



**WESTERN**

# RECORDER

APRIL 10, 1969



The Sanctuary Choir of the First Baptist Church, Frankfort, recently participated in one of the state music festivals. Yet to be held are festivals in Corbin, April 18-19; Murray, April 25; Harrodsburg, April 25-26; Hartford, April 26; and Owensboro, May 2. Choirs desiring to register may contact the state music department for additional information.



## GLEANINGS FROM THE FIELD

**A REUNION** of all people from Cuba will be a feature of the Home Mission Board reception at the Southern Baptist Convention in New Orleans. Home missionaries are honored in this reception which will be held Thursday, June 12, 3:00-5:00 p.m., at the Monteleone Hotel, Queen Anne Room.

**GLASGOW BAPTIST CHURCH**, Glasgow, recently had as their pulpit guest J. J. Owens, a professor of Old Testament interpretation at Southern Seminary since 1942.

**ERLANGER BAPTIST CHURCH**, Erlanger, voted recently to begin broadcasting their Sunday morning worship service. Station WHKK, 100.9 m.c. F.M., now carries the service.

**EASTWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH**, Bowling Green, is planning a laymen's retreat for its men. To be held April 26-27, the retreat will take place at Rough River State Park. Appearing at the retreat will be Owen Cooper, first vice president of the SBC, J. W. Fisher, secretary of Missouri's Baptist Men, and Glen Hinson, church history professor at Southern Seminary.

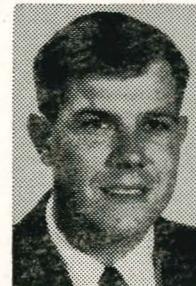
**WEST KENTUCKY** Baptist Association has adopted a resolution calling for more censorship of television programs intended primarily for entertainment. The resolution condemns "immoral behavior as understood from a Christian view." Copies of the resolution were mailed to the president of the three major television networks.

**BRITISH BAPTISTS'** membership declined during 1968 but the number of baptisms was up. Membership statistics for England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic totaled 280,867. This was 4,132 less than in 1967. However, baptisms reached 6,740, up 425 over the previous year. The membership decline is the smallest in five years.

**REV. AND MRS. S. A. KITTINGER** of Bremen will celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary Sunday, April 13. An Open House is being held from 2:00-5:00 p.m., at the Bremen Community Center. All friends and relatives are invited. Kettinger, now retired, pastored churches in Muhlenberg and McLean Counties.

**R. EDWARD NICHOLAS**, Southern Baptist missionary in Gaza, and his nine-year-old daughter Joy escaped injury when a charge exploded beside the road on which they were traveling Saturday night, March 15. The armored windshield of their car was shattered by flying debris but did not disintegrate until they had reached the Baptist hospital compound.

**RONALD J. HICKS** of Bowling Green will be among 40 students who graduate from Baptist Bible Institute in Graceville, Florida, May 13. He will receive a Diploma in Pastoral Training which is similar to a bachelor of divinity degree without languages. Hicks is a graduate of Western Kentucky University and pastored two churches while a student there.



Hicks

**BILL UPDIKE**, an associate in the church loans division of the Home Mission Board was seriously injured in a four-car collision in Riverside, California. Apparently a car driven by a woman who was killed in the accident jumped the median and collided head-on with a rent-a-car driven by Updike who had just arrived in Riverside. He suffered a broken shoulder, a cracked bone in the lower part of his right leg and lacerations. He was expected to be in the hospital for at least five days and away from his job about three weeks.

**GRAVES COUNTY** Baptist Association is sponsoring a Youth Rally April 11 at 7:30 p.m. Site of the rally is High Point Baptist Church. "Happiness is Knowing Christ" is the theme for the rally. Special speaker is Mike Morris of Mid-Continent College.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**, Whitesburg, celebrated its 60th anniversary March 30. Began in 1909, the church was organized at the conclusion of a four-week revival. The original building was added to in 1938 and a new plant constructed in 1964. David Morrow is pastor of the church.

**CAVE CITY** Baptist Church ordained Larry Doyle to the gospel ministry March 16. Doyle, a student at Western Kentucky University, has been called as pastor of the Rowletts Baptist Church. Doyle's father, Marvin Doyle, a deacon in the Cave City church, presented the gift Bible to his son.

**EASTERN RELIGIOUS** Education Association will hold its 24th annual meeting at Ridgcrest Baptist Assembly July 23-24. Leaders from the Sunday School Board, WMU, and Brotherhood Commission will interpret innovations scheduled to begin October 1, 1970.

**"POWERLINE,"** the Radio and Television Commission's new program for teenagers, released only four weeks ago, is already on 14 of the nation's leading "top 40" radio stations. "PowerLine" uses a rock-and-roll format and is designed to offer character building traits to the teens.

# The Last Days Of The Church?

By **ALTON McEACHERN**  
Pastor, St. Matthews Baptist Church

This article has been coming to the surface for several weeks, clamoring to be written. The title comes from a new book by David Poling. The question mark is my addition. Interest also found fuel in Elton Trueblood's newest book, *A Place to Stand*. This is the Quaker scholar's first book of theology in forty years.

Dr. Dale Moody says there are three areas in theology where the burning issues are. These are ecclesiology (the doctrine of the church); eschatology (the last days or the end time); and pneumatology (the doctrine of the Holy Spirit). He has written a book in each of these areas. This essay deals with the first.

### I. The church under fire

1. It is nothing new for the church to find itself under attack. The new factor is that her enemies are now within her own family. Previously, most atheists were outside the church. Now, the DOG theologians (Death of God) claim to be "Christian atheists" espousing a "religionless Christianity." They are "secular saints" celebrating the funeral of God. (How is that for religious double talk and gobble gook? They accuse us of not communicating with modern man!) In the past, few theologians have renounced the faith and kept their church membership and denominational jobs.

2. The church is accused of being irrelevant. Therefore, modern man chooses to "sack in" on Sunday rather than hear another "Mickey Mouse" sermon. The church is characterized as being shut up inside endowed cathedrals, perpetuating the status quo (which is Latin for the mess we're in) and its own institutional form. The church seems to be a place where old vines creep around on the outside of the building and old preachers creep around the inside. The church is said to be insulated from reality and the "pain in the gut" which characterizes our age of confusion. Carlyle Marney says that we are as "confused as a termite in a Yo-Yo." The results of this isolation include a drop in seminary enrollment and hundreds of men leaving the ministry each year. The church is chided with the report that 20,000 American youth are in training for the Peace Corps. (Frankly, I think this is wonderful.) The result is that the church is being ignored because it is preoccupied with perpetuating its own institutional expression.

