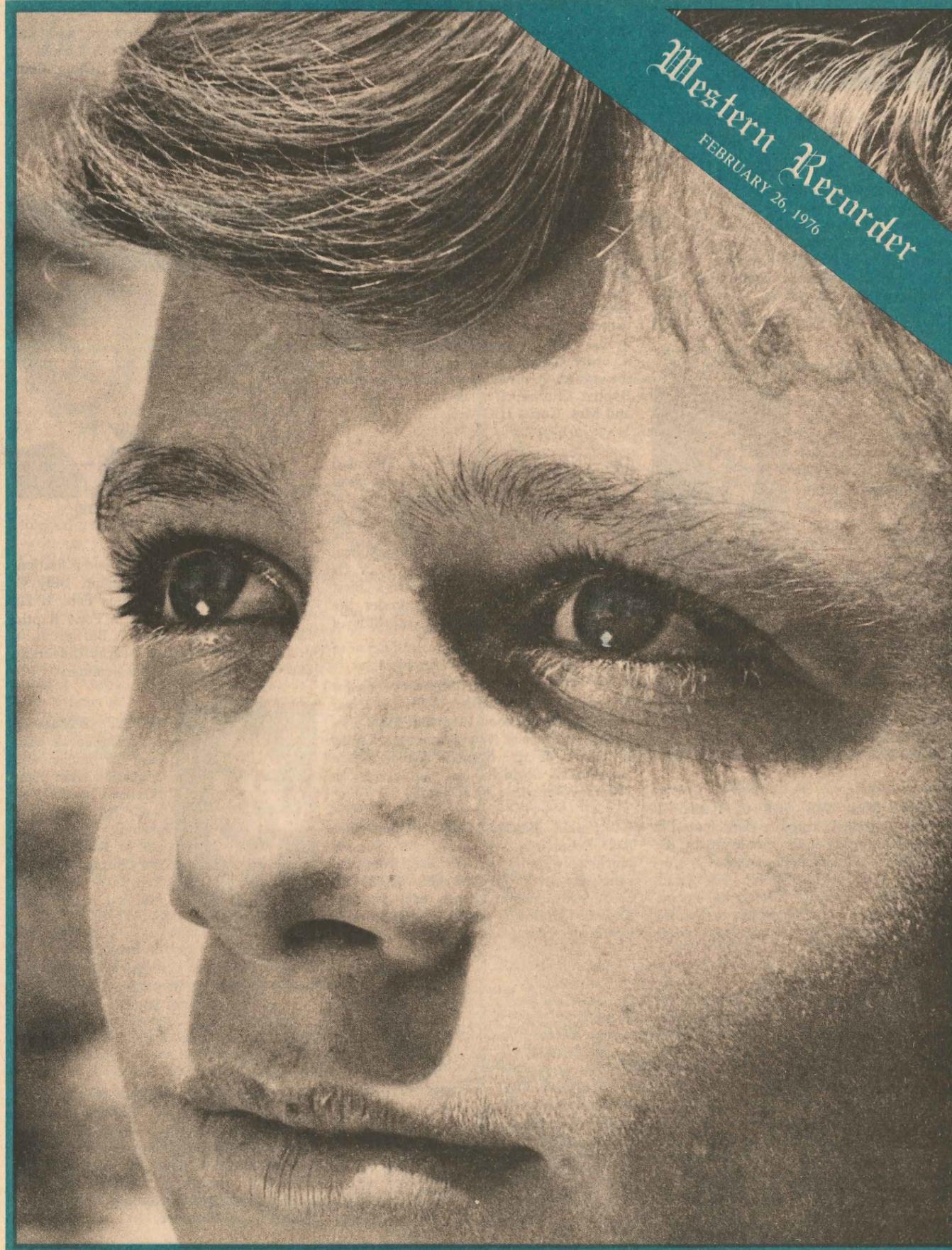


Western Recorder
FEBRUARY 26, 1976



People And Places

Kenneth Carvalho and Brance Stephens were recently ordained to the gospel ministry by Town Creek Baptist Church, Aiken, S. C. Both men are students at Clear Creek Baptist School, Pineville.

James L. Ryan has been named director of Boyce Bible School. Ryan is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University, Southwestern and Southern seminaries. The former pastor taught at Baptist Bible Institute, Graceville, Fla., before coming to Boyce.

Mary Kinney Branson of Littleton, Colo., is author of a new book titled "A Woman's Place." Mrs. Branson is a curriculum writer for the Baptist Sunday School Board and a former member of First Baptist Church, Madisonville, Ky. The book can be purchased from the Owensboro Baptist Book Store.



Branson

The A Cappella Choir of Georgetown College under the direction of W. Wayne Johnson is one of 11 choirs invited to participate in the Neighborhood Family Concert presented by the department of music at Northern Kentucky State College and the Kentucky Arts Commission Mar. 2.

Dr. and Mrs. Ted Sisk of Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington, participated in a church renewal clinic sponsored by the Evangelism Explosion Foundation at Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church, Fort Lauderdale, Fla., recently. Due to its innovative and resourceful approach to Sunday morning visitors, Coral Ridge has become

the fastest growing church in its denomination (Presbyterian Church in the United States).

Robert L. Mills, president of Georgetown College, announced that **Benjamin Curtis Warf**, a senior at Pikeville High School, is a recipient of Georgetown's Presidential Scholarship. The scholarship, awarded each year to an outstanding entering freshman, must be maintained by a 3.5 grade point average in order to continue the award. A member of Pikeville's First Baptist Church, Ben is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis H. Warf.



Warf

The "New Life Singers" of Thornhill Baptist Church, Frankfort, made a choir tour to Hazard, Ky. The group taped a program over WKYH-TV, Hazard, in which they sang sacred music and the "Puppet Pals" taught and sang biblical truths. The group presented "Rock 'N Soul" by Buryl Red to Hazard's First Baptist Church. The choir is under the direction of Keith Reynolds, minister of music and youth.

H. C. Chiles, veteran Kentucky pastor and writer, will join the faculty of Clear Creek Baptist School, Pineville, Mar. 2 as guest professor of New Testament. Chiles is author of the Sunday school lesson commentary which has appeared in *Western Recorder* for 27 years.

Beechmont Baptist Church, Louisville, has begun to broadcast its Sunday morning worship service live from the sanctuary over WHAS radio 840. The broadcast begins at 11 a.m. each Sunday. Eugene I. Enlow is pastor and Jack Jones is minister of music.

Toshiko Kawanishi, graduate and employe of the Japan Baptist School of Nursing, Kyoto, Japan, is visiting Cumberland College nursing program at Kentucky's largest private college. Miss Kawanishi is in the United States doing research and observing methods of teaching in American nursing schools.

Staff Changes

Audubon Baptist Church, Louisville, has called **Randall C. Dill** as minister of music. Randall, a native of Evansville, Ind., is a graduate of Campbellsville College and is presently working for the Master of Church Music degree at Southern Seminary.



Dill

Zion Baptist Church, Reynolds Station, Ky., has called a new pastor, **Billy C. Burton**, who assumed duties Feb. 1. He was formerly pastor of Rich Pond Baptist Church, Bowling Green. Burton is a graduate of Western Kentucky University and is attending Southern Seminary.



