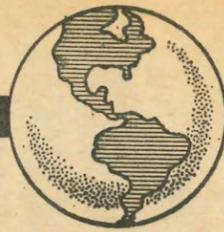




WESTERN RECORDER

FEBRUARY 24, 1966





GLEANINGS FROM THE FIELD

AN ERROR appeared in a letter by Earl S. Bell in the Baptist Forum in the February 10 issue of the *Western Recorder*. In a tribute to Dr. W. R. Pettigrew, the last sentence of the second paragraph should read, "We are always in the forge, or on the anvil; by **tests** God is shaping us for higher things." (Bold word indicates change.)

PARLOR GROVE Baptist Church, Lincoln County Association, has passed a resolution of appreciation for their pastor, W. L. Randall, who died February 4, 1966. The resolution described Randall as "... A true and faithful minister of the gospel of Jesus Christ, a leader and a counselor."

LLOYD BARDOWELL was the evangelist in a winter revival with Pastor Ciel B. Rodgers and the First Baptist Church, Flatwoods. Though snow and cold weather prevailed most of the week, attendance and spirit was good.

T. H. HARDING, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Hazard, will be the featured speaker on Clear Creek Chimes beginning March 6. He will initiate a series on the Cross which will be heard for ten weeks. Clear Creek Chimes is produced and distributed weekly by the Radio Department of the Clear Creek Baptist School, Pineville. It is 14 minutes in length, featuring music and a message.

TEMPLE HILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Glasgow, ordained Wendell Underwood, Floyd R. Jones and J. R. Underwood as deacons on February 6. Thirty-three ordained men from the area made the council. Billy C. Compton is pastor.

RONNIE CHASE is the new pastor of the East Hartford Mission. He is a first-year student at Southern Seminary. The mission is sponsored by the Hartford Baptist Church, Wesley O. Hanson, pastor.

STUDENTS at Georgetown College have 289 students pledged to give blood for soldiers wounded in Viet Nam. Sponsored by the freshman class, Class President Tom Ellis said he felt the students should take a positive commitment to the war effort rather than protest as many students have done recently.

HOMER MARTINEZ will be the evangelist in a revival in the Immanuel Bap-

tist Church, Paducah, February 27-March 6. Verne Taylor, minister of music in the church, will direct the music during the meeting. T. L. McSwain is pastor.

TRUETT MILLER, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Middlesboro, slipped on ice and was hospitalized this month. Through the church bulletin, Miller expressed appreciation to the membership for their concern and willingness to help with church responsibilities during his confinement.

STANLEY NEIL, fourth child of William and Dorothy Jones, Southern Baptist missionaries to Zambia, was born January 6. Jones was born and reared in Barren County, Kentucky. He was pastor of the Powers Drive Baptist Church, Orlando, at the time of appointment.

*Earnestly Contend for the Faith
Which was Once for All Delivered
to the Saints — Jude 3*

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WESTERN RECORDER

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THE THIRD ANNUAL CHURCH Programming Conference has been set for June 16-22 at Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Assembly. The conference offers lectures and demonstrations on the features of church programming as well as workshop experience in planning.

MRS. NINA SEAT, PBX attendant at the Sunday School Board, retired January 31 after more than 41 years of service there. Her association began with the board in 1922 as an employee in the merchandise department. At the time of retirement she was in the office of denominational relations.

FRED HUBBS, executive secretary of the Baptist State Convention of Michigan, will be the evangelist in a revival March 6-13 at the Farmdale Baptist Church, Louisville. Jay Brown is the pastor.

HIGHLAND PARK BAPTIST CHURCH of Knox County has called Erskin White, a first-year student at Clear Creek Baptist School, as pastor. He and Mrs. White have four children and presently live in a cottage at the Pineville campus but will move to the church field in the spring.

CHARLES DUNCAN, pastor of the Crockett Baptist Church, Field, a coal mining camp in Bell County, was ordained to the ministry by the First Baptist Church, Fountain City, Knoxville, Tenn. He was formerly a member there.

BUENA VISTA BAPTIST CHURCH, Owensboro, ordained James M. Davis and James Graybeal to the office of deacon in January. Pastor Archie W. Allison led in the interrogation and G. Eugene Davis led in the prayer of ordination.

ROBERT H. JOHNSON, a deacon for 37 years in the Beaver Dam Baptist Church, died January 8. He was ordained by the Woodward's Valley Baptist Church and served there before Beaver Dam. He is survived by his wife and three daughters.

JOHNNY GLOVER has resigned as minister of music at the Farmdale Baptist Church, Louisville, to accept a similar position with the Tabernacle Baptist Church, Atlanta. He has already assumed his duties in the Atlanta church.

ONE CHURCH'S PLAN:

The Integrity Of Church Membership

by Walker N. Stockburger

Trinity Baptist Church, Norfolk, Virginia, has taken one step toward establishing integrity of church membership. It has been a difficult and painful undertaking, but I believe that it has been an honest step in the right direction. The new plan of church membership reduced the membership from 1,414 to 714.

This brief account of our experience does not for a moment insinuate that it could be a model for another church. It is not offered as a panacea for our problems, but simply as a testimony of an honest effort to struggle with this highly complicated problem.

This church adopted the following plan for church membership by approximately a three to one vote.

OUTLINE OF THE PLAN

I. Resident Members

A special commitment card with an explanatory letter was mailed to each resident church member. An earnest appeal was made for each member to consider seriously and prayerfully the meaning of church membership. He was asked to study carefully the commitment card. Each person who desired to continue his membership was asked to sign the commitment card and turn it in. A commitment service was held on the first Sunday of May, 1965, for those who wanted to present their cards as an act of worship. Others turned in the cards privately.

This service was followed by an intensive visitation effort that covered a period of four months. During this period a serious effort was made to reach all members who had not responded. According to the plan, on the first Sunday of September, 1965, the church membership was made up of those who indicated their serious intention to be faithful church members by having signed and turned in their commitment cards.

The following is a copy of the commitment card:

Realizing that membership in the church should be one of the most responsible relationships of my life, I solemnly pledge to carry out the following agreement:

1. I will attend the worship services of my church to the best of my ability.
2. I am willing to serve to the best of my ability in some area of responsibility in an effort to strengthen the ministry of the church.
3. In my daily relationships I will sin-

Walker N. Stockburger is pastor of Trinity Baptist Church, Norfolk, Va.

cerely endeavor to share the meaning of Christ with others.

4. I will give my church faithful and consistent financial support according to my ability.

Therefore, in view of my pledge to carry out the above agreement to the best of my ability, I desire to continue my membership in the Trinity Baptist Church.*

Date _____

Signature _____

* For new members joining the church this sentence would read, "... I desire to become a member of the Trinity Baptist Church."

II. New Members

The New Members Class was made a pre-requisite for church membership. An invitation is still given at each service for persons to confess Christ as Saviour and for persons to unite with this church. Joy and gratitude are expressed to those who make known these significant decisions. They are instructed that the next step is attendance at the class for new members, upon completion of which they will be given the opportunity to sign the commitment card and be presented for membership in the church. Former members would not be required to attend the New Members Class upon their return to Trinity.

III. Non-Residents

Church members who move away are given six months in which to unite with another church. At the end of this period their names are dropped from the church roll. This does not include students who are away in school or persons who are away from their Norfolk home in military service.

All non-resident church members are written and informed of the church's action in this matter. They are urged to unite with a church in the area where they are living and serve Christ faithfully. Additional efforts are made to reach the non-resident members by contacting pastors in other areas or through our denominational channels set up for this purpose.

RESULTS

It will be several years before the full results of the new plan can be measured. This is just one step, and certainly does not solve the problem.

Some of the immediate results are evident. As already indicated, the membership was cut in half. Continuing efforts will be made to reach those who have not responded. Attendance at the worship services and other activities remains about the same. It looks as if the annual gifts to the church will be only

The Cover

"... Go out quickly into the streets..." (Luke 14:21). Annie Armstrong Offering for Home Missions will make possible a spiritual ministry to many people. This year, the allocation will make possible an increase in reaching people in metropolitan areas, language groups, and aid in work with National Baptists.

—HMB Photo

slightly reduced. Eighteen or twenty faithful members became quite upset about the plan and joined other churches in the community. There is still a small number of those who have been faithful members that have not responded, although they still participate in various church activities. The small number of inactive members that was reached was disappointing. Certain non-resident members whom we could never reach before united with churches in the areas where they were living.

Apparently, some members merely signed the commitment card in order to hang on to their membership. This shows that the task is never done, and continuing efforts will be required no matter what plan is used.

