

Western Recorder

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WESTERN RECORDER
Middletown, Ky.

March 17, 1960

Vol. 134

No. 11

THIS WEEK

**Tithing or Christian
Stewardship — Which?**

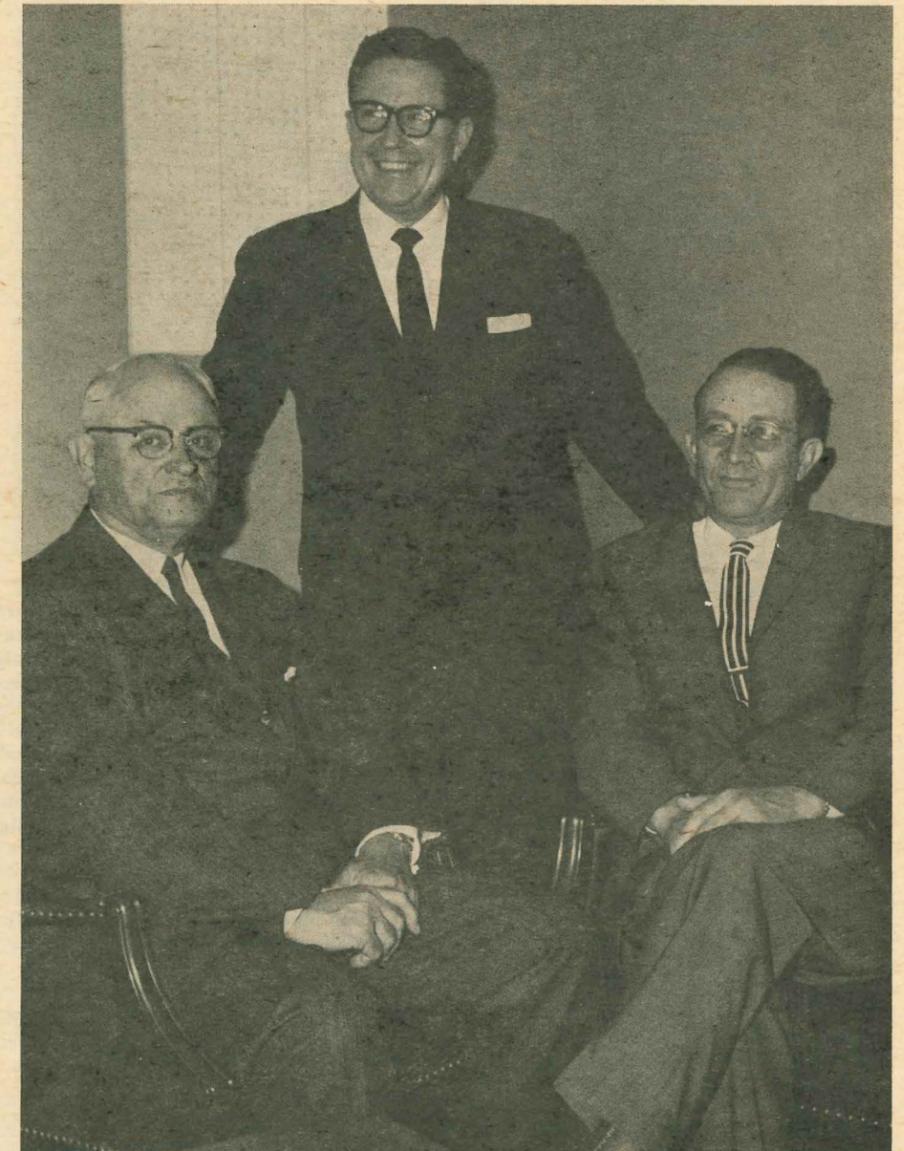
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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES ELECT—Executive secretaries of state Baptist conventions and associations have elected their new officers for the year. Standing is Robert L. Lee, Alexandria, executive secretary, Louisiana Baptist Convention, who is vice-president of their group. Seated left is W. C. Boone, Middletown, Ky., executive secretary, General Association of Baptists in Kentucky who is their president, N. J. Westmoreland of Wichita, Kans., is at right, seated. Westmoreland, executive secretary, Kansas Convention of Southern Baptists, continues as group secretary-treasurer. (BP) photo.



GLEANINGS FROM THE FIELD

POES TO ENTER GUINEA

►Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Poe, who have served Southern Baptists in Nigeria and Ghana, are now studying French under a private teacher in Tuscaloosa, Ala., in preparation to enter their new work for the Foreign Mission Board in the Republic of Guinea.

IRWIN ORDAINED DEACON

►D. J. Irwin was ordained a deacon by the Cool Springs Baptist Church, Beaver Dam, Ky., on February 21 at 2:30 o'clock. The ordination sermon was preached by Pastor Jesse Tichenor, the charge to the church was made by Dale Holly, and the charge to the candidate by Lewis Lynch. Wesley Hanson led the ordination prayer.

SCHOOLS REACH 50,161

►Southern Baptist seminaries, senior and junior colleges, academies and Bible schools has an enrollment of 50,161 last year, according to Rabun L. Brandley, executive secretary of the Education Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention. A year ago it was \$48,117. Only the seminaries and Carver School are operated by the S.B.C., the others being operated by the states.

FINISH PEOPLE

►There are two groups of people in Finland—one Finnish-speaking, and another speaking Swedish, and each group has its own Baptist denomination. Together they have about 3,400 Baptists, and W. Barry Garrett of the Baptist World Alliance says that they have a fine work and are doing their best to proclaim the gospel in their own country as well as on the various mission fields.

THIRD CHURCH IN OMAHA

►Northside Baptist Church became the third Southern Baptist church in Omaha, Neb., when it organized February 14. The church was a mission of First Southern Baptist Church of Omaha, which had also sponsored the other church in the city, as well as the nearby Bellevue church. Jack Adkisson is pastor of First Church, and Richard Lindsay is pastor of the Northside Church.

TAYLOR AND SHELTON

►Pastor Eldred Taylor, Somerset, and Pastor Thomas Hicks Shelton of Covington were the speakers at a one-day

evangelistic conference held at Clear Creek Baptist School in February. Many students who are now pastors of churches and missions expressed special appreciation for ideas which they will be using in their evangelistic meetings this spring.



Jon D. Gilbert has joined the staff of the Lexington Avenue Baptist Church, Danville, Kentucky, as minister of music and education. He began his duties March 9, 1960. Gilbert is presently serving as minister of music for the First Southern Baptist Church of Clarksville, Indiana. He previously served as director of music and recreation for Central Baptist Chapel, Louisville. He is a graduate of the School of Church Music, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, where he was given the degree of Master of Sacred Music, and also the Florida State University gave him a Bachelor of Music Education degree. He is a native of Lakeland, Florida.

WORK OF HOWARD OLIVE

►The Henry County Baptist Brotherhood has passed resolutions about the work of Howard Olive in their midst, saying that "under his leadership our Brotherhood developed from an unorganized group of men, to a well organized, interested, and sincere fellowship of Baptist men," and "this body was inspired by his capable and challenging service." Olive was

pastor of Port Royal Church, Henry County, Ky., and has now gone to be pastor of First Baptist Church, MacClenny, Fla. The resolutions were signed by Julian Roberts, Osborne Stivers and Ronnie Cumbie.

Western Recorder

Earnestly Contend for the Faith which was Once for All Delivered to the Saints — Jude 3.

Vol. 134 No. 11 March 17, 1960

WESTERN RECORDER

KENTUCKY BAPTIST BUILDING
Middletown, Ky.

Published Weekly by the

GENERAL ASSOCIATION OF BAPTISTS
IN KENTUCKY

The Purchasers of the Western Recorder
The Baptist World and The
Kentucky Mission Monthly

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Entered as second-class matter at the Post-office in Middletown, Ky., accepted for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1108, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized January 20, 1920.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES—Individual subscriptions, United States, \$2.25; Foreign, \$2.50. Church budget rate (every active family), \$1.44 per year. Club rate (10 or more) \$1.80 per year. All subscriptions except Church Budget accounts payable in advance. Send both name and address with subscriptions or renewals.

SUBSCRIPTIONS ON THE BUDGET PLAN are considered continuous unless notice of suspension or cancellation of the plan is sent to the Western Recorder office thirty days in advance of expiration date or before the end of any quarter in the subscription year.

The WESTERN RECORDER cannot assume cost of making cuts. This must be borne by persons or organizations sending pictures.

Printing of articles bearing signatures of authors does not necessarily indicate endorsement.

March 17, 1960

Tithing, or Christian Stewardship, Which?

By WALTER N. STOCKBURGER, Pastor
Trinity Baptist Church, Norfolk, Virginia

Can't something be done to lift the concept of Christian stewardship from the legalistic superficial interpretation of tithing so prevalent among us to the lofty place it deserves at the heart of the Christian faith? What I am about to say will not be popular with many of our people, but it expresses an honest and deep conviction of my heart.

