

The Perquimans Weekly
 Published Every Friday At
 Hertford, North Carolina
 WAK CAMPBELL, Editor
 Entered as second class mail
 November 15, 1934, at Post
 Office at Hertford, North Caro-
 lina under Act of March, 1879.



SUBSCRIPTION RATES
 \$2.00 PER YEAR
 Advertising Rates Furnished
 By Request
 FRIDAY, SEPT. 30, 1955.

Church Membership Near 100,000,000

The National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., said recently that membership in churches in the United States, of all faiths, is now 97,482,611.

This is a membership ratio of sixty per cent of all American citizens and represents a percentage gain among the population of eleven per cent since 1940, when only forty-nine per cent of our people were members of churches.

Many Americans may not realize it, but the percentage of citizens belonging to a church was considerably lower in early American days than it is today. For example, in 1855, only sixteen per cent of the population of the United States were church members.

However, there can be little doubt that the gain since 1940 is most encouraging and it signifies a renewed interest in the church, and religion in the United States. The recent National Council of Churches of Christ report shows that Protestant churches in the United States have 57,124,142 members. The Roman Catholic Church has 32,403,322 members, while Jewish churches have 5,500,000 members.

Eastern Orthodox churches have 2,024,219 members, and other churches have several hundred thousand members between them, among them 63,000 Buddhists. The rate of growth of the churches is interesting. Jewish congregations showed a percentage increase in 1954 of ten per cent. This was the highest percentage increase of all churches, and compares with the Roman Catholic percentage in-

crease of 2.9 per cent and the Protestant churches' increase of 2.3 per cent. Eastern Orthodox membership is reported to have declined.

The largest Protestant bodies in the United States are reported to be: the Baptist Church, with 18,448,821 members and the Methodist Church, with 11,688,002 members. The Lutheran church has 6,818,283 members, the Presbyterian church 3,703,021 and the Protestant Episcopal church 2,660,699. In the case of the first four churches, figures cover the various branches of these various churches.

Safety Features On Automobiles

It is good to see that automobile manufacturers (most of them at least) have at last begun to take safety seriously. Much credit is due a national magazine for pounding hard on this theme, and claiming that manufacturers were more interested in dollars than in lives (which was true).

The latest models—some of the first 1956 models, that is—reflect a trend toward safety which will, beyond a doubt, save many lives in the coming year. In the next few years these new safety features will undoubtedly save lives by the thousands and injuries by the hun-

drod thousand.

Some of the new safety features are: door locks that stay locked under the impact of a crash. This will prevent passengers, and the driver from being injured as a result of being thrown through an open door after the collision.

Another commendable safety feature is the soft dashboard, which was introduced by a few models in earlier years but which is widely accepted this year. Seat belts will save as many lives as any other safety improvement and they are being offered widely this year.

All in all, then, the 1956 cars are probably the safest offered the motoring public in years. It is about time, as everyone now knows, for we, Americans, were killing each other and ourselves at the rate of about a hundred a day—believe it or not.

Good Definition

If someone would ask you why a ship is always referred to as "she" or "her" you might give this explanation: "It costs a lot to keep her in paint and powder, she'll drift off if you don't keep her tied down, she makes her best showing in a high wind and it takes a man to handle her."

TRY A WEEKLY CLASSIFIED

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

THE BIRTH OF JESUS
 International Sunday School Lesson for October 2, 1955.

Memory Selection: "Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people."—Luke 2:10.

Lesson Text: Luke 2:1-40.

With this lesson we begin a study of the life of Jesus Christ, as related by Luke, the physician and historian. As a good historian, Luke gives the historical backgrounds of this record, telling us in detail the kind of world into which Jesus was born.

Luke was the author of the two longest books of the New Testament—the gospel which bears his name, and the Acts of the Apostles. It is interesting to note that he was the only Gentile author in the entire New Testament, and his message was particularly for the Gentile world.

Luke was a very prominent figure in the early church and was referred to by Paul as the "beloved physician." In the last letter which we have from the pen of Paul, written just before his execution at Rome, Paul tells Timothy that Luke alone had remained with him.

Luke's account of the birth of Jesus Christ is given in more detail than any other of the gospels. Being a physician, he was naturally interested in Mary, her condition and the facts surrounding Jesus' birth. It is believed that Luke got many of the details from Mary herself.

The birth place of Jesus was Bethlehem, five miles out of Jerusalem, in the Province of Judea. Augustus, the first Emperor of Rome, ordered a general census of the empire. While the Roman custom was that each person be enrolled in the place of residence, the Jews were allowed to follow their custom and enroll in their ancestral city.

Joseph, the carpenter of Nazareth, the little village of Galilee, was descended from King David and, therefore, traveled a little over seventy miles southward to be enrolled in the City of David. It was while Joseph and Mary were in Bethlehem, crowded with countless strangers, that the birth of Jesus occurred.

Because of the many visitors, there was no room in the inn, and Jesus was born in a small cave nearby, customarily used as a stable.