OBSERVATIONS

It soon became quite evident that one could not find a touchier assignment than that of setting up standards for church membership. It was a shaking experience for our church, producing prolonged and serious discussions. I had been pastor of the church for twelve years when the membership plan was presented. I came to see, more than ever, that a minister needs a thick skin and a willingness to take risks. This is especially true since pulpit committees get so frightened when they see a reduction in statistics or hear that a church is upset, whatever the cause.

Another thing that came to light was the peculiar notions some people have concerning church membership. Some consider it a private contract that is none of the pastor's or the church's business. The name on the church roll, if not a magical ticket to heaven, is at least a measure of assurance that God will give the person some special consideration. It becomes a mere technical connection, without any awareness that we are to be members of the Body of Christ, united by bonds of love and a deep sense of mission. Most of the members who were upset about the plan would have been perfectly satisfied if the names of the inactive members were merely placed on an inactive church membership roll. In this way one could be a member without acting like one.

(Continued on Page 15)



The Story of Three Personal Witnesses

Georgetown Baptist Church Pastor, Dan C. Moore, reports an event which changed Sunday, January 30, from a bleak, snowy, low attendance day to a long remembered experience for the Georgetown Baptist congregation. Since this is the year Southern Baptists are emphasizing proclamation and witness, Dr. Moore believes the experience is worth sharing and so does this editor.

In the Scott County jail in Georgetown was Mrs. Effie Cochran, held on a murder charge for killing her husband, the father of her six children. In the Georgetown Baptist congregation is Mrs. J. W. Faust, a dedicated Christian and a worker for the Kentucky Welfare Association. On the way home from her work in Frankfort on January 27, Mrs. Faust said the woman in jail came to her mind and she felt she must witness to her though she had never seen her. That night Mrs. Faust had trouble sleeping because of her concern for the woman.

The next morning before returning to work she stopped by the jail and asked Jailer George Wise for permission to visit the woman. She found Mrs. Cochran convicted of her sins and ready to accept Christ. On Sunday Scott County judge, Charles Brooking, a deacon and Sunday School superintendent at Great Crossing Baptist Church near Georgetown, and a member of the Executive Board of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, arranged for Mrs. Cochran to attend the worship service at Georgetown Baptist Church without being escorted by an officer.

When the invitation was given, Mrs. Cochran made her public profession of faith in Jesus Christ and asked for baptism and membership in the church. She was accepted unanimously and was baptized at the evening service which she also attended without police escort. She returned to the jail following her baptism but later Mr. and Mrs. Pete McDonald, also members of the church, put up her bond and took her into their home to live until her trial.

Following her conversion, Jailer George Wise said, "Mrs. Cochran is an excellent prisoner. She helps my wife a great deal around the jail and is really sincere in this new found Christian life."

Mrs. Faust said, "I never felt better in my life. A person can never realize what this has meant to me."

Pastor Dan Moore says it is "the story of three people whose personal witness made news. One was Mrs. J. W. Faust. . . . Another witness was the woman won to Christ. The third witness was that of

newspaperman Billy Thompson. . . . He was present when Mrs. Cochran made her profession of faith and felt that he too could be a witness by putting the story in print."

Billy, also a Georgetown Baptist member, is sports editor of the *Lexington Herald* and wrote a moving account of the experience.

There are many hard and disappointing days in the life of a pastor, but one like this January 30 for Dan Moore makes up for all the difficult ones.

Sheer Joy by Night and Day

What a combination! The study of Ephesians at church by night and the search for grouse in the mountains by day. This was the editor's privilege for four nights and three days recently at the Irene Cole Memorial Baptist Church in Prestonsburg.

Hardly any book in the Bible can reach the same exalted heights of Ephesians. The ruffed grouse of the Appalachians has long been regarded as the king of the upland game birds.

Pastor William Jagers at Prestonsburg has been using Acts in his preaching for several months. As a climax he hit upon the idea of an intensive study of one of Paul's letters. Hence, the invitation to me to return to one of my favorite congregations in Kentucky. It was not purely coincidental that it was scheduled for February when hunting for ruffed grouse is still legal.

Irene Cole Memorial is a great church by true standards. For many years this church has shouldered most of the responsibility for the Baptist witness in the large mountain area which is Floyd County. Using cars, buses, trucks, jeeps and almost every other kind of transportation, this congregation has gone up the populated hollows for mission Sunday Schools and worship services in school houses and any other available buildings. Much of the time this mission work has been done by deacons led by the pastor with no outside help.

Presently the home church is in a building program for the home base which has long been neglected for outside causes. In a remarkable demonstration of sacrificial giving and pledging on a Sunday in December, the congregation went over a building fund goal of \$60,000 and also subscribed at the same time the largest regular budget in the history of the church. The average annual per capita giving for Kentucky Baptists is around \$50.00. This Prestonsburg congregation is giving about \$150.00 per member this year.

Considering the economic condition of the area, this is truly remarkable.

So much for the congregation. Now for Pastor Jagers and his prowess, not only as a churchman but as a hunter and marksman. Taking care of his pastoral duties in the morning, we were off in the afternoon to a favorite hollow in the mountains in search of one of the most difficult of all game birds to bag. Only the wild turkey is more difficult to kill than the ruffed grouse. It is not unusual for a hunter to go several times during the hunting season without killing a grouse.

The ways of this bird are clever and unpredictable. He takes to wing most often long before you get very close to him. It's usually a quick shot, if any, one gets at him. He might let you walk past him only to get up behind a tree or brush and disappear with a flash. The sound of his wings in taking to flight is like a hundred quail at once, and it is enough to excite a hunter out of shooting.

The grouse might be feeding on the very top of the mountain ridges, he might be all the way down in the hollow along the creek or he might be anywhere between the top and the bottom. Experienced hunters believe they often spend the night on the ridge, work down to the bottom by noon and then work back up by late evening. For some reason the north side of the hollow seems to be favored over the south side by the grouse.

For Bill and me it was a case of preachers' luck. The first afternoon through snow and the running creek we had worked all the way up the hollow without seeing a bird. In the very head of the hollow about half way up to the top of the ridge was a patch of thick brush with good feed and cover for grouse. Standing in a small opening watching Susie, the pretty little setter, work the bush patch, it happened. Out came a big cock winging his way up the side of the mountain. My first shot was behind him but the second one caught him broadside. It was just in time because Bill who unselfishly was giving me the first chance was already pulling the trigger. What a sight

to see the huge bird hit the ground and to watch Susie retrieving a bird which looked almost as big as she was.

The next day we were joined by Gus Kalos, music minister at Irene Cole Memorial and music instructor at Prestonsburg Community College. What happened soon after we started up the beautiful hill will never quite be explained by Bill. Suggesting that the grouse would most likely be higher up, Bill put Gus and me on the first and second benches to walk the steep hillside while he stayed with the easy walking along the creek. After only a few minutes Bill flushed a grouse and bagged him with one shot. A little later I got even by walking up a beautiful cock near the top and downing him. Later Gus went to college to teach class and we were joined by Raymond Copley, the conservation officer for the area. Bill got the only grouse we saw. Strangely enough he found this one as he walked along a bench I had volunteered to take but which Bill unselfishly took because it was hard walking. Two grouse with two shots in one day is the kind of shooting Bill does.

On our last hunt the two birds we found acted more like grouse are supposed to act. They flushed a long way ahead of Rollie Mann, another grouse enthusiast who had joined the hunt, and sailed all the way up near the top of the ridge. We followed them only to find but one and he flushed behind Bill too far away to shoot and sailed all the way back across the hollow. We ended up without a grouse but with strenuous exercise and a fried chicken lunch prepared by Mrs. Mann.

In Prestonsburg, as usual, I stayed with Mr. and Mrs. Fred Martin, who operate the Sandy Valley Motel. The way they do it, it's more than a motel. It's a delightful experience of unusual hospitality.

It would be hard to think of a more perfect three days and four nights. Thank the Lord for the Apostle Paul, his letter to the Ephesians, the Irene Cole Memorial Baptist Church, Pastor Bill Jagers and the ruffed grouse of the Appalachians.

BAPTIST FORUM



Desires Seminary Evening Classes

Dear Editor:

For three years I have been writing to the Southern Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. I think that this is a fine school and we are very fortunate to have it in our state.

However, I believe we could be aided by them in a greater way if they would consider having evening classes for the pastors of our state. Many of our young

pastors have not been in a position to go on to seminary following college yet they need this training. Other pastors would give an evening a week to return and renew their studies.

Our new interstate road system has made Louisville very close for many areas of our state and neighboring states. I feel if some of the pastors in these areas would write requesting evening classes that the seminary might consider its position. I'm sure the

smaller churches of Kentucky would feel the effect of this type of program. Falmouth, Ky. Tim Herring

For and Against Capital Punishment

Congratulations to the editor of the *Western Recorder* for coming out in his editorial of January 13, 1966, against the abolition of capital punishment! If you take the death penalty away, crime will sweep our state. Many men don't care about going to the penitentiary; they consider it a great excursion trip. They will hesitate though, if they stand by the scaffold or the electric chair! Get in touch with your state senator and representative, Kentucky Baptists, and demand that the death penalty be left intact.

