



WESTERN

RECORDER

MAY 2, 1970



The Denver Convention Center will be the site for the 125th anniversary session of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 1-4. Convention sessions will be in the Exhibition Hall. Woman's Missionary

Union Convention will be in two adjacent buildings—the Arena Sunday afternoon and the Theater Monday. Pastors' Conference sessions will be in the Arena Sunday night and Monday. See stores pages 8-13.

Who Is A Baptist? Believers' Church

By Wayne E. Ward, Professor of Theology, Southern Seminary

(Fifth of a series of articles on distinctive beliefs and characteristics of that group of Christians called Baptists)

The most discerning students of church history have pointed out that the truly distinctive feature about Baptists is their doctrine of the church. With a consistency which has been both praised and condemned, Baptists have stood for the clear New Testament principle of the church as the body of Christ, composed only of those who have repented of their sins, believed in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and have been baptized in obedience to His command.

From this basic New Testament pattern of the church several important truths follow:

1. **Christ is the Head of the Church.** Exactly because Baptists believe that every church member must have a direct personal relationship to Christ, in faith and obedience, they would not dare to set up a bishop or church hierarchy to mediate the authority of Christ. They believe that Christ rules over his church directly and that He needs no "vicar" or substitute because He is present Himself. This is why Baptists reject all bishops, priests, or other religious authorities, whether established by governments or religious institutions. They know that Christ is present in the community of believers and that through the Holy Scriptures and the witness of His Holy Spirit He can guide them into all truth and obedience.

2. **The Church is a Gathered Community of Believers.** Most churches think of themselves in institutional terms: they have officers, membership rolls, property, constitutions and by-laws. Many of them are incorporated by state laws. Although some of these institutional aspects are unavoidable, they are also very dangerous. Sometimes these externals are equated with the church itself, when any or all of them could not make a church. A church is a dynamic fellowship, a gathered community of believers in Jesus Christ, who could meet in a home, a tent, or under a tree — and still be His church. The essential characteristic is their unity with Christ by faith and with each other in brotherly love.

3. **The Church is Congregational in Polity.** The very fact that the church is made up of individual believers in Jesus Christ means that each and every member has an equal right and responsibility to express his understanding of the will of Christ for the congregation. This is why Baptists insist upon involving the whole congregation in the calling of a pastor, the receiving of members, or the exercise of church discipline. In the overwhelming majority of Christian denominations, a church official assigns pastors, authorizes baptism or confirmation, and excludes members from the eucharist or communion. Baptists insist that the whole congregation, as members of the body of Christ, must be involved in ascertaining and carrying out the word of her Lord.

4. **The Unity of the Church is in Christ.** Some theologians have called Baptists the most ecumenical of all people, because they believe that all regenerated Christians are one in Him — no matter what their color, or nation, or denomination. We have not always sought to express this unity as effectively as we should, and the sin of hatred and contempt for others has sometimes marred Baptist life. But the unity we have in Christ is His spiritual gift, and we ought to cultivate it and express it in love and brotherhood. The attempt to achieve church unity by forming a great ecumenical denomination, exercising authority over all Christian churches, would be a denial of the true unity which comes by personal faith in the one Lord.

DEVOTIONAL



A. H. McEachern
Pastor,
St. Matthews
Baptist Church,
Louisville

Understanding People

Hebrews 4:14-16

Most conversations are "dialogues of the deaf," writes Paul Tournier. We justify ourselves seldom hearing or understanding others. A woman says, "My husband is a mysterious island."

It has been said, "During courtship he talked and she listened. During the honeymoon she talked and he listened. Now both talk and neighbors listen."

Want to understand people

This requires courage. It is easier to ignore people. We fear their criticism and cheap advice. It is hard to admit our weaknesses and difficult to accept these in others.

Understanding requires patience to listen and share. Even our vacations are often spent in a series of mad dashes which keep us so busy we avoid personal encounter.

Understanding requires love. One day our three year old girl came into the den with a fuzzy caterpillar on her arm. I said, "Go throw that thing in the garbage!" As she left with her bottom lip stuck out, she said, "I've got to have a friend!" These are true words for all.

Ask the question, "why?"

This is the most important question in achieving understanding. It can help our racial attitudes. It is important in marital relations. When we discover why people think, feel and react as they do, we begin to understand them. Leslie Weatherhead tells of a couple who never had an argument. He said, "Either they are lying or one of them has crushed the other."

Learn to identify with others

Ezekiel said, "I sat where they sat, and was overwhelmed." Isn't this the meaning of the incarnation? Jesus shared our life. Therefore he understands and helps us.

Many are lonely. A girl prayed, "Our Father in heaven, how do you know my name?" People are alone with their fears, sorrow and guilt. They need to be loved and understood.

Man is not a thing to be used and discarded. Man is not an animal destined for oblivion at death. Man is not a machine, unthinking and unfeeling. Man is a person to be loved and understood for himself. God loves and understands us.

A man expressed fear about passing a cemetery at night. Asked if he feared that the dead people would hurt him, he replied, "No, but I'm afraid they'll make me hurt myself."

That is the greatest danger facing Southern Baptists; not that outside forces shall hurt them, but that they may cause them to hurt themselves. Southern Baptist should ever be critical of themselves. But the criticism should be constructive and spoken in love. Such checks and balances will serve to guard them against extremes in either direction.

However, in recent years we have come to our annual session in an atmosphere of crisis. These crises are largely brought on by outsiders whose only purpose is to destroy, not to build. Their attacks can harm us only as we ourselves react to them in such fashion as to effect our own self-destruction.

Some irresponsible newspaper headline or article designed to create a crisis sets us against each other. Independents who pose as self-appointed defenders of the faith once delivered to them would like nothing better than to siphon off our resources for support of their own causes. And, tragically, we fall into their snares as we trust them rather than our own local pastors and denominational leadership. We must not allow such to cause us to hurt ourselves!

If this is not to be the case, at least three things must be done. First, we must get back to the basic element of our faith, the competency of every soul before God. This means, among other things, that every soul is competent to approach God for himself, to trust in Christ for himself, to pray to God through Jesus Christ directly, and to read and interpret the Bible as he feels led by the Holy Spirit.

Take this last matter as an example. Even the Holy Spirit does His work through imperfect human instruments. It is in this fact that our differences in interpretation of the Scriptures lie. But with the freedom allowed, the amazing thing is not that there are differences among us but that there are so few.

However, this competency also implies responsibility. But again, this responsibility is to God, not to one's brethren. If a man errs from the truth, God should judge him, not other finite and erring fellow-Christians. Each should declare the truth as he feels led to see it. But he should leave God to deal with himself and others as He sees fit.

The *Broadman Bible Commentary* is the fruit of years of prayer and careful planning. But it has never been regarded as the official statement of our faith. When completed it will be a composite of the efforts of many dedicated people, each endeavoring to interpret given portions of the Bible as he sees it, not as every Southern Baptist sees it. We are Baptists, not Roman Catholics whose imprimatur on a book label

means that it is official church teaching. No man alive could write such a book for Southern Baptists. And no human being could write an interpretation of the Bible with which every Southern Baptist would agree.

Even "The Baptist Statement of Faith and Message" is not a creed. Yet with few negative votes in Kansas City in 1963 it was adopted without changing a punctuation mark. The framers of the 1925 Statement were careful not to make it binding on the individual conscience. And the committee of 1962-63 was dedicated to preserving this safeguard. Otherwise it is safe to say that the Convention would not have adopted it. If the Convention would not make it binding on the individual conscience, then no person or group of persons should try to do so. This is true regardless of what theological label others try to put on such. This Statement was deliberately made broad enough to include all facets of belief held by various people and/or groups within the Convention fellowship.

Southern Baptists' Greatest Danger

By Herschel H. Hobbs

After the New Orleans convention the writer received two letters, one from a so-called liberal and one from the so-called conservative. Each said that the other extreme was taking over the convention. Both were wrong. The Convention is still largely made up of middle-of-the-roads.

In such a diverse situation only one position is appropriate for Southern Baptists. It is "Unity in Diversity." Such enables us to live together, each one in love speaking the truth as he feels led to see it. And all abiding by the fundamental tenet of the competency of every individual soul before God.

Second, we must be willing to let the truth grapple with error, confident that truth will win the battle. Paul did this when he preached on Mar's Hill and when he faced the wicked city of Corinth. One can hardly imagine a more immoral audience than those to which Paul preached in Caesarea.

Largely through misunderstanding, the recent seminar in Atlanta produced quite a tempest in a teapot. Some felt that certain speakers should not have

been included on the program. And they have a right to their opinion. But what was lost in the furor is the fact that men of proven scholarship and devotion to Christian truth confronted these aliens and turned them back in wild rout. What should have been the occasion of rejoicing in victory among us became a civil war of recrimination. And the devil and his kind rejoiced.

