Bank.

Young People's Summer Conferences

One of the most serious problems which face our Brotherhood is that of trained leaders in the local church. As we approach the summer season, we look forward to high hopes of having at least five hundred and fifty of our young people throughout the Brotherhood in conference training. I hope that each local church will feel the responsibility of sending some young person for this week of experience which they will have by attending the conference in their area.

The Mid-west conference will be held at Bonner Spring, Kansas, July 20th through the 26th. All young people who plan to attend this conference should contact the local Director, Mr. R. Wesley Watson, 2704 Olive St., Kansas City, Missouri.

The South-west conference will be at Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Texas (tentative dates) July 4-10. Contact Mr. Foster Craggett, Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Texas.

The Alabama Young People's Conference in Montgomery will meet Ju-

ly 11-17. Write Mr. A. J. Jeffries, 424 Harding Street, Birmingham, Alabama.

Central Young People's Conference is to meet at Kentucky State College in Frankfort, Kentucky. Contact Mr. R. L. Saunders, 224 East Second Street, Lexington, Kentucky, for information.

Piedmont Young People's Conference will be at the Fayette Street Christian Church, Martinsville, Va. You may contact Mrs. E. G. Starling, R. R. 1, Box 5, Martinsville, Va., for needed information. This conference will meet July 25-31.

The Magnolia Young People's Conference will be at Southern Christian Institute, Edwards, Mississippi (tentative) first week in September. President John Long, local director, Southern Christian Institute.

It is possible that a young people's conference will be held for the Eastern Sea-board area August 1-7. Further information will be given you upon request by Miss Gwendolyn Blayton, 17 Quincy Place, Washington 1, D. C., or Mr. C. L. Whitfield, 1218 West Lavale St., Baltimore, Maryland.

I hope that every church will begin to make plans now to have at least one of their young people attend one of these conferences in their area. If the church is to have trained leaders to carry on its program, then the church must assume the responsibility to train these people for this job. The local directors in your area will be very happy to furnish you with any information regarding the conferences. Let us begin NOW to make definite plans to have our young people represented in this training program.

Lorenzo J. Evans

Director Religious Education

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

Eld. C. E. Craggett, Pastor
Elizabeth Wells, Reporter

The Banquet, Friday, Feb. 20, was given by the Men's Group of the Missionary Society. We were served a delicious turkey dinner, prepared entirely by these men. The dining-room of the Church was beautifully decorated with green and white paper crepe. The tables were arranged in the form of the Cross with large vases of sweet-smelling white carnations and snap-dragons in the center of each table, directing our hearts and minds toward Easter.

Elder Craggett acted as toastmaster and chairman of the program, with Mrs. Kate Cecile, Mrs. Sullivan and Mrs. Pearl Craggett, beautifully dressed in long-flowing evening gowns, as hostesses. Mr. Tisdale was general chairman and chef, assisted by Mr. W. O. Jackson. Mr. Anthony Thomas, in charge of the music, led us in spirituals,

followed by two appropriate solos. Rev. Arthur J. Russell, pastor of West Boulevard Christian Church, and secretary of the District Young People, was guest speaker. He talked on "Evangelism."

There were a number of otusandt guests. In addition to Rev. Russell, there were Br. and Mrs. Munroe, secretary of the Ohio Churches. Mr. and Mrs. Murnoe was out of the city the day before the banquet, but, determined to be here for the occasion, traveled Thursday and all day Friday. Mrs. Evans, Ohio Children's Worker and Instructor of our Leadership and Teachers' Training Course; and Mrs. Patton, wife of the Director of Religious Education, was also present.

United Christian Church
Rev. R. L. Jordan, Pastor
Arthur L. Posey, Reporter

Hello, Christian friends. Post-Easter Greetings. The Easter season was a joyful one for us. Our Musical Department rendered a sweet musical on Palm Sunday. The Gospel choir and the Junior choir took part. We are proud of our young people and their work in the Church. We had a lovely sunrise service, and the altar was decked with flowers given by members in memory of their loved ones. Eld. E. J. Dickson, the executive secretary, preached for us on a recent visit. We did enjoy him so much. Don't forget the National Convention to be held here August 17-22. Please find enclosed three subscriptions to the Plea.

Second Christian Church

(Continued from Page 1)

basement, equipped with stage and marked for recreational activities, houses the nursery and kindergarten department and the Boy Scout Room.

Second Christian Church will move into this new home on Sunday, June 6, of this year.

The Reverend R. H. Peoples, pastor of Second Christian Church, and the Reverend Lewis H. McAdow, pastor of the University Park Christian Church, are collaborating closely on this project. The University Park Christian Church will hold services in the Butler University College of Religion Chapel beginning Sunday, June 6, and will continue there until they build their new church at the corner of 46th and Illinois Streets.

In 1866, the Central Christian Church, under the leadership of Rev. O. A. Burgess, took as its first missionary project the establishing of the Second Christian Church at 11th St. and Lafayette Ave., built out of lum-

In the year 1910, the late Reverend Henry L. Herod led the church to its present location at 9th and Camp

Streets. Reverend Herod served the church from 1898 until his death in 1935, and helped make it one of the leading churches of the city. His widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Herod, is still active in church affairs and is a special worker in this campaign to raise \$13,000.

The administrative officers of the church are Walker Cornett, Sr., chairman of the Church Board, O. W. Tanner, Vice-chairman, James I. Martin, Secretary, Mrs. Clara Hill, Assistant secretary, L. G. Hill, Sr., treasurer, Mrs. Geneva Towns, clerk, and R. H. Peoples, minister.

Antioch Christian Church

Eld. S. E. Tilman, Pastor

Mrs. Sarah A. Peacock, Reporter

Members and friends of the Antioch Christian Church, New Brunswick, N. J., observed the lenten season with wonderful services. Our Palm Sunday sermon was preached by our State Evangelist, Bro. G. Edward. He preached from the 14th chapter of the gospel of John. Subject: "Get in the Way." We had splendid service morning and evening. There were two additions Bro. Z. Campbell, and Bro. William Freedman. We truly thank God for all of his blessings. Easter Sunday we had a very large attendance. Our Pastor delivered the sermon from the 24th chapter of Luke. Subject: "Do you remember?" The spirit was truly in our midst, and God was with us. On April 4th Rev. G. Taylor preached to us. It was a most inspiring sermon. Also on April the 4th our Pastor and members went to the Friendly Christian Church in Brooklyn, N. Y. It was the first Anniversary of Rev. Keys, the Pastor.

Clark St. Christian Church

Eld. F. C. Cary, Pastor

Our church has been blessed this year in winning souls for Christ and with faith and earnest prayers we will reach the mark. For the first two months, twenty have been added to our church roll, although our winter was unfavorable some Lord's day a few braved the weather and services were carried on. Eld. Cary has brought some very inspiring messages which have caused those who call themselves Christians to gird up to reach their goal. The usher board placed a neat sign on the church. We are planning to build an auditorium soon. The sum of \$102.00 has been riased since Jan. 5th. Our pastor and Jr. choir worshiped in Dallas Feb. 15th. Our motto, "The Whole Church at the Whole Task" with Christ as our leader. Pray for our success.

IN MEMORIAM

of

ATTORNEY NATHAN S. TAYLOR
Who entered into Eternal Slumber
on January 22, 1948

Attorney Taylor was born in Greenville, Mississippi, about 75 years ago. He attended the high schools of Greenville, then went to Natchez College, Southern Christian Institute and Hiram College.

He was one of the first graduates of Southern Christian Institute. He received his degree in law at the University of Michigan and was admitted to the bar of the Supreme Court at Jackson, Mississippi, in 1909.

In 1918, he came to Chicago, where he became a well-known figure in politics and the professions.

He was a candidate for Congress in 1924 and polled 11,876 votes, which was 200 votes less than the number received by his opponent, Martin B. Madden.

Attorney Taylor was recommended by United States Senator Charles S. Deneen for the position of Assistant United States Attorney at Chicago, and was appointed by President Calvin Coolidge on August 3rd, 1928.

Attorney Taylor served as Elder of the Christian Church for many years and was ordained for the ministry. His character could stand keen scrutiny. Whenever he talked with us his advice was, "Continue to study for higher education."

The S. C. I. Club has lost a true friend and wise counselor in the passing of Attorney Taylor.

He is survived by a devoted wife, Mrs. Gertrude Harris Taylor, and a sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Robinson of Greenville, Mississippi.

The eulogy was given by Reverend R. E. LaTouche.

Shaw Christian Church
E. M. Tounsel, Reporter

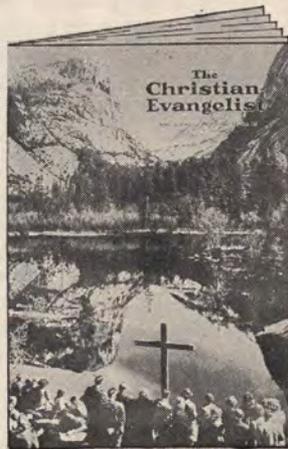
During the month of February we lost two faithful members in the name of Bro. Lim Baker and Sister Edith Thomas.

Bro. Baker was a member of the old Christian Church of Hermanville. He moved here and took membership in this church under the leadership of Eld. Edward Griffin. He leaves to mourn his loss two daughters, three brothers and a host of relatives.

Sister Thomas was truly a faithful member. She never let anything come between her work and the church. Her death came as a shock to us as she was in the best of spirits the Sunday before she passed.

Our deepest sympathy to the bereaved families.

Start a Christian-Evangelist Club in Your Church Now!



Don't pass by a great opportunity. Nowhere can your members read finer Christian articles or find more up-to-date news of Disciples of Christ and what is going on in the world of religion than in **The Christian Evangelist**. Every deacon and elder in your church should be a regular reader as well as members of your congregation in general. Appoint a C. E. Club sponsor or committee now to push subscriptions.

SAVE 40% — Single yearly subscriptions, \$2.50 each . . . in clubs of five or more in one church, \$1.50 each. Free samples of **The Christian Evangelist**, circulars and subscription blanks are available.

Use Bethany Sunday School Papers



FRONT RANK — A 16-page magazine of Christian living for adults and older young people. \$1.50 per year; 5 or more, 33 cents each per quarter.

VISION—A new 16-page weekly in two colors for intermediates and seniors. Same prices as

FRONT RANK.
JUNIOR WORLD — A colorful paper for juniors. \$1.00 per year; 5 or more, 20 cents each per quarter.

STORYLAND — Stories, poems and pictures for children under 9. 75 cents per year; 5 or more, 15 cents each per quarter.

CHRISTIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION
The Bethany Press St. Louis 3, Mo.

Clinton, Mississippi
S. D. Yarbrough, Evangelist

It gives me a great deal of pleasure to have this opportunity to inform you of some of the work of Miss. We have just closed the second quarter of our conventional year; that means six months of the year have passed.

In this section of the country the wintry weather has prevented us from service, so if it's God's will we must put forth some strenuous efforts to meet our goal. We visited Itta Bena Church Feb. 29th, services all day. Brethren, do you really want a church? If so, we are asking that you respond to the financial call as we are all needed to make this effort a success. Just as soon as weather permits we plan to start our building program. Remember,

we are Laborers together with God, and the responsibility of the erection of this church belongs to the entire brotherhood.

The work of the Church in its world outreach has never measured up to the opportunity that confronts it. In fact it could be said, that the church has failed to understand its program or its place in the world. Then, it may be asked, Why? Some of the answers are: The lack of leadership. I think there is a need for trained deacons in our churches as well as preachers.

The great church of today is moving into a new area of faith. We need a technical task one that shocks us into, the realization of being called Christians. As I close may I say the love of God constrains us.

By Mrs. Vergena Cavell,
of Kansas City,

President of 1st District, Kansas

Subject: "Where There Is No Vision
The People Perish."

Under the Providence of God the members of each Church in the District have had the opportunity for full fellowship in the making of the program and the carrying out of the same. We must put principle first. The Great Crusade is a spiritual and moral one. I truly believe that the time has come and now is when the Church will have to follow the Jesus way or sin will step in and destroy the influence of the organized church. Most of the popular criticism of the Church is justified. It has hypocrites and is weak when it ought to be strong. One may live a good moral life and still that does not make him a Christian. We often hear people say I have my own religion. I live better than some members of the Church. I believe we are making a great mistake when we try to use our own methods to obtain followers. If we are to be followers of Christ we must do his will, for he has said I am the way, the truth, and the light, and no man comes to the Father but by me. Christ's Church has not failed nor can it fail for he said upon this rock I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. The church is desperately in need of Faith.

What the world needs today is a more spiritual and less formal religion. In our public schools our children are taught dancing, yet the teacher is not permitted to read God's word. The church poor and weak as it is makes vital contributions that otherwise the world might lose. The great testimonies which it is the mission of the church to make and without which human life would be even more degraded than it is now. With all of the admitted imperfections of the present day church, the only way we can overcome sin is by having a faith that will set our souls on fire. There was a time when the church would put on a revival that would draw sinners to the church by the dozens and sometimes Christians would tarry until the wee hours of the morning to see souls come out of darkness into the marvelous light of God's love. The rock on which the church is built often appears to be weather-beaten rubble because it is all mixed with human frailty, but the lesson of history is a continual verification of the Judgement of God, that the gates of Hell cannot prevail against it. We are so intent upon looking for a Moses to guide us out of our problems. We are blind to the solutions which are within our own power to make. Read Exodus 4:2 where God was talking to Moses and he asked him what he had

in His hand. Moses saw only the rod but God showed him that he had the power to turn the rod to a serpent and Moses fled from before it. I wonder if there had been others who saw the burning bush, and perhaps did not stop. But Moses said I will now turn aside and see this great sight—why the bush is not burnt. If we would just stop and listen God would tell us what he wanted us to do. Moses knew that he could do nothing without God's help. He is asking us what is that which we have in our hand. It is the power to begin with—what we have right where we are. Let us begin by asking ourselves these questions: Do we really believe what Jesus said when He arose from the tomb. Matt. 28:18: "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." I had the pleasure of listening to George Washington Carver tell about how he took the peanut in his hand and asked God what was in the peanut. God's answer was "that is for you to find out." Let us cease to put our limitations on God and give him a chance to lead us on to the end of the world.

**Jones St. Christian Church
Bluefield, W. Va.**

The Jones St. Christian Church is still progressing under the leadership of Eld. N. J. Dickerson. On Jan. 4th installation services were held for the newly elected officers of the Christian Youth Fellowship. Miss Cleo Dickerson, a very active young lady, was elected president. The pastor conducted the services; afterwards Miss Dickerson gave a brief talk.

In keeping with the Crusade for a Christian World, the Bible School planning group discussion of the Achievement Chart for Sunday Schools, a guide to the use of the chart was presented to each member to help increase the interest of our school. The Willing Workers Club, in keeping with the movement, is stressing the "Crusade of Christian Homes." The President, Mrs. C. C. Carter, discussed "Religion in the Home."

In observance of our Race Relationship Program on Feb. 8th, Mr. Ralph E. Valentine, secretary of District Christian Missionary societies, was our guest for the day. Mr. Valentine delivered the message at the morning service, using as his subject, Brotherhood. He brought many interesting points and ways of bringing about better relationship between the races. Dinner was served at the church, the Jr. Choir rendered a program. At the evening services Mr. Valentine presented sound moving pictures of the United Nations.

The Missionary Society under the leadership of Mrs. R. E. Kelling is on

the upward trend. Missionary services were held on Feb. 29th with the Rev. L. T. Thornhill delivering the message. A program was rendered on Sunday night. The services were a success financially. Mrs. E. G. Jordan had charge of the Easter program with the young people participating. The chorus of the church under the direction of Mrs. W. G. Moss conducted the early dawn services Easter morning.

Almighty God saw fit to call from labor to reward two of our faithful members, Mr. Robert Morrison Sr. and Mr. Arbor Benton of Elbert, W. Va. We grieve the passing of our members, but feel that our loss is Heaven's gain.

**Cleveland Ave. Church of Christ
Winston Salem, N. C.**

The year 1948 has been very progressive. It marks the 5th year under the leadership of Rev. Charles Webb.

We have had several programs sponsored by the auxiliaries of the church. During the month of February World Day of Prayer was observed at the Ausburg Lutheran Church (white). Members of the Cleveland Ave. Church attended and participated on the program as it was interracial and inter-denominational. The members of the junior choir joined with 100 voices of other junior choirs of mixed voices.

At the inter-racial youth rally held at Cantenary Methodist Church (white) during Brotherhood week on Feb. 29th, the women's Missionary Society presented Mrs. Mary Solomon Smith in a recital. This was a success. On March 4th and 5th the Minister's Institute was held at the Cleveland Church. The attendance was fine. This was under the direction of Rev. C. L. Parks, National Director of Religious Education and Evangelism of the Disciples of Christ. March 6th the Hubbard-Walker Area was held at the church which climaxed the Institute.

Eld. Webb was in Washington, D. C., attending the Seminar on World Order. He visited the sixtieth session of Congress and President Harry S. Truman.

Mrs. Evelyin M. Hairston
1222 Shuttle St.

"On to Detroit." Our goal is 1000 delegates, \$7,700.00. We need the cooperation of every Minister and every Church.

Now every field is clothed with grass, and every tree with leaves; now the woods put forth their blossoms, and the year assumes its gay attire.

—Virgil

The CHRISTIAN PLEA

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THE TASK AND RESPONSIBILITY OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

By Lorenzo J. Evans
National Director of Christian Education

Our responsibility is even greater than our opportunity, for on us depends to a great degree the transmission of Christ's ideals from hope to actuality, for Christianity is, in the final analysis, a demonstration of Christ's ideals.

Part of our responsibility, of course, lies in each of us having a clear conception of our task. You may think we have a good idea of what our task is today. Let me ask you—How often do we actually think through the application of Christianity in terms of limited human life?

How many of us actually can define what we mean by the Christian way of life as it applies to us individually today? How many of us can translate into today's language our individual Christian purpose? How many of us have tried as part of our task as Bible School Teachers to outline even a rough guide to action for a Christian today? Too often, all of us alibi at this very uncomfortable point by saying, "We teach individuals to make the right choices." How can we, when we aren't able to decide what we mean by a "Christian"? How can we re-make ourselves without a clear idea of what we want as the finished product?

Part of our responsibility as Christian workers is to give ourselves time and opportunity to think through the meaning of making Christ's way of life come in an individual today.

Our obligation as Church School workers is to help make this an age of hope for individuals. If we are to re-make ourselves and others, we need to increase respect for the value of human life. We need to increase the sense of the dignity of man, as man. Part of our task is to release our imagination so that it soars on wings of eagles, but at the same time, as God's workmen, we need to provide feet for our imagination to use.

One of our major concerns should be acquiring clear cut chart of practicable ideals. Then using a wise combination of instinct, intelligence and wisdom, persuade people of the importance of

thinking through and adopting for their individual guidance a blue print of attainable ideals for themselves.

The Crusade For a Christian World is attempting to make us more aware of our opportunity and responsibility in the field of Christian Education. Out of this great Crusade I hope will emerge the idea that as Christians we as individuals have a definite obligation in the remolding and remaking of Christian Character.

Dear Superintendent:

You have one more special day in our missionary year to share in the total program of our brotherhood. As superintendent of your church school I know you will want to do everything possible to make this an outstanding occasion in your church.

This offering will go for the support of missions around the world. You cannot go to the foreign fields to carry the message yourself, but by sharing of your means you help to make it possible for others to carry the message.

Much of the work on the mission field is suffering because of the rise of inflation. Therefore it is imperative that we increase our giving to meet these demands. The church cannot afford to curtail its work at a time like this.

Many people today are hungry for the message, and are looking for the light; it is possible that through your offering the light of life can be made possible for someone. This is your last chance for this missionary year, and I know you will want to know that by your offering you made it possible for someone to have life.

Sister Bostick Dies

Word was received recently of the death of Sister Sarah L. Bostick, widow of one of the pioneer Christian preachers of Arkansas. Sister Bostick was a most faithful and untiring worker. She was a frequent contributor to the Christian Plea. Several years ago she served as President of the Woman's Dept. of the National Convention. Our Brotherhood has sustained a great loss in her passing.

Monroe Avenue Church Wins Fight

On Monday, May 10, the U. S. Supreme Court handed down a decision reversing the Ohio courts in the case of the Monroe Ave. Christian Church vs. a group of property owners on North Ohio Ave., Columbus, Ohio. By the use of a Restrictive Covenant an attempt had been made to prevent the Monroe Ave. Church from owning a house they had purchased and the Pastor from occupying the same. This fight had been carried on for almost three years at a cost of more than three thousand dollars.

The Common Pleas Court of Franklin County used every means at its command, Temporary Mandatory Injunctions and Eviction Orders, to force the pastor to vacate the premises. The ruling in the Monroe Ave. case followed the decision rendered a few days before declaring the State and Federal Courts could not enforce a Covenant on the basis of race or color. Incidentally, the Pastor continued to occupy the parsonage all the time in spite of all the efforts to dispossess him. Attorney Frank C. Shearer was the attorney for the church.

Eld. R. E. Latouche

One item which has escaped the attention of the Christian Plea up until now, which we believe to be of much importance, is that last March Eld. Latouche closed his 27th year as pastor of Southside Christian Church. He started with five members and no place to meet. Today there is a congregation of over 300 and they own property valued at over \$60,000.

The Christian Plea congratulates Eld. Latouche on what he has accomplished in spite of almost insurmountable difficulties. We congratulate the Southside Church on its loyalty and devotion to the principles of the new testament church. We are sorry we do not have more information about this pastor and church. We hope some member of Southside will take up where we left off and give us the complete picture.

"MIGHT MAKES RIGHT"**The Christian Plea**

Published monthly by the National Christian Missionary Convention.
Eld. E. J. Dickson, Ex-Sec.
Eld. S. S. Myers, Pres.
L. L. Dickerson, Editor.

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Editorial

The recent statement of A. Phillip Randolph, President of the Brotherhood of Pullman Porters, and indorsed by the Rev. Grant Reynolds of New York, to the effect that Negroes would engage in a campaign of civil disobedience rather than serve in a jim-crow Army, raises some grave questions. One Senator has already said that such action would be treason. That alone makes it a serious matter, to say the least, especially in view of the fact that Negroes have an unbroken record of loyalty and devotion to their Government in spite of many injustices.

But to our mind the most important question is whether the Negro is willing to pay such a tremendous price for freedom. And equally, if not more important is whether or not America the land of liberty, justice and fair play will force a tenth of its citizens to pay such an exorbitant price for simple justice. If the Negro engages in such a campaign it will mean ostracism, persecution, beatings, imprisonment and death for countless thousands. It will mean unemployment, privations and sacrifices beyond description.

Mahatma Ghandi led India in a successful campaign of civil disobedience, which eventually won independence. Whether or not the American white man would engage in such a campaign to secure freedom for himself and his posterity we are not sure. According to history, however, that is not the Caucasian way. The white man's method is to use force to secure what he believes to be justice and freedom.

That fellow Virginian, Patrick Henry of "Give me liberty or give me death" fame, has been proclaimed a great hero and patriot (at least by his fellow countrymen). But when Mr. Randolph sug-

gests direct action in the interest of democracy someone cries treason. We are not indorsing a campaign of civil disobedience. We prefer another method. Then too we do not believe you can carry on successfully a program of civil disobedience with buttons, even a million of them. Ghandi started his campaign with prayer. He promoted it and supported it with prayer. His campaign was more spiritual than political. We would like to suggest that the Negro begin all of his efforts to better his condition with prayer. In the meantime let us appreciate a man with the courage of A. Phillip Randolph.

Editorial

One of the most encouraging things that has happened to us as a group in recent years is the number of beautiful houses of worship our people have been acquiring. We do not know of all the congregations that have purchased new homes, but to our knowledge there is Centennial, at St. Louis, Stuyvesant Heights and Williamsburg in Brooklyn, 9th Street in Roanoke, Va., 6th Street in Oklahoma City, Indiana Ave., Chicago, Norwood Ave., Dayton, Ohio, 2nd Christian in Indianapolis, and Cedar Christian in Cleveland. No doubt there are others which indicate that our churches are on the march. However in one respect we are still lagging somewhat. And that is in the matter of Pastors' salary. It's true we have made some considerable progress along this line but not enough. The average Christian minister's salary is still on the level with the unskilled laborer. We need not just one but several churches that will pay \$75 and \$100 a week. We have a number of hundred dollar a week men who are members of the Christian Church, but they are not Ministers; we need some in our pulpits.

Executive Comm. Meets

The Executive Committee of the National Board met in Indianapolis, in April. Plans were completed for the National Convention which meets in Detroit, Aug. 17th. Eld. R. L. Jordan, Host Pastor, was present and reported on arrangements that are being made by the Detroit Church for the entertainment of 1000 delegates. All indications are that the 1948 convention will be our largest and best. A special effort will be made on the part of the members of the staff with the assistance of a number of others to have the greater part of our National apportionments in by June 30th. Every minister is being asked to give his earnest cooperation.

CRUSADING

Sidney A. Scott

Among the Protestant Christian people throughout the world, there is a crusade on to connect all people to a belief in Jesus Christ, that their souls may be saved to live hereafter. I have often wondered was it simply the belief in Jesus that saves our soul or is it the life we live after being converted, and the daily forgiveness of our sins? It seems that the salvation of one's soul is a lifetime job that is never finished till our last sin has been forgiven just before we die. A crusade is alright and very much needed; but what is needed most is the right kind of a crusader. The crusader should be the embodiment of the message he or she brings. It would be a fine thing to start crusading in the home which to man in all ages has been the citadel and fortress of his civilization. More attention by both parents should be paid to discipline in the home. Children should be taught obedience, decency, loyalty, self-respect and respect for others. Not until we Christianize the home can we ever expect to Christianize the world. In the home the father should be the head and the mother the guiding and directing influence. As Longfellow puts it, "As unto the bow the cord is, so unto man is woman." Though she bends him she obeys him, though she draws him yet she follows. Useless each without the other. There is a distinctive difference between the male and female, in all animal life. Their bodily structure, ambitions and desires are different.

Just why women want to be like men and take on the habits and mannerisms of men, I cannot see. It is contrary to nature. There was a time when men ran saloons and gambling halls. Women stayed at home. When men went to war and fought battles, women stayed at home. How is it today? The contrast is all too obvious. The real woman and mother is glad she is a woman and not a man. She is content to stay at home and be the mother of several well, mentally balanced children and rear them to maturity. When she has done this she has accomplished more than most men do in a lifetime.

I think the idea of equal rights and privileges with men has been carried too far. So far as the rights of women are concerned, one writer has said, "A woman has every right that a man has and one more; and that right is the right to be protected," which is true. To man, woman has always been something sought for, game to be hunted, and when it is too tame the thrill of the cause is lessened. A man loses respect for women who share equal

(Continued on Page 5, Col. 1)

Eld. William Walker

Eld. William Walker, formerly of London, Ky., died recently at his home in Youngstown, Ohio, where he lived for the last three years. He had been ill for several months. Eld. Walker for many years was one of the faithful preachers of Kentucky. For several years he pastored at London and supervised several other churches in the eastern part of the state. His wife was also active in state and national conventions, serving at one time as president of the ministers' wives council of the National Convention.

Port Gibson Dist. No. 1

Mrs. E. E. Chambliss, Reporter

The Port Gibson District No. 1 Church School held its Quarterly Session with Tillman Chapel Christian Church, April 24-25th. Bro. E. M. Williams presided. The weather was warm and pleasant, and every one seemed to be in high spirits. Sister Oscena Williams made an excellent talk on the work of the Church School. Eld. I. C. Franklin preached from the subject "Righteous Living," Matt. 5-13. Bro. E. C. Chambliss presided over the Christian Endeavor Session. The young people played an important part in our meeting. Our visitors on the first day were Brothers D. B. Buck and M. M. Brown from District No. 2. They made some very timely remarks. On the 2nd day Eld. J. C. Norrel conducted a bible study period and gave instruction on "Organizing a successful Church School." Eld. E. L. Brown discussed the Bible School and its leaders. Eld. I. S. Simmons, one of our aged ministers, who is quite feeble, was present. Eld. M. N. Newsome preached an excellent sermon from 2nd Timothy 3-14. Total amount raised, \$58.48.

Notes From The Old Asparagus Bed

A. D. Gault, Mayslick, Ky.

We are still moving along in the old Asparagus Bed. Since spring has come there has been some action. Our pastor, Eld. E. B. Toles, is with us the first and third Sundays each month. He has been bringing us some fine sermons. March the 27th Mrs. Izeeta Washington, Miss Frances Anderson, Miss Carolyn Washington, Mrs. Maggie Cross, Miss Susie Cross and the writer attended the District meeting in Paris. On Easter Sunday the Sunday School had an Easter program and egg hunt sponsored by Mr. Wm. Bennett, Superintendent. Saturday night April the 10th, the New Deal Food Club, Mr. Taylor White president, presented the Fesler Sisters in a program of Gospel Songs. Sunday, April 18th, the Greenly Light singers of Cincinnati sang at the church. April 24th Mrs. Izeeta Washington, A. D. Gault Sr. and

A. D. Gault Jr. attended the Board Meeting in Lexington. We had a good State Board meeting. We received \$118.90 on state apportionments, and received \$10.00 from Little Rock since the meeting. The state Laymen's Conference will be held in Covington the 5th Sunday in May. The State Convention meets in Paris in July. Bro. Wm. Welch, one of our good members, passed away March 12th. Sister Leona Hotz fell and broke her right arm. Will write again later.

State Conventions

July and August are convention months. The following is a list of the time and place of some of our State conventions. We will announce others as soon as the information is available. Texas State Convention, Fort Worth, July, 1948; Kentucky Convention, Paris, July 20-25; Oklahoma Convention, Okmulgee, July 21-25; Florida Convention, Jacksonville, July 22-25; Ohio Convention, Cincinnati (Wehrman Ave.) July 27-Aug. 1; National Convention, Detroit, Aug. 17-22. The Georgia and Alabama Conventions will not be held until October.

Fayette Street Christian Church

Mrs. S. P. Watkins, Reporter

Martinsville, Va.

The Woman's Missionary Society is moving along nicely. They met on April 4th with Mesdames H. K. Stultz and V. M. Early as co-hostesses. The amount raised at the meeting was \$61.00. On Sunday, May 2nd, we met with Mrs. M. N. Thomas. Eighteen members were present and the amount taken in was \$36.00. Hats off to the Young Matrons auxiliary, under the leadership of Mrs. Sophia Foster; a great work is being done. On Sunday afternoon the Young Matrons sponsored a Pew Rally with the assistance of the pastor and members of Grace Presbyterian Church. Amount raised, \$118.56. Mrs. E. G. Starling, Director of Young People's Conference, has just returned from a very pleasant meeting of deans and directors held in Lexington, Ky. Several young people were baptized on Saturday evening by our pastor, Eld. J. L. Law. Our pastor is doing a fine work on the evangelistic side of the crusade. The Teen-agers under the leadership of Mrs. S. P. Watkins are showing much interest and enthusiasm as members of the Junior choir. Miss Elizabeth Walker is President and Miss Jean Walker is Secretary. However in their absence, Miss Carolyn Self and Miss Bernice Burgess carry the work on nicely. Mesdames Addie Henry, Margaret Carrington, and S. P. Watkins are the directors.

Some Things You Should Know About Ministerial Pensions

The support of the ministry in active service and old age is the scriptural obligation of the church. "Even so did the Lord ordain that they that proclaim the gospel should live of the gospel."

The minister's economic situation, both present and future, should be identified with the investment of his life in the service of the church.

Ministers are not included in Social Security.

Two-thirds of our present active ministry will retire from active service before death overtakes them. One-third will die in active service or in total and permanent disability.

Every congregation has an economic and satisfactory means of meeting the obligation for the minister's protection and security through Pension Plan participation.

The minister pays 2½% of his monthly salary. The church pays an amount equal to 8% of the monthly salary. Where a parsonage is supplied rent free, 15% of the salary is added to determine the salary basis upon which dues are paid.

Benefits include a Cash Death Benefit for death in active service, a pension for total and permanent disability (after one year's full membership in the Plan), and a retirement pension when the member elects to retire after age 65, of 1/70 of all salary upon which required dues have been paid. Widows and minor children of members also receive pensions under the Plan.

No medical examination is required to enter the Pension Plan.

Dues are payable monthly in advance.

Protection begins with the payment of the first month's dues.

Dues increase or decrease with the salary, thus making the payment of dues possible on either high or low salaries.

The cost of Pension Plan protection is lower than can be secured anywhere else.

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National Bible School Convention Worksheet

Bessie E. Chandler, President

RECOMMENDATIONS OF FUTURE WORK COMMITTEE, CINCINNATI, OHIO:

Dear Co-Worker:

The time is fast approaching when many of you will be meeting in your state conventions. This will be a very fine opportunity for many of you to do many of the things which were recommended at the National Convention last year in Cincinnati, Ohio, by our future work committee. It is my hope that these recommendations will actually become a reality. That hope depends upon the full support of every local church.

Listed below you will find the recommendations worked out by the future work committee. Let us go out for a 100 per cent report at our convention in Detroit, Michigan, August 17-22, 1948. Yours for a greater 17-22, 1948.