I

It appears to me that a legalistic interpretation of tithing has no place in the New Testament teaching of Christian stewardship. Most of the tracts and other literature that I have seen dealing with the subject seek to justify a legalistic system of tithing because of one or more of the following three reasons.

1. The first reason most frequently given is the reference Jesus made to tithing as we have His words recorded in Matthew 23:23 and Luke 11:42. Jesus was speaking to the Pharisees who even tithed the insignificant herbs of their gardens. He did not condemn them for this, and even said that they ought to have done so. However, the real point of this verse, as well as the other verses in this whole section, is that they were so wrapped up in the minute details of their legalistic system that they had completely ignored the weightier matters of justice, mercy and love. Rather than this reference serving as a foundation for a legalistic system of tithing, it seems to me that it could be used with even greater force to warn us against a legalistic system that could camouflage our lack of true Christian giving.

2. A second argument used in the attempt to make tithing a Christian doctrine is that Jesus came to fulfill the law and not destroy it. According to this reasoning, the law of the tithe stands as binding as ever because Jesus did not destroy it. If this argument were followed to its logical conclusion, it would mean that we would have all the complicated laws of Judaism tied as a millstone around our neck. He did fulfill the law in the sense that he lifted us to a higher, richer life, far above that which the law could ever attain. Instead of the law of retaliation, he has shown us by life and teaching the immeasurably higher way of loving even our enemies. If Christ has filled life so full of meaning in all other realms, it seems strangely ironical that he would leave the matter of Christian giving shackled to the obedience of an exacting law, especially when he had so much to say about the inward attitudes and motives of man's heart.

3. The third basis some use for making tithing legally binding is the argument of

the silence of the New Testament on the subject. They reason that a law is binding until it is annulled; since the New Testament doesn't specifically annul the law of tithing, it is as obligatory as ever. It is evident that this reasoning is similar to that of the second argument listed above. Such an argument from silence is dubious at best. It could be pointed out on the other side of the question, if the argument from silence has any validity, that the other New Testament writers, including Paul, do not mention tithing a single time, although they do talk about various gifts and offerings with regard to the Christian work of their day. Although the law of tithing is not specifically annulled in the New Testament in the sense that it was singled out from all other Old Testament laws were. Paul, at great danger to himself, spent much time defending the right of Gentiles to enter the fullness of the Christian life without the burden of Jewish law thrust upon them. An interpretation of the New Testament as a whole would make tithing, as a law, extraneous.

Such a legalistic system frequently tends to encourage non-Christian motives and means of giving. Sometimes the appeal is made for persons to tithe, assuring them that God will pour out upon them even greater material blessings. If this were true, even a pagan business man would begin tithing as a good economic venture. At times the motive of fear is predominant. One is warned that if he doesn't pay the tithe, God will take it away from him in some other way.

As a pastor I understand the pressure of budgets, building programs, and worldwide mission needs that are crucial. I am aware of the fact that most of our church members don't give anything like as much as a tithe of their income. I am also aware of the fact, as Denton R. Coker so clearly pointed out in the special stewardship lesson for young people and adults this year, that in Christianity, the ends never justify the means.

If the above analysis is accurate, there is no solid foundation for the system of tithing as a legal requirement in the context of Christianity. Isn't there some higher way that does have a firm foundation? I think there is. It is the teaching of Christian stewardship.

II

Christian stewardship is not some scheme for raising money or a peculiar doctrine that a group of modern-day preachers has devised. Rather, it is a rich and meaningful concept vitally involved in the whole Christian experience. Although related to the creative act of our sovereign God, it finds its very heart

in the redemptive act of God. Christian stewardship becomes the natural outgrowth of a vital experience with the living God through Jesus Christ.

Here we come to the chief problem, namely, the superficial relationship that so many church members have with Christ. Sometimes it appears that the majority of church members have a thin veneer of Christianity spread over them. It scrapes off easily and reveals the raw surface beneath. For many Christianity is a neat package of salvation that they put in their pockets and go merrily along the way. They have assumed that their souls have been saved and, eventually, they might get around to dedicating their lives to Christ—an idea they may have gathered from some sermons from Baptist pulpits. Surely, this is not New Testament Christianity. New Testament faith involves a commitment of life to Christ, recognizing Him as Lord as well as Saviour, not a mere pronouncement of words or profession of faith. The early Christians were known as "those of the Way," not as those of the word.

How then is Christian stewardship involved in this? It means that a true Christian recognizes that all he is and has belongs to Christ. Having experienced in his heart the transforming love and power of God through Christ, he joyfully gives everything to Christ. The phrase, "in Christ," that the apostle Paul was so fond of using takes on a personal meaning for the Christian. Christ becomes the center of his life, seriously affecting every area of his life, including the economic.

The stewardship of material possessions cannot be separated from the other areas of a Christian's life. A person may be a tither and still be a very unworthy steward. He cannot give a tenth of his income to the Lord's work and then use the balance as he pleases. He is just as responsible for the use of the other nine-tenths as he is for the one-tenth. He must make every economic decision in light of the fact that he is a Christian. We preachers also need to do some straight thinking on this matter. Stewardship is involved when we buy a super auto with all conceivable power gadgets merely for the sake of prestige. A preacher can be a tither and promote the Forward Program of Church Finance with fanatical zeal and still be a miserable steward. (We are using the Forward Program for the third consecutive year, in case you might think I don't have any sympathy for the stewardship emphasis of Southern Baptists.)

How then would the tithe fit into this concept of Christian stewardship? It would serve merely as an illustration and reminder of the fact that the Jew recognized his indebtedness to God and many centuries ago gave one-tenth of his income to support a very limited work, including one temple in Jerusalem. Surely

(Continued on Page 12)



A Baptist Misconception

There is a general impression abroad that Baptists and other evangelical faiths outstrip Roman Catholics in using laymen in the work of the church. This is because we have understood Baptists to believe in the priesthood of all believers and the sacredness of all vocations, while Catholic theology teaches only the clergy are qualified to do spiritual work and Christian vocation is restricted to the monastic orders.

Actually, Roman Catholicism can teach us a great deal about lay participation and activity. In the last few years Baptists have come more and more professionalized in attitude toward church work with increasing numbers of staff members which sometimes encourage inactivity on the part of the laymen. At the same time Roman Catholicism has reached out to enlist growing numbers of laymen to multiply the hands of the priest and find their own Christian vocations.

The *Confraternity of Christian Doctrine* is a Catholic lay movement in evangelism and the spread of the essentials of Catholicism. *Cana Conferences* are for helping husbands and wives in understanding the nature and responsibilities of marriage. The *Christian Family Movement* sets up community study groups with all matters of human interest coming into the discussions. The *Collegiums* seek to relate the profession of medicine, teaching, and engineering to religion.

Even more familiar to most of us is the *Catholic Worker Movement*, the *Catholic Rural Life Conference*, and the far-flung activities of the *Knights of Columbus*.

With due appreciation to pastors and denominational workers in valiant efforts to increase Baptist lay participation, it must be admitted we are scarcely touching the hem of the garment. Discussion groups other than poorly attended Training Unions of a vital type are rare indeed and are strange enough to be suspect sometimes where they exist.

Our women do fairly well in missionary education and community missions, but our men's organizations in many places hardly get off the ground. Christian witnessing is almost a lost art among Baptist laymen.

The ultimate objective of the Catholic lay movement is to take the Catholic way of life in all of society. This they learn from the history of Baptists and now they are exceeding us in our own specialty.

Birds and Churches

An old timer was recently asked about the weather. He expressed uncertainty saying that when the Lord was taking care of it, he could predict fairly accurately, but now that the United States government had taken it over, nobody could tell what to expect from the

weather. From the bag of tricks loosed in these parts the last month and a half, one wonders if the devil is not in charge of the elements.

About the only rejoicing has been with school children, tire chain salesmen, until they ran out, and hardware stores able to move their old and a new supply of sleds. The school children in some instances will have a month or more to make up this summer. Many major stores haven't made enough to pay the light and heat bill.

Churches are also among the sufferers. All time low attendances or cancellation of services are reported from one end of Kentucky to the other. One bad Sunday is of no great consequence but four or five straight make for a squeeze. Some ordinarily strong churches financially are borrowing money for current expenses and the annual financial reports of individual churches as well as that of the General Association will reflect the lean Sundays of the record weather.

There is reason to take heart. The calendar says spring is upon us and in Kentucky we are used to a snow storm giving way to a mild heat wave or *vice versa* within the seven days between the writing and the reading of words like these.

In the meantime we can all remember the birds and the churches. They both require the same nourishment when the snow is twelve inches deep as when the dandelions are blooming.

Pausing to Pray

The Legislative Prayer Fellowship Breakfast at Frankfort was not one of the hundreds of affairs canceled on March 9 due to the paralyzing snow storm. The breakfast, held in the Capital Annex Building cafeteria, was well attended and only almost impossible travel conditions prevented an overflow crowd.

