

WR  
MAY 11, 1974

All men are like the wild  
grass, and all their glory is  
like its flower . . . .

. . . . the grass dies, and its  
flower falls off, but the word  
of the Lord remains forever.



## Senior Citizen Retreat Held

Senior citizens from across the state gathered at Cedarmore Baptist Assembly recently to participate in a time of Christian fellowship with others of their age and interests.

One hundred and eighty senior adults participated in the church training sponsored event. Fifty of those stayed at the assembly for the three-day retreat while the remainder commuted from their homes each day.

The adults were provided with opportunities for Bible study, fellowship, conferences and music while at the retreat.

H. C. Chiles, minister at large, First Baptist Church, Murray, led the senior adults in a study of the book of Philipians.

Several conferences concerning several topics were conducted. These were led by Miss Adele Carlson, senior adult consultant with the church training department, Baptist Sunday School Board; Curtis Erwin, pastor of Glasgow Baptist Church and chairman of the committee to study aging and Ken-

tucky Baptists; and Mrs. Pylant, a 74 year old senior citizen and first director of the Sunday School Board's department of recreation.

Music for the retreat was provided by John Carney, associate pastor, First Baptist Church, Benton, who served as music director. Mrs. Pat Cole, Louisville, played the piano.

Another Senior Adult Enrichment Conference will be sponsored by the WMU department on July 9-11 at Cedarmore.

The conference will feature Bible study, fellowship, recreation and club ideas.

A \$3.00 reservation fee should be sent to Cedarmore Baptist Assembly, Route 1, Bagdad, Kentucky 40003.

The following rates in Boone Lodge are per person per day, and include \$1.00 of the reservation fee, room, meals, and linens.

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Private room .....                      | \$13.50 |
| Double room (2 in room) .....           | 10.00   |
| Triple room (3 in 3 single beds)....    | 9.00    |
| 3 or 4 in room with 2 double beds ..... | 8.00    |

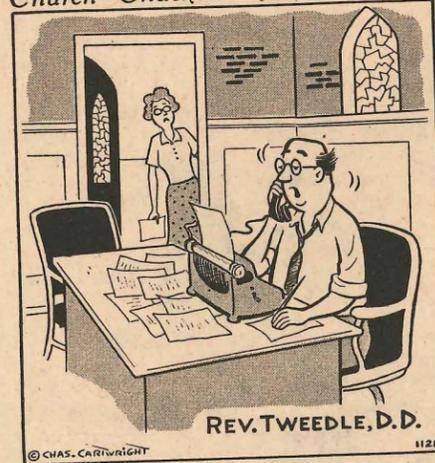
## Religious Signs Book Released For Work With Deaf Population

The Baptist Home Mission Board in Atlanta has recently published a new book for its program of work with the nation's growing deaf population. Called *A Manual of Religious Signs*, the book contains over 240 of the signs used most often in religious services.

The book provides a long felt need of the deaf and workers with the deaf, in that it gives some uniformity to the signs used in sign language communication for religious services.

In Kentucky work with the deaf is under the leadership of Joe Buckner, KBC missionary to the deaf. He may be contacted at Box 132, Danville 40422 or called at (606)-236-2276.

## Church Chuckles by CARTWRIGHT



"Yes, mama. All right, mama. I promise to get your okay on my Mother's Day sermon before Sunday."

## DEVOTIONAL



Wayne Dehoney  
Pastor, Walnut Street  
Church, Louisville

## In The Face Of Disaster

How does God relate to natural calamity such as the tornado? Where is God? Is he sort of an absentee landlord, watching from a far distant throne and indifferent to our sufferings?

No, I believe God is vitally involved. But we must understand the permissive will of God. A parent allows a baby to learn to walk by letting it fall. Of course, the parent does not push the baby down to cause it to fall. So God's permissive will allows things to happen but his will does not cause them to happen. Out of that which God allows to happen, God is able to bring good and produce growth for us.

So the Bible does not answer the question of why we suffer. But the Bible does tell us how God uses our sufferings for good.

Suffering is purposeful. What is God's purpose for every human being? You say, "God wants us to be happy." Oh, no! I suppose a cow chewing its cud in the field is happy. But God's purpose is not to make contented cud-chewing cows out of us all! God's purpose is to develop character that we may become more Christlike and live victoriously and triumphantly in this world and the next!

Suffering can be disciplinary. As the disciplines of exercise harden a football team, so God allows the exercises of suffering to make us to be strong.

Paul says to remember that suffering is only temporary. (II Corinthians 4:17) A "light affliction for the moment."

While the Bible does not give us an explanation of why tragedy happens, it does tell us of a presence and a power in life that can make us victorious.

Then, first, expect the tornadoes of life. They will come to all.

Second, accept the tornadoes of life as a part of the risks of living in a physical world. It is the price we pay to share in the blessings of this world, also.

Third, let God use every tornado to help us to grow.

Finally, in every calamity of life, let us see the hand of God outstretched toward us. □

## The Cooperative Program—

## The Baptist Life Support System

By Roy B. Wyatt  
Missionary, Colombia, South America

the border with Ecuador. It means that the food trays in the Baptist hospital in Barranquilla will be sent up from the kitchen to the patients, not just every now and then, but every day. Most of all it means that the missionary in South America and every other place in the world can make his plans and carry out his work without anxiety or concern that he may have to "pull out" after a few more months because his financial support from the States has "dried up."

Not only for those of us who serve overseas is this important, but indeed, I am grateful that my friends who work with the Home Mission Board and the seminaries of our convention can also rely on this life support system as they make their long range plans. The Cooperative Program has its faults, but it is a better plan by far than anything I have seen in more than twenty years of working in countries where missionaries of other denominations also serve.

Thus I am concerned when, upon visiting churches all across the States on this year of leave from South America, I see a few of them reducing the amount that they have been sending to the Cooperative Program. I am as aware of the problems of inflation and the need for additional staff members as any man could be. We have long had them both on the mission field. This is not a time to be alarmed, but it is time to check our planning procedure when the average of the total budget of some churches sent to the Cooperative Program has dropped as much as 5 percent in the past three years. Some churches have maintained the percentage and others have increased it, but

all across the country the total average of gifts to the Cooperative Program has fallen from 10.3% in 1967 to 8.54% in 1972 and the average continues to fall.

It is a proven fact that when a church family has a warm and genuine concern for all the world on its mind and heart, God will pour out blessings and joy upon that fellowship. There is no question as to what is most important: our local church program or the program of our denomination. Both are equally important. Both are our responsibility according to the specific commands of our Lord and the success or failure of one directly affects the work of the other.

This is a time for each individual Christian and the finance committee of every church to examine carefully what we are doing. The Cooperative Program is the "life support system" of Southern Baptist work in this country and around the world. If it is curtailed in any way, "emergency procedures" will have to be put into effect, similar to those we watched anxiously on the Apollo mission that had to be cut short. This we must never allow to happen! In this time of spiritual awakening and renewal in America let us all do everything we can to upgrade the work of our denomination through increased giving to the Cooperative Program. The results will be seen around the world and for all time. □

It has been amazing to see the interest that the people of South America have shown in the Apollo space missions. Whole pages in the newspapers have been given to explanations of the missions, the nature of the vehicles used and the biographies of the crew members. As I watched with some friends in Cali, Colombia, the splash-down of one of the missions, we discussed all that was involved in sending men to the dry, airless surface of the moon and making it possible for them to live there and return safely to earth. The life support system for the astronauts in itself is a remarkable achievement of science.

