

# Pastor Briggs' Corner

### No Need to Write Head For This Article—It's Skill on the Subject of Baptism!

As I had both "Little Buff" and "Big Buff" to reply to in my last story to The Herald, I did not get to cover all of the questions which the Editor raised in his story of February 6th. For instance he brought up the question of "closed communion." Now that's ground for another discussion, which I hope I may be able to dismiss for the time being with just a few words. Jesus made and baptised his disciples before he ever invited them to partake of his supper. The first commandment to regenerated believers has always been to be immersed; and my own position is that the person who is too rebellious to obey the commandment to follow the Lord in baptism, in the way Jesus was baptised, is also too rebellious to be permitted to partake of the Lord's Supper. Christianity is an orderly something, and we are expected to take and obey his commandments in an orderly way—first things first.

The Editor says, "If the act of immersion is so paramount and must be done to carry out God's plans, what else would other denominations be than mere mockery, and why should an all-wise God continue His favor and patience with them?" Now, right here, the Editor has hit the key note of a major chord. He is perfectly logical in his conclusion that if immersion is paramount and must be done to carry out God's plans, then those denominations not advocating and practicing it as the scriptural baptism are mere mockery so far as being New Testament churches is concerned; for when you consider that a New Testament church is an organization of regenerated believers who have been immersed "into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit," whose business it is to make and immerse other disciples, and to teach them to observe everything which the Lord Jesus has commanded, why, it stands to reason, Mr. Editor, that other denominations cannot qualify as New Testament churches. They are but buildings which have been pitched with untempered mortar, which shall yet be brought to the ground.—Ezekiel 13: 10-14.

As for God permitting the denominations which disregard the command to immerse believers, how does the Editor know God favors them, please? It is true that they sometimes hold spectacular camp-meetings and get floods of professions; but what does that mean to me when I read in Matthew 7:22 that in the day of Judgment there will be many who have deceived folks on earth but who will come up before the judgment seat of God saying, "Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy by Thy name, and by Thy name cast out demons, and by Thy name do many mighty works?" But the Lord has declared that He will reply: "I never knew you; depart from me, ye that work iniquity." Whatever else you may have done, there is yet "one thing thou lackest" if you have ignored the command to be immersed. Jesus said, "Not every one that saith unto me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of Heaven; but he that doeth the will of my father who is in Heaven (Matt. 7:21)." It is the will of the Father in heaven that all believers be buried with Christ in baptism; and that person who teaches others to ignore and disobey this command is a worker of iniquity.

As for God permitting the denominations to exist which do not advocate and practice immersion, then may I ask, why does He permit the devil himself to exist? Why does He permit Mormons and Mohammedans to exist? These happen to be two of the denominations the Editor hasn't yet listed. Presumably it hasn't been convenient for him to do so yet. I expect they would take him alright; but I doubt if that other important member of his family would stand for the bigamy of the thing. Yet there are millions more Mohammedans on earth than of Roman Catholics even; and there are millions more of Catholics than of any other so-called Christian denominations on earth. But we are not to judge the genuineness of a denomination by the number of its communicants, but by its effort to carry out the full commission of our Lord as is set forth in Matthew 28:19ff. Remember that Jesus said, "Enter ye in by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many are they that enter thereby. For narrow is the gate, and straightened the way that leadeth unto life, and few are they that find it."—Matt. 7:13.

The Editor has held the Pilgrims up as an argument against Christ as he commanded immersion of all believers—he pits men against God Almighty. Adoniram Judson ought to have known more about the Pilgrims than does the Editor; but in coming out of the Congregational denomination into the Baptist fold Judson repudiated the Pilgrims who laid the foundation for Congregationalism in America—a fact that cannot be passed over lightly.