The eating part of the menu included Kentucky old ham, Kentucky eggs, biscuits made from Kentucky flour, Kentucky sorghum (Hancock County style), Kentucky honey, and South American coffee. The fact that Walter House, executive director of the Temperance League of Kentucky, emceed the affair may account for the South American drink instead of an internationally known Kentucky beverage.

The rest of the menu included genuine fellowship, prayers, scripture, and one talk.

Both how many and who attended attest to the vitality of this affair which has come to be one of the highlights of each General Assembly. Governor Bert Combs and Lt. Governor Wilson Wyatt headed the list of state officials. Attorney General John Breckenridge made it all the way from Lexington as did others from Louisville. Commissioners of Agriculture and Banking as well as many other appointive officials were dispersed among the state representatives and senators.

The spirit of the affair was fellowship without frivolity and prayer without piosity. Those attending had reason for added faith in the devotion and sincerity of those in high places of our Commonwealth. As in every group, there are those in state government and the General Assembly who count themselves among the high and mighty. For the most part, how-

ever, those in Frankfort connected with the state government are our next door neighbors, humble and dependent upon God for their help. Our prayers, understanding, and encouraging letters will help them resist selfishness and the influence of special favor pressure groups far more than our carping criticism and our hands off attitude.

BAPTIST FORUM



ANY BAPTIST FRIENDS IN BRAZIL?

Editor:

Worship services conducted by Baptists in the English Language are part of our Southern Baptist Program in the City of Sao Paulo, Brazil. Greater Sao Paulo is said to have 5,000,000 inhabitants.

Anyone having relatives or friends living in this area could do them a favor by sending their address to the present pastor: Ernest C. Wilson, Jr., Caixa Postal 552, Campinas, Sao Paulo.

If you can get this information before your readers, it may be very valuable in helping us to locate some Kentucky Baptists in Brazil.

Ernest C. Wilson, Jr.
Campinas, Sao Paulo

MORE CHALLENGES

Editor:

In the February 11th edition of the *Recorder*, attention was called to the training record made by two people at the Latonia Baptist Church.

May we call to your attention the training record of Mr. and Mrs. James S. Woodward, of Grace Church, Lexington, Kentucky. Mrs. Woodward completed 33 books, six in class, and 27 by correspondence, during the period from October 1958 through September 1959. Mr. Woodward completed 48 books, 3 in class, and 45 by correspondence, making a total of 81 books.

Mr. and Mrs. Woodward are two of the busiest people in Grace Church. He is a deacon, Adult department superintendent, very active in Brotherhood, a lay preacher, holding a revival during the last year, and speaking often in churches in Elkhorn Association. Mrs. Woodward teaches a class of Adult women, belongs to the Training Union, active in W.M.S. at Grace, in the Association, and also in the Region, speaking and teaching all over the Region.

We are proud of this fine record, and know that this couple feel they are better Christians and better workers for having studied these many books.

Lexington, Ky. Mrs. T. L. Nash

WESTERN RECORDER

Editor:

The number of awards earned through home and church study courses was increased by 79 for the year 1959 at the Quinton Baptist Church at Bronston, Kentucky. Mrs. Frank Gibson earned 79 awards in 1959, 77 in 1958, which makes 156 for the two year period. She has 11 others making a total of 167. She has 10 diplomas filled with seals, 5 of them are adults and 8 awards of merit. She also has her Christian Training Diploma for 1960.

We are happy to make this report and we think this is a record for one person.
Bronston, Ky. Hubert Gibson

HERE AND THERE

Editor:

Competition is sharp on the international level at present, especially among the Olympic athletes and the missile-launching scientists. Because of what science is unleashing today, tremors of anxiety and fear are unnerving the world.

In this driving competition with muscles and missiles we must be careful not to overlook some other areas where serious efforts are needed. Sending men into outer space, though very sensational, is no more necessary than sending them into community life to explore the possibility of improved social relationships.

Explorations leading to better relations with the 50,000 overseas students now in America, experiments toward improved relationships involving ethnic minorities and racial groups within our own population—these are priority needs.

Few of us can compete as athletes and scientists. Specialists and subsidies are required for that. But all of us can enter the race for promoting brotherhood. Christianity has its social impact on the world—making bad people good and good people better—and making a better world in which all people may live together in peace and happiness. Christ works through us to accomplish his purposes of transformation in mankind. His power is sufficient, but he needs our co-operation.

My deep concern right now is that we

speed up our efforts to improve people-to-people, race-to-race relationships within our own country. If we will do better in this matter, we will be more respected and appreciated by all the world—and we will turn back the brimstone flow of damaging criticism from so many quarters of the world, especially the Asian and African nations. Unless we do this, well . . .

America is making progress in better domestic relations and civil rights, of course, but all too slow. Too few people are working actively at the job, I fear. The good deeds seldom, if ever, make the newspapers these days. But ugly incidents claim the headlines. As soon as one incident blows over, another pops up and takes its place in the news. Tonight the international newscast mentioned ugly incidents in restaurants in two states, indicating continuing racial tension and conflict. I can guess what will be the big news in tomorrow's local papers.

The thing required at this hour can be done by every American. It involves definite commitment and serious purpose in both attitude and act, primarily on the individual's level. It is: respect for everybody's rights, non-discriminatory treatment of all, good will and unselfish motives, brotherly kindness, Christian love. In short, improving the quality of our Christian lives will lead us to the solution of the social tensions and problems within our country. I believe this with all my heart. Moreover, if we live Christ in the homeland, we can proclaim his message more effectively among the peoples abroad—a fact which I have observed from 24 years of missionary ministry in the Orient. Our foreign aid programs will be more effective also.

This thing that is needed—the "one thing thou lackest," as Christ would repeat to us today—lies within reach of every one. It lies within the Christian heart. External pressure and organizational machinery are not essential in this matter. The internal persuasion of the Christian conscience, if allowed to operate freely, will impell us to right action in these things.

Of course the difficulties have angles that are more apparent to those living in the midst of the local situations. From my overseas perspective, however, I can see the international aspects which are perhaps as important for our nation. Of these aspects I write.

Buford L. Nichols
Semarang, Djawa, Indonesia

Fields, McClellan Voted Trips to World Congress

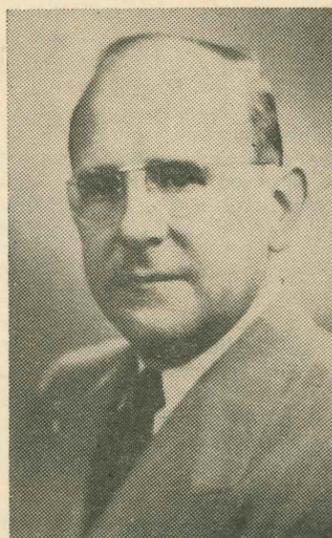
NASHVILLE—(BP)—Two more staff members of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention will attend the Baptist World Congress in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, this summer.

W. C. Fields, secretary of public relations, Nashville, will cover the Congress for Baptist Press, news service of the Convention. Albert McClellan, program planning secretary, will attend also.

These are in addition to Porter Routh, executive secretary of the Executive Committee, whose attendance was approved previously. Approval for Fields and McClellan to attend the Congress was voted by the Executive Committee at its winter meeting in Nashville.

The Baptist World Alliance may pay Fields' travel expenses since he will assist in press coverage.

►Jake O. Reed has been called as pastor of the Locust Grove Baptist Church, near Elizabethtown, Ky. For eleven years he was associated as engineering consultant with the Aircraft Corporation near Atlanta, Ga. He is a graduate of Georgia Tech, and is now a first year student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He was ordained to the gospel ministry by the Broadway Baptist Church, Louisville, on Sunday night, February 28, under the leadership of Dr. Edwin F. Perry. He is married and has two children—a boy and a girl.



Ellis M. Ham has resigned as pastor of the Park Avenue Church, Paducah, and has accepted the care of the Gano Avenue Baptist Church, Georgetown. He has already moved on his new field, his new address being 517 Gano Avenue, Georgetown, Ky.

SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

Miami Beach, Florida, May 17 - 20, 1960

Ramsey Pollard	President
William Robert Pettigrew.....	First Vice President
Bruce Hays Price.....	Second Vice President
James W. Merritt.....	Senior Secretary
Joe W. Burton	Secretary
Porter W. Routh	Treasurer
Elmer F. Bailey.....	Director of Music for Convention Session

GENERAL THEME: "Required of Stewards . . . Found Faithful."