Danville, Ky. Col. John E. Frank

Viet Nam Servicemen Need Spiritual Help

by Wayne Dehoney

TOKYO—This is another world—but a world that is moving closer home with every tick of the clock.

The 33,600 men in the armed services in Japan know this is true as they feel the tension of the escalating war in Viet Nam. The wounded have been coming into the hospitals in Japan in great numbers, and I have gone from bed to bed.

One boy from Georgia with two bullet wounds in the shoulder said, "What a tough break, clean through the flesh without a broken bone. If they had busted me up, I'd be in the states now, but I've got to go back for five months of that mess."

On the bed next to him, a boy from Texas said the opposite: "I can't wait to get back to my outfit. It's not right for me to lie in bed here with nice clean sheets and good food while my buddies are fighting in the swamps."

In another bed was a major from Oklahoma, his sister on the staff of the First Baptist Church of Oklahoma City. We prayed together.

One boy desperately needed spiritual help. The psychiatrist had given up. "It's a job for the chaplain," he said.

The boy accidentally shot a South Vietnamese mother and child as he charged into a village to rout the Viet Cong. Guilt weighs heavily upon him. I talked with him about God's forgiveness. But he couldn't seem to believe that God can forgive him because he can't forgive himself. His hands quiver continuously; his lips are drawn in a tight line.

There are 66 chaplains of all denominations attached to the Fifth Air Force here. I have been privileged to preach to special rallies of men, women, young people, and in the regular chapel services.

Our people in the military have neither horns nor halos. They are single men, men with families, with the same problems, disappointments, heartbreaks, and difficulties—but the continual battle against loneliness, frustration and temp-

EDITOR'S NOTE: Wayne Dehoney of Jackson, Tenn., president of the Southern Baptist Convention, while on a preaching mission to Japan and Korea sponsored by the U. S. Air Force chaplaincy, gives this account of visiting United States servicemen who have served in Viet Nam. Following his two-week preaching mission in Japan and Korea, he was scheduled to tour Baptist missions work in the Orient sponsored by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

tation is a gnawing reality. These men and women need our prayers.

While in Japan, I have been with the Southern Baptist missionaries, preached to the Japanese Baptist churches, and visited our Baptist institutions here. Work in this Oriental culture is very slow. One is greatly impressed by the strength of our institutions and the dedication of our missionaries, and the story of our heroic witness through the years.

But a sense of futility here is overwhelming. Tokyo is the world's largest city with 10 million people, and the Christian witness seems like a drop of ink in an ocean among the masses of humanity!

Yet Jesus said the kingdom of heaven is like the mustard seed. The gospel, planted in the pagan society of Rome, took root and swept the civilized world in three centuries.

This is our hope in the Far East—the dynamic of the gospel, sewn by dedicated witnesses in the military, and by our missionaries.

2538 Reasons Why

The Week of Prayer for Home Missions Should Be Observed

The Week of Prayer for Home Missions and the Annie Armstrong Offering are concerns of every Southern Baptist. This week and this offering provide opportunity for Southern Baptists to give prayer and financial support to the 2,538 missionaries of the Home Mis-



sion Board and the persons to whom they minister. As church members set aside the week of March 6-13 for these two events the missions work of Southern Baptists will be advanced. The theme chosen for the observance is "As My Father Hath Sent Me . . . So Send I You." The Scripture theme is John 20:19-22 and the hymn chosen is "Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling."

The theme grows out of the Scripture setting recorded by John. Ten of the disciples were together on the first resurrection day when Jesus appeared through the closed door of the room. His words, "Peace be unto you," must have brought assurance to the troubled hearts of the disciples. Christians today need this assurance.

Jesus gave assurance and outlined an assignment (John 20:21). The study during the week of prayer will help persons discover areas of need and ways to meet this need as they carry out this assignment.

During the week, opportunity will be given to share in the Annie Armstrong Offering. The goal for this offering is \$4,000,000. America continues to need more missionaries, and the missionaries continue to need financial support.

When church members understand more about the spiritual needs of people in their community and nation, their responsibility increases. This responsibility expresses itself in prayer and giving, and action in the community to meet these needs.

Indiana Baptists Okay Foundation, Encampment

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. (BP)—The establishment of a state Baptist foundation and the purchase of an encampment site were authorized by the Executive Board of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana during its quarterly meeting here.

The board asked its executive committee to proceed with writing a charter for the foundation. The charter must be approved by the annual meeting of the convention next fall.

The encampment site is located in West Central Indiana near Turkey Run State Park. The board agreed to pay \$33,000 for the undeveloped 163-acre tract.

The 1966 state missions offering, with a goal of \$11,000, will be used to provide facilities at the new encampment.

In other action, the board voted to continue a study of the organizational and program structure of the state Baptist staff. Albert McClellan of Nashville, program planning secretary for the Southern Baptist Executive Committee, will conduct the study.

The board also approved a three-year printing contract for the *Indiana Baptist*, a semi-monthly publication of the convention which will be issued weekly beginning in April.

The meeting was held just prior to the annual state Baptist evangelism conference here.

Formosa Church Sponsors Servicemen's Center

Taipei, Taiwan (BP)—The Calvary Baptist Church here is soon to begin sponsoring a Christian Servicemen's Center in Taipei for servicemen who come to Taiwan from Viet Nam for rest and recreation.

In a letter to the treasurer of the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville, the treasurer of the Taiwan Baptist mission said that the new servicemen's center "will be a very helpful ministry to our men who are doing so much for us in Viet Nam."

Calvary Baptist Church is one of two churches on the island of Taiwan (Formosa) which ministers mostly to servicemen, their dependents and other American civilians in Taiwan, said Harry L. Raley, treasurer for the Taiwan Baptist mission work in a letter to Porter W. Routh, treasurer of the SBC.

Raley sent a check for \$1,000 from the Calvary Baptist Church to the Southern Baptist Executive Committee in Nashville as the church's contribution to world missions through the SBC Cooperative Program budget plan.

Dr. Crowder Named Field Services Director

NASHVILLE—Dr. Rowland Crowder, architectural consultant in the Sunday School Board's church architecture department, on February 1 became the department's first director of field services.

Before going to the Board in 1952, Dr. Crowder was pastor of Central Baptist Church, Springhill, La. Earlier he had served as associate pastor of

First Baptist Church, Shreveport, La., and as pastor of several Arkansas churches.

A native of Arkansas, Dr. Crowder holds a bachelor of arts degree from Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark., and master of religious education and doctor of religious education degrees from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth.



Crowder

Study Finds No Trend Away From Death Penalty

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C. (BP)—There is no world-wide trend toward abolishing the death sentence, but there is a significant international decline in executions, according to findings in a recently published study by a Wake Forest College Professor here.

The international survey was made by Clarence H. Patrick, professor of sociology at the Baptist school and chairman of the North Carolina Probation Commission.

Results of the study were printed in the winter issue of the *Journal of Criminal Law, Criminology and Police Science* published by the Northwestern University School of Law.

Patrick selected 146 countries for the study and received replies from 128. Purpose was to determine the current status of the death penalty in various countries of the world and the difference in practice from country to country, not to establish a case for or against capital punishment, Patrick said.

Of the 128 countries responding to the survey, 106 reported having provisions for capital punishment.

At present more than 50 per cent of the countries of the world have no executions for capital crimes during the course of the year, the study revealed.

The average number of the combined executions annually (1958-1962) in 89 countries answering the question was 535.3.

"Although this number may appear large," Patrick wrote, "it represents a phenomenal decline when compared with the number of executions in earlier years. Actually the yearly number of executions in the world today appears to be less than the number which took place in some single countries at an earlier time," he said.

During the last 30 years the average number of executions per year in the United States decreased from over 150 to less than 50, according to the study.

The countries which provide for the death penalty list an average of six crimes punishable by death, Patrick reported.

This is in striking contrast to practices of many years ago, Patrick said. "At some periods in the past, the number of capital crimes was virtually limitless," he wrote. "For example, in Great Britain today only four crimes are punishable by death as compared to over 200 (crimes) in the 18th century. In about 50 per cent of the countries four or fewer crimes are so defined (as punishable by death), he said.

Murder and treason are the offenses most frequently listed in the survey as capital crimes. Other capital crimes, in

order, were listed as espionage, arson, homicide accompanied by another serious crime, rape, robbery (usually armed), insurrection or rebellion, paricide and sabotage.

Of the countries that reported on the method of execution, 54 used hanging and 35 used the firing squad. Beheading is reportedly used in eight countries to carry out the death sentence.