Yours for a greater service,
Lorenzo J. Evans
National Director of
Christian Education

1. That we organize and promote Leadership Crusade Teams in cooperation with the National and State Conventions.
2. That all state and local Bible School Workers cooperate with the National Functional Committees, namely: Children's Workers, Youth Work, Adult Work, Stewardship and Administration, in their constructive work program.
3. That all workers in Christian Education and pastors encourage young people of their church to attend our church school, namely: Southern Christian Institute, Edwards, Miss.; and Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Texas, for their basic training and continue advance work in our Institutions of Higher Education.
4. That state officers plan a program of leadership preparation by sponsoring such leadership agencies as, District Institutes in each section of the state, Children and Youth Workers' Workshop, Adult Seminars, Observation and Bible Schools, Vacation Church School Institutes, Young People's Conferences and Youth Meets.
5. That states and local schools send their children's workers to the St. Louis Laboratory Training School or to a laboratory school in their area.
6. That local church schools cooperate with state officers in the above leadership preparation opportunities by sending its leaders and prospective leaders.
7. That all state church school convention officers and local superintend-

ents work with the children workers in promoting Vacation Church Schools in all the schools of the states.

That state presidents encourage local superintendents to cooperate in Interdenominational church schools to be held in their communities.

8. That the states and local Bible Schools be urged to increase their giving to meet our immediate urgent needs. That each school report at the National Convention with \$5.00 and each state with \$10.00.
 9. That the financial goal of \$1,000.00 be raised at the 1948 National Convention.
 10. That every church school observe the four special National days with a program and raising of offering. That the offering be reported promptly.
 11. That a National Achievement Chart be worked out with some form of National Trophy be offered in accordance to standards of Achievement Chart.
 12. That recognition be given at the National Convention (on Bible School Day) to our Church Schools, S. C. I. and Jarvis Christian College and other Institutions of Higher Education.
 13. That regular Fall planning Conferences be held for all state presidents, National officers, functional committee chairmen, and other national leaders, for the purpose of planning a unified program of Christian Education.
 14. That the Administrative officers of the Church School Department, the President and the Secretary's transportation be paid to and from the National Convention.
 15. That the Future Work committee report and other plans for local churches made during this convention, be combined in a work sheet and sent immediately to the local church schools.
- Respectfully submitted,
Mr. N. J. Dickerson, Chr., W. Va.
Mr. R. H. Peoples, Indiana
Mrs. Christine Johnson, Dayton, Ohio
Mrs. Mae White, Kansas City, Mo.
G. E. Lakes, Kansas
Mr. Wm. Fox, Miss.
Mrs. Lorenzo J. Evans, Indiana
Miss Roberta Brown, Va., Sec'y

Report—J. J. Hawkins

Many things have happened at S. C. I. since talking to you last. We realize that "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." Therefore, I should like to mention some of the "Playful" side of S. C. I. life. One of the greatest highlights in the play world was that of the Intermural Basketball Tournament sponsored by the S.C.I. Y.M.C. The

Tournament began on Wednesday and ended Saturday afternoon with the 10th grade class winning the "John Long Trophy." This was the 9th grade class which won the trophy last year. It was thought that the 11th grade, that "fast team," would win the trophy until the last day when the 10th grade Trotters won the Tournament, 8-7, just one point over the 11th grade Jets, who put the college classes out early in the Tournament. Best of all was the thrilling game between the Allison Hall Young Women and the Women Faculty. The women faculty won, 10-12.

We have some several outstanding speakers here on the campus of which the most recent was Miss East, an outstanding missionary from Liberia, Africa which caused "our hearts to burn within us as" as she spoke of the work in Africa. We are most grateful to Dean Mosely for securing the service of Miss East while here in this country. There were so many who said it was the first time to ever hear and see a negro missionary from the foreign fields. Another outstanding speaker was Dr. H. C. Harper, State Secretary of the Y.M.C.A., who spent the day counseling with students on their social problems.

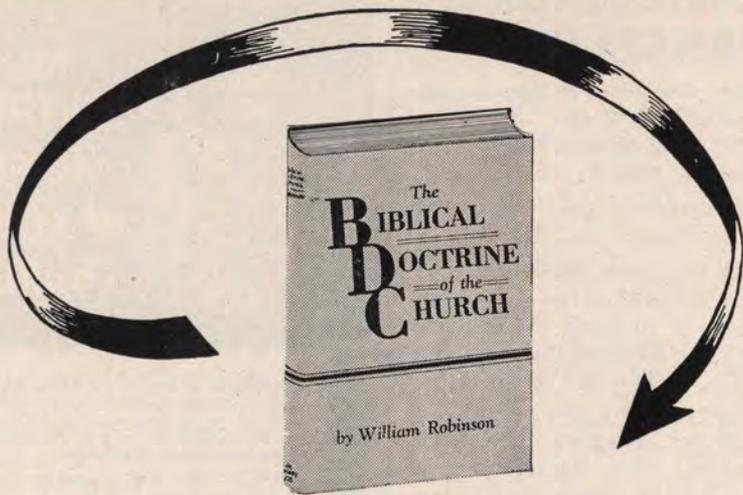
The Y.W.C.A. held its Retreat, April 5, at the Oakley Training School. The group was broken into several divisions discussing the following topics: Finance in the World Today, Mrs. Mosely; Campus Affairs, Miss Wiggon; Choosing A Vocation in a Christian World, Mrs. Lyells; Civic Rights, Miss Nichols; and Student Government, Mrs. Ratten.

President Long, Professor B. L. Jacobs, Sr., and your writer made a 2,255 trip to the Interracial Conference sponsored by the Federal Council of Churches which was held at Hampton Institute, Va., March 31 and April 1.

Miss Lorraine Wiggon attended the annual meeting of Region 5 of the National Association of Music Teachers in Negro Schools, March 26, 27 at Dillard University.

Piano, voice, band, orchestra, choral and public school music were discussed. Miss Wiggon reports that the group pledge itself to actively raise the technical proficiency of music students in the area by advising presidents, principals and deans of standards to be met.

Miss Ruby Newman, soprano, representing S.C.I. at the State Music Association of the M. A. T. C. S., March 21, at Lanier High School in Jackson, Miss., by singing "The Italian Street Song," from "Naughty Marietta" by Victor Herbert. On the same program following the address of Pres. Charles H. Johnson of Fisk University, the S. C. I. Choir and male chorus presented respectively, "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" arranged by Ringwald, and "Stouthearted Men" from Ranberg's "New Moon."



*Something New
for Ministers and Students*

“The Biblical Doctrine of the Church” covers many of the vitally important subjects to receive consideration at the World Assembly of Churches in Amsterdam this summer. Extensive notes and indexes have been added to increase the value of the interpretation.

The author, William Robinson, is professor of Christian doctrine and the philosophy of religion at the Selly Oak Colleges in Birmingham, England. Recently he has been lecturing at various colleges maintained by the Disciples of Christ in the United States. \$2.50

— THE CHAPTERS —

The Coming of the Church; Jesus and the Church; The Church in the Teaching of Paul; The Church in the Johannine Writings; The Nature of the Church; The Divine-Human Relationship in the Church; The Church in History; The Apostolicity of the Church; The Church in the Epistle to the Hebrews; The Church in K Peter; The Church in the Apocalypse.

CHRISTIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION
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CRUSADING—

(Continued from Page 2)

privileges with him in their social contact. If we teach religion, we ourselves must be religious. If we teach democracy, we must be democratic. If we teach world peace, we must be peaceable ourselves. If we ever win the world to Christ, we must put into practice His teachings. One main principle we must ever keep in mind is that in all social contacts, Jesus knew no race, color, Greek or barbarian. The wall of partition was broken down and anyone who accepted Him and believed in Him was not called unclean. In our crusading let us not forget that our relationship with Jesus is not based on how white we are or how black

we are, how yellow, brown or red we are. In our social contact as Christians, wherever we meet, we should ever strive to keep this partition wall broken down.

If we do not do this our crusading will be in vain and the souls of men will never be saved. Sometimes I think it would be better to try to save people from ignorance, poverty and degradation. Save them from greed, graft, dishonesty, hypocrisy and deceit. There is a doubt in my mind whether or not man's soul need to be saved from sin. We know of no sin it commits. I believe the soul of man is perfect, made so in the beginning by its Creator.

Right now we need to be saved from another world's war.

Antioch Christian Church

Eld. S. E. Tillman, Pastor

Mrs. Sarah A. Peacock, Reporter

It is a great pleasure to present to the readers of the Plea again the news from Antioch. There are so many things taking place in our Church life. April 30 we observed Pastor's day, with a special program in honor of our pastor. Mrs. Lillian Mae Foat, presiding. Among those on our program was the Two Notes from Brooklyn. They are a group of women singers, Mrs. A. Roundtree and Mrs. J. Tyree. They really stirred our hearts with familiar songs. We also had the Harp of Zion from the Sharon Baptist Church. Last but not least Mrs. Ida Wright with her beautiful voice. On May 1 our church made its first broadcast over station WCTC. Our program will run the whole month of May each Sunday from 11 A. M. to 12:00 noon. Our Pastor will do the preaching. The Junior and Senior Choirs furnish the music. On the afternoon of May 1 our church accompanied our state Evangelist Eld. G. Edward, to Red Ball Inn at the invitation of Eld. Whitehead and his church. "Teach me to feel another's woe, to hide the fault I see, That mercy I to others show, That mercy show to me."

712 East Pine Street
Tulsa 6, Oklahoma
May 3, 1948

Editor of the Plea

I feel sure that I voice the sentiment of the entire Brotherhood, when I say that we in Oklahoma are proud to have you as the head of the Staff of the Christian Plea. We do appreciate the fine work you are doing. We plan to show our appreciation by increasing our subscriptions in months to come.

We here in Oklahoma are striving to reach our Crusade Goals. I am happy to report that our Easter Revival was a great success. The report is as follows:
Tulsa, Okla.

The Pine Street Christian Church held a Week Revival, March 29-April 4th. The Rev. E. J. Dickson was the guest Minister. The Revival was preceded by Evangelistic visitations and prayers. Each night Rev. Dickson conducted a class in Christian Stewardship and followed through with a powerful message. Both the attendance and the offerings were good. One addition by baptism and two by transfer—three additions were made; and 42 rededicated themselves to Christian Service.

—E. W. James, Minister

Thank you kindly for a small space in the Christian Plea for this report. We hope to have more reports and other communications from Tulsa and the State of Oklahoma.

Very sincerely yours,
E. W. James, Minister

ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR CHURCH DEVELOPMENT AND EVANGELISM

By C. L. Parks

Since Christmas holidays, we have conducted seven Institutes for in-service ministers dealing in general with problems of vital importance to successful prosecution of pastoral mission. The eighth such meeting dealt specifically with Evangelism, in fact it was a Clinic in Visitation Evangelism. Our attendance did not reach the flood stage in any of these meetings, but the enthusiasm and praise for benefits derived from the Institutes this year caused us to wonder. When we sought explanation for this unexpected and earnest outburst of acclaim, we were told this year's Institutes gave more time to and placed more emphasis upon the vital problems facing the local ministry. We thought we were pursuing this course all along and maybe we were, but we recognized that in as much as it is true that a preacher has not preached until the people get his message, so also is it true that the value of the Institutes is not determined by what we think about them nor the good materials and men we put through them but by what the ministers themselves are able to get out of them.

Too much credit cannot be given to the Departments of Evangelism Church Development and Christian Education of United Christian Missionary Society for counsel and personal help in carrying out this program. In each Institute, representatives from the National Office carried assignments and it was the interest of the departments which enabled us to secure the services of State Secretaries and other qualified personalities. We enjoyed Mr. W. M. Wickizer, Executive Secretary of Home Missions, with us in Goldsboro, North Carolina, and the contribution he made by being there in person far outweighed the dollar value of the cost of such projects.

We are also grateful to Mr. C. O. Hawley, Executive Secretary of the Crusade, for his personal service in the Institute at Oklahoma City and his "push" which brought both National and State Crusade workers in to promote the financial phase of the Crusade Movement. Mr. George Oliver Taylor, Executive Secretary of Religious Education, expressed his sincere interest in the Institute project by seeing that at no point was the Educational phase neglected.

The Clinic in Visitation Evangelism, which was conducted in Chicago with South Side and Indiana Avenue Churches in joint cooperation, netted creditable results for only three nights Visitation by ten two-men teams; on an average of two and one-half hours per

Elder L. L. Dickerson
93 North Ohio Avenue
Columbus 3, Ohio

Dear Brother Dickerson:

The Executive Committee of the National Christian Missionary Convention has authorized me to appoint you to promote the financial cause of the National Convention in the states of Ohio and Kentucky.

This means that you are to help the national Christian Missionary Convention raise money in the states. Go to the churches and members and collect and receive money to be sent to the Treasurer, Dr. J. E. Walker, 234 Hernando Street, Memphis 1, Tennessee. The money to be credited to the churches and states or individuals, all money counts on the goal.

I am sending to you the goals of each church in Ohio and Kentucky. You will note that the total goal for Ohio is \$1,576.00 and for Kentucky, \$1,974.00. Some of these churches have sent in money but they need contacting just the same because their goals have not been fully reached. I shall be glad to help you in this big effort.

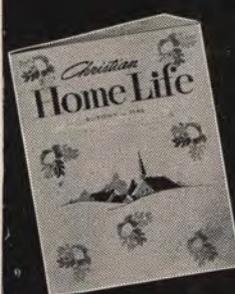
Sincerely,

Emmett J. Dickson
Executive Secretary
National Christian
Missionary Convention

night, we secured forty commitments, fifteen confessions and twenty-six transfers. We have three more of the Clinics scheduled for launching between now and June 30th and it is our hope that we may have better success in them than we had in Chicago. Chicago was our first city in which such a project in our churches was launched and even though we count it a success, we feel certain that improvements can be made at the points of applying preparation techniques and prospect cultivation, in fact at all points of action.

The cities in which Visitation Evangelism Clinics have been set up and preparation is progressing encouragingly are: Winston Salem, North Carolina; Lexington, Kentucky, and Dallas, Texas. We are scheduled to conduct a meeting of this kind in Memphis, Tennessee, at the Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church beginning Monday, April 25th. This is not a Clinic, it only affects the local church; all callers will be of the local church. We hope to be able to persuade each church in our Brotherhood to accept at least one

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project of this kind per year. Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church did not have to be persuaded, the project was set and we were asked to conduct it.

When the Chicago project was brought to a close there was great rejoicing by both ministers and laymen who took part in the Visitation. They were thrilled over the results obtained by applying a type of Evangelism which they themselves doubted; they were thrilled over the knowledge obtained and the inspiration gathered while they themselves applied the test; they were thrilled because they saw the answer to the problem of enlarging church membership. If we can maintain and cause to grow and spread in intensity this minister-laymen joy and inspiration over the newly found way to evangelize the local church, we will have solved the sore problem of local churches—the problems of increasing local church membership. The great need for improvement at this level of local church life is too well known by all of us to merit logical argument to the contrary. However, it is going to be hard for us, at the National level, to follow through because it is too much of a job for one person. Creditable promotion in our local churches demands that personal contact be made. The ministers upon whom we may call

(Continued on Page 8, Col. 2)

Jarvis A Crusading College

By P. C. Washington, President
Jarvis Christian College
Hawkins, Texas

It is with pleasure that I bring you greetings from Jarvis Christian College, one of our brotherhood institutions that is engaged in Christian education as well as general education.

Back in the winter days of 1912, a little man by the name of T. B. Frost began clearing the forest in preparation for the building of a school at Hawkins, Texas, in order that he might assist in meeting the needs of our Negro brethren from the standpoint of Christian education. In 1913, students began enrolling in Jarvis Christian Institute, and that meant that the crusade was on in a big way.

In that same year, C. A. Berry joined T. B. Frost and together they cleared the forest, planted crops, and carried on other activities that were essential as to the operation of the institution.

In 1914, J. N. Ervin came to Jarvis and took charge as its first president and began laying the foundation for the operation of a permanent institution for the training of Negro boys and girls. Black was his skin, because he belonged to the Negro race, but in his head he carried the wisdom of the sages, and in his heart, he was more concerned about the attitude and the qualities of goodness and love that all men should possess rather than their color or racial identity.

These early workers of Jarvis were given an opportunity to work because of the Christian spirit that dominated the women of the Disciples church and out of that domineering spirit of righteousness came the Christian Women's Board of Missions.

Out of that organization came Mrs. Jarvis. Her heart was pure, her ideals were high, and her attitude was in line with that of the master teacher who said, "I came that you might have life and that you might have it more abundantly." Mrs. Jarvis was an expression of love for a poor downtrodden people.

Jarvis Christian College as we know it today owes its being to Mrs. Jarvis and those who possessed the same spirit of Christian love.

Following her gift of the land upon which the school was built, others the spirit and the desire to do something to help the weakest segment of our brotherhood.

Out of this weak segment, we want Disciple men and women who are willing to go out as leaders with the knowledge, wisdom, and the determination to lead others to higher spiritual grounds of achievement. These leaders, though their skin may be black, must be able to measure up to the best the

world has in it. We want black men, black women, black boys, black girls who can go out as great followers of our leaders measuring up to the best that the world has to offer in this present generation or the future generation. To this end, Jarvis Christian College is crusading and will continue to crusade.

In 1924, Jarvis became arecognized high school by the State Department of Education in Texas.

In 1927, it became a recognized junior college.

In 1929, a Texas Board of Trustees was organized and has operated effectively with two dynamic personalities serving as chairmen; namely, Boyd Keith and K. V. Lipscomb. Their contribution to the growth and development of the school as well as that of the entire Board has been very stimulating.

In 1938, J. N. Ervin found himself too feeble to carry on the great task and soon passed on into the other world. In this same year, I was called upon to attempt to carry on in his stead for the great crusade could not stop. The funds were low, but the work had to continue.

All things being equal, any one stepping into the leadership of the college following in the footsteps of President Ervin would have had an unusually hard time. There were so many personalities who expressed their opinions. Some used the method of comparison, some the method of criticism, constructive and destructive, which has had both good and bad effects, but has seemed to create a determination to lift the college a little higher educationally, morally, and spiritually. The last ten years at the college have been years of toil and hard labor. In short, we have never ceased crusading.

In 1941, the college was placed on the accredited list as a senior college by the State Department of Education.

In 1938, we had on the accession record in our library 3,600 volumes. In 1941, we had increased the number to 8,000 volumes. In 1946, we had 10,000 volumes, but the requirement of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools required a minimum of 12,000 volumes for recognized senior colleges. The call went out to you for funds to help purchase 2,000 additional volumes for our library and today we have more than the required 12,000 volumes in our library.

We have more than doubled our teachers' salaries within the last ten years. In 1938, we had six departments meeting state requirements when we should have had a minimum of eight. Today, we have twelve such recog-

nized departments.

Solwly but surely, we have been building a better Jarvis Christian College.

Over the years, many dollars have been spent in the support of the college, but in return for the money invested, we have leaders in many of our churches throughout the brotherhood as well as in Texas. Over against the value of the service that these leaders are rendering to humanity, dollars and cents have little weight. The money that the brotherhood has invested in Jarvis has already begun to pay big dividends. The returns would have been greater if fifteen or twenty years ago enough money could have been invested in Jarvis so that it could have become a first rate senior college. If we are going to have good leaders, we must produce them. To develop leaders, you must have a Christian institution of higher learning around which sentiments and loyalties can be built. We should not expect the state supported institution or colleges belonging to other religious communions to develop Disciple leaders. We are the only ones who have the interest, the desire, the love, or the information necessary to develop Disciples leadership.

Whatever we do at Jarvis as a result of this special crusade or as a result of a long time planning program, we cannot afford to disappoint the Jarvis family, the C. W. B. M., the leaders of the early days, or the leaders of the present day by failing to produce Christian leadership on an ever increasing basis.

To lift Jarvis Christian College to its present status has not been easy. The coming of oil on the property was a blessing, but on the other hand, it had its evils and many of them are lingering still. When oil was discovered, many persons thought that the college was rich and many still feel that it has all the money it needs when as a matter of fact, the college is very, very poor, and the needs are greater than ever. Many persons expected to see great and tall buildings of university quality spring up over night, but when this failed to materialize our critics began to wag their tongues and to some extent their criticisms were unjust and unChristian.

Jarvis Christian College looks to the Disciples of Christ with a hope that it will always receive the support it needs to carry on its work of crusading for a Christian world. As long as there is a Jarvis Christian College, it must remain in the middle of an ever widening crusading spirit that is unending in its attempt to make better men and women.

We must not fail when it comes to giving others the one big opportunity

(Continued on Page 8, Col. 1)

JARVIS—

(Continued from Page 7)
that they need to make good in life.

When you see a poor black boy, a poor black girl, or a poor boy or girl of any race or nationality trying to make it against great odds such as poverty, a poor educational background, with insufficient clothes, poverty stricken homes of the rural areas or the slum districts of towns and cities struggling to overcome these handicaps, if your heart is right it does something to you. It becomes a challenge and you desire to meet it. Only those of us who have had these personal struggles can fully appreciate the will and determination of such persons to rise if given a chance.

The will to support Christian education and the spirit of missions must increase. As long as America, the land of the free and the home of the brave, as long as America, the land over which fly the red the white and the blue, the stars and stripes, of you please; so long as America finds time for war and political propaganda; as long as there are poverty stricken conditions, poor housing conditions, poor educational opportunities, houses of ill fame, high divorce rates, and hungry ill clad children, the spirit of missions must increase and we must see that it is kept alive in order to save ourselves for Christian service and save humanity from the consequences of sin in order that the Kingdom of God might once more come fully upon the earth.

Cedar Christian Church

East 83rd and Quincy Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio

Eld. C. E. Craggett, Pastor
Elizabeth Wells, Reporter
2513 E. 61st Street

In spite of heavy rains the March Calendar Club was greatly pleased at the turn-out for their St. Patrick's Day Tea, Sunday, March 21. Mrs. Laura Shumate and Mr. Jessie Blair presented a fine program with many outstanding persons appearing.

The third group of our Missionary Society was formed under the leadership of Mrs. Mattie Blair. Our Easter Week of Prayer Services were well attended with the three groups having charge. Breakfast was served Easter Sunday morning at the close of the Sunrise Service by these combined groups. Bro. C. E. Craggett preached a soul-stirring sermon to a packed house at the morning service. At night the Senior Choir, under the direction of Prof. Mark C. P. Lawson, rendered their Cantata, "Eternal Life," which told the story of the death and resurrection of Christ.

Rev. W. W. Deen, a retired minister,

gave the morning message in honor of our Pastor and his Wife's Ninth Anniversary with the Church, Sunday, April 4. High praise was given to both by Mrs. Katie Cecile, acting mistress of ceremonies; Mrs. Natalie Howard, Mrs. Hazel Harrison, Mrs. Nannie Thomas, Mr. S. J. Bergeon, Mr. Kenneth Dabney, Mr. A. Gray and Mr. A. Thomas. Mrs. Hazel Harrison pinned a beautiful corsage of red roses on Sis. Craggett on behalf of the Gospel Choir. These speakers represented the different organizations of the Church. If time would permit, each one of us could have told what high respect and complete confidence we have in their ability as our leaders. Mr. Anthony Thomas' solo, "He'll Understand and Say Well Done," is a worthy song in tribute of our minister and his wife and we certainly thank God for Elder and Mrs. C. E. Craggett. Eld. G. C. Campbell and his congregation from the Central Christian Church of this city brought the evening message.

Sunday night, April 11, Mrs. Natalie Howard, President of the Missionary Society, presented Prof. Mark G. P. Lawson and the St. Paul's Senior Choir in a musical program. This effort was for the Sarah Wilson Scholarship Fund, which was greatly benefited.

ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

(Continued from Page 6)

to help in conducting Visitation Evangelism projects are too busy to do anything else except service the demands of their local churches. When they and their congregations agree to give from ten days to two weeks of their service, there is reason to be grateful, we should not expect more.

We ourselves are unable to answer the calls for conducting Evangelistic meetings now and, as you plainly see, Visitation Evangelism will be added agitation to an already sore problem unless help comes in the form of additional man power.

In the area of church maintenance and development, the demand for service and men is equally as strong on the local level as is the demand for Evangelism. There are problems which stand unsolved all because we are unable to give them immediate consideration when brought to our attention.

In recent weeks we made a visit to Charleston, South Carolina, and spent a few days in the home of Elder Ephriam, pastor of the local church. His church is located at 13 Denaux Place. We advised that the church be moved out on an improved street. Brother Ephriam agreed and pointed out to us just how long he had entertained the idea, giving it light consideration because to him it seems to be in the realm of impossibility. We suggested a con-

ference with Brother Thompson, minister of our white church in Charleston and Secretary of South Carolina State Board. In the Goldsboro-Raleigh Assembly District Institute. Brother Thompson had done the assignment "The Bible As The Minister's Resource Book" and while there we discussed the condition under which Brother Ephriam was laboring as pastor of our Negro Church in Charleston. We do not claim credit for creating the very helpful spirit of cooperation which was made manifest in this Charleston conference because Brother Thompson, in Goldsboro one week before this conference was held, suggested that the church should be moved and implied his willingness to help. Brother Ephriam was requested to seek a new location on an improved street and suitable for church purposes. Brother Thompson not only promised help in purchasing a lot, but help and counsel in building a Worship Chapel.

The story mentioned above is not an isolated case; there are many local areas where our white brethren are willing and are already rendering very valuable help to local congregations of our group. This, to me, is one of the most helpful signs of spiritual health; for without the deep concern which manifest itself in action at the local level, many of our churches cannot expect to survive. This fine spirit of interest and fellowship on the part of our white churches imposes an obligation upon us of securing leadership for the projects. We are sorry to say that there are more opportunities open now than our leadership is able to grasp.

Lakesville, N. C.

Eld. P. E. Carter, Minister

Greetings from little Bethlehem Christian Church. Now that spring is here bringing to us, First, Easter, and the budding flowers, the singing birds and the humming bees, we are all happy. Our church is moving forward. Sunday, March the 28th the pastor preached from the subject, "Meeting death with death." He urged that the plans for the crusade be carried out by each cooperating group. A report from the C. Y. F. meet held in Winston Salem was given by Frances Scales, one of a group of young people attending. Brother Dock Phillip Broadnax, who is 103 years old and the oldest citizen in Rockingham County, was present at the Annual Thanksgiving 4th Sunday. At 8 p. m. Mrs. Flossie M. Galloway sponsored a program featuring the Gospel tide singers. The offering for the church was \$170.77. The fourth Sunday in April will be observed as Rural Life Sunday. Our area meeting will be in Concord, N. C., May 15th.

Spencer

The CHRISTIAN PLEA

Vol. LV, No. 7

Columbus, Ohio, July, 1948

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JARVIS COLLEGE OBSERVES 35th COMMENCEMENT CONVOCATION

Sunday, May 23rd, marked the beginning of a week of commencement activities at Jarvis. The Baccalaureate sermon was delivered by Dean W. O. Gill to a capacity audience of parents and friends of the college. On Monday evening President and Mrs. Washington entertained the members of the senior class at their home. The evening was climaxed with a delightful repast.

On Thursday night the Jarvis Nursery held its closing exercises. Eight little "tots" ranging from the age of five to six were given their diplomas.

On Friday night, Miss Gussie Cregler, member of the senior class and a resident of Dallas, Texas, and a member of the Boll St. Christian Church,

was presented in recital by the Jarvis College Music Dept. Miss Cregler for more than one hour held the entire audience spellbound through her masterful rendition of some of the well-known classics and spirituals. Miss Cregler was repeatedly called back to the stage with encores. Miss Cregler was accompanied by Miss Alyce Gay, director of the college music department.

Wednesday evening, 8 o'clock, the annual presentation in recital of the Jarvis Ensemble, the College Choir and the members of the Music Dept. was held in the Mary E. Ervin Chapel. A capacity audience greeted these young artists with unstinted appreci-

(Continued on Page 3)

SCI Commencement

Southern Christian Institute witnessed one of the greatest and certainly the largest commencement exercises in its history of seventy-three years.

The baccalaureate sermon was delivered by President Long and the commencement address by Mr. E. J. Dickson, Exec. Sect. of our Christian Missionary Convention. The commencement services were held north of the Mansion out on the lawn next to U. S. Eighty Highway under the huge moss-hanging trees. There were 755 chairs carried to the said location, but yet we were not able to accommodate all those present with seats. Those who had to stand numbered between 250 and 300. Many feel safe in saying we had 1000 people to witness E. J. Dickson's challenge to 81 graduates over loud speaker system. Of these 81 graduates, 26

(Continued on Page 4)

ON TO DETROIT 1000 STRONG 32 Annual National Christian Missionary Convention

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Detroit, Michigan

ELD. R. L. JORDAN, Minister

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Everybody's Going? You Can't Afford To Miss This
Our Greatest Convention

**GOOD PROGRAM, GOOD HOMES, GOOD FOOD,
GOOD FELLOWSHIP**

Eld. S. S. Myers, Pres.

Eld. L. L. Dickerson, Sec.

TIME—TUESDAY, AUGUST 17th, 1948

"RIGHT MAKES MIGHT" The Christian Plea

Published monthly by the National
Christian Missionary Convention.
Eld. E. J. Dickson, Ex-Sec.
Eld. S. S. Myers, Pres.
L. L. Dickerson, Editor.

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ing issue.

Justification By Faith

Mr. Sidney A. Scott has an article in the June issue of the Christian Plea on "Crusading," in which he raises an important question. He says "I have often wondered was it simply the belief in Jesus that saves our souls or is it the life we live after being converted, and the daily forgiveness of our sins." It seems to us that a lot of people are confused on this point. Quite often we hear people say, "I'm not interested in creeds and doctrines." Others say they do not believe it matters what one believes as long as they are sincere. We seem to be living in an age when people are attempting to substitute ethics and morality for faith, and works for grace. We would not try to minimize the good life. We know that a religion without works is a monstrous thing. But salvation is not of works. Salvation is by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. Unless our ethics and morality are a symbol of our faith, they have nothing whatever to do with our salvation.

We can not teach ethics and morality successfully as a philosophy, but rather as a corollary, a practical consequence of one's faith. It isn't often that we hear a preacher preaching on that great theme, "Justification by faith." A lot of present day Christians don't even know what justification by faith means. Often we hear people say, "there are good people in all churches." That is true. But no one is saved because he or she is good; no one is that good. We are saved because of what we believe. Provided we believe the right thing.

If the Doctor Were A Bishop

Recently we received a letter from Dr. J. E. Walker, Treasurer of National Convention, asking for personal contributions to the National Convention of \$50.00 or \$100.00. We presume these letters have gone out to a large number of our leaders, both ministers and laymen. If I was in the Methodist Church and Dr. Walker was my Bishop, I would make sure that he got at least fifty dollars and maybe one hundred. Yet I would resent bitterly any suggestion that the Methodist preachers love the Methodist church more than I love the Christian church. So the important question is, will I the Christian Minister respond in the same manner that I the Methodist minister would respond? My friend, H. E. Fowler of Lockland, Ohio, said he was in a warm discussion with a good Methodist minister on baptism. And just as he thought he had his argument won, the Methodist brother said, "If it cost you Christians as much to baptize as it does to tithe all of you would be sprinkling." What really burned friend Fowler up, he was afraid the Methodist brother was right. Just to make sure I do not preach faith, repentance and baptism every Sunday just because it does not cost us anything, I shall respond to Dr. Walker's appeal, not because he is my Bishop, but because the need is urgent and I love the cause.

Prof. Pratt Honored

A recent news item from Dallas, Tex., carried the announcement that Prof. T. W. Pratt, Elder of the Boll St. Christian Church, member of the Executive Committee of the National Convention, member of the Board of Trustees, International Grand Patron of the Order of Eastern Star, and past president of the Dallas Negro Chamber of Commerce, had been tendered a testimonial dinner in recognition of 27 years of outstanding community service in the city of Dallas and the State of Texas. The Christian Plea takes this opportunity to extend congratulations to Prof. Pratt, not only for his service to Dallas and the State of Texas, but also for his many years of distinguished service to the Christian Church and the National Convention.

We feel that some of our laymen, among them T. W. Pratt, deserve as much credit and honor, for making our National Convention what it is today as any other group. And we feel very definitely that one of our greatest needs, locally and nationally, is the active participation in our total church life of distinguished laymen. Again we say, congratulations, Professor.

Congratulations to our old friend and Brother, D. I. Reid, Editor of the Kentucky Christian Evangel. A true defender of the "faith," always ready to give battle to those who would stray from the truth as it is in Christ Jesus. It makes our hearts rejoice when we find someone who is not afraid nor too busy to contend for the principles of New Testament Christianity. We never did agree with all that D. I. Reid said, but on the doctrine of the church we are of one mind and one accord. Keep up the good work, my Brother

State Conventions

Texas—Fort Worth, July.

Kentucky—Paris, July 20-25.

Oklahoma—Okmulgee, July 20-25.

Florida—Jacksonville, July 22-25.

Ohio—Cincinnati (Wehrman Ave.), July 27-Aug. 1.

Missouri—Marshall, July 27-Aug. 1.

Tennessee—Nashville (Lea Ave.), July 28-Aug. 1.

Piedmont Tri-State—Roanoke, Aug. 4-9

Arkansas—Little Rock (Cross St.), Aug. 9-16.

Central Christian Church Louisville, Ky.

Gwendolyn Craighead, Reporter

The first anniversary of our pastor, Eld. T. P. Grene, was a great success. We hope he will be with us for many more. The choir, under the leadership of Mrs. Lula Rothwell, directed by Mrs. Newhouse, sponsored their annual program which began with a dinner and with a musical program by the Louisville Melodizers. The young people will have their annual program June 20. They are working hard to make it a great success. With the help of God and the leadership of Eld. Green, we are doing great things.