THURSDAY NIGHT

"Found Faithful in Worship"

6:45 Song Service.....	Elmer F. Bailey, Tenn.
6:55 Scripture.....	Robert L. Deneen, S. C.
Prayer.....	Wilford W. Lee, Tenn.
7:00 Welcome.....	C. Roy Angell, Fla.
7:05 Response.....	C. E. Hereford, Tex.
7:10 Report on Registration.....	Joe W. Burton, Tenn.
7:15 Committee on Order of Business.....	Bruce H. Price, Va., Chairman
7:20 Appointment, Committee on Committees, Committee on Resolutions, Tellers	
7:25 Memorial Service.....	W. Marshall Craig, Tex.
7:50 Brotherhood Commission.....	Geo. W. Schroeder, Tenn., Exec. Secy.
8:10 Chaplain's Commission.....	Alfred Carpenter, Ga., Director
8:30 Annual Sermon.....	Ralph A. Herring, N. C.; W. D. Wyatt, N. Mex., Alternate
Benediction.....	Earl Stallings, Fla.

WEDNESDAY MORNING

"Found Faithful in Administration"

9:00 Song Service.....	Edgar T. Hutton, Md.
Prayer.....	Rheubin L. South, Ark.
9:10 Scripture.....	
9:15 Recognition of Fraternal Messengers	
9:35 Executive Committee—Administrative.....	Porter W. Routh, Tenn., Exec. Secy.
10:55 Election of Officers	
11:15 Miscellaneous business	
11:30 Woman's Missionary Union	
12:00 President's Address.....	Ramsey Pollard, Tenn.; Benediction, Dale Hufft, Calif.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

"Found Faithful in Prayer"

7:00 Song Service.....	James A. Overton, New Mex.
7:10 Scripture.....	A. B. Van Arsdale, Ala.
Prayer.....	
7:15 American Bible Society	
7:20 Education Commission	
7:35 Sunday School Board	
8:45 Season of Prayer.....	Clyde V. Hickerson, Va.; Dale Cowling, Ark. James Coggin, Texas; Charles L. McKay, Ariz.
9:00 Sermon.....	J. Ralph Grant, Texas
Benediction.....	Robert N. Hammons, Okla.

THURSDAY MORNING

"Found Faithful With Life"

9:00 Song Service; Scripture.....	James O. Mathenia, III.
Prayer.....	W. Landon Miller, Ala.
9:15 Relief and Annuity Board	
9:35 Historical Commission	
9:45 Election of Officers	
10:00 Miscellaneous Business	
10:15 Radio-Television Commission	
10:45 Southern Baptist Seminaries (including Carver School and Seminary Extension Department)	
12:00 Sermon.....	Theo. F. Adams, Va.; Benediction, J. P. Wesberry, Ga.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

"Found Faithful in Vision"

2:30 Song Service.....	Ernest Wells, Tex.
2:40 Scripture.....	James D. Hartley, Jr., Mo.
Prayer.....	
2:45 Report of Committee on Boards.....	G. Allen West, Tenn., Chairman
3:05 Report of Committee on Committees	
3:10 Election of Officers	
3:25 Miscellaneous Business	
3:45 American Baptist Theological Seminary	
4:00 Sermon.....	Charles C. Bowles, Ala.; Benediction, T. Earl Ogg, La.

THURSDAY NIGHT

"Found Faithful in World Missions"

7:00 Song Service.....	Eugene G. Clark, Va.; Prayer, Herbert C. Zachry, Ky.
7:10 Scripture.....	
7:15 Southern Baptist Foundation	
7:35 Executive Committee—Stewardship Promotion	
8:00 Foreign Mission Board.....	B. J. Cauthen, Va.; Benediction, E. L. McDonald, Ark.

FRIDAY MORNING

"Found Faithful in Christian Convictions"

9:00 Song Service.....	Thos. V. Wells, Tenn.; Prayer, Fred Tarpley, Miss.
9:10 Scripture.....	
9:15 Committee on Denominational Papers	
9:30 Report of Time, Place, and Preacher Committee	
9:35 Report of Resolutions Committee	
9:50 Miscellaneous Business	
10:10 Christian Life Commission	
10:35 Southern Baptist Hospitals	
10:50 Committee on Canadian Baptist Co-operation	
11:00 Committee on Public Affairs	
11:20 Committee on Denominational Calendar	
11:30 Baptist World Alliance	
12:00 Sermon.....	Herschel H. Hobbs, Okla.; Benediction, J. T. Brown, Ga.

FRIDAY NIGHT

"Found Faithful in Witnessing"

6:45 Song Service.....	J. W. Malcolm, Fla.; Prayer—W. J. Stephenson, N. C.
7:00 Scripture.....	
7:05 Presentation of Officers	
7:10 Baptist Jubilee Advance	
8:05 Home Mission Board.....	Courts Redford, Ga.
Message.....	Billy Graham, Tex.
Benediction.....	Warner Earl Fusselle, Ga.

COMMITTEE ON ORDER OF BUSINESS—Tom F. Digby, Ark.; James E. Boyd, Fla.; Perry F. Webb, Sr., Texas; Franklin P. Owen, Secretary, Ky.; Enoch C. Brown, Vice President, S. C.; Bruce H. Price, Chairman, Va.

A Standard for Sunday School Teachers

By A. H. STAINBACK, Pastor
Little River Baptist Church, Miami, Florida

Teaching is one of the most important positions in the church. Good teaching requires much of the teacher. Some standards are required. For these standards we ask, what shall be the teacher's relationship to the Lord, the church, their pupils, etc? The following is a suggested standard for a good Sunday School teacher.

A good Sunday School teacher should be concerned about their:

I. Relationship With God

1. A teacher must be a truly converted person with conviction and personal commitment to God through Jesus Christ as personal Saviour and Lord.
2. A teacher must feel he has a calling and special blessing by God in that he has the privileged responsibility of guiding boys and girls, men and women, to a saving knowledge of Christ as Saviour and to lead them to the dedication of their lives to His kingdom's service.
3. The teacher's life should be so lived as to be an example of a consecrated born again person.

II. Relationship To The Church

1. The teacher must remember at all times that the Sunday school is the teaching arm of the church.
2. There must be a promotion of the total program of the church by each teacher.
3. The teacher must be a systematic giver.
4. The teacher must be a willing and regular visitor.
5. The teacher must realize the vital necessity of attending worship services, prayer meeting and participation in at least one other division of the church's program, such as

the choir, Training Union, Woman's Missionary Society or Brotherhood.

III. Relationship To The Pupils

1. The teacher's supreme desire must be that each pupil shall so understand the Lord Jesus Christ that they will accept Him as Saviour.
2. The teacher shall desire for each pupil the joy of complete commitment of their lives and talents to the Lord's service.
3. The teacher must be an example, counselor and friend.
4. The teacher must come to know each pupil personally, to understand their needs, interests, capacities and limitations.
5. The teacher must create a challenging spiritual situation.
6. The teacher must be satisfied with nothing less than constant spiritual growth by each pupil.
7. The teacher must have compassion and patience.

IV. Relationship To The Curriculum

1. The teacher must be a diligent and devout student of the Scriptures.
2. The teacher must carefully and prayerfully prepare each lesson seeking the best possible way to relate the lesson to the lives of the pupils.
3. The teacher should take advantage of all teaching aids provided by the church, reference books in the library and of the pastor's willingness to assist with Biblical, doctrinal and other teaching problems.
4. The teacher must always relate the lesson to modern living.

V. Relationship to the "Denomination"

1. The teacher must know what it is to be a Southern Baptist and have

a good knowledge of the history, doctrines and practices of Southern Baptists.

2. The teacher should lead each pupil to a right understanding of the doctrines, and practices held by Baptists.
3. The teacher should be a regular reader of the local, State and Southwide publications.
4. The teacher must loyally support the "denominational" program without bigotry.

VI. Relationship To Missions

1. The teacher must be personally devoted to the cause of making Christ known to all the world.
2. The teacher must know, teach and promote the missionary endeavors of the church, its focus weeks and special offerings.
3. The teacher must teach that one of the finest symbols of our unity and co-operation is the Lord's work is the Cooperative Program.
4. The teacher should be alert to use all possible missionary material and features in the lessons.

The Sunday School teacher is a co-worker with every other teacher, officer and the pastor for the promotion of the Kingdom of God through their own local church. Each teacher will differ in ability and opportunity, but each will be held responsible by God for doing their best and will be rewarded according to their own faithfulness.

Launch Graduate Study For Baptist Colleges

NASHVILLE — (BP) — The Southern Baptist Convention Education Commission will launch a study of graduate training for Southern Baptist colleges and universities. This is at the request of the S.B.C. Executive Committee.

Its purpose is to provide a better source of supply for college teachers, particularly in fields other than religious education and Bible.

Baptist colleges and universities report shortages of well-qualified teachers in nearly all fields but those in religion, where there are 200 more applicants than positions.

The Education Commission said that the study will include a review of salaries paid professors at Baptist colleges and salaries paid by other colleges. It said some professors leave Baptist colleges for other teaching positions in schools able to increase their salary by \$2,000 to \$10,000 a year.