In a very real sense the Cooperative Program of Southern Baptists is the "life support system" of our work. It is a well planned and carried out method to do the work that no church or group of churches could do alone. How thankful I am for it as I see close friends who are missionaries of other groups living moments of real anxiety because of the uncertainty of their financial support.

The Cooperative Program does not mean simply dollars and cents to me. It means that the light will go on every week in the International Baptist Seminary in Cali, Colombia. It means that excellent Christian literature can be offered week after week to the knowledge-hungry people of South America. It means that I will be able to buy gasoline (when it is available) to visit a new mission point down near

Roy Wyatt is a former Kentucky pastor who is now teaching at Cumberland College during his furlough year from Colombia. He holds the ThD degree from Southern Seminary and served in Spain and Chile before accepting the post in Colombia.



## WESTERN RECORDER

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

KENTUCKY BAPTIST BUILDING MIDDLETOWN, KENTUCKY 40243

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C. R. DALEY, JR. Editor

BOB TERRY Associate Editor

PAUL WHITLER, JR. Business Manager

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*When It Rains It Pours*

It was bound to happen. In spite of our overtime and valiant efforts in the April 13 tornado destruction issue, we completely missed one church which was devastated and a pastor who must think he was born under the wrong sign or the devil is really after him.

The church is Union Baptist located a few miles from Cynthiana. This is one of the truly historic congregations in Kentucky dating back to 1802. It has a membership of about 275.

The pastor is Tom Shelton, the son of Green Valley Associational Superintendent, R. G. Shelton, the nephew of Kentucky Baptist Evangelism Director Hicks Shelton, the grandson of the late Tom Shelton, widely known pastor in western Kentucky. The line of Baptist preachers goes further back than Tom and so he is a descendant of one of the truly great Baptist families in Kentucky history.

Tom is a graduate of Campbellsville College and plans later to attend the seminary. While at Campbellsville he served as pastor at Middle Creek near Hodgenville and Acton Baptist Mission sponsored by the Campbellsville Baptist Church.

He visited Union Baptist Church on Sunday, March 31, in view of a call as pastor. On April 3 the sanctuary was demolished by a tornado along with the house trailer serving as the parsonage. In spite of all this the church called him on the Sunday following the tornado and he and his family have been com-

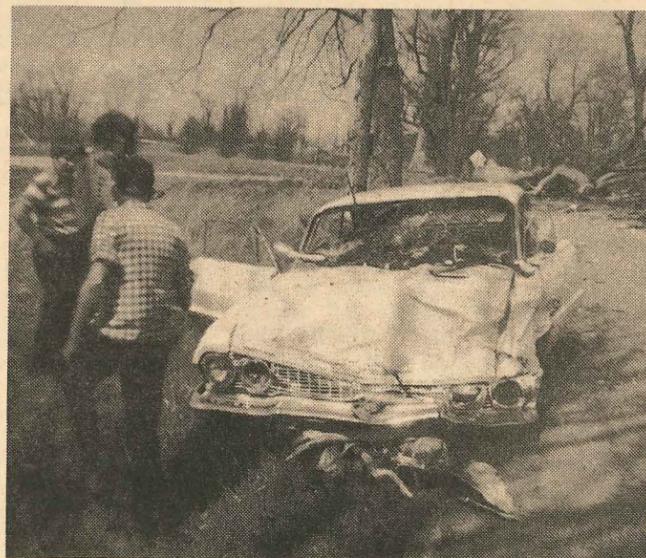
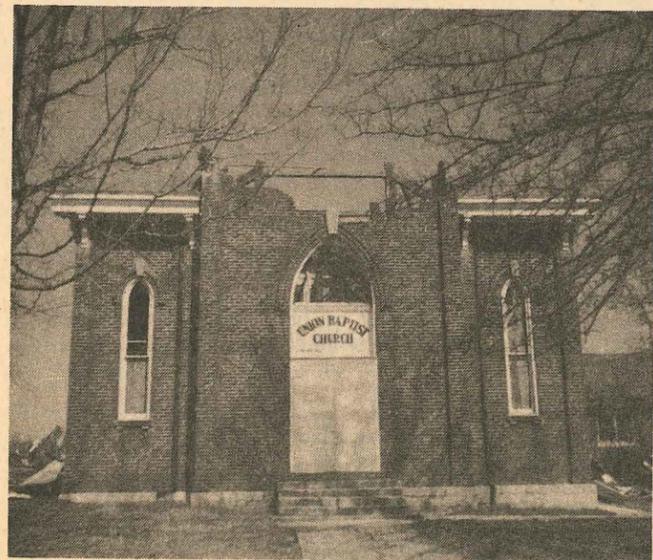
muting from Campbellsville to Cynthiana while in search of living quarters.

Now for the rest of the story. It was not enough that he was pastor of a church without a sanctuary and without a place for him to live. On Easter Sunday he with his wife and two children were driving from Cynthiana to Lexington for a hospital visit with the wife of the chairman of the Union Baptist deacons.

A brisk wind was blowing and a tree located on the side of the road fell just in front of his moving automobile. On the first bounce the tree hit the windshield and then on the top of the car resulting in total destruction of the automobile. He and his wife, Jo, were both wearing seat belts but they firmly believe they and their children were only saved from death or serious injuries by a miracle of God.

To be a pastor without a sanctuary in which to preach, without a parsonage in which to live and without an automobile in which to travel is pretty rough, especially to lose all three within a few days.

But Tom is a Shelton and Sheltons don't give up easily. We can pray for him, his family and the Union church with the assurance that we need not worry. The stuff from which both the church and the pastor are made guarantees they will turn tragedy into triumph with the help of the Lord. We can expect a more beautiful place to worship and a stronger pastor to minister.



*A Dangerous Trend In Mission Gifts*

In the area in what is considered promotion there is nothing this editor can write about with quite as much enthusiasm as the Cooperative Program. Though April 21 was officially observed as Cooperative Program Day, in reality every Sunday is Cooperative Program Day since part of our offerings every week go through this channel to take the gospel to all the world.

It's probably only coincidental that the same mail brought communications from Eldred Taylor and Mrs. Ray Mullendore, Kentucky members of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, and Roy Wyatt, missionary to Colombia, South America, emphasizing the Cooperative Program as the lifeline of our foreign mission ministry. It serves, however, to indicate how important those closest to our world mission thrust consider the Cooperative Program is and it also serves to stimulate another editorial emphasis upon it.

My mind goes back to a dramatic and exciting moment last February at the Southern Baptist Executive Committee in Nashville. George Bagley, executive secretary-treasurer of the Alabama Baptists, presented a check for \$1,000,000 from the Alabama Baptist Convention to Porter Routh, executive secretary-treasurer of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee. One million dollars from one state in one check! How wonderful!

But there is more to the story of the one million dollar check. It doesn't in any way depreciate the generosity of Alabama Baptists but it gives rise to another wonder. Of the one million dollars \$750,000 was the Lottie Moon special foreign mission offering and \$250,000 was the Cooperative Program offering from Alabama for one month. The wonder is what this might say for days ahead. Surely we realize that this doesn't mean Alabama Baptists designate to foreign missions three out of every four dollars they give for work beyond their state. The \$750,000 represented the major share of a once-a-year Lottie Moon foreign mission offering from Alabama Baptists.