It was said by some that the seminar gave *Playboy* magazine and "situation ethics" a platform from which to proclaim their evil wares. But such need no such platform. *Playboy's* publication on the news stands and "situation ethics" blared from the secular news media are all the platforms that they need.

We forgot that what actually took place was that the occasion gave a platform for Christian truth to come to grips with and expose these hellish things. It was truth facing error in open conflict, and on truth's own grounds and terms. It made Christian morality newsworthy. It is reported that the Atlanta papers gave a blow by blow account of the conflict, and rejoiced in the victory of truth.

Incidentally, "earnestly contend" in Jude 3 means to strive earnestly as athletes in a game or soldiers in a battle. It means to give all that you have against a common foe.

And they were to contend, not defend, the faith or Christian way of life. Rather than to protect this faith by remaining safely on the sidelines they were to be in the arena in the thick of the fight, using Christian truth as their weapon against evil. Actually "for the faith" in the Greek text may be either locative or instrumental case. So it could also be to contend or strive "in the faith" or "with the faith." In the faith they should resist immoral living. Or with the Christian faith or truth as a weapon they are to oppose such evils.

Third, we must get about the main business of our reason for being. And that is preaching the Gospel, winning lost souls to Christ, looking to the needs of humanity, defying pagan evil with Christian truth, and sending forth into the social order redeemed and developed Christians who will be salt and light to a rotting world society.

We are going to Denver to celebrate 125 years of history as a people of God. No greater tragedy could befall us than that we should spend our time and spiritual energy chewing on each other. If we do, the world will laugh and the devil will rejoice. Let us not fight skirmishes and lose the war.

The world needs our witness today as never before. By another year at Convention time, who knows but that we may have lost our opportunity to give it. The time is now!

Denver can be our finest hour. Or it can be our most tragic one. The answer is with us. No outside force can hurt us. God grant that we shall not hurt ourselves.

WESTERN RECORDER

"Earnestly contend for the Faith which was once for all delivered to the saints"—Jude 3

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Two Kinds Of Pollution

Whatever is said about today's youth, there is no doubt they care. "Earth Day" on April 22 was a demonstration of their concern for the physical environment in which they live. Who would have predicted a few years ago that students would be taking the day out of school to sweep streets, clean roadside trash piles and bury internal combustion engines as a symbol of their desire for a cleaner physical environment for this and future generations?

More power to these young people. Shame on the rest of us if we don't join in their concern. And shame on the young and the old if we are content with talk and symbolic acts instead of a day by day relentless practice of our anti-pollution sermons. One of the shortcomings of other youth crusades has been a hit and run kind of campaign instead of a long-term commitment to a continuing program of education and action.

Anyone who knows this editor could never doubt his love and appreciation for natural beauty unmarred by human contamination. To make a stream too poisonous with industrial waste for fish is a monstrous transgression in my book and to mar a lovely stream bank with beer cans and rubbish is a sin against nature's Creator. This is to say nothing of robbing future generations of the very air and water necessary for physical life. The God who made life and those things which sustain it surely will not hold guiltless those who carelessly and selfishly threaten life with all kinds of contamination. And so pollution has theological as well as humanitarian dimensions.

Denominational Statesmen Are Not All Gone

In these turbulent times for Southern Baptists a question often heard is, "Where are the Baptist statesmen who used to lend stability and saneness to our convention discussions and decisions?" Those asking such a question remember the days when there were among Southern Baptists, respected and revered denominational leaders who could rise when confusion and chaos were about to take over and pour soothing oil on the troubled waters.

Do we have such denominational statesmanship among us today? Apparently not, judging by the way

In short, pollution is sin because whatever harms man is contrary to God's will.

Having said this about physical pollution, something else must be said about another kind of pollution. This is the moral pollution which also threatens man's very existence as a creature made in the Creator's image.

In the past, religious voices have erred in not including concern for physical pollution along with sermons on moral contamination. This shortcoming, however, should not cause us to major now on the physical and forget the moral contamination of this age.

Added to "Earth Day" should be "Decency Day" when we turn our attention to removing the filth and immoral litter from newsstands, movie theaters, television and stage.

The moral air we breathe is as critical as the physical air we breathe and the mental food and water we take in are even more dangerous than the chemically contaminated food and water we eat and drink.

Those with moral concern should work for a cleaner physical environment. After all, morally fit life is of little use if we make the world unfit physically to sustain life. At the same time those anxious about a clean physical environment should be equally concerned for moral cleanliness. Else we could end up with a world physically fit to live in but with a humanity morally unfit to live.

things have been going in recent years in convention sessions. But the absence of such denominational statesmanship could be not so much a reflection upon the caliber of Baptist leaders today as a reflection upon the times we live in. This is simply not the day for respected and revered leaders. Almost nothing or nobody is sacred and respected today including those whose age and experience once made them influential.

But we do have Baptist leaders of magnitude among us today. The heads of our Southern Baptist Mission Boards and other Southern Baptist agencies

and institutions compare favorably with those of any period in our 125 year history. Dr. Porter W. Routh, who directs the activities of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, is a man of great dimension physically, mentally and spiritually. But men with such official connections are expected to have vested interests and therefore their overall denominational influence is somewhat limited.

The position from which greatest influence can be exerted denominationally is the pastorate. There is a number of denominationally influential pastors today but there is one such man among Southern Baptists who stands above his peers. This is H. H. Hobbs, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Oklahoma City. He comes closer than any man today to being the kind of denominational statesman we had in former years. He is one of the most outstanding presidents of the Convention we have ever had. The crown of his denominational service came as chairman of the committee which revised the 1925 Southern Baptist Convention's Statement of Faith and whose report was enthusiastically accepted in 1963 by the Convention without the change of even a punctuation point.

Dr. Hobbs has never been identified with the so-called liberal or ultra-conservative wing of Southern

Baptists. He has plowed straight down the road as a strong preacher, a New Testament scholar and a conservative Baptist theologian. He has no vested interest so far as any Baptist agency or institution is concerned.

All this makes his words which appear on Page 3 of this issue more meaningful. He has risen to the occasion. Talk persists that Denver will bring a hassle over seminaries, the Christian Life Commission and the *Broadman Bible Commentary*. Dr. Hobbs deals with these issues in an intelligent, courageous and fair manner in his article. This may well be the most important article for the welfare of Southern Baptists which will be written in 1970. All Southern Baptists, and especially messengers to the 1970 Southern Baptist Convention, would do well to read it prayerfully and carefully.

The mile-high city of Denver should provide a delightful and cool climate the first week in June. Southern Baptists in Denver that week to do business for the Lord should let their discussions and decisions be characterized with the same atmosphere. In the meantime let us thank the Lord for the healing and cooling breeze which is coming out of Oklahoma City.

BAPTIST FORUM



DISLIKES COMMENTARY

Dear Editor:

The article, "In Defense Of The Broadman Bible Commentary," (April 11 issue, *Western Recorder*) contains the statement "is not intended to be the Southern Baptist interpretation of every Biblical passage." Why not? Was it not approved by the elected Southern Baptist Sunday School Board and financed from Southern Baptist funds?

If Genesis 22:1-2 was actually not the command of a moral God but was Abraham's understanding of God's will and was a result of the psychology of Abraham's life, what about Genesis 1:28; 3:8-19 (Adam and Eve); Genesis 6:13-21 (Noah, the ark and the flood); Moses; Jonah? Were the events recorded in Matthew 1 (Joseph) and Luke 1 (Mary) also results of the psychology of their lives?

This type of interpretation whittles away the very foundation of Jesus, God in flesh, Son of man.

Abraham's faith is renown (Genesis 22:5-10 and Romans 4:3). Isaac was a gift but Abraham's "eye" of faith was upon the Giver (Genesis 22:12).

If Southern Baptists accept Biblical interpretations such as this one, regarding Genesis 22:1-2, I agree, in part, with "More Baptist Decline Can Be

Expected" (March 14, *Western Recorder*) but the decline will be Christian members whose commitment is strong in Jesus Christ and not Southern Baptist faith and message.

Today, I live by grace through faith in the end result of Abraham's testing and proven worthiness, Jesus Christ.

Elizabethtown, Ky. Mildred M. Fultz

MINISTERS NEED DEDICATION

Dear Editor:

After reading your article on "The Problem of Ministerial Dropouts" I wanted to express my thoughts on this.

At the time I read of James Jeffries, pastor of Bellepoint Church, Frankfort, taking his life, I wondered why this happened? Even though he was in poor health, if he could have talked this out with fellow pastors, maybe his life would still be going on and he would be a spiritual leader for his church.

I think a special ministry to help the discouraged and depressed ministers would be fine. I do believe, though, the difference in the feelings and attitudes of ministers and staff members today is mostly due to lack of dedication and of surrender to our Lord.

