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**WESTERN RECORDER**  
AUGUST 26, 1976

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## An Open Letter to Kentucky Baptists

Dear Fellow Kentucky Baptists:

On behalf of the directors of *Western Recorder* let me share some facts with you and request your understanding and cooperation.

In the last meeting of the directors we gave careful consideration to the financial condition of *Western Recorder*. The phenomenal rise in postage rates, the ever increasing costs of paper and other materials used in producing *Western Recorder* make it necessary to find additional funds to operate without going into debt.

The directors have considered the available sources for additional income. The printing done in our *Western*

*Recorder* print shop already provides a small subsidy for *Western Recorder*. We are now using about as much space in the paper for paid advertising as we should.

The only two other possible sources for additional income are an increase in funds for *Western Recorder* from the Cooperative Program and an increase in subscription rates. After serious consideration we have decided to ask the churches and individual subscribers to pay a little more for the paper.

In 20 years we have made only two small increases in subscription rates. The present cost to churches is \$2.00 a year for each family receiving *Western*

*Recorder*. Beginning Sept. 1, 1976 we are asking for one penny more for each of the 50 issues a year or a total of \$2.50 a year for each subscription. This is still much less than the actual costs of printing and mailing the paper.

We feel that in light of the importance of the paper to all the work we sponsor as Kentucky Baptists and the high costs of everything today, the churches will understand. We appeal to you for cooperation.

Gratefully,  
John Sykes, Chairman  
*Western Recorder* Directors

## It's Sad But So

It's sad but so. *Western Recorder* can no longer operate in the black without additional income. We have, then, the choice of finding more receipts or going in debt.

*Western Recorder* directors, chosen by Kentucky Baptists to direct the affairs of the state paper, have given serious consideration to all possible sources of income. They have decided to ask churches and individuals to pay a little more for the paper.

Beginning Sept. 1, 1976, the church budget price will be raised from \$2.00 to \$2.50 a year and the individual subscriptions will go up from \$2.75 to \$3.50 a year. These rates will not take effect until the date of expiration. For example, a church whose expiration date is Dec. 31, 1976, will not start paying the new rate until Jan. 1, 1977.

The same goes for individual subscriptions.

We are very reluctant to do this. We consider it tragic if such an increase causes any loss in the number of Baptists who receive and read the paper each week. Our objective is to have *Western Recorder* coming into every Baptist home in Kentucky and it would be self-defeating to have a little more income but to lose readers.

But we plead with churches and their leaders not to drop *Western Recorder* from the church budget and we don't believe they will. After all, the raise will make each issue cost only five cents. Surely the only source of infor-

mation about all we do as Baptists coming into the homes of Baptist families each week is worth a nickel.

Like everyone else we can make a strong case on the basis of hard facts. Inflation which is hitting all of us doesn't spare *Western Recorder*.

The biggest culprits are postage and paper stock. Three years ago our mailing cost was \$6,000 a year. Today it is \$25,000. Four years ago paper stock for *Western Recorder* was \$125 a ton. Today it is \$285 a ton and after Jan. 1, 1977, it will be \$300 a ton.

Postal service is also hitting us in another place. Every paper that is sent back because of wrong address costs us 25c. Every day the mail brings several of these back to us and at the 25c rate the cost quickly runs up. Churches and individuals could help us a great deal by notifying us promptly of changes of address or discontinued subscriptions.

Everything else related to the production of *Western Recorder* is going up. Cost of living adjustment for employees have to be made, medical insurance along with other fringe benefits keep increasing and workmen's compensation rates are scheduled to rise soon.

It's small consolation but other state papers are in the same fix. The last two editors of state papers I have talked to say they are raising subscription rates and the same probably goes for all state Baptist papers except those being paid for entirely with Cooperative Program funds.

Please understand.

## Baptist Forum

PAUL MISINTERPRETED?

I was quite indignant at the reactionary interpretation and viewpoint of Mr. R. Charles Blair concerning the role of women in worship. I suppose Mr. Blair's article was impressive, if a layperson cursorily read the article and noticed all the Greek decipherment. Greek scholarship is useful in aiding one's New Testament interpretation, yet it can often be used as a guise for "sophisticated, irreproachable erudition."

I must first disagree with his assumption that "the spirit of the times" endorses male/female sameness. I believe that a more accurate assumption of the "spirit of the times" endorses male/female equity, which means fairness. Male and female are distinct in sexuality, yet alike in humanness under God. God treats both sexes fairly, we should attempt to do the same.

I think Mr. Blair flagrantly neglected an important teaching by our "reputedly male-chauvinist Paul." "... there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus" (Gal. 3:28). This verse tells me that I, as a woman, am free to express my Christian calling in this world. If I'm directed to preach I would do so. God deals with me as a human, learning about him. The fact that I am female is insignificant in my relationship with God. If God thought it necessary to deal with me differently because of my gender, then where is a Bible written exclusively for females?

Rather than dispute tediously all of Mr. Blair's interpretations. I think it necessary to consider one fallacy—that of excluding the cultural heritage of Paul and the situation with which he dealt.

Paul, though a venerated apostle, was not superhuman; he, like I, represents his culture. He conformed to culture which is why he instructed women on the style of their ministry. Mr. Blair implies that the church is wrong to "conform culturally" in the light of "perspectives of scripture and history." I think Paul would disagree.

Paul wrote about specific ideas relating to specific situations. He wanted women and men to represent Christ in a culturally honorable way. The Jewish women were not utilized in society in the same way American women are today. They were not as formally and

broadly educated. Technology had not "liberated" them from household labor, and Hebrew and Greek societal hierarchy is not equivalent to American societal hierarchy.

An interpretation of Paul's teachings must take into account the purpose of his letters and accounts. They were written not as journals of events, but as instructions and encouragements. Not every Christian activity and activist was recorded. Many women may have exercised their Christian ministry in culturally accepted ways. There may have been several Priscillas who were in business with their husbands, or Dorcas, who were disciples. Many may have been like Lydia, who was a respected merchant. Sixteen active church women were mentioned in Acts and the Epistles, and this is only a repetition of the revitalizing events taking place during this time.

I think the most salient features of Paul's writings are found not in the specific instructions given only to some women (who, like many of us, were uncertain as to how to manifest their gifts and liberation under Christ), but are found in his advice to all Christians, such as prayer, Christian lifestyle and effectiveness.

I am saddened that I cannot exercise my Christian ministry in some Southern Baptist churches, such as Mr. Blair's, except through the WMU, where only there I could pray publicly, and through teaching Sunday school to women; or ideally to the small children. What limitations! As to ordination, the term is not used for pastoral purposes for men or women in the New Testament.