Electrocution and asphyxiation are the two most common methods used in the United States, and seven states use hanging.

Although beheading is the principal method used in Saudi Arabia, it may be replaced by stoning to death in the case of a woman guilty of adultery.

Only nine countries reported that they have executions open to the public. In 81 countries the executions are closed, and in nine others some are open and some are closed to the public.

Baptists Start Year With Record Giving

NASHVILLE (BP)—Southern Baptists started 1966 by giving \$5.8 million to world missions causes during the first month of the year.

The Southern Baptist Executive Committee here reported in an end-of-the-month financial statement that contributions during January through the denomination's Cooperative Program unified budget plan totaled \$2,125,391.

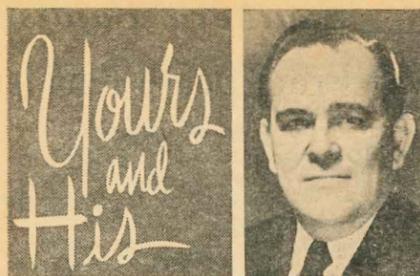
Designated contributions, mostly gifts to foreign missions through the Southern Baptist Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, swelled the total by another \$3,734,658 to the grand total of \$5.8 million in missions gifts.

Cooperative Program contributions for January of 1966 exceeded gifts for January of 1965 by \$91,292—an increase of 4.49 percent.

Designated contributions for January were up 20.27 percent, or \$629,331, and total world missions gifts increased by 14.02 percent over gifts for the same period last year.

It was the second time in Southern Baptist history that Cooperative Program contributions for January had exceeded the \$2 million mark. In January of 1965, gifts totaled \$2,034,099.

Cooperative Program funds comprise the unified budget part of the convention's income. The money is divided by a percentage scale to support operating and capital needs of three SBC boards, seven seminaries, eleven agencies and institutions, and the convention as a whole.



Help For Churches

J. Leon Boyd, Director of Institutional and Rehabilitation Ministries, Long Run Association, who with Ben F. Mitchell, Superintendent of Missions, were part of my Team January 24-28, wrote me this:

"There are encouraging signs on the horizon of Southern Baptist life today. One of the most significant is the new concept of Church Programing. I believe that the future will reveal that this is the greatest innovation in Southern Baptist life since the Cooperative Program (1925).

"We appreciate what you are doing to encourage churches to program to meet the needs of persons, and we assure you of our continued interest and co-operation."

Order Now

If you desire to have information on how to do Church Programing, write me. *Manual I: How to Set Church GOALS 1966-76*; followed by *Manual II: Selecting and Planning Strategies*, are ready now.

A pastor and his church council (i.e., deacon chairman, heads of the organizations, staff, music director, and later others) may study God's Word, determine what the objective of a New Testament Church is (doing what He bids in the Great Commission); set goals for the church, then choose and assign the strategies which it deems wise for each church. Later, *Manual III: Planning Organizational Actions*, will assist in assigning all tasks of the church to persons, organizations and committees to reach the goals. It is a **PLAN FOR CHURCH ADVANCE**. Write me today—the materials are yours for the using. **Show Them**

You believe in your young people? Of course! You believe in Baptist schools, Student Centers and camps? Of course! Then, show them!

If you did not observe "Christian Education Advance" Sunday last Sunday, do it as soon as you can! "Trust the Lord and tell the people" you care.

If you have not made a CEA pledge-gift, do it today. Write me, say you will give \$1, \$5, \$10, or more per month for 3 years to support our schools, centers, camps. We need \$6-million now!

Harold G. Sanders

Kentucky Baptists

Billy Craddock Accepts Pastorate At Frankfort

Billy Craddock, a native of Horse Cave, has accepted the pastorate of Bellepoint Baptist Church, Frankfort. He moved to Frankfort on January 28, from Mercer Association, where he was pastor of Kirkwood Baptist Church for two years.

Craddock is a graduate of Campbellsville College, and will receive his bachelor of divinity degree from Southern Seminary in May of this year. He was pastor of Oak Hill Baptist Church of Larue County, served in the mountain mission program of Booneville Association, and was associate pastor of Highland Park Baptist Church of Louisville before going to Kirkwood.

Mrs. Craddock is the former Rosemary Birkhead of Louisa. The Craddocks have two children, George, 5, and Timothy, 3½ years.

Eldon M. Boone, Jr., Joins Kentucky T.U. Department

A Texan has become an associate in the department of Training Union for the Kentucky Baptist Convention. He is Eldon M. Boone, Jr.

Born in Wichita Falls, Boone is a graduate of William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo., and Southwestern Seminary.

In addition to part-time roles in churches while a student, Boone has served churches in Virginia and Tennessee as minister of education and music.

He comes to Kentucky from the Mc-



THE FACULTY AND PASTORS in the schools of missions in Fulton County Association included Dr. Harold G. Sanders, executive secretary of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Denzel Dukes was chairman. If your association is interested in having a school of missions, contact J. Edward Cunningham, 499 E. High Street, Lexington, who serves as director for Kentucky.

Calla Ave. Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tenn., where he has been minister of education since 1964.

Winchester, First Baptist Calls Associate Pastor

Donald C. Hancock has assumed his duties as associate pastor and minister of education at the First Baptist Church, Winchester.

Former places of service in Kentucky include pastor of the Guston Baptist Church, associate pastor of the West Broadway Baptist Church, Louisville, and pastor of the Liberty Baptist Church, Fulton.

Mrs. Hancock is the former Finetta Marie Graves of LaGrange. They have one son, Kim.

Hancock is a graduate of Stetson University, DeLand, Fla., and Southern Seminary. He holds a master of religious education degree from Southern.

At Winchester he is associated with A. Dalton Leath, pastor of First Church.

Late News Flash!

ATHENS, GA., Feb. 16—C. R. Daley, editor of the *Western Recorder*, was elected president of the Southern Baptist Press Association in its annual conference here. Editors of state Baptist papers meet every February in a simultaneous meeting with state executive secretaries.

Other officers elected in the conference held in the Center for Continuing Education of the University of Georgia are L. A. Moore, Illinois editor, Vice President, and Gainer Bryan, Jr., Maryland editor, secretary-treasurer.

The group will meet in Alabama next year and Arizona in 1968.

No Greater Dividends

Wherever we go, whatever we do, each day of our lives we are preaching. Jesus said, "Ye shall be witnesses unto me. . ." (Acts 1:8) The question then is, "What kind of witness will we be?" Perhaps we fail to realize how much depends on our faithfulness to God. "How shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent?" (Romans 10:14-15)

Young People often share their faith. Personal witnessing becomes a part of life. Christian Education involves becoming a more faithful witness at home, at work, in all the world.

Will we be faithful to our Young People? Many Baptist churches observed Christian Education Advance Sunday, February 20. Gifts were given. Pledges were made. But these are only part of meeting the tremendous need. We must continue to be faithful in sacrificial giving. We must support the pledges we have made and pledge more! No investment pays greater dividends than Investment In Youth.

—Mike Speer



Investment In Youth—"How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!" (Romans 10:15)

UNINHIBITED WRITER:

Taking Pictures, Not Praying On The Lawn

by **Fon H. Scofield, Jr.**

In the spring of 1948 a Baptist woman was driving along Lexington Road in Louisville, Ky. As she passed the campus of the Woman's Missionary Union Training School (now merged with Southern Baptist Theological Seminary), she saw a student kneeling on the lawn. The woman was impressed and called the school's president, Miss Carrie U. Littlejohn, to congratulate her on having students so obviously religious.

Miss Littlejohn was pleased but also a bit skeptical. The genuflecting student turned out to be Johnni Johnson trying to find an interest camera angle to illustrate an article she was writing. She did find the angle and the article was published.

Johnni is still trying to find interesting ways to speak of the relevancy of the gospel, and she has a much higher than usual average of success. Magazine articles, pamphlets, and programs have come from her pen in a steady flow. Her books are *As Others See Us* (Broadman Press, 1953), *Willie Hays Kelly of China* (Broadman, 1953), *Missionary Assignment* (Convention Press,

Fon H. Scofield, Jr., and Miss Johnni Johnson are both in the visual education division of the Foreign Mission Board of the SBC.

1959), and *What Do Missionaries Do?* (Broadman, 1964).

Motion picture scripts to which she has made major contributions in research and writing include *Yet Shall They Live*, *The Lottie Moon Story*, *Missionary Appointment*, *Eyes South*, *Operation Go*, and *This Waiting World*. Johnni's objective is always to speak a good word for Christ and to prod fellow Christians to think a bit deeper and share more realistically in the Christian calling to be missionary.

Johnni was born into a Christian home. She attended public schools in Ashland, Ky., and Ashland Junior College (now a branch of the University of Kentucky). Among her fond memories of Boyd County are the years of sharing life in the First Baptist Church of Ashland.