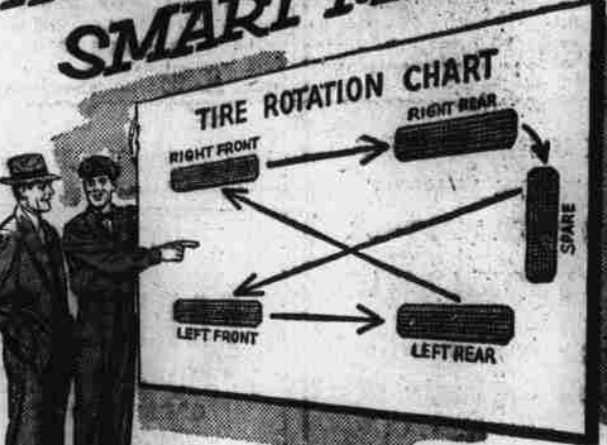
Dr. David J. Burrell offers the excuse of the innkeeper in the following imaginary words: "The man was a mere peasant, a carpenter, as he told me, from the despised town of Nazareth. Which of the distinguished guests in my caravansary—priests, rabbis, wealthy traders—could I displace to make room for him? Shelter in the cave nearby was better for them than to rest under the open sky. There were cattle there, and beasts of burden, so that the place afforded shelter from the kind; and there was barley straw to rest on."

Luke's is the only gospel which records the visit of the angels to the shepherds or the visit of the shepherds to the manger in Bethlehem where Jesus had been born. It was in keeping with his future life that the first notice of the advent of Jesus should have been made to humble men, and not to princes and kings. The shepherds were frightened by the spiritual apparition, but the first words spoken to them were comforting, telling them not to be afraid.

"They who have accepted the Christian tidings of a loving Author and Ruler of the universe," says Rev. John Williams Bradshaw, "and have dared to live as if those tidings were true, have found that the exhortation of the herald angel, 'Fear not,' is fully warranted. If this banishment of fear from the hearts of men were the one, sole gift of Christ to the world, what words could overstate its worth?" After the song of the angels, the shepherds immediately departed to find the baby whose birth had been told them.

In The Evangelical Christian, issue of July, 1953, we found the following: "His (Jesus Christ's) birth was contrary to the laws of life. His death was contrary to the laws of death. He had no cornfields or fisheries, but he could spread a table for five thousand and have bread and fish to spare. He walked on so beautiful carpets or velvet rugs, but He walked on the waters of the Sea of Galilee (Continued on Page Seven)

Here's a SMART MOVE!



TIRE ROTATION CHART

RIGHT FRONT → RIGHT REAR → LEFT REAR → LEFT FRONT → SPARE

You can get the kind of even wear that makes tires last longer — if you let us rotate your tires every 3000 to 5000 miles. Drive in today.

We inspect and report on tire condition, too.

Joe & Bill's Service Station
 RAY WHITE, Prop.



Perquimans Church Services

HERTFORD BAPTIST CHURCH
 James O. Mattox, Pastor
 Sunday School, 9:45 A. M.
 Morning Worship, 11:00 o'clock.
 Evening Worship, 8 o'clock.
 Mid-week Services, Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock.

BETHLEHEM CHURCH OF CHRIST
 Joe Brickhouse, Pastor
 First Sunday
 11 A. M., and 8 P. M.

BURGESS BAPTIST CHURCH
 Phil H. Quidley, Pastor
 Church services second Sunday at 11 A. M., fourth Sunday at 8 P. M.
 Sunday School at 10:00 A. M.

PERQUIMANS CHURCHES
 E. F. Meekins, Pastor
 First Sunday:
 New Hope Church, 11:00 A. M.
 Oak Grove Church, 7:00 P. M.
 Second Sunday:
 Winfall Church, 11:00 A. M.
 Cedar Grove Church, 10 A. M.
 Woodland Church, 7:00 P. M.

Third Sunday:
 Oak Grove Church, 11:00 A. M.
 Cedar Grove Church, 11:00 A. M.
 Woodland Church, 7:00 P. M.
 Winfall Church, 10:00 P. M.
 Fourth Sunday:
 Cedar Grove Church, 11:00 A. M.
 Woodland Church, 11:00 A. M.
 Winfall Church, 7:00 P. M.

ANDERSON'S METHODIST CHURCH
 P. M. Porter, Jr.
 Church School, 10:00 A. M.
 Morning Worship, 11:00 A. M., second and fourth Sundays.

WOODVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH
 Charles Sinclair, Pastor
 Church Services on second and fourth Sundays at 11 A. M.
 First and Third Sundays at 7:45 P. M.

UP RIVER FRIENDS CHURCH
 Orval Dillon, Pastor
 Sunday School, 9:45 A. M.
 Church services, 11 A. M. and 8 P. M.
 Youth Fellowship, 7 P. M.
 Prayer service, Wednesday, 8 P. M.

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH
 Rev. J. D. Stoner, Pastor
 Sunday School 10 A. M.
 Morning worship 11 A. M.
 Evening service 8 P. M.