The fact is, however, that the special mission offerings, particularly the Lottie Moon and Annie Arm-

strong offerings, have been promoted so vigorously in recent years that their success is being reflected in Cooperative Program giving. This is not intentional. I have never heard of any pastor recommending that gifts ordinarily going through the Cooperative Program be diverted to special mission offerings. The special offerings are always presented as a love expression over and beyond one's regular gifts.

At the same time Baptists are so goal oriented that a \$2,500 Lottie Moon goal promoted and presented with ever more ingenious methods and visual devices stands to minimize Cooperative Program giving no matter how unintentional. Let's face it. Most of us can get more excited about turning on all the Lottie Moon Christmas tree lights than raising the Cooperative Program one, two, three or five percent in the next year's budget.

It's not a case of either-or but a case of both-and. The problem is finding enough enthusiasm and creativity in presenting the Cooperative Program story as we do in the special mission offerings. Assuming that every Baptist knows the thrilling story of the Cooperative Program is a dangerous mistake. Even if every Baptist now were so informed, which is but fanciful dreaming, every generation of Baptists has to be taught. Even as the gospel has to be preached to every generation so has the method of sending the good news to all the world be presented to every new generation of Baptists.

The growth of special offerings in comparison with Cooperative Program gifts growth is not just a future concern. It is a present reality. Read Missionary Wyatt's article on page 3 of this issue for the facts. The percentage of mission giving through special offerings has grown in an amount about equal to the decline in percentage giving through the Cooperative Program. If this trend should continue we would soon be back where we were 50 years ago when the Cooperative Program came to our rescue. It would be every agency for itself and the devil take the hindmost. God forbid!

BAPTIST FORUM



DEFENDS JULIAN CARROLL

Dear Editor:

It was called to my attention your editorial in the *Western Recorder* entitled "The 1974 General Assembly One of the Poorest." I am very disappointed in this editorial. I feel that you have made Lieutenant Governor Julian Carroll guilty by association. You have

judged this fine Christian man very un-Christian like, I feel.

You stated in the editorial and I quote you "It is disappointing to realize that during the administration of a Governor who is a Baptist and a Lieutenant Governor who is a Presbyterian layman who often speaks in Baptist churches, there has been a serious ero-

sion in legislation dealing with moral issues and especially in relation to Sunday sales and control of alcoholic beverages." Kentucky government is so that it is the governor who plans and promotes and pushes legislation and the lieutenant governor has almost no power along this line. Also, I think you were very wrong in this part of your editorial and I quote, "And the Lieutenant Governor presides over the Senate and wheels a heavy hand, especially in the final days of the session. He generally is able to get out of committee for consideration what he wants and let what he doesn't want die in

(Continued on page 15)

# Southern Trustees Approve PhD

Trustees of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary have approved the offering of the doctor of philosophy (PhD) degree in action highlighting the board's annual meeting.

In other action, the trustees elected two new professors, promoted three and granted tenure to another, and established a new category for faculty members serving beyond normal retirement age.

Board members examined damage inflicted on the campus by the April 3 tornado, now estimated at about \$1 million, and expressed appreciation to the students, faculty and staff for their participation in relief efforts both on campus and in the surrounding community.

The faculty has studied the possibility of implementing a PhD since 1970. It had not been done earlier in order to provide for smooth introduction of the doctor of ministry (DMin) degree last year. The PhD program will be focused upon preparing students for teaching careers, whereas the DMin program is directed toward the students planning to work in the "practicing ministry" of the local church or denominational agencies.

The trustee ruling also allows any Southern Seminary graduate who holds the ThD degree to exchange it for the new PhD degree upon application to the seminary.

Two new faculty members were added by the trustees' action. Alan Culpepper, son of missions professor Hugo Culpepper, was formally elected as assistant professor of New Testament interpretation, a position he has held

under appointment since February. He has completed the PhD degree from Duke University.

G. Wade Rowatt, Jr., was elected assistant professor of psychology of religion, after serving during the current academic year as instructor in the department. A native of Illinois, Rowatt is in the final stages of his doctoral studies at the seminary.

The board granted tenure to assistant professor of New Testament interpretation John B. Polhill, who joined the faculty in 1969. Associate professors of church music, Philip Landgrave and Jay W. Wilkey, and associate professor of New Testament interpretation, Harold S. Songer, were promoted to full professors.

A new position of "senior professor" was created by the trustees to permit professors to continue teaching at the seminary beyond the normal retirement age of 65. At the seminary's initiative, individual faculty members annually may be asked to remain as senior professors to teach, but with more limited committee and administrative duties.

The first to be extended invitations under the new provision are Eric C. Rust, professor of Christian philosophy, and Charles A. McGlon, professor of speech. Each will assume appointment as senior professor in August, 1975.

Reelected as officers of the board were Douglas Aldrich of North Carolina, chairman; Richard Stephenson of Virginia, first vice-chairman; S. M. Batson of Louisiana, second vice-chairman; and James S. Tate of Louisville, secretary. (BP)



**GEORGETOWN VISIT** — The senior adults of Walnut Street Baptist Church and the minister to senior citizens, Gary Cook, recently conducted a day-long trip to Georgetown College. The day's schedule included a campus tour and an opportunity to recall the college of the past and introduce the college of the seventies. Other groups interested in spending a day on the campus are invited to contact Carl Fields, director of special programs, Georgetown College.

## Mother's Example



**FRANKLIN OWEN**  
Executive Secretary, Kentucky Baptist Convention

"Grant that these my two sons may sit, the one on thy right hand, and the other on thy left, in thy kingdom," (Matthew 20:21) begged the mother of the children of Zebedee. We think this is possibly Salome, the mother of James and John, and the sister of Mary, the mother of our Lord.

Despite a tendency for history to have had a critical viewpoint of this mother's request, we wish here to hold her up as example to mothers of every age, including our own.

Notice that she asked for nothing for herself. Her request was in behalf of her children. Modern mothers, and fathers, might ask themselves whether they most seek something for themselves or the welfare of their children. When children come, parents should abdicate much of their thrones of selfish desires and seek more primarily that which is best for the children. Much can be said of the demand for wisdom in discerning just what is best for the children.

The Bible mother has been accused of being ambitious. Let us look at her ambition. She longed to see her sons achieve whatever was to be their lives' accomplishments in the Kingdom of God. If anything is wrong with this ambition, then it certainly must be conceded that it was the finest realm for ambition to assert itself.

We modern parents need to examine our ambition for our children. What is it that we want for them? Money? Social prominence? Worldly fame? We commend to you this mother's ambition that her sons make whatever mark of achievement was to be theirs in kingdom pursuits.

Our example mother in the story wanted to see her sons close to our Lord, "one on thy right hand, the other on thy left." It would seem that a lot of modern parents want their children to be nominally Christians, but dread the possibility of their getting too close to Christ, too far committed, with the possible loss of worldly popularity and success. Some modern parents want their children to get a mild case of Christianity that won't affect their lives too deeply. Our Biblical mother gives a different example. She wanted them closely identified with Christ in every circumstance and in every way.

—Frank Owen

## People And Places

Two churches in the Boone's Creek Baptist Association report damage from the April 3 tornado to their buildings.

**Allansville Baptist Church** reports its building and parsonage were damaged by the winds. The congregation hopes to occupy the repaired sanctuary structure in 4-6 weeks.