Ellen Fleming, Franklin

### WHAT COMES NATURALLY

Concerning "The Price for Baptist Openness" I feel that it was more than just taking up for the underdog at Norfolk. The messengers showed they had an interest in knowing the content of the MACOS material. Herschel Markham failed to use the time given him to tell it and the Christian Life Commission report certainly didn't reveal what it was.

The acceptance of the practice of referral assumes that the agency to which

a resolution or other action is referred will, at the next convention, give a satisfactory report. The small paragraph in the report on the MACOS material could have been written with no in-depth study. I don't say that it was but it certainly did not do what it was instructed to do.

All committees and boards should take notice and report on what the messengers refer to them to investigate. This is part of their responsibility and I believe it is expected of them.

Ervin E. Cope, Cox's Creek

### WE'RE IN TROUBLE NOW

"Current Trends Among Southern Baptists" (8/5/76), your last paragraph ended with: "In listing the changes above there has been no effort to judge them as good or bad."

Except your judgment be founded upon the Word of God, it would avail but little to me, but lest Southern Baptists go the way of many others, it is high time that note is taken of "Thus saith the Lord."

And who is in a position to keep the "ship of state" upon an even keel better than the editors and writers for *Western Recorder*?

This letter may be editorialized, or it may be published in the Baptist Forum, per se. That is your prerogative, but whatever your decision, I feel confident that the majority of your discerning readers will agree that the current trend among Southern Baptists is not a spiritually healthy one.

Crawford McNeely, Lynn Grove

### WHO'S HE FOR?

Upon reading Wesley O. Hanson's letter in the Aug. 5 issue concerning President Ford's appearance at the Southern Baptist Convention, I thought, "Amen, Bro. Hanson!" But when I read the highly slanted PR article on Mr. Carter on page 12 of the same issue, I felt compelled to write a strong objection! Political promotions are poor taste for our Kentucky Baptist newspaper. Being a Southern Baptist is not necessarily a prime requisite for becoming President of the United States or, for that matter, a peanut farmer.

James E. Abell, Owensboro

# Baptist News in Brief

## Budget and Bible Get BSSB Trustee Attention

Trustees of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, in their semi-annual meeting at Glorieta, N. M., adopted a record \$73.9 million budget for 1976-77 and emphasized the agency's priority area of Bible teaching for the masses.

Approval was given to a joint project with the Southern Baptist Convention Radio and Television Commission looking toward exploring the possibility of a radio-television Bible teaching program in conjunction with correspondence Bible study.

Plans for release of four curriculum publications in the Bible Book Series on Oct. 1, 1978, also were approved. The periodicals, for youth, adults and leaders of each group, will provide systematic Bible study in both the Old and New Testaments each year.

In adopting a \$73,997,000 budget, up from \$64,761,000 the previous year, trustees noted that while the church literature production costs will have increased approximately 11 percent in two years, no price increases would be passed on to churches at this time.

In other matters, trustees: —Approved for recommendation to the SBC Executive Committee a publication entitled "Living With Children," aimed toward parents of children ages six to 11.

—Elected Presnell H. Wood, pastor of Park Place Baptist Church, Houston, as chairman of the trustees; Marvin Sharpton of Sharpton Sales Company, Nashville, as chairman of the executive committee and vice chairman of the trustees; and reelected Melvin Harris, second vice president of National Life and Accident Insurance Company, Nashville, secretary.

—Approved increasing annual number of issues of "The Student" magazine, produced by the National Student Ministries office, from nine to 12.

## BSSB Staffers Mending

Three Southern Baptist Sunday School Board employees who received multiple injuries in a two-car collision Aug. 5 are all listed in fair condition and improving, according to a spokesman at Baptist Hospital, Nashville.

Wilbur Lamm and Tom Lee of the Sunday School department and Bill Junker of National Student Ministries were injured when Junker's car was struck by a car driven by a 16-year-old Nashville girl as the men drove to work. She was only slightly injured.

A hospital spokesman said that Junker, who suffered 22 broken ribs and a punctured lung, along with other injuries, is improving and has moved from the intensive care unit to a private room.

Lamm, although still in intense pain,

is slowly improving and also has been moved to a private room.

Lee, who had a pin inserted in his injured hip, is expected to be released from the hospital within a week.

## Ford, Carter Have Ties

President Gerald R. Ford, an Episcopalian and the Republican Party's choice to run in November, and Democratic hopeful former Georgia Governor Jimmy Carter, a Southern Baptist, have several things in common—some related to Southern Baptists.

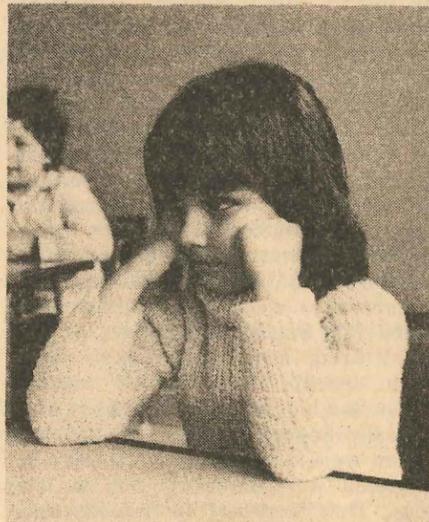
Each picked vice-presidential running mates with Methodist ties. Ford's choice for vice-president, Sen. Robert Dole (R. Kans.) is said to be a United Methodist. Carter's vice-presidential pick, Sen. Walter F. Mondale (D.-Minn.), is a Methodist minister's son but now is reportedly a Presbyterian.

Second, each of the presidential candidates has addressed the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC), Carter at the 1974 convention in Dallas and Ford as the first incumbent President to do so, in Norfolk, Va., June 1976.

Third, the two appeared on a Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission program together in Dallas, when Carter was still Georgia Governor and Ford was vice-president. Ford—as keynote speaker—was introduced by Carter, a Baptist deacon and trustee of the SBC agency.

## Double Exposure

Our greatest resource? Kids. Here are a few statistics about our 66 million youngsters under age 18. Seventeen million, one in four, live in poverty; 95% of the 1.7 mentally retarded live in slums; 2.5 million children are in danger of lead poisoning, a major cause of retardation. A million kids are at risk of bodily harm from parents, according to a 1975 report by the National Institute of Child Abuse and Neglect. It is time to raise a hue and cry for conscience and values, to demand that children be declared our nation's first priority, our greatest national resource.



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## Western Recorder

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

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### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Individual, \$3.68 (tax included); Foreign, \$3.75; Church Budget, \$2.50. All except church accounts payable in advance. Church accounts must have tax exemption number.

# Kentucky Baptists at Work



James E. Rennell [right], minister of education at First Baptist Church, Madisonville, conducts one of the age group conferences during the Sunday school leadership sessions at Cedarmore recently under sponsorship of the state Sunday School Department.