3. A stinging criticism, because it contains a large germ of truth, is the one which accuses the church of being silent on the great social issues of our

time: war, race, and poverty. This is resulting in the development of an underground church which is lay-led and anti-clerical. These brethren seem to be seeking simple solutions to complex issues. Dr. Duke McCall in the current issue of *The Tie* has a fascinating editorial in which he outlines this view. He says the youth are trying to oversimplify both the problems and solutions.

"For example: War is wrong; therefore war in Vietnam is without excuse. Solution: Stop the war in Vietnam.

Example No. 2: Poverty is bad and America is rich. Solution: Give the poor enough so they will not be poor.

Example No. 3: The churches have not created a perfect society; therefore something is wrong with the churches. Solution: Abandon the churches for a better instrument."

There is truth in many of the criticisms leveled at the church in our day. I do not reject the criticisms entirely. However, I do reject the critics conclusion that we must jettison the church!

### II. What is right with the church?

1. The church is right in its origin. It was divinely established and it is divinely sustained or it would have perished long ago. It was founded on the rock of faith, and is made up of believers in the Christ. Christ is the head of the church and we move under his marching orders to evangelize and teach. The Holy Spirit is the church's source of power. The Holy Scriptures are its guidebook, and prayer is its communications system.

The church is the new humanity on earth. It is the new Israel, the people of God, the family of God, the colony of Heaven. The church, in the words of the late W. O. Carver, is "the continuing incarnation." God is in flesh on earth in the life of His church.

2. The church is right in that it endures. This nation is slightly less than two hundred years old. The church is ten times as old! This Republic has not yet lasted two centuries, but the church has endured for almost twenty. The church survived persecution by the Roman Empire and establishment by the Roman Empire at the conversion of Emperor Constantine. The church survived the Dark Ages with their ignorance and superstition and the Renaissance with its learning and enlightenment. The church has outlived Nero, Napoleon, Hitler, Stalin, and all the rest. The church has survived the French Revolution which deified reason; the Industrial Revolution which de-personalized man; and it will survive the Atomic Revolution which worships technology. The church lasts, continues, and ministers. It's pretty hard to kick that kind of success. It is interesting

to note that the DOG theology only lasted for eighteen months!

3. The church is right in its nature. It is both gathered and scattered. It comes together for worship. It goes out to serve. We come into the church house for inspiration and instruction. We go out to the service station, the office, the school and the home to live out our Christian faith. We must do both. If we are only a gathered church, we become monastics. If we are only the scattered church, we lose our spiritual power in secular society. It is like breathing out and breathing in. It is like the blood going to the lungs and to the limbs. It must do both if one is to live and be healthy. If it stops at either point, then the organism dies.

The church is right in its ministry. It has a universal ministry which includes all its laymen serving every place and it has a specialized ministry made up of its pastors and staff. This specialized ministry has as its task the equipping of the saints or the believers for their ministry every day in the world.

4. The church is right in that it brings men to Christ. There is no other organization on the face of the earth that has as its primary concern the achieving of the human-divine encounter.

A prominent official returned to his home town after an absence of fifteen years. He went to worship in the little church in which he had grown up. He reported, "Three pews away from me sat a living miracle! There was a tall, double-fisted, rawbone man who was reported to be the meanest man in the world when I was growing up. He drank to excess. He abused his family and cursed God. We were so frightened of him, when I was a lad, that we were afraid to get near him for fear the earth might open up and swallow us up along with him! Here was this man in church with his family. After the pastoral prayer, I noted a tear on his cheek. Here was a man who had encountered God and had been forgiven and changed. It seems to me that I must give more attention to and take more seriously the church which is so used by the living God."

### Conclusion

Charles Dickens began his *Tale of Two Cities* with the following line: "It was the best of times; it was the worst of times." What a contemporary ring this line has! Change represents the church's opportunity. We cannot destroy the church; we can only fail it. Fortunately, its future depends not on man but on God. "I love Thy Church, O Lord!" I dedicate my life to the service of Christ through His body, the church.

One day the church militant will become the church triumphant!

<b>WESTERN RECORDER</b>	
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### Eisenhower: An Example Of True Greatness

The nation appropriately paused last week in grateful tribute to Dwight David Eisenhower. By now nothing has been left unsaid about this magnificent and magnanimous man, but we merely want to say that the tributes of America and the world were never more appropriately directed.

He died as he lived—calmly, confidently and victoriously. His going could have been at no more fitting time than the very time when the world recalls the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and their hope for humanity.

Ike was the personification of what we regard as an ideal American. He embraced the virtues and ideals associated with true greatness. There can be little sadness in saying farewell to one who lived so humbly and helpfully and deserved his rest and reward. Any grief which comes is in the realization that America seems to be producing fewer and fewer such men.

Though he served in the most important and powerful places in the nation and the world, he escaped the unfavorable images often associated with those in such high places. He commanded the most powerful war machine and led in the mightiest military victory in history, but he was always a man truly devoted to peace. He was a military man par excellence but never a militarist.

### Hope For Banning Liquor Advertisements

Those honestly considering the effects of drinking and smoking have wondered why the opponents of cigarette smoking have had some success in their struggle in recent years while those opposing the alcohol industry have gotten nowhere. In the thinking of many, whatever the dangers of smoking are, the harm of drinking is infinitely greater. If tobacco slays thousands, alcohol slays millions.

Many were surprised that legislation was enacted requiring cigarette manufacturers to warn their customers of the danger of their product even in light of the United States Surgeon General's report of evidence linking excessive smoking with lung cancer.

He filled the highest political office in the nation, but was never a politician in the ordinary sense. Unlike too many office seekers, including even presidential candidates, one never felt he made promises he knew he couldn't keep just to get votes. Neither did he sell himself by trying to tear someone else down.

On the other hand, one felt Ike would do more than he promised instead of less. The kind of confidence and trust he inspired made the existence of a credibility gap unthinkable.