**Mt. Olive Baptist Church** also suffered damage to their building by the tornado. The church roof was badly damaged and there was also water damage to the interior.

Friendship Baptist Church in the Boone's Creek Association ordained **Kenny Faught** to the gospel ministry recently. He is a student at Cumberland College and has been called to serve a church near Williamsburg.

Trinity Baptist Church, Lexington, ordained **Enrique Romero** and **Larry Gray** to the gospel ministry on Sunday, May 5. The ordination council was composed of all ordained men present.

Romero is a native of Havana, Cuba, and came to Kentucky from Miami, Florida. He has served as minister of music at the church since October, 1971.

Gray is a native of Beaver Dam, Kentucky, and will graduate from the University of Kentucky this spring. He has been minister of youth at Trinity Baptist Church since March, 1973. Bob W. Brown is pastor of the church.

**John L. Butler** has been named academic dean at Georgetown College. The Denver, Colorado, native is currently serving as academic vice president and dean, Sioux Falls College, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

An honor student and 1957 graduate of Ottawa University, he completed the master of science degree at the University of New Mexico and the PhD degree at Oklahoma State University.

Dr. and Mrs. Butler have three children and are active in the First Baptist Church of Sioux Falls. He has held various positions in his local church as well as on the state level.

Active in community affairs, Butler is a member of the Sioux Falls Downtown Rotary Club, Horseless Carriage Club of America, Sioux Falls United Way, Sioux Falls Family Service Board of Directors, and South Dakota

Medical and Educational Building Authority.

He will assume his new position at Georgetown College July 1.

**Ted C. Wigglesworth**, pastor of the Bethel Baptist Church, Frankfort, has been selected to appear in the 1974 edition of *Who's Who in Kentucky*. Wigglesworth has attended Georgetown College and Kentucky State University and is planning to enroll in Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville this fall.

Wigglesworth reports that the Bethel Baptist Church

### Wigglesworth

was the fastest growing Baptist congregation in Franklin County in 1973 with 117 additions, 57 of which were by baptism.

Wigglesworth is a native of Frankfort and was ordained by the First Baptist Church, Frankfort. He is married to the former Esther Barnes and the couple has five children.

**Forest F. Shely**, a Campbellsville physician, will be honored as Distinguished Alumnus during the commencement exercises at Campbellsville College on May 12.

A native of Lawrenceburg, Shely's contributions to the college, community, medical profession and Commonwealth of Kentucky will be highlighted at the graduation ceremony.

Subsequent to completion of the junior college program at Campbellsville in 1943, Shely attended Georgetown College, Washington and Jefferson University in Washington, Pennsylvania and Yale universities.

The **Christian Ministries Group** from Campbellsville College recently visited Nolynn Baptist Church where they served as Sunday School teachers and participated in the church worship service. The speaker for the morning service was Jerry Dyer from Elizabethtown, Danny Atwood served as song leader, Martha Pierce, Frankfort, played the piano, and Pat Ournel, North Vernon, Indiana, provided the special music.

Members of **Foster Avenue Baptist Church** held a celebration to honor their pastor, L. Foster Rose, on May 5. The day's activities also commemorated the 28th anniversary of the church.

**Delbert Pulliam**, a Sunday School teacher at Salem Baptist Church in Shelbyville since 1918, has been forced to discontinue his teaching because of failing eyesight. He began his teaching at the church after returning from World War I and has been elected by the congregation to serve as a Sunday School teacher every year since. In all those years, except one, he has taught in the adult department of the Sunday School. A. J. Hensley is pastor of the Shelby Association church.



**Pulliam**

**Highlands Baptist Church**, Lexington, used Sunday, April 21, for a noteburning ceremony. The educational annex, acquired by the church in 1962, has been paid for. Deacon chairman Jess Taylor held the note while it was set afire by Howard Burrus. During the actual noteburning the charter members of the church, which was constituted in 1957, stood as a group. W. M. Averett, who retired recently from the active pastorate, is serving as interim pastor for the Highlands congregation.

The **Kentucky Baptist Chorale**, a chorus of music ministers, will present a joint concert with the Harlan Boys Choir at Cumberland College in Williamsburg at 8:00 P.M. on May 13. Admission is free.

The program will include gospel music, choral and popular music.

**Hopewell Baptist Church**, Philpot, recently ordained three men to serve as deacons. They are Fred Marksberry, Robert Downing and Walter McPherson. Randall Jones, former pastor of the church, delivered the ordination sermon. Jimmie Gilmore is pastor of the church.

**Ira C. Prosser**, former Kentucky minister of music, will serve as music director at the conferences for annuitants to be held at Ridgecrest, North Carolina, Baptist Conference Center on May 13-18. This is the second consecutive year of the conference sponsored by the Southern Baptist Convention Annuity Board. The conference theme will be "Reflections."

**Russell Purdy**, a Baptist pastor for over 40 years, died May 4 in Worthington, Ohio. The brother of Harold J. Purdy, pastor of First Baptist Church, Madisonville, was buried at Columbus, Ohio.

# Southern Baptist Convention

## Issues Rise As Annual Meeting Nears

### Evangelism Commission To Be Proposed

The Southern Baptist Convention in Dallas in June is expected to be asked to give evangelism more exposure in denomination by creating a new Commission on Evangelism.

But Arthur Rutledge, executive director of the Home Mission Board (HMB), which now directs the convention's program of evangelism development, says a new name for the agency—possibly National Missions and Evangelism Board—would achieve the same purpose.

Frank Minton, pastor of Far Hills Baptist Church in Dayton, Ohio, plans to offer the motion at the Dallas convention to remove the program of evangelism development from the HMB and give it separate status as a commission.

Minton says his reason for seeking the new commission is to give evangelism greater exposure and a higher priority in the denomination. He said the recent restructuring of the HMB program implementation section, which includes the division of evangelism, makes it even more imperative.

The HMB directors recently approved a change that gave Fred B. Mosley exclusive duties as associate executive director and made Gerald Palmer director of the program implementation section, which includes the divisions of evangelism, missions, chaplaincy, associational services and church loans. Mosley previously served as both associate executive director and director of the program implementation section.

Minton contends that the addition of a separate program implementation section leader places the division of evangelism director, C. B. (Bill) Hogue, a step farther down in the planning and decision making process.

The name change alone, so it would get more exposure for the division, would not gain the result Minton is seeking, he said, in light of the new HMB structure. Minton suggested a separate evangelism section and a new name possibly would meet his demands but said his present plans are still to seek a new commission.

Establishment of a new agency must be approved by majority vote of messengers at two successive conventions. The Home Mission Board's proposed name change could be accomplished by a majority vote at one convention.

Rutledge says the Association of State Executive Secretaries recently asked that the word "home" in the board's title be changed to "national" to reflect that the convention is now a national body. National Missions and Evangelism Board would honor both requests, Rutledge says.

Regardless of whether a new name is chosen or a new commission formed or the emphasis remains as it is now, Rutledge says, evangelism will remain central to Home Mission Board efforts to cross barriers with the gospel.

He notes that the report of the Committee of 15 concluded "the Home Mission Board is basically a board of evangelism."

"When we state our purpose, our planning base," he says, "evangelism saturates it."

Rutledge says he certainly is not opposed to a study of the matter. "I am anxious to see the convention's evangelism program reach its maximum effectiveness," he says.

But he calls attention to the Committee of 15's conclusion that evangelism development can best be implemented in its present setting with the HMB.