## Action, Small Church to Receive Sunday School Emphasis: Halbrooks

by Jim Cox, Associate Editor

Fred E. Halbrooks, newly named director of the Sunday School Department of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, spelled out his program for the immediate future to participants in two Kentucky Sunday school conferences at Cedarmore week before last.

"There are two priorities as I see them," said Halbrooks.

"First and foremost is the Action plan for greatly enlarging and underscoring the outreach of a church's Bible study program. Secondly, we will give special emphasis to Bible study in the small church."

Halbrooks pointed out that 60% of churches affiliated with the Kentucky Baptist Convention have a membership of less than 300. "It is to these churches we will begin offering special assistance for their unique needs," Halbrooks declared.

He stated that three associational campaigns for small churches are now being organized for this year and 1977, and others will follow.

In these campaigns a leader will be sent into the association to consult with each local pastor concerning problem

areas affecting their Sunday school. Together they will meet with the church leadership or entire church body to adopt goals which will enhance that church's teaching ministry. The consultant will then review with the church leaders progress being made in reaching those goals.

"The opportunities for the large church will continue as before," observed Halbrooks. "But this increased emphasis in the majority of our churches should greatly enhance their effectiveness in reaching out through Bible study."

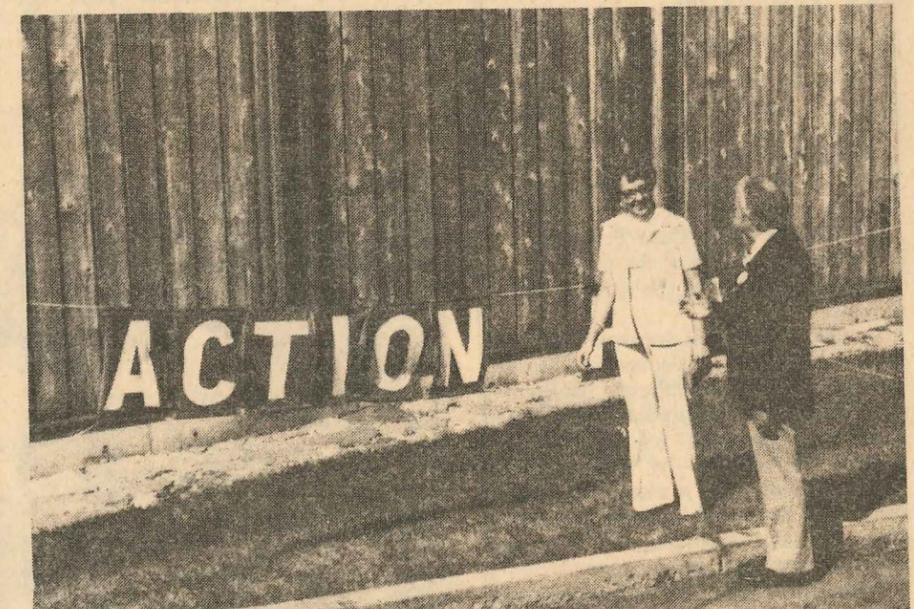
Concerning Action, Halbrooks stated that 23 area Action clinics have been scheduled for this fall throughout Kentucky.

"In these clinics," he said, "associational church leaders will hear an interpretation of the Action program and discover how a campaign in their associations may be carried out."

Long Run Baptist Association, in the Louisville area, has already scheduled one of these campaigns for Mar. 20-27, 1977, independent of the state Sunday School Department.

The Action plan is described in detail in the June 10 issue of *Western Recorder*.

(continued on p. 6)



Mrs. Velma Jeffries, office secretary in the KBC Sunday School Department, listens as state Director Fred E. Halbrooks outlines plans to implement Action enlargement plans in many Kentucky associations later this year.

# Kentucky Baptists at Work

(continued from p. 5)

Looking further ahead Halbrooks also said it is his intention to select and train 100 special age group workers in Kentucky in 1978 to be available to conduct leadership conferences across the state.

"I would love to do this before 1978," he explained, "but our budget is locked up until then."

He hopes to enlist persons from every area of the state who are capable of leading the various age groups.

At the Sunday school conferences at Cedarmore a goal of 10% increase in state Sunday school enrolment per year was projected. Bible Teaching and Learning and Adult Start-a-Class programs also received special emphasis.

Ten age group and special interest conferences were held throughout the two two-day sessions. More than 200 persons representing churches throughout Kentucky were present.

T. A. Prickett, pastor of Seven Hills Baptist Church, Owensboro, led Bible study at both sessions. Tim Owings, Southern Seminary student, directed the music.

## From Bellevue By Bicycle

by Gregory L. Hancock

Why would six teenage guys and a 36-year-old insurance executive bicycle over 150 miles for a spot on a quilt?

There are two reasons: the quilt itself, a scholarship project of the Women's Advisory Board of the Kentucky Baptist Child Care Program; and the unselfish nature of the men.

The importance of the quilt is rooted in history.

In 1880 a group of women from Baptist churches in Louisville literally saved Kentucky's child care program—now the oldest continuously operated child care program in the Southern Baptist Convention—by raising \$5000 selling positions on a memorial quilt to keep the Louisville Baptist Orphans' Home solvent through difficult post-Civil War reconstruction years.

Fortunately for the hundreds of children helped annually by Kentucky's child care program, survival of the children's homes is no longer a question. The rising cost of higher education,

however, is killing any hope of a college or professional degree for children with limited financial resources.

In March the Women's Advisory Board announced they intended to sequel the original quilt with a bicentennial version that would endow a scholarship fund for residents of Kentucky Baptist children's homes. Their goal of \$40,000 made it necessary to sell positions on the new quilt for \$500 apiece.

Members of Bellevue (Ky.) Baptist Church, near Covington, heard about the new quilt from their pastor, Lee Hopkins, a member of the Kentucky Baptist Child Care Board. A spark of enthusiasm broke out among senior high boys of Ray Bricking's Pioneer II RA chapter.

The boys informed the church they would exchange labor for cash. For bicycling from Bellevue to Louisville they would expect cash pledges of so much per mile from church members, the amount depending upon the donor, toward the purchase of a position on the scholarship quilt.

Bricking met the boys July 29 in the church parking lot and informed them the people of the church had pledged not only the required \$500 for the quilt square but an additional \$150 for "whatever the children's home might need."

The group knelt together in the park-

ing lot to pray for strength and safety in their venture. Then they mounted up and rolled out.