Williamson

W. L. Williamson Jr. resigned as minister of music and education from First Baptist Church, Fulton, Ky. He will assume similar duties at Roebart Baptist Church, Roebart, S. C., effective March 1.

Kenwood Baptist Church, Louisville, has called **Donald N. MacDonald** to be minister of music and youth. A native of Alberta, Canada, he is a student at Southern Seminary.

Jack Sanford has resigned as pastor of Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church, Urbana, Ill., to become pastor of Colonial Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn. Sanford is a graduate of Southern Seminary and served as pastor of several Kentucky Baptist churches including Oaklawn in Paducah and Florence.

Moral Issues: Have You Questioned The Impact of These?

Soap Operas? Booze Operas!

by Wingate Lassiter
Reprinted from
The Smithfield (N. C.) Herald

Television doesn't advertise "hard liquor" as it does beer and wine. But the absence of ads certainly hasn't stopped television from promoting liquor's consumption.

In my "old age" I've become addicted to watching the 12:30 "soap opera" every weekday I go home for lunch. After several years of following "Search for Tomorrow," I've concluded it should be labeled a "booze opera."

You can't watch this half-hour program without witnessing at least one plug for booze. Whenever two or more persons gather together on this program, no matter what the social occasion, out come the bottles and the glasses accompanied by several "thanks, I could use a drink" from all the characters who happen to be on the set at the time.

"How about some brandy, Stu?" asks Wade Collins.

Or it's Steve Caslo with his usual "Could anyone use a drink?" followed by a listing of all the varieties of alcoholic beverages he happens to have on hand.

Now up to a point the viewer recognizes that social drinking portrayed on TV melodramas is the writer's attempt to achieve "realism." For the fact is, most Americans do drink when friends gather in their homes.

But the drinking scenario gets a little hackneyed when you watch the characters go through it every time there's a change of scene.

A few months ago, "Search for Tomorrow," in its relentless pursuit of "relevance," did allow one character to become an acknowledged alcoholic. And the program spent perhaps a week or two showing how he reluctantly submitted to help from Alcoholics Anonymous and was quickly "cured."

But just the other day that same character was on the screen again offering drinks to guests in his home (although he made a point to let them know he had sworn off the stuff).

Television may claim it doesn't advertise liquor. But frankly, those scenarios at the living room bar are far more effective enticing people to booze it up than the most professional advertising campaign TV could buy.

'Snow White' Wasn't 'Lily White'

by Aiken M. Lord
Reprinted from
The Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer

A few weeks ago I took several small children to see the G-rated "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" in an audience composed almost entirely of young children and their parents. Prior to the showing of the film, we were subjected to almost one-half hour of PG and R-rated commercials regarding presently showing and coming attractions.

These were filled with suggestive material and innuendo that was perhaps over the head of most of the youthful audience, but they were designed to titillate in a manner that has been found effective in enticing an audience. They did not belong on the program with Disney's "Snow White." While the youngsters may not have completely understood them, nevertheless they were subjected to form and substance of what could appear to their young minds to be "everyday" fare and a pre-conditioning, as it were, by those who stand to benefit most from traffic in the future. . . .

Many persons see no harm in R-rated films for adults, but even those persons whom I talked to seemed to be appalled by the lack of sensitivity on the part of theater owners in the Owensboro area.

I asked for the manager, Adolph Baker, who was not available. On the way out I did manage to unload my repressed anger on the rather suave assistant, who continued to assure me that the trailers were "approved for general audiences."

This points up the absurdity of self-rating. While our intellectuals seem to be confused in certain definitive areas, the film makers are well aware of the lack of well defined borderlines and organized protest. They continue to expand the bounds of permissiveness by using G-rated films to promote others that would not be attended by children, through the libido of R-rated trailers and advertising.

There are many reasonable actions that could be taken, most of which do not interfere with the rights of theater owners to show whatever is permitted by law, but which would protect the patron who takes Disney and other G-rated films at advertised value. I would suggest that the newspapers do not permit a "G" rating unless it is also advertised that "PG" and "R-rated" trailers are being shown at certain times on the same program. Public protest to Walt Disney studios would be another. A request for a refund of admission fees might also be possible, with court action taken if the refund is refused.

It can hardly be unreasonable to insist upon "truth in advertising" and that the public be protected from less than full disclosure re program content.

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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On The Proper Words to Use

It is almost impossible to overestimate the importance of communication among Baptists. Love is the tie that binds up but clear communication is necessary for us to know one another enough to love and trust one another.

Words are our chief tools of communication but words are tricky. They mean one thing to one person and another thing to another person. They mean one thing in one part of the country and another in another section.

In Baptist life we usually inherit words from our predecessors and begin using them without examining their exact meaning. One outstanding and influential religious leader in an area often influences the Baptist vocabulary for generations to come in that area.

Here are some Baptist terms that are often misleading. The term, "the Baptist Church" is loosely used by some Baptists and by more non-Baptists to refer to the denomination of Baptists. There is no such thing. There is "a Baptist church" and there are "Baptist churches" but no "the Baptist Church." Some other denominations regard all local congregations as forming "the church" but not Baptists. Each Baptist church is a separate entity and completely autonomous. It volunteers to associate and cooperate with associations and conventions of churches but never regards itself as part of "the Baptist Church."

The term, "delegate," is misused by some Baptists. Baptist churches do not send "delegates" to a convention or association. They send "messengers." Delegates are representatives who are instructed or delegated to express the official viewpoint of a group. Ordinarily Baptist churches do not instruct their messengers how to vote on issues but leave them to express their views under the direction of the Holy Spirit. The position expressed by a messenger doesn't bind the church he comes from but only represents his own view.

Another misuse of words is to refer to the Lord's Supper as "sacrament" or "communion." The Lord's Supper is sacred but it is not a sacrament in the church history understanding of the word. The Roman Catholics have seven sacraments all of which are involved in a person's salvation. Each true Catholic depends on six of these sacraments for salvation (marriage and ordination are two of the seven and no true Catholic can choose both).

Baptists have no sacraments. We have two ordinances, baptism and the Lord's supper, but neither of these has any saving power. Our salvation is in the grace of God in Jesus Christ and it comes to each freely and not because of any human work. Even faith by which grace is received is a gift of God.

Communion in its sweetest form is involved in proper observance of the Lord's supper but the ordinance is better described as the Lord's supper instead of communion.

Finally, church offerings are sometimes referred to as "dues." This is not as common now as it was in past days. Baptist churches do not assess members as do some churches of other denominations. Rather each Baptist is left to decide his own level of material giving in the light of biblical teaching and the leadership of the Holy Spirit. The intensity and pressure of some Baptist church stewardship campaigns comes close to an assessment but there is little danger any Baptist will hurt himself in giving under any kind of pressure.

Our contributions are tithes and offerings, not "dues."

The independence of Baptists will never allow for a common vocabulary and uniformity of interpretation of words. This is not necessary nor needful but the use of proper words to describe universal practices would be helpful.