The study developed from the interest of presidents of Southern Baptist colleges and universities, faced by teacher shortages at a time when enrolments are predicted to increase very rapidly.

Seminaries are not expected to be involved in the study.

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- April 14.....Harlan Baptist Church
- April 25.....Immanuel Baptist Church, Paducah
- April 26.....First Church, Madisonville
- April 28.....First Church, Bowling Green
- May 2.....Stanford Baptist Church
- May 5.....Paintsville Baptist Church
- May 9.....First Church, Middletown
- May 10.....First Church, Cynthiana

Sessions at 2:00 P.M. and 7:00 P.M.

KENTUCKY BURGEOO SUPPER AT 6:00 P.M.

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Assisted by
 Secretary, Brotherhood Department
 FORREST R. SAWYER

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 Record?**
 IS IT
 Poor?
 Fair?
 Good?
 Better?
 Best?

THE POTENTIAL!
 You
 will
 find
 it
HARD TO BELIEVE!

THE PROPOSAL!!!
 Goals will be suggested which will chal-
 lenge every Kentucky Baptist who be-
 lieves in the practice of the Christian Re-
 ligion. You are invited to receive and share
 the challenge.

KENTUCKY BAPTISTS AT WORK



CHURCH MUSIC

Booneville Music School A Complete Success

The following letter was received from the Associational Music Director of Booneville Baptist Association concerning their recent music school.

"Dear Bro. Quinn:

"Our central music school was a complete success. I can say without hesitation, that it was the finest associational event we have had in the Booneville Association in many a day.

"I wish, on behalf of this association, to commend Bro. Ray Jenkins. We were impressed by this competence; and, we thoroughly appreciate his spirituality. He has a wonderful testimony for Christ; and, is an excellent ambassador of our State organization. May I express my gratitude to you for sending us a man of his caliber.

"We had an enrolment of forty-eight; and, an average attendance of 36 each night. These figures become more impressive when you realize that most of these were key figures in the churches of this association.

"I consider this the beginning of better musical days in this association. I wanted to begin on an associational level, primarily to acquaint the people with the program. I feel quite certain that it will spread from this into the individual churches now that they are familiar with the program.

"Again, may I express our thanks to you for your assistance and co-ordination in making our school such a successful event. Sincerely,

"William W. Cope."

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SUNDAY SCHOOL

Associational Vacation Bible School Clinics

By ROY E. BOATWRIGHT

According to the record in our office the following associations have planned a one day V.B.S. Clinic. The Sunday School Department will assist in some of these as listed:

March

7—Salem	.....	conduct own
11—Casey County	.....	conduct own
12—Russell County	.....	conduct own
13—Nelson	.....	conduct own
16—Severn's Valley	.....	Roy Boatwright
17—Green Valley	.....	Roy Boatwright
21—Greenup	.....	Bob Fitts
22—Three Forks	.....	Francis Tallant
24—Central	.....	Roy Boatwright
25—Anderson and Franklin	.....	Bob Fitts
28—Rockcastle	.....	conduct own
31—West Union for McCracken County	.....	conduct own

April

1—West Union for Ballard Co.	.....	conduct own
2—Liberty	.....	conduct own
2—Freedom	.....	conduct own
4—Allen	.....	Francis Tallant
5—Monroe	.....	Francis Tallant
5—Ohio Co.	.....	Roy Boatwright
6—Warren	.....	Francis Tallant
8—Gasper River	.....	conduct own
8—Red River	.....	conduct own
8—Lynn	.....	Francis Tallant
8 or 11—Pulaski	.....	Harry Garrett
11—West Kentucky	.....	conduct own
14—Bell Co.	.....	conduct own
19—Sulphur Fork	.....	Roy Boatwright
19—Elkhorn	.....	Francis Tallant
20—White's Run	.....	Bob Fitts
22—Ten Mile	.....	Roy Boatwright
26—Mount Zion	.....	conduct own
26—Owen Co.	.....	conduct own
26—McCreary Co.	.....	Francis Tallant
27—South Concord	.....	Francis Tallant
27—Laurel River	.....	Bob Fitts
28—Irvine	.....	Bob Fitts
28—Wayne Co.	.....	Francis Tallant
28—Long Run	.....	Roy Boatwright
29—Long Run	.....	Roy Boatwright
28—Little Bethel	.....	conduct own
29—Bracken	.....	conduct own
29—Freedom	.....	conduct own
29—Tate's Creek	.....	conduct own
29—Lincoln Co.	.....	Francis Tallant
30—South District	.....	Francis Tallant

May

2-6—Christian Co.	.....	Roy Boatwright
3—Caldwell Co.	.....	Roy Boatwright
3—Ohio Valley	.....	Bob Fitts
5—Muhlenberg	.....	Bob Fitts
6—Upper Cumberland	.....	.....
9—North Concord	.....	Bob Fitts
13—Edmonson	.....	Roy Boatwright
14—Bell Co.	.....	conduct own

It is possible that mistakes have been made in this list; if so, let us know.

►Miss Joe Ann Shelton is to sing four solos at the Pastors' Conference, Miami Beach, Fla., May 16-17, 1960, and will also sing during the Southern Baptist Convention. She is a soloist on "The Baptist Hour," and directs its choir for Radio-TV Commission.

BROTHERHOOD

Workers at the Work

By FORREST R. SAWYER

James T. Allen, of the Shively Heights Baptist Church Brotherhood, reports an enrollment of 25 with an average attendance of 19 for the past quarter. Most excellent! Their Royal Ambassador work is growing with four new Candidates, with six Pages, and one Squire.

Carl Gray, of the Hurricane Baptist Church, is the associational Brotherhood president of Little River Association.

The Victory Memorial Baptist Church, Long Run Association, Henry Schafer, pastor, continues to enjoy the efficient leadership of Wavie Burden as its president. Assisting Pastor Schafer and President Burden in places of leadership are H. C. Avery, B. E. Simonis, Dr. J. C. Hill, E. T. Grooble, C. J. Stone, Virgil Stokes, J. Miller and Wilfred Greenlea. Pastor Schafer recently enjoined his men (1) to be deeply concerned about their spiritual life at home; (2) to assist in discipline

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by all the men being at church services; and (3) to become an evangelistic Brotherhood to the lost people of this community.

Charles O. Binkley, pastor of the Oak Grove Baptist Church in Logan County Association, near Russellville. The men of his Brotherhood visited 20 lost men in the community as a part of their Layman's Day emphasis.

W. E. Bush is president of the Corinth Brotherhood in Boone's Creek Association, and is also the associational brotherhood president. Corinth Brotherhood sponsored a Layman's Day radio broadcast.

Stanley Lee is the associational Brotherhood president for Nelson Association where Charles E. Daniel is the associational missionary. Ten of the churches were represented at a recent meeting. Mr. Lee and his corps of officers have six new Brotherhoods as their goal for 1960.

Ambassador Life goes to each of the 11 boys enrolled in the Bud Spencer Chapter of Kenwood Church, Louisville.

Charles Brock, secretary of Gethsemane Church in South District Association, Danville, reports 11 new Royal Ambassador Candidates during the past quarter. The Brotherhood sponsored Royal Ambassador Focus Week, the Father and Son banquet, and a Recognition Service for the Royal Ambassadors. These activities were in addition to their usual participation in the activities of work of Gethsemane Church.

TRAINING UNION

State Training Union Convention

By JAMES H. WHALEY, SR.



J. H. Whaley, Sr.

The Kentucky Training Union Convention will meet this year on Thursday and Friday, April 21-22, with the First Baptist Church, Paducah.

Dr. Ralph H. Langley from Houston, Texas will bring the inspirational addresses at the convention. Dr. Philip B. Harris, the new secretary and editor, Training Union Department, Baptist Sunday School Board, will also be on the faculty and speak to the convention at one session.

In addition to the above, excellent conference leaders have been secured for the two conference periods. These include the State Training Union Secretaries of Texas, Mississippi, and Missouri.

The host church is making preparation to furnish rooms for those desiring home accommodations on Thursday and Friday night. Forms for requesting home reservations along with a list of hotels and motels will be mailed to Training Union directors. Also, a form will be included in the March 31 issue of the Western Recorder.

The first place winners in the Young People's Speakers' Tournaments, the Intermediate Sword Drill, and the Junior Memory Work and Bible Drill will take part in their respective events in the convention.

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION

Central Baptist Church, Corbin, Welcomes W.M.U.

By MRS. GEO. R. FERGUSON



Rev. J. Bill Jones

"Everything in our power is being done to make the 1960 W.M.U. Convention more inviting. We stand ready to help you in every possible way. You will enjoy the warm friendliness of the people of Corbin and will never forget the beauty of Southeastern Kentucky.

"It is with joy that we anticipate your coming."—J. Bill Jones, Pastor.