### ROLLING ALONG

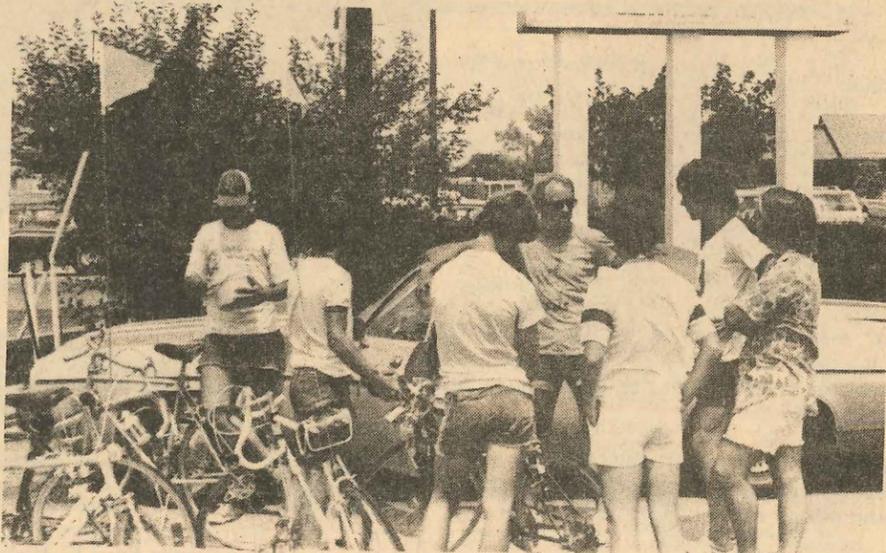
Leaving Bellevue, in northern Kentucky, the riders' pace tended to quicken and Bricking had to remind them to slow down to a more steady speed which could be maintained over the long haul.

"Those first few miles were the worst," he said. "I was out of shape and I thought a couple of times of pitching the bike on the back of the follow-up car and calling it quits."

The group planned to stop at Big Bone Lick State Park, 40 miles from Bellevue, that first night. When they arrived, however, the campground was full and they had to camp in the primitive camping area. That was fine, but because they were not in the regular campground they could not use park showers.

For the first time the group's spirit sagged. They had looked forward to a cooling shower after the hot ride.

Young people from the church were scheduled to drive down and join them for fellowship and an evening devotion, but a misunderstanding about time, change in location and an automobile breakdown all but aborted the gathering. Morale was at an all time low and the various aggravations amplified the



Ray Bricking [center] and his RA chapter at Bellevue [Ky.] Baptist Church stop for lunch in their quest to reach Middletown on bicycles.

discomfort of having to sack out dirty.

Bricking thought again about "just burning the bikes and going home!"

Then a chance meeting with a church family vacationing in the park helped settle their emotions and enabled them to get a better attitude about the task ahead.

No one had to coax the bikers to sleep that night. It was hard to say what made them more tired: the miles behind them or the ones coming up.

Friday morning they again rolled southward. Their goal that day was Carrollton and General Butler State Park. They knew there would be showers and available camp space at Butler. A few miles loosened the kinks and aches of Thursday's ride and their spirits began to brighten.

Rolling down through northern Kentucky they stopped occasionally at farm houses and rest areas to ask for water or ice and to give themselves a break from the road.

### SPECIAL SURPRISE

Friday night at General Butler the pilgrims were in for a treat. Supper at the park lodge had invited exploration and that had uncovered a TV set tuned to the Olympics. The group sat until well after dark commenting with awe on the athletic prowess of "guys in that good condition!"

Bricking and the boys made Louisville just after noon Saturday.

Seven bicycles pulled to a stop side by side in the child care parking lot at Middletown. After some 150 miles of concrete and traffic, three days and two nights on the road, the group knelt again and thanked God for his presence and protection.

After handshakes and introductions with child care officials, the boys stepped inside to cool off and clean up before touring the administration building. The feature attraction of the tour was, of course, the original memorial quilt, regally displayed alongside a collection of photos depicting the history of child care in Kentucky.

The boys grinned with embarrassment when Child Care Executive Director Bill Amos jokingly asked which of them was going to sew their square now they had bought their spot on the quilt.

It was a tired group that loaded their travel-worn 10-speeds on the bed of a

pick-up truck and piled into cars for the hour-and-a-half drive back home.

Greg Feldman, Kevin Bush, Mel Wilmoth, Ken Koke, Jim and Jeff Dixius, and, of course, Ray Bricking will probably never bicycle route 42 from Bellevue to Louisville again. They will take up other causes and, perhaps, ride new roads as the years go by.

When they are old, young students under the care of the Kentucky Baptist Child Care Program will still be able to learn and grow and become whole, mature individuals because they cared. Those young people of the future will probably never know that on July 29, 1976, six teenagers and an insurance executive from Bellevue took a bike ride for them and wound up in history.

## GABK Elects Officers

The annual convention of the General Association of Baptists in Kentucky took place Aug. 10-13 at Southern Star Baptist Church, Louisville.

C. M. Smith, pastor of Evergreen Baptist Church, Lexington, was re-elected moderator. Elected assistants to the moderator were B. F. Green, pastor of First Baptist Church, Hopkinsville; W. J. Hodge, pastor of Fifth Street Baptist Church, Louisville; and J. L. Roberts, pastor of Mount Olive Baptist Church, Louisville.

Between 600 and 700 attended the annual convention.

## 9,772 Awards Earned

For the first nine months of the associational year, 26 churches in Kentucky have received over 70 study course awards. Altogether, 563 churches have received 9,772 awards.

Listed are the top 26 churches thus far: Campbellsville, 342; Gardenside, Lexington, 168; Severns Valley, Elizabethtown, 158; Good Hope, Campbellsville, 143; Stanford, 143; Altona, Calvert City, 126; Hall St., Owensboro, 124; Highview, Louisville, 113; New Salem, Cox's Creek, 111; Mt. Pleasant, Lewisburg, 103; Deer Park, Louisville, 97; Bethel, Harrodsburg, 92; First, Madisonville, 91; South Elkhorn, Lexington, 91; First, Barlow, 89; Bashford Manor, Louisville, 86; Mt. Pisgah, Bremen, 86; Sand Spring, Lawrence,

86; First, Frankfort, 83; First, Danville, 82; First, Hazard, 79; Third Street, Owensboro, 78; Gethsemane, Danville, 76; First, Mt. Washington, 76; Highland, Shelbyville, 73; Central, Maysville, 71.

## Child Care Adds Staffer

Susan Cooley has joined the staff of the Kentucky Baptist Child Care Program as maternity and adoption specialist.

Mrs. Cooley is a graduate of Furman University and the University of Louisville Kent School of Social Work. A native of Atlanta, she and her husband, Phillip, moved to Louisville in 1974. They are members of Weston Baptist Church, North Vernon, Ind., where Cooley is pastor.