WESTERN RECORDER

Southern Baptist Help in Guatemala

Many Kentucky Baptists are expressing concern for the thousands of victims of the disastrous earthquakes in Guatemala. Compassion for human suffering characterizes true Christians and providing a dependable channel for quick and generous relief for those who suffer is the mark of a caring and responsive denomination.

Southern Baptists have never lacked compassion but have not always been geared up to respond immediately to such calamities. The groundswell among Southern Baptists to do something about disasters and world hunger which has reached such critical proportions has awakened denominational agencies to our moral and spiritual responsibilities. Many Baptists responded and are still giving to relieve suffering in Bangladesh and Africa as this major catastrophe strikes in Guatemala.

Thank God we now have a plan with which to respond immediately to these crises. No longer do concerned Baptists have to look elsewhere for a trustworthy way to get their gifts directly to those suffering.

In the Guatemala disaster the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board allotted \$100,000 in emergency funds for immediate use. The mission board is also ready to channel our designated gifts to the places and persons in most need. Relief funds go from Richmond directly to Southern Baptist missionaries who use them where the most critical needs exist. The 23 Southern Baptist missionaries now ministering in Guatemala escaped injury in the disaster but many homes and churches of

Guatemalan Baptists were destroyed.

By now food and medical supplies have arrived in sufficient quantities in Guatemala. The major need is long term help in rebuilding homes and churches and in helping survivors get another start. Money, therefore, is the most useful gift.

How the money gets to Guatemala is not as important as that it gets there quickly and into the proper hands. Baptists are requested to send their contributions to their state Baptist convention offices which will acknowledge receipt and send all gifts straight to the Foreign Mission Board. Experience indicates this is the best plan for quick and certain relief. Through Southern Baptist missionaries on the scene the mission board knows what and where the urgent needs are.

Checks should be made to the Kentucky Baptist Convention, marked for relief and sent to the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Box 43433, Middletown, Ky. 40243. For those who want to send their gifts directly to the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, checks should be made to the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, marked for relief and sent to Box 6597, Richmond, Va. 23230.

Volunteers for work in Guatemala are being organized through state Brotherhood offices. The first team of 20 workers left from Florida for Guatemala on Feb. 15. Other teams for reconstruction of homes and churches are being assembled. Those interested should contact Forrest Sawyer, Kentucky Baptist Convention, Box 43433, Middletown, Ky. 40243, telephone (502) 245-4101.

BAPTIST FORUM



FEMALE CLERGY — BIBLICAL?

Dear Editor:

Several weeks ago the *Western Recorder* had an article about the ordination of some 20 women as Southern Baptist ministers. Since reading this article I have waited to read some kind of response but there has been none.

I don't feel it is necessary to quote scripture in order to defend my position on this. I believe the Bible's teaching on this matter is clear.

The one thing that worries me is it seems the state convention and the

Southern Baptist Convention have taken no stand against this thing. It seems that year by year the Baptists become more and more liberal. There is going to be a split, then the liberals will have to carry all these expensive programs themselves.

Charles Higgs, Millwood

GIVE US MORE!

Dear Editor:

It took one large magnifying glass, one hour, and two aspirin but I made it. I endured to the end of both old excerpts

of the *Baptist Banner* and *Western Recorder*.

"Puseyism" is condemned as "Romanism," and "Baptismal regeneration" as heresy in no uncertain terms. The necessity of the "new birth" is declared. The fact "that men may fall from grace" resounds from page one, and is supported by the editor as an absolute truth. And the most astonishing thing of all is "that the converted persons upon whom the Holy Spirit is bestowed have been previously designated by an eternal decree."

"It is dangerous to follow the dictates of human reason in opposition to the teaching of Divine Wisdom." "He (Christ) commands to teach ALL things in His word . . . it is not optional . . . how much we teach." "Truth and error can

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

never unite." "They are incompatible and repulsive to one another." "And true Christian union can be built only upon truth."

Baptists are declared to be a "branch" or member of the "holy catholic church," and not THE church. Christ's Church is declared to be a "mystical body . . . and the spirit of Christ dwells only in his mystical body and can be found nowhere else."

Please print more, even if it requires a magnifying glass! They read like my Bible . . . and I like that. Perhaps some day people will wake to the fact there is more to the Gospel of Christ than what they are hearing.

Larry R. Brown, Madisonville

CARE TO HELP?

Dear Editor:

Baptist churches in the Philippines are requesting surplus 1976 January Bible study materials to be used overseas in January 1977.

If your church or its members would like to share in this mission project, you may send study course books, maps, filmstrips, etc. directly. Mark all packages "USED BOOKS," or "USED EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS FOR RELIGIOUS USE ONLY." Send surface mail.

Send to: Todd Hamilton, Church Growth Office, Philippine Baptist Mission, 2444 Taft Avenue, Malate, Manila, Philippines 2801.

A letter of thanks acknowledging receipt of materials will be sent to each donor.

Todd C. Hamilton, Philippines

A CHRISTIAN VIEW

Dear Editor:

I write in reference to a bill that has been introduced into the Senate by Walter Strong of Beattyville. This particular bill would allow the use of the Bible by teachers of our public schools as they teach not only the evolutionist theory of creation but the biblical view of such creation as well. It would permit biblical reading in conjunction with such studies as well as permit credit for such biblical theory to those students accepting it AND prohibit stress on a particular denomination.

The statement by a University of Louisville professor of history at a

hearing by the Senate subcommittee of the Senate education committee is much what we would expect. A recent news release by Bill Hendrick states that Dr. William Morrison remarked this particular bill would "force Christianity down the throats of children." The bill which Walter introduced does not require teaching of the biblical view of creation but, would permit teachers to use this view if they so desire. It seems strange that Dr. Morrison is concerned that "Christianity" might be forced down the throats of our children when, in reality, for many years, "Christian" youth have had the evolutionist view of creation "forced" down their throats.

I would encourage pastors, Christian teachers, associational officers and leaders throughout our convention to study this new bill and write their state legislators encouraging them to support a bill which would make it clear to many "Christian" teachers that there is an alternative and that it is legal for them to teach a view of the creation which they as Christians accept.

Dennis L. Brewer, Beattyville

ONE MORE TIME

Dear Editor:

In response to Mr. Rodney G. Owens' critique of our review of his recent letter (all of these items appearing in the Baptist Forum, *Western Recorder*, Nov. 1, Dec. 13 and 27), we find nothing that would indicate a modification of any of the observations contained in our correspondence of Dec. 13. Mr. Owens' statements concerning more stringent gun control legislation vis-a-vis increasing crime rates (Baptist Forum, Nov. 1) can only be characterized as "loosely constructed inferences drawn from insufficient data." For your readers to consider them otherwise, would disregard the basic principles of objective inquiry.

Donald W. Bogie, Montgomery, Ala.
Cheryl E. Bogie, Montgomery, Ala.

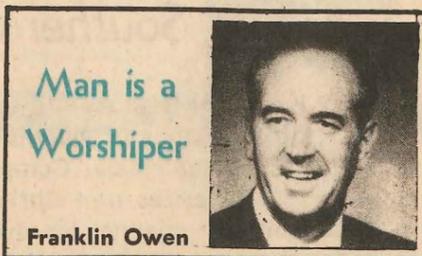
Is the . . .