If they spent more time in Bible read-

ing and on their knees in prayer I don't believe they would have this problem of wanting to leave this privileged calling and go into a work where they would find less fulfillment.

The lay person, under the spiritual guidance of the pastor, must be dedicated and surrendered to God and awake and working for our Master.

So let the redeemed of the Lord say so, not depending upon self but upon the God who made us and who does all things well.

Jeffersontown, Ky. Mrs. C. V. McGown

OBJECTS TO RELIGIOUS SHOW

Dear Editor:

I am a Kentucky Baptist spending the winter in Florida and noticed in *Western Recorder* where Baptist preachers and others are planning to join Arthur Blessitt in the "Walk for Jesus" parade in Louisville on May 9.

Jesus rebuked show and ostentation in religion (Matthew 6:1-18). When Blessitt chained himself to that cross and fasted for 28 days last summer and is now dragging it across the United States is that what Jesus meant? He said, "When you fast, appear not unto men to fast."

A. T. Robertson in *Word Pictures in New Testament* commenting on this chapter (Matthew 6) says, "To be seen (*theathenai*) that our word theatrical is this very word, spectacular performance, and that all the reward that they will get is public notoriety."

Cocoa, Florida Blanche B. Daniel

Missionaries In Trinidad Safe, Kentucky Couple Among Them

Southern Baptist missionaries in Trinidad have been advised to follow plans of the United States Embassy should evacuation become necessary while the government attempts to put down a military mutiny apparently inspired by the island's black power elements.

"The SBC Foreign Mission Board received a cable from the chairman of the Trinidad and Tobago Mission confirming the safety of the four missionary families living in Trinidad," said Charles W. Bryan, area secretary for Middle America and the Caribbean at board headquarters in Richmond.

The United States dispatched a six-ship naval squadron April 22 to Trinidad waters to be ready to evacuate United States citizens if their safety appeared to be endangered.

Bryan said each family would make its own decision about evacuation and the choice would be made on the spot as the local situation demanded. One option open to the missionaries is a move to a nearby island until the emergency is over.

Southern Baptist missionaries pres-

ently in Trinidad are Mr. and Mrs. David L. Martin, mission chairman of Silver Spring, Maryland; Mr. and Mrs. John C. Sanderson of Murray, Kentucky; Mr. and Mrs. Reginal A. Hill of Barnwell County, South Carolina; and Mr. and Mrs. Shelby A. Smith of Bessemer, Alabama.

The four families have a total of 12 children with them in Trinidad.

The Martins and the Sandersons are stationed in Port of Spain, the capital where rioters clashed with military factions.

The Hills and the Smiths are stationed in San Fernando, in northern Trinidad.

Southern Baptist work in Trinidad began in 1962, when the two islands of Trinidad and Tobago became an independent nation and a member of the British commonwealth. Because of the year-round warm weather, Baptist work there emphasizes camps and retreats.

Trinidad and Tobago are the most southerly of the Caribbean chain of islands and lie about seven miles off the Venezuelan coast, slightly north of the Equator. (BP)



CHURCH CONSTITUTED — Cove Baptist Chapel, a mission of Farmdale Baptist Church, was constituted as Cove Baptist Church on Easter Sunday. Harold Tallant, pastor of Farmdale, served as moderator during the service. Pastors and deacons of associational churches present formed the constituting council. Roy Miller, pastor of Cove, responded to questions in behalf of the members of the chapel. Two hundred twenty-nine members of the chapel were accepted as charter members of the new church. Robert Young, moderator of Long Run Association, brought greetings on behalf of the sister churches of the Association. Allen West, superintendent of missions, brought the afternoon message.

Extend a helping hand to the world —
Give through the Cooperative Program



Dr. Ihley dies

While attending a conference on Work with National Baptists by the Home Mission Board at Callaway Gardens, Georgia, Dr. Herman "Red" Ihley, our beloved friend and able secretary of the department of interracial cooperation, died suddenly of a heart attack while playing golf with friends including Wendell Grigg and Immanuel McCall. The shock was great for his many friends among White and Negro churches throughout Kentucky and the Southern Baptist Convention.

I was in a revival at North Park Baptist Church, Orlando, Florida, when death came to him. I closed the meeting early and went to Adel, Georgia, where the family burial ground is located. Wendell Grigg, G. E. Ervin, G. Allen West and I conducted the funeral in First Baptist Church. Also assisting in the earlier services were staff members James Whaley, J. Chester Durham and Grady L. Randolph.

Rev. and Mrs. G. E. Ervin of the Good Shepherd Baptist Church, Louisville, a dually aligned Negro church in the Kentucky Baptist Convention, drove all night to show the love of all Negro Baptists who have come to love him and Kentucky Baptists through his great ministry of "bridge-building" during the past thirty-eight months.

Mrs. Ihley, the families and I greatly appreciated those coming from Louisville and the Home Mission Board, as well as the telegrams, letters and flowers from many friends in Kentucky, North Carolina, Georgia and elsewhere. Her address is 7813 Pine Ridge Road, Louisville 40222.

Any who desire to give an expression of love for Dr. Ihley could send an offering to the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Middletown, Kentucky, designated for the "Negro Ministerial Scholarship Fund" which Dr. Ihley encouraged the Board to initiate this year.

Convention in Denver

This issue of the *Western Recorder* gives the details of the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Denver, Colorado, June 1-4. Note carefully, for the dates in your Baptist Diary are incorrect — it is one day earlier than listed. It appears that many leaders from Kentucky will be in attendance.

Harold G. Sanders

WESTERN RECORDER



MISSIONARY POWER — Orvil W. Reid, missionary to Mexico, demonstrated feats of strength to 60 boys attending an R.A. Conference in Bell Association recently. The above picture shows Swan Bush, pastor of Hensley Baptist Chapel, breaking a rock on Reid's stomach. The missionary also spoke at First Baptist Church, Pineville; First Baptist Church, Middlesboro; Clear Creek Baptist School and Cumberland College. Mrs. Reid spoke to the quarterly WMU meeting.



BRUSHING UP — After a recent Deacons Clinic in Green Valley Association, G. R. Pendergraph, second from right, church administration secretary, met with Spottsville Baptist Church pastor Billy Mitchell and deacons to discuss the ministry of deacons. Also participating in the discussion was Associational missionary David Bratcher. Approximately 120 deacons and pastors attended the clinic sponsored by the KBC church administration department. Included in this number were deacons from the Norris Chapel Baptist Church, Henderson, a General Association church.



CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION — The special committee appointed at the last state convention to revise the KBC constitution recently met in Middletown for a work session. Attending the meeting were (left to right) Sid Maddox, president of the KBC and pastor of First Baptist Church, Hopkinsville; Eldred Taylor, pastor of First Baptist Church, Somerset; Edwin Perry, pastor of Broadway Baptist Church, Louisville; J. T. Miller, chairman of the committee and pastor of Chestnut Grove Baptist Church, Lewisport; Harold Sanders, state executive secretary; Harold Waincott, pastor of Third Baptist Church, Owensboro; and Jack Sanford, pastor of Florence Baptist Church.

Pendergraph Suffers Heart Attack

G. R. Pendergraph, church administration consultant for the Kentucky Baptist Convention, suffered a heart attack on Friday night, April 24, and is hospitalized in the Central Baptist Hospital in Lexington. Pendergraph was en route to Louisville from Stanton when he became ill. He was accompanied by Idus Owenby of the Southern Baptist church administration department in Nashville who helped him reach Lexington. Pendergraph and Owenby had just completed an intensive schedule of 10 conferences in five days.

He is in the cardiac intensive care unit at Central Baptist and doctors say he will not be able to be moved for several days. At the present time Mrs. Pendergraph reported he experienced a restless night.

Pendergraph suffered a severe heart attack in 1965 and was hospitalized for several months.

Championship Softball Offered To Churches

The Kentucky State Softball Commissioner, James A. Moore, is interested in organizing amateur softball championship tournaments for church teams. Such tournaments would lead to a Kentucky state champion church team.