CENTRAL'S W.M.U. EXTENDS WELCOME

"I wish I could come into your home or missionary society and give to each of you a personal invitation to attend the Annual Meeting of Kentucky W.M.U. to be held at Central Church, Corbin, but that cannot be, so I'll have to rely on this message to tell you how much we want you to come to Corbin, April 5-7. The church and the committees, led by the general chairman, Mrs. J. Bill Jones, have worked laboriously and prayerfully for months making preparations for

the comfort and pleasure of each guest. We are looking forward with great anticipation to seeing as many of you as possible on this date. A wonderful thought to entertain is that of having a



Mrs. A. R. Setser

representative from each society and church in the state, regardless of the size of the organization or how new it may be.

"Not only does Central Church and Woman's Missionary Union extend to you a welcome, but our neighboring churches in Corbin, London, Barbourville, and Williamsburg welcome you. Come, not only to the convention, but make it a vacation and visit some of our scenic spots such as Clear Creek Mountain Preacher's School, Pineville; Cumberland Gap, Middlesboro; Levi Jackson State Park, London; and Cumberland Falls, Corbin. Make this a vacation to remember. The mountains and foothills of Southeastern Kentucky are so beautiful in the Spring. There will be spring flowers everywhere.

"May I say again, welcome to our church, city and community."

—Mrs. A. R. Setser, President
W.M.S., Central Church,
Corbin

CONFERENCES AT THE STATE MEETING

There will be conferences on Tuesday afternoon, preceding the opening of the State Meeting, from 2:00-4:00. Conferences and leaders for them are as follows:

Presidents, Mrs. W. C. White; Superintendents, Mrs. D. M. Aldridge; Jubilee Chairman, Mrs. C. P. Gunther; Prayer, Mrs. A. C. Overall; Mission Study, Mrs. O. B. Mylum; Stewardship, Mrs. Roscoe Murray; Community Missions, Mrs. Hugh McElrath, Sr.; Church Y.W.A. Leadership, Mrs. George Leonard; Associational Y.W.A. Directors, Mrs. Paul Linde; Church G.A. Leadership, Mrs. Clarence

Beverly; Associational G.A. Directors, Mrs. Arthur Carpenter; Church Sunbeam Band Leadership (Nursery and Beginners) Mrs. C. D. Ransdell, Jr., and (Primary and World Friends) Mrs. T. L. Bell; Associational Sunbeam Band Directors, Mrs. Ralph Keaton.

Miss Nina Martin and Mrs. Hugo Culpepper will spend some time in each conference pertaining to their work.

REMEMBER THE DEADLINE FOR BANQUET RESERVATIONS — MARCH 30

TITHING, OR CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP, WHICH?

(Continued from Page 3)

a Christian, in light of what God has done for him, and in view of the desperate need to share the Good News of Christ around the world, would have a hard time explaining why he would not want to give at least a tenth of his income for the work of Christ. He would give all he possibly could, and then use the remaining amount as conscientiously as he knew how, remembering the fact that he is "in Christ" and that the urgent need for his gifts will always exceed his very best efforts. He will give joyfully, not begrudgingly as he sometimes does when paying his income tax; he will give because of Christian love, not for fear that God will take a tenth away from him through doctor bills if he doesn't turn it loose. A Christian will give as the Macedonians described by Paul in II Cor. 8:5, "They . . . first gave their own selves to the Lord." Until one gives himself to Christ, there is no hope of his having the right attitude toward the giving of his possessions.

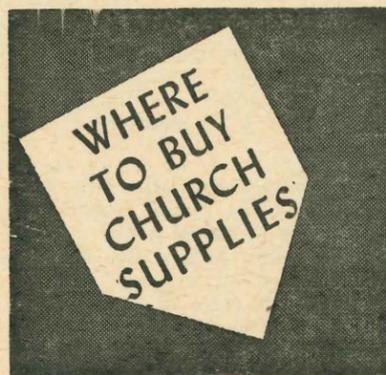
Again, I raise the original question. Why not a lofty concept of Christian stewardship that is intellectually respectable, based on sound Biblical interpretation, and appeals to genuine Christian motives? I think our consciences would let us sleep better at night and, who knows but what the amount of money given through our churches, strictly a secondary though important consideration, might be far greater than that given under the pressure of a legalistic and superficial interpretation of tithing so typical throughout our Southern Baptist Convention.

►Dr. Herschel H. Hobbs, pastor of the First Church, Oklahoma City, will have completed 18 months of radio broadcasting for The Baptist Hour on March 27. Beginning at that time three new speakers will serve to allow him to take a six months' leave of absence. These will be Dr. H. Guy Moore, Broadway Church, Fort Worth, Texas, during April and May; Dr. Grady C. Cothen, First Church, Birmingham, Ala., during June and July; and Dr. J. Winston Pearce, First Church, DeLand, Fla., during August and September.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND TRAINING UNION ATTENDANCE, MARCH 6, 1960

	S.S.	Add.	T.U.
Covington, Calvary	1164		
Louisville, Ninth and O	1135	1	474
Louisville, Carlisle Avenue	983		256
Mayfield, First	978		227
Mission	123		
Louisville, Crescent Hill	922	6	247
Missions (2)	116		40
Hopkinsville, Second	911	3	213
Madisonville, First	842		209
Louisville, St. Matthews	811	1	259
Bowling Green, First	774		230
Mission	147		
Lexington, Calvary	758	2	217
Mission	24		
Owensboro, Third	754		275
Louisville, Parkland	732	3	192
Elizabethtown, Severns Valley	731		230
Missions (2)	49		
Hopkinsville, First	711		268
Newport, First	705		146
Louisville, Beechmont	700		182
Missions (2)	279	1	96
Somerset, First	664	1	246
Mission	56		
Glasgow	651	1	151
Missions (2)	141		
Louisville, Beechland	619		160
Mission	148		59
Campbellsville	605		
Missions (3)	90		59
Paducah, Immanuel	588		162
Louisville, Buechel Park	585	6	165
Lexington, Grace	574		
Mission	17		
Harrodsburg	572	1	143
Mission	21		21
Louisville, Victory Memorial	558	1	141
Missions (2)	176		86
Georgetown	526	4	291
Lexington, Rosemont	519	6	155
Shelbyville, First	516		84
Ashland, First	501		126
Missions (2)	151		
Florence	494		127
Louisville, Hazelwood	487		108
Louisville, Third Avenue	472		154
Mission	166	2	78
Erlanger	468	1	122
Louisville, Rockford Lane	462	1	127
Louisville, Shively	460		148
Louisville, Southside	441		106
Louisville, Farmdale	438	2	130
Mission	102		62
Owensboro, Hall Street	437		189
Louisville, Bethany	426		113
Henderson, Immanuel	416		
Missions (2)	160		
Ashland, Unity	414		109
Bellevue	401		83
Louisville, Beth Haven	400		160
Louisville, Bethlehem	397		148
Ludlow, First	393	4	119
Paducah, East	392		188
Greenville, First	383		125
Louisville, Eighteenth Street	382		116
Mission	49		63
Middlesboro, First	380		104
London, First	380	1	102
Louisville, Beechwood	376		164
Winchester, Central	375		114
Owensboro, Buena Vista	374	5	151
Mt. Washington, First	373	6	98
Mission	18		
Louisville, Shawnee	367		115
Jeffersonton, First	366		71
Russellville, First	361		122
Mission	43		
Franklin, First	354		119
Mission	47		35
Corbin, Central	349		127
Mission	47		22
Nicholasville	347		129
Bardstown	339	1	52
Louisville, High View	335	2	120
Hodgenville, First	329		107
Walton, First	329		139
Frankfort, Thorn Hill	321		125
LaGrange, DeHaven Memorial	319		73
Louisville, Valley View	319	1	115
Louisville, Immanuel	313		104
Frankfort, Crestwood	307		113
Owensboro, Lewis Lane	307		126
Louisville, LaSalle Avenue	295		96
Corbin, First	291		83
Middletown, First	289	1	120
Barbourville, First	282	1	320
Missions (3)	184		
Owensboro, Crabtree Avenue	275		103
Versailles	273		100
Ashland, Pollard	266		117
Missions (2)	71		
Earlington, First	253	3	57
Mission	37		
Dawson Springs, First	249	6	53
Louisville, Gethsemane	247		113
Falmouth	247		56

Cold Spring, First	247	3	116
Marion	244		81
Springfield	244		65
Paris, Central	242		104
Bowling Green, Glendale	237	3	131
Lebanon Junction, First	222	3	97
Williamson, East Williamson	222		67
Owensboro, Seven Hills	213		64
Carrollton, First	200		88
Ashland, Fairview	194	3	79
Mission	37		
Shepherdsville, Little Flock	189		42
Hazel	182		



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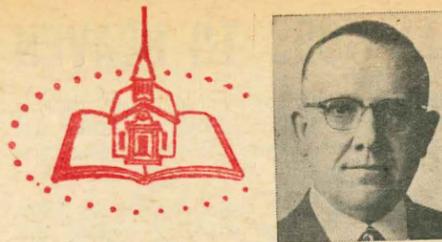
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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By H. C. Chiles

PAUL'S VOYAGE TO ROME For March 20, 1960

Acts 27 contains the story of Paul's voyage to Rome, where he was to be tried. He had been arrested for preaching that the crucified, buried and risen Christ was alive. During Paul's first trial in Caesarea justice miscarried and he appealed his case to Caesar, because he knew he could never get a fair hearing before the prejudiced Jews, thus making it necessary for him to be taken to Rome. The journey across the Mediterranean Sea was very hazardous. In those days most of the navigation was suspended during the winter months because of the perilous storms. Only the larger ships, which carried grain and heavy commodities continued in operation. On board the ship which carried Paul were all sorts of people—the centurion, the captain, merchants, sailors, soldiers, Luke the physician and the prisoners, of whom Paul the Apostle was chief.