Western Recorder

in your . . .

Church Budget?

If not, why not . . . ?



At the close of World War II I remained in Europe for almost another year. At that time, Gertrude Stein, the aged expatriate, was being frequently interviewed and quoted in various publications; among which were words to American servicemen.

She wrote in her autobiography a similar statement to those that I read from her during my days there. She said that many intellectuals whom she met in Paris "suffered from a nothingness." By that she meant that they belonged to nothing, they served nobody, they were mastered by no great loyalty. I personally remember when she made similar statements about some Americans with whom she said she had talked.

Many moderns do "suffer from a nothingness." To put this in the language of Vachel Lindsay, they "have no gods to serve."

The human quest, when properly understood, is for a master who, if we should serve him, will make us feel morally justified in our existence. When men do not find him and serve him they sometimes resort to various sorts of anesthesia (narcotics, alcoholism, what-have-you) and/or idolatries (materialism, intellectualism, etc.).

Sometimes man without a master falls for the strong voice and pretentious promises of the dictator. Man, by nature, is a worshiper. Failing to find and to establish a relationship with his God, he turns in his worship to other gods or sometimes to totalitarians whom he puts in the place of God.

This is because human personality is made for a divine indwelling. Man is designed to belong to someone. To quote William Barclay, "You've got to fill a man with something."

The apostle Paul found what gave his life ultimate meaning. "For me to live is Christ" (Phil. 1:21). "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?" (I Cor. 3:16).



by Ellen Fleming, Staff Writer

Emery Workman is a working man for the Lord. Enthusiastic, fervent and eager to share his journey with the Lord to others. Workman's "journey" with the Lord began in 1967 at the age of 42.

Born in Jefferson City, Mo., in 1925, he quit school in the ninth grade and worked until he entered the Navy in 1942. A variety of jobs appealed to him. One that required him to journey frequently was managing a portable skating rink.

Traversing through Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Tennessee and Kentucky, Workman and his crew set up and then moved out of various towns with his mobile skating rink. During this time he was fighting a fast moving illness — Buerger's Disease — a disabling disease that affects one's circulation.

Workman first began to notice the problem in 1950 when he experienced muscle cramping in his legs, not uncommon to an accomplished skater. Soon after, while being stationed at an Army camp in Atterbury, Mo., during the Korean War, Workman's cramping was diagnosed as Buerger's Disease, and because of his concomitant disabilities he was discharged with the admonition to quit smoking and drinking.

"Nicotine and alcohol just don't mix with Buerger's Disease," said Workman.

SETTLING IN KENTUCKY

He journeyed to Franklin, Ky., in 1957,

For Franklin Victim —

Wheelchair Witnessing: 'A Great Uphill Climb'

met his future wife, married her in 1958 and set up home.

He then worked in a tobacco barn and continued his bout with alcohol and nicotine. During this time both of his legs were removed due to the seriousness of the disease. In 1965, Workman, after a 30-day drinking binge, swore off liquor, because "I was sick and tired of the way I was going and was on the verge of a breakdown."

After an extended period in the VA hospital, he joined Alcoholics Anonymous in Franklin. "I was faithful to AA, and was encouraged to pray and read the Bible." As Workman can now look back upon the experience, he realizes that the Lord was really working in his life.

After "drying out," Workman's life began to change rapidly. In 1967, hand controls were placed on his car and he was able to drive his children to Sunday school. His family was not a "church-going" family but his children were invited to attend Sunday school at Barbe Baptist Church in Franklin.

Through his children's exposure to church Workman became acquainted with the pastor, George Pope. The pastor initiated a friendship with him and after a visit in his home told Workman, "I plan to see you in church next Sunday."

BEING BORN AGAIN

The next Sunday Workman went to church—for the first time since he had lived in Franklin.

"The Lord just saved me that day. He knew what he was doing and I really didn't understand what happened," said Workman, but "my life changed, one-half of my vocabulary was taken away and I began sitting up late at night reading the Bible." Five weeks after Workman became saved, he was baptized, and said, "from then on it's been a great up-hill climb."

The next year, Workman distinctly felt like the Lord was calling him to preach. "It was as clear as if I had heard a voice right behind me. I was sitting in Macedonia Baptist Church and the preacher was raring back and letting her fly and I surrendered to preach."

In 1970 he was licensed to preach by First Baptist Church, Franklin, and began preaching in various churches within Simpson County.

After his conversion and surrender to the ministry Workman saw his wife and children become Christians. Workman said his home life changed. "If you really serve the Lord, your family notices it. Now we have family devotions before bedtime every night."

Workman is always ready to "talk about the Lord." He is now in the sixth year of his radio "faith ministry" in which he has a five-minute program, "Moment of Decision," Monday through Saturday on WFKN in Franklin. It is a "faith broadcast" paid for by friends and supporters. He said, "I don't use notes for my sermons on the radio or elsewhere, I preach by the 'letter'—I get up and let her fly."

Another strong area of Workman's ministry is hospital visitation. He feels like his disability is an asset because the patients he sees can identify with him.

LITTLE FORMAL EDUCATION

This man does not possess a lot of formal education but in 1969 he received his high school diploma through adult education. He passed the GED test and gave the credit to the Lord. "Math was the most difficult and I enjoyed the English the most, I like to read."

And read he does. He is taking a survey of the scriptures through correspondence with Moody Bible Institute and reads and studies Bible guides incessantly. He says, "If I'm not reading or studying Bible based books, I'm thinking about it." That is—when he isn't fulfilling his responsibilities as assistant pastor at Barbe church. He also participates in various state workshops and leader training clinics.

Workman feels that had he not contracted Buerger's Disease, God would still have called him into the ministry. He was a shy, bashful, self-conscious alcoholic, confined to a wheelchair. Now he is a dynamite witness for the Lord. He used to be scared to lead in a prayer. Now he preaches powerfully and boldly—not only in churches, but in nursing homes, jails, service stations, just about anywhere.

"Christianity is not a religion, it is a relationship, more personal than anything . . . Christ in you, an 'I know so' thing, but you have to find out yourself. I can't prove it, my life must show . . ."

And his life does.

CEDARMORE BTIST ASSEMBLY

1976 Calenda of Activities

NOTE: Summer camp (GA, Acteen, RA, Youth and Music) and the two Adult Bible Study and Vacation Retreats in July begin at 1:00 p.m. Monday and conclude at 1:00 p.m. Friday. For information on program content for all events, please contact the appropriate department listed at Kentucky Baptist Building, P.O. Box 43433, Middletown, Ky. 40243.