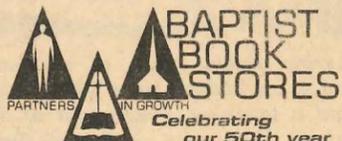
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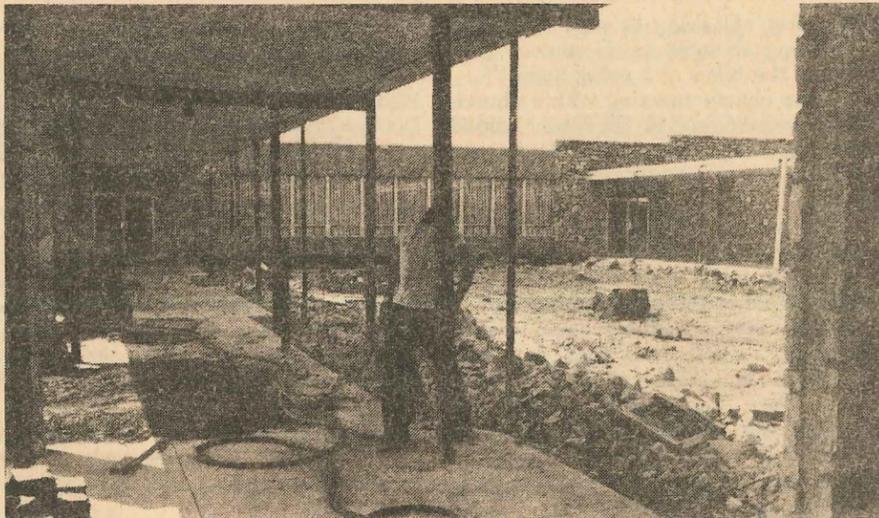
# Christian Education

## Georgetown Names Two

Two persons were recently named to the Georgetown (Ky.) College faculty.

Austin French, a graduate of David Lipscomb College, Nashville, and Auburn (Ala.) University, was appointed assistant professor of mathematics.

Phil Wilks, Marshall University, Huntington, W. Va., graduate, was named instructor of health, physical education and recreation at Georgetown. He will also be assistant football coach. The Huntington native has taught and coached at Chesapeake (Ohio) High School.



Major emphasis of an expansion project at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., is modification of an existing classroom/faculty building. Plans call for enclosing the breezeway area between the faculty building and student center complex. Class space will increase by 30%.

## Dillard Receives Post

Badgett Dillard, vice president for business affairs at Southern Seminary, Louisville, has been elected to a two-year term as treasurer of the Association of Theological Schools.

The ATS, with about 200 member institutions in the U. S. and Canada, is accrediting agency for graduate professional education in theology.



Catherine Bates, dean of women at Georgetown College since 1965, has accepted a teaching assignment at Seinangakuin University, Fukuoka, Japan, beginning this fall. She expects to be in Japan at least two years. Seinangakuin is a Baptist school with 13,000 students.

11 years has resigned to join the faculty of Clear Creek Baptist School, Pineville.

Pomeroy is a graduate of Georgetown College and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has been awarded an honorary degree from Georgetown College and earned a doctor of ministry degree from Southern Seminary in 1974.

Pomeroy was pastor in Newport, Ky., for 10 years before going to College Park in 1965. He gained national fame for leading a drive to clean up gambling operations in Newport.

## To Cumberland . . . Again

Junior high basketball coach David L. Davies was a nervous wreck. Pacing the floor in the auditorium, his brow broke out in a sweat.

The year was 1972, and the place was Graz, Austria, only this night it wasn't a basketball game. Davies was director of the 100-strong Harlan Boys Choir, and they were present by special invitation to participate in international choir competition against 27 of the top musical organizations throughout the U. S. and Europe.

With a spirit more like a football team than a boys choir, a group of tree-climbing, frog-catching mountain boys from a coal-mining town unfairly

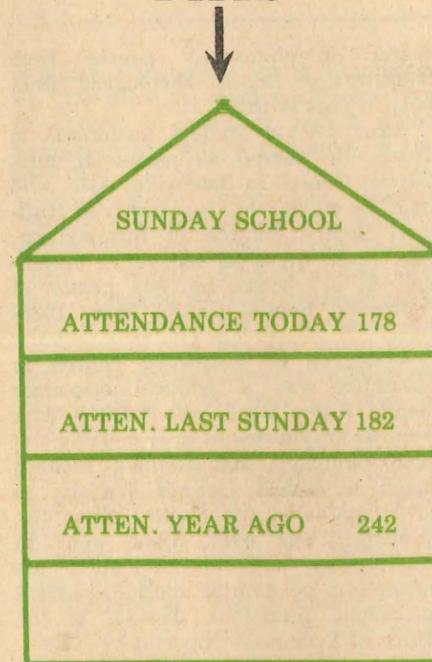
known as "Bloody Harlan" won the eyes of Europe and captured the coveted "superior" rating at the Graz International Youth Music Festival. Only two other choirs won the same honor.

Today, however, Davies is not certified to teach music in Kentucky. A graduate of Cumberland College when it was a junior college, he is again attending Kentucky's largest private college in order to obtain the credits needed to attain certification.

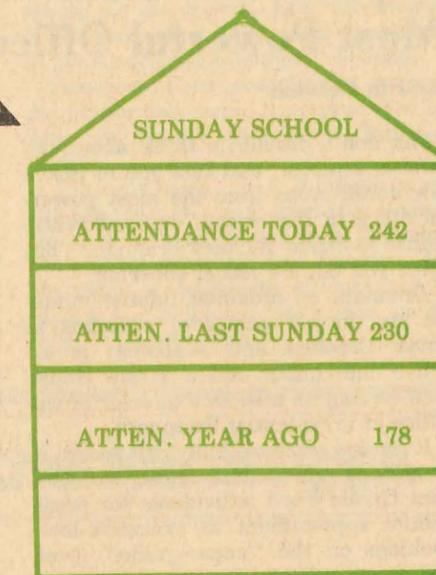


J. M. Boswell, Cumberland College president for 31 years, was recently elected to the SBC Education Commission. Boswell has been on the Williamsburg school's staff 45 years.

CHANGE  
THIS



TO THIS



DISCOVER HOW

## Attend Action Conferences

DATES	PLACES
September 27	Glasgow Baptist, Glasgow
October 4	First Baptist, Henderson
4	First Baptist, Williamsburg
22	First Baptist, Richmond
November 15	First Baptist, London
	First Baptist, Murray
	First Baptist, Bowling Green
	Gethsemane, Danville
	First Baptist, Eddyville
	Crestwood, Frankfort
	Pleasant Grove, Shepherdsville

DATES	PLACES
November 16	First Baptist, Hazard
	First Baptist, Hopkinsville
	First Baptist, Somerset
	First Baptist, Pikeville
	First Baptist, Ashland
	Brooksville Baptist, Brooksville
	First Baptist, Greenville
	Fleming Baptist, Fleming
November 18	Burksville Baptist, Burksville
	Paintsville Baptist, Paintsville
	First Baptist, Clinton
November 19	Beattyville Baptist, Beattyville

TIME: 7:00-9:00 P.M.