"When the pluses and minuses of forming an Evangelism Commission are listed," Rutledge says, "it is not clear that a new commission would strengthen the evangelistic effectiveness of Southern Baptists. It would likely increase the exposure of the program, but it might also reduce the resources and produce a more limited base from which to lead. There is room to hold that such a move would weaken evangelism."

Minton first confronted the convention with the evangelism commission proposal in 1972, asking and winning approval in Philadelphia for the mat-

ter to be investigated by the Committee of 15, which studied all SBC agencies over the past four years. The committee recommended that the evangelism emphasis remain with the HMB.

Based on conversations with pastor friends and replies to letters he sent to 200 other pastors, Minton says he believes there is grassroots support for his motion.

About 30 replied they supported Minton's proposal. "That pretty well sums up that the local pastor wants it," he said. "He feels the need."

Commission status, such as that of the SBC Radio and Television Commission, Minton contends, would put evangelism in a better position for increased funding.

The Radio and Television Commission's 1973-74 budget is \$1,581,000 but budgets for commissions such as the Brotherhood, Christian Life, Stewardship, Education and Historical Commissions aren't even near half of the division of evangelism's \$997,000 annual budget.

Minton will suggest the new commission receive that portion of Cooperative Program unified budget and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering funds now budgeted for the evangelism division.

Former director of the division of evangelism, Kenneth Chafin, said he had recommended to the Committee of 15 that evangelism remain with the Home Mission Board. (BP)



**NEW PRESIDENT** — Owen Cooper, Mississippi layman industrialist, has served as president of the Southern Baptist Convention since his election in Philadelphia during the 1972 convention. Having served two one-year terms of office he is ineligible for reelection this year in Dallas. Messengers will elect a new president on Tuesday afternoon, June 11. Who will succeed Cooper as president of the largest Baptist convention in the world?

## Lively Discussions Face SBC

Although the annual Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Dallas, June 11-13, is expected to experience no major eruptions, messengers to the sessions can look forward to some lively discussion on an issue or two.

SBC Bylaw 7 will be under scrutiny twice. (See Christian Life Commission story, this page.) The SBC's Executive Committee will also recommend its amendment to "provide a more precise definition of the 'ordained' and 'layman' provision..."

Presently, the bylaw states that "all convention committees, boards and commissions shall include both ordained and lay persons as members..."

### Amendment Alteration

The proposed amendment would alter "ordained" to read "pastors or other full-time church or denominational employees" and "lay persons" to read "those who are not pastors or full-time church or denominational employees."

Purpose of the recommendation, explains Porter Routh, executive secretary-treasurer of the Executive Com-

mittee, "is to more carefully preserve the viewpoint of the persons who sit in the pew when naming trustees to our convention agency boards."

Routh said that pastors and full-time religious workers, whether ordained or not, would tend to have the same perspective on issues. And he said, "you might have a person who was ordained early in life but had left the pastorate and spent 20 years in secular work. That person would tend to look at things more from the standpoint of a layman," Routh said, "and should be categorized as such when under consideration for election to a board of trustees."

One, and probably two, recommendations which emanated from the Executive Committee's Committee of 15 study group will face convention messengers.

### Exec. Committee Study

One involves authorizing the convention's new president to appoint a seven-person committee to study the Executive Committee in the same manner the Committee of 15 studied the convention agencies.

(Continued on page 11)



Everything ship-shape is expected of the Dallas Convention Center June 11-13 when 17,000 are expected to register there for the Southern Baptist Convention. Charles Vanderslice (right), a Dallas Baptist pastor, admonishes his brother, W. W. Vanderslice, director of the Dallas Convention Center.

### IN DALLAS —

## Christian Life To Offer Four Recommendations

The Christian Life Commission will present four recommendations at the Southern Baptist Convention in Dallas focusing on freedom for women, race relations, integrity in government and economic life.

The Commission's recommendations will call for specific actions from messengers, rather than resolutions or a report to be received.

Part of the recommendation on women calls for the convention to amend its Bylaw 7 to "move toward more equitable representation" by stipulating that women make up one-fifth of the total elected members of SBC boards, agencies and committees by no later than 1980.

The Christian Life Commission recommendation on women also urges Baptists to "reaffirm our commitment to the Bible's teaching that every individual has infinite worth and that, in Christ, there is neither male nor female, and that we endeavor to communicate these basic truths through Christian education, by precept and example in church and at home."

The recommendation states further "that we work to develop greater sensitivity to both overt and covert discrimination against women... and that our churches and our denominational

agencies bear witness to the rest of society by rejecting discrimination against women in job placement, by providing equal pay for equal work and by electing women to positions of leadership for which God's gifts and the Holy Spirit's calling equip them."

On race relations the Commission calls for Southern Baptist agencies to "seek within their program assignments and employment practices to communicate the conviction that racism is theologically untenable, politically destructive and fatally dehumanizing..."

It further urges that Baptists "work earnestly for racial justice in public education, employment, health care, housing, consumer concerns and citizen participation in the political process," and that "we renew efforts toward cooperation between those who differ racially, ethnically or culturally..."

The commission defines integrity in government as an overarching commitment to fundamental moral principles where honesty is the policy in political practice, where words are consistent with the deeds of government leaders, where ends are not used as an excuse to justify means, and where officials are sensitive to the difference between necessary political concessions and dis-

astrous moral compromise. Part of the recommendation for integrity in government urges Baptists to "call upon public officials at all levels of government to follow the spirit as well as the letter of the law..."

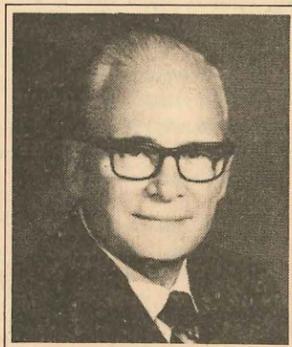
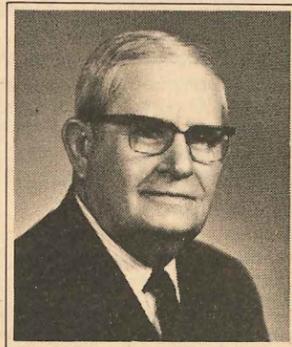
The recommendation further states that "legal procedures be scrupulously followed in assessing guilt and removing from office those judged guilty."

Besides recommendations on women, integrity in government and race relations the Christian Life Commission also speaks out on economic life, recommending that Baptists "encourage those in places of authority to discover and disseminate the full facts regarding the current energy crisis..." and "that we work to bring about economic justice in our nation by supporting the major reforms in taxation which will close loopholes favorable to the rich and remove unnecessary heavy demands upon the poor and the near-poor."

The economic recommendation also calls for turning "from our wasteful ways to embrace an alternative lifestyle, more moderate in its specific energy demands and more Christian in its concern for the welfare of others now living and of generations yet unborn."

YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW

# Grey, Hobbs, Pollard to give post retirement reaction to Annuity Board Ministry at SBC on June 13



YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW assumes a special personal dimension when the Southern Baptist Convention comes to Dallas, home of the Annuity Board. As part of our presentation, we're taking YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW to the Convention platform at 3:25 p.m., Thursday, June 13.