MONTH	DATE	EVENT	DEPARTMENT
MARCH	26-27	Kentucky Baptist Youth Events	Church Training
APRIL	2-3 15-17	Church Library Retreat Acteen Mini-Camp	Church Training WMU
MAY	3-4 7-8 14-15 17-19 20-21 24-26	Executive Board & Committee Meetings R. A. Track Meet WMU Associational Officers Clinic Senior Adult Retreat Missionaries' Workshop Senior Adult Retreat	Executive-Secretary Brotherhood WMU Church Services Direct Missions Church Services
JUNE	4-5 7-11 14-18 17-20 18-20 21-25 23-25 28-July 2	Weekday Early Education and Mentally Retarded Conference RA Counselors Training Week Royal Ambassador Camp Cedar Crest Pre-Camp Training Conference for the Deaf Youth Week GA and Acteen Camp Royal Ambassador Camp WMU Executive Board Meeting Youth Week GA and Acteen Camp Royal Ambassador Camp	Church Services Brotherhood Brotherhood WMU Direct Missions Church Services WMU Brotherhood WMU Church Services WMU Brotherhood
JULY	2-3 5-9 9-10 9-10 12-16	Father-Son Camp Adult Bible Study & Vacation Retreat Youth Week GA Camp Royal Ambassador Camp Mother-Daughter Camp Father-Son Camp Adult Bible Study & Vacation Retreat Children's Music Camp GA and Acteen Camp Royal Ambassador Camp	Brotherhood Church Services Church Services WMU Brotherhood WMU Brotherhood Church Services Church Music WMU Brotherhood

JULY	16-17 19-23 22-23 23-25 26-30 27-29 30-Aug. 1	Mother-Daughter Camp Adult/Youth Music Assembly GA and Acteen Camp Royal Ambassador Camp Ministers of Music Retreat WMU Leadership Conference Acteen Camp Royal Ambassador Camp WMU Leadership Conference WMU Leadership Conference	WMU Church Music WMU Brotherhood Church Music WMU WMU Brotherhood WMU WMU
AUGUST	2-6 9-11 9-13 12-14	Children's Music Camp GA and Acteen Camp Royal Ambassador Camp Sunday School Conference Children's Music Camp GA Camp Royal Ambassador Camp Sunday School Conference	Church Music WMU Brotherhood Sunday School Church Music WMU Brotherhood Sunday School
OCTOBER	15-16 29-30	Acteen Associational Officers Clinic Baptist Young Women Weekend Associational Officers Briefing	WMU WMU Executive-Secretary
NOVEMBER	5-6 22-23 26-28	Baptist Women Retreat January Bible Study Preview International Student Retreat	WMU Sunday School Student
DECEMBER	13-14	Executive Board & Committee Meetings	Executive-Secretary

During many of the events listed above as well as dates not listed, Cedarmore's multiple facilities are available to individual church and associational groups for retreats, workshops, camps and other outings. Available dates, procedures and rates for such usage are available from the reservations office.

The assembly is open and available on a year-round basis except for a brief vacation period in December and January. Arlis C. Hinson, Jr., serves as manager. The reservations office is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Eastern Time) Tuesday through Saturday during the school year and Monday through Saturday during June, July and August. (Telephone: 502-747-8911). The mailing address is P. O. Box 37, Bagdad, Kentucky 40003.

PULL THIS PAGE AND KEEP FOR USE OR POST ON BULLETIN BOARD

Committee of Seven Reports On SBC Executive Committee

A Committee of Seven appointed two years ago to study the Southern Baptist Executive Committee and a possible name change for the SBC released a report in Nashville making 12 suggestions and five recommendations concerning the Executive Committee.

The committee, chaired by C. R. Daley of Middletown, Ky., editor of *Western Recorder*, Kentucky Baptist state paper, completed the first part of its study last year. The 1975 session of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC), meeting in Miami Beach, approved a committee recommendation that no name change be considered for the 12.7-million-member denomination.

After requesting and receiving an additional year to complete its study of the Executive Committee, the Committee of Seven conducted extensive interviews and research into the operation of the Executive Committee.

Basically, the study suggests such things as broadening the base of selection of Executive Committee (EC) members, broadening scope and depth in pre and post election orientation of EC members, increasing involvement of EC members in the EC's decision making process, improving communications and cooperation between the EC and agencies, involving all the EC members in studying agency budget requests, keeping the authority of the EC in "healthy tension" with the authority of convention-elected trustees of agencies, clarifying what the EC's "ad interim" status means and clarifying what authority the EC has to look into the affairs of an agency.

Additionally, the Committee of Seven made several recommendations for changes in SBC bylaw nine, which deals with the relationship of the Executive Committee to the convention and its agencies.

In a seven-point "affirmative appraisal" of the Executive Committee the Committee of Seven also noted that the EC's organizational structure "is essentially sound" and that the EC is "indispensable in the life of the Southern Baptist Convention," that it is "blessed with highly capable and committed professional staff members" who "sincerely execute their assignments and attempt to be fair and impartial toward all agencies," that it "is endeavoring to perform faithfully the functions assigned to it by the convention" and that it exercises a

policy of openness to concerned constituents.

The study was requested by the Executive Committee at the 1974 SBC meeting in Dallas after an Executive Committee-appointed Committee of 15 completed a four-year study of convention agencies.

The Committee of Seven's report, which is subject to revision through Mar. 1, was received by the Executive Committee at its February meeting in Nashville.

It will recommend to the 1976 convention in Norfolk June 15-17 that the study be referred to the Executive Committee for consideration and that it bring a report on its response to the 1977 SBC meeting in Kansas City.

Elaborating on its suggestions the Committee of Seven noted that broadening the base of selection for EC members will reduce the possibility "for personal favoritism and cronyism in the selection of nominees."

It suggested that adequate biographical data and other pertinent information on all EC nominees go to all members of the SBC Committee on Boards, Commissions and Standing Committees. Currently, the committee said, nominees from the various states and their qualifications are known only by the two members on the Committee on Boards from those states.

On pre and post election orientation, the committee noted that strong pre-election orientation would tend to weed out those not willing to fulfill the demands and responsibilities of the position. Stronger post-election orientation, it said, would improve knowledge of the relationship of the EC to the agencies. The committee suggested inviting agency representatives to take part in such orientation.

The Committee of Seven noted the EC as it now functions "is strongly staff oriented" because most EC members "devote full time to other responsibilities and find limited time for their Executive Committee duties." It suggested several ways to achieve more involvement of EC members, including possible "use of a small group of experienced Executive Committee members to meet with professional staff as needed between regular sessions of the committee."

The committee also suggested that ways "be devised for the EC staff and members and agency staffs and trustees to be more intimately acquainted with the

work of each other."

Commenting that "the one most far-reaching responsibility of the Executive Committee is the recommendation of allocations for all convention agencies receiving Cooperative Program funds," the Committee of Seven suggested that the whole EC, rather than just its program subcommittee, hear such requests. It also recommended revision in subcommittee names to make their function more clear.

On the question of authority, the Committee of Seven said, "The Southern Baptist Convention began and remains a voluntary association of churches. However, as such a group increases in size and complexity its center of power tends to shift from 'grass roots' constituents to officially elected board members and to staff personnel."

"By virtue of its assignments the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee is powerful. It needs and does have authority commensurate with its responsibilities."

"Caution should be taken," the committee said, "to prevent even an unconscious trend toward undue centralization of authority in Southern Baptist organizational life. The usurpation of undue authority by the Executive Committee over the agencies would be disastrous."