FOR: Pastors, Associational Directors of Missions, Associational Sunday School Directors, Church Sunday School Directors

Under the direction of:  
Sunday School Department  
Kentucky Baptist Building  
Middletown, Kentucky  
Fred E. Halbrooks, Director

## Interesting People

### Baptist Very Near World's Most Powerful Office

by Jim Newton

"You don't ordinarily think about the awesome power, and that you're just a few dozen steps from the most powerful office in the world," mused White House assistant Richard Brannon, "but when you do, it's rather sobering."

Brannon, an ordained Baptist minister and former pastor of churches in South Carolina and Alabama, is an active churchman and a White House aide serving as associate director of the Office of Presidential Personnel.

It is his responsibility to assist in identifying and recommending to President Gerald Ford individuals for presidential appointment to executive-level positions on the "super-grade" level, including ambassadors and cabinet-level appointments.

"You're so busy working with fever and intensity just to get today's and this week's work done, you never think much about the power, the responsibility," Brannon observed. He does not have as much personal contact with President Ford as does the director of the Office of Presidential Personnel, Douglas Bennett, but does have some, Brannon noted.

"Every minute of every day and night is structured for him (the President)," Brannon said. "His work schedule and appointment schedule are both highly regimented."

Brannon said he was both fascinated and challenged by the opportunity to be a part of the White House staff.

Yet, sometimes the red tape and paper work become routine and even boring, he noted. Still, "Other days are electrifying with exciting events."

The hours are long and hard—12 or 14 hours a day of high intensity responsibility and work. There are constant meetings and staff conferences. And the paper work on the desk stacks up. The pressures of time are ever present. "You never seem to get it all done, you just do your best to stay on top of it," Brannon said.

Brannon is not the first Baptist minister to serve as a White House aide. Indeed, there has been a Baptist in the White House much of the time since

Lyndon B. Johnson became president in 1968.

Bill Moyers, President Johnson's right-hand aide who rose to become "special assistant in charge of everything" and White House Press Secretary, is probably the most prominent Baptist minister to serve there.

Wallace Henley, most recently pastor of Spanish Fort Baptist Church near Mobile, Ala., who was recently named director of communications for World Vision International, served as a junior-level White House aide working under Baptist deacon Harry Dent during the Nixon Administration.

Brannon's job is considered a middle-level position, a slot higher than Henley's and a notch lower than Moyer's.

How did a Baptist pastor end up in the White House handling executive level presidential appointments? For Brannon, it began with preaching the importance of Christian citizenship from the pulpit. A native of Texas, Brannon is a graduate of Baylor University in Waco, Tex., and earned the

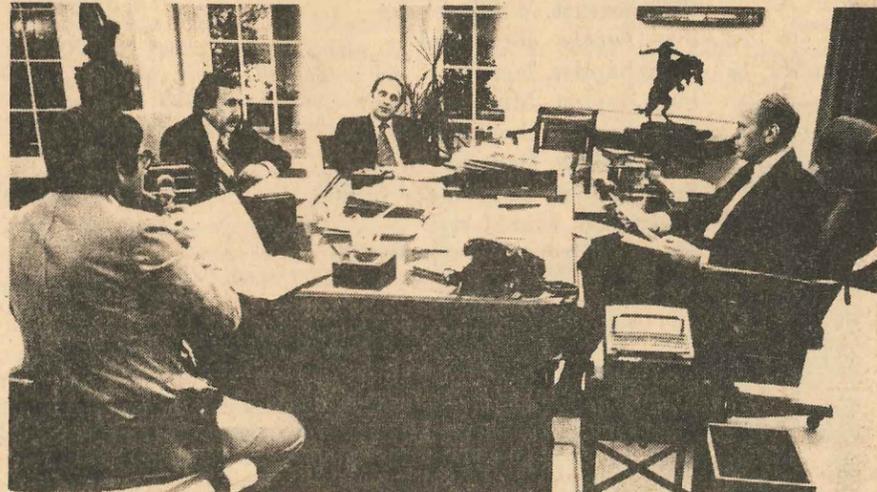
doctor of philosophy degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth.

After several student pastorates in Texas, he served as pastor of First Baptist Church in Batesville, Ark., and later for eight years was pastor of Huffman Baptist Church in Birmingham, Ala. From there he moved to Columbia, S. C., where he was pastor of Kathwood Baptist Church from 1965-70.

A deacon at Kathwood church in Columbia was a political organizer named Harry Dent, who worked with Sen. Strom Thurmond in organizing the 1968 campaign that enabled Richard Nixon to defeat George Wallace in seven states in the South. When the campaign was over, Dent went to Washington, and recommended his pastor to a position as special assistant to Donald Rumsfeld, director of the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO).

"I had been preaching that Christians have a responsibility outside the walls of the church for years, and when the opportunity came to see our system of government at work first hand, it was too tempting to turn down," Brannon said.

Later, Brannon took on another special assignment. He was asked to help George Schultz, then director of the Office of Management and Budget, to



Richard Brannon [second from left], a former S. C. Baptist pastor, is frequently among White House aides Douglas P. Bennett [left], personnel director, and Richard B. Cheney [center], special assistant, in meetings with President Gerald Ford. Brannon is associate director of the office of presidential personnel in the White House.

organize a special Cabinet Committee on Education to involve citizens from the South in handling public school desegregation with a minimum of turmoil.

Following this assignment, Brannon became a special assistant to Elliot L. Richardson, secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, a position he held for three years. Once Richardson asked Brannon why he had left the Baptist pastorate to enter government service, Richardson was doodling at the time he asked the question.

"Because here is where the decisions are made that most affect the lives of Americans," Brannon replied to Richardson. "And I thought I should try to influence those decisions." Richardson didn't say anything but looked up from his doodling and just nodded his head in affirmation, because he understood what was going on deep inside, Brannon recalled.

"I believe that government has a powerful influence for good or for ill," Brannon explained. "Inch by inch, government has eaten away at the individual human liberties our forefathers fought to obtain 200 years ago. I believe it is in the interest of the American people to have less government, not more government."

Brannon said he was especially concerned about federal restrictions and regulations that affect religious institutions. "Whether we like it or not," he said, "the fact is that more and more federal regulations are being imposed on religious institutions, especially such institutions as hospitals, homes for the aged and for children, colleges and universities, etc."

Brannon expressed special concern about federal regulations affecting religious broadcasting, and said he was trying to use his influence to deal with this problem.