Her interest in journalism developed early, and she has been a diligent student of techniques since student days at Georgetown (Ky.) College. Her primary concern has always been with what must be said; this accounts for the rigid discipline of study she observes.

Johnni has a master of religious education degree from WMU Training School. (She earned it with only one

course in missionary education at the Training School and all other courses in New Testament, theology, and missions at Southern Seminary.) After graduate study she worked in the personnel office of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. This was followed by a stint as assistant editor of *The Baptist Student*, in Nashville, Tenn.

Appointed a missionary to Japan in 1951, she continued her journalistic career in the pioneer stage of Jordan Press, Baptist publishing agency in Tokyo. Health problems forced her to resign missionary status in 1954 and to find a channel of expression for her missionary concern in the homeland. She joined the staff of the department of missionary education and promotion of the Foreign Mission Board in 1954 as a writer and editor and began working with the division of visual education the next year.

She now serves as assistant to the director in production planning, doing much of the research and writing so essential to the division's work in missionary education. For several years she supervised the division's utilization section, leading in the development of an efficient pattern of cataloging all still pictures and slides to make every picture immediately accessible. Today she majors on liaison with editors of Woman's Missionary Union, the Brotherhood Commission, and the Sunday School Board, providing visual aids and pictures for their curriculum programs.

KENTUCKY BAPTISTS AT WORK

Woman's Missionary Union

State Meeting Speakers by Mrs. Geo. R. Ferguson

Mrs. R. L. Mathis, Director of the Promotion Division of Woman's Missionary Union auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention, will give two addresses during the State WMU Annual Meeting at Calvary Church, Lexington, April 5-7.



Miss Mathis

Mrs. Mathis is a former president of Woman's Missionary Union, SBC having held this office from 1956-63, when she came to her present position. Prior to this she served as Youth Secretary, Executive Secretary-treasurer, and President of the WMU of Texas. She also has been a member of the Administration of Baylor University and Director of Church Activities of First Baptist Church, Dallas.

In 1963 she was elected second Vice-President of the Southern Baptist Convention, the first woman to be elected as an officer in the convention's 118 years.

She served a seven-year term as treasurer of the North American Baptist World Alliance and currently serves as a member of the Baptist World Alliance Executive.

Mrs. Mathis has traveled extensively and will bring interesting and informative messages on Tuesday evening and at the Wednesday morning session.



Miss Smith

Miss Bertha Smith, Southern Baptist missionary to the Orient for 41 years—31 years in China and 10 years in Taiwan—will lead the devotions at each session. Miss Smith was Southern Baptists' first missionary to Taiwan.

When missionaries were forced out of China she went to begin work in Taiwan. In her book, "Go Home and Tell" which was published by Broadman Press in 1965 and was their best-seller for that year, she tells of her experiences during these years.

It will be a thrilling, spiritual uplift to hear her for these four devotional periods.

(More next week)

Sunday School

Kentucky Church Building Conference

by J. C. Stricker

Is your church building or planning to? Then, you should send your pastor or planning and survey committee to the Kentucky Church Building Conference, March 4, 1966 at Louisville, Kentucky.



Rowland Crowder

There will be two sessions, one beginning 9:30 A.M. until noon and 9:30 P.M. to 3:15. These sessions will be held in Gheens Hall, Southern Seminary. Architects, pastors, building committees and planning and survey committees, and all interested in better church buildings are urged to attend. Opportunities for these interested individuals, or church committees to have personal conferences with the leaders from Nashville will be given at the close of the afternoon session. These special conferences, following the program session, with representatives of the Church Architecture Department need to be scheduled in advance by contacting Jesse Stricker, Kentucky Baptist Building, Middletown, Ky.

A feature of this meeting which has been popular with those attending in the past will be the display of church equipment, furnishings and materials. This display is provided by various manufacturers of these supplies, who will also have a representative on hand to answer your questions.

This conference is sponsored by the Church Architecture Department, Sunday School Board, Nashville and the Sunday School Department of the Kentucky Baptist Building, Middletown. Mr. Rowland E. Crowder, director of

the Architectural Field Services, Nashville, will be in charge of the conference. He will be assisted by others in his department, some of the Seminary faculty, and the Sunday School Department of Kentucky.

Annuity Department

Dr. A. M. Vollmer Finds His First Year in Retirement Richly Rewarding

by A. W. Walker

Baptists in Kentucky need no introduction to Dr. Vollmer, the first Secretary of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation. Under his able direction the Foundation grew to have more than a million dollars in assets.

We quote below from Dr. Vollmer's written reminiscence after a full year in retirement:

"Someone has said that you are getting old when you spend more time resting than you do in getting tired. Before my retirement I looked with misgivings toward that day when I would become inactive. How tragic to have nothing to do, I thought. Recalling this first year of retirement it is quite evident that my forebodings were unfounded."

During his first year in retirement, Dr. Vollmer's activities indicate anything but retirement. He held seven revivals, with a total of 109 additions—90 on profession of faith and 19 by letter. (What full time pastor can surpass this record?) He made numerous trips to Southern Baptist Convention meetings and to various meetings within the Kentucky Baptist Convention, had a very pleasant visit with his son at Chapel Hill, North Carolina, taught in a School of Missions) and gave several days each month assisting with the bookkeeping in the Foundation office. He and his family enjoy weekly visits with his son and family who live in Louisville.

Again we quote Dr. Vollmer: "As a hobby during the summer, between the events enumerated above, I planted and cultivated 100 dahlias, the blooms of which I carried to sick friends in nursing homes, hospitals and shut-ins; and planted 500 tulip bulbs for spring blooming."

"I supplied pulpits on 19 Sundays, in addition to those during revivals. I itemize these activities not in a boastful

spirit, but to stress that when good health prevails, idleness and retirement are not synonymous.

"Respect is not due older people for their age and wrinkles or gray hair; respect is due them simply for their acts of kindness and good-will that have made them happy, life more worth living and God more real. The lasting examples of our time will turn out to be the ways that we live or the things that we think.

"This is the harvesting time, a time of comfort without the hurrying and scurrying of early life when we are too busy to see the beauties all about us. Perhaps through our children or a blossoming grandchild God gives us a second chance to enjoy that springtime before, and finally to look toward that long awaited meeting time when life's values are at last understood."

It is hard to imagine a more beautiful challenge than Dr. Vollmer has given in his reminiscing and in his daily life, so filled with contributions to all with whom he comes in contact. He makes us realize that retirement years can be the most rewarding time of life—but this is true only when one plans for it spiritually, emotionally, mentally, physically and financially.

Brotherhood

Magnify The Personal Account

by Forrest Sawyer

It's one thing to read interesting accounts of how Southern Baptists are sharing their Christian faith in many countries but it's quite another to hear a missionary tell you about it personally.

Magnify that first-person account more than 100 times and you've got some idea of what awaits Baptist men who attend Home and Foreign Mission Weeks this summer at Glorieta (N. M.) and Ridgecrest (N. C.) Baptist Assemblies.

But that's not all.

Well-known teachers in Southern Baptist seminaries will lead Bible study periods, new missionaries will be commissioned for service, and leading Southern Baptist preachers will provide sermon inspiration.

But there's still more.

Baptist men will receive suggestions on how to use the missions experiences the missionaries relate in their work with other men in their church during the year.

Also planned are special conferences for men needing help in how to work with Royal Ambassadors and Baptist men.

All of these features are scheduled so there will be no conflicts.

Home Mission Weeks are August 4-10

at Glorieta and August 18-24 at Ridgecrest.

Foreign Mission Weeks are June 23-29 at Ridgecrest and August 18-24 at Glorieta.

You can make reservations by writing the assembly manager—E. A. Herron at Glorieta and Willard K. Weeks at Ridgecrest.

Stewardship

Observe Christian Education Advance Sunday

by Michael L. Speer

Christian Education Advance is still a meaningless, empty phrase to many people. What a marvelous opportunity there is to reveal the full possibilities of this advance. We are commissioned to "make disciples" which involves training people for Christian leadership. Your church, many other churches, cooperates by use of our Baptist colleges, Baptist student work and mission camps to produce this leadership.

Special materials have been sent to every Kentucky Baptist church. These can be used as a basis for informing people. The need can be presented in Sunday School and Training Union assemblies, classes and unions. It can be shared through a sermon. Whatever the method, we must be aware!

In addition to our physical selves, we must give our financial selves. Make a pledge to Christian Education. Give a special sacrificial offering. Help others know—we cannot reap where we do not sow.

Christian Education Advance—Investment in Youth! Observe this special day in your church. If you didn't February 20, then some suitable Sunday soon!