PINEY WOODS FRIENDS CHURCH
 H. Virgil Fife, Pastor
 Church School 10 A. M.
 Morning worship 11 A. M.
 Young People's meeting 7 P. M.

WHITEVILLE GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH
 Caleb Goodwin, Jr., Pastor
 Sunday School 10:30 A. M., every Sunday except third Sunday.
 Church services every third Sunday at 3 P. M.

HERTFORD METHODIST CHURCH
 I. S. Richmond, Pastor
 Church School 9:45 A. M.
 Morning Worship 11:00 o'clock.
 Youth Fellowship, 8:45 P. M.
 Evening worship, 7:30 P. M.
 Mid-week Fellowship, Wednesday at 7:30 P. M.

BAGLEY SWAMP PILGRIM
 Coy S. Saunders, Pastor
 Sunday School, 10:00 A. M.
 Morning Worship 11 o'clock.
 Young People's meeting at 8:30 P. M.
 Evening worship, 7:30 o'clock.
 Mid-week Services Thursday at 7:30 P. M.

HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 Rev. Paul E. Shutt, Pastor
 9:00 A. M., Holy Communion, 1st Sunday.
 11:00 A. M., Morning Prayer, 2nd Sunday.
 11:00 A. M., Holy Communion 3rd Sunday.
 7:30 P. M., Evening Prayer, 4th Sunday.
 7:30 P. M., Evening Prayer, 5th Sunday.
 9:45 A. M., Church School, Every Sunday.

BEEBA CHURCH OF CHRIST
 Walker Perry, Pastor
 2nd and 4th Sunday at 10:30 A. M.
 Morning worship on first and third Sundays at 11 A. M.
 Evening worship first and third Sundays at 7:30 P. M.

CHAPPELL HILL BAPTIST CHURCH
 Rev. Ralph Knight, Pastor
 Sunday School every 2nd Sunday at 8 P. M.; preaching at 8 P. M.
 Sunday School every 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sunday at 11 A. M.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD
 G. E. Lawrence, Pastor
 Sunday School 9:45 A. M.; Worship at 11 A. M.; CG, 7:30 P. M.
 Evangelistic Services 8 P. M.

BE A GOOD CITIZEN!
GO TO SOME CHURCH NEXT SUNDAY!



It is a wise father who takes time out now and then to be chummy with his boy and to participate in his sports. The lad in the picture beams his pleasure as his dad prepares to "pitch him a few."

The bond of companionship between a good father and his son is one of the most helpful influences that can come into the life of a boy. Boys who enjoy such companionship seldom go astray.

What a striking contrast we observe in the other picture! Guilt and fear are written on the face of the boy with the stolen fruit. He has started on the long and painful road that leads to disaster.

Juvenile delinquency is one of the great social problems of our time. Unwholesome influences are abroad in the world to lead children astray. Without parental guidance, many of them drift into evil ways.

Parents need the help of God and the counsel of the Church in meeting this responsibility.

THIS PAGE MADE POSSIBLE BY THE FOLLOWING FIRMS:

Lynch Funeral Home PHONE 2814 HERTFORD, N. C.	Hertford Furniture Co. "Moved in Town, It's True... But Still Retain Low Prices, Too!"
Milton Dail & Son FERTILIZER — FARM PRODUCE Day Phone 4466. Night Phones 2011-4571	The Southern Cotton Oil Co. HERTFORD, N. C.
W. M. Morgan Furniture Co. Home Furnishings... Hot Point Appliances	Cannon Cleaners PHONE 2511... Dependable Service
Winslow-Blanchard Motor Co. YOUR FORD DEALER	Reed Oil Company ESSO PRODUCTS
Towe-Webb Motor Company CHRYSLER-PLYMOUTH... Sales & Service	Robertson's Cleaners PHONE 5781 HERTFORD, N. C.
J. C. Blanchard & Co., Inc. "BLANCHARD'S" Since 1832	Baker Oil Company Sinclair Products — Goodyear Tires
Hertford Livestock & Supply Company PHONE 2501 HERTFORD, N. C.	Jordan's Barber Shop BILL JORDAN, Prop.
Hertford Building & Loan Association "Own Your Own Home Through Building and Loan"	Hertford Hardware & Supply Company Paints - Hardware - Building Materials
Hertford Banking Company Member F.D.I.C.	Twiford Funeral Home PHONE 2111 HERTFORD, N. C.



Paint Up

With **Athey's** DECORATOR MICRO-MATIC PAINTS



Decorator MICRO-MATIC PAINTS
 324 DECORATIVE COLORS
 INTERIOR-EXTERIOR
 WHITE BASE

Looking for a certain color paint to go with your spring drapes, furniture, rugs? We can offer you custom made colors in our new line of decorator micro-matched paints. 324 colors to choose from for interior or exterior. It's so easy to apply too! Come in soon for these approved colors, expertly coordinated for harmonious color schemes.

FIVE DIFFERENT FINISHES

- OUTSIDE PAINT
- SEMI-GLOSS
- LATEX RUBBER
- ALKYD FLAT ENAMEL
- FAST DRYING ENAMEL

Hertford Hardware & Supply Company