Acts 27:1

Two years before this incident took place, when Paul was still in Jerusalem, God assured His faithful servant, Paul, that He intended for him to bear witness in His behalf in Rome, the center of civilization, before his work was completed. When it became necessary for Paul to be taken to Rome, he was delivered into the hands of a military guard under Julius, who was kind enough to permit the Apostle to take Luke and Aristarchus along.

Acts 27:21-26

At Fair Havens the captain held a conference with reference to the possibility of reaching a safer harbor at Phenice and there spend the winter. Paul advised him to wait for better weather and warned him that to proceed at that time would likely mean the loss of many lives and numerous possessions. The captain ignored Paul's advice and followed the suggestion of the master and owner of the ship.

As they were crossing the Mediterranean Sea a great storm arose and grew in its fury for many days, until hope of safety had fled from those on board. The ship was so severely beaten by the angry waves that it was about to fall apart. The mariners used every device known to primitive navigation to save the ship and its passengers. After the ship was driven by a merciless sea for many hours,

they decided to attempt to relieve the situation by tossing the freight overboard.

When despair had gripped the hearts of the men on the ship and they were about to jump into the sea, Paul told them of a heavenly visitor who had stood by him that night and had encouraged him with a message from God. This message contained the assurance that Paul and all who were on the ship would escape drowning, provided they remained aboard.

What was the secret of Paul's calmness in that terrible storm? It was his recognition of God's ownership. He said, "For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve, Saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee." He was convinced that he and those who were with him were safe because his Heavenly Father ruled the storm.

In the midst of that terrible storm Paul said, "Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me." That was a bold declaration of his absolute faith in God. Paul was not afraid to declare his belief in God in spite of all the dangers that he faced. His faith in God gave others confidence and hope in spite of the predicament and desperate situation in which they found themselves. Even though he was a prisoner, Paul was the happiest man on that ship, which goes to show that good cheer is not dependent upon external conditions but upon an internal state of mind and soul.

Acts 28:1-2

After Paul's fourth shipwreck, he and his companions escaped the buffeting of the boisterous waves of the sea and reached the shore by means of floating planks and pieces from the ship which had been broken on the rocks. Naturally they were chilled by the icy waters.

Upon finding themselves on the island of Melita, they expected ill treatment from the natives. To their complete surprise, these barbarians kindled a fire and gave them a warm reception. The shivering and storm-wrecked mariners were the recipients of sympathy, comfort and compassion. They found kindness where they had expected unkindness, and love where they had expected hate.

Acts 28:11-14

Paul had frequently longed to go to Rome, from which strategic center he could reach all parts of the empire with the gospel message. When the Lord finally opened the way for him to go, and the paramount desire of his heart was about to be gratified, he resolved to devote his physical strength, mental powers, compassionate heart and numerous talents to the faithful proclamation of the gospel of Christ in the capital city.

Paul's trip to Rome was quite different from what he had anticipated, for he went as a prisoner rather than as a free man and an esteemed minister of Christ. His journey from Jerusalem to Rome was one of thrilling adventure and grave peril, but the Lord was with him all the way. As they approached the city, groups of believers in Christ, who were eager to see the author of that wonderful Epistle to the Romans, went out to meet him and to welcome him. One group was so anxious to see him that they met him about forty miles from Rome, and the other group about ten miles nearer. This friendly gesture was highly commendatory in them and immensely appreciated by Paul. Such courtesy, love and loyalty encouraged him very much. Because he was received so warmly, "he thanked God, and took courage." The presence of these brethren thrilled him as he realized through them the presence, the purpose, the promise, and the power of God.

►Dr. Hugo Culpepper, of the Seminary faculty, will be the evangelist assisting Pastor Gilbert Thornhill in a revival at Kosmosdale Baptist Church, Valley Station, Ky., March 20-26. Dr. Culpepper was a missionary for 19 years, serving in Argentina, Chile and China. He and his wife were prisoners of war for more than three years.

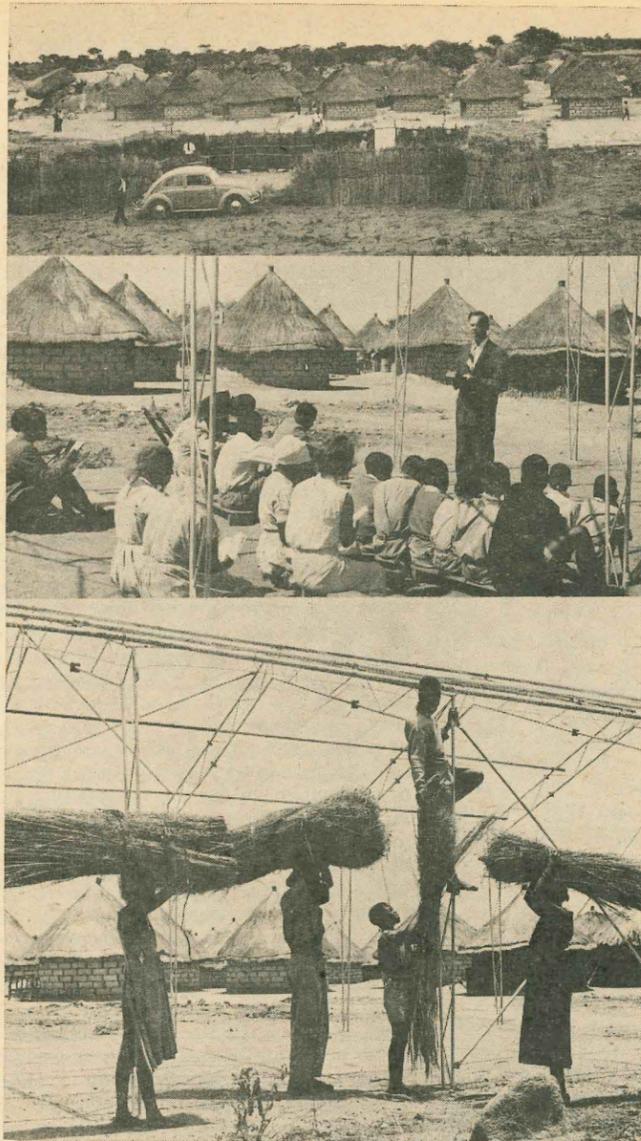
3 R.A. Congresses Re-Scheduled

Paintsville Congress from March 3 to March 24

Cynthiana Congress to Central, Paris—March 25

High Street, Somerset to First, Somerset—March 26

(The attendance was 475 and 350 respectively at the first two Congresses.)



A BEER HALL GOES TO HEAVEN

Ever hear of a beer hall going to heaven? Well, that is just what happened at the rock quarry about five miles out a dusty, corrugated dirt road from Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia.

The quarry is not really very big, but a couple of years ago some of the missionary language students spotted the thatched huts lying beyond the hole. With the inevitable fire that burns within a missionary's heart, they sought the community as a place for a gospel witness.

It is a kind of transient community. Some of the huts form rows of clean concrete rondawels with neatly thatched roofs. Others are but squalid frameworks of hastily-thrown-together straw. The life of the community is pretty well built around the boiling pots of home-brew. The dirty, milky-white liquid with its sickly malt smell seems to pervade every nook and corner of the village. The people are dirty and listless, without apparent enthusiasm or motive in life.

It was into this community that Dr. Samuel R. J. Cannata, Jr., and Pastor Marion G. (Bud) Fray, Jr., came seeking to express their newly learned words of the Shona language and, even more, to effect a witness through the power of the gospel. Each week now other language students walk through the village, visiting, handing out tracts, and calling the little ragged children and their parents to sit beneath the preaching shelter and share the good news of Christ.

This is how the beer hall went to heaven. It was actually a large area enclosed with a grass fence. Inside the gates the beer was brewed, and the people came to dance and drink away their time.