He proved that gentleness is the greatest strength of all, that the path to greatness is the walk of humility and that the truly great man is one whom honor seeks instead of one who seeks honor. Those of us in this generation especially should take note of the useful life and happy end of one who headed his list of values with God, home, family and country.

The best summary of his life is found in his own last words. "I have always loved my wife. I have always loved my children. I have always loved my grandchildren. I have always loved my country." About the only thing he could have added would have been, "I have always loved my God". This was unnecessary, however, because he said this more eloquently in his life than he ever could have in words.

The lucrative tobacco industry was considered too strong and influential to let such a thing happen. But it did and the American Cancer Society has joined the fight by airing some of the scariest anti-smoking commercials conceivable. Those who continue to be heavy smokers today really believe in living dangerously.

The failure to get any similar legislation in regard to the danger of alcohol is as shameful as the anti-smoking legislation is surprising. Why pick on one and leave the other alone? Why discourage the lesser offender and let the greater offender go on?

Those despairing of any success ever in the strug-

gle against the powerful liquor industry still have some reason for hope. According to Kentucky Temperance League Executive Director Delbert Butts a bill has been presented in Congress which would ban the advertising of beverage alcohol on radio and television. The bill was introduced by California Congressman Richard Hanna and Kentucky's Fifth District Congressman, Dr. Tim Lee Carter, is a co-sponsor.

Before being considered by the whole Congress this bill would have to be recommended by the Commerce Committee of the House of Representatives. It can be expected that the powerful liquor industry lobby will oppose the legislation vigorously and try to keep it from ever getting out of the committee. Fortunately Representative Carter is also a member of this Commerce Committee.

It's time now for thousands to write Representative Carter commending and encouraging him. His address is:

Honorable Tim Lee Carter  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

If and when the bill gets out of the committee, it will be time to write the other Congressmen and Senators from Kentucky.

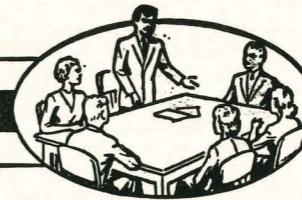
Let's not be duped by the argument of freedom of expression and other clever propaganda and misleading lies of liquor champions. The airwaves do not belong to advertisers but to the people. Let's use them for the good and not the damnation of the people.

It would be ideal if everyone admitted the evils of drinking and refused to buy this poison. But we don't live in such an ideal society and, until we do, we must resort to legislation and other legitimate means to discourage those who would destroy themselves and to curb those whose concern is dollars instead of lives and cash instead of character.

Louisville, Ky. Mrs. Linda Dietsch

P.S. I have not read Dr. Criswell's book herein mentioned but I intend to. I have listened to an album by Dr. Criswell called "Christ In the City Church and Christ Dying In the City," and I received a real blessing from it.

### BAPTIST FORUM



#### CRISWELL'S BOOK

Dear Editor:

It won't do! The significance of the issue raised by The Association of Bible Professors about Dr. Criswell's book, *Why I Preach That The Bible Is Literally True*, cannot be swept under the rug so easily as your last editorial (March 27) infers! It won't do to infer that Dr. Criswell and the Association of Bible Professors are basically in agreement regarding this matter. They definitely are not! It won't do to laugh at the idea of a literal interpretation of such Scriptures as Matthew 19:29, and those referring to our Lord as the "door" and His disciple as "salt." By "literal" it is simply to take the Word for the sense in which it was intended. Neither will it do to say that a man of Dr. Criswell's ability "did not feel it needful to learn and keep up with these methods." It is more accurate to say that he investigated and rejected such methods because they are one of the major avenues to Neo-orthodoxy!

Dr. Criswell was my pastor for more than three years, and I've enjoyed many private discussions with him about our denomination. It's mainly through his influence that I am a Southern Baptist preacher today. On this basis I feel qualified to speak.

Let's face it. The issue is simply that Dr. Criswell is one of the last "big" voices crying in the theological wilderness of our denomination for a return

to a fundamental approach to the Holy Scriptures. As such, he is in opposition to the majority of our Bible professors and teachers. The Association of Bible Professors expressed concern lest the position of Dr. Criswell be assumed to be that of the Sunday School Board. Would to God that it were!

I am thankful for a man of Dr. Criswell's caliber who will take his stand on a literal approach to the Bible. I am shaken to the core by these men who espouse the "mythical" and "documentary" views of the Bible. In the voices of the latter I hear the familiar ring of Satan's query "yea, hath God said?"

Stearns, Ky.

Lee Mason

Dear Editor:

In reading a recent issue of *Western Recorder* I'm still in wonderment about Dr. Criswell's book, "I Believe the Bible To Be Literally True."

1. Is professional jealousy from our seminary people causing this controversy?
2. Are seminary professors reacting in Agape Love toward Dr. Criswell or his book?
3. Everything else in today's world is highly advertized, why not a religious book?
4. Can those who are so against Dr. Criswell and spend time in this unnecessary debate over his book use their time instead in prayer?

#### FREED MISSIONARIES WRITE APPRECIATION

Dear Editor:

We would like to thank all of our many friends everywhere personally for your deep concern and your continued interest in our health and physical well-being, our security in the midst of danger and our comfort in prison and at home. We know that many attempts were made to help us get medicine, food and other things. Whether or not these efforts were successful we are indeed grateful for the love and regard which prompted them. We are sure that the Lord heard and answered your prayers. Even in the most trying times we had that which was really essential.

We tried to follow the teachings of the Bible and find contentment in the midst of adverse circumstances. We were confident that the Lord would supply our needs according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. He sustained and guided us in the midst of our tribulations and weaknesses.

We have prayed earnestly that the word of the Lord have free course and be glorified in Cuba. We have prayed constantly and will continue to pray for our fellow workers in Cuba that the Lord may give them the strength and wisdom that they need in times of stress. We pray that their physical and material needs may be met. We know that

(Continued on page 8)

# Convention Messengers Should Secure Registration Cards Sanders Says

Churches planning to send messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention in New Orleans, June 10-13, should secure official registration cards immediately.

These cards may be obtained by writing to state executive secretary Harold Sanders at the Kentucky Baptist Building in Middletown.

A registration card for each messenger must be completed and certified by the church being represented. At the Convention, these cards will be presented at the registration desk. Messengers' names will be added to the roll of messengers and official badges issued.