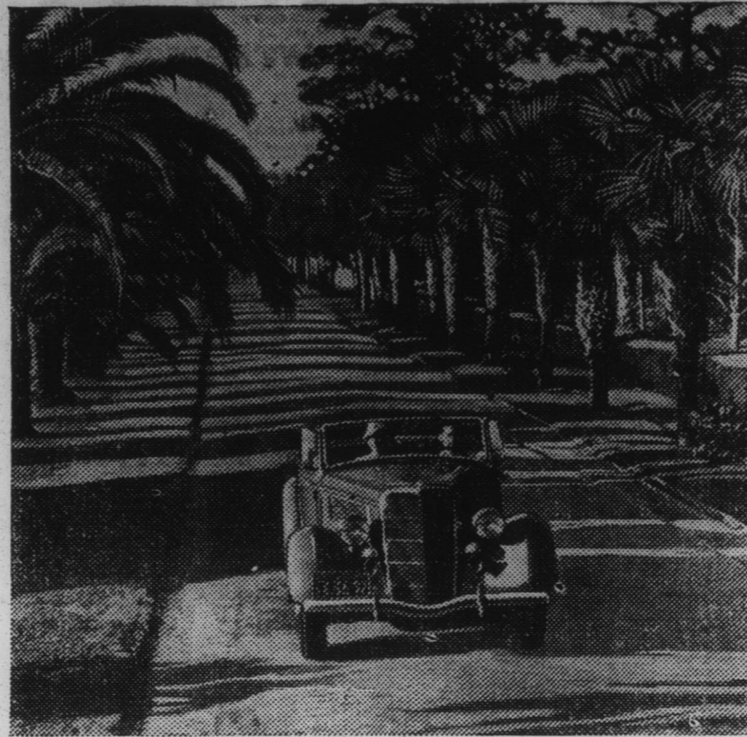
Why should anyone doubt the immersion of Zaccheus and the disciples of our Lord? If the Editor

will turn to John 4:1, 2, he will find Jesus making, and through his disciples, baptising more disciples than even John the Baptist; and if he will turn to Mark 1:5, he will find going "out unto John all the country of Judea, and all they of Jerusalem; and they were baptised of him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins." If John was baptising them like that, and if Jesus was making, and through his disciples baptizing even more disciples than John, then I claim that there was some baptising going on under the specific directions of the Lord Jesus Christ himself. But he didn't baptise any babies, for they couldn't confess their sins—too young to do so. Now, no rational man will likely conclude that Jesus would have required immersion of more disciples than even John the Baptist baptised and yet exempt Zaccheus and the twelve of obedience to the same command. When I turn to Mark 13:37 I hear Jesus saying to his disciples, "What I say unto you I say unto all;" and if he said the same things unto all of his disciples that he said unto the twelve, then it naturally follows that he said for the twelve and for Zaccheus to be immersed, too. Besides that, some of the disciples, at least, seem to have been immersed already by John the Baptist before they began to follow the Lord himself as disciples.

The Editor speaks of baptism as a trifling matter; but I beg to inform him that it is a holy commandment of the Lord Jesus Christ, who has never yet given a trifling commandment. Tread softly, Mr. Editor, you are treading on holy ground now.

I suppose the Standard Greek Lexicon (dictionary) for the world for Ancient Greek, is still that of Liddell and Scott, of the "Church of England." The Standard New Testament Greek Lexicon is that of Thayer, of Harvard University. And when those great scholars have said that the Greek word "baptizo means to dip in water, to submerge, to immerse, it is something that no thoughtful, honest and sincere scholar will be quick to dispute. I have already shown that Calvin, Luther and Wesley have conceded that immersion was the New Testament mode of baptism; but now the Editor has come asking: "If these men were absolutely certain that immersion was the only way . . . why does he suppose these same churches don't require immersion?" The answer is an easy one—yet it is a sad one, also. It is because they have been deceived by those who have ignored "the righteousness of God and have gone about to establish a righteousness of their own." It is because they have been deceived by a leadership which to a tragic extent have, as Paul put it, "exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed

## Motoring in Florida Lures Throngs of Visitors



HERE'S one of the reasons more than two million persons will visit the nation's winter playground in Florida this year, according to estimates compiled by Governor Sholtz's All-Florida Committee. The Sunshine State abounds in scenic drives through tropic country over

hundreds of miles of hard-surfaced roads. This year has seen a sharp increase in the number of persons visiting there by automobile. The above road at Daytona is typical of many palm-lined highways which make motoring in Florida a real pleasure.

for ever."—Romans 1:25.