Church Music

April Conferences: "Reaching Disciples Through Music"

by Eugene Quinn

"Reaching Disciples Through Music" is the subject which will be discussed thoroughly at conferences for all church music leaders from one end of Kentucky to the other in April. These conferences will be an intensive effort to help every minister of music, church music director, pianist or organist, and choir director in each Kentucky Baptist church to get a new vision and inspiration to help each one to fulfill Christ's command. The basis of the conference will be how each music leader can fulfill the Great Commission of Christ in his church through music.

The new ideas which will be presented will help give vision and guidance to all of our church music leaders.

These conferences are scheduled to be held in 20 locations during the week of April 11-15 and 20 more locations during the week of April 18-22. Thus it is hoped that every music leader will have easy access to a conference one of the two weeks.

Western Festivals To Have Ray Conner

The music festivals in Western Region on March 25-26 will have Ray Conner, young people-adult music consultant in the Church Music Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board at Nashville. The festivals will meet at Owensboro the 25th and Madisonville on the 26th.

Mr. Conner has served churches as minister of music in Missouri, Ohio and Arkansas, as well as serving as State Music Secretary for Kansas.

Other regional festivals meeting March 25-26 include those in Northeastern Region at Ashland and Pikeville and the Central Regional Festivals in Louisville.

Direct Missions

Reverence

by G. R. Pendergraph

Just recently, I was privileged to visit the Belmont Baptist Church near Lebanon Junction. When I went into the foyer of the building, I was attracted by a plaque on the wall. Upon observing it closely, I discovered that it was "RULES FOR BEHAVIOUR," dated 1787, that read thusly:

"RULES FOR BEHAVIOUR"
Children's Behaviour at the Meeting House

Decently walk to thy seat or pew; run not, nor go wantonly.

Shift not seats, but continue in the place where your superiors order you.

Lend thy place for the easing of any one that stands near thee.

Talk not in the meeting house, especially in the time of prayer or preaching.

Fix thine eye on the minister, let it not wildly wander to gaze on any person or thing.

Attend diligently to the words of the minister: pray for him when he prayeth, at least in thy heart; and while he preacheth, listen, that thou mayest remember.

Be not hasty to run out of the meeting house when the worship is ended, as if thou wert weary of being there. Walk decently and soberly home, without haste or wantonness; thinking upon what you have been hearing.

After many years of visiting our churches throughout the state, I have

(Continued on Next Page)



What's In A Name?

by Harold Wainscott

What's in a name? Call a rose by any other name, its color and fragrance will remain the same.

If you don't like the term CEA, call it what you will, such as "supporting our schools and BSU Centers," "investing in the education of young people," "training those called to full-time religious service," "bearing our Baptist witness on the campus," "following our young people to college," call it what you will. But don't stop or stumble on the name. The cause remains the same.

The questions also remain the same, "are you and your church having a part in it?" And "are you having as large a part as you are capable?"

If you and your church didn't enter CEA because you didn't like the name, the leadership, the timing, the method, or the cost, then do something now. Provide your own leadership, time, and cost. If you believe in it, do something about it now.

At the conventions in Harlan and Elizabethtown the Baptists of Kentucky said they wanted all their schools and wanted them at their present locations. Now we have an opportunity to say how much we want them, and how good we want them to become. This is our affirmed program of Christian Education. Until we can come up with a better program, let us come up with better support.

Some may have doubts about the effectiveness of our Christian Education

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FOR SALE: 165 Theater Type Seats. Excellent condition. Contact Rockford Lane Baptist Church, 2006 Rockford Lane, Louisville, Kentucky. 447-2591.

IMMEDIATE SACRIFICE SALE—A quantity of 2x4 tables, perfect for displaying and selling merchandise in a rummage sale. Recent remodeling of our store necessitates the sale of these tables. Leonard Lewis, Consolidated Sales Company, 587-7336.

Program. I attended Georgetown College during one of the greatest of its many crises, the Sherwood controversy. From all outward appearances, it was a poor time to influence young people for the Baptist truth. But teachers like Calhoun, Fields, Hatfield, Pierce, Thompson, and others stood tall as Christians. From among those students have come pastors, serving in the leading churches across our country, and mission stations around the world, and teachers, lawyers, scientists, and businessmen serving faithfully in local churches. It may have looked like a weak program, an inopportune time, and poor prospects, but the years have justified the saving of the school.

—Chairman, Christian Education Committee

Snowballs Make Splash At Baptist College

BOILING SPRINGS, N. C. (BP)—It's not often you get hit on the head with a snowball while swimming, but it happened to several students at a Baptist junior college here.

The students, taking relief from below freezing weather and several inches of snow, were enjoying the college's recently opened indoor swimming pool.

Every now and then a snowball was bootlegged in for a pot shot at the students swimming in the 80-degree water.

If asked how it felt to get pelted with a snowball while swimming, the students would probably have replied—"Wet."

Ky. Baptists at Work

(Continued from Page 11)

concluded that this set of rules could be applied in many places not only to children but to adults as well.

Certainly our faith should be one that would make us anything but sad and somber. We would be happy, courteous, congenial and always wearing a smile. When we come in to worship, we should be as reverent as possible that we might give the Holy Spirit of God an opportunity to speak to our own hearts as well as to the hearts of those who have joined us for a worship experience. Our Heavenly Father said, "Be still and know that I am God." In this statement, He is not speaking of inactivity of body only, but He is requiring that we dismiss from our minds the thoughts of external activities and concentrate upon the activities of the worship hour that we might feel His presence and hear His voice as He speaks to us in song, in prayer, through the reading of His Word and the proclamation of His truths. Too, if there is

to be any smoke in the sanctuary, it should come from "off the altar," and not from an Old Gold, Lucky Strike or from "Marlboro Country."

Training Union

New Member Orientation Materials

by James Whaley

The new member orientation materials are a series of lessons written for each age group from Juniors up. Included are studies of the meaning of conversion and church membership. Christian growth and Bible study, the church, and Christian service. These help the new convert and transfer understanding the church and his responsibility as a member of it. The materials are presented in three sections—Counseling, Instruction, and Summary. There is a pupil's book and a teacher's guide written to meet the specific needs of each age group. The materials adapt easily to continuous classes. Book titles are *Promises to Keep—Junior, Belonging—Intermediate, A New Commitment—Young People, and In Covenant—Adult*. The pupils book is 34c, the teacher's guide, 42c. They are listed on the regular literature order form.

Contents of each book are as follows:

- Section I—Counseling
 - The Meaning of Conversion
 - The Meaning of Church Membership
- Section II—Instruction
 - Your New Life in Christ
 - Your Growth as a Christian
 - Your Bible and Its Use
 - Your Church and Its Covenant
 - Your Church and Its Beliefs
 - Your Church Working Together
 - Your Church Working with Others
 - Your Church and Its History
 - Your Church and Your Home
 - Sharing Your Faith
- Section III—Summary Session

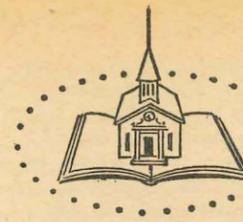
These materials supplement the New Member Orientation Manual mentioned last week. The Manual should be studied before the church begins using these materials.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By H. C. Chiles



MAN'S COMMUNION WITH GOD

(This Lesson for Sunday, March 6, 1966)

Through his sinful disobedience man's fellowship with God was broken. In loving mercy God gave His Son to pay the penalty for man's sin and to restore his fellowship with the Heavenly Father. Communion with God through prayer is the glorious privilege and duty of every Christian. The importance and value of conscious communion between the heart of the Christian and God can hardly be overemphasized.

While our Lord was praying in a certain place, His disciples stood nearby. Silently and reverently they looked and listened. They observed in Christ a strange separation from the world, a conscious nearness to God, a delight in the Father's presence, and familiarity in communion with Him which seemed to them like heaven upon earth. After hearing Him pray, doubtless the disciples felt that they had never really prayed. As they looked at and listened to their Master communing with His Father, there was something that told them He was really praying. So, they wanted to learn to pray as He prayed. How wonderful it must have been to hear Christ pray!

I. The Plea. Luke 11:1.

Christ's example emphasized the privilege, power and blessing of prayer. It also aroused the disciples' sense of their inability in this realm, and filled them with a desire to learn to pray. His example prompted one of them to make the earnest plea, "Lord, teach us to pray."

II. The Pattern. Luke 11:2-4.

In answer to that plea, the Lord gave them the prayer which had to do with the whole range of human need, both temporal and spiritual. It was a model of brevity, simplicity, and comprehensiveness. In it three things are indicated—relationship, "Our Father;" reverence, "Hallowed be thy name;" and resignation, "Thy will be done." The deepest desire of the heart should be concerned with the Father's name, kingdom and will. It is permissible to summarize the human side of prayer in the following threefold manner: as related to self, the supply of daily bread; as related to God, the removal of guilt; and as related to Satan, victory over his temptations.