Non-messengers attending the Convention may attend all sessions but are

not allowed to vote or participate in debate.

Referring to who should attend the annual Convention, executive secretary Sanders said, "It is imperative that pastors and other leaders of our churches keep informed about the work of Southern Baptists. One of the best ways to do this is to attend the Convention.

"I think deacons, WMU workers, young people and organizational workers by all means should attend," he added.

The following excerpt from the Constitution of the Southern Baptist Convention is printed to aid the churches in determining the number of messengers to which they are entitled.

1. One messenger from each regular Baptist church which is in friendly cooperation with this Convention and sympathetic with its purposes and work, and has during the fiscal year preceding been a bona fide contributor to the Convention's work.

2. One additional messenger for each such church for every 250 members; or for each \$250 paid to the work of the Convention during the year preceding the annual meeting.

3. The messengers shall be appointed and certified by the churches to the Convention, but no church may appoint more than ten (10).



### Did you miss i.?

I am speaking of the April 3rd issue of the *Western Recorder* which told more about the Cooperative Program in Kentucky and around the world. Might have slipped up on your blind side—but it was really spotlighting what you are doing in missions through this channel provided by your denomination. So, go back and read about it—and tell your church about it.

### Thrilling stories

The April 3rd issue told the mission-giving story about one of our largest churches (Severns Valley) and one of our newer churches (Briensburg)—and a great word of testimony from our President, J. T. Miller, pastor of a country church. All churches need a way by which sincere members who believe the Bible (and therefore, believe in missions) can have a way to preach the gospel to the world. Baptists have only one way to carry out the Great Commission all the time—that is the Cooperative Program.

### Starving the workhorse

Editor C. R. Daley has a thought-provoking editorial in the same April 3rd issue about how we may be hurting the Cooperative Program. He says: "A trusted and proven workhorse can be starved if too many glamorous show ponies are allowed to compete with him for the available grass. And Southern Baptists appear to be letting just this happen to the most valuable workhorse any denomination ever had.

"The workhorse for Southern Baptists is the Cooperative Program. Nothing we have ever come up with as a plan for financing our work has come close to providing such fair and solid support for all we do in carrying out the Lord's assignment.

"The show ponies are the special emphases and offerings which seem to be growing in number and intensity every year. . . ." Well, read the rest. Let me add that special emphases in and for the church, and through the church in areas where millions of Home Mission's money from the Cooperative Program is already working are glamor ponies for a particular church. Why not trust your own state and convention to do your "project work"?

May I add: thus far this year (starting September 1, 1968, we are \$283,294 under (short of, below) the state goal for the Cooperative Program! Don't you think we should trim the sails and head for a Cooperative Program goal victory?



## Church Dedicates New Sanctuary

Valley Station Baptist Church will dedicate its new \$200,000 sanctuary Sunday, April 13, at 3:00 p.m., according to William L. Kaufman, pastor.

The service will be the highlight of "Dedication Week" that begins on Easter Sunday and continues with evangelistic and baptismal services through Wednesday. At the Sunday evening services following the dedication, the church choir will present its annual Easter Cantata.

The new 850-seat structure is the fourth unit of the church's building complex located on an 8½-acre site at 5415 Valley Station Road. Kaufman said it is the climax of a building program began in 1957 after the congregation called him as their pastor.

The new air-conditioned structure is of contemporary styling, with stone trim inside and out. Tall, pastel-stained glass panels dominate the massive front. The interior has a high, open-beam ceiling, with redwood trim, and wall-to-wall carpeting. The baptistry is highlighted by an oil painting by artist John Lomax, depicting the Jordan River at the traditional site of the baptism of Christ.

## Kentucky Influence Felt In Brazil

David Lee Miller, a former Kentucky resident, was recently elected executive secretary of the Pernambuco Baptist Convention with headquarters in Recife, Brazil. Formerly he was a missionary in the interior of the state of Pernambuco.

Miller graduated from Southern Seminary in 1957 with a master of theology degree.

Merval Rosa, shown congratulating Miller, also lived in Kentucky for a time.

For five years he was a student at the University of Louisville, where he studied psychology, and Southern Seminary. He holds the master of theology degree from the seminary.

Last July Rosa returned to Brazil where he is currently professor of psychology at North Brazil Baptist Theological Seminary in Recife and pastor of Baptist Evangelical Church of Casa Amarela.



David Miller, right, and Merval Rosa

## Nevada Baptists Take Step Toward State Convention

The Nevada Baptist Fellowship, in a preliminary step toward someday becoming a Baptist state convention, met in Sparks, Nevada, for its fourth annual fellowship meeting and adopted a constitution as a "fellowship" group.

The Nevada fellowship, with 35 churches and 15 missions and a total of 5,915 members, has not, however, set a target date for becoming a state convention.

Presently, the 50 Southern Baptist congregations in Nevada are affiliated with two existing state conventions. Churches in the northern half of the state are affiliated with the Southern Baptist General Convention of California, while the churches in the southern half of the state are affiliated with the Arizona Southern Baptist Convention.

Elected president of the Nevada Baptist Fellowship was LaVern Inzer, pastor of First Baptist Church in Winnemucca, Nevada. (BP)

## True Significance Of Christianity Lost Criswell Asserts

The church, with all of its affluence and luxury and embellishments, is just about to lose sight of the real significance of Christianity, the president of the Southern Baptist Convention said recently.

W. A. Criswell, pastor of First Baptist Church in Dallas, made the statement in an address at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Ft. Worth, Texas.

"The greatest influences of Christianity," Criswell said, "were felt during the first century because there were no church buildings, no material obstacles to keep man from the simple message of Jesus Christ."

Criswell challenged students and staff at the seminary to support a project called "Emerging Missions," which seeks to raise \$10,000 to send about 30 students to the Bahama Islands and the Northeastern United States this summer.

He compared the work that the students will be doing this summer to the New Testament plan of spreading Christianity.

"We must go back to the New Testament type of church and Christianity—witnessing from heart to heart, visiting from house to house," he implored. "God is forcing us back to New Testament evangelism." (BP)



Wilkey



Moody

## Moody, Wilkey Awarded AATS Study Grants

Two Southern Seminary professors were among four Southern Baptist scholars awarded study grants by the American Association of Theological Schools, the accrediting agency for seminaries and divinity schools.