Antioch Christian Church New Brunswick, N. J.

Mrs. Sarah A. Peacock, Reporter

Sunday afternoon, May 23, was a great day at Antioch. Brothers Zelman Johnson and James Mandley were ordained deacons and sisters Ora Johnson and Rosalie Mandley were ordained deaconesses. Eld. F. W. Keys of Brookly and his good people chartered a bus and spent the day with us. Eld. Keys preached the ordination sermon. There were eight other ministers present, including our pastor, Eld. S. E. Tillman. We thank God for the privilege of completing our five weeks program on the air. On Sunday, May 30, we had five additions. We solicit the prayers of all who wish us well.

Report of National Treasury

Since our National Board Meeting we have received contributions as follows:

Second Christian Church, Indianapolis	\$21.00
Second Christian Church Sunday School	\$25.00
Institutional Christian Church, Kansas City, Kansas	\$10.00
Second Christian Church Missionary Society, Danville, Kentucky	\$5.00
Mt. Sterling High Street Church, Mt. Sterling, Ky.	\$75.65
E. M. Alcorn, Louisville, Ky.	\$5.00
Pine Hill Church Missionary Society, Ponta, Texas	\$5.00
Ross Street Church, Montgomery, Ala.	\$30.00
South Side Christian Church, Chicago, Ill.	\$100.00
Mt. Pleasant Christian Church Bible School, Mathews, Alabama	\$5.00
Mt. Olivet Christian Church, Baltimore, Md.	\$74.15
12th Street Christian Church, Washington, D. C.	\$100.00
Bethany Church and Missionary Society, Eads, Tenn.	\$19.00

SPECIAL GIFTS

Eld. Blair T. Hunt (Miss. Blvd. Church)	\$20.00
J. E. Walker (Miss. Blvd. Church)	\$150.00
M. W. Bonner (Miss. Blvd. Church)	\$50.00
J. A. Swayze (Miss. Blvd. Church)	\$50.00

J. E. Walker
Treasurer

Jarvis Commencement

(Continued from Page 1)

ation and gratitude. Miss Alyce Gay, the director of the Department of Music, captivated the entire audience with her rendition of a medley of musical numbers from her own composition and arrangement.

On Saturday evening at 8:00 P. M., the Junior class had for their guests the members of the senior class, at which time the annual Junior-Senior prom was staged. This was a gala affair. The recreational hall was beautifully decorated for this occasion.

Dr. Bayne Driskill, pastor of the Magnolia Avenue Christian Church, Fort Worth, Texas, as a fitting climax to this week of commencement activities, delivered a forceful commencement address to the members of the graduating class and to the many parents and friends in attendance.

President Washington conferred 22 bachelor's degrees and one doctorate degree upon the candidates who had successfully won the privilege of meriting, through hard work, the honor which comes with college graduation.



Bethany Graded Lessons

The Only Materials Prepared Especially To Meet the Needs of Brotherhood Churches

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Send for free samples and "The Light of Effective Christian Teaching"

CHRISTIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION
The Bethany Press St. Louis 3, Mo.

Read the Ads

Do you read the ads? The plea carries only a few ads. All of them carry important information. We especially recommend the Pension Fund ad to the members of our churches, especially the officers of our churches. A common pastime for our people is to lament the shortage of preachers. How much better it would be to do some of those things that would make the Christian ministry more attractive to our young men. The officers of our churches have a responsibility to see to it that their minister is in the Pension Fund, and that the church pays its share of 8½ per cent. Our ministers ought not have to coax and beg our churches for consideration they get. Wake up, Elders and Deacons, see that

your minister is in the Pension Fund. Not for the sake of brother Red or Brother Blue, but for the sake of the ministry and the church.

Patterson Goes To Philadelphia

Eld. Eugene Patterson, Pastor of the High Street Christian Church of Mt. Sterling, Kentucky, has accepted a call to the church in Philadelphia, Pa. He will leave Mt. Sterling July 1st. The Philadelphia church was organized about two years ago. Eld. C. L. Whitfield, Pastor of Mt. Olivet Christian Church in Baltimore, Md., played the leading part in organizing the Philadelphia church.



Suffer
Little Children
to Come Unto Me

**GRADED NURSERY
COURSE**
by STANDARD

Through story, song, prayer and activities, these four parts or quarterlies give the three-year-old child a true concept of God. Pupils' Quarterlies are entitled "Here We Go to Church," "Jesus, Our Friend," "God's Gifts," and "We Thank God." Each pupil's book has twelve new, lovely child life pictures in color, and simple story of the lessons. Teachers' Quarterly has complete lesson and program procedure. For descriptive folder write Dept. 31.

TEACHERS' 35c ea. PUPILS' 25c ea.

THE STANDARD PUBLISHING CO.,
20 E. Central Pkwy., Cincinnati 10, Ohio

SCI Commencement

(Continued from Page 1)

were of the sophomore college class, the largest, also, in SCI's history. Dean Mosley, who sits back with that "million-dollar grin," predicts even a larger graduating class next year. Each of the 23 campus sophomore graduates pledged to enter some other school of higher learning next year. At this writing more than two-thirds have already been accepted by the colleges they plan to enter. That is only one example of the Guidance Program set up here for the students.

As usual, we enjoyed the wonderful "bar-b-cue" dinner. Can you imagine a school serving a free dinner to 1000 people? Well, SCI did it with a smile. The friends of the community furnished, as usual, the cakes and pies and did they roll in on the campus with those cakes and pies!

As you probably already knew, this commencement was "Homecoming Year." Many, many old S. C. fans came back home. Some of those coming farthest were John Lewis, Mrs. Lesly Smith, and Leroy Loadholt of the SCI Club and Mrs. Muriel Jackson Forqueren from Brooklyn, N. Y. Mrs. Bracey came from St. Louis by plane to get here in time for the meeting. Two meetings of the Alumni were held and proved very successful. We had

volunteers from Jackson, Bolton, Edwards, Bovina, Vicksburg and Mound Bayou, all of Mississippi, and one from St. Louis, Mo. (Mrs. Rosa Bracey) to serve as chairmen in establishing local SCI Clubs in those cities and towns named. The following were named to serve one year as national officers of the SCI Clubs: J. J. Hawkins, President; B. L. Jacobs, Sr. Treasurer; Mrs. Odessa Waters, Secretary; and Miss Norma Ruth Miller, Assistant Secretary.

We are asking all former SCIans to send not only their names and addresses but all they may know about J. J. Hawkins, S. C. I. We are starting what is known as an Alumni file. Start mailing methose names and addresses as soon as you read this Plea.

J. J. Hawkins

**Second Christian Church
Rockford, Illinois**

**Rev. F. B. Bradley, Pastor
Annetta L. Tucker, Reporter**

The work, for Kingdom Building, in the Second Christian Church has been moving steadily forward during the first five months of 1948.

Easter services were very inspirational and very well attended. Mrs. Cynthia Martin, of Chicago, was the guest speaker. In April Brother Watson met with us in a very interesting meeting from which he and our pastor, Rev. Bradley, went to Chicago to attend and participate in the Crusade Program.

The various committees and clubs within the church are continually engaged in different activities for spiritual, social, and financial advancement of the Church.

The passing of our dear Brother, Elder Ples L. Holt, who passed this life on April 28, and was laid to rest on May 1, was mourned by all who knew him.

Brother Jason Cowan, of Indianapolis, Indiana, was our guest on Memorial Day at both the morning and evening services. The services were well attended and each person was very much inspired by the very timely and inspirational messages delivered by Brother Cowan.

Miss Annetta L. Tucker
1709 East Harlem Road
Rockford, Illinois

What about your national apportionment? The money is needed now NOW NOW. Our new budget goes into effect July 1st. Send in all you can to Dr. Walker now and bring the balance to Detroit.

What about that raise in salary for the Pastor? Don't make him ask for it. You know everything has gone up—that is, everything but his salary.

**Installation At
Christian Church**

Eld. Elmer W. Faulkner, after serving a month as supply minister at Pasadena Christian Church, 855 North Fair Oaks, Pasadena, California, was called to the pastorate of the church, May 9.

Elder Faulkner was installed by the Christian Ministers' Union of Los Angeles, of which he was the organizer and first president and is now serving as secretary, Sunday, June 6th. All of the cooperating churches assisted. Elder W. J. Bryant, pastor of the 28th Street Church, delivered the sermon and gave the charge to the minister. A combined choir furnished the music.

Elder Faulkner is a native of Omaha, Nebraska, and was educated in the schools of Nebraska, Missouri and Kansas. He was formerly a musician and choir director. He has had much experience in inter-racial activities, civic and labor movements in Utah, Oregon and the Midwest states. He came to Los Angeles in 1944 and has been active in the same organizations here. He was formerly associate minister of the East 28th Street Christian Church.

Mrs. Faulkner, the former Miss Hilda Mae Pcowell, is a qualified youth director who was the sponsor of the Christian Youth Fellowship of the East 28th Street Church. She is a product of Southern Christian Institute, a school of the Brotherhood in Edwards, Miss.

Elder Faulkner's mother, Mrs. I. M. Oliver, was an outstanding church woman in Omaha and a missionary worker for a number of years. The remaining members of the Faulkner family who will help the Pasadena Christian Church to grow are the three little Misses Janette, Beverly, and Elma Kay.

A homecoming of the Pasadena Christian Church membership will be held in conjunction with the installation services, highlighted by a basket luncheon. The Pasadena Christian Church is a friendly church and extends a welcome to all.

**Winners of Awards and Departmental
Certificates for 1947-48**

1. Scholarship Award—

	Point Avg.
Miss Verlin Harmon	2.68
Miss Nina Durham (runner-up)...	2.59
Honorable Mention—	
Miss LaVerta Buckner	2.57
Miss Erma Bradford	2.55
Mr. Thomas N. Walker	2.54
Miss Catherine Mitchell	2.49
Miss Calanthia Lister	2.07
2. Religious Award (Pratt Paton)—

(1) Young Man	Mr. Austin Rey
(2)	Miss Anna B. Jackson

Crusade for a Christian World Embraces The Whole Christian Task



It is concerned with:

The ministry to a hungry, desolate, destitute world with men, women, and children dying from disease and hunger . . . a world weak in body, distressed in mind, and numberd in spirit.

The rehabilitation and reconstruction of our world missionary work. The provision of means whereby we will serve adequately the fields for which we have assumed responsibility.

The meetings of the challenge of the millions of unchurched in North America, and the enlargement of our world evangelistic witness.

The provision of a program of Christian education that will enable us to share in meeting the problem of Sunday School enrollment, the Christian home, a trained leadership, missionary education, and in reaching the thousands of Disciple students in state supported colleges and universities.

The building of church homes to serve the following groups: aged disciples who are not eligible to present homes because of physical handicaps or health reasons; for those who can pay for their care under Christian auspices on a non-profit basis; for Negro children and Negro disciples.

The provision of adequate support, protection and pensions for the ministry and other fulltime staff members by every church and every church related institution.

The meeting of the great problems involved in the floating migrant populations of the United States.

The planting of new churches in needy and strategic areas.

The establishment of a gift fund for church buildings.

A direct approach to the educational problem of the church.

The strengthening of the relationship between the churches and our institutions of Christian higher learning.

The Crusade helps plant the church and build the church throughout the world.

Have you paid your subscription to the Plea yet? Sorry we can't come and collect it. Maybe it just slipped your mind.

Why The Pension Plan

One who dedicates his life to the Christian ministry is immediately "set apart" by two factors he would not control if he could. One, he is "called of God" to be Christ's man. He expects to make sacrifices, financial and otherwise, to be a good minister. Two, as a church leader, he is a part of that group, not self-employed, which is unprotected by Social Security. In other respects he is a normal individual — paying taxes, supporting his wife and family, meeting his church and community obligations; and, like any other person, not knowing whether his active days will be ended by death, disability or old age.

Contrary to the opinion of many, the minister is not a "lone wolf"—he is a part of a cooperative venture. He belongs, along with thousands of others, to the total ministry; and, along with thousands of churches, to the brotherhood. He is God's man, and the symbol of the Christian belief in the separation of church and state. The minister willingly sacrifices his talents, his energies, his money to be a Christian leader. Shall we force him to pay the price of our convictions, too? Or will we help him prepare for life's unknowns—death, disability, and old age—joining with him in a contributory, reserve, non-profit pension plan?

The minister who, with his church, is a participant in the Pension Plan of the Disciples of Christ knows that, if he dies in active service, his wife and minor children will have an income. Should he become disabled, he knows he will not be left penniless. If he should live to old age, he and his wife will be provided for till both have passed away.

The plan is fair, cooperative, and dignified. A pension is not a gift; it is deferred salary earned during the minister's active days. To the minister the Pension Plan means protection, security, self respect, and a freedom that enables him to give of his best. To the church it means a clear conscience, a better leadership, a strengthened pastoral relationship and the fulfillment of scriptural obligation.

Christians believe the social gospel is part of Christ's message for men. But business, industry and government lead the way in providing pensions for its workers. Dare the church lag?

**PENSION FUND OF
DISCIPLES OF CHRIST**
800 Test Building
Indianapolis 4, Ind.

A Call To Young People Of Our Brotherhood

Dear Christian Youth:

Now is the time for you to start making plans to attend the National Christian Missionary Convention, August 17-22, 1948, Detroit, Michigan. The minister, Rev. R. L. Jordan, and his young people are putting forth every effort to have you enjoy a very fine week of Christian Fellowship while in Detroit.

The program committee has planned an interesting program, that will serve as a guide to you in your own spiritual enrichment. The co-presidents, Paul Sims, Lawrence, Kansas, and Rayford Pouncy, Palestine, Texas, are making a special appeal for you to be present at the Detroit Convention.

Some of the outstanding leaders of our brotherhood will be present to work with the young people in the Educational Conference of the National Convention. May I make a personal appeal to the ministers and adult leaders of our churches; this is an opportunity you will not want to pass without having some of the young people of your church share in this rich experience. On to Detroit with at least two hundred of our young people.

Let's make this the best National Convention of our brotherhood. With the help of God we can do it for Him. I am

Yours for a greater convention,
Lorenzo J. Evans
National Director of
Christian Education.

**Cleveland Ave. Church
Winston-Salem, N. C.
Eld. C. H. Webb, Pastor
Mrs. Evelyn M. Hairston, Reporter**

The Cleveland Ave. Church has just recently purchased a parsonage. A very beautiful five room structure located at 407 N. Greenwood Ave. Eld. and Mrs. Webb moved into their new home in April. April 4th the church observed Founders Day, at the morning service. At this time a \$5000.00 building fund drive was launched. The drive is to continue for 90 days. We trust by that time we will be able to finish the work of building a suitable house of worship which our Fathers began. The Missionary Society elected officers for 1948-49 on the second Sunday in May. The C. E. is doing a fine job for the youth of the church under the leadership of Mrs. Cleota Connor. On June 6th Eld. Webb paid tribute to the graduates from the Elementary School through College, also to the newlyweds, Mr. and Mrs. George Burks. Mrs. Burks was the former Josephine Grier. Both are members of the Cleveland Ave. Church.

Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church

In the absence of the pastor, Elder Blair T. Hunt, the assistant pastor, Elder A. C. Crawford, delivered the sermon on May 23, 1948. His subject was: "I Am The Vine; Ye Are The Branches", John 15:5. From his sermon are mentioned the following excerpts:

The vine bears the branches and the branches bear the fruit. This truth sheds a glorious light upon our task in life. We are to receive into our lives the living power of Christ and to let it grow within us and mature into fresh fruit for Jesus.

The comforting thing in this is that it is not a question of our talents, of our knowledge, of our powers, but of this one thing—will we open our lives to that fullness of redemptive power which at all times waits to flow from the vine into the branches?

In the next place, it is comforting that it is not a question of whether I am a small or a large branch. The question of decisive importance is this: Am I a living branch? At one time we were all living branches. In baptism we were grafted into Christ as little branches into the True Vine. But how are we today? Are we withered or are we living branches? If we are living branches, we can bear fruit no matter where we are on the vine, either high up or low down. Only one thing matters: Are we in our place, the place where the Saviour would have us?

The finest clusters of grapes are to be found on the branches lowest down. Do not be anxious, therefore, if your place is an humble one.

What do you think of first when you hear of fruit bearing? Perhaps, we all think first of work. But God thinks first of other things. The fruits of the Spirit are love, joy, peace, long suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, meekness and self-control.

God does not think first of the things we do, but of what we are and of the things we suffer. Now, think of this today and let the people with whom you associate enjoy some of the fruits, some of your love, joy, peace, long suffering and meekness. Then all of you will be happy today.

The National Board will meet August 17th, 10:00 a. m., Detroit. The Recommendations Committee will meet at 2 p. m., Detroit. All members of both of these committees are urged to be present and on time.

JARVIS ORDAINS FOUR YOUNG MEN TO THE CHRISTIAN MINISTRY



Russellville, Ark.

Mrs. Mary B. Franklin, Reporter

Editor of the Plea: I am sad to report the death of Sister Sarah L. Bostick, of 414 W. 24th St., North Little Rock, Ark. Sister Bostick departed this life May 1st, 1948, and was laid to rest on Mother's day the second Sunday in May at her home church, Pea Ridge, Ark. Her work as a Christian was outstanding in the local church and in home and foreign missions. She helped lay the foundation for the missionary work that is being carried on in our churches today. Her home was always open and full of sunshine for Christian workers. We can only say, "Servant of God, well done, rest from thy labor employ, the battle's fought, the victory won, enter thy Master's joy."

Jones St. Christian Church

Luefield, W. Va.

Miss Leola Holley, Reporter

Eld. N. J. Dickerson, Pastor

The Jones St. Church held its regular monthly business meeting Monday, June 7, Mr. J. E. Banks, chairman, presiding. Plans were completed for the 10 day revival that is to begin June 21. Eld. D. W. Heath of the 9th Ave. Church, Roanoke, Va., will be the evangelist. The Bible School held its monthly meeting in the home of Eld. and Mrs. Dickerson, with Mrs. E. G. Jordan presiding. The discussion centered around ways and means of improving our Bible School. Eld. L. L. Dickerson of Columbus, Ohio, Editor of the Christian Plea, was present and took part in the discussion. He also gave us some information concerning the Christian Plea. The Willing Workers entertained in the home of Mrs. Roberta Costa,

Wednesday morning, 7:30 A. M., in the Mary E. Ervin Chapel, four young men were ordained to the Christian Ministry.

The names of the young men are as follows: Mr. Leonard Brown, member of the Junior Class and resident of Palestine, Texas, and pastor of the Bolton St. Christian Church, Jacksonville, Texas, Mr. Austin Rey, resident of St. Louis, Mo., member of the Freshman Class, pastor of the Fulton St. Christian Church, Palestine, Texas, Mr. Benjamin Fleming, member of the Freshman Class, resident of Baltimore, Md., pastor of the Christian Church, Henderson, Texas, Mr. Robert Brown, member of the present graduating class. I might say in passing, Mr. Brown is now available for work as pastor. Mr. Brown has served as student pastor at Rockwall, Texas, and has had considerable experience in the active preaching ministry. Mr. Brown may be contacted by writing him in care of Jarvis Christian College.

Mr. Thomas Nelson Walker, an honor graduate in Religion, is also available for work as pastor in the Christian ministry. Mr. Walker has served as student pastor at Henderson and at numerous mission stations. He is plenty competent and prepared to serve as a Christian minister. Mr. Walker may be addressed in care of Jarvis Christian College.

The Dept. of Religion is happy to report that eight full-time majors, all of whom are young men, were enrolled during the school-year 1947-48. One young woman is also enrolled for full-time work as a major in Religion, making a total of nine.

We take this opportunity to invite all prospective candidates for the ministry and especially those who desire to continue their academic training to contact Dean W. O. Gill, the head of the Dept. of Rel., Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Texas. We also want it understood that courses for in-service ministers who wish to further improve their knowledge of current practices of Biblical pedagogy and religious education are also requested to make their wishes known to the head of the Dept. of Religion.

Thursday, June 10, with a silver tea. Sunday, June 13, was observed as Education Day, honoring the members of the church who graduated from college, high and elementary school. Dr. Lee Irving of the Bluefield State College gave the address. Subject: "Religion in Education."

Jarvis Confers Doctorate Degree On Dr. J. E. Walker, Pres. of Life Insurance Co.

Dean W. O. Gill in presenting Dr. J. E. Walker to President P. C. Washington as a candidate for the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws, said in part: "In view of the fact that Dr. Walker has made and continues to make a unique contribution to the religious, civic and economic life of Negro America and because of the faithful, efficient service which he has rendered through the years to his church and to the youth of America, I now present him to you for the awarding of the doctorate degree, LL.D."

In extolling the many virtues which characterize the life of Dr. Walker, Dean Gill further said: "Dr. Walker was among the pioneer founders of the first banking establishments of the State of Mississippi. This bank, the Penny Savings Bank, Indianola, Mississippi. Subsequently he became president of the Delta Savings Bank, located in the same city.

All during the active and aggressive period of the many ventures in the field of public life as a physician and a business executive, Dr. Walker gave unstintedly of his money and time as an Elder in the Christian Church. He was instrumental in organizing the Christian Church for Negroes at Indianola. He also led in the organizing of the Boulevard Christian Church, Memphis, Tenn.

Unlike many men of wealth and affluence, Dr. Walker always finds time to lend his business acumen to the projection and furtherance of the cause of religion. Dr. Walker has maintained his active interest and support both for his home Church and for the Church across the Brotherhood. Dr. Walker has served as the Treasurer for the National Convention of the Disciples of Christ for more than thirty-one years. No matter what the circumstances and business commitments made upon his time, he has always found time to attend all of the national gatherings and committee convocations sponsored by his Church. For a number of years Dr. Walker has served upon the nominating committee, the executive board of the National Convention. He has also served as a member of the Board of Managers of the Disciples of Christ. His name has already been suggested by both White and Negro leaders as a worthy candidate for membership for the board of trustees of the United Christian Missionary Society.

During the war emergency, Dr. Walker temporarily relinquished the helm of state of the great Insurance Co. which he leads, in order that he might accept the position as special assistant

in the Treasury Dept. with the special task of serving as Chairman of the National Bond Drive. Dr. Walker acquitted himself with dignity and honor during this campaign. Secretary Morgenthau commended him highly upon his altruistic and unselfish service during this campaign. He was given a special award of honor by the Treasury Dept. as a token of appreciation for his services.

Dr. Walker is the founder and president of the Universal Life Insurance Co., one of the largest and strongest Insurance businesses in America, having resources of more than six million dollars. It has capital and surplus surpasses the two-million dollar figure with assets of more than six million dollars.

During the last eighteen months Dr. Walker's name has been heralded across the nation, through newspaper columns and over the radio, as being the foremost Negro leader of America. Dr. Walker is one among the few living Negroes to establish a bank, not a Negro bank but a bank adequate to supplying the monetary needs of people, regardless of race, creed or national origin. Dr. Walker now serves as the highly esteemed and honored president of said bank, the Tri-State Bank, Memphis, Tenn. At its inception this bank raised a sum (cash) of more than \$240,000 on paid-in capital to begin the operation of this bank. This, perhaps, is the largest amount of money raised by any Negro group for such a purpose.

Dr. Walker has also found time during his busy career to serve as president of the Negro Business League, an organization representative of the leading and progressive Negroes of America.

Throughout his entire career, Dr. Walker has been able to maintain the common touch and fellowship with men in all walks of life. His doors ever stand ajar, he is always ready to lend a helping hand to the needy, to civic and religious causes.

He will long be remembered by the boys and girls of the Negro race as the man who made famous the statement: "There is more in the man than there is in the land."

Therefore, deeply cognizant of the wide acclaim, and the high esteem in which this great leader is held by the more than one and one-half million Disciples of Christ and by the Negro people across the far-wide stretches of this nation, and as dean of this college, I now take great pleasure, Pres. Washington in presenting to you, Dr. J. E. Walker, president of the Universal

United Christian Church
16th and West Forest
Detroit, Mich.
Eld. R. L. Jordan, Pastor

Editor of The Plea. Will you please publish the following information.

All persons wishing to stay at the nation's finest Colored hotel, "The Gotham," while in Detroit, must supplement what the local committee allows for lodging. Prices at the Gotham are:

Single room (one person)\$3.50
Double room (two persons)\$4.50
Twin beds (two persons)\$5.00

Suites—\$6 - \$7 - \$8. These may accommodate three or four persons.

All rooms are equipped with bathtub or shower, radio and telephone. The rates are daily, therefore one expecting a \$3.50 room would have to pay \$2.50 extra, while those taking \$4.50, \$2.50; and those occupying a suite priced at \$6, \$7, or \$8, the difference between a dollar per person per night allowed by the housing committee.

If there be those among our brotherhood who would like to stay at Gotham, let us know at once and tell the kind of service you prefer and the day you will arrive. A deposit will be necessary. Only 20 rooms can be assigned to our convention. Send communication to Mrs. Harry K. Bradley, 7790 America, Detroit, Michigan, or Rev. R. L. Jordan, 2421 W. Forest, Detroit, Michigan.

This is a special communication from the Local Housing Committee since some people may wish to stop at this place of beauty and comfort.

The local committee is doing all in its power to make your stay the most pleasant one in the motor city. Therefore we would like to know the number of persons coming from each church if possible.

For your entertainment a trip to Canada is being planned. Everyone hoping to visit abroad ought to have his or her birth certificate.

There will also be a trip to historic Greenfield Village for those who may not wish to visit Canada.

We hope everyone will register at once through the national office, Rev. Emmet J. Dickson, Mission Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Those wishing special service like housing at the Gotham Hotel or other special attention, write us direct.

Detroit is planning to entertain a thousand or more.

Life Insurance Co., President of the Tri-State Bank, Elder of the Miss. Blvd. Christian Church, Treasurer of the National Convention of the Disciples of Christ, as a candidate for the degree LL.D. Doctor of Laws.

Office of Public Relations
Jarvis College
Hawkins, Texas.

A Call To Bible School Workers

Dear Co-workers:

This is to call to your attention the report of the Award Committee of the Christian Education Department of the National Christian Missionary Convention that an award be made to the local Bible School coming nearest achieving the ten points outlined on the "Achievement Chart for Sunday Schools."

We are asking that you use the "Guide to the Use of the Achievement Chart," by Charles Marion Ross. Read carefully the introduction to the Chart which will serve as a guide for its use. If you do not have the Guide you can send to the National Office for one, 222 South Downey Avenue, Missions Building, Indianapolis 7, Indiana.

Turn to page five in the Guide to the use of the Achievement Chart and answer all the questions asked, beginning with point number one, "A Bible School," through to number ten on page twenty-three. Tear this information out and mail in to the National Office along with the name of your local school not later than August 6, 1948. This will be the deadline to get the report in for your school, because it will be necessary for the Committee to check each school in order that the award might be made at the Detroit Convention to the school coming nearest attaining all ten points.

Each Bible School is to report at the National Convention with \$5.00 and each state with \$10.00. If you do not report through your state, then send in your report to the National Convention by your representative.

The extent and scope of the Christian Education program depends in a large measure upon your spiritual and financial support. To this extent we feel that we can count on your full cooperation.

Yours for a greater service,
Lorenzo J. Evans, Director
Religious Education.
(Miss) Bessie E. Chandler, Pres.
Christian Education Department

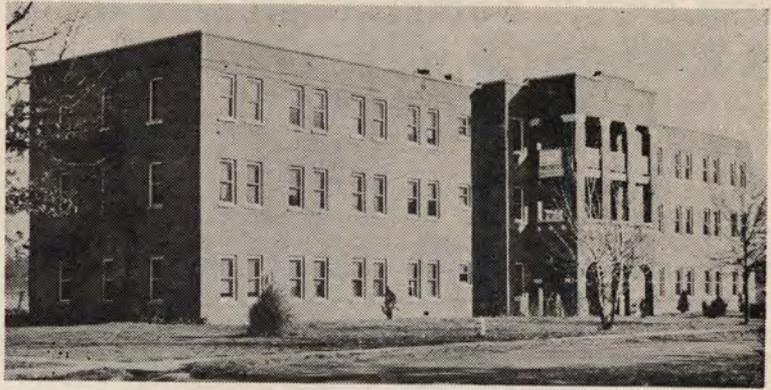
ADVENTURES IN POETRY

OUR PRODIGY

Call out all the relatives!
The firemen; the band!
This morning She began to talk
So we could understand!

Just eight months old, the darling,
Three cheers, and a hurrah!
Imagine it—She perfectly
Enunciated: "Da!"

Augusta Charles Lemmer,
in CAVALCADE



Girls' Dormitory at Jarvis College

Administrative Director Church Development and Evangelism Department

C. L. Parks

Just three nights of steady consecrated effort by ministers and laymen bring more confessions of faith in Christ, restorations to the church and transfers of memberships than fourteen nights of hard preaching by the minister to faithful church goers. The reason is obvious. Most of the people who need to confess Christ; and most of those who need to be brought back into vital relationship with Christ; and most of the people who need to transfer their membership to the churches located in the cities where they are now living, do not, ordinarily, attend Mass Revival Meetings; in fact, most of the members of churches where such meetings are conducted either stay home during the Revival campaign or retreat to other places of interest.

Three nights' effort with the laymen of Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church, Memphis, Tennessee, resulted in twenty-two commitments. Three nights' effort sponsored cooperatively by South Side, Romine Street and Boll Street Christian Churches of Dallas, Texas, and East Anine Street Church of Ft. Worth, Texas, resulted in forty-three commitments; a total of sixty-five commitments in six nights. The above results were experienced because the churches did not wait for the people who needed Christ to come to them but they, the churches, organized and carried Christ into the homes of these hungry souls who showed by their response, by both their word and action, that their delay in accepting Christ in their lives was not born of deliberate intent, but rather due to a lack of sufficient urge on the part of the Evangelistic leadership of the churches. Churches are now discovering the error and are searching for a way or ways.

Visitation Evangelism, wherever properly applied, has brought forth such amazing results that it seems

advisable for us to concentrate on this method. My! how it thrills the heart to hear young men in the prime of their lives say, "Yes, I believe in God and I will come to church Sunday and make public confession of my faith in Christ."

Within the last two days here in Lexington, where we are now in the midst of a Visitation Evangelistic project, I have had five young men between the ages of 25 and 35 years make the "Good Confession"; all were overjoyed to see the church become so interested in them and one said, "If this kind of interest had been shown by the church all along during my lifetime I would have been a Christian long before now. I have often said to my friends that all organizations seem to find time to go out into the community and canvass for members except the church." May I saw to every local church that this is a challenge which should be accepted by all and pushed by all until we are convinced that no man or woman, boy or girl has a just reason to feel that the cause for which Christ came, suffered and died—redemption of man has been neglected in his community.

Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church
Elder Blair T. Hunt, Pastor
Mrs. C. E. Rowan, Reporter
Memphis, Tennessee

"I AM THE VINE; YE ARE THE BRANCHES."

PINE MUSIC

Strange music the wind plays
In tall pines on sunless days.

Haunting songs not to forget,
Into the bones these notes are set.

Strong melody, not for the weak,
The wind's tune on the pine's peak.

Genevieve Stephens,
in POET LORE.

The CHRISTIAN PLEA

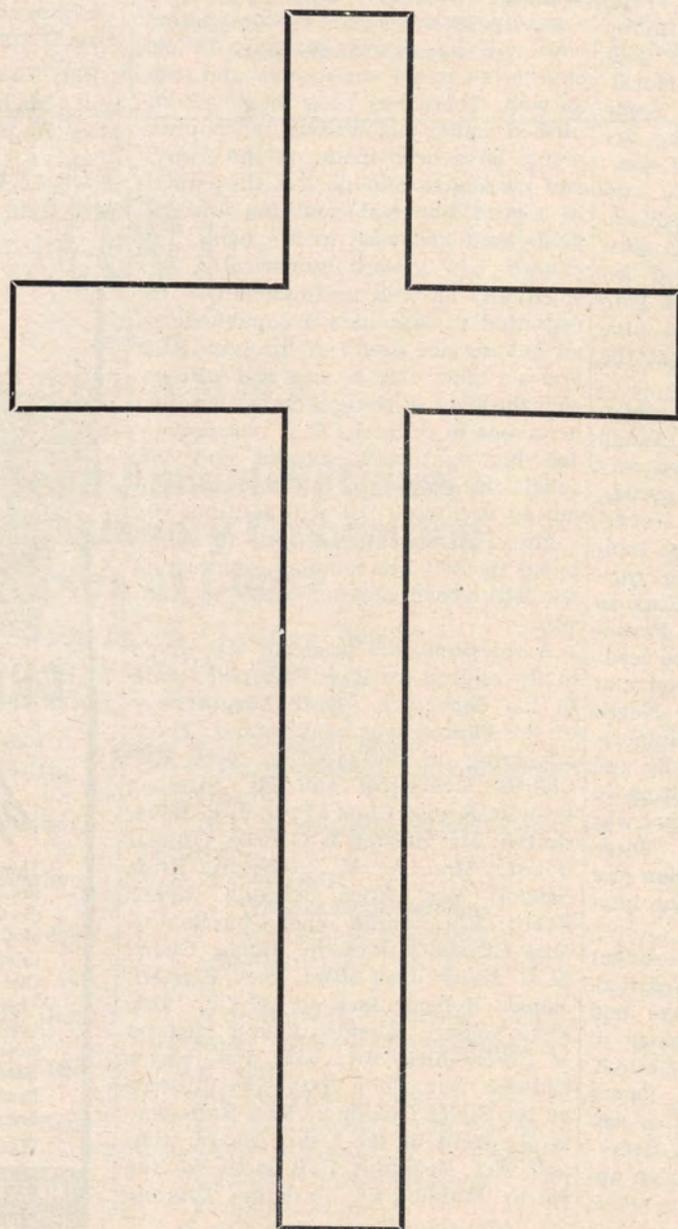
Vol. LV, No. 8

Columbus, Ohio, August, 1948

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OUR PLEA

That They All Might Be One



1500 Expected At Detroit Convention

Theme Emphasis: "The whole person for Christ, Evangelism—Stewardship"

Recent reports from Detroit, Indianapolis and various other sections of the brotherhood indicate the Detroit Convention will be the largest attended and the most successful, spiritually and financially, in the history of the National Convention. For several weeks the secretary has been receiving and answering inquiries from all sections of the country. It seems that after some thirty years we have finally accepted the National Convention as the agency through which some of our most cherished hopes, aims and aspirations may be realized.