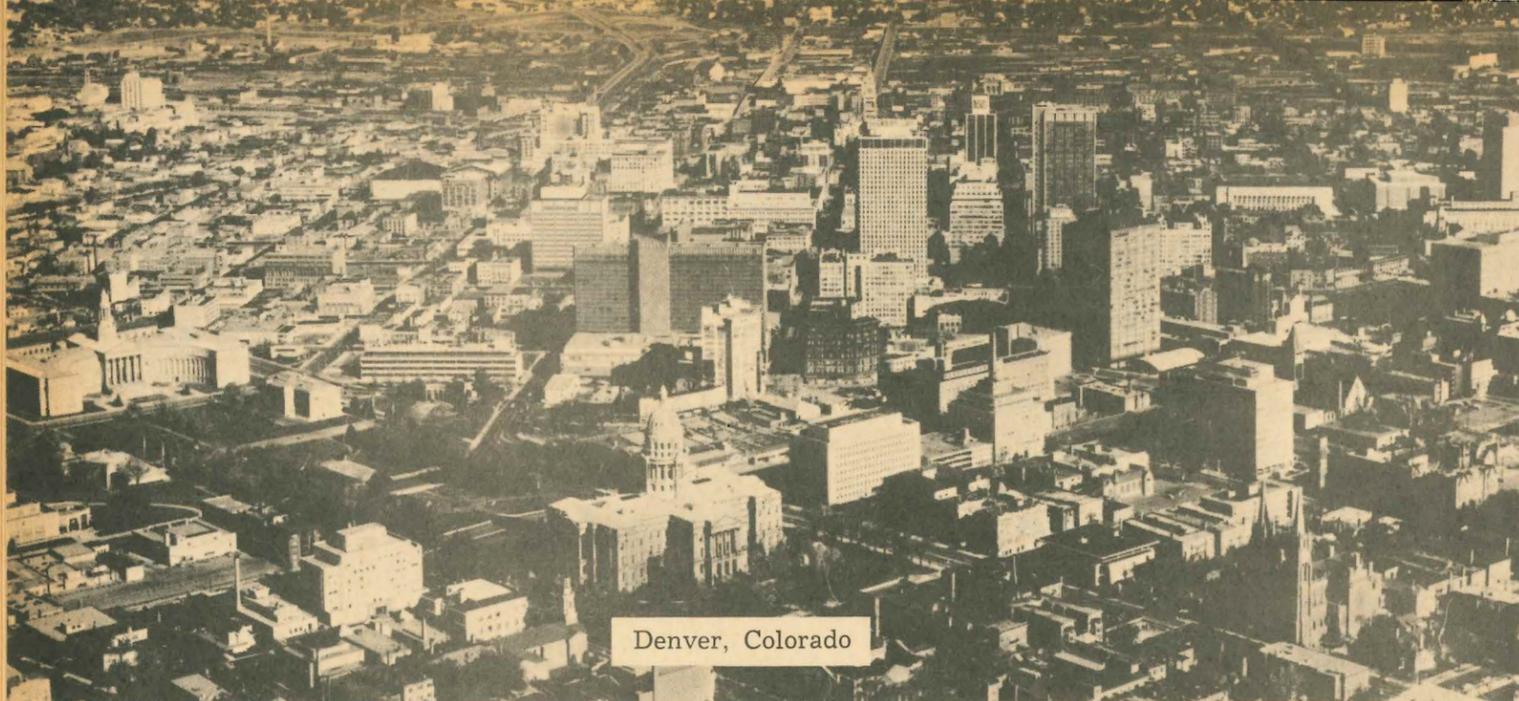
Mr. Moore says that for players to participate in tournaments operated for church teams, the pastor of each church team participating would be required to certify that each player on the team is a member or in regular attendance of the church sponsoring the team. Those churches in Kentucky who would like to have their softball team qualify for championship tournaments are advised to write for further information to Mr. James A. Moore, Kentucky State Softball Commissioner, 18 Ashmore Drive, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

Death Takes Hobbs

Robert H. Hobbs, well known Baptist layman of Pikeville, Kentucky, died on April 19 at the Baptist Hospital after a long illness. He was founder, owner and president of the R. H. Hobbs Company, a department store chain with branches in twelve cities of Kentucky and West Virginia.

Hobbs was a leader in the First Baptist Church of Pikeville. He also served on several boards and committees of the Kentucky Baptist Convention including the board of Trustees of Georgetown College and the nominating committee of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Funeral services were conducted on April 22 at the First Baptist Church at Pikeville.



Denver, Colorado

This Is The Scene - SBC '70

To aid Kentucky Baptists who will gather in Denver, Colorado, for the 125th anniversary celebration of the Southern Baptist Convention, the following information is furnished about the various meetings. Saving these pages to use as a guide while in Denver can prove to be useful.

S. B. C.

The Southern Baptist Convention, meeting June 1-4 for its 125th anniversary celebration, will feature a program with a totally new concept compared to previous sessions, the chairman of the convention's committee on order of business said in announcing the program plans.

The convention will open on Monday evening, rather than the traditional Tuesday evening; and will conclude on Thursday at noon, rather than the usual Friday evening closing. Sessions will be in Currigan Hall of Denver's Convention Center.

Instead of the usual nine convention sessions, there will only be seven sessions in 1970, and agency reports which formerly took the bulk of time during the convention will be presented in printed form during a ten-minute segment on Tuesday afternoon.

Time for transaction of business, however, will increase from 3½ hours to more than six hours in the 1970 program. Recommendations from the agencies will be acted upon during one of the business sessions.

Visual presentations will be mixed with preaching to provide high hours

of inspiration, said Robert S. Scales, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, and chairman of the committee on order of business, which prepared the program.

Scales said the changes were made possible through two actions of the 1969 convention in New Orleans, which voted to set aside the rules of procedures and to request the committee to provide as much time as possible for business in the 1970 sessions.

Theme for the convention will be "Living The Christ Life." Sessions will be at Denver's new Convention Center.

The convention will open Monday evening with a program featuring a visual presentation on the first 125 years of convention history. Also included is the annual president's message by W. A. Criswell, pastor of First Baptist Church, Dallas, and concluding his second year as president of the 11.4 million member body.

The convention will close at noon on Thursday with an address by Southern Baptist evangelist Billy Graham, in a special program on facing up to the challenges of today and the future, Scales said.

Worship will highlight the Tuesday night session when the annual sermon will be preached by Grady C. Cothen, president of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Oklahoma.

The program will take on an international flavor with the appearance of Sir Cyril Black, a member of Parliament and president of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland. He will speak on Tuesday morning.

A world missions emphasis on Wednesday night will involve the combined

efforts of the Home and Foreign Mission Boards, the Woman's Missionary Union and Brotherhood, as they depict the world-wide task of the churches. In previous conventions, each of these agencies has been allotted separate time.

Representatives of the six Southern Baptist theological seminaries will lead brief worship periods throughout the convention. The seminaries will also present a program on the contribution of their institutions to the local churches, Scales said.

There will also be an emphasis on Tuesday morning projecting the program of the convention for the Seventies, and another emphasis on Tuesday evening will stress the denomination's service to the local churches.

The entire Tuesday afternoon session will be devoted to business, with the exception of a brief worship period and an emphasis on the seminaries.

There will be no convention session on Wednesday afternoon, which will be left free to extra activities.

The special visual presentation depicting the 125th anniversary of the convention is being coordinated by Mrs. R. L. Mathis, president of the SBC Woman's Missionary Union.

Because the convention is opening Monday evening rather than the traditional Tuesday night, the related conferences and conventions which previously have preceded the SBC have changed their schedules, Scales said. He added that the committee on order of business had worked closely with the presidents of these organizations to achieve a correlated schedule of activities. (BP)

PROPOSED ORDER OF BUSINESS MONDAY EVENING, JUNE 1

Session Theme: *The Christ Life—A Blessed Heritage*

- 6:45 Music for Inspiration
- 7:00 Call to Order
Congregational Singing
Scripture and Prayer — W. Lavell Seats, professor, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Missouri
- 7:10 Report on Registration and Constituting of the Convention — W. Fred Kendall, executive secretary, Tennessee Baptist Convention, Nashville, Tennessee
- 7:15 Committee on Order of Business — Robert S. Scales, pastor, Trinity Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- 7:20 Welcome (Governor Love of Colorado has been invited)
- 7:35 Introductions and Recognitions of officers' families, past presidents, guests
- 7:55 Announcement of Committee on Committees, Committee on Resolutions, Tellers
- 8:00 Congregational Singing
Special Music
- 8:10 President's Message — W. A. Criswell, pastor, First Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas
- 8:45 125th Anniversary of the Southern Baptist Convention Celebration, a visual presentation
- 9:45 Adjourn

TUESDAY MORNING, JUNE 2

Session Theme: *The Christ Life—A Blessed Responsibility*

- 9:15 Music for Inspiration
- 9:30 Invocation
Executive Committee Report and Recommendations—Porter W. Routh, executive secretary-treasurer, Nashville, Tennessee
- 10:30 Worship
Scripture and Prayer
Congregational Singing
- 10:40 Recognition of Fraternal Messengers
Message — Sir Cyril Black, London, England; member of Parliament; president, British Baptist Union
- 10:55 Election of Officers
- 11:25 Projecting the Program of the Seventies — Porter W. Routh, executive secretary-treasurer, Executive Committee, Nashville, Tennessee
- 12:15 Congregational Singing
- 12:20 Introduction of Miscellaneous Business and Resolutions
- 1:00 Adjourn