A special feature will include the appearance of three former SBC presidents, who all retired in the same year. J. D. Grey, Herschel Hobbs and Ramsey Pollard (pictured above left to right) will join me in talking about our ministry. The occasion will be mostly theirs, and yours. These former SBC presidents are in an ideal position to answer your questions about pre-retirement participation in our

plans, and about post retirement reaction as annuitants.

Maybe you have a question you'd like them to answer. Leave your questions any time through



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Wednesday at the Annuity Board booth in the exhibit hall.

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Also, we hope you visit our offices in the 511 North Akard Building, just a brisk walk from the Convention Hall and all major downtown hotels.

## Lively Discussions (Continued from page 9)

Last February, the Executive Committee modified a Committee of 15 request for a two-year SBC "strategy" review of total convention missions efforts by appointing a nine-person committee to work out a recommendation to challenge Southern Baptists in missionary support for the next quarter-century.

That report, if approved at the Executive Committee's June 10 meeting in Dallas, will be presented to the SBC meeting for action later in the week.

Three other of the Committee of 15's recommendations, not acted on in February, will also be considered by the Executive Committee on June 10.

They are: (1) to allow the Southern Baptist Foundation to advertise its services in SBC periodicals, (2) to endorse another major organizational structure study of SBC agencies around 1980, (3) to discharge the Committee of 15, which completed a four-year study of convention structure in February.

Ratification of Executive Committee action on these points may or may not be asked for at the SBC meeting later in the week, depending on what action the committee takes.

### Boyce Bible School

In other action, trustees of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, will ask messengers to approve establishment of a Ministry Training Center, to be called the Boyce Bible School, to operate within the seminary's charter as a non-degree school for pastors with little or no seminary training.

The proposal, already approved by the Executive Committee, would operate within the seminary's regular budget and expand its existing non-degree program.

Other items for action include Executive Committee recommendations that the convention change program state-

ments of the Home and Foreign Mission Boards to allow the Home Mission Board to transfer its work in Panama to the Foreign Mission Board, that approval be granted for a change in the Sunday School Board's formula for contribution to the convention operating budget and that Bylaw 8 be amended to add a representative of Woman's Missionary Union to the convention's Public Affairs Committee.

### Record Budget

Messengers will also be asked to approve a 1974-75 Cooperative Program unified budget of \$40 million, including \$36 million operating budget for SBC agencies, \$3 million "challenge budget" and \$1 million capital needs budget.

Also up for approval will be a \$715,000 convention operating budget, which includes the budget of the SBC Executive Committee with offices in Nashville, expenses for the annual SBC meeting, special committee expenses, legal and auditing fees and contributions to the Baptist World Alliance and Religion in American Life.

### Stewardship Impact

The Executive Committee will recommend that messengers endorse the launching of a long-range planning program for the Southern Baptist impact in the 1980s and develop plans in 1974 for a Declaration of Cooperation to challenge Southern Baptist churches, through their state conventions, to make a commitment of \$150 million through the Cooperative Program for 1975, with the anticipation these funds will be received in 1976. The SBC Stewardship Commission would implement the program, if approved.

A new convention president will be elected to succeed Owen Cooper, a layman from Yazoo City, Mississippi, who is not eligible for reelection since he is completing his second year in that office. (BP)

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"Train up a child  
in the way  
he should go,  
and when he is old  
he will not depart  
from it."

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great Commonwealth  
where Georgetown graduates  
are teaching  
by precept and example.

## Arts Festival Set

The Highland Baptist Church, Louisville, is conducting an Arts Festival during the month of May. The activity under the title, ArtSpring, will be a kaleidoscope of experiences and opportunities to express our faith and to more deeply appreciate and understand the Christian faith, according to pastor Donald J. Burke.

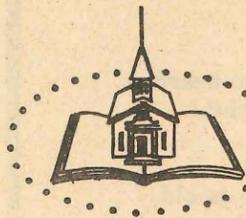
The unique activity is to involve artists of various fields and talents on each Wednesday and Sunday in May. Each week will have a special theme: the first week, Joy; second week, Love; third week, Beauty; and fourth week, Celebrate.

The Arts Festival will be climaxed May 26 at 6 p.m. with the premiere presentation of "The Day of the Lord" by the adult choir. Words for the new composition have been written by Wade Hall and the music by Al Washburn. Hall is a former Kentucky Southern faculty member who now teaches at Bellarmine-Ursuline College and Washburn is the Highland Baptist music minister.

Those interested are cordially invited to join Highland Baptist for the May Arts Festival.



VBS OFFERING — Southern Baptist missionary Marvin R. Reynolds, right, chairman of the Baptist Mission of Botswana, presents a check to help with Baptist work in Botswana. The \$802.85, sent to Reynolds by the Sunday School department of the Nigerian Baptist Convention, is the missions' offerings from Vacation Bible Schools in Nigeria.



## SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By H. C. Chiles

(These Lessons for May 19, 1974)



LIFE AND WORK SERIES

### Facing Trouble And Temptation

James 1:2-15

This letter was written by James to his fellow countrymen and fellow Christians who were scattered in various parts of the world outside of Palestine. Sorely afflicted by poverty and greatly distressed because of the oppression which followed their dispersion, these believers were in great need of instruction and encouragement, so James reminded them that God's care of His own is constant and never-failing.

Very likely James startled his readers when he bade them to rejoice because they were hedged in by various trials. He sought to encourage them by pointing out the fact that satanic onslaught is a sure sign of spiritual activity. He taught that Christians are to meet their trials joyfully because of their beneficial results.

Trials discipline a child of God and aid him greatly in the development of his Christian character. Misfortunes and adversities test the reality and the strength of the Christian's faith. The endurance of trials often results in the full surrender of the believer to the perfect will of God.

James emphasized the need of wisdom. One may have an abundance of what is called knowledge and yet be sadly deficient in wisdom. God is the source of true wisdom and the means by which we obtain it from Him is through asking Him for it in genuine faith. To "ask in faith" means to expect to receive. We must never doubt God's ability or willingness to give us wisdom. He has an unlimited supply of wisdom, and He is very desirous of imparting it to His children. His liberality in giving us wisdom is the absolute guarantee that the needed supply will be provided when it is desired, requested, and expected.

Both the poor and the rich are sharers in affliction. Frequently the poor, or those who are shunned by society, think the rich are free from all trials, but such is not the case. Those who are rich are brought face to face with the fact that earthly possessions mean nothing so far as eternal salvation is concerned. Wealth has a tendency to make man self-sufficient, but we must never forget that "our sufficiency is of God." Christianity has a great leveling

effect. It causes the poor and humble to rejoice in that they are exalted, and it causes the rich and proud brethren to forsake their self-trust and rejoice that they are brought low.

Non-Christians do not know anything about the peace, love, and joy that thrills the hearts of the faithful Christians whom the Lord enables to rejoice when they encounter trials or are in the midst of them, knowing full well that they help to strengthen them. "The crown of life" awaits the Christians who endure trials for Christ's sake.

A danger that sometimes arises out of trials is the tendency to accuse God of tempting one to sin. By temptation is meant the solicitation to sin. Let it be understood once for all that temptations do not come from God. He has never enticed anybody to sin. To tempt a person to sin is contrary to the very nature of God, because He hates sin, and therefore does not have any desire to get anyone to do wrong. Nobody has any right to think or to say that God is the author of sin.