It is true we have a long way to go yet to make the Convention all we want it to be. It is also true that we have come a long way in these thirty years, and especially in the last six or seven years. It seems that we have finally come to the place where we are willing to support the Convention Morally, Spiritually, and Financially. Aside from the excellent program, the opportunity for fellowship and the sharing of our experiences with each other, the great motor city on Lake Michigan and the Dominion of Canada (just across the river) provide added inducements to those who find it both convenient and compatible to combine a week's vacation and a week at the convention.

The National Convention has grown tremendously in importance through the years. It has never claimed any authority over the various churches, nor the right to speak for them. Nevertheless the fact is, the several hundred people who come to the convention every year from New York to California, and from Detroit to Pensacola, Fla., actually constitute the leadership of our Negro Brotherhood and speak the sentiments of 75000 Negro Christians. Among the many important things to be disposed of by the Convention this year is the setting in operation the new constitution that was adopted in Cincinnati last year. There has been a great deal of discussion and speculation as to who will be the next president.

Some believe the present President Eld. S. S. Myers should be re-elected. Others are suggesting a change and mention Eld. R. H. Davis, Pastor of the Indiana Ave. Christian Church, Chicago, or Eld. B. C. Duke, Pastor of Avalon Christian Church, Los Angeles, Cal. Since the present Secretary Eld. L. L. Dickerson has been appointed Editor of the Christian Plea, most likely a new secretary will be

elected. Among those most prominently mentioned for this office are the following: Eld. C. H. Webb, Pastor of the Cleveland Ave. Christian Church, Winston Salem, N. C., and Eld. R. L. Saunders, Pastor of East 2nd St. Christian Church, Lexington, Ky.

High Street Christian Church

Mt. Sterling, Kentucky

Prof. J. E. Bean, Church Clerk

(Miss) Mary W. Morton, Reporter

Rev. Eugene Patterson, who served us so faithfully for the past four years, accepted the call from the Pennsylvania Missionary Society and assumed his new duties July 1st. He closed his Ministry here with an Ordination Service for Elder Thoms Elster and Deacon Charles Overstreet. Rev. Paterson is a great preacher, a good pastor, and one who will be missed not only in our church but in the community and state as well. There has been much accomplished under his leadership; improvements have been made on the church and parsonage and he left the church in a good financial condition with all debts paid and cash in the bank. The church has grown numerically and spiritually as well as financially. We regretted to lose such a capable leader but we are proud of his promotion and we know that he can and will enrich the lives of those folks with whom he comes in contact. It is our prayers for his continued success and we solicit the prayers of all that we will not go backward but will continue on.

Mrs. Paterson and son left for Oklahoma to visit her mother, after which she will attend summer school in Kansas.

A reception and program was given at the church for Rev. Patterson, prior to his departure. Every department of the church was represented. Those appearing on the program were: Mr. Charles Overstreet and Mr. Strother Prewitt, Senior Choir; Prof. J. E. Bean, church; Mr. Booker T. George, Official Board; Mrs. A. V. Stockton, Bible School; Mrs. Alice Johnson, Usher Board; Mrs. Lucille Jones Church Aid; Miss Elizabeth Jackson, Junior Choir; K. C. Kelly, Jack Hunt, Jack Bigstaff, James Robert Jackson, C.Y.F. Mrs. Eliza Jackson, Missicnary and Mistress of Ceremonies; Rev. and Mrs. Hayes Oldham. Mrs. Zella Hathaway presented the Silver Offering. Mrs. Hathaway is president of the Usher Board. Mr. and Mrs. Beauford Hall spoke for the North Middletown Christian Church;

(Continued on Page 5, Col. 2)



ELD. S. E. TILLMAN

Pastor Antioch Christian Church,
New Brunswick, N. J.

Eld. Thomas Weldon Courts of Detroit, Mich., was recently married to Miss Roberta V. Brown of Martinsville, Va. The ceremony was performed at the Fayette St. Christian Church, July 10th.



Suffer
Little Children
to Come Unto Me

GRADED NURSERY COURSE by STANDARD

Through story, song, prayer and activities, these four parts or quarterlies give the three-year-old child a true concept of God. Pupils' Quarterlies are entitled "Here We Go to Church," "Jesus, Our Friend," "God's Gifts," and "We Thank God." Each pupil's book has twelve new, lovely child life pictures in color, and simple story of the lessons. Teachers' Quarterlies has complete lesson and program procedure. For descriptive folder write Dept. 31.

TEACHERS' 35c ea. PUPILS' 25c ea.

THE STANDARD PUBLISHING CO.,
20 E. Central Pkwy., Cincinnati 10, Ohio



ELD. S. S. MYERS
President of National Convention
Pastor Paseo Blvd. Christian Church,
K. C., Mo.



THE LATE ELD. PRESTON TAYLOR
Founder and First President of
the National Convention



ELD. B. C. DUKE
1st Vice Pres. National Convention
Pastor Avalon Christian Church,
Los Angeles, Cal.



PROGRAMME

—of the —

**Thirty-second Annual National
Christian Missionary Convention
Disciples of Christ**

THEME: "Crusade For A Christian World"
The Whole Person For Christ
Stewardship — Evangelism

Tuesday, August 17th

10:00 A. M.—Board Meeting.
12:30 P. M.—Lunch.
2:00 P. M. — Recommendations
Committee Meeting.
7:45 P. M. — Opening Sessions,
S. S. Myers, Presiding.
Welcome Program, R. L. Jordan.
Sermon, Blair T. Hunt.
Offering. Announcements. Benediction.

Wednesday Morning, August 18th

7:00 - 8:00—Breakfast.
8:30—General Convention Session.
Devotional, Mrs. E. B. Titus.
8:45—Sermon, E. W. Wilbert.

9:10—Special Music.
9:15—President's Address, S. S. Myers.
10:15-12:15 — Educational Conferences.
12:30—Lunch.

Wednesday Afternoon

S. S. Myers, Presiding
2:00—Devotions, W. T. Strickland.
2:15—Reports, National Convention Officers of Departments and Staff.
Introduction of Visitors.
4:10—ADDRESS, "Church Extension Crusades." W. T. Pearcy.
4:35—Committee Meetings.
5:30-6:30—Dinner.

Wednesday Evening

M. C. Dickson, Presiding
7:30—Musical Feast.
8:00 — Devotions, Frank B. Bradley.
8:15—Address, Mr. I. M. Terrell.
8:35—Special Music.
8:40—Sermon, Walter J. Bryant.
RALLY. Announcements.
9:30—Benediction, W. M. Waterhouse.

Thursday Morning, August 19th

7:00-8:00—Breakfast.
Mrs. Geneva Towns, Presiding.
8:30 — Devotions, Mrs. Rosa Sims.
8:45—Sermon, F. L. Sledge.
9:10—Music.
9:15—Convention Staff.
9:35—Inspirational Address, W. M. Wickizer.
10:15-12:15 — Educational Conferences.
12:30—Lunch.

Thursday Afternoon

Miss Arah Garrett, Presiding
2:00 — Devotions, Mrs. Mary Van Buren.
2:15 — Report of State Presidents.
3:00 — Recommendations Committee Report.
3:50-4:55—Round Table — "The Church and Human Rights in a Christian World," Dr. John Eubank, Chairman; Henry Rowan, Miss Mable Lewis, N. J. Dickerson.
(Continued on Page 7)

"RIGHT MAKES MIGHT"**The Christian Plea**

Published monthly by the National Christian Missionary Convention.
Eld. E. J. Dickson, Ex-Sec.
Eld. S. S. Myers, Pres.
L. L. Dickerson, Editor.

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We go to press the 15th of each month. All news received after the 15th of the month will be published in the following issue.

EDITORIAL**"The General Says No"**

General Eisenhower's definite NO to the feverish attempts of Southern democrats and few northern politicians, is a great relief to thousands who have great admiration and respect for one of America's great heroes. We were opposed to the General seeking political office on either the Republican or Democrat ticket, for the very reason stated so masterly by the General himself.

In a statement issued last January the General said. "It is my conviction that the necessary and wise subordination of the military to the Civil Power will be best sustained, and our people will have greater confidence that it is so sustained when life long professional soldiers in the absence of some obvious and over riding reason, abstain from seeking high political office."

However, there is another reason for us not wanting to see the General become a candidate on the Democratic ticket. In view of the fact that among those who were clamoring the loudest for General Eisenhower's nomination, were Southern Democrats who were in revolt against President Truman because of his Civil Rights program. It would have been impossible for the General to escape being branded as the candidate of the "White Supremacy" party, dedicated to the proposition that all Negroes are inferior and they must not be permitted to enjoy the rights and privileges of other American Citizens. It would have been just too bad for our great hero who fought so magnificently for the principles of Democracy and common decency, to have repudiated it all, by becoming the

Ministers Pay

According to U. S. Government statistics, the cost of living has gone up 79 per cent since 1939. Also we were told that wages had gone up 110 per cent. It would be interesting to know how many of our ministers have received even a 50 per cent increase in salary in the last nine years. Maybe most of them have, we do not know. But we do know that it is most unchristian to say the least, for any church to fail to increase the salary of its pastor in keeping with the increasing cost of living.

The Apostle Paul declared in 1 Cor. 9-14 "Even so did the Lord ordain that they proclaim the Gospel, should live of the Gospel." If we are to have strong churches we must have strong ministers. And if we are going to have strong ministers, our churches must be willing to pay salaries that strong men command.

Men who go to college and prepare themselves for the Christian ministry ought not have to go to the Y. M. C. A., social work or the class room in order to make a living for their families. It is the responsibility of the Elders and Deacons to see that the minister is adequately supported.

The Ministers' Wives' Banquet

For a good many years the Ministers' Wives' Council of the National Convention has provided the delegates their only outstanding social function during the Convention. For a number of years it was an affair of much pomp and dignity. The ministry and laity both looked forward to this event with a great deal of pleasure and enthusiasm and all dressed for the occasion. The program was short, snappy and always very good. The grand march led by one of the Dignitaries of the convention was colorful and enjoyable. However, in the last few years the Ministers' Wives' Banquet has lost something of its past glory. We hope these lovely ladies will make it what it should be this year, and that they will have the wholehearted support of the entire convention. That the ministry and laity will dress for the occasion, evening dresses for the ladies and cut-a-ways, tuxedos and stripes for the men, and a smile and lovely time for all.

candidate of those who were opposed to all he fought for. Thanks General, for refusing to become the candidate of the "White Supremist!"

**Administrative Director
Church Development and Evangelism
C. L. Parks**

Inspiration to write this article comes to me while I am now in Eastman, Georgia, in the midst of a Revival at Bethel Christian Church. I am living in the home of Elder and Mrs. J. M. Thomas whose untiring effort has enabled this church to stand as a credit to our Brotherhood. The minister, Elder R. H. Mitchell, was ordained four years ago. This young minister has a desire for full cooperative and active participation in total Brotherhood life. I believe Elder J. H. Johnson, President of Georgia State Convention, may in the future call on Elder Mitchell for assistance in his effort to bring Georgia into a fuller consciousness of Disciple outreach.

Demonstrated interest by the members of Bethel Christian Church during the three nights the Revival has been progressing has far exceeded my expectation—in fact this quality of concern, if sustained by knowledge, can raise a church from the dead. A commendable spirit of unity and tolerance is manifested in the congregation which has given strength to my effort here now.

Elders J. M. Thomas and R. H. Mitchell have expressed to us their strong desire to attend the National Convention which meets in Detroit this August 17-22. It is my hope that they will be counted among the delegation and not only they but all Disciple ministers. The ministers' conference which is conducted each day for one hour, except Sunday, deals with problems that face the pastor in prosecution of his ministerial task. The combined experience of all pastors who attend the convention will certainly outweigh the isolated experience of the few pastors who stay home. Come and give us the benefit of your proven knowledge. And then too, your National Convention needs your counsel and support. It is also my desire (being a minister) that we take the lead in finance raising during the Convention session. I know you can recall having received letters from Dr. Walker, our National Treasurer; Elder Myers, President and Elder Dickson, our Executive Secretary, concerning the need for vigorous financial support of the National Convention Program. In giving, as in all other areas of church life, we ministers are expected to lead. If every minister would pay five dollars in the Convention Rally, such unity of purpose and action would simply electrify in a compelling way the whole delegation and assure success. In National, as in local church life, people look to us as EXAMPLES.

**Fellowship Christian Church
Philadelphia, Pa.**

Mrs. Lillie B. McKenzie, Reporter

It has been some time since the Editor and the readers of the Christian Plea heard from our church. The reason, we wanted to have a different story to tell. First we want to get the editor and some others straight on the organization of the church. The Fellowship Church began in the living room of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. McKenzie. After finding one other couple in the person of Eld. and Mrs. H. Smith, we met weekly and discussed the new testament, singing and raising funds. We made up our minds to establish a Christian Church in Philadelphia. When our number grew to 12 or 15 we rented the branch Civic League building for one service a week. This was in March, 1947. When I saw the building we now occupy for sale, I called the group together and we began immediately to raise our first \$500.00. This we did in one month. After we organized ourselves we wrote Eld. C. L. Whitfield to come down and connect us with the Eastern Seaboard Convention. Eld. Whitfield came and accepted our church into the convention as Secretary. But he did not organize us as a body. We had already done so. Eld. Whitfield was very helpful. He gave us much information and advice for which we are very grateful.

Later he contacted Mr. W. T. Pearcy of the Board of Church Extension. He came and informed us about the requirements for a loan from the Board. On Dec. 31st we purchased our present building. The Fellowship Christian Church, the name we had given it before Eld. Whitfield knew about the church. Mr. Franklin R. Payne, our State Secretary, closed the deal for the property. The Christian Churches of the state and the Disciples Churches of Philadelphia all helped to get our church in order and the parsonage fixed up. The U. C. M. S. is helping us to get started with a minister. Our State Executive Secretary is in charge of our installation program for July 11th. Eld. Eugene Patterson is our new pastor. We thank our many friends who help us so wonderfully. Among them, Dr. J. E. Walker and Mrs. Lucille Moore of Memphis, Tenn., Mr. E. Foster, Detroit, Eld. Griffin, Mrs. C. J. James and the Clarksdale, Miss., Church, 12th St. Church, Washington, Mt. Olivet, Baltimore, Williams Chapel, Brooklyn, Mt. Calvary, Brooklyn, and Eld. L. Wilson, Yakima, Washington.

**E. 6th St. Christian Church
Oklahoma City
"Oklahoma Crusades Through
Leadership Training"**

June 7-11 Oklahoma had its first Laboratory Training School for adult children workers, at the East Sixth Street Christian Church.

The Faculty (all white): Mrs. Robert Nester, Enid-Director; Mrs. W. I. Johnston, Shawnee, Juniors; Mrs. Alfred Carr, Blackwell, Primary; Mrs. M. L. Pigg, Ponca City, Kindergarten.

Department Enrollments: Kindergarten: Pupils, 23. Teachers—Mrs. Cleo Stephens, City; Mrs. Bobbie Reese, New York, City; Mrs. E. W. Henry, Jr., City. Primary: Pupils 21. Teachers—Mrs. S. J. Miles, Tulsa; Mrs. A. L. Germillion, City; Mrs. Opal Cannon, City; Mrs. Aline Robinson, City.

Junior: Pupils 11. Teachers—Mrs. B. A. Holmes, City; Mrs. E. W. James, Tulsa; Mrs. Rosa Rucker, City; Mr. Edward Cato, Chickasha.

Activities—Study, Worship, Recreation, Craft.

Results: A greater appreciation for "the greatest in the Kingdom of God," and a new determination to bring them up in the paths of righteousness.

This school was made possible, for the Negro Disciples of Oklahoma, by the gracious efforts and generous support of the Christian Ministers' Association of Greater Oklahoma City.

**Director of Missionary Organization
Miss Alva B. Shackelford**

Dear Co-workers:

The time of the National Convention is drawing nearer each day which will terminate the time for our National Missionary Project, Yakima Indiana Christian Mission. This letter comes as a reminder and yet there is plenty of time left to take part in the project.

Below is a paragraph taken from a letter which Miss Schutze, the Director of the Mission, wrote me.

"Our children are with us just during the school year. It is our hope that we can arrange our program so that some of them may stay through the summer. A number of them really are orphans who need love and care. We need washable scattered rugs, and aprons for girls are always acceptable. Bedspreads and sheets for single beds, hair ribbons, bobby pins, socks (from age 6 to 15), underwear and just any and all things that girls anywhere else in America could use. Piece goods—especially for pajamas would be welcome, too . . . or pajamas for boys or girls—age 6 to 15. Soap powder and ever present need, too! The boys like to use hair oil, and need hand lotion

during the winter days for their hands do chap so easily. Bedroom slippers would please both boys and girls. This year the girls received some—and the boys have been asking for some, too. What boy ever had enough socks, shorts, shirts—or anything? Our Indian boys and girls are no different. We are grateful that you have decided upon the Indian Mission for your project this year. We just wish we were nearer so that you might come for a visit."

Please, send or bring items for the August 17-22, Detroit, Michigan. These project to the National Convention, items listed in this letter are in addition to the list which you have already. Choose whatever you wish to give, but by all means support the project.

If sending items before the convention mail to:

Missionary Department of National Convention
Care Rev. R. L. Jordan,
2421 West Forest, Detroit, Michigan

High Street—

(Continued from Page 2)

Mrs. Sara Jones and Mrs. Carrie L. Clemmons, Fairview Christian Church; Rev. and Mrs. Bluster and Rev. Green, C. M. E. Church.

Sunday, July 4th, was Rally Day at High Street Church. Rev. D. H. Heath and family of Roanoke, Virginia, were with us all day. A large number were out to the rally and to witness the wonderful messages brought by the Rev. Heath.

We have just closed out a very successful Vacation Bible School. 132 pupils enrolled. Mrs. A. V. Stockton, Bible School, Supt. and Mrs. Beatrice Prewitt, local director. The teachers were Rev. Patterson, Mesdames V. Y. Grubbs, India T. Davis, Carrie E. Clemmons, Estelle M. Jett, Eliza Jackson, Isabel Botts, Anna M. Jones, Isabell Morton, Sallie V. Banks, Misses R. Mildred Gatewood and Mary W. Morton. The general theme was: "The Life of Jesus."

The Missionary Society will have a Pentecostal Shower, Sunday, July 11.

Sherman Receives Appointment

Eld. Charles E. Sherman, formerly of Jarvis College, was recently appointed one of three new secretaries by the National Student Council. He will assume, with the others, responsibility for work with University and College men throughout the south. Eld. Sherman was formerly president of the C. Y. F. of the National Convention.

Oklahoma City, Okla.

Elder L. L. Dickerson, Editor
The Christian Plea
93 North Ohio Avenue
Columbus, Ohio

Dear Brother Dickerson:

Today marks the close of another year's labor in the field of Christian Service. Thus I feel it my duty to express my gratitude to you, and the very fine staff of Christian leaders, who have so brilliantly and efficiently kept alive the torch of faith and good works in just such an hour as this. Especially do I want to commend the Department of Church Development and Evangelism, and its consecrated Director, Elder C. L. Parks, for their farsightedness in conducting Laboratory Schools in Evangelism for in-service ministers. For me it was one of the greatest experiences of my ministry. It brought me to realize more completely what Christ meant when he said, in His parable of the great supper: "Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled."

Yes, I know the fields are white; I know that it takes the support of our churches to keep this kind of work going; I know that the laborers are few and the time is short. Rest assuredly we are doing our uttermost to lend that support, through the channels of Stewardship, Christian Education, Gospel preaching and consistent Christian living.

Looking forward to a fellowship like unto that of Pentecost at Detroit, I remain,

Yours for greater Christian service,
Enoch W. Henry, Jr.

o

**True Vine
Christian Church**
Eld. H. G. Smith, Minister
Paris, Tex.

Many months have passed since I have written to the Christian Plea. But the home going of one of the oldest women of our brotherhood brings me to your columns once more. A few weeks ago the home going of Sister Hattie Crawford (better known locally as Mother Crawford) occurred in her home in Paris, Texas. She was the wife of one of the founding fathers of the Christian Church in Texas, Bro. G. W. Crawford, who was the father of the late L. H. Crawford. Both the husband and son preceded wife and mother in death.

Mother Crawford was well known in all of our conventions. Many of you will remember her as a convention goer. As long as she was able she never missed going to the conventions,

Dr. Allen Accepts Race Relations Post

NEW YORK—The Rev. Dr. Thomas C. Allen of Richmond, Virginia, for many years prominent in interracial work in the South, has been appointed co-secretary of the Department of Race Relations of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America.

He will be associated with the Rev. Dr. J. Oscar Lee, executive secretary of the department. As co-secretary, Dr. Allen will direct the work of the department with local church councils
(Continued on Page 12)

both state and national. She was a great woman. Her hand was never slack towards the work of the kingdom.

Not only will the family miss her but True Vine Christian Church will miss her as well as the city of Paris. Hers was a full life. She found something to do for the needy, for the church, and for whatever need came her way. She was a great and wise counselor. God let her stay here till she was fully ripe in age, wisdom knowledge and understanding. The best estimate as to her age would place her around 115 years, about eighty-five or ninety of those years were spent in the services of God.

I have seen her when she had to go with a stick to brace herself upon going about gathering clothing and shoes and other articles that might be used by the needy. She gathered money to buy coal and wood to send to the needy. She found something to do each day for some one in need. For thirty-nine years she was a widow. She started an orphanage and old folks home in Paris, which institution might well be a great institution, but sectarianism defeated it. Through her efforts a home was bought but was later lost.

She believed in humanity, but above all she believed in her race and did what she could to encourage all that came her way to strive to be worthwhile. She put God first in all things throughout her long life. She had great capacity to work and she did just that until she was so she could not work. Then she talked for the cause of Christ till the end came.

Many are the souls she led to God. What a starry crown hers will be. Yes, she has won them by faithful service to her Lord and Master.

It was on the 25th day of April that she, like the Arabs, folded her tent and silently stole away home to rest ever more from her labors.

We can but say sleep on Sister Hattie and ever be at rest.

Kansas City, Mo.

R. Wesley Watson

The Midwest Conference was held June 20-27th at Bonner Springs, Kansas, for Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma. This conference is sponsored by the United Christian Missionary Society, The Christian Educational Dept., and National Convention of Disciples of Christ for the training and development of youth of the church. Conferees were from Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma. Thirty-nine attending and 12 on the faculty. Lorenzo J. Evans, National Director of Christian Education was dean; Wm. Alphin, Mo., was dean of men, Mrs. Zella Harris of Tallahassee, Fla., dean of women.

The following courses were given: Recreation, Wm. Alphin, Mo.; Study and Christian Youth Fellowship, Miss Mary Willis, Co.; Preparation for Marriage and the Christian Use of Time, Talent, and Possessions by Mrs. W. S. Sims, Kansas. Dr. Jennings Flemming, a returned missionary from India, was a great inspirator and taught "Why Missions," also in charge of the interest group. Personal Devotion and Interest Group were under the direction of Elder Frank R. Bradley, Ill. The Prophets, Elder R. R. Walton. Working for a Christian Economic Order, Miss Florence Dudley, Mo. Conference Cabinet, Dean L. J. Evans, India. Working Together As Christian Youth, Mrs. Eva J. Coleman, Mo. Paul and the Roman World, R. Wesley Watson, Mrs. Zella M. Harris, Florida, was director of worship.

Elder Eugene James, Oklahoma, brought very interesting Vesper Messages and taught Elistment. Mrs. Venibell Bridgewater, Kansas, Mrs. Hazel Acuff and Mrs. Clara Robinson rendered excellent services in the culinary department. The conference opened Sunday afternoon with a most tasty supper prepared and served by Mrs. R. Wesley Watson, R. N. From then on conference was on with faculty meetings and registration and assigning of lessons.

Everyone was up at 6:30 and after Morning Watch breakfast was served and everyone remained busy until 10:15 p. m. Many games were enjoyed by all. The faculty was defeated in a very interesting baseball contest by the students. Thursday night was talent night, which was enjoyed by all.

Friday evening was a great evening with graduating exercises. A most helpful message to the graduates upon the theme "Forward With Christ," after which the following graduates were presented by Dean L. J. Evans, to

(Continued on Page 9, Col. 1)

Convention Program—

(Continued from Page 3)

son, Miss Delores Smiley, Dr. James Crain.

5:30-6:30—Dinner.

Thursday Evening

Mrs. Geneva Towns, Presiding
7:30 — Recital, Mrs. Rosa Page Welch.

8:00—Pageant.

8:30—ADDRESS, Mrs. Clara F. McFarland. Presentation of Gifts, Mrs. P. A. Gray.

10:00 — MINISTERS' WIVES' RECEPTION, Mrs. L. A. Divine, Presiding.

Friday Morning, August 20th

7:00-8:00—Breakfast.
Miss Bessie Chandler, Presiding.

8:20 — Devotions, Mrs. Onedia Reed.

8:30—SERMON, A. J. Jeffries.
9:00—Music.

9:15—CYF Symposium, "Christianity and Youth Today," Paul Sims, Chairman.

10:15-12:15 — Educational Conferences.

12:30-1:30—Lunch.

Friday Afternoon

S. S. Myers, Presiding

2:00—Devotions, D. L. Kinard.

2:15—Ushers' Fellowship. General Business.

4:30-4:55—"The Issues and the Choices Before Our World," Dr. James Crain.

5:00—Benediction, S. Q. Parker.

5:30-6:30—Dinner.

Friday Evening

Miss Bessie Chandler, Presiding
7:30-8:00—Musical Feast.

8:00—Devotions, CYF.

8:15—Address, "Higher Education and the Church," C. C. Mosley.

8:35—Special Music, Southern
8:40—Sermon, President P. C. Washington.

Offering and Announcements.

9:30—Benediction, Thomas J. Griffin.

Saturday Morning, August 21st

7:00-8:00—Breakfast. Paul Sims presiding.

8:30—Devotions, Delores Smiley.

8:45—Sermon, W. O. Gill.

9:10—Unfinished Business.

10:00-12:00 — Educational Conferences.

12:00—Memorial Services. R. Wesley Watson, Presiding.

Sermon, S. E. Tillman.

Benediction, Joseph Ephriam.

12:40—Lunch.

Saturday Afternoon

Rayford Pouncy, Presiding

8:00—Installation Sermon, John D. Henry.

Fellowship Hour.

Sunday Morning, August 22nd

8:00—Breakfast. Miss Bessie E. Chandler, Presiding.

9:30—CHURCH SCHOOL.

11:00—MORNIN GWORSHIP.

11:00—SERMON, S. S. Myers.

Offering and Benediction, R. L. Jordan.

Dinner.

Sunday Afternoon

R. H. Peoples, Presiding

3:30 — CONVENTION COMMUNION SERVICE, M. C. Dickson, Assistant.

Benevolence Offering for Aged Ministers and Widows.

Sunday Evening

S. S. Myers, Presiding

7:00-8:00—MUSICALE — Mrs. Rosa P. Welch, Director.

8:05—Sermon, R. L. Peters.

8:40—Offering.

9:05—Benediction and Adjournment of Convention, S. S. Myers.

E. J. Dickson.

Mrs. Annie Gunning, Chairman, W.M.S. Resource Leader, Miss Alva Shackelford.

N. J. Dickerson, Chairman, Christian Education. Resource Leader, Mrs. R. Brown Mrs. M. Fraizer.

Miss Pauline Staples, Chairman, C. Y. F-C. E. Mrs. Agenora Milner, Miss Alva Shackelford, Miss Wallace.

11:20—Sermon, Eld. B. A. Douglas.

12:00—Committee Meetings.

12:30—Lunch.

Thursday Afternoon

2:00—Devotions.

2:15 — Business Session, Reports of Officers and Board,

3:15—Church, Bible School.

4:00—CFL.

4:45—WMS.

5:30—Dinner.

Thursday Evening

8:15—Christian Education Program.

Sermon by Eld. E. J. Dickson.

Friday Morning

Vice Pres. P. K. Alexander, Presiding

7:30—Same as Thursday.

11:20—Sermon, Eld. T. F. Byers.

12:00—Committee Meetings.

12:30—Lunch.

Friday Afternoon

2:00—Devotions.

2:15—Business, Ushers.

3:00—Business, Laymen's League.

3:30 — Business, Ministers' Fellowship.

4:00—Business, Bible School.

4:30—WMS.

5:00—Church.

5:30—Dinner.

Friday Evening

Missions and Ministers

Mrs. Annie Gunning, Presiding

8:15 — Sermon, Eld. M. L. Lamber (Tentative)

10:00—Adjournment.

Saturday Morning

8:15—Same as previous.

11:20—Sermon, Eld. C. L. Morrissey. (Memorial Service).

12:00—Committee Meetings.

12:30—Lunch.

Saturday Afternoon

1:00—Committee Meetings.

2:00—Devotions.

2:15—Business, Church — Reports of all Committees. Plenary Session. Major committees are joint committees, hence all delegates are requested to be present.

4:30—Unfinished Business of Departments.

5:00—Recess.

5:30—Dinner.

Saturday Evening

Young People's Night

8:30—Youth Program.

Sermon, Eld. S. H. Hairston.

(Continued on Page 10)

Piedmont - Tri-State Meets

66th Annual Session — Piedmont -

Tri-State Convention

ROANOKE, VA., Aug. 4 - 8, 1948

Eld. C. H. Webb, Pres.

Eld. D. W. Heath, Host Pastor

THEME: Evangelistic Responsibilities and Opportunities of the Crusade

Registration Fee — \$6:00

Hour 4:00 P. M.

(Delegates will file all reports with registrar at time of registration).

Location: the host Church is located at

730 Loudon Ave. NW.

Wednesday Evening

8:15—Local Welcome Program.

Response to Welcome, Mr. Fred Redd.

9:15—Sermon, Eld. G. W. Roland.

Presentation of President and Appointment of Committees.

Thursday Morning

8:45—Organization of Convention Institute.

Prof. A. I. Terrell, Dean

M. L. Lambert, Chairman, Adult Church Workers. Resource Leader, Rev.

CEDAR CHRISTIAN CHURCH

East 83rd and Quincy Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio

Elder C. E. Craggett, Pastor
Elizabeth Wells, Reporter

Our Vacation Bible School, with an enrollment of 104, was a large increase over last year's enrollment. We were urged by the community welfare agency to carry on, but could not. However, next year our plans will carry the welfare project also.

The faculty was Mrs. Pearl Craggett, Director; Mrs. K. Cecile and Mrs. B. Thomas, Registrars; Eld. C. E. Craggett, Worship Director; Mrs. L. Martin and Mrs. E. Ccles, Nursery; Mrs. V. Allen, Beginners; Mrs. P. Carroll, 1st year Primary; Mrs. J. Felton, 2nd year Primary; Mrs. Long, 3rd year Primary; Mrs. H. Harrison, 1st year Junior; Mrs. B. Norton, 2nd year Jr.; Miss Daisy Gaffney, 3rd year Jr.; Mrs. E. Frazier, 1st year Intermediates; and, Mrs. J. Chapman, 2nd year Intermediates; and Mrs. J. Chapman, 2nd year Intermediates.

We were very appreciative to Mrs. J. Chapman of Lane Metropolitan C. M.E. Church and Mrs. Norton of St. John's A.M.E. Church for their very fine work in our school. Many thanks went to Mrs. Evans of Franklin Circle Christian Church for her assistance in the training of these teachers preceding the opening of our school and her continued help during its operation.

Saturday evening, July 10th at 6:30 p. m., Mr. Harrison Talbot and Miss Barbara Radford were joined in marriage in a double ring ceremony by our pastor, Eld. C. E. Craggett. The Church was beautifully decorated by Vera's Floral Shoppe. Preceding the Bridal Procession, Miss Shields sang "Because," followed by Mr. Anthony Thomas singing "I Love You Truly" accompanied by Mrs. Ethel Brazier at the organ.

The bride, attired in a long white satin gown was very calm as she marched down the center aisle on the arm of her father, Mr. Samuel Radford. Miss Dorothy Radford, sister of the bride was maid-of-honor. The bridesmaids were: Miss Della Mae Talbot, sister of the groom, Miss Alice Collins, and, Miss Ruby Priah. Little Carolyn Talbot, niece of the groom, and Carolyn Edwards were very darling in their evening gowns as flower girls. The best man was Mr. Kenneth Dabney, and, the ushers were Mr. Leland Howard, Jr., Mr. Alfred McCall and Mr. Zodie Johnson.