"At the same time, the agencies should recognize the need for the convention to exercise reasonable review of their affairs. The authority of the Executive Committee should be kept in healthy tension with the authority of convention elected trustees of the agencies."

Several other suggestions also dealt with clarifications which would interpret EC authority versus agency authority.

Bylaw nine (5) (a) states that the EC is to "act for the Convention ad interim on all matters not otherwise provided for. . . ." The Committee of Seven noted that "acting for the Convention ad interim" is not "being the Convention ad interim" and called for clarification of this point.

It called for clarifications of various parts of Bylaw Nine in such areas as the role of the Executive Committee and the trustees of convention agencies, its advisory capacity and its authority and power. Among revisions, the most drastic, Daley said, involves bylaw nine (5) (i). The effect of the wording changes, Daley said, "would tone down the investigative powers of the Executive Committee and reassert the authority of agency trustees, while still recognizing the Executive Committee's responsibility to study the affairs of the agencies and make recommendations to the convention." (BP)

Ruth Ouzts —

She Wasn't Asked To Be Baptist Book Store Manager

by Jim Cox

The following interview was written more than seven years ago for The Monthly Merchandiser, employe publication of the Baptist Book Store family. At that time, Ruth Ouzts was manager of the store in Roanoke, Va. In January 1970 she moved to Louisville to become manager of the Baptist Book Store, the store she continues to serve.—Editor

Ruth Hamilton Ouzts may be one Baptist Book Store manager who actually never agreed to be a Baptist Book Store manager! It wasn't that she didn't want to become one—she was never given the opportunity of deciding whether to become one or not!

When the seminary store at Southeastern was separated from the Raleigh store Ruth was put in charge. At a later date, the position she held was re-classified from supervisor to manager, and so she never got to "accept" a position as manager—she was already it!

Ruth had been associated with the book stores quite some time before her appointment to Southeastern. Having been a student at the seminary she was already well aware of the denominational program around her.

"When I completed my course of study at the seminary," she recalls, "none of the jobs about which I was approached seemed to be just the place for me."

"While visiting in Raleigh someone sent me to the Baptist Book Store to talk to Mary Ayscue, manager. Miss Ayscue said she had just filled the vacancy I would find interesting. Then she described the church library consultant's responsibilities and gave me Mr. Harold Ingraham's name and address."

LIBRARY TRAINING

"Mr. Ingraham hired me as a library consultant," she continues. "I was put in the Nashville store to learn library work."

Ruth understudied there three months. Then she went to Alexandria, La., serving as library consultant. "From May Detherage (then manager at Alexandria) and, later, Mary Ayscue, I learned that people—both staff and customers—are

the important things in our work as book store employes," Ruth adds.

After three years in Alexandria, Mary Ayscue and Jo Gwin (who had worked with Ruth when she was Shreveport manager) prevailed upon Ruth to transfer to North Carolina as library worker. After a year-and-a-half in this capacity in the Tar Heel state, she then went to the seminary store as supervisor in 1956. Ten years later—in September 1966—she was elected manager of the Roanoke, Va., store.

Ruth, a native of Ware Shoals, S. C., loves to read. In other spare time, one will find her hiking or fishing or involved in activities of Roanoke's Altrusa Club or Calvary Baptist Church. She is an assistant teacher of an adult class.

A graduate of Winthrop College (B.A.), Rock Hill, S. C., she taught school for two years before entering the seminary. From the WMU Training School, now a part of Southern Seminary, she holds the M.R.E. degree.

RECOLLECTIONS FROM PAST

Recalling past experiences in book store work, Ruth says she felt like crying the day a seminary student came in stating his wife made him return a book he had just bought.

On another, happier occasion, she recalls a particular customer who visited the store with a Bible which she had purchased eight years earlier. The lady demanded a new box, saying that the Bible was holding up all right but the box just wasn't any good!

She feels her greatest satisfaction when someone walks out of the store with a book he has purchased which will help him give more in his ministry to people.

Finally, she suggests that any would-be managerial aspirants might help themselves by developing whatever skills or interests they possess because they will come in handy. "Learning to appreciate people and helping them to develop their capabilities is important, too," she adds.

One never knows. There might be another manager named sometime in the future who never had the opportunity to say he wanted the job, too!



Ruth Ouzts fills a customer's order at the book store exhibit during the recent Kentucky evangelism conference at Elizabethtown.

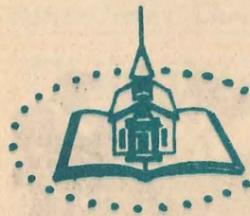
Recreation Weeks Set At Ridgecrest, Glorieta

The church recreation conferences this summer at Ridgecrest (N. C.) and Glorieta (N. M.) Baptist conference centers will feature a leadership section for adults and a youth section, with multiple conferences provided for each age group.

The Ridgecrest conference is scheduled for June 5-11 and the Glorieta conference will be June 12-18.

Several new conferences will be offered to participants, along with some repeats of successful conferences of previous years, says Ray Conner, secretary of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's Church Recreation Department. All conferences will help participants become more effective Christian recreation leaders in their own churches.

Interested persons should send a \$15 conference services fee in order to receive a confirmed reservation to either Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Box 128, Ridgecrest, N. C., 28770, or Glorieta Baptist Conference Center, Box 8, Glorieta, N. M., 87535.



SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

by H. C. Chiles

(These Lessons for March 7, 1976)



INTERNATIONAL SERIES

Jesus Demonstrates Total Commitment

Matthew 19:1-2, 20:17-28

Upon the completion of his effective and memorable teaching ministry in friendly Galilee, Christ crossed the Jordan River into Judea. There, great crowds followed him and closely observed his healing ministry.

As our Lord and his 12 disciples journeyed toward Jerusalem, he told them, for the third time, of his approaching betrayal, arrest, trial, condemnation, scourging, suffering, crucifixion and resurrection. Instead of centering their minds on the horrible things that were soon to happen to Christ and getting ready to prove that they were his brave followers, the disciples were thinking about their own selfish interests.

Through their doting mother, Salome, James and John, who were striving for self-advancement and self-exaltation, requested Christ to give them positions of preeminence in his kingdom. With grief in his heart and pathos in his voice Christ remarked: "Ye know not what ye ask." They did not understand what it would take and cost for them to get what they requested. They knew nothing about the suffering which must necessarily precede the glory which they were seeking. Frequently we pray for certain things without realizing what we must endure if God answers our prayers.

Christ made it clear that the seats of honor or highest positions in his kingdom were not his to grant, but they would be awarded by the Father to the children of God for faithful service which they rendered for him.

The other disciples were indignant when they learned that James and John had been trying to get the chief places in Christ's kingdom. If the two had possessed the proper spirit, the request for the positions of honor would not have been made. On the other hand, if the 10 had possessed the proper spirit, they would merely have concluded that the two had acted foolishly and have felt sorry for them, and would have done little more than ignore the whole affair. Instead, being angry, they revealed their resentment.

Christ reminded his disciples that ambition for position, prestige and power over men belongs to the world. In Christ's kingdom ambition is to be for service only, and never for dominion.