INTERNATIONAL SERIES

### Bold Witness Provokes Controversy

Proceeding to Jerusalem  
Acts 21:10-14

While Paul and his associates were sojourning in Caesarea, a prophet whose name was Agabus came from Judea, entered the presence of a group of Christians, took Paul's girdle, which was a long and narrow strip of cloth wound around his waist to hold his clothing in place, and bound himself hand and foot. In doing so Agabus implied that in Jerusalem the Jews would bind Paul, the owner of the girdle, and turn him over to the Gentiles. Agabus, the members of Paul's party, and the Christians in Caesarea were united in the opinion that Paul should stay away from Jerusalem and thereby lengthen his life and extend his ministry.

Paul informed his fellow Christians that they were grieving him deeply by their concerted efforts to keep him from doing the will of God.

Satan is the one who tempts us to sin. One of his most effective allies is sinful human nature. Many temptations spring from our own human desires. Satan brings numerous allurements before our eyes and tries to entice us to sin, but that is all that he can do. He cannot compel us to sin. Satan frequently sends trials and troubles upon people who are loyal to Christ. The solicitation to do wrong often stimulates the desire, but the responsibility for doing that which is evil most assuredly rests upon the individual who yields and sins against God, against others, and against himself. Because this is true, you should not attempt to lay the blame for your sins on Satan, on others, or on God, but you should place it where it actually belongs, and that is on yourself. And you should ever remember that you must render an account for your deeds, whether they be good or evil. You are free to choose the evil or the good, and it is your choice of the former that constitutes sin.

The Holy Spirit had warned him, not in order to deter him, but to prepare him for what he would be called upon to endure or experience. He declared that they were intensifying his suffering without lessening the danger which he faced or changing his purpose in the least. He was convinced of the Lord's will for him, and nothing could cause him to swerve therefrom. Paul deemed it a privilege, rather than a hardship, to suffer for the cause of Christ.

Paul was ready to be imprisoned, and even to die, if need be, for Christ's sake. He did not necessarily covet martyrdom, but, because of his commitment to Christ, he was ready to die if by doing so he could accomplish more for his Lord.

When it became obvious to them that they could not persuade Paul not to go to Jerusalem, they ceased their at-

tempt to dissuade him, they remarked, "The will of the Lord be done," and they accompanied him.

Experiences in Jerusalem  
Acts 21:17-24

Upon his arrival in Jerusalem, Paul received a cordial welcome from the Christians, and they must have enjoyed a blessed reunion. On the next day, in a more formal meeting with James and other officials of the church, Paul proceeded to give a detailed account of the wonderful things that God had done through him and his associates during the time when they were ministering to the Gentiles. Strong emphasis was placed on the favorable response of many Gentiles to the gospel of Christ. His report was well received by the church leaders. They rejoiced with Paul over the Lord's blessings upon his ministry, and they readily gave the glory to God for all that had been accomplished.

The leaders in the church at Jerusalem then informed Paul that during his absence from the city false rumors about him and his message had spread widely. He was accused of teaching the Jews in Gentile countries to forsake the law of Moses, to stop circumcising their children, and to discontinue the observance of the Jewish customs. Such false rumors had caused many Jewish Christians in Jerusalem to be highly prejudiced against Paul. Paul had been warned of the bitter opposition that he would encounter in Jerusalem, but he had not expected to find it within the membership of the church. The Jewish church members were as fanatical in demanding adherence to the requirements of the Mosaic law as they were before they had made their profession of faith in Christ. They were not willing for their traditions to conform to the will of God. People today are quick to demand that others comply with their traditions, but they are not willing to make their traditions comply with the Word and will of God.

As a possible means of solving the problem with which they were confronted, James and the elders of the church suggested that Paul take part in a Jewish purification ceremony of four men who had taken a temporary Nazarite vow of separation unto the Lord, and that he pay the fee incident thereto for them. It was the opinion of those making the suggestion that if Paul would comply with their recommendation that he would thereby prove to the Jewish Christians that he was upholding the law and observing the customs of the Jewish people. Since a compromise of convictions was not involved, but in order to help create a more conciliatory attitude on the part of the Jews toward the Gentiles, Paul agreed to the suggestion. But his effort at conciliation was unsuccessful.

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# C'ville College To Honor Cooper, Aldridge

Campbellsville College commencement weekend will bring speakers from Mississippi and Texas and honor a Kentuckian at the annual exercises to be held May 11 and 12.

D. M. Aldridge, president of Clear Creek Baptist School, Pineville, will be awarded the doctor of divinity degree during the exercises on May 12.

A native of Illinois, Aldridge graduated from Southern Illinois University, Southern Baptist Seminary of San Jose, Costa Rica, and the University of Kentucky.

After serving on the faculty of Clear Creek from 1947-1951, Aldridge was appointed president of Magoffin Baptist Institute for three years before returning to Clear Creek as president in 1954.

Owen Cooper, Mississippi industrialist and layman president of the Southern Baptist Convention, will deliver the commencement address to the 1974 graduating class at 3:00 P.M., Sunday, May 12 in the Athletic Center. He will then be awarded the honorary degree of doctor of laws from the college.

James F. Eaves, professor of evangelism at Southwestern Baptist Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, will deliver the baccalaureate message on Saturday evening at 8:00 P.M., May 11.

Cooper earned the bachelor of science degree from Mississippi State College

and the MA degree at the University of Mississippi. In 1960 Mississippi College conferred the doctor of law degree upon him.

Eaves, a Tennessee native, earned the bachelor of arts degree from Union

University in Tennessee and the BD and ThD degree from Southwestern Seminary. Prior to accepting his present position in 1973 he served as pastor of several churches in New Mexico, Tennessee and Texas.

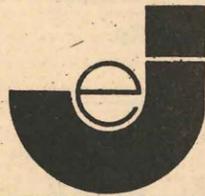


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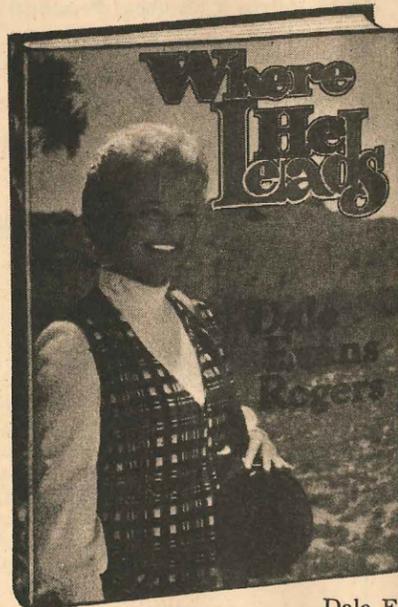
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(Continued from page 5)

committee." This also is a very erroneous statement. It is the Governor who gets out of committees what he wants out and not the Lieutenant Governor.

And then another one of your quotations and I quote, "One of the best sounding but most deceptive ideas championed especially by Lieutenant Governor Carroll is called 'home rule'." I presume that what you are talking about here is about the House Bill 456. Delbert Butts, who is a friend of mine, told me about Julian recognizing Senator Tom Garrett instead of Senator Huff when Senator Huff wanted to make the motion to keep this bill from being brought back up in this legislator that day it had been defeated. I talked with my very good friend, Lieutenant Governor Carroll, about this and he told me that the rule of the Senate was that you had to recognize the floor leader who is Senator Garrett whenever he got on the floor and this is why he recognized Senator Garrett instead of Senator Huff. I have written Mr. Butts asking him to make this mistaken statement of his clear to those to whom he has told it. Also, Julian Carroll told me that if this Senator had not changed his vote that he would have voted against allowing the Sunday sales bill to pass. And I believe Julian Carroll to be a man of his word.