The reception followed in the cool basement of our Church and everyone enjoyed the delicious assorted-shaped sandwiches, punch, ice cream and cake



ELD. E. J. DICKSON
Executive Sec. National Convention,
Indianapolis, Ind.

which was served buffet style from the lovely decorated table with the large wedding cake in the center.

The tables along the walls were filled with gifts and many more were at the home, where the couple will live in their beautiful furnished penthouse at 2321 East 90th Street.

You Should Know

By Marjorie E. Chenault

DO YOU KNOW the 32nd Annual National Christian Missionary Convention will be held in Detroit, Michigan, at the United Christian Church (2415 West Forest Street) August 17-22, 1948?

DO YOU KNOW Rev. R. L. Jordan (2421 West Forest) is the host pastor?

DO YOU KNOW that, although Detroit is chiefly known as "The Motor City," it has a remarkably diversified panorama of industry? Besides manufacturing automotive products, Detroit engages in the fabrication of airplanes, ships and railroad equipment. Rubber, steel, paint and electrical goods are other products manufactured.

DO YOU KNOW that, located two and a half miles from the heart of Detroit lies one of the most beautiful islands in America—Belle Isle. The

island offers a complete variety of recreational opportunities.

DO YOU KNOW that, in addition to Belle Isle, Detroit possesses many other fine parks, the most famous of which is the Detroit Zoological Park? Here, animals from five continents are exhibited in natural surroundings by means of hidden walls and moats instead of the traditional bars and cages.

DO YOU KNOW the population of Detroit, America's fourth largest city, is approximately 1,700,000 and there are approximately 800 churches representing all denominations?

DO YOU KNOW Saturday afternoon, August 21, there will be A TRIP TO CANADA? Do not forget to bring your birth certificate.

DO YOU KNOW there will be a Second National Christian Education Conference?

DO YOU KNOW the National Missionary Project is Yakima Indian Mission?

DO YOU KNOW the most active Bible School to report will receive an award for the best Crusade achievements?

DO YOU KNOW there are over 500 of your churches to participate in this annual session of the convention?

DO YOU KNOW our attendance goal is 1500 and our financial goal is \$7,700?

DO YOU KNOW how many Disciples, who will attend this convention, have received meritorious awards for social, political and business contributions throughout the year?

DO YOU KNOW the registration fee is \$14 and payable in advance for reservations?

DO YOU KNOW you have a vote as a registered delegate to all recommendations and nominations brought to the Convention floor?

DO YOU KNOW there will be a Rally and all contributions made will be applied on State goals?

DO YOU KNOW the new Constitution is now in effect?

DO YOU KNOW these people make up your National Staff?

Executive Secretary, E. J. Dickson
National Director Church Development and Evangelism, C. L. Parks
National Director Christian Education, Lorenzo J. Evans

National Director Missionary Organization-Education, Miss Alva B. Shackelford

National Office Secretary, Miss Marjorie E. Chenault

THESE ARE SOME THINGS I
THINK YOU SHOULD KNOW.

United Christian Church, Detroit
Eld. R. L. Jordan, Pastor
Artur L. Posey, Reporter

Hello Christian Friends. Greetings to all of you everywhere. This is the month of the Convention to be held here in our motor city. We are looking for all of you. The pastor and the church have gone all out to make every minute of your stay here a wonderful experience. The following are the Chairmen of the committees that will serve you. Mrs. Corinna Jones, room assignment. Mr. Elmer Moore, finance. T. K. Roose, decorations. Mr. Harry Bradley, meals. Mrs. A. E. Willis, registration. Harry K. Bradley, lodging. Victor I. Hicks, welcoming. The church is located on the corner of 16th St. and Forest St. You can take Grand-river or Woodland Ave. to Warren and then to Forest. If you enter on Michigan Ave. go west to 16th.

Antioch Christian Church
Eld. S. E. Tillman, Pastor
Mrs. S. A. Peacock, Reporter

Members and friends observed the 17th anniversary of the pastor June 14-24. Each night's service was in charge of a different minister and his congregation. It is a wonderful blessing to us to have such a fine pastor in the person of Eld. Tillman, whom God has seen fit to let toil with us for seventeen long years. He has been an inspiration and an example to his people, and to mankind in the church and out of it. We pray that he may continue to be the man that God is calling for in these evil days. Also we have another establishment in Redball where our assistant pastor Eld. G. Edwards and mother A. B. Washington, the mother of our church, are working very hard to establish a church where Christ is needed so badly. They are really making progress. We know that through the prayers of all and the help of God they will accomplish their purpose.

Kansas City, Mo—

(Continued from Page 6)

the Director, R. Wesley Watson, who gave them their diplomas: Betty Jane Britt, Mary Hardiman, Doris Maul Henson, Carl Eugene Porter, Richard Leon Rogers, Cleedus M. Wilson, Missouri; Patricia Sue Willand James Sims, Kansas. Patricia Sue Will was an "exchange student" and made a fine contribution to the conference.

The Communion Services under the guidance of R. R. Walton was a very inspiring occasion. James Blair, Wm. Grigsby and Clarence Porter served as Elders. James R. Williams, James Sims and Charles Booth served as



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Skill, patience, understanding and determination are necessary before balance in any field of endeavor can be found.

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Christian Board of Publication
St. Louis 3, Mo.

deacons. Mrs. Zella M. Harris, Director of Music prepared the music. The stage was very beautifully decorated with flowers under the leadership of Miss Mary Willis, assisted by some of the conferees, Mrs. Eva J. Coleman arranging the candles in a most effective manner. Consecration offering was taken by Donald Pierce and Bobb Barrett; prayer was offered by Bobby Barrett, after which the "Friendship Circle" was formed, hymns sung and everyone went to his room being silent until Saturday morning after morning watch.

Breakfast was served at 7:30. Songs were sung by the conference and faculty and students expressed appreciation for the very fine work done by the director and his good wife, R. Wesley Watson in making this one of the best conferences. Then the conference met on the lawn where nine of the conferees volunteered for Christian service. Prayers were offered by

Elder Eugene W. James and R. Wesley Watson. New officers were installed, Wm. Grigsby, Evon Beverly and Mabel Redmon. Then conference ended and everyone went home rejoicing.

National Convention Children's Workers Skill Shop

Program:

First Day. Session 1, first hour. Group Discussion. Leader, Miss Hancock.

Second hour. "Skills and Creative Activities."

Second Day. Session 2. First hour. "How Should Teachers Plan Their Work With Children?"

Second hour. "Learning Skills."

Third Day. Session 3. First hour. "The Type of Place Needed for Children If Plans Are To Be Effective."

(Continued on Page 12)

Second Christian Church "The Lives of the Great" Of Indianapolis

The Second Christian Church of Indianapolis began its first Community Vacation Bible School on June 6, 1948. The school got off to a very good start under the capable leadership of Mrs. Dorothy Wilbert of Dayton, Ohio, who volunteered her services to help set up the school and who served as Co-Director with Mrs. Myrtle Evans. Mrs. Wilbert spent the first week giving guidance and help in methods and techniques to the staff of NINE teachers and THREE High School assistants under her supervision. The age range of the 43 boys and girls registered was from 3 to 14 years. The School was divided into 5 Departments: Nursery, Kindergarten, Primary, Junior and Junior High. The general theme was: **THE CHURCH**. The aim was to teach the boys and girls to live a Christian life and to know their church, their pastor, and other leaders of their church. Classes began at 9 a. m. and closed at noon each day, Monday thru Friday. Through the experience of Worship, Study, Handicraft, Fellowship and Recreation the boys and girls were led to a greater appreciation of their church and their community. They were also led to a fuller knowledge of God and his love for all men. The leaders and teachers were well equipped to work with boys and girls of different ages, many being former teachers and others still teaching. Our staff included not only the members of our church, but of other churches who live in our community and who are interested in helping to make our community more Christian. Our teachers were: Mrs. Dorothy Wilbert, Co-Director; Mrs. Myrtle Heath Evans, Co-Director; Misses Geneva Mae Marshall, Jamie Ann Marshall, Mary Margaret Stephens, Mesdames Cora Jackson, Thelma Dickson, Clara K. Hill, Odessa Hill and Mrs. Gibson. Our High School helpers were Misses Sharon Hines, Margaret Dunlop and Loa Miller.

The school will feature its closing exercises and OPEN HOUSE Wednesday, July 21, at which time parents and visitors are cordially invited to come in and see the exhibits and see something of what their boys and girls have learned in the two-week period. We take this opportunity to express our grateful appreciation to Mrs. Wilbert for the splendid help which she gave and we hope that she and her daughter enjoyed their stay with us.

—Mrs. Myrtle Heath Evans,

Reporter
R. H. Peoples, Minister

By Patricia Will, of
Mid-West Conference

History is replete with the achievements of great men and women who have lived noble lives of high purpose. Like the Lowly Nazarene, they fulfilled their life purpose in preaching, healing the broken hearted in delivering the captive in giving sight to the blind and in setting at liberty those who are bruised.

Florence Nightingale, ministering to the sick, Madame Curie devoting long years of research in the discovery of radium. Geo. Washington Carver overcoming the twin hardships of race and poverty to become one of the world's greatest scientists, pointing the impoverished south to new avenues of prosperity. Jacob Kennoly, imbued with a consuming zeal to carry the message of salvation and truth to the people of his beloved Africa. These are but a few of the many who have lived purposeful lives. We all remember how the civilized world was shocked at the assassination of India's great "little brown man" Mahatma Ghandi. No one ever devoted their efforts and energies to a single cause to a greater degree than did Ghandi. His one hope was to see India granted her freedom. No wonder the news of his death came as a tragic blow. That his life should have been taken just a few short months after his dream had come true, seems almost like the irony of fate. Ghandi's name will live through the ages as a symbol of hope, faith and resolute purpose. From him and others like him, let us light our torches of purposeful living.

Lives of great men all remind us,
We can make our lives sublime,
and departing leave behind us,
Footprints on the sands of time.

Director of Religious Education
L. J. Evans

This is to call to your attention the report of the Award Committee of the Christian Education Department of the National Christian Missionary Convention made at Cincinnati, Ohio. It was adopted by the Convention that an award be made to the local Bible School coming nearest achieving the ten points outlined on the Achievement Chart for Sunday Schools.

We are asking that you use the "Guide To the Use of the Achievement Chart" by Charles Marion Ross. Read carefully the introduction to the Chart which will serve as a guide for its use. If you do not have the Guide, you can send to the National Office for one.

Turn to page five in the Guide to the use of the Achievement Chart and

answer all the questions asked beginning with point number one, A Bible School, through to number ten on page twenty-three. Tear this information out and mail to the National Office along with the name of your local school not later than August 6, 1948. This will be the dead line to get the report in for your school, because it will be necessary for the Committee to check each school in order that the Award might be made at the Detroit Convention to the school coming nearest attaining all ten points.

The regular report blank should be filled out and sent to the Convention by your representative. Each Bible School is to report to the National Convention with five dollars and each state with ten dollars. If you do not report through your state, then send in your report to the National Convention by your representative.

The extent and scope of the Christian Education program depends in a large measure upon your spiritual and financial support.

PIEDMONT—

(Continued from Page 7)

Sunday Morning

Eld. D. W. Heath, Presiding
9:30—Church School—Closing Session, Observation Bible School, Pres. N. J. Dickerson and local Supt. in charge.

11:00—Morning Worship.

Sermon, Eld. C. H. Webb.

Communion Service, Eld. G. W. Roland.

Report of Comm. on Resolutions.

1:00—Official adjournment.

1:30—Dinner.

Rev. M. L. Lambert, pastor of the First Christian Church of Reidsville, N. C., has just returned home after a week of confinement in the Kate Bitting Reynolds Memorial Hospital in Winston-Salem. Bro. Lambert has worked untiringly during the year as teacher, preacher, business man and also as chairman of our Executive Board in the Piedmont-Tri-state District. He is desperately in need of rest. It is our sincere hope that he will be sufficiently recovered by convention time to assume his place as an officer.

Aside from the National Workers mentioned on the program we expect to have as guests in our convention Bro. L. L. Dickerson, secretary of the National Convention and Editor of the Christian Plea and also a representative of the Goldsboro-Raleigh District of the Disciples of Christ in Eastern North Carolina.

Kindly submitted,
Charles H. Webb, Pres.,
Piedmont-Tri-state Convention.

The Disciples of Christ And Negro Education

Jason M. Cowan

The masterly article in a recent issue of the Plea by Charles E. Sherman on the Disciples of Christ and Negro Education was a challenging and thought provoking presentation of the acute need for a critical study of our educational needs and institutions by the Negro brotherhood. This challenge should not be allowed to suffer the fate of other voices which have cried in the wilderness of indifference toward our needs and problems for many, many years. Mr. Sherman places the burden of corrective action largely upon the United Christian Missionary Society. However, he does not omit the obligation of our own brethren to do some thinking and planning and acting in their behalf by citing what has been accomplished by an aroused Jarvis Alumni Association. Subsequent articles which have appeared in the Plea indicate Mr. Sherman's double-barrelled blast found a target.

In this article, the primary concern to formulate some educational objectives through out National Convention is our own "back yard" and our need that will be representative of group rather than individual thought and action even though the stimulus comes from necessity from some alert and crusading individual. When and if such group actions comes, it should be cognizant of all of the resources available now and use them in such a way that both the immediate and remote future will not be shackled by dead hands out of the past.

In this respect, there are contributing factors to the educational dilemma of the Negro Disciples which ought to be considered along with those which have to do with policies and procedures of the administering organization. A retrospective survey covering some twenty-five years of immediate and objective contact with some phase of institutional missionary education suggests that certain attitudes among us need correction before we should expect our opinions to carry any appreciable weight with the people who have done the planning, paid the bills, and who, as Mr. Sherman observes, still look upon educational institutions among Negro Disciples as missionary projects rather than permanent fixtures. The following are some of our most persistent attitudes:

1. Deferred Interest. Almost without exception, the executives of the National Convention since the late 1920's have parried any attempt by individuals or alumni groups to make our edu-

cational problems a part of the agenda of the convention. In spite of the acknowledged need among us for trained leadership in pulpit and pew, the educational institutions have enjoyed continuously the role of outsiders, and are programmed only by sufferance. The attitude translated into words reads as follows: "Brother Doe, we are considering your problems. We're going to do something about them later." To my knowledge, that promised action, like tomorrow, has never come.

2. Complacency. Let well enough alone! Hands-off! Or, any combination of terms which mean stagnation the established order educationally has and death to ideas that would disturb been one of our worst offenses. Some years ago a representative group of alumni from S. C. I. and Jarvis met at a National Convention to discuss some common problems and, if possible, coordinate their efforts and resources for the mutual benefit of both institutions. The worthy effort was slain by certain ones whose attitude was: "You take care of your institution, and we'll take care of ours." We trust that the years have mellowed all among us who have not been aware that change is one of the inevitable correlatives of time, or that "We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens bear."

3. Indifference. How numerous are the victims of this attitude, and how easy it is for some persons to become so. A friend and now prominent pastor was literally pushed from pillar to post in his youthful ministry by those who were in positions to do so because of his well-intentioned efforts to awaken his leaders to the growing pains of the brotherhood, educationally and otherwise. He listened patiently to a personal presentation of educational needs similar to those under consideration now, and answered, "It doesn't make any difference any more what happens to our schools." There are far too many of us who have no factual reason for our indifference. There are too many of us who assume that the existence of a given program or institution over a long period of years is a guarantee of its continued existence and usefulness. Too many of us are content to leave to chance or to the "other fellow" all planning for the present and future. In these things we have been negligent to the nth degree. Faced with our collective indifference, we should not expect the executives of our two colleges to go on the war-path against the organization supporting them for the things the institutions need to make them equal to or better than the leading

senior colleges in their areas. This part of the battle for improvement belongs to our now indifferent brotherhood.

4. Educational Day-dreaming. Since the Disciples of Christ launched their first permanent venture in missionary education for Negroes at S. C. I. in 1882, at least five other schools were established in Alabama, Virginia, Texas, and Kentucky. Of these, only Jarvis remains. The others served an age and an area and doubtless justified their existence. At recurrent intervals, college to train ministers arise and secure temporary but financially important following. Usually these champions accuse all institutions of higher learning among the Disciples of straying from the true faith, or of failure to teach our doctrine. Sometimes their motives appear to be personal and mercenary, or, purely agitative. Whatever the motive, such movements are seldom beneficial, and are usually divisive. This is an age when competition characterizes education just as it does business and industry. The educational dollar buys no more proportionally than a dollar buys at a grocery or on the labor market. Operating and maintaining an educational institution worthy of the name is as much a highly specialized business as the operation of a department store. In contrast to this type of day-dreaming, some of us have consistently maintained that our two institutions have all of the potential capacities for ranking with the best colleges of their type and purpose in the United States if properly exploited by the United Society and the National Convention; that they represent an investment of between a half and three-quarters of a million dollars; and that their location is no longer an alibi for supporting them if all qualitative factors are equitable. Whatever sentiment may dictate, the realists among the Negro Disciples are sending their sons and daughters to institutions whose diplomas and credits provide the entrance into graduate schools or professions without further qualifications. When we fully awaken to the realization of what we possess there should be a greater percentage of Disciple youth entering our colleges on a paying rather than a charitable basis.

From this summary of our "negatives," let us turn to a brief and incomplete observation of our two colleges. They are located in Mississippi and Texas in the immediate vicinity of state and regional accredited senior colleges. Southern Christian Institute is in its sixty-seventh year. It enjoys the highest academic rating of both

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Disciples of Christ—

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agencies. It has an enviable reputation for the high quality of leadership it has produced for the Negro Disciples. Its greatest present handicap is the limitation of its college offering to two years. This limitation imposes a loss to the institution of the talents, and income, and services of numerous students at the time when they could be most useful in and to all departments of its activities. In normal times, when there were no war veterans in mass attendance, many prospective and desirable students who favored attending S. C. I. went to other nearby schools to avoid the necessity of transferring to another institution for their junior and senior years. To these limitations add the inevitable loss to other interests and denominations among those who complete their work at S. C. I. and then move on to other institutions for their degrees. For these reasons those who are responsible for the policies and program for education among the Negro Disciples ought to give serious consideration to the raising of S. C. I.'s status from a junior to a senior college.

Jarvis in its present academic status among senior colleges needs the fullest cooperation rather than the censure of the brotherhood. The president inherited a board of directors whose original advisory function appears to have become almost an administrative dictatorship. It is also more than probable that certain older members of the board are still committed to the traditional southern theory that industrial education is the only kind Negroes should have. Lost to such persons are the changed and changing economic conditions in the South and in the nation, the inability of Negroes to find employment in industry commensurate with their training, as well as all of the other factors which have caused enlightened people to realize that there is no type or kind of education that is practical for one group and impractical for another. This board was created in an emergency through the efforts of an United Society executive, now deceased, who could not have anticipated the improved financial status of the institution nor the board's demoralizing effect upon the president and his staff as it progressively usurped prerogatives previously exercised by institutional executives in Home Mission institutions among the Disciples. Thus handicapped, though it is a senior college, Jarvis is far, far behind Southern Christian Institute, our junior college, in the quality and quantity of

its over-all physical and instructional equipment, for the junior college president has never had his executive functions restricted by a board of directors.

It is highly improbable that Jarvis will ever recover its educational balance until its executive is accorded all the courtesies and prerogatives which are due him. The bi-racial board of directors need not be destroyed in order to make these adjustments. The largest and oldest and best colleges and universities in the country have similar boards. They serve a definite and useful purpose within limitations; without these limitations they handicap. The United Society, the National Convention, and the Jarvis Board of Directors should be able to find a solution for this predicament of the one senior college among us that will be mutually beneficial to all concerned.

In conclusion, our history to date has been characterized by flashes of interest in our educational institutions only when some crisis or near-crisis arises. At such times criticisms and condemnations are made and are answered by defensive rebuttals which sometimes stigmatize the defender as one opposed to educational progress. Nothing constructive can be accomplished by these exchanges unless they result in bringing together representatives of one group and the organization concerned for the purpose of evaluating the essential factors of the problem and planning cooperatively and constructively for both the present and the future. Toward this practical procedure a permanent educational committee representing the National Convention and the two institutions could render a great service to the brotherhood by determining what our educational objectives are and how we can realize them; by advising the Home Missions Department on current trends of thought including cultural and economic needs among us which are so painfully slow in reaching our white brethren unless someone guides them; and through such cooperation and planning anticipate educational needs and problems and be prepared to meet them when they arise. This, it seems to me, would make amends in part for our past indifference and negligence toward this vitally important phase of our church life.

National Convention—

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Second hour. "Learning Skills." Fourth Day. Session 4. First hour. "Opportunities the Church Should Pro-

DR. ALLEN—

(Continued from Page 6)

One of his major responsibilities will be promotion of interracial clinics in critical areas of racial tension throughout the country. These clinics, which have been held in 24 cities during the past three years, have aided local church and civic groups in building programs of interracial understanding in the community.

In 1943, Dr. Allen became the first full-time director of the Commission on Interracial Cooperation in Virginia. When the Virginia Council of Churches was formed in 1945 and the Commission became the Council's Department of Interracial Cooperation, Dr. Allen remained its director. Under his leadership many new interracial committees were set up in local Virginia communities and state-wide interracial institutes were held with church and veterans groups.

During his administration the Council became interracial in all of its aspects. It published interracial education literature (and also set up study groups on the Report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights. As a result, a Richmond Committee for Civil Rights was formed and legislation to change segregation laws in the areas of public transportation and public assembly was introduced in the State General Assembly.

Dr. Allen was educated at Wake Forest College, North Carolina, and at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. He taught at Simmons University, Louisville, Kentucky, and at Cuachita College in Arkadelphia, Ark., and later held pastorates in Kentucky and Virginia. He has had long association with interracial movements in the South. Since 1946 he has served the Department of Race Relations on a part-time basis.

In 1947 Dr. Allen was honored by the Baltimore Afro-American, outstanding Negro newspaper, for leadership in the area of race relations.

vide for the Children's Learning." Second hour. "Books and Booklets." Fifth Day. Session 5. First Hour. "Ways Of Carrying Out The Plans." Second hour. "Other Lesson Activities." Resource Persons Miss Bessie Chandler, National President, Dept. Christian Education. State Children's Workers Chairman (from various states), National Chairman of Children's Workers Committee, and other local leaders.

Spencer

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The CHRISTIAN PLEA

Volume LV, No. 9

Columbus, Ohio, September 1, 1948

\$1.00 Per Year—Single Copy 10c

1000 Attend Detroit Convention

The 32nd Annual National Convention of the Christian Church convened with the United Christian Church in Detroit, Mich., Tuesday, Aug. 17th, Eld. S. S. Myers, pastor of Paseo Christian Church, Kansas City, Mo., President, and Eld. R. L. Jordan, host pastor. On Tuesday evening a program of welcome was presented by United Church with Eld. Jordan presiding and a number of the leading religious, social, and business leaders of Detroit joining with the local church in extending a warm welcome. Some 1000 delegates and visitors were in attendance, and in several ways the 32nd convention was the best. More than 20 states were represented and some of the outstanding leaders of the brotherhood and the nation appeared on the program. Among them were Elders B. T. Hunt, pastor of Mississippi Blvd. Christian Church, Memphis, Tenn., E. W. Wilbert, pastor Norwood Ave. Church, Dayton, O., M. F. Mitchell, pastor Metropolitan Church, Los Angeles, Calif., L. F. Sledge, pastor Christian Church, Fort Worth, Tex., N. J. Dickerson, pastor Jones St., Bluefield, W. Va., A. J. Jeffries, pastor 11th St., Birmingham, Ala., S. E. Tillman, pastor Christian Church, New Brunswick, New Jersey, Drs. W. T. Percy of Indianapolis, Ind., William Wickizer, of Indianapolis, Jas., A. Crain, Indianapolis, Prof. A. I. Terrell of Wihston Salem, N. C., Prof. C. C. Mosley of Edwards, Miss., Pres., P. C. Washington, of Hawkins, Tex., Elders J. D. Henry and R. L. Peters of Goldsboro and Winston Salem, N. C., Mrs. Clara McFarland of Indianapolis, and Mrs. E. B. Titus of Dallas, Tex., and Mrs. Rosa Page Welch of Chicago, and a number of others.

The United Church is located at 16th and West Forest Sts. in a beautiful building recently purchased. The congregation was organized eleven years ago by its present pastor, Eld. Jordan. The various educational conferences and the joint sessions were highly entertaining and full of inspiration. There were chartered buses from Dallas, Tex., Chicago, Ill., and Lexington, Ky. The choirs from Indiana Ave. Chicago, and East 2nd St. Lexington, gave recitals. Some \$4000.00 was raised at the convention and the amount sent in before the convention will bring the total giving to more than \$6000.00. This does not include money sent to Unified promotion.

Orion Woman's Guild

Boll St., Dallas, Tex.

The Orion Woman's Guild, was organized two years ago by our pastor and his lovely wife, Eld. and Mrs. M. C. Dickson. They saw the need of an active group of ladies to help carry on the program of Kingdom building in cooperation with other auxiliaries

of the church. The purpose of the club is "To create a closer fellowship among the ladies of the Guild and the members of the church, and to do constructive work in the church. Our first president was Mrs. Lucie Miller who served us for two years and was a faithful worker, With the cooperation of faithful officers, members and our

(Continued on Page 6)

Davis Elected Pres. National Convention

Eld. R. H. Davis, pastor of the Indiana Ave. Christian Church, Chicago, was elected president of the National Convention on Saturday morning. Eld. Davis succeeds Eld. S. S. Myers who has served the past four years and requested that he not be considered for reelection. Eld. Davis is well known throughout the Brotherhood. He has been pastor of the Indiana Ave. Church for 18 years and before going to Chicago he was pastor of Kenyon Ave., Cincinnati, for 15 years. The Indiana Ave. Church has been one of the most loyal, consistent and liberal supporters of the National Convention through the years. The election of Eld. Davis is a fitting honor for one who has served so long and faithful. Other officers elected are Eld. B. C. Duke, Los Angeles, Calif., 1st V. Pres., Mrs. Arah Garrett of Taylor, Tex., 2nd V. Pres., (president of the Missionary Dept.), Eld. E. W. Henry, Okllahoma City, 3rd V. Pres. (president Bible School Dept.), and Raymond Pouncey, 4th V. Pres. (Pres. of C.Y.F.), Eld. R. L. Saunders, Lexington, Ky., recording secretary to succeed L. L. Dickerson and Dr. J. E. Walker, Treas., Memphs, Tenn., elected for the 32nd time.

Piedmont Tri-State Met At Roanoke

Over a thousand people were in attendance at the Piedmont Tri-State Convention which held its sixth annual session at the Louden Ave. Christian Church, Roanoke, Va.

The program on the opening night was one which made history for the convention. The first half hour of the program was recorded and broadcast by the local broadcasting station WDBJ, on which some of the outstanding personalities of the city appeared. The host pastor, Rev. D. W. Heath,

(Continued on Page 5)

"RIGHT MAKES MIGHT"**The Christian Plea**

Published monthly by the National Christian Missionary Convention.
Eld. E. J. Dickson, Ex-Sec.
Eld. S. S. Myers, Pres.
L. L. Dickerson, Editor.

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"Essentials And Non-Essentials"

Reprinted from March 1946 issue of *Clarion Voice*

One of the things, and perhaps the main thing that is causing friction and in some respects division in our brotherhood is that we do not seem to be able to agree on what is essential and what is non-essential.

It is this same question that keeps Protestantism divided instead of united. Those who are disturbed over division among the people of God are appealing for unity with the slogan, "In Essentials Unity, In Non-essentials Liberty." It is doubtful if there is a sincere Christian anywhere that would not subscribe to that slogan, and yet the established divisions remain and others are continually developing. And the reason is that this slogan means absolutely nothing. It is true, the thing that has caused Christian people to divide, in many instances can be termed non-essentials.

Questions of policy, jealousy, selfish ambition and things of that nature have divided church groups. While it is also true that any kind of dis-unity or sectarian division is harmful and contrary to the teachings of the New Testament, men do have a right to disagree on what all agree is non-essential. Paul and Barnabas disagreed over John Mark, and each went his own way. But neither of them preached their personal opinions; both preached the same gospel, and those whom they converted were united in Christ, and not divided into sects represented by Paul and Barnabas respectively.

Paul and Barnabas believed in unity in essentials and liberty in non-essentials. But they went further than that; they were in agreement on what is ESSENTIAL and what is NON-ESSENTIAL. To believe in, advocate or contend for unity in essentials and lib-

erty in non-essentials, will not keep our Brotherhood united.

Unless we can agree on what is essential, and what is non-essential there will always be division among us. We hold that the question of instrumental music in the church is non-essential. That we can worship God in spirit and in truth with instrumental music or without it. Our anti-music brethren contend that the question of instrumental music is essential. That it is essential that we do not have it—or rather it is essential that we worship without the instrument.

Again there are among us those who say belief in the Deity of Jesus is not essential, and others say it is essential. Some say Baptism by emersion is not essential, others say it is. And just as surely as we divided on the question of instrumental music, we are about to divide again on the Deity of Jesus and Baptism by emersion.

Now those of us who deny that the question of instrumental music is an essential, challenge our anti-music brethren for Scriptural proof that it is essential. And when they fail to produce the Scripture, we consider that a victory for us. In that particular the New Testament Scriptures become the final authority. But when some of those same brethren claim that baptism is non-essential or that faith in the Deity of Jesus is a non-essential, and they are given Scripture to prove they are essential, they either reject the authority of the New Testament Scriptures or argue that it does not mean what it says.

It seems to us, if we are to remain united, we must agree on what is essential. That means that some of us must change our minds on this question. In regards to the instrumental music the *Clarion Voice* believes that for the sake of unity we should yield on that point. If playing the organ and the piano offend a large number of our brethren, let us play no more, for the sake of a united church.

If the rejection of the Deity of Jesus and Baptism by emersion offends a large group of our brethren, why not let the offenders abandon their position for the sake of a united church.

Those who are opposed to instrumental music, and open membership practices have strong convictions that their salvation is involved.

Those who use instrumental music and practice open membership *do not* believe these things affect their salvation, so it ought to be easier for them to yield, if they are as anxious for unity as they claim to be. Anyway just who is it that is causing divisions over non-essentials?

If I believe that Baptism is non-

This Is War

"Why insist on going where you are not wanted?" asked a young man who had been reading a news article in one of the local papers concerning the effort of the local N. A. A. C. P. to abolish discrimination at a local place of amusement. It seems that it is extremely difficult to get people, both white and colored, to understand the nature of the fight that the Negro is making for social, political and economic justice for all, regardless of race, creed or color. It is not just a matter of eating in THIS restaurant or going to THAT theater, or living on a particular street. It's a question of whether or not all American citizens are going to enjoy all of the rights of American citizenship or whether race prejudice, segregation and discrimination is to be accepted as a part of the American way of life. There are millions of American citizens, White and Colored, who are convinced that you cannot compromise with evil. We have to accept segregation and discrimination as a whole or reject it as a whole. We cannot accept on one hand and reject it on another. We cannot accept it in our educational system because it gives jobs to a large number of our people, and then oppose it on inter-state travel. Once we have made up our minds that we are opposed to segregation and discrimination we have no alternative but to fight it everywhere we find it. In religion, in industry, in commerce, in education, in politics, everywhere, it raises its ugly head. There is where the battle is pitched. During World War No. 2 we read of how two armies fought several days for hill number 25. Not that either side cared anything about that particular hill, it was because one army saw the other entrenched there, and in war you fight the enemy everywhere you find him. This fight against race prejudice is war. We must fight it everywhere we find it. Not only for our own sakes, but for the sake of America, the land of the free and the home of the brave.

essential, and R. H. Peoples believes it is essential, I should say to Peoples, "I Don't think it matters whether I baptize or sprinkle. I accept both, but since you can not accept both, for the sake of unity, I will accept the one you want."

In that way be both keep our convictions and the unity of the spirit. Of course if I believe Baptism by emersion is wrong, Mr. Peoples should not expect me to yield. And if he thinks sprinkling is wrong I should not expect him to yield. But we both could go to the highest authority—The New Testament Scriptures—and let it settle the question for both of us.



Anniversary Choral Group
Gertrude Smith Jackson, Director

supplied the music for the Anniversary program of Chicago Chapter of the S. C. I. Club

The S.C.I. Club Of Chicago 1923 . . . History . . . 1948

The S. C. I. Club of Chicago was organized in June, 1923, at the home of Rev. and Mrs. E. L. Timberlick, 49 W. 34th St.

The club was organized as a nucleus of interest for Chicago Alumni of Southern Christian Institute and their friends.

The recognized aim of the organization was three-fold: first, Literary; second, Social; third, Philanthropic.

The Literary side is for the exercise and development of latent literary talent of members and friends.

The Social side is self-evident.

The Philanthropic side is to be applied to any needy cause that may present itself to the club.

The first year was largely devoted to finding ourselves and acquainting members and friends with the purpose of our organization.

A part of each regular meeting is used for program time.

For our Annual Programs we have had for Guest Speakers: Rev. Charles Webb, at that time a student at Butler College, Indianapolis, Ind.; Jason Cowan, then Dean of Southern Christian; Merle R. Eppse, Instructor of History at Tennessee State College and author of the book, "The Negro Too In American History"; Lucius Harper, Editorial Writer of the Chicago Defender; John B. Eubanks, Prof. of Sociology and Chairman of the Division of Social Science; Morris Brown College, Atlanta, Georgia, Miss Elizabeth Golbreath, then Society Editor of the Chi-

cago Defender; Cleo Blackburn, Supt. of Flanner House, Indianapolis, Ind.