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 2

- 2:15 Music for Inspiration
- 2:30 Invocation
Election of Officers
Introduction of Miscellaneous Business and Resolutions
- 3:15 Receiving of Agency Reports as printed in the Book of Reports:
General Boards:
Foreign Mission Board
Home Mission Board
Sunday School Board
Annuity Board
Institutions:
Golden Gate Seminary
Midwestern Seminary
New Orleans Seminary
Southeastern Seminary
Southern Seminary
Southwestern Seminary
Seminary Extension Department
Southern Baptist Foundation
Southern Baptist Hospitals
Commissions:
American Baptist Seminary Commission
Brotherhood Commission
Christian Life Commission
Education Commission
Historical Commission
Radio and Television Commission

Stewardship Commission
Standing Committees:
Denominational Calendar
Public Affairs Committee
Special Committees Reporting 1970:
Baptist State Papers
Canadian Baptist Cooperation
Associated Organizations:
Woman's Missionary Union

- 3:25 Scripture and Prayer — Fred L. Fisher, professor, Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, California
- 3:35 Consideration of Agency Recommendations
Election of Officers
Introduction of Miscellaneous Business and Resolutions

TUESDAY EVENING, JUNE 2

Session Theme: *The Christ Life—A Blessed Fellowship*

- 7:15 Music for Inspiration
- 7:30 Scripture and Prayer — J. Leo Green, professor, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, North Carolina
The Denomination Serving the Local Churches
- 8:45 Worship
Congregational Singing
Scripture and Prayer — R. Archie Ellis, deputy director, South Carolina Department of Public Welfare, Columbia, South Carolina
Special Music
Convention Sermon — Grady C. Cothen, president, Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Oklahoma
- 9:30 Benediction

WEDNESDAY MORNING, JUNE 3

Session Theme: *The Christ Life—A Blessed Witness*

- 9:15 Music for Inspiration
- 9:30 Invocation
Committee on Resolutions (First Report)
Committee on Committees
Committee on Boards
- 10:00 Committee on Resolutions (First Report)
- 10:05 Committee on Committees
- 10:10 Committee on Boards
Worship
Congregational Singing
Scripture and Prayer — Jesse Northcut, dean, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas
- 10:20 Election of Officers
- 10:35 The Seminaries Serving the Churches
- 11:35 Congregational Singing
Election of Officers
Miscellaneous Business
Benediction

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 3

No Convention Session

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JUNE 3

Session Theme: *The Christ Life—A Blessed Witness*

- 7:15 Music for Inspiration
- 7:30 Invocation
WORLD MISSIONS EMPHASIS
- 9:30 Benediction

THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 4

Session Theme: *The Christ Life—A Blessed Challenge*

- 9:15 Music for Inspiration
- 9:30 Invocation
Committee on Resolutions (Final Report)
- 10:35 Worship
Congregational Singing
Scripture and Prayer — J. Hardee Kennedy, professor, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans, Louisiana
- 10:45 Cooperative Relationships — Porter W. Routh, executive secretary, SBC Executive Committee
American Bible Society
Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs
Baptist World Alliance
American Baptist Theological Seminary
- 11:00 Miscellaneous Business
- 11:30 Baptists Facing the Contemporary Scene and the Challenge of Tomorrow Message — Billy Graham, Montreat, North Carolina
- 12:45 Benediction

Pastors

Ministers attending the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference will take a hard look at themselves as they face the 1970's during their annual meeting slated May 31-June 1, prior to the Southern Baptist Convention.

Theme for the conference, according to Pastors' Conference president Don Berry of Memorial Drive Baptist Church, Houston, will be "Minister, Christ-Man for the 70's."

The Pastors' Conference will open on Sunday evening, May 31, with a service called "A Celebration of Worship and Witness."

Evangelistic in tone, the opening session will feature messages by Bill Glass, who left the Cleveland Browns professional football team to enter full-time evangelism in 1968; James Robison, youthful evangelist from Hurst, Texas, who recently led a church revival meeting in Irving, Texas, that resulted in 708 conversions; and William Lawson, Negro pastor of the Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church, Houston.

Meditations will be brought in the opening session by W. A. Criswell, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Dallas, and president of the Southern Baptist Convention; Glenn Braswell, executive secretary of the Baptist General Convention of Colorado; and Mrs. Marie Mathis, of Waco, Texas, president of the Woman's Missionary Union Auxiliary to the SBC.

Berry said the Woman's Missionary Union would not hold a session on Sunday evening and would be "supporting" the Pastors' Conference meeting that night. In turn, said Berry, the Pastors' Conference will "support" the Woman's Missionary Union Sunday afternoon session, which will emphasize music and missions and feature a hymn festival.

Eight speakers each will address the Monday morning and Monday afternoon sessions on the role and task of the minister during the 1970's. There are a total of 22 speakers on the program.

Both the Monday morning and Monday afternoon session will carry out three sub-themes, with speakers on assigned topics under general headings.

Speaking on the "Minister as a Man" Monday morning will be John Claypool, pastor of Crescent Hill Baptist Church, Louisville, Kentucky, and James Middleton, pastor, First Baptist Church, Shreveport, Louisiana.

Speaking on the section, "The Minister as a Man of Christ" Monday morning will be Richard Jackson, pastor, North Phoenix Baptist Church, Phoenix, Arizona; Larry Rohrman, pastor, First Baptist Church, Jackson, Mississippi; and Herschel H. Hobbs, pastor, First Baptist Church, Oklahoma City.

Dealing with the minister "As a Man of Christ to Lead Others" on Monday morning will be John Newport, professor at Southwestern Baptist Theological

SUNDAY EVENING, MAY 31, 7:00 o'clock

"A Celebration of Worship and Witness"

- "Minister in the 70's . . . for Christ's Sake" — A Visual-Choral Presentation
- "Christ's Witness" — Bill Glass, evangelist and former All-Pro defensive end, the Cleveland Browns
- "Christ's Church" — William Lawson, pastor, Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church, Houston, Texas
- "A Meditation for Missions" — Mrs. R. L. Mathis, president, Woman's Missionary Union, Auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention, Waco, Texas
- "A Meditation for Churches" — Glenn Braswell, executive secretary, Colorado Baptist General Convention, Denver, Colorado
- "Christ's Presence" — James Robison, evangelist, Hurst, Texas
- "In Honor of Christ, The King" — W. A. Criswell, president, Southern Baptist Convention, pastor, First Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas

MONDAY MORNING, JUNE 1, 9:00 o'clock

Theme: "The Minister: Christ's Man for the 70's"

- The Minister as a Man
 - "An Appraisal: A Man of All Seasons" — John Claypool, pastor, Crescent Hill Baptist Church, Louisville, Kentucky
 - "An Appeal: A Man's Finest Hour" — James Middleton, pastor, First Baptist Church, Shreveport, Louisiana
- The Minister as a Man of Christ
 - "Our Invitation from Christ" — Richard Jackson, pastor, North Phoenix Baptist Church, Phoenix, Arizona
 - "Our Fellowship with Christ" — Larry Rohrman, pastor, First Baptist Church, Jackson, Mississippi
 - "The Indispensable Lord" — Herschel H. Hobbs, pastor, First Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- A Minister as a Man of Christ to Lead Others
 - "The World: A Tangled Web and a Scarlet Thread" — John Newport, professor, philosophy of religion, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas
 - "The Word: Pastor, Prophet, Priest?" — Wallace R. Rogers, professor, Baptist College of Charleston, Charleston, South Carolina
 - "The Witness: Following Christ Into the World" — Thomas Field, pastor, First Baptist Church, Springfield, Missouri

MONDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 1, 1:45 o'clock

Theme: "Minister, Christ-Man for the 70's"

- An Effector of Change
 - "A Man for all Seasons" — James Pleitz, pastor, First Baptist Church, Pensacola, Florida
 - "A Changing Times: Chaos or Challenge?" — James L. Sullivan, executive secretary, Sunday School Board, Southern Baptist Convention, Nashville, Tennessee
- An Equipper of Saints
 - "Who Shall We Be?—The Struggle for Integrity" — John Nichol, pastor, Oakhurst Baptist Church, Decatur, Georgia
 - "Where Shall We Go?—The Church in the City" — Larry Walker, minister at large, Madison Baptist Church, Madison, New Jersey
 - "What Shall We Do?—The Struggle for Identity" — William Lawson, Houston, Texas
 - "Where Shall We Go?—The Church in the Streets" — Freddie Gage, evangelist, Houston, Texas
- A Channel of Healing and Hope
 - "Healing—A Balm in Gilead" — Gerald Martin, pastor, Poplar Avenue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee
 - "Hope—Evidence of the Unseen" — Robert G. Lee, pastor emeritus, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee

Seminary, Fort Worth; Wallace R. Rogers, professor at Baptist College of Charleston (South Carolina); and Thomas Field, pastor, First Baptist Church, Springfield, Missouri.