In your last paragraph of your editorial you were talking about Lieutenant Governor Carroll championing "home rule" which of course he does, but I think you have been very unfair to him in your editorial. I would hope that you would carefully and prayerfully consider the editorial and talk with other people and see if you have not made a mistake that needs to be corrected in another editorial in the *Western Recorder*. If you feel like that what you have said is o.k., then I would appreciate you taking the time to write me and tell me this.

I do not say that Julian Carroll is a perfect man as of course none of us are, but I do think he is trying to live for Jesus Christ in his position. I feel like that he is by far the best qualified man to be our next governor but even more than this I feel like he will try to con-

tinue to live for Jesus Christ as Governor.

I do appreciate your willingness to take a stand as you have in this editorial. It would have been safer if you had stayed with "God is good" and "God loves everybody" and this type of writing which so many editors do. So I do congratulate you and I am sure that what you wrote you meant to be for the best of all concerned. I am sure you wrote it out of love and not out of hate. I feel like you are wrong and this is the reason why I have written you this letter.

Sacramento, Ky. John Lovelace

### LONELY, HARD TIME

Dear Editor:

Presently I am incarcerated at Southern Ohio Correctional Facility. I am doing some pretty hard and lonely time. You see when I was sentenced I lost all communication with the outside world including family.

Each and every day the guard passes my cell with no mail for me. I wonder if there are people in the world who care.

If you could feel, if you had insight to see how a man passes each day in loneliness with never a "hello" from the outside world. Sir, is this really a purpose for a man to sit in prison in idleness?

I love people. I am hoping you will print a plea for me in your newspaper for pen pals who want to write a person in prison.

I am 6 foot, 170 pounds, have brown hair and brown eyes. My age is 25. My interest in here is reading, studying, church and sports. I have so much idle time, I am lonely.

With your help I could correspond with the outside world and put a little more meaning in this lonely and idle time I am presently doing.

Thank you for your time in reading and considering my situation either way.

William Vargas 137722  
P.O. Box 787  
Lucasville, Ohio 45648

### COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

Dear Editor:

A word of commendation and thanksgiving for the Cooperative Program is in order. Cooperative Program Day, April 21, focused our attention on the world-wide scope of Southern Baptist mission work and reminded us again that this marvelous method of cooperative support is the true life-line to our missionary enterprise around the world.

Members of the Foreign Mission Board and Southern Baptist missionaries who serve in 77 countries are keenly aware of the importance of the Cooperative Program. This plan of giving supplies about one-half of the Foreign Mission Board's annual budget each year. The 1974 budget is \$42,425,284. Southern Baptist foreign missions would be crippled beyond description if it were not for this steady support from our churches.

Out of an awareness of how important the Cooperative Program is to the foreign mission work of our Convention, we want to thank Kentucky Baptists for their faithful and liberal support of foreign missions through the Cooperative Program.

Eldred M. Taylor and  
Mrs. Ray Mullendore  
Kentucky Members of the  
Foreign Mission Board

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## Day Of Prayer Still Planned

Observance of April 30 as a national day of prayer will not affect the North American Baptist Fellowship's designation of June 1 for "thanksgiving, penitence and prayer."

Newspapers estimated that thousands of churches throughout the United States observed the April 30 date proposed in a Senate resolution introduced by Senator Mark Hatfield of Oregon.

"One emphasis does not displace the other," said Sloan S. Hodges, chairman of the North American Baptist Fellowship (NABF). "In fact," he said, "the Bible says we ought always to pray."

The June 1 date was chosen by the NABF, a committee of the Baptist World Alliance, because it is the 200th anniversary of a prayer meeting held by members of the Virginia House of Burgesses, a significant event in the prelude to American independence.

Carl W. Tiller, secretary of the NABF, observed that some "have raised questions about the idea of a day of prayer following so closely upon the highly publicized April 30 observance." He went on to say:

"Although churches in many places observed a day of prayer on April 30, thinking it was to be a national ob-

servance, they were misled about the government's role. Congress never passed a resolution on the April 30 date; the Senate did, but it was pigeonholed by the House of Representatives.

"On the other hand, some of our people hold fast to the view that religious observances are properly decided by religious bodies, not by the government. Whether or not our churches held an observance on April 30, we hope that they will join in this religiously motivated call for prayer on June 1."

Seven major Baptist bodies in the United States are included in the U.S. section of the NABF which issued the June 1 call to prayer. They are American Baptist Churches in the USA, General Association of General Baptists, National Baptist Convention of America, North American Baptist General Conference, Progressive National Baptist Convention, Seventh Day Baptist General Conference and the Southern Baptist Convention.

The seven U.S. bodies comprise about 18 million of 29 million Baptists in the United States. Hodges said he hoped that all Baptists in the nation, whether or not they are in NABF, will join in the day of prayer. (BP)



**POWERLINE LISTENER** — Cindy Harris, a Fort Worth, Texas, high school senior, is one of the thousands of teenagers who listen to "Powerline" on 749 radio stations across the country. The combination of top 40 music, plus a strong Christian message and a frank discussion of teenage problems make "Powerline" a meaningful ministry of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission. Pray for the commission's work when your church observes Baptist Radio and Television Sunday, May 19.

## Fifth Hospital Added To Baptist Network In Kentucky

Baptist Hospitals, Incorporated, has added a fifth hospital to its statewide network of care giving institutions. The new addition is Mallory-Taylor Memorial Hospital in LaGrange.

The 31-bed facility has been in financial trouble during past years and its board of directors had threatened to close the hospital.

The Baptist Hospitals, Inc., offer to take over operations of the Mallory Taylor Hospital was approved recently by Oldham County Circuit Judge George F. Williamson. The decision still must be ratified by the Falls Region Health Council and the state Comprehensive Health Planning Council and Certificate of Need and Licensure Board.

Under the plan approved by Judge Williamson, the hospital will be directed by an eight-man functionary committee to oversee the day-to-day operation of the facility. The committee includes one member from the Baptist Hospitals, Incorporated, board of directors, three members from the administrative committee of Kentucky Baptist Hospitals, and three persons from Oldham County.

The new facility will be known as the Mallory-Taylor division of Louisville Baptist Hospitals.

## Alumnus Thanks Students For Assistance After Tornado

In today's world when so much negative criticism seems to abound it is always pleasing to hear of a positive opinion or even more-so heartfelt thanks that comes unexpectedly.

Robert Mills, president of Georgetown College, recently received a note of appreciation from a Georgetown alumnus.

It seems that Lynda Sherrard, a 1973 graduate in the master's program at Georgetown College, wanted to express her thanks to Georgetown College and its students after the help they offered to recent tornado victims in their community.

The following is the note received by Mills from Lynda Sherrard.

"Dear Dr. Mills,

I have always been proud of the education I received at Georgetown College, but I have never been so proud of the people from the school as I have been during the past week. My grandmother lives in Stamping Ground, and I have been trying to help her recover from the damages caused by the devastating tornado that hit there. She and many others like her have been the recipients of all kinds of assistance from college students and friends. They seem to always be there when someone needs them.

If ever a group deserved heartfelt thanks, you at the college are the ones. You have won many new friends and boosted the morales of some old. May God richly bless all of you!

Sincerely,

Lynda Sherrard  
(MA '73)"