Our club is blessed with musical talent which has played a great part in keeping the S. C. I. Club alive through the years.

At one time we had a choral group, which filled engagements in the city, at Harvey and Joliet, Illinois, and Kenosha, Wisconsin.

This group was under the efficient direction of Mr. E. C. Welsh, who is not a product of S. C. I. but a loyal supporter of our club.

All money raised after deducting expense was put in the club treasury.

Our social affairs have been varied, such as banquets, formal and pay dances, Christmas parties and picnics.

We have given social affairs honoring the following: Banquet in honor of S. C. I. students attending the National Convention of Disciples of Christ; a banquet honoring Rev. R. H. Davis when he began his Ministry here; Party honoring Captain Jason M. Cowan; Dinner Party in honor of P. C. Washington, President of Jarvis College, Hawkins, Texas; Get-together Party in honor of President John Long of Southern Christian Institute.

In 1924 the S. C. I. Club made its first gift toward a worthy cause. A substantial financial gift was made to an Orphan Home for Boys in Kentucky, supervised by Prof. Singleton, who was one of the first graduates of S. C. I.

In 1928 we gave \$100.00 to the Christian Plea, the Official Organ of Dis-

ciples of Christ (Negro). Rev. Prince Gray was the editor at that time.

The prize gift of the S. C. I. Club of Chicago to our Alma Mater was a Bush and Gerts Concert Grand Piano which cost about \$800.00. This was in 1932.

Scholarships given to students through the year amount to over \$1200. At various times, student aid was given to individuals at Southern Christian.

In 1932, three members went to Homecoming at S. C. I. at the expense of the club.

May, 1948, was Homecoming again and five members went to the celebration taking \$100.00 as a gift from the Chicago Chapter to be applied on the Alumni Gymnasium which we hope will be built.

During the illness or death of any member or relative of member, financial aid and floral offerings are given.

The Chicago Chapter has always been and still is vitally interested in the development and progress of Southern Christian and so, thru the years, it has been necessary to have special conferences with Pres. J. B. Lehman, Miss Dale Ellis, Supt. Home Missions



Presentation of check for \$100.00 for the Alumni Gymnasium from S. C. I. Club of Chicago at the 66th Commencement Exercise at Southern Christian. John C. Lewis to Pres. John Long.

Dept. of U. C. M. S.; and Pres. John Long.

The following members have served as Presidents through the twenty-five years: E. L. Timberlick, Eugene Lewis, Rosa Page Welch, Lemmie Johnson, James M. Hamlin, Viola Aills, Arnette Hervey, Leroy Loadholt, Fred Perkins, Sr., Clifford Spears, Johnnie Spears and John C. Lewis.

How's Your Church Courtesy?

(From Vision, July 11 Issue)

By Ollie James Robertson

THESE DAYS ONE HEARS A lot about proper etiquette. People are careful to watch their manners at the dinner table, the theater, on the street, and various other places. Another place should be added to this list: at church. Of all places where courtesy is in order, the church should head the list.

How is your church courtesy? Have you thought about this lately? Here's a little test to see just where you stand. Read the twenty questions which follow and answer them either YES or NO. Maybe this will show you just where you stand.

1. Do you try to arrive at church on time?
2. Do you take communion with your gloves on?
3. Do you inform the usher where you want to sit and then follow him?
4. Do you make the offertory a time for conversation?
5. Do you remain in church until the service is over?
6. Do you whisper to those near you?
. If the congregation is requested to stand, do you?
8. Do you chew gum?
9. Do you keep small children seated?
10. Do you wear hats, girls?
11. Do you write in songbooks or mark on benches?
12. Are you mindful to assist older persons?
13. Do you ever enter church during prayer?
14. Do you pray silently?
15. Do you wear gaudy, frilly clothes, too much jewelry or heavy perfume?
16. Do you sing if the congregation is asked to sing?
17. Do you look backwards or stare at people?
18. Do you accompany your family to church?
19. Do you remove gloves, purses, or other items left by someone else to mark his or her seat?

Scoring: Questions 1-3-5-7-9-10-12-14-16-18 should be answered YES, the others NO. Each correct answer gives you five points. If you rate 75 or above, your church courtesy is commendable. If you fall between 50 and 75 you are on the border line, so try to improve. If you go below 50, wake up! and show the world and yourself that your church etiquette can be good!

Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church



Elder Blair T. Hunt, Pastor
Mrs. C. E. Brown, Reporter
852 Polk Avenue
Memphis, Tennessee

Little Miss Agretta Ann Whitaker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Issac Whitaker, 402 H. South Wellington Street, was crowned Queen in a Popularity Contest sponsored by the Missionary Society of the Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church. The contest ended Saturday, July 24, 1948, and little Miss Whitaker was crowned Queen Sunday night, July 25, 1948, following a musical program with the teen-agers as participants. The coronation ceremony was impressively conducted by the pastor, Elder Blair T. Hunt. Queen Agretta and her seven princesses were royally feted by the Missionary Society, Friday, July 30, 1948. The names of the seven princesses were Elaine Moore, Millicent Cade, Hattie Mae Staves, Mary Jean Hurd, Doris James, Lillie Patricia Walker and Shirley June Keyes. Agretta is nine years old and in the fifth grade at Porter Street Grammar School. She was crowned queen of her school in May 1947 and ruled over more than 1200 students. Agretta likes music and is studying voice under Madame F. McCleave of Memphis, Tennessee.

Two weeks vocation Bible School was held at the Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church from July 19th to August 1st. More than 150 children were enrolled. At the close of the school a program was held and the certificates awarded. Due to the generosity of Prof. J. A. Swayze, Assistant Superintendent, the children were served lemonade and ice cream each

Pine Bluff, Ark.

Eld. E. B. Johnson

Editor of the Christian Plea. Please allow me space to present a two-fold subject. One is the question Mr. Sidney A. Scott raises on faith and works. We are saved by grace, not of ourselves, it is the gift of God. Faith in the Grace that God gives us, which is his son. He saves us on the condition that we keep his commandments, which includes works. There is no such thing as one being saved without works, works is proof that we have faith in God's grace which is his son. Personally in my weak way of thinking, the condi-

(Continued on Page 4)

day of the school period. They were ably instructed by Miss Emma Lee Wilson and Mesdames C. B. Cade, W. H. Crawford and Freddie Dowdy.

A good time was had by all when the Layman's League sponsored a bazaar on the church lawn Friday night, July 30, 1948.

A CALL FOR DEDICATION

Each year the Pension Fund invites all of our churches to observe the Week of the Ministry. This year the dates are October 10 - 17, and the theme is "A Call for Dedication."

God has endowed man with all things needful. He has left it to man to decide how he will use His gifts. If nothing else, our first year of Crusading has shown what marvelous things can happen when a portion of man's life and time and substance is dedicated to Him — the souls of men are bettered, decision are made for Christ, the desire for religious knowledge is quickened, the church begins to march. The secret of it all is a deeper dedication to the Christ in whom we believe.

The Pension Fund is dedicated to the cause of the ministry. Without a consecrated ministry the church cannot prosper. Unless the ministry is given some measure of financial protection and security, it is not free to serve. Therefore, we say, let every minister and every church enroll in the Pension Plan.

PENSION FUND OF DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

800 Test Building
Indianapolis 4, Ind.

Sixty-seventh Annual Session of The Texas United Christian Missionary Society

The Sixty-Seventh Session of the Texas United Christian Missionary Convention assembled with the East Annie St. Christian Church, Fort Worth, Texas, Tuesday evening, July 13th. Delegates and visitors were extended a warm welcome by representatives from the ministerial alliance, the Christian Churches of Fort Worth and by various business and social groups. Mayor F. E. Queen, on behalf of the city of Ft. Worth, threw wide the doors of hospitality to each delegate present.

Wednesday morning the Rev. Mr. A. A. Henry, Corsicana, Texas, one of the oldest and best known ministers of the Disciples Brotherhood, delivered a soul-stirring message during the period of worship. Wednesday evening the Rev. Mr. Leonard Brown, student Minister of Jarvis College and pastor of the Bolton's St. Christian Church, Jacksonville, Texas, delivered the annual Educational address.

The convention sessions were made most meaningful due to the presence of two of the national field staff. Mr. E. J. Dickson, Executive Secretary of Negro Work and Program Director of the National Negro Convention of the Disciples of Christ. Accompanying Dr. Dickson was Miss Alva Shakleford, director of Women's Work and Youth activities in the Dept. of Religious Education.

The Convention was characterized throughout all of its sessions by soul-stirring Gospel preaching. Elder C. Zollars, Houston, Texas, Elder L. E. Hall, Dallas, Texas, Elder Oscar Jacobs, of Hawkins, Texas, Dr. M. C. Dickson, Boll St. Christian Church, Dallas, Texas, Evangelist N. R. Page, Bay City, Texas, Elder I. Q. Hurdle were listed as guest ministers during these sessions.

Perhaps the high note of the convention took place Thursday night. Pres. Washington, Jarvis College, delivered a challenging message to the large delegation assembled. He admonished them that Negro Youth must prove worthy of the trust placed in them by the pioneers of days long since past. The Jarvis College Ensemble rendered special music for this occasion. A special offering was taken for the college amounting to \$223.06.

Thursday was given over to Missionary activities. These activities were directed and guided by Mrs. A. Garrett. An impressive candlelight ceremony was held Thursday night, after which Prof. I. Q. Hurdle, Chairman

Dept. of Higher Ed., delivered the key note address.

Special music for these services was rendered by the Junior choir from Clark St. Christian Church, Greenville, Tex., and by the Romine St. Christian Church Choir. The convention was brought to a grand climax Sunday morning, at which time the convention president, Rev. M. C. Dickson delivered the morning message. A large delegation was present to witness these services. Resolutions were extended to the Rev. Mr. Sledge, host pastor of the Annie St. Christian Church, and to its members for making this one of the most successful conventions in the history of the brotherhood. The convention adjourned to convene next year in Austin, Texas.

Signed,

C. Henry

Pine Bluff, Ark.

(Continued from Page 4)

tions of the Gospel are to us what the ten commandments were to the children of Israel. If they kept nine of the commandments and didn't observe the tenth they were guilty of violating the whole. So, if we believe and don't repent or repent and don't confess we are guilty of not complying with the conditions of the Gospel. No one of the conditions of itself save us. The second portion of my argument is on the ordination of women in the church. I noticed an account of a certain Christian Church in New Jersey ordaining two of the Deacons' wives. I believe in women working in the church in those things that are beneficial, but under the authority of the man. Since it is not recorded in the scriptures that Christ nor the Apostles ordained women, we can't be safe in assuming that it is right. The scriptures teach that women be subject to men. To ordain them is to give them the same authority and the same responsibility that rests on man. The Apostle Paul said that Adam was first formed, then Eve. I hope the church in New Jersey will look back to the Garden of Eden and see what a mess the whole human family got into when Eve acted on authority. Brethren, beware.

(Editor's note: It seems that our good brother from Arkansas is treading on thin ice on this question of ordaining women. Does anyone want to take issue with him?)

Piedmont

(Continued from Page 1)

was master on ceremonies and the music was furnished by the local church choir.

With a plant affording thirty-five rooms and an auditorium it is said by some of the national workers who attended that the entertainment of the convention was the highest that they had ever witnessed. The convention as a whole ran very smoothly all the way through and there were no complaints by any of the delegates who attended.

The main leaders of the institutional work of the convention were as follows: Miss A. Shackford, Mrs. L. J. Evans, Mr. L. L. Dickerson and Mr. A. I. Terrell. Money raised from all sources: Two thousand four hundred and seventy-nine dollars and twenty-five cents (\$2479.25).

There will be more about the National Convention in the next issue of the Plea.



Suffer Little Children to Come Unto Me

GRADED NURSERY COURSE
by STANDARD

Through story, song, prayer and activities, these four parts or quarterlies give the three-year-old child a true concept of God. Pupils' Quarterlies are entitled "Here We Go to Church," "Jesus, Our Friend," "God's Gifts," and "We Thank God." Each pupil's book has twelve new, lovely child life pictures in color, and simple story of the lessons. Teachers' Quarterly has complete lesson and program procedure. For descriptive folder write Dept. 31.

TEACHERS' 35c ea. PUPILS' 25c ea.

THE STANDARD PUBLISHING CO.,
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Orion Woman's Guild

(Continued from Page 1)

pastor, who serves as our advisor, the way has been paved for the future success of the Orion Woman's Guild under the leadership of Mrs. Miller our present president. During her administration we have accomplished many things. On that deserves special mention is the awarding of a \$50.00 scholarship each year to a student who is an active member of Boll St. Christian Church. To be eligible for the scholarship the student must acquire a "B" average for the year's work. The Guild also recommends that the student attend Jarvis College if the school meets the requirements of the student.

The first scholarship was won by Miss Velma Hurdle, a graduate in the June class of Lincoln High School. On May 2nd, "Orion's Woman Day" after a beautiful and inspiring sermon, Prof. T. W. Pratt installed the following officers: Pres. Mrs. Ruth Davis, V. Pres. Mrs. Cleo Smith, V. P. Mrs. Velma Lacy, Recording Sec. Mrs. Juanita Williams, Ass't. Mrs. Esma Richardson, Fin. Sec. Mrs. Ila Fay Sims, Treas. Mrs. M. C. Dickson, Parlimmentorian Mrs. Fessie Mahon, Historian Miss Betty Jean Dejournett. Respectfully submitted, Mrs. Ruth Davis, Pres., Mrs. Anna Bradford, club reporter, Mrs. Elizabeth H. Coleman, Plae Sec.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sidney A. Scott

I am glad to see that education has been added to the curriculum of our religious course of study. The student of history knows too well the slow progress religion made guided by the uneducated thinker.

Even in my lifetime, covering a period of 75 years, I can note the progress made in our religious manners and customs. When I was a boy, so far as religion was concerned, the development of the intellect was not needed. Our customs were crude; no musical instruments to assist in our worship; nothing but the Bible; no Sunday School literature; any one who knew enough to stumble through the printed pages of the Bible could teach. But thanks to education, we have been led step by step to a higher plane of thinking. You have but to walk into any well organized church of today and note the progress made by religious education.

Now comes the term "Christian Education" which distinguishes the difference between religion and Christianity. In old Bible times, history

shows people had plenty of religion, but no Christianity. There was but little or no progress made from Adam to Noah, from Noah to Abraham, and from Abraham to Jesus Christ. Jesus was the turning point from old time religion. He brought to us a better code of morals; a better way of life. He demonstrated by precept and example what this new way of life, if put into practice, would do for the world.

We had religion a long time before we had Christianity. The origin of religion can be traced back to ignorance and fear. The object Jesus had in mind was to establish a religion free from ignorance and fear, and learn how to preserve life and make the best of it by understanding the laws that govern life.

Education develops the intellect to where we can think and reason intelligently. Our main object should be to change our old idea of religion to Christianity. This can only be done by the development of our intellect thru

education.

There was a time when many of us believed that preachers were called by the Holy Spirit which taught them what to say and how to say it. We don't believe that any more; because we have learned by educating ourselves that the preacher is no different from any other man; and that if he wants to be a good preacher and keep abreast with the times, and lead people to higher moral standards of living, he must educate himself. An antedated preacher is like a suit of clothes out of style—no one wants to wear it.

As time goes on and we become more intelligent, we will see this world as our home and be satisfied and happy.

The idea of immortality of the soul and when and where it will live again after death has been the battle ground where ignorance and education have fought ever since man has formed a

(Continued on Page 8)

During Christian Literature Week

Push "The Christian-Evangelist" for Home Reading



Oct. 31 to Nov. 7, when the dominant emphasis of Christian Literature Week is on the home, is the ideal time to have a concentrated drive for getting the brotherhood national weekly—*The Christian-Evangelist*—into every home.

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Save 40%*

Your members can have a \$2.50 yearly subscription for only \$1.50 each when you have a C.E. Club (5 or more subscriptions from one church sent in at one time).

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CHRISTIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION
The Bethany Press St. Louis 3, Mo.

National Convention Recommendations

I. Whereas the Laymen's Movement has been voted an auxiliary to the National Christian Missionary Convention with all the rights and privileges thereto at its meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1947: Therefore, be it resolved:

1. That the Laymen's Movement be accorded a session on the program of the National Convention presided over by some laymen so designated by the program committee.
2. That the following section, "That the president of the Laymen's Movement be and hereby is a member of the Board of the National Convention with all the rights and privileges thereto" be referred to the Committee on Constitution.

II. That a Child Care Department within the Convention be established to provide entertainment and supervision for children while the Convention is in session. We further recommend that the host church and the department of religious education finance this service jointly.

III. That the request for a Pre-Convention Youth Session to begin on Sunday night for CYF members be passed on to the Trustees with the recommendation that the pre-convention session be arranged, if feasible, and the National office be requested to work out details and plans for this.

IV. That the 1949 National Convention will be held in Los Angeles, California upon the invitation of the California Churches.

V. That the amendment to the Charter be approved by this Convention. (See attached copy.)

VI. That the suggested budget sent in by the Executive Board. This means that the National Convention will be expected to raise \$9,600 during the year 1948-49.

VII. That the Biennial CYF Planning Conference be integrated into the International CYF Commission.

VIII. That a resolution be drafted by this convention and sent to the National Preaching Convention expressing our willingness to cooperate with them in setting up a dual committee from both bodies to work out ways and means to effect the same unity as we had at the organization of our National Christian Missionary Convention.

1. That the necessary machinery be set up to bring in to effect this recommendation.

IX. That a committee from the National Convention be appointed to make a study of the Taylor Estate for the purpose of determining how the Estate can best be used to meet a great brotherhood need.

X. AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION: That Article 12 of the By-laws, Section 6, be amended to read as follows: "The Convention may pay all the travel expenses of the President, Vice-Presidents, Recording Secretary, Treasurer and one-half of the travel expense of Parliamentarian and Assistant Secretaries to the Convention in session."

XI. AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION: That all unorganized States with one or more churches giving financial support to the program of the convention be given representation on the Recommendations Committee.

XII. That a Transportation Agent be chosen to serve the National Convention.

XIII. That Brother M. F. Mitchell be appointed to serve as Transportation Agent of the 1949 National Convention.

XIV. Whereas, the Laymen's League is a department of our total National work, and Whereas every other department of the convention is a fund-raising activity in addition to their other responsibilities, be it resolved that the Laymen's League have a column on the report sheet where their givings and support of the Convention program may be listed, and that all monies raised by the Laymen's League go into the central treasury.

XV. Whereas, it is important that the National Convention and the entertaining church cooperate in providing adequate entertainment and accommodations for the delegates, be it resolved that this convention delegate the authority to the Executive Secretary, Mr. Emmett J. Dickson, to work with the local committee on arrangements, requiring the local committee to sign an agreement to accept him as manager of local arrangements.

XVI. We recommend that each school in the State have an Observation or Vacation Bible School at their convention and that the best work from the state convention be sent to the National Convention to make up a National Exhibit for Children's Work.

XVII. Whereas, rewards are the incentive of achievement of the Christian life, Whereas, Pins have been used to symbolize achievement of high goals in the church, for example, the Sunday School Pins, Plaques, Awards, Trophies, etc., to stimulate our people to press on to the mark of the high calling of God, and Whereas, such symbol would stimulate our people to become Crusaders of the Cross, Be it resolved that:

1. A Pin copied from the symbol of the Crusade be prepared through our National Office which

should be given a member for bringing a new member into the church, with a star being added in the field around the Cross for each additional member won by that person.

2. That this plan be made a part of our National Crusade Program.

XVIII. Whereas, Devotional Life or Prayer Life is the soul of the Christian Religion, and Whereas, the Master was able to triumph over every crisis of his life through communion with God in prayer and meditation, and Whereas, the Christian Church needs the strength gained through prayer in developing the Kingdom of God and in our vicissitudes of life, and Whereas, we have been told by Christ that "whatsoever we as in his name shall be given unto us if we have faith," and Whereas, we need God in our personal life to sustain our faith that His kingdom may come in us, Be it resolved:

1. That we urge our churches to make the Prayer life the key in our Crusade For A Christian World.
2. That we establish a Devotional Life Department with five Commissioners who shall plan and supervise the distribution of devotional booklets in the homes of our brotherhood through agents in the local churches.
3. That the Devotional Life Department set up a Prayer Room on the first day of every convention and be in charge of it each day of the convention.
4. That each convention day begin with a Prayer meeting not to exceed 20 minutes.
5. That the churches be urged to establish Prayer Rooms in their buildings that may be used at all hours.
6. That each devotional life chairman help establish periods of meditation (silent) every day of the year at 3, 6, 9 or 12 a. m. or p. m. and urge the people to observe them conscientiously.

XIX. Be it resolved that we urge the enactment by the United States Congress legislation to abolish the poll tax system, to pass the anti-lynching Bill, to set up legal machinery to secure fair employment practices in government and in private industry, to abolish segregation in government owned grounds and buildings, and on public conveyances, where such segregation is based solely on the ground of race, color, creed, or national origin, to make sure the permanency of the victories already won by the United States Supreme Court. Finally, to achieve the ends sought in the Report of the President's Commission on Civil Rights as set forth in his annual

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Report of Committee

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Message to the 80th Congress on January 7, 1948.

XX. Whereas, The Honorable Harry S. Truman, President of the United States of America, has used the influence of his honorable office in the interest of the minority groups of America in ways that no public servant of our nation has done since the great emancipation, and Whereas, Those peoples have been the benefactors of his nation and his unanimity appreciate his spirit and the use of his influence in such a direct manner, and Whereas, It was out of his great concern and Christian integrity and his genuine interest in the welfare of these peoples; and the general welfare of our country and the support of the American ideal, Therefore, be it resolved that this convention commend him for his sacrificial stand in our behalf and pray God's blessing upon him in the honest exercise of his office.

XXI. Whereas, war is the antithesis of the Kingdom of God and diametrically opposed to the church and its program, and Whereas, our President, The Honorable Harry S. Truman, has by his own direction sponsored and directed a program of Universal Military Training, and Whereas, preparation for war will eventually lead to conflict between America and other countries of the world, and Whereas, peace can come to the world only by preparing for Peace, and the coming of the Prince of Peace, Be it resolved:

1. That our Chief Executive, The Honorable Harry S. Truman, be urged to use his influence to prepare the nation for peace by the establishment of a Department of Peace as a part of his Cabinet.
2. That the National Convention urge Dr. James A. Crain, Executive Director of the Department of Social Welfare of the United Christian Missionary Society, to initiate this idea in all other religious bodies wherever possible, urging them to make the same request.

XXII. Whereas, the Supreme Court has handed down some decisions in the last year which have been far-reaching in bringing about Civil Rights to all the peoples of our country, and since cases involving constitutional questions come before that body before we can get action on such matters, Be it resolved that this convention go on record as commending the Supreme Court for their decisions in such cases.

XXIII. Whereas, the National Convention Program is the main vehicle through which we may propagate the

Summer Activities At S.C.I.

Jesse J. Hawkins, Reporter

The summer at S. C. I. has been a most busy but enjoyable one. The forty-odd work students who remained on the campus have been wonderful in all phases of the campus life.

We made several trips on the school bus to various occasions such as the State Youth Meet held at Hermanville during the 18, 19 of June. Mr. Everett Jennings was our local Director. Miss Virginia Nichols was one of the instructors from S. C. I. There were twelve young people from here who attended this meet.

Another trip was made to the State B. S. Convention held at Port Gibson July 16, 17 of which there were 24 from here who were present for the second day, Saturday. Fifteen of our group were on program in several musical numbers. On July 25, there were forty-two of the S. C. I. group who went to the Saint Marks Baptist Church for a joint service with the youth of Edwards. And Aug. 5, another bus load went to Baptist district convention which was held at Hopewell.

Three fish-fries and four wiener-roasts on the Mason lawn, on the Allison Hall front, and on our most beautiful Lake front have added much to the C. Y. F. activities. Mr. Ratten has been kept busy each Sunday afternoon serving as lifeguard and giving swimming lessons on our lake, and I must

Christian religion in our Churches, and Whereas, the Ministers are the recognized leaders of our constituency and should rightfully set the example of good stewardship, and Whereas, we want laws to undergird our National Budget to avoid a financial emergency such as we ran into this year, Be it resolved that every minister be required to make a personal Love Gift of \$10.00 to the Convention to be paid before or during each annual session.

XXIV. Whereas, The United Christian Church of Detroit, our host Church, has given us a grand welcome to their buildings and facilities, and Whereas, the city of Detroit has made us welcome to this great Metropolis, and, Whereas, the United Christian Church, our host church, has labored under serious handicaps to make our visit both pleasant and profitable, Be it resolved, that we, the National Christian Missionary Convention of Disciples of Christ, express our grateful appreciation and hearty thanks to Rev. R. L. Jordan, and to the members and friends of the United Christian Church for the wonderful entertainment they have provided for us.

add that boating on the lake has given many thrills.

The Annual School for Church Women was held here on the campus July 6-9. Following this school for the women, we held our Daily Vacational Bible School, of which Miss Helen Hendershot of Alliance, Ohio, served as co-director. Miss Hendershot was also one of our instructors of school for church women. The D. V. B. S. was held July 12-22. There were three divisions: kindergarten, Primary, and Juniors. Misses Lula Johnson, Myretta Mace, and Mary Francis Thomas worked with the Kindergartens; Mrs. Hawkins, Misses Minnie Marshall, and Queen Ester Mace worked the Primary group; and Misses Alma Jean Jacobs, Hattie Davis, Velma Greer, Lydia Ann Smith, and Lillian Smith worked with the Juniors. These eleven teachers did a masterful job with the 109 students enrolled those two weeks.

We were very happy to have Cleo Blackburn and family to spend a week, July 25-Aug. 2, with us. Do not ask if Elackburn did any fishing with Mr. Ratten. Why, on Wed. evening of July 28 the entire campus enjoyed a big fish-fry as the results of their labor. If you want to know who fried the fish—he was none other than the Superintendent of Flaner House of Indianapolis!

I am sorry that I failed to tell you that Mrs. Homer Thomas of S. C. I. had a major operation during the first week of the D. V. B. S. which accounted for her not being director of the School as in the past. A great portion of the school's success, however, rested upon the thorough preparation she made for the school before going to the hospital. But her daughter, Mary Francis, did a wonderful work in the Kindergarten Dept. Thanks be to Mrs. Thomas.

This is only a portion of the summer news. I am waiting for a complete report from the Longs, who are away in conferences, and Dean and Mrs. Mosley, who are away in summer school.

Religious Education

(Continued from Page 6)

religion and began developing his intellect.

I believe in the final analysis, education will solve the problem, and the future church will be founded on the science of morals instead of superstitions, fear and beliefs.

California 1949

The 33rd Annual National Convention of the Christian Church will be held in Los Angeles, Calif., in August, 1949. The Christian Churches of Los Angeles will serve jointly as host.

The CHRISTIAN PLEA

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Columbus, Ohio, November 1, 1948

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THANKS GIVING

“O Come Let Us Give Thanks Unto The Lord”

From the Hills Of Old Virginia

By Eld. G. M. Dickerson

“What’s the matter with God?”

Text: Psa. 46-1, 3. God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in the time of trouble. Therefore will not we fear though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof.

This scripture should give consolation, good cheer and courage to the people of God in these perilous days of 1948. Think of it, REFUGE, STRENGTH, VERY PRESENT HELP IN TROUBLE. The nations trembling with fear do not seem to believe God is sufficient. They are arming themselves to fight their own battles. Once when Fredrick Douglas was almost ready to give up hope in the fight against slavery, Sojourner Truth exclaimed, “Is God dead?” David declared in Psa. 20:7, “Some trust in chariots, some in horses, but we will remember the Lord our God.

Today some are trusting in socialism, some in racism, some in communism and some in democracy. None of

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Fall Planning Conference Nov. 26th

Dear Co-workers:

Plans are now being made for our Second Fall Planning Conference to be held again in Indianapolis at the Second Christian Church, 29th and Kenwood Streets. It is our hope that every State Bible School President, CYF president, Youth Advisor, and Children’s worker will be present.

This will be a meeting you cannot afford to miss and do justice to your

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Newly Elected President Of The Missionary Organization-Education Dept.

The President Speaks

Dear Christian Friends:

This is the fifth year of our National Convention long-range program. Within the next sixty days, one of our outstanding leaders will give us, through the Christian Plea, a comprehensive appraisal of the achievements from this program for the first four years.

Our present convention year is the thirty-third of a thrilling adventure in cooperative, intercultural fellowship.

The National Christian Missionary Convention of the churches of Christ came into being because we needed it. It has been growing, like Jesus, “in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.” The convention has grown in the above areas because you also have grown. What you and your church have contributed in faith, hope, prayer, patience, encouragement, sympathy and generous gifts of money across the years has made it a growing, effective instrument for the inclusive development of our local churches and the enlargement of world-missions.

The growth of a child or an institution means greater needs. By the same token, the needs of our growing Convention have been increasing from year to year. From one field worker in 1942, our staff of workers has increased to five in 1948. Moreover, there is urgent need now for another worker among our ever-increasing group of young people. This need ought to be

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Mrs. Arah E. Garrett, born in Taylor, Texas, was elected President of the National Christian Missionary Convention Department of Missionary Organization-Education. Succeeding Mrs. Geneva A. Towns of Indianapolis, Indiana, Mrs. Garrett also becomes the Second Vice-President of the National Convention by virtue of her elected office.

Mrs. Garrett completed her High School work in Taylor and received three years’ training at Southern Christian Institute. After being transferred to Prairie View State College for two years of study, she matriculated at Tilton College, Austin, Texas. Upon graduation she received her A. B. Degree with honors for successfully mastering the requirements for a major in Education, and a minor in English and History.

While in her teen-age, she was pianist for her home church, Murphy Street Christian, in Taylor and received valuable training and guidance while carrying the responsibilities of President of Christian Endeavor for

(Continued on Page 4)

Thanksgiving And State Missions

Dear Co-workers:

Another Thanksgiving has rolled around, and what have we to be thankful for? As we begin taking stock of our many blessings there are no people on earth to be more thankful than those of us who live in this country.

Because of these many blessings that have been ours during the past year, we have an obligation as Christians to share our means to help make our

(Continued on Page 2)

"RIGHT MAKES MIGHT" The Christian Plea

Published monthly by the National Christian Missionary Convention.
Eld. E. J. Dickson, Ex-Sec.
Eld. S. S. Myers, Pres.
L. L. Dickerson, Editor.

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EDITORIAL Working Preachers

Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them and said, it is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables." Acts 6-2.

Recently we received information that a pastor of one of our leading churches had been appointed teacher in one of the high schools of his city. Our first impulse was to say to our good friend "congratulations." On second thought, however, we began to wonder about this whole question of working preachers. Now we do not have any quarrel with preachers who work, as well as preach. We realize that the miserably inadequate salaries of many of them, perhaps a majority of them, receive leaves them no alternative, if they want to adequately provide for their families.

For a number of years the writer was a working preacher too. He had to work or let his family suffer. He worked as laborer, houseman, janitor, cement finisher, brick mason, he even worked on W. P. A., that his family might eat. Nevertheless we are convinced that the WORKING PREACHER has done as much to impede the progress of our churches as anything else. The preacher who has to work five or six days a week cannot give to the church the spiritual nurture and oversight that is essential to its progress and development. This is particularly true of churches with a large or reasonably large membership or churches in large cities regardless of its size. What time the preacher does not need to meet the demands of his church and the community, he needs it to develop his own intellectual and spiritual capacities. Then too the working preacher creates a bad psychological effect. The preacher and con-

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Summit Christian Church Celebrates

Eld. E. W. Wilbert, Pastor

The Summit Christian Church, formerly known as the Norwood Christian Church, has moved to its new location at the corner of Summit St. and Mercer Ave. September 19th was the day of Dedication. A dawn service was held at 6:30 A. M. This was a testimonial service with the Pastor Rev. E. W. Wilbert bringing the closing message. Eld. E. J. Dickson of Indianapolis was the speaker at the 11:00 A. M. service. Eld. C. E. Craggett of the Cedar Christian Church, Cleveland, delivered the dedicatory message at 3:30 P. M.

Eld. R. H. Davis, our National President, of Chicago, Ill., was our guest on Dedication day. He brought a donation from the Indiana Avenue Christian Church of which he is the minister. He led us in the vows of dedication.

Eld. R. H. Peoples and some of the members of the Second Christian Church of Indianapolis, Ind., was with us also on Dedication day. The Choir of the Second Christian Church furnished the music for the afternoon. The music was fitting and inspiring for the occasion. Eld. Peoples offered

(Continued on Page 3)

Thanksgiving

(Continued from Page 1)

country what we would like to have it be.

Thanksgiving is a time when every church of our Brotherhood has an opportunity to share in a cooperative effort in the cause of promoting the Kingdom of God through your offerings. Your Thanksgiving offering goes for the promotion of State Missions, Religious Education and our Brotherhood schools. It is through your cooperative effort in sharing that we are able to maintain our program of Christian Education.

I am sure that all of you are aware of the demands that are being made upon our church today. What does this mean? It means that the program in Christian Education must be expanded to meet these demands. Won't you make a special effort to see that your church has a share in this Thanksgiving offering which goes for the support of our work here at home?

Let us show our gratitude for the many blessings by sending in your offering immediately. Remember this is the first of the four special days for the Bible School this year.

The expansion of the work depends upon your support financially. I am counting on you.