The Monday afternoon session will include addresses on the minister as an effector of change, as an equipper of saints and as a channel of healing and hope.

Speakers for the first section are James L. Pleitz, pastor of First Baptist Church, Pensacola, Florida, and James L. Sullivan, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville.

Others dealing with the second sub-theme will be John Nichol, pastor of Oakhurst Baptist Church, Decatur, Georgia; Larry Walker, minister at large for Madison Baptist Church, Madison, New Jersey; Freddie Gage, evangelist from Houston, Texas; and Lawson, who speaks a second time.

Closing addresses will be brought by Gerald Martin, pastor of Poplar Avenue Baptist Church and immediate past president of the conference; and Robert G. Lee, pastor emeritus of the Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis.

Sessions will be held in the 5,000-seat Denver Convention Center arena. (BP)



Among the personalities of the opening WMU program are Claud Rhea of Samford University, Lawrence Welk star Norma Zimmer, and Gene Bartlett, state music secretary of Oklahoma

W.M.U.

A "Music and Missions" hymn festival will open both the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference and the SBC Woman's Missionary Union annual convention Sunday afternoon, May 31, prior to the 125th anniversary meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, scheduled June 1-4.

The Woman's Convention and the Pastors' Conference will also cooperate in an evangelistic service scheduled Sunday evening. Both sessions will be in the arena of Denver's Convention Center.

The two major groups will hold separate sessions on Monday, June 1, and adjourn Monday afternoon just prior to the opening of the Southern Baptist Convention itself.

Norma Zimmer and Jim Roberts, stars of the Lawrence Welk Show, will be among the soloists for the Sunday afternoon hymn festival, according to Mrs. R. L. Mathis of Waco, Texas, president of the SBC Woman's Missionary Union.

Organist will be Fred Bock and pianist will be Kurt Kaiser, both of Word Records, Inc., Waco, Texas.

Audience participation at the hymn festival will be directed by Claude H. Rhea, Jr., chairman of the division of music at Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama, and Gene Bartlett, church music secretary for the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma.

Missionaries bringing testimonies during the Sunday afternoon session will be Bob Tremaine of Worcester, Massachusetts, and new appointees of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

SBC president W. A. Criswell of Dallas will interpret the theme, "Living The Christ Life," which embraces the WMU meeting and the Southern Baptist Con-

SUNDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 31 Convention Center Arena, 2:30 o'clock

- Music and Missions
- Commemorating the 125th Anniversary of the Southern Baptist Convention
- Hymn Festival — Directed by Claude H. Rhea, Jr., chairman, fine arts division, Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama, and Gene Bartlett, secretary, church music department, Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- Pianist, Kurt Kaiser, Word Records, Inc., Waco, Texas
- Organist, Fred Bock, Word Records, Inc., Waco, Texas
- Featuring Soloists of the Lawrence Welk Show — Norma Zimmer and Jim Roberts
- Interpreting Theme, "Living the Christ Life" — W. A. Criswell, president, Southern Baptist Convention, and pastor, First Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas
- "Into the 70's in Home Missions" — Bob Tremaine, pastor-director, Worcester Baptist Chapel, Worcester, Massachusetts
- "Into the 70's in Foreign Missions" — Missionary appointees of the Foreign Mission Board

MONDAY MORNING, JUNE 1

Convention Center Theater, 9:00 o'clock

- Worship in Music and Prayer — Claude H. Rhea, Jr., Birmingham
- Organization
- Business
- "Into the 70's in WMU" — Miss Alma Hunt, executive secretary, Woman's Missionary Union, Auxiliary to the SBC, Birmingham, Alabama
- Commemorating the 125th Anniversary of the Foreign Mission Board
- "The Christ Life Worldwide—A Decade Design"
- Film: "Missions . . . Impossible?"
- "Yesterday and Tomorrow" — Winston Crawley, director, Overseas Division, Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Virginia
- Testimonies — Foreign Missionaries
- Solo: "Forward to Christ" — Sidney C. Reber, director, Management Services Division, Foreign Mission Board, Richmond
- "The High Cost of Living" — Jesse Fletcher, director, Missions Support Division, Foreign Mission Board, Richmond
- "The Christlife—Worldwide"
- Testimonies — Missionary Appointees
- "The Way Ahead" — Baker James Cauthen, executive secretary, Foreign Mission Board, Richmond
- Closing Meditation

MONDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 1

Convention Center Theater, 2:00 o'clock

- Worship in Music and Prayer — Claude H. Rhea, Jr., Birmingham
- Business
- Commemorating the 125th Anniversary of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board
- "The Christ Life—in the Homeland"
- Illustrated Dialogue: "The West That Was"
- Arthur B. Rutledge, executive secretary, Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, Atlanta, Georgia
- Albert McClellan, program planning secretary, Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, Nashville, Tennessee
- "The West: A World Witness for the Church"
- Wendell Belew, Atlanta, Georgia
- Dewey Hickey, Valentine, Nebraska
- LaVerne Inzer, Winnemucca, Nevada
- Tommy Grozier, Bellevue, Nebraska
- Roy Owen, Atlanta, Georgia
- "The World of the West: Global Witness of Churches"
- Don Kim, Los Angeles, California
- Benjamin Duque, Pueblo, Colorado
- Wilfred Chung, Sacramento, California
- Theo Patnaik, San Jose, California
- "The West: A Continuing Spiritual Frontier" — Kenneth L. Chafin, director, Evangelism Division, Home Mission Board, Atlanta
- "The Bigger Home Mission Frontier" — Arthur B. Rutledge, executive secretary, Home Mission Board, Atlanta
- Closing Meditation

vention sessions.

Mrs. Mathis explained that the hymn sing and testimony meeting will feature the convention's 125th anniversary. The audience and soloists will sing hymns that have been important through the convention's history, as well as contemporary favorites.

The hymn festival will begin at 2:30 p.m., Sunday, May 31. Schedule for the meeting was worked out jointly by the Woman's Missionary Union, Pastors' Con-

ference and SBC committee on order of business.

Other WMU sessions will be held Monday morning and afternoon June 1, at the Convention Center's theater. One session will spotlight home missions in the west and the other will be devoted to foreign missions, said Mrs. Mathis. Both will accent the historical, since the SBC Home and Foreign Mission Boards will also be observing their 125th anniversaries. (BP)

Evangelists

The fifteenth annual National Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists will meet, June 3, 12:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the Calvary Temple Church in Denver, Colorado. "Everyone interested



Massegee

"Everyone interested in great gospel singing and preaching is urged to attend" states Charles Massegee, president of the conference. There will be an instrumental concert from 12:30 to 1:00 and a sacred concert of gospel music from 1:00 to 2:00 featuring full-time evangelistic singers. Between 2:00 and 5:00 there will be inspirational preaching by Jack Taylor, Don Berry, John Tierney, Richard Hogue and Eddie Martin. Between each message special music will be brought by Steve Taylor, Jamall Badry, Martha Branum, Darcie Hodges and Bette Stalneckner.

The officers for the National Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists for this year are: Charles Massegee, president; Jerry Reimer, vice president; Don Womack, secretary; Joe Shaver, treasurer; Jimmy Hodges, music director; Darcie Hodges, assistant music director; and Jack Taylor, pastor-advisor. These men along with over 200 registered Southern Baptist Evangelists welcome you to their fifteenth annual conference.

Missions

Allen W. Graves and E. C. Watson have been named principal speakers for the annual Southern Baptist Convention Conference of Superintendents of Missions in Denver on June 1.

The meeting will be held at Riverside Baptist Church, preceding the annual sessions of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Paul D. Jackson, mission for the Polk County and Haralson Baptist Association surrounding Cedartown, Georgia, is president of the missionaries. He said Graves, administrative dean at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, will be keynote speaker.

Watson, consultant on associational administration for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board in Atlanta, will bring a major address, previewing helps for superintendents of missions coming from the SBC Home Mission Board.

Another feature will be a panel of associational missionaries, discussing specific problems in their work. "Fun time" around the dinner table will feature a magic routine by Leo Jenkins, pastor of Center Point Baptist Church

at Dalton, Georgia, and a former associational missionary.

Jackson said wives will be invited to the dinner meeting with their missionary husbands. Baptist philanthropist Warren P. Sewell of Bremen, Georgia, will host the dinner.

In addition to Jackson, other officers of the superintendents of missions are vice president George Gaskin of Denver; secretary James Joslin of Springfield, Missouri; and treasurer D. C. Presley of Capshaw, Alabama. (BP)

Education

The Southern Baptist Religious Education Association, scheduled in Denver on May 31-June 1 at the Brown Palace Hotel, will deal with the "Challenge of the Crisis of Change" as it relates to religious education in the church.

Detailed plans for the program were released by Russell Noel, minister of education for the First Baptist Church of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and president of the association, composed primarily of ministers of education for Southern Baptist churches.