Receiving the awards were Dale Moody, professor of theology, and Jay Wilkey, associate professor of music.

Moody, who received a similar grant from AATS in 1961, will spend the academic year in Europe and the Bible lands, studying for six months in Rome at the Gregorian University and the remainder of the time in travel and research.

Wilkey will study at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) and at the University of Tokyo, Japan. He will investigate the relationship between Oriental and western music.

Other Southern Baptists to receive the highly-prestigious study grants were E. Luther Copeland, professor of missions, and John I. Durham, associate professor of Old Testament interpretation, both of Southeastern Seminary in Wake Forest, North Carolina.

In all, 36 AATS awards were made to seminary professors across the United States.

## Money Management Unit Available

*Christian Family Money Management*, a new resource unit complete with training procedures is now available to help Christian families handle their money wisely.

The 48-page booklet including six study sessions with training procedures for each session may be used for each individual family or group study. Session topics include, The Meaning of Money, Purpose of Money, Avoiding the Money Trap, Putting Money to work for the Cause of Christ, Principles of Christian Management and Financial Planning for the Future.

A husband-wife writing team, Cecil and Charlene Ray of Dallas, Texas, wrote the special resource unit. He is director of the stewardship division of the General Baptist Convention of Texas.

The unit was produced by the Church Training Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board in cooperation with the Stewardship Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention and is available from the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tennessee.

# Revival Progressing Among Space Scientists

While Apollo 8 and Apollo 9 astronauts were hurled into orbit from near-by Cape Kennedy, a spiritual revival has been in progress among a great host of the scientists, engineers and technicians who plan to put the first man on the moon.

This is the observation of Adrian Rogers, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Merritt Island, which has been the center of much of this spiritual activity, he added.

A significant number of highly-paid

space center workers have resigned their positions to enroll in theological study or take positions in Christian work and service, Rogers said.

At present 13 of these men are already serving as pastors, ministers of music, or in similar church-related positions, he added.

Rogers said that the most significant mark of the spiritual revival in the church is the number, 71 in all, who have made commitments to full-time Christian service.

## BAPTIST FORUM



(Continued from page 5)

you will continue to pray with us that those who are still in prison may soon be released and that those who are free to work in the churches may be kept from harm and danger.

We give thanks for our many friends. Through you we have been strengthened and blessed. We want you to know that we have been appreciative of your love, prayers and interest.

Marjorie and Herbert Caudill  
Margaret and David Fite

### TRUSTEE-CONVENTION RELATION

Dear Editor:

It is with much alarm that one must observe the relationship between our convention and our convention affiliated colleges. The convention seems determined to go one direction and its colleges another. Bitter dispute follows bitter dispute.

Where there is so much dispute there must be a reason. This reason apparently has eluded everyone concerned, for the disputes continue. If one studies the situation carefully, it becomes startlingly apparent that there is very little communication between individual trustees and the convention.

The trustee system of administering convention affiliated colleges is correct and is a must if they remain accredited by the regional accrediting agency. In the "Baptist Education Study Task," which was sponsored by the Education Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, it is stated, "A central concern of accrediting associations is that control of colleges and universities be vested in boards of trustees. This same study later points out that this governing board is legally accountable for the operation of the institution. One must conclude that elected trustees of denominational colleges are vitally important to accreditation of these schools. Further, one must also conclude that this small group of men and women shoulder

a tremendous responsibility both ethically and legally for the convention and they deserve the convention's deepest loyalty and support in their decisions.

It is at this point that the problem seems to arise. The convention should be loyal to and support the trustees which it elects from the convention floor to administer its educational institutions, yet this should not be a blind loyalty and support. The convention has a responsibility to watch carefully the decisions of the trustees and to evaluate these decisions in light of theological belief, financial and educational soundness. If these decisions are found to be inconsistent with what is thought by the convention to be the best policy to achieve its goals for the institutions, there should be some adequate way for the convention to express this feeling of dissatisfaction. In the past this expression of dissatisfaction has been made from the floor at the annual meeting of the convention. This is not the proper place to express feelings of this nature.

When and where should dissatisfaction be expressed? The logical place in our convention organization is at the time of the election of the trustees. Men and women should be elected as trustees who will best reflect convention philosophy in the administration of its educational institutions. However, there is not adequate communication between individual trustees and the average person sent as a messenger to the convention for these messengers to be able to make an informed judgment in their vote for individual trustees.

A case in point is the dancing decision made by the Georgetown College trustees. The *Western Recorder* article which reported their final decision reads as follows:

Georgetown College trustees have decided not to alter the existing policy permitting on-campus dancing by Georgetown College students.

This decision will not be reviewed in

The pastor said that evangelism is the heart-beat of the church's entire program. Each of the 36 deacons is an active soul-winner, and serve as spiritual ministers to the congregation. Business details are administered by church committees, not the deacons.

Rogers also emphasized that the intelligent and highly-trained people of the space center still respond to the authoritative preaching of the Bible, stating that "Bible-centered teaching and preaching joined with Spirit-filled laymen can bring revival anywhere." (BP)

this article for it is immaterial to this study. If, however, one did wish to react in a positive and constructive way to this decision is there an avenue of expression which could bring about positive change. How does one react without reacting against the entire board of trustees? Does one withhold his Cooperative Program gift from the convention? Does one indicate that none of his money be sent to Georgetown College?

It is my contention that if the votes of the boards of trustees at the convention affiliated colleges were reported by individual members rather than collectively this would: 1. Facilitate communication between individual trustees and messengers to the convention (and any other interested person across the convention); 2. Give information which would enable messengers to express satisfaction or dissatisfaction intelligently at the proper time and in the proper manner—at the time of the election of the trustees.

Magnolia, Ky. Jerry D. Oakley

### BLESSITT COVERAGE

Dear Editor:

The good coverage of the unusual and challenging ministry of Arthur Blessitt in Louisville recently by the *Western Recorder* deserves some compliments. This dedicated and obviously talented minister from Sunset Strip should affect so many lives in his life time that only heaven could keep the records.

However, there is one observation I would like to make. It takes at least two days to recover physically from the type of preaching Rev. Blessitt was doing several times a day and, at that, ill some of the time. Wouldn't it serve spiritual interest best in the long run if more attention were paid to seeing a man of such great talent was not burnt out in the morning of his ministry?