"In my role at the White House, I'm trying to select good people who are qualified to do a competent job in the upper levels of government service," he said. "And this is serious business."

Brannon, an active member of McLean Baptist Church, in a Virginia suburb of Washington, did not discount the possibility that one day he might return to the pastorate. "The thing I miss the most," he said, "is the oppor-

tunity to preach."

Brannon is also active in the White House Prayer Fellowship, a group of White House employes and Executive Branch leaders who meet every other Tuesday morning for breakfast, a devotional period and for prayer. About 30-40 persons of all levels of government and all denominations are participants in the fellowship.

"There is nothing spectacular about it, just a time when men of different religious backgrounds come together for devotion, sharing and prayer. It doesn't have the depth or intensity of

worship in a local church and is no substitute for the church. But I do believe it is always good and useful for people to meet and pray together," he said.

President Ford occasionally attends the prayer fellowship meetings, but he does not make a show of it, Brannon said.

"The President is a religious man, but his faith is not a spectacular kind. He is a man of prayer and devotion. This is not anything new for him. He has made a deliberate attempt not to exploit his religious convictions politically," Brannon said.

## Mountains to the Mississippi

### In the Long Run

G. Allen West, executive director of Long Run Baptist Association, and Eugene Enlow, chairman of the Long Run Baptist Association World Missions Conference, jointly announced that over 40 state, home and foreign missionaries have been scheduled to come to Louisville Oct. 31-Nov. 7, 1976.

They will appear at over 60 Long Run Baptist Association churches.

The purpose of the conference is to give Louisville area churches an opportunity to see and hear missionaries who can relate first hand experiences concerning the needs of the areas they serve and the ways Baptist churches are seeking to minister to those needs.



Pictured are members of Gano Avenue Baptist Church, Georgetown, who participated in groundbreaking for a new educational building July 4. Darrell Cruse is pastor.

# Market Place



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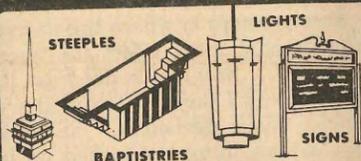
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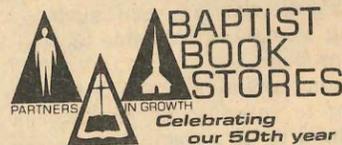
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## Missions & Ministries

### McSwain Honored

T. L. McSwain's eighth anniversary as pastor of First Baptist Church, Richmond, was recognized Aug. 8.

A feature at the morning service, "Past, Present, Future," called attention to several achievements during McSwain's pastorate.

In the evening a church-wide picnic was held at a local park.

McSwain is a past president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention and currently serves as a trustee of Georgetown College.

### HMB Names Paducahans

Daniel and Carolyn Zoeller of Paducah, Ky., have been appointed missionaries by the Baptist Home Mission Board.

Zoeller will direct Christian social ministries in West Union Association in Kentucky. Prior to appointment he was a missionary associate.

Natives of Illinois, the Zoellers have degrees from Southern Illinois University and Southern Seminary.

### FMB Ok's Addition

The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission

Board has announced plans to add a new wing to the headquarters building in Richmond, Va. Anticipated cost of the addition will be between \$1,250,000 and \$1.5 million.

### Taylor's on Tour

Eldred M. Taylor, pastor of First Baptist Church, Somerset, and Mrs. Taylor are on an evangelistic crusade and mission tour to the African countries of Ghana, Liberia and Nigeria. They will return by way of Germany Sept. 10.

# Franklin Owen

## GRAVE CLOTHS

Hardly any story in the holy scriptures imparts clearer or more precious lessons than the eleventh chapter of John, concerning the illness and death of Lazarus. Mary and Martha call for Jesus who is far away on the other side of Jordan. He comes, but after Lazarus is dead and he calls Lazarus from the grave. "Lazarus, come out."

A dear Georgia friend, now in heaven, always spoke of death as "crossing the silent stream." Did you ever hear the old song "I won't have to cross Jordan alone?" The Hebrews threw away their tents after their desert wanderings and crossed the Jordan into the Promised Land to dwell in buildings.

Heaven is the other side of the Jor-

dan; the abode of our Lord and the Father. He has come to our side of the silent stream, to the environment of death and called us by name; "come out." Calling Lazarus out of that tomb from the place of death to stand in the living community is a picture then of what he does for every one of us.

Lazarus came forth and stood with the living, but he was still bound with grave cloths, after the manner of wrapping the dead of that day. Jesus told his friends to "unbind him and let him go."

The church is a community of life, eternal life. Our



Lord is calling souls out of this world of death to stand among the living. All of us who answer his summons are still bound with the grave cloths of earth and we need each other's help to get the grave cloths off and the wedding garment on.

The church has not yet grasped this very well. Instead of being forgiving and helpful, we still tend to condemn our brethren and sisters for their grave cloths. Neither have we learned how to allow our brethren and sisters to help us. When they notice our grave cloths, even forgivingly and helpfully, we resent it. We want them to pretend, with us, that we aren't bound; while we stumble clumsily on the heavenly pilgrimage, bound by the wrappings of earth. Ah, we have much yet to learn in Christ.

# Our Baptist Heritage

As fine a group of folks as you'd ever want to meet gathered at the historic Ghent Baptist Church on Friday, July 30. They came, about 40 strong, from most sections of the state, brought together by their common interest in the rich heritage of Kentucky Baptists. They were the members of the Kentucky Baptist Historical Society holding their annual meeting, along with the Historical Commission.

Able led by the society's president, Leo T. Crismon, the group conducted

business, discussed new projects, and expressed interest in attracting new members. The Ghent congregation provided a sumptuous supper and a bus tour of the area and Pastor Floyd Baker shared with the group the history of Ghent Baptist Church. An extra attraction was an historical movie produced by Kentucky Baptists own movie man, Frank Owen, the treasurer of the society.

While sharing the joys of new and renewed acquaintances the members noted with sadness two significant absences: Jim Taulman, who had served so well as secretary of the society, now pastor in Ohio; and the late Wyatt Shely, longtime member of the society and faithful chronicler of Baptist life in his beloved Anderson County.

One project of the society may be of interest to readers: the indexing of *Western Recorder*. The old *Recorders* contained both obituaries and marriage notices, and they are useful for those interested in family history. The indexing is complete only through the year 1868, however.

The Kentucky Baptist Historical Society needs new members! It's open to anyone interested in our history. Dues are \$2.50 per year, payable to Dr. Owen in Middletown. The dues include

your subscription to *Kentucky Baptist Heritage*, the quarterly (we hope!) journal of the society.