As someone has recently said, "We need to welcome the inspirational; but to do so in disregard of sound doctrine would lead us in the ditch as hopelessly as it would be doctrinally strict and yet remain infants spiritually." Being sound doctrinally is a matter of serious and vital importance; and I hope that these things which I have written will bring forth one hundred-fold of fruit unto the glory of God in prompting unreserved obedience unto him by those who profess to believe in the name of the only begotten Son—even Jesus Christ the Lord.  
W. T. C. BRIGGS.

### Announces Recreation Bulletin For Leaders

Play more and live more, says L. R. Harrill, 4-H club leader at State College.

Providing entertainment to make home life richer and fuller is an important part of the live-at-home programs, he points out.

Recreation has probably been neglected more than any other phase of rural life, he says. Properly conducted, it helps build cooperation in the community, it brings rural people together.

To help make farm life more attractive to young people, he has written a bulletin, "Programs and Materials for Leaders in Home, Community, and Club Recreation." The bulletin is available free to

LEGION AUXILIARY TO MEET HOTEL JOSEPH HEWES FRIDAY The American Legion Auxiliary will meet at the Hotel Joseph Hewes

Friday evening at 8 o'clock for the regular March meeting. A large attendance is desired as matters of importance is due to come up.

We Specialize In LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S Hair Cutting and Shampooing

You can send your children here and yet be assured they will receive the same careful attention as though you were with them.

Bayview Barber Shop Ernest White Prop. EDENTON, N. C.



## FOR YOUR MAY PEAS

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### "Home" Fertilizers

TRUCKER'S DELIGHT 4-7-5

HERCULES TRUCK 5-7-5

TORNADO TRUCK 5-7-7

Or One of Our Other Brands of Quality Fertilizers

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## Home Fertilizer Works

Jno. G. Wood, Owner

Manufacturers Quality Fertilizers

EDENTON, N. C.

### COUNTY HOME INSPECTED

The County Commissioners met at the County Home last Thursday, their investigation revealing the fact that the Home was being properly managed and everything found in good condition.



**INVEST IN DAYS of FUN**

YOU'LL get a double thrill out of your summer vacation if you don't have to stint to pay for it. Start saving now—just a few dollars each month—and by vacation-time you'll be set for many hours of happy leisure.

## TAYLOR THEATRE

EDENTON — PROGRAM FOR COMING WEEK — EDENTON

Today Only (Thursday)—  
**KARLOFF** in  
"The Bride of Frankenstein"  
A MAN MONSTER!  
A LADY MONSTER!  
A MONSTER THRILLER

Saturday Only—  
**TOM TYLER** in  
"Silent Valley"  
ALSO  
**Tom Mix** in  
MIRACLE RIDER NO. 5

Friday Only—  
**GEORGE BURNS**  
and  
**GRACIE ALLEN**  
—in—  
"Here Comes Cookie"  
ALSO  
**AMATEUR NIGHT**  
On the Stage  
8:45 P. M.  
**\$10 PRIZE \$10**

MONDAY AND TUESDAY—

**It's Here!**  
**WIDE RANGE**  
Western Electric  
SOUND SYSTEM

Opening 6:45 P. M. Monday With  
**WINI SHAW - PHIL REGAN**  
**LYLE TALBOT and ALLEN JENKINS**

"BROADWAY HOSTESS"

Also NEWS - CARTOON and a GOOD COMEDY  
**Matinee Tuesday 3:30 — Night 7:15**  
COME AND HEAR OUR NEW SOUND SYSTEM

**Wednesday Only—10c and 15c**  
**RICARDO CORTEZ and DOROTHY PAGE**

"MANHATTAN MOON"  
ALSO CARTOON AND COMEDY

## The Bank of Edenton

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