Not long ago the fence came tumbling down. The long grass was tied into bundles and carried over to the preaching shelter where happy hands lifted it up to form the thatching for the roof. Since in the Shona language there is no word for roof, we simply say "heaven of the house." Thus, the straw, which formerly sheltered those who were drifting farther away from God in the den of drink, has gone to the heaven of the house of God to shelter those who seek and serve him.

Oh, no, everyone hasn't responded to the gospel message, nor have they all stopped drinking; but somehow to me this incident is symbolic of the Scripture passage which suggests that the gates of hell cannot withstand the onslaught of the army of Christ when it marches forward into battle.

A PLEA FOR DOCTRINAL PREACHING

By ROBERT L. CATE, McRae, Georgia

It has often been said by preachers, prophets, and politicians that their generation stands at the cross-roads of history. This has been said in various times, places, and circumstances, and has nearly always been true. The reason is that, as we go down the road of life, we come upon many cross-roads and must continually face new situations and, consequently, new problems.

I feel that we, as Baptists, are now standing at one of these crossings of the ways. Before us lies the high-road of

greater service to God and the low-road of lesser service. This situation has been brought about by a very prevalent belief, found among both our young people and our adults, that one church is as good as another. We hear said on every side: "What difference does it make what church you belong to?" We hear said on every side: "What difference does it make what church you belong to? We are all going to the same place." On the surface, this sounds both pious and pleasing. But underneath stands Satan with his poison filled fangs, ready to plunge them into our souls, for this philosophy is based upon the premise that it makes no difference what you believe,—it makes no difference what is right.

No Baptist would grant any credence at all to the latter statement. We believe that what is right (either in the matter of doctrine or practice) is important. Yet we turn right around and do not take the time or make the effort to find out what is right. We are losing our Baptist distinctives!

I am not a blind traditionalist. I do not believe in holding on to a doctrine just because our fathers did. But I do believe that, if we would please God and be used of Him, we must hold on to the true Biblical doctrines, no matter what the cost.

Perhaps the fault lies at the feet of those of us who are called to proclaim the riches of the Gospel of Christ as preachers. We find it much easier to preach evangelistic than doctrinal sermons. After all, with an evangelistic sermon, most of us just take a new text and use the same outline. I am not suggesting that we should cut down on our

evangelism. I do not feel that we have enough real evangelism in our churches, but I know that we do not have enough doctrine.

When we do bother to preach on doctrine, we usually either apologize or preach a superficial, dry-as-dust message. Jesus Christ never did this and I do not believe that He is satisfied for us to do it. To preach a doctrinal sermon requires long hours of thorough-going Bible study, positive prayer, and genuine humility on the part of the preacher. The message must be simple, yet thorough. It must not be delivered with a sense of arrogance, but in a sympathetic, understanding manner. The preacher must be certain he is proclaiming Biblical truth and not traditional falsehood, and then proclaim it with all the conviction and power he can muster.

We are indeed grateful for the occasional emphasis on doctrine in the many publications of the Sunday School Board. We need to take advantage of these in our churches. But nothing can replace the doctrinal emphasis from the pulpit. If we preachers will proclaim the doctrines of the New Testament in our preaching, I know that we will find our people responding by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Southern Baptists have been used of God because we have sought the truth and because we have sought methods to improve our service to Him. Let us hold on to both of these and not sacrifice either emphasis to the other. It may be possible for a church to be doctrinally sound without being spiritually powerful, I do not know; I know that it is not possible for a church to be spiritually powerful without being doctrinally sound. Let us therefore give the preaching of Biblical doctrine an honored place in our pulpits.

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S. T. Skaggs Accepts Georgia Pastorate

S. T. Skaggs, pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Kentucky, has resigned to accept the pastorate of the First Baptist Church, Tallapoosa, Georgia. The loss of Skaggs to the leadership of the Warren Association of Baptists and the General Association of Baptists in Kentucky has been taken note of by the Executive Board of the Warren Association. Skaggs is presently serving as moderator of the Warren Association of Baptists and is also a member of the Executive Board of the General Association of Baptists in Kentucky. He was signally honored by being elected moderator of the Kentucky Baptist Associational Officers Group at the last annual meeting in Lexington, Kentucky.

Skaggs has been particularly outstanding in the civic affairs of the City of Bowling Green and Warren County. More than once he has been called upon to lead in crystallizing the opinion of the public on moral issues. He played a prominent roll in the outstanding victory of the dry forces in the local option referendum in Warren County and Bowling Green.

The official action of the Executive Board of Warren Association on February 13, 1960, included a statement describing Skaggs as "a workman that needeth not to be ashamed." The group called him "a man among Christian men, a true yoke-fellow, a servant of God and our brother." Expressing the warm sentiments for Skaggs on behalf of the Warren Association Executive Board were W. S. Doyel, moderator, L. Eugene Smith, clerk, and R. B. Hooks, associational missionary.

►Luther Joe Thompson, pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss., will become pastor, First Baptist Church, Chattanooga, Tenn., April 3, succeeding Carl J. Giers.

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Louisville's West Broadway Fostering Edwardsville Chapel

The West Broadway Baptist Church, Louisville, is operating a Baptist Chapel in Edwardsville, Ind. It now has a membership of 41, and offerings are averaging around \$100 a week. Dr. C. T. Francisco is teaching a study course in March, and a revival is being led by Pastor James Pickens, of West Broadway. Also a Vacation Bible School will be held in the spring.

This chapel was started last summer when the Home Mission Board conducted a survey in the Edwardsville and Georgetown, Ind., area to see if a mission work could be started. The results were sent to Area Missionary C. E. Wiley, and he contacted Harold Allen, a first year Seminary student, who was asked to undertake the work.

A group of 79 met at Murphy's Poultry House on Highway 64 in Edwardsville, including some from West Broadway of Louisville, Parkway Baptist Church, New Albany, Ind., and Calvary Baptist Church, New Salisbury, Ind. Pastor James Pickens, of the mother church, and Area Missionary L. L. Dye both spoke.

S. E. Esarey is Sunday school superintendent, Kenneth Utz church treasurer, and Raymond Hawkins is director of the Training Union.

Third Annual Pastor's And Layman's Conference In Louisville March 19

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary will be host to pastors and laymen from Kentucky, Indiana and Ohio at the school's third annual Pastor's and Layman's Conference March 19 in Louisville.

Dr. Carl Clark, professor at Southwestern Baptist Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, will be the speaker. He will speak on the part of the small and rural church in the community.

Ray Cummins, chairman of the Seminary's pastoral group, said that the purpose of the conference is to bring laymen and pastors together for fellowship and conferences on how to strengthen the churches.

After the morning message by Dr. Clark, the group will break up into six conferences designed to meet the needs of the churches. These conferences will discuss church finance, church music, new buildings, lay ministers, laymen at work in the association and rural church in transition.

During the afternoon session several laymen will speak on the progress of their churches. After these talks Dr. Dale Moody, Southern Seminary professor, will give an inspirational Bible message.

Arkansas Paper Backs Cooperative Program

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—(BP)—Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine here called editorially this week for Southern Baptists to strengthen the Cooperative Program by channeling through it all mission monies for regular world mission causes.

Editor Erwin L. McDonald quoted figures recently released by the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention showing mission funds distributed through the Cooperative Program had declined from 70.34 per cent in 1945 to 62.24 per cent for 1959, with designated missions gifts for the same period rising from 29.66 per cent to 37.76 per cent.

McDonald pointed out that he was not calling for complete abandonment of special offerings and designated gifts. Such support will always be needed, he said, but special offerings should be resorted to only in emergencies and not on a regular year-by-year basis for needs which can best be supported through the Cooperative Program.

Fulllest support of Southern Baptist world missions through the Cooperative Program will not come with the mere passing of time, McDonald said, adding: "To bring this about will require the united hearts, minds, and souls of Southern Baptists. We need all the compassion, wisdom, and courage which with God's help we can have, in the realm of our stewardship."

►G. Avery Lee, pastor, First Baptist Church, Ruston, La., has been elected chairman of the Christian Life Commission, S.B.C., for the coming year, succeeding Adiel J. Moncrief, St. Joseph, Mo. Prof. Daniel R. Grant, teacher of political science in Vanderbilt University, is assistant chairman, while R. B. Culbreth, pastor at Miami Springs, Fla., is recording secretary.

►James Guyton, 92, passed away February 7 at a nursing home. Mrs. Jesse Garrett, Prospect, Ky., writes: "I have known Uncle Jim Guyton for 30 years. His place in Liberty Church will never be replaced."

►A 15-minute radio broadcast over a local station is used weekly by Missionaries Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Fann, Brigham City, Utah. Students of the Intermountain Indian School, who have radios but do not attend services at the Baptist Indian Devotional Time, features Christian music, a devotional message, and a testimony by a Navajo Christian or special music by the Baptist students of Intermountain Indian School. Fann, a native of Florida, is a Georgetown College graduate. Mrs. Fann is the former Mildred McAllister, Waddy, Kentucky.