Louisville, Ky. John R. Sampey, III



**CRUSADE SUCCESS**—Rubens Lopes, right, leader of the Crusade of the Americas, speaks to 80,000 assembled in the rain in Maracana Stadium in Rio de Janeiro to launch Brazilian Baptists' part of the Crusade. Rev. A. Amelio Giannetta, Southern Baptist missionary, holds umbrella. Joseph H. Jackson, center, president of the National Baptist Convention, USA Inc., also spoke.

## Baptist Convention Asks Tuition Grants For Private School Students

The General Board of the South Carolina Baptist Convention, by a vote of 32-17, requested the state General Assembly (legislature) to provide tuition grants to students attending independent and church-related colleges.

After a 1¼-hour debate, the Baptist General Board voted to approve a recommendation from its committee on Christian education proposing that students in private colleges be given a tuition subsidy to offset the difference in cost between education at state schools and private institutions.

The recommendation urged the state legislature to set a subsidy at 60 per cent of the per student appropriation for the state's five colleges and universities. If approved, this would place the subsidy at about \$600 per year.

In effect, the board's action amounts to an expression of opinion by board members for the benefit of the state legislature, observers pointed out. The

### Publication Available

A shipment of 10,000 copies of the American Bible Society's new version of the Gospel of John has been received by Hicks Shelton, state evangelism secretary. These are now available to the churches at a rate of \$3.50 per hundred. To date, Kentucky churches have purchased 65,000 copies.

lawmakers, however, might likely be influenced by the views of the leaders of the state's largest denominational body.

W. L. Williams, professor at the University of South Carolina, was the first to oppose the idea, saying it would amount to "tax money to the schools." He maintained the funds would not really go to the students, but to the colleges and universities.

Enoch C. Brown, a Columbia pastor argued that the South Carolina Baptist Convention has expressed opposition to in-direct government aid as well as to direct grants. Brown urged "adherence to principle over expediency."

A Baptist pastor from Greenville, S. C., J. G. Dukes, argued in favor of such grants to students, saying they would enable "needy students who now must choose less expensive schools" to attend Baptist colleges.

General argument in favor of such aid was that the tuition subsidy grants would go to the students, not to the institution.

John A. Hammrick, president of the Baptist College at Charleston, S. C., said the plan under study would make little difference to the colleges, but was of vast importance to the students.

Hammrick said the state tuition grants would differ little from federal grants to students through the Office of Economic Opportunity, and "we (Baptist College at Charleston) handled \$50,000 of these last year." (BP)

## Baptist Hospital Plans Seminar For Pastors' Wives April 21

The fifth annual Pastoral Care Seminar for Pastors' Wives will be held April 21 at Welborn Baptist Hospital in Evansville, Indiana.

Free to all who attend, the meeting begins with registration at 9:00 a.m. A tour of the medical complex will be available after the seminar dismisses at 3:00 p.m.

Wallace Denton, former pastor currently serving as associate professor of Family Life and Marriage Counseling at Purdue University, is the special speaker for the occasion.

In the morning hours, only ministers' wives will participate in a discussion about "What Ministers' Wives Expect Out of Marriage." After a luncheon break the husbands will be allowed to join for a discussion on "Marriage and Family Time in the Parsonage."

Denton is the author of two books, *The Role of the Minister's Wife* and *The Minister's Wife as a Counselor*. He has also contributed to the book *The Minister's Own Mental Health* and various periodicals.

A graduate of Southern Seminary with a bachelor of divinity and master of theology degrees, Denton pastored churches in Arkansas, Kentucky and Michigan before entering his present field.

## Clear Creek Professor W. M. Averett Resigns To Accept Pastorate

W. M. Averett has resigned as a faculty member of Clear Creek Baptist School in order to accept the pastorate of the Petrey Memorial Baptist Church in Hazard. Averett has served this congregation as interim pastor since May, 1968.



Averett

Averett is a native of Louisiana and a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. While in the Seminary he served as pastor of the Manly Memorial Church in Louisville. He has served pastorates in Louisiana and in Mississippi and was on the faculty of the Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in California for five years.

He joined the Clear Creek faculty in August, 1967, and served for eighteen months.

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Memo from the President:

For forty-three years Clear Creek Baptist School has been training Christian workers to provide leadership for the small churches of rural America.

Our faculty and staff members have worked for long hours with intense dedication and at great personal sacrifice. We have never known what it meant to live and work without a heavy financial burden hanging over us. We have been able to grow and show progress. But I have often thought how wonderful it would be, not to have every burden taken away . . . we have never been told to expect that . . . but to have just a little more definite source of income to take advantage of some of the opportunities of increasing our outreach for Christ.

Through these memos, which I hope you will consider as personal notes from me, I trust that you have caught the vision of Clear Creek Baptist School, so much so that you would be willing to share a little of the blessings which God has showered upon you by investing in the future of these Christian workers. Gifts to Clear Creek really serve a three-fold purpose—Christian education, Training for Ministerial Leadership, and missionary outreach. Of course, all gifts are deductible for income tax purposes.

Let me add this word. This month every friend who sends a contribution will receive a gift, hand crafted by our students in our own workshop.

D. M. ALDRIDGE, *President*

## In Arkansas

### Phelps Resigns Presidency, Cites Conservative Opposition

Citing strong disagreement with ultra-conservative forces within the Arkansas Baptist Convention, Ralph A. Phelps has resigned as president of Ouachita Baptist University after 16 years in the post.

Phelps said there were too many conservatives in the Arkansas convention who wanted to make Ouachita into a Bible institute, and that the convention seemed to be in control of the ultra-conservatives who were against quality education.

Phelps said he is considering several other positions, but has not yet made a decision on his plans for the future. He said he would make a decision in a few days.

In an interview, Phelps said that he felt 16 years as president of Ouachita were enough, especially in the light of the difficulties of the job.

"The job of running any Baptist school is extremely difficult, and the denomination does not give any man

enough money to do the job," he said. "Instead, the denomination fences him in with restrictions against federal aid and against going directly to the churches with an appeal for funds.

"My views of what a university ought to be and the dynamic role it ought to play in our changing society are quite different from those who feel Ouachita ought to be run like it was in the 1800's.

"The ultra-conservative group in the convention is much opposed to my views on integration, federal aid, academic freedom and inquiry, freedom of the press on the campus, etc.," Phelps said.