Sincerely,
Lorenzo J. Evans

If We Only Knew

Sidney A. Scott

I have been thinking of the varied experiences that come to one in a lifetime, especially if the span of life has been very long. And I have also been thinking of the censor and blame which is oftentimes attached to a person, which if we only knew the circumstances and conditions, we would think twice before we spoke.

There seems to be a growing tendency on the part of Christians, or I may say the entire Christian world, to take outward demonstrations as a standard or criterion by which we measure up to, and come in recognition with God.

We say if we do this, or do that, believe that, we show to the world we are so and so, and that God will take us for our face value and receive us into His place of abode and will be recognized as the children of the most high. So far so good, but I fear with the most of us, it does not go far enough.

This cloak of self-righteousness has fooled the world, for these many centuries and made a multitude of hypocrites.

There is something very peculiar about human beings and human affairs. On every hand there seems to be

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Fall Planning

(Continued from Page 1)

local work. Because it is at this meeting that we will plan the program for the year, your State should begin now making plans to have its representatives attend the Conference.

The National Office will make the provisions as they were made last year. That is to provide room and board for the State representatives. The conference is scheduled for the week-end of Thanksgiving for your convenience, with the opening session Friday at 1:00 p. m., November 26th. A full Agenda is being prepared and we are urging all of you to be present for the opening session.

Bring your problems and suggestions in connection with the promotion of your particular work. If you have any special problems you would like to have added to the Agenda, send them to us and we will act accordingly.

By all means remember that we are counting on your State representatives. Without you there can be no planning; without planning there can be no program and without a program there can be no Church School. I am looking forward to seeing you in Indianapolis November 26-27, 1948.

Yours for a bigger and better planning conference,

FRIENDLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Mrs. Ethel Davis, Reporter

415 Summer Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Dear Christian Friends,

We are getting along fine spiritually with regular morning and evening services.

Our Pastor's Anniversary in August was well attended and enjoyable. The sermon was preached by Rev. S. E. Tillman, of the Antioch Christian Church, New Brunswick, N. J.

We were happy to send our pastor and two lay-members to the National Convention. They brought to us very fine reports of the meeting.

On the third Sunday in September, our Pastor preached the Church Anniversary sermon for the Antioch Christian Church. A bus and two cars went with him to help put over a great program. We do ask the prayers of the Brotherhood that we may continue to carry on the good work.

ALAMEDA STREET CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Nashville, Tenn.

Mrs. Annette Jackson, Reporter

Eld. R. C. Maloy, Pastor

We are happy to report the progress of our work. We are eight years old, have bought and paid for our property with hopes of building soon. We had three additions last Lord's day by baptism. We are striving to raise three thousand dollars by spring.

We feel that we have one of the best ministers of the brotherhood, a fine leader, though deprivation of his physical sight, yet he has a great vision of the work and is a dynamic leader. Every department is functioning. You will find enclosed \$1.00 for subscription to the Plea. Send the Plea to Mrs. Annette Jackson, 710 Gay St. Brethren pray for us.

Summit Christian

(Continued from Page 2)

the prayer of Dedication.

Mr. Herald B. Monroe, the executive secretary of the Ohio Christian Missionary Society of Cleveland, delivered the closing address of the day at 7:30 P. M. The celebration continued for two weeks. During the first week some of the local ministers and their congregations of the city rendered service for us. The names and order of the ministers and congregation were as follows: Rev. J. Iman Dixon, McKinley Methodist Church, Rev. L. Happy Shiloh, Baptist Church; Rev. G. W. Reed Wayman A. M. E. Church; Rev. H. L. McNiell, Zion Baptist Church; Rev. G. W. Lucas, Bethel Baptist Church, and Rev. D. W. McFarland, Mt. Olive Baptist Church.

September 26th was Kentucky Day. The following ministers were the speakers for the day. Eld. H. Earl Jackson of the Robbin Street Christian Church, Covington, at 11:00 A. M. Eld. R. L. Saunders of the East Second Christian Church, Lexington, at 3:30 P. M. and Eld. W. M. Owens, a former pastor and now of the Clay Street Christian Church, Paducah, at 7:30 P. M. Kentucky really turned out in a big way with six busses plus the cars. It was a day of rich fellowship.

The second week consisted of the following kind of a program. Laymen's night, Youth night, Ladies' night, and family night.

October 3rd was Ohio Day. Eld. L. L. Dickerson of the Monroe Avenue Christian Church, Columbus, was the speaker for the 11:00 A. M. service. With Eld. H. E. Fowler, the president of the Ohio State Convention, the speaker at 3:30 P. M. The Dayton Disciples Union had the closing service Sunday evening at 7:30 p. m.

The reception was held Tuesday evening, October 5th. It was well attended. An invitation was sent to all the other churches that had shared with us in our celebration. Also to the churches that did not take part in the celebration.

We were blessed both spiritually and financially during our celebration. A number of persons who were unable to come in person sent personal donations. We wish to thank all those who helped in any way to make our celebration a success. All who sent donations through the mail will receive a personal letter of thanks as space will not permit us to run their names.

We are equipped to do a great work in the advancement of the kingdom of God. We are asking the prayers of the Brotherhood in our efforts for the Master.

(See Picture on Page 4)

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—I. O. Royle

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The Summit Christian Church
Recently Purchased by the Norwood Ave. Congregation

News of First Christian Church Concord, N. C.

Mrs. Mary Cadwell, Reporter

Mrs. Esther F. Byers, who was ill for three weeks, is up and on the job in the class room.

Since Elder Roland has been with us three members have been added to the church. The church is slowly progressing numerically, spiritually and financially.

On the third Sunday in October the Pastor, choir, and congregation worshipped with the five Baptist Churches in Kannapolis, N. C., at three p. m., Rev. W. Bowen, Pastor. That same evening at seven p. m., Rev. L. W. Washington, Pastor of the Holly Grove Baptist Church, and his congregation were with us.

Elder F. F. Byers, who is a student at Jarvis Christian College, writes that he is enjoying the fellowship of the school and the pleasant surroundings. He has been to several nearby towns and preached. He was accompanied by Elder P. C. Washington.

Elder and Mrs. V. B. Byers and Byers, Jr., spent the week-end of Oct. 30th with Elder and Mrs. R. W. Roland in Winston-Salem, N. C. They attended the Homecoming Game of Teachers' College and Smith's Univer-

Newly Elected

(Continued from Page 1)

ten years, superintendent of Bible School for six years and church clerk for fifteen years. At two different intervals she was selected State Secretary of Missionary Societies of Texas and later held the office of State President for six years.

Mrs. Garrett had her first teaching experience in Lum Graded School, Lum, Alabama, under the auspices of Christian Women's Board of Missions. Now she has added to her record nineteen years of teaching English at Crispus Attucks High School of Granger, Texas. During the war, it was her duty and privilege to shoulder the responsibilities as Principal of Crispus Attucks School.

Now Mrs. Garrett is seeking the opportunity to inject her experiences and abilities into the promotion of Women's work for the National Christian Missionary Convention.

Lorenzo J. Evans

sity of Charlotte, N. C.

Among many visitors attending our church during October were Mr. C. T. Spence, Executive of Winston Mutual Insurance, Mr. and Mrs. Sturdimeyer and Mr. and Mrs. Williams of Badin, N. C., Mrs. Cannon, Mrs. Bessie Love and Mrs. Mary Roseman, Concord, N. C.

ANTIOCH CHRISTIAN CHURCH New Brunswick, N. J.

Mrs. S. A. Peacock, Reporter

The Anniversary of the Antioch Christian Church was held September 13-19, and was a success in every way. We were assisted by several different ministers, closing with out Evangelist of the Eastern Seaboard District, Eld. F. W. Keys, pastor of Friendly Christian Church, who is also President of the New England District Union. Two Quartets were present to provide us with beautiful music. Eld. Keys preached from Luke 13-24, Subject: "Strive On!" On the last night of the program Elder Robinson of Brooklyn received his credentials as an ordained minister. On September the 26th, the following gentlemen from the Boosters Club of Superior Lodge No. 15 visited our services and presented us a donation which we appreciated very much. They were Mr. Alvin Jackson, Mr. A. Eats, Mr. S. Byde.

Our pastor, choir, and members were the guests of St. John Baptist Church, Jonesbury, N. J., the fourth Sunday in September. Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Alonzo Foat on the arrival of twins, a boy and girl. Mother and babies are doing nicely.

If We Only Knew

(Continued from Page 2)

a condemnation for every vice and a reward for every virtue. But what prophet among us can say whom shall be the deservant recipient of either. Where shall be placed the credits or discredits? Who shall say to hell with this one or to heaven with that one. Would that we could ever hear the voice of Paul saying, "O man who art thou that judgeth another."

It takes a brave man to stand up under the fire of criticism and blame, especially when the shots come from the lips of his friends. Job withstood all the fiery darts of trials, misery and woe inflicted by the Devil, but broke down when his friends hinted that his misfortunes were but the results of his sins. Woodrow Wilson, our hero and World War president, was a long time dying, but finally the darts of criticism and blame coming from the lips of his friends pierced his mighty heart and he yielded up the ghost.

Of course we all know that blame attaches to ourselves. But who is qualified to pass censor upon or attach blame to another. Robert Burns sings a wonderful human strain, and before we pass judgment upon a fellow being as frail as we are, let us remember his song.

"One point must still be greatly dark,
The moving, Why they do it.
And just as lamely can we mark
Perhaps how much they rue it.
Then at the balance let's be mute,
We never can adjust it.
What's done we partly may compute,
But know not what's resisted."

How much sweeter would it be if we would substitute a little human sympathy for censor and blame.

Let us praise our fellow man where we can honestly do so, and where we can not honestly praise, let us honestly keep our mouths shut, and think of ourselves. Let us embrace that Christ-like spirit that would not break the bruised ree, nor quench the smoking flax; And rather than blame when it is too late, remember the wise saying of Paul, "Ye ought rather to forgive and comfort such a one, lest he be swallowed up in over much sorrow."

(If we only knew).

Bringing this matter directly home to ourselves, we all have our vices and our complimentary virtues. Our lives would not be complete without them. Like a pair of dice, when counting the spots on the opposite side, must make the number seven. If there are three spots on this side, there must be four on the opposite side. If there are two spots on this side, there must

be five on the opposite side, and so on. So with our individual life and social contact. Let us then not close up the account of one's life just by counting the number of vices he has placed against this side for the other side must have the complimentary virtues.

There seems to be a natural weakness of the human family for one individual or class of individuals to set a standard for other individuals to live by, and say just what they must do or must not do. And if for any reason they do not come up to our standard, we begin to pour out our criticism and blame without once asking the reason why. In this respect we try to rear our neighbors' children; try to adjust matters between sweethearts; we say how the husband and wife must conduct themselves; we set a decorum for the elders and deacons. And even the preacher, yet, indeed, he must measure up higher than any of the rest. In fact, his degree takes in the entire decalogue and then some. The preacher must be a father to the fatherless, a husband to the widow, viist the sick, and then preach their funerals when they die. In other words, the preacher must administer to all the common ills and if we find him faltering in any respect, we begin to censor and blame.

I see the form of a man bent with age, who has stood the storms of many a winter's cold blast. He is friendless and alone. The night is dark, and the road is so rugged. Can we blame him if he stumbles and falls? Do we know the circumstances and conditions of his life? Could we look for one to do his best, whose home is under the constant fire of discord? It might help us to interpret ourselves and change our point of view. Can you recall to mind a letter you wrote that you wish you had not written? Do you remember those hard words spoken you wish you could recall?

Our lives are a constant struggle upward. We are seeking to work out the best there is in us, "Letting the ape and the tiger die." The best of us make the journey of life with bleeding feet. When we find a man all out and down, the gutter and gambling hall is his home; when we see a woman who has lost her virtue and the house of prostitution is her home, is it wise for us to add to the weight of the load under which those poor mortals are already struggling?

If this class of humanity was the only ones to receive the wrath of our burning criticism and blame, it might pass. But it is a shame to think of such men as Aristides, Socrates, Jesus, Paul, Bunyan, all have been blamed, burdened, and broken to death, yet the justice of Aristides, the wisdom of Soc-

Heart To Heart Talk By The President

Elder R. H. Davis

Dear fellow-worker together with Christ—

This month, I took time out to give you a factual picture of our churches contributions to our National Convention, as reported by our treasurer from September, 1947, to August 31, 1948.

But before you think in terms of figures, I would like for you to know what some of our enthusiastic leaders are saying about our present program.

"We expect to start in a few days working out a general brief for the convention. We will not leave a stone uncovered in this direction."—Rev. M. Fredrick Mitchell, Los Angeles, Calif.

"You may be assured that you have my full cooperation in promoting the spiritual and financial program of the National Convention set forth in your letter of September 3, 1948."—Dr. J. E. Walker, Memphis, Tenn.

"You may count on me for \$10.00 by November 30th, 1948, for the promotion of the cause. Oklahoma is even now looking forward to a grand and glorious fellowship in California next year at our National Convention."—E. W. Henry, Jr., 3rd Vice Pres., Oklahoma City, Okla.

"It will be a pleasure for me to remit my ten dollars by the specified date. I have always felt leaders should lead the way in the things they are stressing. No other thought have I entertained but go to Los Angeles. I think we owe it to the people of the West Coast."—Mrs. Arah E. Garrett, 2nd Vice President, National Convention, Taylor, Texas.

rates, and the love and righteousness of Jesus are all potent and good for the world today.

So let us then be very careful how we censure and blame, for people in the world are not all just the same. The little hill that seems a mountain to you may to others be but a plane. So why not look with a friendly eye and see the good in things. Shoot not the poison arrow that kills when it stings. Let there be a dew drop for every blade of grass

A blossom for every tree and a thorn for every thistle.

A smile for every tear, the oil of balm for every wounded heart—

A rainbow after every storm,

And a refuge for every shipwrecked soul.

Mrs. Maude Davis 513 East 3rd St. Taylor, Texas

After having to resign my pastoral work at Forrest St. Christian Church, Beaumont, Texas, and go to Denver, Colo., to be with a sister who was quite ill, and being absent from the work of my Church work for over two years, I am happy to be in the field of service again.

I was elated over the great convention in Detroit and especially the very outstanding work of the young and able pastor, Rev. R. L. Jordan, whose work should be an inspiration to every young minister who is pastoring or seeking to pastor. Churches like the one in Detroit just don't happen. They require work, time, and effort, and may I say with the apostle Paul, Whatever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report, if there be any virtue, if there be any praise THINK on these things. Phil. 4-8. Great churches require great thinkers. May the young ministers get the inspiration from the efforts of Rev. Jordan and say "it can be done."

Last Sunday, Sept. 19, we had the blessed experience of witnessing the Dedicatory Service of Crestview Christian Church, Temple, Texas, of which Prof. I. Q. Hurdle is founder. We have two new churches now in the State of Texas of which Bro. Hurdle is founder, one in San Antonio, Texas, the other in Temple, of which the whole Brotherhood can point to with pride. The San Antonio church is a nice frame building on the corner of Crockett and Olive Sts., two of the most prominent streets of San Antonio.

The Temple Church is a nice new spacious stucco building. When completed it will be a lovely Church. The members of the First Christian Church were there in large attendance with their worthy pastor, Dr. W. D. Daugherty, who was introduced by his 82-year-old mother, and he delivered the Dedicatory message. It was a soul stirring sermon enjoyed by all. The National Missionary President, Mrs. Arah Garrett, Mrs. Lenora Rolla, Field Worker of Texas Missionary Society, and Prof. I. Q. Hurdle were guests of honor. Bro. Halton and Bro. Wanzly Givens, officials of the Waco Church, were guests, Bro. Emzy Samson of Davilla, Mrs. Deckard of Waco, Elder Hubbard of Austin. The Austin Choir, Mt. Zion Baptist Church Choir directed by Dr. Dixon with the Crestview furnished the singing which was inspirational. There were a number of guests from Waco, Holland, Taylor, Austin and Davilla.

A spiritual feast was enjoyed by all.

After The Convention What?

During the week of August 16-22, the Disciples of Christ came together from all parts of the country for their 32nd Annual session of the National Christian Convention in Detroit. We had a program planned with the hopes of meeting the needs of all age groups. For the Education Conferences we had some of the best leaders in the country. During our general sessions we listened to addresses and sermons that carried us to the mountain top. Many of the people I talked with attending the convention marvelled at what a wonderful convention we were having.

Now, it is time that definite goals be set up, a suggestive program of work outlined in the different conference groups, but just how far we go to reach the goals and carry out the suggested program depends upon you who attended the Convention. The Convention is over, now What

As we spent a week together with events to enrichen our experiences, those 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, yes, even 300 people who were members of your local churches and remained behind while you represented them, I am wondering, what are you going to do about them?

I do not think we can truthfully say that we had a successful convention based merely upon a week of fellowship and study together, without thinking of what we will do with our teachings after the convention. If at the convention you had such an experience to challenge you to go back to your local church and rededicate yourself to the task of building the Kingdom of God, and sharing your experience with those of your local church whom you represented to the extent that they too will be willing to rededicate themselves to the same task, then for you the convention was a success.

I hope we were able to sense our responsibilities as children of God at our convention, and to see ourselves in the light of the task, or else the mountain top experience will come to nought. We will be looking to you who attended the convention to take the lead in your own community to put into practice those ideals you received. If we left the convention with a sense of our obligation to the extent that we are willing to undergirdle the National Convention program, both financially and spiritually, then the meeting was profitable.

As Christians we dare not end the convention with that challenging message brought by Brother R. L. Peters, but rather it should be a beginning for us so that as we look back over our work at the end of the next

From The Hills Of

(Continued from Page 1)

these provisions of man will save us now. It will take God to save us. Man cannot lift himself by his own bootstraps. WE THE PEOPLE CANNOT SAVE OURSELVES. This is still an unsaved world. 'The gospel is still the power of God unto salvation, to everyone who will accept it. What's the matter with God? We do not need another Savior, we need to trust and obey the Christ our one and only Lord and Savior. Our only hope. Call upon him, his ear is not heavy, he will hear. His arm is not shortened, he can save. O come, let us go back to God. Happy is that people whose GOD IS THE LORD.

twelve months, we can truly say that we have done our best in promoting the Kingdom of God.

Lorenzo J. Evans....

PENSIONS

Security! Freedom from want in old age! More and more the enlightened conscience of man turns to this ideal. Protection for the future is recognized by the Government's social security program, the existence of a multitude of insurance companies, and by the growing number of pension plans in the business and industrial world.

Shall the church fall behind government, business, industry and the individual conscience in providing help for those worthy ministers who have spent their lives doing good?

Ministers are handicapped in saving for the future. Theirs is not a lucrative calling. When a man dedicates himself to Christian service, he knows his remuneration throughout life will be far below the pay professional men receive. Moreover, the woman he marries is aware of this, too.

The answer to this problem has already been given—the Pension Plan is the answer. It is a contributory plan in which both the minister and the church share. If your minister is a member, the church ought to be enrolled. If the church belongs, the minister ought to be a member. If neither are enrolled, it is time to begin.

A card or a letter of request will bring full information.

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Now--Not Tomorrow

Mrs. Arah E. Garrett, Pres.
Missionary Organization—
Education Dept.

Greetings to State and Local Presidents and Missionary Groups:

While miles separate us physically, we are one in common purpose to know Him and make Him known, and to reach and lift.

I am definitely sure you feel as I in that it is a signal honor and privilege to lead our Missionary Societies. I am sure you too realize that with privileges there are responsibilities. Thus, it is your and my responsibility to lead the missionary groups, women especially of the Disciples of Christ, into a greater and more increasingly fruitful Crusade for a Christian World. The task is stupendous. I wonder, do we fully sense our responsibility? It is a big job and there is nothing drab about it. On the contrary, it is most colorful because there are so many avenues to challenge us for wholehearted, consecrated service. There is no time for nonchalance, slothfulness or bickerings.

Our church today has embarked upon the most thorough program of promotion in its history—Crusading for a Christian World. As presidents, we realize the results of this program are dependent upon how imaginative, how progressive and how dynamic our leadership is. It is most appalling to see how condoning and complacent many of our leaders are in doing "little things" in the Christian Church. It is needlessly characteristic of us to have little churches, little congregations, little singing, little preaching (once or twice per month), little praying and little paying. It is urgently necessary that we do some tall or big things for Jesus Christ NOW, not tomorrow, but NOW!

The church with her auxiliaries must reach out and life men and women from the quagmire of complacency with a minimum of service or stewardship. The adherents of the church of Jesus Christ must go forward with a hankering to render an accurate stewardship. Church folks' Christian integrity should motivate them to see that the church's financial status is secure. Organizations with depleted funds can not function effectively in an inflated world and the church is no exception.

The women of our church have grave concern for the church and her missions. We are facing one of our most significant or special days—WOMAN'S DAY. We must do something tangible that our Crusade might go forward. I say we KNOW because our influx

Editorial

(Continued from Page 2)

gregation should be dependent upon each other.

The church is dependent upon the preacher for its daily spiritual nurture and supervision. The work of a shepherd is a daily occupation. There are innumerable demands made upon the minister, and he ought to be in a position to meet as many of those demands as possible. The preacher must be more than just a preacher, he must be the servant of all. Then too the preacher should be dependent upon the church for his material needs. The working preacher develops, consciously or unconsciously, a spirit of independence that often robs him of the patience, the sympathy, the long suffering that is not only essential to the welfare of the church, but is also necessary to his own spiritual well being. When the preacher receives a fat pay envelope on Saturday he might not be too much concerned about the empty pews on Sunday. Then too it enriches the church when it has to be responsible for the preacher. It develops in the people a spirit of sympathy, kindness and helpfulness that will extend to others. We shall not attempt to place the blame for the large number of working preachers in the Christian church. But we are convinced that it is the responsibility of our churches to make it possible for our ministers to give full time to the work of the ministry by providing adequate support for him and his family. "It is not reason that the preacher should leave the word of God to serve tables", not even his own table. The fact is we have too many part-time preachers which means part-time churches and part-time churches mean dying churches, especially in the large cities.

of literature informs us of the urgent needs (if we read it). We should be the best informed church people of all groups. But to merely know what to do is not sufficient. "To know what to do is wisdom, to know how to do is skill, to do the thing as it should be done is service." Service is what a war torn world needs to crusade effectively. Hence, we are urging you to undergird yourselves with spiritual stamina and so launch or plan your Woman's Day program, that you will raise at least half of your missionary goal and send it in before the end of the year that you may help make Him known to a tottering world.

We shall greatly appreciate your cooperation in helping the church of Jesus Christ to be a sustaining force for a lasting peace and a Christian world.

CEDAR CHRISTIAN CHURCH East 83rd & Quincy Ave. Cleveland, Ohio

Eld. C. E. Craggett, Pastor
Elizabeth Wells, Reporter

Our pastor is preaching to large crowds each Sunday morning. His sermons are very spiritual and uplifting. They have really been an inspiration to us during these troublesome and uncertain times. With the hint of war in the air, he gives us our only hope for peace and contentment through loyalty to Christ's great commandment of love for the brotherhood of man. We enter each week with renewed strength to carry on in His Name. He was presented over our radio station, WJMO, August 15, as a representative of the Christian Churches of Cleveland, O.

Sunday, Sept. 26, Eld. and Mrs. Craggett celebrated a very happy thirty-four years of marriage. They were recipients of handkerchiefs, candy, and fifty-two cards from their many white friends they made while attending the Ohio Adult Conference this summer in Hiram, Ohio.

Miss Daisy Gaffney, a Fisk graduate and an ardent worker in the church, and Eld. Alexander Craggett were un-

(Continued on Page 8)

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Realistic Appraisal of Financial Support To The National Convention By States and Churches September, 1947 — August, 1948

Alabama—Ross St., Montgomery	\$30.00
11th St., Birmingham	5.00
Macedonia, Oxmoor	5.00
S. W. Williams, Tuskegee	5.00
E. R. Williams	5.00
Total	\$55.00
Arkansas—Cross St., Little Rock	\$19.00
Mt. Sinai, Little Rock	12.00
Oaks Grove, Scot	5.00
Mt. Beulah, Pine Bluff	1.00
State Convention	10.00
Total	\$47.00
California—Avalon, Los Angeles	\$52.00
Christ Cosmopolitan	25.00
East 28th Street	25.00
Western Avenue	3.00
Total	\$105.00
Washington, D. C.—12th St.	\$102.00
District Convention	10.00
Total	\$112.00
Florida—Mars Hill—Eld. W. T. Strickland	\$20.00
Total	\$20.00
Georgia—Bethel Christian	\$ 7.00
Eastern Christian	4.00
State Convention	12.00
Total	\$23.00
Illinois—Indiana Ave., Chicago	\$215.00
South Side, Chicago	100.00
Brook Port	25.00
Rockford	6.00
Bloomington, Bible School	2.00
Austin Blvd. Christian	30.00
Total	\$378.00
Indiana—2nd Christian, Indianapolis	\$175.00
Total	\$175.00
Kansas—Institutional	\$10.00
State Convention	10.00
State Bible School	5.00
Total	\$25.00
Kentucky—Third Christian, Louisville	\$100.00
High St. Ch'tian, Mt. Sterling	85.65
East Second St., Lexington	50.00
East Second St. Miss. Society	50.00
East Second St. Miss. Society	5.00
Central, Louisville	35.00
Hill Street, Louisville	10.00
North Middletown	10.00
Mayslick	6.00
Second Christian, Danville, Missionary Society	5.00
Fairview Sunday School, Sharpsburg	3.00
Total	\$309.65
Michigan, United Christian, Detroit	\$25.00
Total	\$25.00
Mississippi—State Convention	\$110.00
Shaw Christian	16.00
State C. E. Society	5.00
Willing Workers Society	5.00
Total	\$136.00

Missouri—West Pacea, Kansas City	\$200.00
S. S. Meyers, Kansas City	20.00
Second Christian, Madison	26.20
Marshall, Blackwater	16.00
Second Christian, Salisbury	10.00
First Christian, Napton	5.00
State Convention	10.00
State Bible School	40.00
Total	\$332.20
Maryland, Mt. Olivet, Baltimore	\$100.00
Total	\$100.00
New York—Friendly Church, Brooklyn	\$50.00
Williamsburg, Brooklyn	25.00
Total	\$75.00
New Jersey—Antioch, New Brunswick	\$10.00
Bethany	3.00
Total	\$13.00
North Carolina, Cleveland Ave., Winston Salem	\$50.00
Little Bethlehem, Leaksville	30.00
First Christian, Reidsville	25.00
St. Peter Bible School, Clayton	5.00
Roman Ave. Missionary Society, Leaksville	6.50
Total	\$116.50
Ohio—Monroe Ave., Columbus	\$125.00
Fifth Christian, Cincinnati	100.00
Norwood Ave., Dayton	75.00
Wehrman Ave., Cincinnati	35.00
Cedar Ave., Cleveland	25.00
Third Christian, Warren	15.00
Church of Christ, Canton	15.00
State Convention	5.00
Total	\$395.00
Oklahoma—Second Christian, Muskogee	\$20.00
Osage Christian, Okmulgee	5.00
State Convention	67.75
Total	\$92.75
Piedmont—Tri-State	\$25.00
South Carolina—Poplar Hill, Bridgehill	\$10.00
State Convention	30.00
Total	\$40.00
Texas—Boll St. Church, Dallas	\$100.00
Boll St. Church Senior Ushers	10.00
East Annie St., Fort Worth	100.00
State Church School	23.00
Pine Hill Church Miss. Society	5.00
Total	\$248.00
Tennessee—Mississippi Blvd., Memphis	\$300.00
Special Gifts—Dr. J. E. Walker	150.00
M. W. Bonner	50.00
J. A. Swayze	50.00
Blair T. Hunt	20.00
A. M. Walker	20.00
B. G. Olive, Jr.	10.00
J. T. Chandler	10.00
Miss. Blvd.	\$610.00
East Vine St. C., Knoxville	\$ 50.00
Bethany Church and Missionary Society, Eads	19.00

Cedar Christian

(Continued from Page 7)
ited in marriage by his father, Eld. Craggett, August 1, 1948. The couple spent three wonderful weeks at Niagara Falls, N. Y., and are now living in Indianapolis, Ind., where Alexander Craggett attends school.

Sept. 26, Leland S. Howard, Jr., son of our Missionary Pres., Mrs. Natalie Howard, and Helen Fox were married at the home of her aunt and uncle.

Mrs. Howard is entering her fourth year as Pres. of our Missionary Society. She has done a grand job in getting the entire church interested in the Missionary program. The three groups are functioning fine and are hard at work studying. A prayer room was dedicated at our last group meeting, under the direction of Mrs. Pearl Craggett, leader of the Men's group of the Missionary Society. Once a month the groups came together for an extensive Bible study, directed by Eld. Craggett.

When visiting our church, we urge you to spend a few moments in our prayer room. Here you will find the desire for prayer, and the large collection of pamphlets and books are available for good, wholesome reading.

President Speaks

(Continued from Page 1)

met within the next year.

Our National Convention needs \$12,000.00 by July 31, 1949. You can help to raise this reasonable amount by deciding now to give your ten dollars and encourage the members of your church to raise their full apportionment. Remember the adage, "where there is a will there is a way."

No doubt there are some members of your church who are interested in the convention to the extent they will be willing to give five dollars. We are requesting you very kindly to send all or part of your ten dollars and one-fourth of your church quota on or before Nov. 30, 1948.

Clarksville—Eld. John Barker	15.00
E. Vine St., Knoxville—Bible School	10.00
State Convention	50.00
Lea Av. Christian, Nashville—Prof. and Mrs. M. R. Eppse	25.00
Total	\$779.00
Virginia—London Ave. Church, Roanoke	50.00
London Ave. Miss. Society	50.00
London Ave. Senior Ushers	10.00
London Ave. Total	\$210.00
Fayette St., Martinsville	15.00
Total	\$225.00

Fraternally Yours,
R. H. Davis

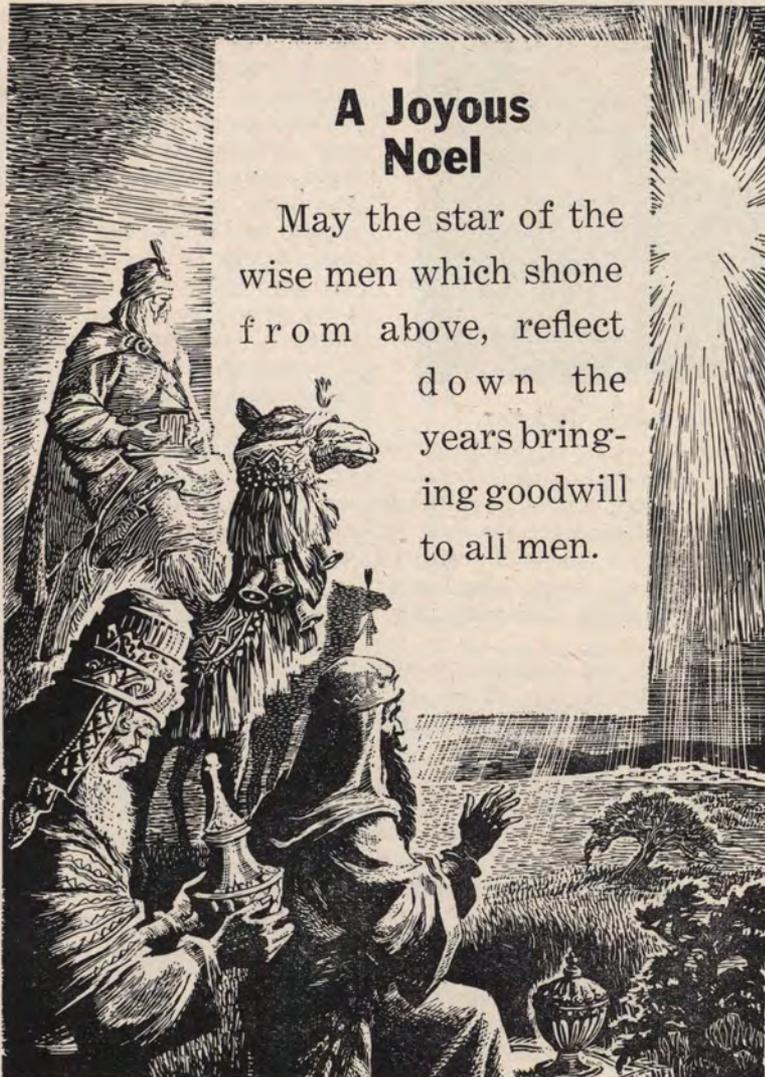
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The CHRISTIAN PLEA

Volume LV, No. 11

Columbus, Ohio, December 1948

\$1.00 Per Year—Single Copy 10c



A Joyous Noel

May the star of the wise men which shone from above, reflect down the years bringing goodwill to all men.

We extend to our readers our best wishes for a very
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

And there were shepherds in the same country abiding in the field, and keeping watch by night over their flock. And an angel of the Lord stood by them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all the people: FOR THERE IS BORN TO YOU THIS DAY IN THE CITY OF DAVID A SAVIOR, WHO IS CHRIST THE LORD. And this is the sign unto you: Ye shall find a babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, and lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST: AND ON EARTH PEACE AMONG MEN IN WHOM HE IS WELL PLEASED.

ELD. C. L. PARKS RESIGNS



Elder Parks

Often, in the drama of life, it becomes necessary for an individual to make a choice; a choice between what he has and what he may be able to acquire if he turns loose what he has. In the process of arriving at a definite decision many angles must be considered which influence the course of action. In all phases of human action, where real life is involved, this line of procedure churns into ones experience and each successive decision is but a stepping stone to other decisions which must be made. We do not welcome difficult decision but we hope this is not the last to come into our experience.