As a departure from previous years, the Religious Education Association will begin its fifteenth annual sessions on Sunday afternoon and conclude them on Monday afternoon. The revised schedule was necessitated by plans to begin the Southern Baptist Convention's 125th anniversary sessions here on Monday evening rather than the traditional Tuesday night.

Major speakers for the Religious Education Association will be R. Lofton Hudson, director of the Midwest Christian Counseling Center, Kansas City, Missouri, and Campbell Wyckoff, professor of Christian education at Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, New Jersey.

Noel said that Hudson would speak three times on the general subject of the dynamics of change and Wyckoff, who is "perhaps the nation's outstanding authority on design and building of church curriculum," will address the group on "Understanding Your Church Curriculum."

The opening address will be delivered by Albert McClellan, program planning secretary for the Southern Baptist Convention executive committee, Nashville, on "1970's Challenge As I See It." McClellan and Hudson will engage in dialogue following their speeches.

W. L. House, director of the education division for the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, will explain how the SBC's 1970 curriculum, which includes extensive changes, was developed. Howse and Wyckoff will engage in dialogue following their addresses.

A Southern Baptist layman from Tulsa, Oklahoma, architect Joseph R. Coleman, will give a Baptist layman's

response to "the crisis of change." Hudson, who speaks again on psychological aspects of change, and Coleman will have open discussions with the conference participants.

Closing address for the conference is to be delivered by Gordon Clinard, pastor of the First Baptist Church, San Angelo, Texas.

All sessions will be held in Ballroom B of the Brown Palace Hotel. (BP)

SWBTS Luncheon

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary will hold its annual alumni luncheon at the world-famous Brown Palace Hotel immediately following the morning session of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 3, in Denver, Colorado.

The luncheon program will include speakers, entertainment and a special report by president Robert E. Naylor.

A limited number of tickets are now available since capacity in the Grand Ballroom is only 500.

Tickets are on sale for \$4.50. Checks should be made payable to Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and mailed to John Seelig, Box 22000-3E, Fort Worth, Texas 76122.

Music Conference

The Southern Baptist Church Music Conference, which traditionally meets just prior to the Southern Baptist Convention, will hold its sessions following the SBC this year.

The Church Music Conference will begin Friday morning, June 5, and conclude at noon Saturday, June 6, with sessions at First American Baptist Church of Denver, according to Bob Burroughs, president of the conference and minister of music, First Baptist Church, Abilene, Texas.

Program for the meeting will include a symposium, a dialogue session, panel discussions, four major addresses, a banquet and evening with a Negro composer and actor, eight different concerts and the world premiere of an anthem commissioned especially for the meeting.

Major speakers for the meeting will be Carlton Young, professor of music at Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, Dallas; Don Berry, president of the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference and pastor of Memorial Drive Baptist Church, Houston; Austin C. Lovelace, minister of music, Montview Presbyterian Church, Denver; and Burroughs, who will deliver the annual president's address.

Southern Luncheon

The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary will hold its annual alumni luncheon June 3 during the Southern Baptist Convention in Denver, Colorado.

The luncheon will begin at 1:00 p.m. in the New Albany Hotel, four blocks from the convention hall. Dean of the school of theology William E. Hull will be the featured speaker.

Carman Sharp of Louisville, president of the Kentucky Southern Seminary Alumni Association, has announced a special discount offer on luncheon tickets ordered in advance by mail. At the seminary booth in Denver, tickets will be \$4.00 each; but orders mailed by May 22 will be filled at \$3.50 per ticket. Checks made payable to Southern Seminary should be mailed to Alumni Luncheon, Southern Seminary, 2825 Lexington Road, Louisville, Kentucky 40206.

Orders postmarked after May 22 will be returned to sender unfilled.

Nursery

A child care center will be set up during the Southern Baptist Convention in Denver, Colorado, June 1-4, at the Riverside Baptist Church, the local arrangement committee for the conven-

tion has announced.

The church is located at 455 South Platte River Drive, about five miles by expressway from the Denver Convention Center where the Southern Baptist Convention will hold its 125th anniversary celebration.

Public transportation on a regular schedule is furnished by buses which run within one block of the church and one block of the Convention Center, according to Mrs. John D. Matthews of Denver, chairman of the nursery arrangements committee.

The center will be open Monday through Thursday, June 1-4, and will be limited to preschool children of out-of-town convention messengers only, said Mrs. Matthews.

A charge of \$1.50 per child per session will be made to care for expenses, she added. A child may be left in the morning and picked up following the afternoon session for a total charge of \$3.50, including a lunch costing 50 cents. (BP)

Parking

The local arrangements committee for the Southern Baptist Convention in Denver June 1-4, citing a critical shortage of economical downtown parking facilities, have set up a shuttle bus to

Meets After SBC

Following a banquet at the Cosmopolitan Hotel, headquarters hotel for the conference, on Friday evening the conference will return to the host church for "an evening with Jester Hairston," 80-year-old Negro composer and actor from Hollywood, who wrote the musical score for *Lilies of the Field* and several other motion pictures and television productions.

The opening Friday morning session will feature a composer's symposium discussing the objectives, philosophy and role of church music composers, with presentations of each participating composer's compositions by the host church's choir.

Composers participating in the symposium include Carlton Young of Southern Methodist University, Dallas; Eugene Butler, minister of music for First Methodist Church, Wichita, Kansas; and John Peterson, composer from Grand Rapids, Michigan.

A panel of Baptist musicians will discuss the topic, "Music In Evangelism—Where Are We," during the Friday afternoon session.

Two reports from staff members of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board will be brought — one dealing with copyright laws and another on

new church music materials being produced by Broadman Press.

Groups and individuals scheduled to present concerts at the conference include: the Chapel Choir and Orchestra, First Baptist Church, Beaumont, Texas; the Hardin-Simmons University Brass Choir, Abilene, Texas; Jamall Badry, evangelistic singer, Oklahoma City; the Church Choir, Central Baptist Church, Aurora, Colorado; the Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church Choir (Negro), Denver; the Wesleyan Bell Choir of First United Methodist Church, Baton Rouge, Louisiana; and the Southwest Baptist College Choir and Woodwind Ensemble, Bolivar, Missouri.

The conference will close at noon, Saturday, June 6, following presentation of an anthem commissioned and written especially for the 1970 SBC Church Music Conference. The anthem, entitled "Come Down O Love Divine," was written by Claude L. Bass, professor at Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee. It will be presented by the Southwest Baptist College Choir, directed by Don Sears of Bolivar, Missouri.

First American Baptist Church is located just across from the Colorado state Capitol and is seven blocks from the headquarters hotel. (BP)



the Mile High Stadium for those who drive their cars to the convention.

All-day parking at the stadium will cost 25 cents per day, provided cars are not moved. Reparking will cost an additional 25 cents, according to convention officials.

The shuttle bus will cost \$2.50 per person for the entire week of the convention, including as many trips to the stadium as needed. The shuttle bus cannot take money and every bus rider must have a pass, the committee pointed out.

Downtown parking for the convention became a problem after recent action by the Denver Downtown Parking Association limiting the number of all-day parking spaces. What few all-day parking places are available cost a minimum of \$1.10 per day or more.

Convention officials urged those who desire to use the shuttle bus to send check or money order for \$2.50 per person to the Denver Association of Southern Baptists, 405 South Platte River Drive, Denver, Colorado 80223. (BP)

Travel Aid

Food and lodging for travelers to and from the Southern Baptist Convention in Denver will be available at Glorieta Baptist Assembly, according to Mark Short, assembly manager.

For those who secure paid reservations in advance, travel insurance will be included without charge.

Texas Hall "A" will be open with rooms for two persons and private baths at \$5.00 a day for each room. The Hall of States will provide rooms for three persons and private baths at \$6.00 a day for each room. Thunderbird rooms for four to seven persons with private baths will rent for \$7.50 a day for each room. All linens will be provided, but meal prices are not included in the rate schedule. Food service will be available at a nominal cost. The rate schedule will be in effect from May 29 through June 7, 1970.

Reservations may be secured by writing to Convention, Box 8, Glorieta, New Mexico 87535. (BP)



SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By H. C. Chiles



(These Lessons for May 10, 1970)

LIFE AND WORK SERIES

A Faith That Asks Questions

Practically all that we know about Thomas, one of the Twelve, is revealed in the gospel of John. The three incidents, in which Thomas stood out as a clearly defined and vivid character, occurred within a few months prior to the death of Christ. In the passages in today's lesson we note three things about Thomas.

His courage John 11:16

With utter despair Thomas heard Christ's proposal to return to Judea. Ever looking on the dark side of things, he could not see how any good could come from the journey. Nevertheless, since his Lord was going to face death, he was willing to go along and die with Him. Because of his great love for Christ, Thomas courageously remarked to the other apostles, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." Thus he boldly declares his willingness to die with the Saviour rather than live without Him. His readiness to die, if need be, was a manifestation of real courage and loyalty.