"Baptists claim to be great believers in freedom, but they really only seem to believe in the freedom to agree with the traditional position," he added.

Phelps said he feared Baptists are going to lose a great number of Baptist schools in the next few years unless the denomination provides more support and more freedom for the schools, and less criticism. (BP)

### S. S. Class Builds Housing Project

A Sunday School group's desire to "translate Christian-oriented concern into a profound community impact" was climaxed in Atlanta with ground-breaking for six low-rent houses the group will offer to low-income residents in the predominantly Negro section of the city.

Twenty-eight members of the Vanguard Sunday School Class of Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church in Atlanta began the unusual \$72,000 project.

They have purchased, re-built and re-financed six low-rent houses through financial backing of the Federal Housing Authority. Primary construction loan is through an Atlanta bank.

Formed into the "Vanguard Housing Corporation," the group has laid plans since 1967 for an endeavor in meeting a local need.

Completed modern homes will be offered to low-income residents, predominantly Negro, at one of the lowest rates in Atlanta.

Vanguard Housing Corporation will be directed by Sunday School class member Jere Goldsmith as president and other members as trustees.

One member recounted the lengthy process from a class studying Biblical implications for Christian action to a plan to meet a need.



**REMODELED NURSERY**—High Point Baptist Church, Graves County Association, recently completed remodeling their nursery facilities. The 30'x30' room is divided into separate areas for toddlers and bed babies. New equipment includes beds, play pens, walkers and other necessities. The room is carpeted and has a heating and cooling unit independent of the other church facilities.

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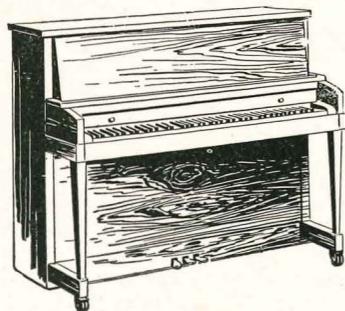
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A half-hour color television docu-  
mentary on Southern Baptist missions  
work in Colombia and other South  
American countries will be telecast na-  
tionwide by the Columbia Broadcasting  
System (CBS-TV), Sunday, April 27.

The Southern Baptist Convention's  
Radio and Television Commission in  
Ft. Worth, Texas, produced the program  
in association with CBS-TV.

Filmed largely in the city of Cali,  
Colombia, and the surrounding area,  
title of the documentary will be "The  
Baptists of Cali." The film centers on  
activities of the International Baptist  
Theological Seminary in Cali, Colombia,  
the hub of Southern Baptists' mission  
thrust in the region and surrounding  
countries. (BP)



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# SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By H. C. Chiles

(These Lessons for April 20, 1969)



LIFE AND WORK SERIES

## Ministering To Physical Needs

Vitally concerned about all of the needs of men, God expects His children to minister to their needs in the best manner and to the fullest extent possible. Those who are thus engaged may rightfully expect His presence with them and His blessing upon their efforts.

### I Kings 17:8-16

Elijah learned that, in order to enjoy God's provision, it was necessary for him to be in the place to which He had directed him and to be doing what He had assigned Him to do. God had commanded Elijah to cross Israel and live at Zarephath for a while, and that was a difficult assignment indeed.

When Elijah arrived at the gate of the distant city, he observed a woman gathering sticks. Weary and thirsty, and concluding that this woman was the one to whom he had been sent, he requested her to bring him a drink of water. He then said to her: "Bring me, I pray thee, a morsel of bread in thine hand." She replied that she had been reduced to the last extremity, and she and her son were facing death from starvation. With only a handful of meal and a little olive oil left, she was gathering a few sticks to prepare their final meal, and then wait for death to take her and her son. One must admire her for her refusal to give way to utter despair, under such conditions. We need to know that giving way to dejection does not accomplish any good.

Elijah assured the widow that she need not hesitate to grant his request, saying, "For thus saith the Lord God of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the Lord sendeth rain upon the earth." She promptly complied with Elijah's request, and for her kindness to His prophet God rewarded her by caring for her and her household through the period of famine.

### II Kings 4:8-10

This good woman did not assume any airs, but lived a simple life, responded to the call of duty, had enough spiritual insight to see something beyond houses and lands, had a great faith in God, and depended on Him for the strength which she needed in the performance of her daily tasks. Her love for and devotion

to God were unmistakable evidences of her greatness.

From time to time, Elisha, the prophet of God, passed the house in which this nameless woman and her husband resided. She discerned that he was the messenger of God. Because of her love for God, she wanted to do something for His prophet. She extended to him a cordial invitation to be a guest in their home. As a recipient of their hospitality, Elisha was highly appreciative.

This spiritually sensitive woman suggested to her husband that they show their love for God by providing an adequate room for His prophet to use when he was in those parts. Cheerfully and speedily they prepared the room and furnished it with a bed, a stool, a table, and a candlestick. It was arranged so that Elisha could come and go at will without interfering with those in the other part of the house. We would do well to remember that God's servants are very dear unto Him. When somebody injures one of them, he grieves God, and when one helps any of them, he thereby pleases God.

### Matthew 8:14-15

When Christ entered the home of Simon Peter for refreshment and rest, He observed that Peter's mother-in-law

was critically ill with a severe fever. He was ready to meet the need when He saw it. He could not remain long, in that or in any other house, without bringing whatever blessing might be needed. Regardless of what the need in any home may be, there is sufficient grace and power in Him to meet it.

Going to her bedside, Christ took her hand, raised her up, and made her well. The woman immediately arose and ministered unto them. As an expression of her gratitude, she cheerfully ministered to their needs, counting it a joyous privilege to spend her strength in service for her Lord and those who accompanied Him.

In this incident we have a splendid picture of sin, salvation, and service. The helpless woman, with the raging and burning fever, is a picture of sin. The touch of the Master's hand and the curing of the fever portrays salvation. Her ministering unto the needs of others is a beautiful picture of service. Salvation from sin should always result in service to Christ. Christian service is always the fruit of salvation, and never the root of it.

Service is one proof that a person has been saved. If one does not serve, what evidence is there that he has been cured of the malady of sin?