This pattern of prayer has to do with our material and spiritual needs, for it includes a request for daily bread, and a plea of forgiveness, protection from temptation, and deliverance from the power of Satan. Our Lord wants us to pray for the small and everyday things of life. Christians should pray for everything they need and, to the best of their knowledge, for the needs of others. We should never be hesitant about asking the Lord to supply our needs.

Since we are dependent upon God for bread, let us ask Him to supply it daily. Then, let us ask Him for the forgiveness of our sins, our failure to achieve the standards which He has set for us, and our failure to accomplish the work which He has assigned us. Moreover, let us ask Him to safeguard us against temptations, lest we yield to them. Let us trust Him implicitly to deliver us from the power of Satan.

III. The Promise. Luke 11:9-13.

Here Christ gave the assurance which has comforted the hearts of innumerable people through the intervening centuries. He stressed the point that Christians should persevere in their praying. "Keep on asking and it shall be given you. Keep on seeking and you shall find. Keep on knocking and it shall be opened unto you." This is not a picture of how God answers prayer, but how the children of God should offer prayer. Why should we be slow in claiming such a wonderful promise?

These verses certainly accentuate the fact that God's infinite love is exemplified in His provision for His own. Since earthly parents can be trusted to give good gifts to their children, how much more so will our Heavenly Father care for His own, whom He loves infinitely! He wants to give His children the things they need, even more than do the very best of earthly fathers. However, He wants His children to ask for the things which they need.

H. C. Chiles is pastor of the First Baptist Church, 203 South Fourth Street, Murray, Kentucky.

IV. The Possibility. I John 1:1-3.

It is possible for the Christian to have and to enjoy a blessed fellowship with God. The root meaning of the word "fellowship" is to share with one another. The word signifies partnership. It involves reciprocal knowledge, reciprocal endeavor. Real fellowship means knowing each other intimately, loving each other devotedly, and doing things together and for each other. The writers in the New Testament practiced and commended Christian fellowship and communion with God. They rejoiced in the privilege of magnifying the benefits derived therefrom.

Fellowship with Christ, and with those who truly love and follow Him, constitutes one of the greatest and most glorious privileges which God gives to His children. As they devote themselves to the doing of His blessed will, He delights to fill their souls with joy, to bless them, and to win others to Himself through them.

There are two kinds of religion— theoretical and experimental. It is sad, but true, that millions know nothing about experimental religion, or about what Christ called being "born again." John, the beloved apostle, had a very vital experience with the Lord in the realms of sound, sight, and sensation. He heard the Lord speak, he gazed intently upon Him, and felt or handled Him. Christianity is truly a heartfelt religion. Christ really changes the life of every person whose heart He enters. The consciousness of a genuine Christian experience makes one courageous, daring and powerful in the service of the Lord.

Fellowship is that which Christians have with God the Father and Christ the Son. While it is good to have a possession, it is better to know that you have it and to enjoy it. Our Lord wants us to have the knowledge of that which we possess and to enjoy it fully. In this connection we are reminded of a statement by Dr. W. H. Griffith Thomas to the effect that, "The joy of faith is appropriation; of love, appreciation; and of hope, anticipation."

The possibility of fellowship was revealed by Christ, Who came into the world as a tiny babe, dwelt among men, died for our sins according to the scriptures, rose from the grave, and ascended to the right hand of the Father, where He now intercedes for us.

First Fruits of SBC Missions in Sabah, Malaysia

The firstfruits of Southern Baptist mission efforts in Sabah (formerly North Borneo), Malaysia, were gathered in December and January with the baptism of 30 new Christians.

First to be baptized were converts from Jesselton, where Rev. and Mrs. Carl F. Yarnell, Jr., are resident missionaries. The Jesselton Baptist Center began in November, 1964, with Bible study in the Yarnell home. Regular worship services (also in the home) were started on Christmas Day.

During November, 1965, 25 persons professed faith in Christ, and, on December 5, 15 of them, having given both private and public testimonies of their faith and having attended a new members' class, were baptized by Mr. Yarnell.

Among those baptized were Chinese, Burmese, English, Eurasians, and people from two tribal groups of Borneo, Dusuns and Muruts. Forty persons attended the service, held in Tuaran, 20 miles from Jesselton, where an evangelical church had offered the use of its baptistry. Fifteen-year-old Carol Yarnell coaxed music from an old-fashioned pump organ.

The new Christians include two young women who completed high school in Jesselton and returned to their homes a few days after their baptism. One went to Sandakan, where she became a member of a congregation begun by Rev. and Mrs. Charles H. Morris, the only other Southern Baptist missionaries in Sabah. The second girl returned to Labuan, an island about 70 miles southwest of Jesselton. "We hope the Holy Spirit will use her as the seed of a Baptist church in Labuan," says Mr. Yarnell.

A second baptismal service was held on December 15, when Mr. Morris baptized 11 persons who live along the Sabah-Indonesia border. Work in this area, he reports, resulted from the witness of Baptist Karens who migrated from their homeland of Burma about 15 years ago to work in timber camps in Sabah. They held worship services in their homes, taught the Bible to their children, and sent their tithes back to their churches in Burma.

One of the Karens read about the Southern Baptist missionaries in Sabah in the *Orient Baptist News Sheet* (published in Hong Kong). She and her family became active members of the Jesselton Baptist Center, and she urged the missionaries to visit other Karens. The missionaries began making monthly trips, and they supplied materials for home Bible study conducted by a Karen layman.

Among those whom Mr. Morris bap-

tized in December are eight Karens, two Kenyah tribespeople of Borneo, and one person from the island of Timor.

Four new Christians from the Baptist Gospel Center in Sandakan were baptized by Mr. Morris on January 2, 1966—exactly one year after worship services were begun in the Morris home. With nine other Baptists who live in Sandakan, they hope to organize a church soon (at present, the memberships of the congregation are in churches in Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, and Taiwan). They also anticipate constructing a building.

Senate Subcommittee Postpones Hearings On Judicial Review Bill

WASHINGTON, D. C. (POAU)—Because of the devastating blizzard which recently paralyzed the East Coast, including the Washington metropolitan area, the Senate Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights has postponed hearings on a proposed judicial review bill. Hearings have not yet been rescheduled.

The proposed bill would make it possible for a payer of United States income tax to bring a test case into the court questioning the constitutionality of certain Federal enactments which provide public monies for church-related institutions. Up to now it has



MISSIONARY Carl F. Yarnell, Jr. (right), baptizes R. John Balang, of Jesselton, Sabah, Malaysia, one of the first 15 new Christians to be baptized as a result of Southern Baptist mission work in Sabah (formerly North Borneo).

not been possible for a private citizen to challenge a Federal appropriation.

If the bill passes a taxpayer's suit could be brought in the district court of the United States for the District of Columbia challenging the constitutionality of certain provisions of such statutes as the Higher Education Facilities Act of 1963 and the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, and others.

Listed in the bill are seven existing laws which could be tested. In addition it would provide for similar suits to test any other Act administered by the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare and enacted after January 1, 1965. The type of suit which could be brought would be limited solely to challenges under the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

Sen. Sam J. Ervin, Jr. (D., N. C.) is the subcommittee's chairman. An invitation to testify before the subcommittee has been extended to John J. Adams, associate director and legal counsel for Americans United.

Delaware Governor Vetoes Bus Bill

DOVER, DEL. (POAU)—Gov. Charles L. Terry, Jr., vetoed February 2 a bill passed by both houses of the state legislature which would have provided transportation for pupils in parochial and other private schools along established school bus routes.

The governor's action was taken following an advisory opinion of the state supreme court stating that such a law would be a violation of the state constitution providing that no funds "... raised by tax, for educational purposes, shall be appropriated to, or used by, or in aid of any sectarian, church or denomination school. . ." (Article 10, Section 3)

An earlier Delaware law with provisions similar to the one Gov. Terry vetoed had been declared void on the ground that to furnish free transportation to pupils attending sectarian schools is to aid the schools, because it "helps build up, strengthen and make successful the schools as organizations."

The present Delaware court declared that its earlier opinion "has stood unreversed as the law of this State for more than three decades." The court further stated that the reasoning of that case was correct. "Clearly, insofar as a school may be relieved of the expense of transporting its students, it is aided by free public transportation. And, whether or not a school bears the expense, transportation, where needed, is as essential to the operation of the school as any other element. It is illogical, we think, to say that the furnishing of

transportation would not be an aid to the school while, concededly, the furnishing of other elements, such as teachers, books, school supplies and other facilities, would be of such aid."

In the course of its opinion the court specifically rejected the "child benefit" theory. This theory advocates that the state can benefit parochial school children without unconstitutionally benefiting the religious school wherein they are enrolled.