When we were asked to consider this job, we faced a similar situation; we were told that we were going to be crucified and the powers that were destined to lead us up the rugged slope of Calvary were pointed out to us. We have discovered no such viciousness anywhere in the Brotherhood and doubted it from the beginning. You know what our decision was. We came to the National work,

(Continued on Page 8)

"RIGHT MAKES MIGHT" The Christian Plea

Published monthly by the National Christian Missionary Convention.

Eld. E. J. Dickson, Ex-Sec.
Eld. S. S. Myers, Pres.
L. L. Dickerson, Editor.

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93 North Ohio Ave.

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We go to press the 15th of each month. All news received after the 15th of the month will be published in the following issue.

Texas Has A Part-Time Field Worker

By Mrs. S. P. Walker

Mrs. Lenora Rolla of 2201 East Maddox Avenue, Ft. Worth, Texas

Mrs. Rolla comes to us well recommended; her work speaks for itself. She joined East Annie Christian Church in 1916, under the pastorate of Rev. A. W. Jacobs. Completed her High School studies at I. M. Terrell High School. Mrs. Rolla's College work was done at Bishop College and acquired credits for study in Prairie View Extension School, Ft. Worth. She worked as substitute teacher for the Ft. Worth Public School system in 1921-22. At the same time taking a business course in Woods' Commercial School in Ft. Worth at the Y. W. C. A.

Mrs. Rolla went into the Business world in the Fall of 1922 as clerk for an Insurance Company, there remained in the Insurance Field till the Fall of 1943, working in capacities as clerk, secretary, cashier, clerical supervisor and executive secretary; at the same time she taught in the Evening School of Ft. Worth Public School system.

She went to Southern Christian Institute where she taught in the Community School for one term. From there to Washington, D. C., as accounting clerk and typing pool for Maritime Commission. While there she studied in Howard University, obtaining credits in Psychology, Public Speaking and Millinery. Through the years she has been active in Church work. President of the Missionary Society for ten years, active in different departments in church while in Washington, D. C. Served for six years as secretary for Ft. Worth Branch of N. A. A. C. P. Secretary of Sweet Helen Court Heroines of Jericho; member of the executive committee of Negro Welfare Council. Member of the Community Center Board of Directors of East Annie Christian Church.

At present she is bookkeeper for the

Miss Chandler Receives Degree

Simmons Teacher Earns A. M. in Early Childhood Education



Miss Bessie Chandler

Blue-ribbon critic kindergarten teacher at Simmons school, laboratory school of the St. Louis system, Bessie Chandler of 4323 Enright Avenue, St. Louis, received her master's degree in early childhood education from Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, this fall.

Miss Chandler was promoted to the Simmons school last year, in recognition of her outstanding accomplishments in St. Louis' Carr school, located in an underprivileged area of the city. During the summers she has spent most of her time working on her degree at Teachers College. Miss Chandler gained this testimonial from a professor at the end of her study: "An unusually creditable piece of work not only in this last research, but all during your stay here at the college." Miss Chandler served as assistant instructor in the Department of Early Childhood Education at Teachers college last summer.

In St. Louis, she has been active in community organizations, and in religious work. In the school system, for example, she has conducted courses in

(Continued on Page 7)

Baker Funeral Home, Vice President of the Women's Missionary work in Texas. Now Texas Field Worker.

We are doing everything possible to develop more leaders for Christian work. We have six key women as our state is divided into six districts. For further information write

Miss S. P. Walker, State Sec.
2314 Lucile Street
Dalals, Texas

Laymen's League Moves Into Action

By J. T. Chandler, Pres.

The National Laymen's League of the National Christian Missionary Convention—Disciples of Christ, under the leadership of Brother J. T. Chandler, of Memphis, Tennessee, has recently sent questionnaires to most of the churches of our Brotherhood.

The League has as one of its purposes the enrollment of 5,000 brethren. These men will come from every church in the Brotherhood into a National organization that will aid the church in increasing its membership, improving all around church attendance and developing new technics toward raising finance. Along with these objectives special emphasis will be placed on "Men's Work." This means that the men of the church will be encouraged to become more interested in being actual participants in the church program. The men are necessarily tired of watching the women of the church do the real work of trying to save the world but they realize present day world conditions demand that the men of the church carry a larger church work load. Laymen all over the world are beginning to put more time into the work of the church. A list of active laymen will show the names of some of the outstanding industrialists, business and professional men working tirelessly through the church to avoid a complete world-wide collapse.

A proposed organizational plan that will enable each church in our Brotherhood to have the men organized as a local church group with its officers in charge of an active local program is being developed. Printed material in this connection will be released within a few days.

The entire National program will be prosecuted along lines that will yield information as to its progress and inspiration for its achievement.

"The entire National program will be prosecuted along lines that will yield information as to its progress and inspiration and inspiration for its achievement." (Add the following at this point in previous material).

In this connection the following achievement contest is being offered the laymen throughout the Brotherhood. This contest is based upon activity on the part of laymen in church attendance, securing of new members for the church and the Laymen's League, stewardship and participation in the all round church program.

With these phases of the church program set up as objectives, every lay-

(Continued on Page 7)

Editorial

In order to render as much service to our Brotherhood as possible, The Christian Plea will conduct a Ministerial Exchange Service. The purpose is to make it convenient for both churches desiring a minister and ministers desiring a change to contact each other. Even though we have a shortage of preachers there are men who would like to have a church. There are churches that want pastors but do not know where to find them. The Plea hopes to bring the two together. The plan will work like this. If there are ministers that are not pastoring, they can send their name and address, some information about themselves and the names of some persons they can give as references if they are not personally acquainted with the editor. Also those ministers who for any reason whatsoever might consider a change. Because a minister sends in his name will not mean that he is definitely going to make a change. It only means that he will consider doing so. There are many reasons why ministers make changes. No doubt there are some who would like to do so if they could find and opening that was worthy of the man.

We pledge ourselves to keep all the information that comes to us strictly confidential. We do not believe we will get the ministers to cooperate if they are afraid the information would be broadcast. We pledge ourselves further not to give any church any minister's name. Instead we will send the name of the church to the minister and let

him make his own contacts. Any church desiring the service of a minister may write the Christian Plea, giving the size of your membership, size of the city, stating whether or not you have a parsonage, the type of minister you want and how much you want to pay. By having as much general information as possible about both minister and church we can save both a lot of time and trouble.

Because of the lack of space we have to ask all of those sending news for the Plea to please limit our articles to a maximum of 250 word. All of those submitting sermons and articles on other subjects please limit it to 700 words. We realize how difficult it may be to do justice to a sermon or any other subject in 700 word. However, we must try to serve as many of our subscribers as possible, therefore we cannot give too much space to any one. Those who have long articles that they wish published may write them so they can be run in serials.

The news of the resignation of Elder C. L. Parks, director of the Department of Evangelism and Church Development of the National Convention, will be a distinct shock to all of those who know of the excellent work he has done.

Elder Parks began this work under somewhat of a handicap. There were some among us who felt that this important position should not have gone to a "newcomer," but rather to one whose background was "Christian Dis-

ciple." This, however, was no reflection upon the integrity or qualifications of Elder Parks. It was just the way some felt about it, but regardless of this more or less unfriendly attitude, the sincerity, the zeal and the extremely fine christian spirit manifested at all times by this great Gospel Preacher, made him not only acceptable, but admired and appreciated by all who knew him.

We do not know what were the factors that weighed most in helping him make his decision. We can think of two or three that may have played a part. Nevertheless, we regret to see Elder Parks give up this important work. We wish for him, however, every success in his new field of endeavor, and we trust that those who have the responsibility of finding someone to "take his place" will give it serious study and that their choice be well received by our brotherhood. The office is too important for us to make the mistake of selecting the wrong man. We repeat—the choice of a successor to Elder Parks must be a good man.

Why

Ever since November 2nd, we have been deluged with explanations of why Mr. Truman defeated Mr. Dewey for president. Perhaps we have had too many already but we hope one more will not do any harm. We believe the main reason the people voted Democratic is because they are afraid to trust the Republicans. We believe further, this fear was justified by the record of the 80th Congress. The record shows that the Republicans were against nearly everything the people were for. More housing, lower prices, expansion of social security, health insurance and civil rights. The Republicans tried to treat these issues as purely political, when the fact is they are social and economic issues. The Republican Congress disarmed Mr. Dewey even before he was nominated. He had no weapons to fight with. Housing, high prices, social security, civil rights, these were atomic bombs in the hands of President Truman. Mr. Dewey had only a cap pistol, Unity. You can't build houses and buy pork chops with unity. Neither does unity mean that ever American citizen shall enjoy all of the rights and privileges of citizenship regardless to race or color.

OLD PROVERBS

By Mrs. S. A. Peacock

Some folks have a head like a door knob, anyone can turn it. People are lonely because they build walls instead of bridges. Before you fly up at others faults suppose you take time to count 10 of your own.

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HAWKINS, TEXAS

From The West Coast

By A. M. Dumas

The West Coast was happy to have Emmett J. Dickson, Executive Secretary of the National Christian Missionary Convention, Disciples of Christ. When the official communication was presented to us by Rev. M. F. Mitchell stating that the Executive Secretary would visit us after his attendance at the International Convention in San Francisco, immediately plans were made for his coming. The purpose of his visit was to confer and advise us about the requisitions of the Board of Trustees to host churches of our great National Convention. Of course his visit and stated purpose was expedient as we (that is) the Avalon, E. 28th Street, Cosmopolitan and Western Avenue Christian churches through our ministers had invited the convention to come to California.

On Brother Dickson's first Lord's Day with us he was the guest speaker for the Cosmopolitan church at its 7:30 A. M. broadcast hour. His message at that time was acclaimed by all. At the 11:00 A. M. worship hour he spoke for the Western Avenue church. At 6:00 P. M. Bro. Dickson was the principle speaker at the Youth hour and 8:00 P. M. meeting at the Avalon church for our first quarterly Christian Fellowship meeting. At each performance Bro. Dickson delivered a stirring message, emphasizing Christian Unity, good judgement and straight thinking.

The four churches had set up a joint committee composed of their ministers and lay leaders. This committee was instructed to meet with Brother Dickson and in this and all subsequent conferences, he was open and above board as pertaining to the geographical, economical and inspirational status of our great Brotherhood. Bro. Dickson attracted the attention of our other churches not cooperating by his demonstration of executive ability and honesty.

There were visits to the State office for conferences with Dr. C. A. Cole, Executive Secretary of Southern California.

Brother Dickson surveyed completely before he made recommendations and offered corrections to our local set-up. There is an axiom all should remember, "Experience is the best teacher"—so his experience thoroughly qualified him to confer with us as he did. Our Joint Committee by majority vote set up an Executive Committee and in like manner elected Rev. Clifford B. Spears of Western Avenue Church as chairman.

Since Brother Dickson's visit several

Meet The New Faculty

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Prater come from Tennessee to join the SCI faculty. Both Mr. and Mrs. Prater are graduates of Tennessee State College, Mr. Prater with a major in sociology and Mrs. Prater a major in business education. Mrs. Prater is serving as matron of Eastview in addition to her teaching duties.

Mr. Orvie Wiley, who comes here from Houston, Texas, is a graduate of Jarvis Christian College with a major in mathematics. Since his graduation from Jarvis he has taught mathematics and science in the public schools of Arkansas and worked with the athletic departments of those schools. During the summers he has attended summer school at Atlanta University working toward his M. A. degree.

Miss Thelma Murphy comes from North Platte, Nebraska to join the music department of Southern Christian. She is a graduate of Phillips University where she did outstanding work in the field of music.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas N. Walker have ably taken charge of the Community School. Mr. Walker is a graduate of Southern Christian and of Jarvis Christian College. Mrs. Walker attended SCI and Jarvis also. They have one small daughter, Ann.

Miss Geraldine Browne attended Tuskegee Institute. The past year she taught at Gloster, Mississippi. She is serving here as assistant dietitian of the dining hall.

These teachers replaced the following who were with us last year but wished to take this year out for more post graduate work: Mr. James Ratten, attending Illinois University on Doctorate degree; Miss Anna Lee, on M. A. degree at Dillard University; Miss Paula Bickham, on M. A. degree at Michigan University; Miss Louraine Wiggan, a missionary in Puerto Rico; and Mr. Lewis Crawford, a reserved officer, is now in the National Guard.

Miss Katie Curry, a freshman college student at SCI, was commissioned to the planning committee for the YMCA—YMCA summer conference of the National Student YWCA which was held at Atlanta, Ga., on October 30.

meetings have been held in which plans were firmly laid for the entertainment of our great National Christian Convention for the year 1949.

This was the first time several of the members of all churches involved had the pleasure of meeting Brother Dickson, but he left the impression that he is truly a Christian gentleman and very adequate for the work he is doing. May God bless you Brother Dickson, come again.

"A Crusading Church"

By Eld. Laurence E. Hall, Minister

The "Crusade" is moving in the Romaine Street Christian Church of Dallas, Texas! Evidence of this fact is seen on every hand. Everyone is talking about the "Crusade" and considering it as a part of every organization and group in the local church.

The committee on evangelism has already made plans for reaching the evangelism goals through visitation campaigns, evangelistic meetings and educational evangelism. We have two young people attending Jarvis College who have given themselves to full time Christian service.

During the past 64 days there has been a very noticeable change in the atmosphere around the church. We have completed the organization of a Crusade committee all members of which have consecrated themselves to their duties and have launched enthusiastically into the execution of plans which have been outlined.

All goals have been accepted by our church. As of June last year this church has had more than 26 additions as a result of the Crusade evangelism emphasis. The three-year goal for this church is 102. The Sunday School has received tremendous additions because of the Christian education emphasis. Tithers and proportionate givers are being added because of the stewardship emphasis.

Our choir has had several new members added and they are making a profound impression in every respect. A new piano has been added to the spiritual development of our church.

Yes, I should say the Crusade is working in a fine way in the Romaine Street Christian Church and we will reach every goal within three years. We are proud to join with the other churches of our great brotherhood around the world in a united move to "win the world for Christ and his Church!"

Miss Curry arrived at Atlanta University by plane on Friday, one day before the meeting. The duty of this committee was to lay plans for the summer conference and to carry them out as leaders in the conference itself. There were 14 student representatives and the National Student Secretaries of the Southern Region.

While speaking of going, President Long was one of four representing Mississippi at a recent meeting of the Southern Regional Council in Atlanta, Ga. He reports that he saw Prof. Eppse there representing Tennessee.

D. R. Bebout 1864-1948

J. J. Hawkins

Southern Christian has had many friends since its organization in 1875, but few who have given of themselves so fully as did D. R. Bebout. For more than 20 years he was active in every phase of the work of the school. He was a great teacher, an outstanding minister, an effective administrator, and his life was a benediction to all who knew him. Affectionately referred to as "Fessor", Professor Bebout was loved by the many hundreds of students and teachers who had the privilege of working with him here.

Since his retirement in 1934, he and Mrs. Bebout have lived in Jackson, but have maintained a close interest in all our work. Early on the morning of October 14, he quietly slipped away to join that increasing host of great souls who have even more intimate fellowship with the Heavenly Father whom they served so fruitfully through the years.

Our sincere sympathy goes out to Mrs. Bebout and others of his family in this hour of sorrow which we all share so deeply.

Our Kentucky State Youth

Christian Youth Fellowship Of
West Kentucky Vocational
Training School
"A Difficult Decision"

RE-ORGANIZERS

In answer to the call of the President, Miss Helen Strauder of Paris, Kentucky, on Monday, October 11, a large group of young people at the West Kentucky Vocational Training School met in the spacious auditorium of the school for the purpose of re-organizing the Christian Youth Fellowship Group for the school year 1948-49.

Meeting was opened by singing "Down by the Riverside," led by Adult Advisor, Mr. Lawrence Carter of Providence, Kentucky. Miss Strauder stated the purpose of the meeting. Then, Miss Osceola A. Dawson, registrar at the West Kentucky Vocational Training School and Faculty Advisor of the group, made remarks, emphasizing the tremendous responsibility of youth in rebuilding our present world. The present officers, Miss Helen Strauder, president; Mr. Lawrence Carter, adult advisor; Mr. Lewis Miller, Winchester, Ky., chairman of study committee; Mr. Roosevelt Kavanaugh, Richmond, Ky., treasurer, and Mr. William Kavanaugh, Richmond, Ky., chairman of the recreational committee, were retained. New officers elected were: Miss Artelia Newell, Louisville, Ky., vice-president; Miss Ruby Walker, Harrodsburg, Ky., secretary, Miss Rhea Pleasant, Lawrenceburg, Ky., assistant secretary.

We are hoping to have a very effective organization on the campus this year.

CHRISTIAN YOUTH ADVANCES IN EDUCATION

September found quite a number of our Christian youths entering school. Among them: Miss Helen Strauder of Paris, Ky., entered the dressmaking department at West Kentucky Vocational Training School; Miss Maggie Freeman of Paris, Ky., entered the tailoring department at West Kentucky Vocational Training School; Miss Jessie Wilson of Paducah, entered the junior year at Hampton Institute; Miss Maneece Hodge and Mr. James Hode of Paducah, Ky., entered respectively senior and junior year at Harvard University; Miss Freeda Hall of Paris, Ky., entered the freshman year at Kentucky State College, and Miss Annabel Jackson of London, Ky., entered the junior year at Jarvis Christian College. We are happy that our young people are preparing themselves for worthwhile vocations. We will very much appreciate it if persons throughout our Brotherhood will send these young people

Notes From Old Aspraagus Bed

By A. D. Gault, Mayslick, Ky.

I just want to say that everything is moving along in the Old Aspraagus Bed. Those who attended the State Convention from Mayslick were A. G. Gault, Mrs. Izetta Washington, Miss Carolyn Washington, Miss Frances Anderson, and A. D. Gault. Eld. E. B. Toles and A. G. Gault were delegates the first Sunday in August. The official board met on the second Sunday in August and made plans for our annual Basket Meeting. The following persons attended the National Convention in Detroit Aug. 17-22: Mrs. Izeeta Washington, Mrs. Geraldine Green, Miss Frances Anderson, Mr. Charles Washington and A. D. Gault. Our Pastor, Eld. E. B. Toles, appeared on the program at the College of The Scriptures in Louisville the third Sunday in September. Our annual Basket Meeting was held on the first Sunday in September. Eld. G. E. Letton of Covington, Ky., preached. He was accompanied by his good wife. She and Eld. Toles did the singing. We had a fine meeting with visitors from Columbus and Cincinnati, Ohio, Fairview and a number of other towns. We raised \$161. The Mayslick Church has its one fourth of its state apportionment for the October Board Meeting. You will be hearing more from me in the future.

from time to time expressions of interest, such as cards, letters, gifts, etc. We must keep our youth encouraged.

We sincerely trust that our young people while preparing for worthwhile vocations will continue to grow spiritually. We hope they will let their lights shine on their respective campuses by attending religious services whenever whenever the opportunity presents itself, particularly on Sunday, and by deporting themselves as young Christians should.

Misses Maggie Freeman and Helen Strauder of Paris, Ky., have set an example, worthy of emulation. These two young women entered West Kentucky Vocational Training School on September 1, and on Sunday, September 12, they both united with the Clay Street Christian Church, Paducah, Ky.

We are urging youth advisors and officials of youth fellowship groups to please cooperate with the state publicity director by sending news of your organizations, news concerning the activities of your young people, pictures, articles, etc. to him. This is a new office and we do want to make it a success.

Yours in His Cause,
Roger Anderson
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Mrs. E. E. Chambliss, Reporter

The Church School quarterly meeting of said district, was held with the Antioch Christian Church, October 23, 24, 1948. The weather was very pleasant and the attendance was very good. Brother Joseph Greene presided. Our guest was Elder S. D. Yarbough, the State Evangelist and Brother M. N. Brown, vice-president of Church School's State Convention. We were very grateful to have them present.

The conference class was very interesting. In it was discussed, "How and Where We Got Our Bible." Brother Eddie West was the presider of the Christian Endeavor, although the program was rendered and well rendered by the young people of the various societies of the district.

A wonderful sermon was preached by Elder M. Tisdale from the 37th chapter of Genesis. He chose for a theme: "Seeking My Brother," which he beautifully outlined.

Moiney raised:

School	\$42.87
Christian Endeavor	16.43
<hr/>	
Total	\$59.30

London Avenue Christian Church

Rev. D. W. Heath, Pastor
Miss J. K. Spencer, Reporter

Our "Fall Rally" is progressing nicely under our financial chairman, Mr. C. F. Houchins and his committee.

Our one week "Leadership Institute" under the tutorage of Rev. Vera H. Rogers and Rev. Randolph A. White, pastors of two of our Roanoke Christian Churches (white), proved most helpful to the entire church. Rev. Emmett Dickson's visit will long be treasured by all.

The Bible School sponsored the opening of the observance of "Christian Literature Week" with the joint dedication of the New Christian Hymnals for the congregation and some 200 or more volumes for the Bible School Library. Several students presented a "skit" emphasizing the very great influence of music and literature upon individuals and the importance of the youth of today being exposed to both Christian Music and Christian Literature. We distributed the leaflet "Highlights of the Bible" as our plan for reading the Bible for the entire congregation.

Miss J. K. Spencer, Supt.

Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church

Elder Blair T. Hunt, Pastor
Mrs. C. E. Rowan, Reporter

It was a high day for Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church Sunday, November 7, 1948. There were 94 in Bible Class with an offering of \$35.00. More than 200 worshipers were at the 11:00 o'clock service. Regular church offering \$395.50 with an additional special offering of \$347.50 for the Riverview Mission.

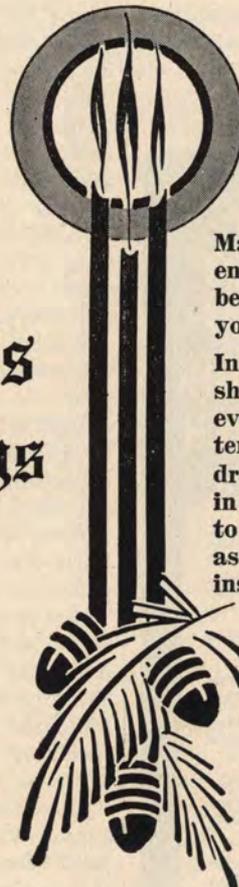
Love, Loyalty and Faith were keynotes of the sermon "HOME DYNAMICS" delivered by the pastor, Elder Blair T. Hunt. The pastor's philosophy in discussing this subject compelled all the people to hang on every word. There was one addition—Mr. W. R. Pegues. Mr. Pegues is brother of John Pegues, chairman of the official board of Oklahoma City Christian Church.

Under the leadership of Dr. J. E. Walker, the members of Miss. Blvd. Church have launched out and have under construction a mission called the Riverview Mission for Disciples of Christ. The mission is in a newly developed settlement for colored people. Pledges for the mission totaling over \$2500.00 have been made by the members and over \$1200.00 has been paid on the pledges. The pastor, official and trustee boards and members of Mississippi Blvd. Christian Church feel that as they have grown they must help others to grow.

The "C. Y. F." has put on new life and more young people are attending. Miss Millicent Eugenia Myers of Kansas City has been very helpful to the C. Y. F. Miss Myers is the daughter of Elder S. S. Myers of Kansas City, former president of National Missionary Convention of Disciples of Christ.

Mrs. Lucille Rhine Woods has sponsored several musical programs to get the youth interested.

Season's Greetings



May we pause just long enough to say, "It has been a privilege to serve you."

In the year ahead we shall strive to provide even more helpful materials for training children, youth and adults in Christian living, and to render such service as only a Brotherhood institution can provide.

Your Brotherhood Publishing House
CHRISTIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION
St. Louis 3, Mo.

The Pension Plan

The Pension Plan of our brotherhood is a contributory reserve system. The minister pays 2½% of his salary each month and the church pays an amount equal to 8% of the monthly salary. The dues received are invested to earn interest, so that the benefits may be paid when due.

A pension is payable upon the member's retirement from active service after age 65. The amount of the pension is 1/70 of the total salary upon which the 10½% dues have been paid. One-half of the member's pension is continued to the widow if marriage took place before retirement.

A member becoming totally and permanently disabled after one year's membership with dues paid, is eligible for a pension, provided he is under 65 years of age.

Upon the death of an active member, a Cash Death Benefit is payable amounting to 75% of the annual salary, but not to exceed \$1,000.00. Pension for the widow, amounting to one-fourth of the annual salary, not to exceed \$300.00 unless the earned credits toward retirement amount to more than \$600.00, is payable until death or remarriage.

Pensions for minor children of members who die in active service, disability or retirement are payable to age 18, if in school to age 21.

The initiative in making arrangements for Pension Plan enrollment should be taken by the church. The 8% should be paid out of the current expense budget.

The time to begin is now!

PENSION FUND OF DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

800 Test Building
Indianapolis 4, Ind.

Miss Chandler

(Continued from Page 2)

supervised fellow teachers in the area of religious education. At a meeting of the Childhood Education Association in St. Louis last April, Miss Chandler was chairman of two major study committees. A former member of the local board of the association's St. Louis branch, at present she is a member of the National Program committee of the nursery - kindergarten section. Miss Chandler has even prepared a pamphlet on nursery education which is used locally.

In addition to these activities, Miss Chandler is a member of the National Education Association, the St. Louis Negro Grade Teachers' Association, the Missouri Negro State Teachers' Association, the YWCA, and the Girl Scouts, in which she is an active adult scout leader.

A former national president of the Department of Religious Education of the National Christian Missionary Convention, Miss Chandler is a member of the curriculum committee of the department of religious education for the National Board of Religious Education, of the Christian Church, United Christian Missionary Society. She is active in religious education work in St. Louis, through the Metropolitan Church Federation and her local church, serving as chairman of the Children Workers' Commission.

Miss Chandler's undergraduate work was completed at Stowe Teachers College, St. Louis. She plans to continue studying at Teachers College, Columbia, for an advanced professional diploma and Doctorate Degree.

Laymen's League

(Continued from Page 2)

man will have the opportunity to earn points in proportion to what he does for a 30 week period, beginning December 1, 1948, and ending June, 1949.

A contest prize of \$100 in cash will be awarded the layman earning the largest number of points over 800 for the entire period. This award will be made at our next convention with appropriate ceremonies.

Every effort will be made on the part of the Laymen's League to cooperate with all pastors in working out every detail necessary to make this an interesting as well as a successful program.

FALL PLANNING

The Fall planning conference of the Woman's Missionary Dept. of the National Convention was held at the 2nd Christian Church, Indianapolis, Friday and Saturday, November 19th and 20th. Some 25 National and State officers

Bible Schools and National Convention

Lorenzo J. Evans

Dear Co-worker:

In the November issue of The Christian Plea, Elder R. H. Davis, president of our National Convention had published a realistic appraisal of financial support to the National Convention by states and churches. These contributions were made before the convention convened in Detroit.

Each local school has been asked to represent in the National Convention with \$5.00 and each state Bible School Organization with \$10.00. We hope that a large number of our schools will make their financial report to the treasurer, Dr. J. E. Walker, 234 Hernando Street, Memphis 1, Tennessee, before the next convention in order that your local school and state might appear in such a list.

I am asking each local Bible School superintendent to assume the responsibility to see that his school send in its financial report now. Let's have 100% participation of all schools before the next National Convention. I feel sure that I can count on your cooperation in this effort.

Fifth Christian Church 718 Kenyon Avenue Cincinnati, Ohio

Mrs. Aurelia S. Morgan, Reporter
Elder S. C. Devine, Minister

We are both happy and proud to report that Sunday, November 7, 1948, was one of the highest days in our church history. We had a great day and feasted highly on the spiritual food that was given to us by our minister. This day was set aside for ordination services and what a beautiful service it was. The spirit really prevailed through the church. We witnessed the ordination of Charles Henry to the ministry, William Hendricks Ruling Elder, Deacons William Skinner, William Madaris, Porter Hughes, J. Arnold, Elton Berry and William Patterson. Frank Devine Gray, Reconsecrated Deacon. John Burns and Harry Turner (in training) consecrated for Deacons.

We feel that our church is starting its new year off with a new zeal and a determination to make this one of our best years in Christ Jesus. We ask the prayers of the Brotherhood that we may continue to carry on the noble work.

were present. The Saturday session was held in the home of Mrs. John A. Towns. A complete report of this meeting will be carried in the next issue of the Plea.

Revival A Success

Elder C. L. Parks, National Director, Church Development and Evangelism of the National Christian Missionary Convention, Indianapolis, Ind., conducted a spiritual meeting at the Ross St. Christian Church, Montgomery, Ala., September 9th-17th, brought us a great message each night. Results: three confessions.

Elder and Mrs. C. L. Parks were carried on a sightseeing tour by Mr. J. P. Brayboy of Tuskegee, Ala., to visit friends. They were accompanied by Elder Z. H. Howard. We were happy to have Miss Alva Shackelford to share the occasion Thursday evening on her tour from S. C. D. to Indianapolis, Ind. Reporter, Miss Willie M. Evans Minister, Z. H. Howard

Eld. C. L. Parks

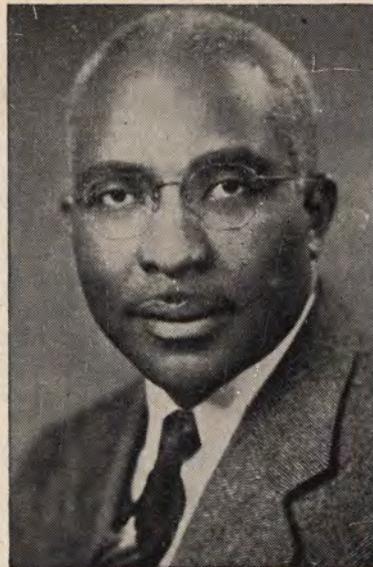
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we performed the task within the limit of our ability and no snip work nor to acquire added knowledge as we traveled through the Brotherhood seeking to understand the problems and giving serious consideration to their solutions. We do not claim to have discovered all of the problems nor do we claim to have solved all of the problems which were found—humbly we tried to do our best.

Our decision to give up the job of directing the Evangelistic Program of the National Convention is not predicated on anything we have stated above but on personal grounds. Our love for Christ and His way of life, our love for our Brotherhood and the opportunities for service which jet themselves into its overall program, our deep concern for the inspiration and the consuming desires of a great host of men and women to give of themselves for Christian Unity and increased effectiveness in our endeavor to build for permanent progress at the local church level and our love for our ministers, all of them, made it hard for us to say yes to the proposal to which we are now committed. It is with sore regrets that we leave the National work but we assured that we will still be in the Brotherhood, giving our support in every way possible. Our resignation takes effect December 1st.

C. L. Parks

Lest We Forget

Our going to California depends upon whether or not we raise two-thirds of our budget by April. Time is flying, money is coming in slow. We had better hurry, hurry, hurry. Raise our Apportionment and send it in NOW.



Thomas C. R. Bragg

PRITHEE FOR PEACE

By Thomas C. R. Bragg

Dear God, we humbly pray to you tonight

To constantly give us the rays of light,
That each of us may see the way that's true,

So that we can retain our trust in you;
That we always desire to live in peace,
Not ever to hurt our neighbors the least.

Then help us dear God to love everyone,
That we may have enmity toward none.

Help us to try to understand our foe.
Let him realize as we staunchly go,
That we want ever to treat all men just

Of their success we never want to lust.

Give us truly the right to see good in man,
Make our nation purely an ideal land,

Where men can feel that they really are free
To each day zealously serve and praise Thee.

We want to love and trust you, dear God,
That none may from Thy services be barred.

Each must know that every man should feel free
A foe to Thy cause—obstruct your son's light

Who said lifted up he will shine bright.

Reidsville, N. C. First Christian Church

Mrs. Annie Gunnings, Reporter

We, the members and friends of the First Christian Church, are very happy to say that our pastor, Elder M. L. Lamberth, is able to fill his place in the church, his classroom and community again. He has been in ill health for quite a while and during the 14 years of his pastoral work here, he was unable to attend the convention, for the first time. He was greatly missed by all his friends and co-workers. Since his return, four persons have been added to the church.

We are also doing a fine job in our Bible school, under the leadership of our superintendent, Mr. Isaac Dillard and Miss Pauline Staples, superintendent of the junior department and their co-workers. Our missionary president, Mrs. Ella B. Jones has been unable to be with us regularly because of illness, but she, too, is improving nicely and we have pledged ourselves to do a better job all the way this year, than before.

Trustees Meet December 17th

The Trustees of the National Convention will meet at the 2nd Christian Church, 2901 North Kenwood Ave., Indianapolis, Ind., Friday, December 17th, 9:15 a. m. Those who plan to arrive the night before are requested to notify the National Convention office if they desire hotel reservations.

Miss Shackelford Weds

Miss Alva Shackelford, Director of Missionary Education and organization of the National Convention, and Mr. Leonard Brown were married Thursday, November 25th, at the 2nd Christian Church, Indianapolis, Ind. Mr. Brown is studying for the ministry at Jarvis College.

Please help us not to want to hurt or harm,
Nor to give anyone any alarm.

We need you more now than ever before,
That each one who bars others' rights must be

To help us feel that human rights should soar
Above bigotry and small thoughts of others.

Help to rid us of hatred for brothers,
That each can feel free — no rights barred,

So we trust directly in you, dear God.

—Thomas C. R. Bragg, 9-22-48