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#### Luke 1:1-4

Luke was a very careful biographer. He moved in high circles as was indicated by the fact that he addressed the Gospel which he recorded to the "most excellent Theophilus," a title which speaks a high position. We do not know who Theophilus was except that he was a friend of God. In Luke we have a splendid example of the type of men whom the Holy Spirit used to make available to the world the important facts concerning the life and work of the Lord Jesus Christ.

In the opening verses of his Gospel, Luke acknowledged that others, who

were "eyewitnesses, and ministers of the word," had written biographies of Christ. He regarded their writings as entirely trustworthy. However, Luke sought, under the direction of the Holy Spirit, to add various details about the life and death and resurrection of Christ that had been omitted by the other evangelists. A careful study of the four Gospels will reveal that the one which Luke wrote contained discourses, parables, miracles and events that were not mentioned by either of the other writers.

In the Gospel according to Luke we have a biography of our Lord up to and including the narrative concerning His

ascension. It tells us what Christ began to do and to teach during His sojourn on the earth. While it is an account of some of the things which Christ said and did in this life, it does not record the whole story by any means.

### I Corinthians 2:12-13

The Bible is a revelation of God and from Him. The Bible is a divine revelation which came by divine inspiration. Inspiration is the inflow or cause, and revelation is the outflow or effect. The fact that the Holy Spirit knows the thoughts, purposes, and plans of God makes His discernment and illumination essential to our understanding of the teachings of the Bible and to our living in accordance therewith.

### II Corinthians 4:7

Paul likened himself and his associates in the missionary work to fragile earthenware pots, which were unattractive in themselves, but their contents were quite valuable. Their value was not intrinsic, but in the service which they performed. One of the secrets of Paul's greatness was his complete abandonment to the service of Christ.

### II Timothy 3:14-16

Paul reminded his protegee, Timothy, of his Christian heritage and urged him to be loyal to it. Paul thanked God that from Timothy's early childhood he had been taught the Word of God by his godly grandmother and mother, under the guidance and blessing of the Holy Spirit, the interpreter of the Scriptures. How fortunate is any child who receives that sort of instruction in his home! The value of such training cannot be overestimated. Moreover, in order to supplement their teaching, Lois and Eunice made it possible for Timothy to receive instruction from Paul also.

Paul exhorted Timothy to abide in the things which he had been taught so faithfully by his unselfish and trustworthy teachers, regardless of how strong the temptation might be to do otherwise. Likewise, in these days of apostasy, and rebellion against the authority of God, those of us who are God's children must diligently study the Scriptures and make a personal application of their teachings to our lives. In the Bible God challenges Christians to consistency in living, continuance in laboring, and constancy in loving. It is only through a study of the Scriptures and an application of their teachings to our lives that we can grow and mature as Christians and be thoroughly prepared for every good work.

### II Peter 1:20-21

Just as a light is important in a dark place, even so is the prophetic message of the Scriptures invaluable to Christians. However, it is a mistake to conclude that a prophecy has to do with the foretelling of some future event only. While it often has this connotation, it really involves a declaration of the will of God, but it is not limited to the future.

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## Bombed Out Church Rebuilt

On June 16, 1968, the First Corinthian Baptist Church of Zoneton in Bullitt County was destroyed in a night bombing. Two months before it had been heavily damaged by fire.

"What was designed to separate the races really brought us closer together," Pastor Adolphus White said.

Area churches decided to help the bombed out congregation construct a new building with an estimated cost of \$23,000.

Louisville attorney W. H. Waldon, former first vice president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, headed-up a drive that resulted in approximately \$4,000 channeled through the Louisville Trust Company for the church. Bullitt County churches raised slightly over \$1,200 while Elizabethtown churches donated over \$300. The Kentucky Baptist Convention gave \$500 toward construction cost.

These funds, together with those of the church, were used to pay the contractor who completed the first stage of

the new building, but now the church has no funds to finish construction.

Numerous laymen have promised to donate their labor to finish the church if the congregation can purchase necessary material.

White said he estimates it will take about \$4,000 to buy the necessary materials. "With donated labor this will put us under the projected \$23,000 cost," he said.

"We would like to dedicate our new building June 15, one year after it was bombed. To do this we will have to have additional funds and labor," he pointed out.

Anyone wishing to donate money to the church may do so by sending it to either the Louisville Trust Company or the Peoples Bank of Shepherdsville marked First Corinthian Baptist Church.

Persons wishing to donate labor should contact Robert L. Tinsley, 6103 Moorehaven, Louisville, telephone number 969-9911.

## KBREA Plans Seminar April 21-22

The Kentucky Baptist Religious Education Association will hold its annual spring conference on the campus of Southern Seminary April 21-22.

Joining five Southern Seminary professors on the conference program will be Thomas E. Carter of the Home Mission Board and Byron A. Clendinning of the Sunday School Board.

The Spring workshop gets underway at 1:00 p.m., April 21 when Professors Hutchens, Cromer and Loessner form a panel to consider new techniques in working with children, youth and adults.

"The Church's Responsibility in Social Ministries," "The Educational Responsibility of the Church to the Home,"

"Closed Circuit TV and Religious Education" and "Plans for the 70's" complete the two-day program.

Registration and conference fees total \$7.50. Housing and meals are separate and may be arranged with the seminary or in area motels.

Those desiring to register or get additional information may write to KBREA secretary Miss Anna Mary Hack at the Kentucky Baptist Building, Middletown.

Other association officers are president Bob Kersey of the First Baptist Church, Paducah, and vice president John Ashley of the First Baptist Church of Hopkinsville.

## Training Union Report Filed, New Methods Caused Month Delay

Training Union statistics for 1968 have been released by the research and statistics department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Due to a new reporting system initiated through the church training department of the board, church training statistics were not reported in the same manner for 1968 as in previous years.

The totals in each of the categories of the report for 1968 are: New member orientation cumulative enrollment, 93,809; church leader training cumulative enrollment, 72,633; member training projects cumulative enrollment, 103,153; Training Union ongoing enrollment, 2,455,497; and grand total of Training Union ongoing and cumulative enrollment, 2,725,097.

Previously, total enrollment reported consisted of persons on Training Union rolls as of the end of the associational year. The new system allows the reporting of a compilation of participation throughout the year in new member orientation, leadership, training and member training projects.

While the report provides valuable information concerning participation in training activities, it is likely that the totals are under-reported for 1968, said Martin Bradley, secretary of the research and statistics department which prepared the report. (BP)

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