Commenting on the Delaware decision, Franklin C. Salisbury, general counsel for Americans United for Separation of Church and State, stated that he was "particularly pleased with the court's specific rejection in this instance of the 'child benefit' theory."

FMB Invites You

The Foreign Mission Board invites messengers attending the meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Detroit, Mich., May 24-27, to a reception at the Statler Hilton Hotel between 4:00 and 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 25. Guests will have opportunity to meet Dr. J. Chester Badgett, Board president, Dr. Baker J. Cauthen, executive secretary, and furloughing and newly appointed missionaries.

Progressive Baptists Vote Fellowship Participation

Washington, D. C. (BP)—The Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc., has voted to participate in the North American Fellowship of the Baptist World Alliance, becoming the sixth Baptist convention to do so.

Organization of the North American Fellowship was assured when five Baptist bodies voted to participate. The Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Dallas last June became the fifth to approve participation.

Actual organization will not begin until representatives of the member bodies meet in Washington for a planning session on March 28, said Josef Nordenhaug, general secretary of the Baptist World Alliance with offices here.

The first five groups to join the fellowship are the American Baptist Convention of Mexico, the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference, and the SBC.

Now the Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc., joins the list. The group has headquarters in Cincinnati, Ohio, and L. Venchael Booth is its executive secretary.

Combined membership of the six groups is 12,835,000, Nordenhaug said.

Invitations have gone to all eleven Baptist groups in North America which have membership in the Baptist World Alliance, Nordenhaug added. Most, or

all of them, have committees at work studying the matter.

The North American Fellowship of the Baptist World Alliance is conceived as a continuation of the Baptist Jubilee Advance, in which seven conventions on the continent worked cooperatively from 1958 to 1964 on a program of evangelism, missions, Bible study and education.

The Baptist Jubilee Advance carried out the celebration of the 15th anniversary of the organization of the first Baptist mission society on the American continent.

When the Jubilee program approached the end of its five-year period, leaders proposed that the Baptist World Alliance set up a fellowship organization "to continue the gains of values which resulted from the Baptist Jubilee Advance program and to increase opportunities for fellowship and the sharing of mutual concerns."

A constitution for the proposed fellowship was subsequently drafted by representatives of the eligible groups.

Eleven Baptist conventions will be represented at the March 28 session in Washington.



... According to *Newsweek* (February 7, 1966 issue) more than 30 students have been picked up in recent months on charges of selling marijuana at a dozen colleges.

... Several bills before the second session of the 89th Congress deal with the problem of narcotics addiction. One of these, HR9167, is an administration bill offered by Representative Emanuel Celler (D., N. Y.). This bill would authorize civil commitment of narcotic addicts in lieu of prison sentence for those who are likely to be rehabilitated through treatment. Addicts without se-

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rious criminal records would be eligible under this bill for up to three years of institutional rehabilitation and supervised aftercare.

... Union membership in the US has risen to 17.2 million, of whom 14.1 million members are in unions affiliated with the AFL-CIO, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The proportion of organized employes in states without "right-to-work" laws is over twice that of states with such laws—34% as against almost 15%.

Integrity of Membership (Continued from Page 3)

Another interesting observation was that people consider a written commitment to be far more binding than an oral one. Members at various services of worship have verbally reaffirmed their faithfulness to the church covenant without any hesitation. When it came to signing a statement of commitment, that was a different question.

The reason for the commitment card was to give each member of the church the opportunity to think through some of the responsibilities of church membership. This placed the responsibility for making a decision concerning membership squarely on each individual, rather than a committee or the deacons deciding which members were faithful or unfaithful.

One other factor might be mentioned. It is probably far more difficult to effect such changes in an older church than it would be to set up proper membership standards at the time a church is organized. Trinity Baptist Church is fifty-seven years old. This is old enough to make changes difficult and painful.

CONCLUSION

In a society that judges the greatness of a church by the size of its membership, budget, and sanctuary, ministers are tempted to overlook superficial church membership. Our concern for pulpit committees and denominational success makes us cautious. After the experience in our church, I am convinced, more than ever, that the need for establishing a greater degree of integrity of church membership is crucial. If the situation in the older churches of our convention, as well as those in most other denominations, is similar to our church, it means that half of our people are not even willing to live up to the most elementary standards of church membership. They hardly know the meaning of the term "Christian discipleship," much less try to carry it out. What hope is there for our churches to have a significant effect on the world unless there is integrity of church membership? The need for action to correct this situation is long overdue.

Catholics Join Baptists in Worship Service

More than 150 Catholics in Beaufort, S. C., joined with about 400 Southern Baptists for an historic joint worship service in which Baptist doctrines were expounded to the Catholic visitors.

The unique joint service was held at the Baptist Church of Beaufort on the invitation of the church's deacons. Almost all of the local Catholic church members attended the service. About a dozen Lutherans, including the local Lutheran clergyman, also attended the Sunday night worship service.

It is believed to be one of the first meetings of its kind in the United States, said George A. Jones, pastor of the Baptist church.

►The Historical Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention has compiled a list of all graduate theses-in-progress at the six Southern Baptist seminaries.

Publication of the list marks the first time that a composite list of all such theses has been available. The first listing contains the thesis titles approved by the graduate committees of each of the seminaries' schools of theology, religious education and church music as of December 1, 1965.

All graduate theses completed by students at the seminaries since 1894 are available from the Historical Commission of the SBC, Nashville.

►A Houston couple has donated 134 acres of land near Houston valued at \$250,000 to Baylor University at Waco, Texas. Proceeds of the gift from Mr. and Mrs. Willard L. Russell will be applied to the cost of the Sid W. Richardson Science Building now under construction at the Baptist school, and toward equipping the psychology department in the new building.

►Miss Doris Cutter and Miss Velma Darbo assumed new duties in January in the Sunday School Board's Sunday School department.

Miss Cutter, who formerly was assistant editor of adult materials, is now editor of special lesson materials. Her work includes special responsibilities in the preparation of materials for the deaf, blind, new readers and senior adults.

Miss Darbo, in addition to her duties as editor of *Upward*, monthly magazine for high school youth, is now editor of the new *Life and Work Commentary*, which will be published annually by Convention Press beginning with the 1966-67 edition.

►In a Convention-wide effort to reach a goal of 15,000 libraries by February 28, the date of Dr. Harold E. Ingraham's retirement, 322 churches registered new libraries in January with the Sunday School Board's church library depart-

ment. The total number of libraries now stands at 14,001.

Dr. Ingraham, director of the service division of which the church library department is a part, will retire after 43 years of service with the Board.

Kentucky churches registered 9 new libraries with the Board in January.

►"My Place—God's World—Today" is the theme of the 1966 Southern Baptist youth conference set for June 9-15 at Glorietta (N. M.) Baptist Assembly and July 7-13 at Ridgecrest (N. C.) Baptist Assembly. The conferences are designed for intermediates, ages 15 and 16; non-college young people, ages 17-24; and adult counselors and leaders. Reservations may be obtained by writing the respective assembly.

►Daniel B. McGee, assistant professor of sociology at Meredith Baptist College in Raleigh, N. C., will join the religion faculty at Baylor University at Waco, Texas, in September of this year as associate professor, specializing in Christian ethics.

"McGee will share in teaching of basic courses in Old and New Testament and will offer new courses in the study of Christian responsibility in all areas of man's social life—political, economic, domestic and others," said Ray Summers, chairman of Baylor's religion department.

►E. Hermond Westmoreland, pastor of the South Main Baptist Church, Houston, was chosen by trustees meeting in Dallas to succeed Wallace Basset who rotates off the Board in May as president of the Annuity Board of the SBC.

Bassett, pastor of Cliff Temple Baptist Church, Dallas, was named president emeritus of the Board after serving since 1918, the year of its founding. He has been president of the Board 45 of the 48 years he has served.

R. Alton Reed, executive secretary of the Annuity Board, praised Bassett for his devotion to the Board as well as his church.

Westmoreland has been pastor of the 5,777-member church for more than 20 years.

►Sam Choy, Malcolm Stuart and Byron Todd have been named by the Executive Board of the Hawaii Baptist Convention as new division directors on its staff. Choy will be director of cooperative church development; Stuart, director of cooperative missions and Todd, director of cooperative Christian education.

►Kansas Baptists have elected Samuel Drew Russell of Wichita, Kansas, to direct its missions department. Russell will assume his post March 1 and will be associate to the convention's executive secretary-treasurer, N. J. Westmoreland. Some reorganization has been

done and Westmoreland commented that the new position was in keeping with the nature of the mission ministry and the expansion of its responsibilities in terms of budget resources and cooperative work.

►Southern Baptists in Los Angeles have established a church loan corporation to assist the association and churches in the metropolitan Los Angeles area in securing property for new churches and missions.

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