He taught that the greatness of a Christian is determined by the extent and quality of the service which he renders for God and others. If you have a desire to be great in the day when the judge distributes rewards, see to it that you take a lowly place of loving service on behalf of your fellow believers. Let the love of Christ be your constraining motive.

LIFE AND WORK SERIES

The Promise of His Coming

Matthew 24:1-6

After a busy Tuesday in the precincts of the temple teaching, rebuking the selfish, denouncing hypocrites and healing the afflicted, Christ took his disciples and started to the Mount of Olives. One of the disciples, impressed with the grandeur and beauty of the enormous stones in the gorgeous temple, proudly called Christ's attention to the magnificent structure. Although it was considered to be one of the wonders of the world, its magnificence and splendor did not impress Christ. He simply repeated his prediction that it would not be long until it would be leveled to the ground by the Roman armies.

Unable to grasp the full significance of his prediction, the astounded disciples wanted to know when that shocking event was going to occur. Without specifying the exact date, Christ cautioned them not to waste their thoughts, time and energies in seeking signs, most of which might prove to be false.

Matthew 24:15-18

The prophecy of our Lord concerning the destruction of Jerusalem was fulfilled in 70 A. D. under Titus. Although Christ's reply did not satisfy the curiosity of the inquirers, it did help them tremendously in their preparation for the trials to which they were to be subjected in the future. Christ described some of the supernatural events that would transpire between his departure from and return to this earth. In view of the certainty of Christ's return, this greatest future event should be an incentive to preparedness, to spiritual alertness, to purity of life, to patience in trial, to sacrificial service and to comfort in sorrow.

Matthew 24:36-39

Christ declared that the exact time of his return was unknown unto all except the Father. However, our Lord was careful to let his followers know that he will come personally, bodily, visibly, suddenly, unexpectedly and gloriously. He taught that in the days preceding his return conditions would be very similar to those in the days of Noah. At that time men depended upon their own resources, were occupied with their own intellectual pursuits and ignored the claims of God upon their lives. A characteristic of Noah's day was the persistent rejection of the message of God's messenger. As he warned of judgment and appealed to the people to repent of their sins and to get right with God, the people looked upon Noah as a weak-minded fanatic, who was void of intellect and therefore unworthy of notice.

While we are awaiting the sure return of Christ, let us who are Christians separate ourselves from sinful activities, and yield ourselves to the Holy Spirit for service as ambassadors of Christ to those who sorely need to be reconciled to God.

SBC Historical Commission Sets Bicentennial Meeting June 10-11 in Richmond

"Baptists and the Struggle for Religious Liberty in Early America" is the theme of the 1976 joint meeting of the Historical Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Historical Society. The meeting will be held at the University of Richmond (Va.) June 10-11.

Speakers and their topics include "The Significance of the American Revolution in American History," W. Harrison Daniel, professor of history, University of Richmond, and "Baptists and the Bicentennial," Robert A. Baker, professor of church history, Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex.

John S. Moore, pastor, Manly Memorial Baptist Church, Lexington, Va., will speak on "The Struggle for Religious Freedom in Virginia," and William J. Reynolds, secretary, Church Music Department, Sunday School Board, will speak on "The Musical Heritage of Baptists in America."

"Reflections on the Role of Baptists in Politics and the Future of America" will be presented by Brooks Hays, former Congressman from Arkansas, and former SBC president. Porter W. Routh, executive secretary-treasurer, Executive Committee, SBC, will speak on "The Role of the SBC Executive Committee in Southern Baptist Life."

"The Historical Commission, SBC: Twenty-five Years of Service to Southern Baptists" will be discussed by a panel of Mrs. Louie Owens, South Carolina member, Historical Commission; Leo T. Crismon, retired librarian, Southern Seminary, Louisville; and Lynn E. May Jr., executive secretary, Historical Commission.

The Local Missionary: What Does He Do?

by Phil Burgess, Staff Writer

When one hears the word missionary he usually thinks of dedicated people in a foreign land. But within the local Baptist associations there are dedicated folks working as associational missionaries.

Allen West is the executive director of missions for Long Run Association, Louisville. He works with the staffs and elected leaders of the association in planning, implementing and evaluating church programs.

"We assist the churches in developing programs to meet the needs of the particular area,"

West explained. This may include Christian social ministries, youth and family services and missionary education programs. Too, the associational missionary supervises stewardship development, evangelism and student ministries.

Also, associational missionaries supervise the administration of church programs. They are involved in administering training programs for pastors and church leaders.

"The executive director works with the leaders of the state convention and Southern Baptist Convention in planning and coordinating the work of the association," explains West.

Southern Baptists have traditionally placed great emphasis on missionary activity. The result has been missionary action in many different forms. "But it must always be anchored to the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord," states West.

"We hope to lead our churches into a greater appreciation of and deeper love for the cause of Christ to be made manifest to the hearts of men everywhere," West said.

Summarizing his philosophy, he added, "Christ has called his own to give the reconciling message of God to the world and a parallel force is the cry of people with human needs that impels us to try to meet their needs in the love of Christ and to the best of our ability. We assist the churches to achieve their God-given goals and objectives."

West is a graduate of Southern Seminary and before assuming the position of associational missionary was pastor of Woodmont Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn.



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Qualified persons should contact: Chaplain (LTC) Jim Daniel, State Chaplain, KyARNG 827 Huntington Road, Louisville, Kentucky 40207 or call 502-896-4566.

Seminary Awards Contract

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary has awarded a contract to C. T. Love and Associates Inc., Louisville, for construction of 70 married student apartments on the Lexington Road campus.

Construction is expected to begin immediately on the long-planned \$1.5 million complex. Plans for the apartments have been made necessary by expanding student enrolment which this year has made Southern Seminary the largest private educational institution in Kentucky.

The project will consist of 70 two-bedroom apartments and is expected to be completed by Jan. 1, 1977.

Business Officers Meet

The 14th annual Southern Baptist business officers conference will be held in Dallas at the Annuity Board Mar. 17-19, according to Wilson Beardsley, general chairman.

Theme for this year is "The Bicentennial and Baptist Business." Special speakers will be Robert Wall, Mississippi College; Zig Zigler, president of a company specializing in motivation; and Lee Drain, senior vice president of Republic of Texas Corporation.

The conference has several added features. An insurance management conference will be Tuesday and the computer users association will be Wednesday.

Registration will be handled through Mrs. Janie Neal, 1907 Elm Street, Dallas, Tex. 75201.

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**THE KENTUCKY BAPTIST
CHILD CARE PROGRAM —
A HISTORY OF CARING**

HEARTS AND FLOWERS. Does it ever fail that Valentines Day brings out the best concealed romances? And isn't it just like a woman to get excited over silly stuff like cards and candy? Oh, well. It happens among the best of families. Young love has often blossomed at our Kentucky Baptist children's homes and the example of mature, Christian love exhibited by houseparents and staff has given many young people a foundation on which to later build responsible Christian homes.

Miracles Link Nigerian To Campbellville

by Wilma Forman

Benjo Agbatse, a young man who says he is at Campbellville College because of "miracles," has been awarded a Presidential Honor Scholarship by the Baptist school.

The scholarship is worth a total of \$2,400 over four years and is based on scholastic achievement, character and leadership potential.