Many of you have articles, letters, records, which would be of interest and suitable for inclusion in the journal! These may be submitted to the new secretary of the society:

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# Sunday School Lessons

Lessons for Sept. 5, 1976

## International Series

### Justification By Faith

Galatians 2:15-16

Knowing that the works of men, or their observance of the law, did not have anything to do with their justification before God, whether they be Jews or Gentiles, Paul informed his readers that justification is available only by grace through faith in Christ. Christianity is the only religion which teaches justification by grace through faith as the way of salvation. All other religions teach salvation by works, at least in part. God's Word says, "But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness" (Romans 4:5).

Galatians 3:1-14

To the Galatians Paul had preached salvation by grace through faith in Christ, but false teachers had come along insisting that all Christians must also keep the old Jewish law if they were to be saved. Paul was shocked and grieved that so many of the Galatians, whom he had influenced to receive Christ and obtain the forgiveness of their sins and salvation, had exemplified such an amazing instability by deserting the glorious gospel of the blessed God.

Paul was determined to refute this heresy as quickly and bluntly as possible. In reproving the Galatian Christians for their departure from the truth, Paul asked them some pertinent questions in the hope that they might be brought to their senses and rescued from the meshes of the Judaizers.

Paul inquired, "Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?" He reminded them that Christ had saved them when they believed on him as their saviour.

In substantiating his contention that faith is the only means of justification before God, Paul summoned the towering figure of Abraham as a witness. He called attention to the fact that Abraham's faith "was accounted to him for righteousness," and gave him acceptance with God. Likewise, all true sons of Abraham were justified before God through faith alone. God has never had any other way of salvation for any sinner than by grace through faith. To seek justification through obedience to the law is to attempt the impossible, but with a genuine faith it is possible to receive the forgiveness of sins and eternal life.

The basis of redemption is the worthiness of Christ as expressed in his death on the cross. The price of our redemption from sin was nothing less than the precious blood of Christ. His blood cleanses from all sin.



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## Life and Work Series

### What If the Worst Comes?

Habakkuk was greatly perplexed over the fact that God sometimes permits the wicked to prosper while the righteous suffer affliction and oppression.

Habakkuk's Complaint—1:2-5, 12-13

Chafing under what seemed to him the divine delay in doing something about the sinful deeds of the people with whom he was associated, Habakkuk went straight to God with the problems, doubts and questions which were in his mind. Long and earnestly he had pled with God to interpose, and he did not understand God's apparent indifference and inactivity with reference to doing so. In his bewilderment he asked God why he had not answered his prayers by bringing the people to their senses and causing them to turn from their sinful ways. He observed that prosperity and power were in the hands of the perverse, and that the way of evil appeared to be the way of blessing and success.

Habakkuk deserved commendation for not circulating his questions and doubts among the people, and for taking them directly to God for an answer or an explanation.

Habakkuk believed that God was holy and just, and would not approve sin. Consequently, he was surprised and shocked when God told him that he was going to chastise the people of Judah, using as the instrument of doing so the wicked and cruel Chaldeans.

Habakkuk's Conviction—2:1-4

Convinced that God would do what was right and best, as well as make known his will in his own time and manner, Habakkuk announced that he would take his position as a prayerful watchman and await the divine revelation. After he had meditated, prayed and waited for God's answer to his inquiry, the prophet said, "And the Lord answered me." His faith stood the test.

Habakkuk received satisfactory answers to his questions, and was convinced that God always does right. He also learned that chastisement for sins often comes to God's children through other people and their enemies. He came to understand that God is never contaminated by any of the instruments which he uses in the accomplishment of his purpose.

Habakkuk's Confidence—3:17-19

Aware of the terrible devastation that would be inflicted upon the country by the invading military forces, and the famine which would follow the destruction of the vineyards and crops, Habakkuk joyfully expressed his faith in God.

## Viewpoint

### The Quest for Independence In Marriage Relationships

by Robert W. Darby, Cumberland College

A newly married couple's first and seemingly most difficult task is to declare an emotional separation from their parents. This task is difficult because of its dynamic psychological nature.



Darby

Young adults are torn between two worlds. First, they have a great need to be free from the dependent relationship with their parents; and secondly they experience an overwhelming desire to remain in the familiar child-

parent relationship that has characterized their lives for so many years.

Their struggle for independence from parental influence produces anxiety simply because of the newness of the situation and at times the absence of emotional preparations for such an encounter. However, this state of anxiety is not unique to young adults alone. Both generations are struggling to understand the intense feelings brought about by their newly acquired roles.

For example, parents have ambivalent feelings about their children maturing into adulthood due to unresolved fears of accepting the personality which emerges from this maturing process.

When both parties communicate a resistance to their maturing roles in this new relationship, guilt levels will be intensified; therefore, the difficulty of moving from a rather immature relationship to a more adult one has been greatly increased. And yet, there must be a change of attitudes if one is to grow up to the measure of adulthood.

One important aspect of the relationship is a growing awareness of the struggle for independence as being an attempt to discover personhood and identity in a new relationship role. The chances of a couple and their parents having achieved these characteristics in the first few months of marriage are rare.

The school of thought which projects the necessity for breaking parental ties before a marriage can mature is mythical and has no foundations in the Christian faith. Marriage, in the context of Christianity, may be considered a beginning process in assuming one's own responsibility for maturity.

While dealing with this quest for independence many newlyweds and their parents accept their wholesomeness and consider one important truth: Those relationships undergirded with love for one another draw people closer to the kingdom of God in Jesus Christ. He is the ultimate expression of God's love for us.

Since God so loved us should we not love one another, especially in family relationships?

### Personnel Changes

Terry Ray Hamrick joined the staff of First Baptist Church, Somerset, July 1 as educational director. Hamrick is a native of Forest City, N. C.; a graduate of Mars Hill College; and a religious education graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Before moving to Somerset he was minister of education of the DeHaven Memorial Baptist Church, LaGrange.



Hamrick

### Deaths

Edwin F. Perry, 24, of Louisville was murdered the night of Aug. 10 in Louisville. His car crashed into Central Park about 9:50 p.m. and three men were seen fleeing on foot. Perry was found slumped over the steering wheel with one bullet through his back piercing his heart.

An employe in the data processing department of a placement agency, he was president of the Broadway Baptist Church adult choir. Among his survivors are his parents, Dr. and Mrs. Edwin F. Perry Sr. Dr. Perry is pastor of Broadway Church. A memorial service was conducted Aug. 12.

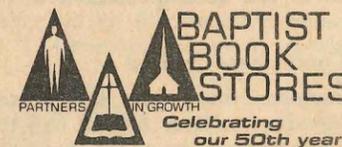
Budd E. Smith, 66, president emeritus of Wingate (N. C.) College, died Aug. 5 of a heart attack. Funeral services were held at Trinity Baptist Church, Benson, N. C., with burial at Benson. He had retired from the Baptist college presidency in 1975 after 21 years.

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