His consolation John 14:5-6

The disciples were sorely troubled at the thought of separation from Him Whom they had learned to love so dearly. Our Lord's panacea for their sorrow had three elements: faith in Christ, the hope of heaven, and the hope of Christ's return. Christ comforted His disciples by saying that He was going to prepare a place for them and then come again and receive them unto Himself. When Thomas asked how they might know the way to follow Him, Christ answered, "I am the way, the truth and the life." Christ is the way from the guilt of sin, the wrath of God and the power of sin. He is also the way to the knowledge of God, into the presence of God, to the favor of God, to fellowship with Him and to heaven. No one will ever get to heaven unless he goes there through Jesus Christ.

His confession John 20:24-29

When the news reached the apostles that the women had seen Christ alive after His body had disappeared from the sepulcher, it was natural for them to assemble again in the upper room,

that place of hallowed memories. While they were assembled there in mourning, Christ came through the closed door and appeared to them as the living One. He uttered again the words, "Peace be unto thee." He then gave them a task to perform: "As my Father hath sent me, even so send I you."

Thomas was not present at that memorable meeting. He should have been there, but he was not. Believing that Christ had stood for a lost cause and that He was dead, Thomas had lost hope. He was not present because he did not expect Christ to be there. Doubtless he would have been present had he known the Lord would be there. Because of his absence Thomas missed the privilege of seeing Christ, the thrill of a great joy, the gift of peace, the commission to a great service and a fresh anointing of the Holy Spirit.

When the other apostles sought out

Thomas and informed him that they had seen Christ, Who had arisen from the dead, he refused to believe their testimony and demanded ocular proof saying: "Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe."

On the next Lord's Day Thomas was present with the other apostles. Christ appeared to them and reminded Thomas of his statement that he would not believe without positive proof, so He offered to permit him to inspect His wounds. When he did so, Thomas was convinced and immediately gave utterance to the brief but full and great confession, "My Lord and my God!" Although he had previously shown the strongest tendency to doubt and unbelief, with one leap Thomas came to the place of the very highest faith.

INTERNATIONAL SERIES

Sent Out By The Holy Spirit

This lesson tells us about the church at Antioch in Syria, whose members were subservient to the will of God and yielded to the leadership of the Holy Spirit, sending out Barnabas and Saul to preach the gospel to the Gentiles.

Acts 13:1-5

These missionaries were chosen, called, commissioned, energized and directed by the Holy Spirit to preach and do pioneer work among the unevangelized in distant places. Significantly, the members did not raise any questions, such as how their church could get along without their two ablest men. They were quite willing to give up their leaders to the missionary cause. God deserves the best from all His children.

Selected by the Holy Spirit, and set apart by the church, Barnabas and Saul went forth with courage and assurance of success under God's direction. They went without earthly weapons or protection from any public official, carrying only the "Sword of the Spirit" and an eagerness to tell the story of Christ's redeeming love.

When that ship, on which these heroic men were passengers, left the harbor at Seleucia, the gospel went to sea for the first time, and for the first time there was launched an organized effort to win men, other than Jews, to a saving knowledge of Christ. Led by the Spirit, they sailed to Cyprus, the island on which Barnabas formerly lived.

Acts 14:21-28

On their first missionary journey Barnabas and Saul faithfully witnessed for Christ, won many to accept Christ as their Saviour, established churches, encouraged the new Christians to grow in grace and knowledge and to assume places of leadership in their churches. They encouraged the ones who were chosen as leaders to commit themselves to the Lord and permit Him to work through them.

There were those who were so impressed with the works of the Holy Spirit through Barnabas and Saul that they were ready to offer sacrifices to them as an act of worship, but the missionaries indignantly restrained them.

They assured the deluded people that their mission was simply to rescue them and many others from the vanity of idolatry and turn their hearts to the living God.

As an example of the fickleness of human nature, enthusiasm soon gave place to resentment. Filled with malicious and Satanic hatred, the Jews who had caused the missionaries trouble in Iconium followed them to Lystra in the hope that they could cripple their influence and possibly incite their assassination. So fierce and relentless was their hatred that they incited a mob to stone Paul, which fact in itself provides a good example of the fickleness of popular favor. As Paul was being stoned, what memories of Stephen's death must have passed through his mind!

Thinking Paul was dead, they dragged his body out of the city like a dead beast. Had they left Paul's body within the city walls, the leaders of the mob would have become involved with the authorities in the city. Paul's disciples gathered around his prostrate and bleeding body and grieved over their apparently dead leader. God did not forsake Paul. In fact, He never forgets or forsakes His own. God miraculously enabled Paul to arise and to enter the city again, and on the next day they proceeded to Derbe. God still had work for Paul to do.

Their sojourn in Derbe was uneventful, but neither unpleasant nor unprofitable. Apparently without interference, they preached the gospel and taught the people with considerable success.

Instead of returning home by the shortest and easiest route, those two mighty men of God did not hesitate to return to the same cities where they had been shamefully treated. Realizing that starting something was only part of the job, he was anxious to keep the work going, to strengthen it and to give permanency to it. This is always vitally important in the work of our Lord. So, as they journeyed homeward, they encouraged their converts, exhorted them to steadfastness in the faith, assisted them in securing leaders for their churches, promised them abundant trials in their Christian lives, assured them persecution and suffering were often the lot of those who remained loyal to Christ, and warned them that they might even be called upon to seal their devotion to Christ with their blood. How we need the virtue and grace of a godly perseverance in our work for Christ today!

Upon the completion of their labors on that tour, the missionaries returned to the sponsoring church for fellowship and to report on what the Lord had done through them among the Gentiles.

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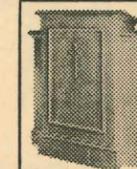


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Blessitt Schedules Frankfort, Lexington Rallies, Youth Night Nears

Frankfort and Lexington will be the scene of Blessitt Rallies Wednesday, May 6.

Arthur Blessitt, who will lead the Kentucky Baptist Youth Night May 9, will lead a "Walk for Jesus" in Frankfort Wednesday morning. The walk will begin at the old capitol in downtown Frankfort and climax with a rally on the lawn of the state capitol building.

Herman Bowers, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Frankfort, is coordinating the event.

Wednesday evening the youthful evangelist will speak at Calvary Baptist Church, Lexington. Franklin Owen is pastor of the Calvary church.

Also on the agenda for Blessitt is a return appearance on the WHAS radio talk show hosted by Milton Metz. Last spring during Blessitt's stay in Louisville, he appeared on the show answering questions of listeners who called.

Metz expressed interest in hosting Blessitt during his upcoming stay in Louisville. He is scheduled for Thursday evening, May 7.

Climaxing the week in Kentucky for Blessitt will be the statewide Youth Night at Freedom Hall May 9. An overflow crowd is expected to jam the Hall

as they did last year when the California based evangelist spoke.

A complete day's activities are scheduled for the young people coming from all parts of Kentucky.

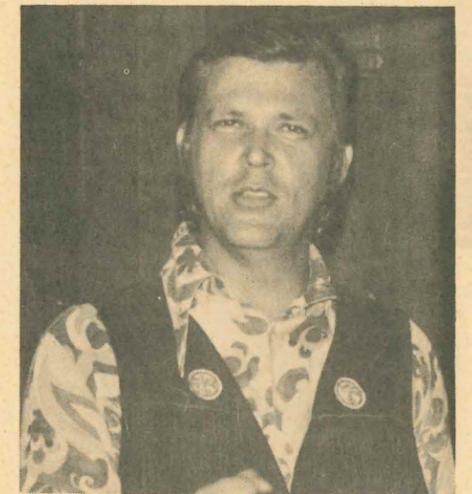
A "Walk for Jesus" will kick off the days activities at 12:00 noon. Participants will gather at the corner of Fourth Street and River Road for a march to Louisville's Central Park where an outdoor rally will be staged.

Marchers should assemble at least 15 minutes ahead of starting time for instructions about the "Walk."

Beginning at 4:30 that afternoon, Christian rock music groups will be playing at the State Fairgrounds. Young people will be able to listen to various groups, visit with friends and get a snack to eat before the rally starts at 6:00 p.m. E.D.T.

A 5,000 voice choir is hoped for. Eugene Quinn, state music secretary, is providing free copies of special music to be done by the mass choir. Those wishing to participate should learn the music before the rally and then be ready to rehearse at 4:30 p.m. in Freedom Hall.

Harold Sanders, executive secretary of the KBC, said the early starting time



Arthur Blessitt

was selected to allow those traveling from distant parts of the state to return home in time to rest before the Sunday services. A non-school night was chosen so no one would have to miss school to attend the event, he explained.

HOSPITAL CHARITY FUND

Mother's Day Offering Sunday - May 10