Benjo, a Nigerian, learned about Campbellville College from David Jester, a former missionary to the country who returned there for a brief visit last year.

Benjo had lived for eight years with a Southern Baptist missionary couple, Dr. and Mrs. A. H. Dyson, who had introduced him to Jesus, and he was interested in studying at a Christian college.

But getting to America wasn't easy for the 21-year-old.

For nearly five months he waited for his passport and visa. Finally they came but were good only for the next day in Lagos, a town thousands of miles away from his hometown of Zaria.

Flying to Lagos would be the only way he could take advantage of the opportunity to come to America, but when he arrived at the airport he found 200 other people also hoping to fly that day.

That's when the miracle began. The waiting list was long but Benjo's name was mistakenly placed on a shorter list. His name was number 37, even on the shorter list, and there were only 36 seats.

When the plane came, the names were called down through 35 with every passenger responding but the 36th was not to be found anywhere. When Benjo's name was called, he said, it was the "most dramatic experience of my life."

Living in Campbellville and attending Campbellville College has become an enjoyable experience for the young man who says most Nigerians think America is "generally great, and also filled with the gangster cowboy type."

He said he has found the faculty and staff always willing to help, and Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Neil (former missionaries to Nigeria working at the college) are like a second set of parents.

Benjo is grateful for the friends he has made here, and said, "the influence of Campbellville has caused my love for God to grow."

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BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

of

1776 — Baptist Preaching in Kentucky — 1976

HARRODSBURG, KENTUCKY

April 19

PROGRAM

A. R. Lasley, Thomas H. Shelton, Presiding
Harrodsburg Baptist Church

MORNING SESSION

- 10:00 Scripture G. K. Offutt
- Prayer William H. Rogers
- Greetings from General Association G. M. Smith
- Greetings from Kentucky Baptist Convention .. Henry Huff
- Welcome S. Clelland Gash
- Hymn and Offering
- Baptist Heritage in Song Kentucky Baptist Chorale
- "Proclaiming Liberty in Christ" Wayne Ward
- 12:00 Adjourn for Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 2:00 Congregational Song J. C. Pyles
- Prayer Victor McKinney, Jr.
- Black Heritage in Song J. C. Pyles
- Message A. Russell Awkard
- Hymn and Offering
- Special Music B. T. Bishop
- Message Verlin Kruschwitz
- 4:00 Celebration March from the Church to the Historic Marker
Program by Local Committee
FEEDING THE MULTITUDE

EVENING SESSION

- 7:00 Main Street Church Choir
- Message Franklin Owen
- Central Region Chorale
- Offering
- Message Manuel Scott
- Benediction

Executive Committee Calls For \$55 Million Budget

Based on projections of a continued rise in receipts the Southern Baptist Executive Committee voted in Nashville to recommend a \$55 million national Cooperative Program unified budget for the 1976-77 fiscal year.

The amount, which includes a \$49 million basic operating budget for 18 national SBC agencies and committees and the SBC operating budget, will be voted on at the SBC meeting June 15-17.

The 1975-76 budget is \$51 million, including a \$41 million basic operating budget.

Besides the \$49 million basic operating budget the \$55 million includes a \$1,080,000 capital needs figure (same as 1975-76) and \$4,920,000 in challenge operating funds. The challenge portion is broken into two phases of \$1 million and \$3.9 million.

After basic operating needs are met the capital needs funds would be prorated among the six SBC seminaries and the Radio and Television Commission. After

that figure is met any additional challenge funds received would be divided among the agencies and the SBC operating budget.

Under the basic operating budget funds would be distributed as follows: Foreign Mission Board, \$23,625,918; Home Mission Board, \$9,200,000; Southwestern Seminary, \$3,077,349; Radio and Television Commission, \$2,500,000; Southern Seminary, \$2,343,180; New Orleans Seminary, \$1,821,476; Southeastern Seminary, \$1,642,581; Midwestern Seminary, \$1,115,744; Golden Gate Seminary, \$1,037,352; SBC Operating Budget, \$488,000; Brotherhood Commission, \$475,000; Christian Life Commission, \$323,000; Education Commission, \$240,000; Stewardship Commission, \$225,400; Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, \$200,000; Historical Commission, \$185,000; American Baptist Seminary Commission, \$125,000; Southern Baptist Foundation, \$125,000; and Annuity Board, \$250,000. (BP)

SBC Churches Show Great Statistical Gains in 1975

Churches affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention have reported substantial gains during 1975 in nearly every statistical category, according to final figures released by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's research services department.

Statistics compiled through reports received from the 34,902 Southern Baptist churches indicate significant increases in churches, baptisms, church membership, total receipts and mission expenditures and in Sunday school, church music, Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) and Brotherhood enrolments.

Summary of the 1975 Southern Baptist Convention statistics:

	1975	1974	Numerical Change	(*)
Churches	34,902	34,734	168	.5
Baptisms	421,809	410,482	11,327	2.8
Church Membership	12,735,663	12,515,842	219,821	1.8
Ongoing Sunday School Enrolment	7,281,532	7,190,829	90,703	1.3
Ongoing Training Union Enrolment	1,886,177	1,904,986	-18,809	-1.0
Ongoing Church Music Enrolment	1,354,944	1,304,068	50,876	3.9
Ongoing WMU Enrolment	1,133,587	1,115,149	18,438	1.7
Ongoing Brotherhood Enrolment	476,002	460,713	15,289	3.3
Total Receipts	\$1,475,611,266	\$1,342,997,051	\$132,614,215	9.9
Total Mission Gifts	\$237,617,406	\$219,389,030	\$18,228,376	8.3
	(*)—Percent Change		(BP)	

Executive Secretaries, Editors Name Officers

Harmon Moore, executive secretary of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana, and Hudson Baggett, editor of the Alabama Baptist weekly newspaper, were named president, respectively, of the State Executive Secretaries Association of the Southern Baptist Convention and of the Southern Baptist Press Association.

Other officers named during concurrent meetings of the two groups in San Francisco were:

Executive secretaries group — James Landes, executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, vice president, and Joe L. Ingram, executive secretary of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, secretary.

Press Association — Jack U. Harwell, editor of *The Christian Index*, weekly news publication of Georgia Baptists, president-elect; and R. G. Puckett, editor of the Maryland Baptist weekly news publication, secretary-treasurer for a consecutive term. (BP)

Texas Baptists Make One-Sixth of Texas

One out of every six Texans is a member of a Texas Baptist church, according to figures released in Dallas.

The state's largest Protestant group, the Baptist General Convention of Texas, now has 2,073,841 members, compared with 2,037,791 a year ago.

That figure also represents about one-sixth of the membership of the 12.7-million-member Southern Baptist Convention (SBC).

Statistics also showed that Texas Baptists contributed \$243,169,125 to all church causes during 1975, compared with \$219,300,076 in 1974.

Texas Baptists also increased in the number of churches affiliated while declining slightly in the number of missions. At year's end 3,914 churches were part of the convention. The affiliations compare with 3,852 last year, a gain of 62 congregations.

In missions, the denomination's churches support 363 missions, as compared with 380 last year. (BP)