

WESTERN RECORDER

NOVEMBER 4, 1976

Higher Education Worth Baptist Support

Baptist higher education continues to be a vexing and challenging ministry of Kentucky Baptists. This impression was renewed for me by spending a morning recently on the campus of Campbellsville College. Several hours with President Davenport, the students and the faculty and staff members made for an interesting and inspiring experience.



To be with college students and committed faculty and administrative members is to be strengthened. There is nothing pessimistic about the Campbellsville College scene.

Readers of the *Western Recorder* know the financial strain under which President Davenport and his colleagues at Campbellsville have been in recent years. These readers need to know the financial picture was brighter last year. President Davenport is grateful but

says it is still very hard going to keep the budget balanced. There are more dormitory students this year which is good but other factors could make this year harder financially than last year, according to President Davenport.

Several years ago when the financial picture at Campbellsville was the darkest, an editorial on this page said it was now or never for supporters of Campbellsville.

Some strong and loyal supporters of Campbellsville College understandably did not appreciate the statement that the college could close if relief did not come. But the editorial might have been helpful in arousing Campbellsville supporters to do more for the school. At least the picture has improved. The gifts from alumni and friends of Campbellsville last year were the highest ever.

President Davenport has staked his life on the school. He turned from a successful career as a university teacher and administrator to the leadership of a struggling Baptist college. He admits now he did not know all that he was getting into but he knows he was supposed to do it. By now the Campbellsville president knows where he is and has some strong convictions about what a Baptist college should be and should do for its students.

A Heritage to Perpetuate

November for Kentucky Baptists brings frost on the pumpkin, the opening of quail season, family gatherings around the Thanksgiving table, the Thanksgiving Baptist Child Care offering and the annual Kentucky Baptist Convention meeting. All of these are exhilarating experiences which deepen our gratitude to a generous God.

None of these nor the many other blessings of God should be taken for granted. Few others in all the world are treated so generously.

These are blessings to use and to ignore them is to lose them. This is especially so when it comes to the annual

He is a man of academic excellence but roots all knowledge in God and all truth in every field in Jesus Christ. He makes no apology for approaching all areas of knowledge with strong Christian presuppositions. He says all search for truth begins with some presupposition and that the belief that all things begin, hold together and will consummate in God is as academically respectable as to account for everything on a purely naturalistic and rationalistic level.

President Davenport believes too many Christian college teachers have made a mistake in adopting a naturalistic filter through which all knowledge has to pass. Therefore the search for and explanation of truth by some teachers in Baptist colleges have been too much like that of teachers in non-church related colleges and universities who begin with a rejection of or neutrality toward the Christian view of truth.

President Davenport's views are not as naive and simplistic as the above description might suggest. He knows that two and two make four whether it is taught in a Baptist or secular classroom. He knows the explanation for splitting atoms is the same wherever it is taught but the scientist can go only so far with scientific explanations. Back of all scientific explanations is how all of this got started and it is just as logical or more logical to assume the explanation is an intelligent and caring creator as to believe this ordered universe is some kind of cosmic accident. In the Christian view the seeker for truth does not have to choose between faith and reason but strengthens faith with reason and crowns reason with faith.

Readers of this editorial should not hold President Davenport literally to the words above. Rather they express this writer's views which are strengthened in hearing an educator like President Davenport describe his convictions.

This approach to higher education is what Kentucky Baptists expect of their colleges. It does not wreck the Christian faith of students but challenges and strengthens it with human reason and scientific truth. To the extent that our three Kentucky Baptist colleges are rendering this kind of ministry, they deserve our financial and spiritual support. They also deserve the opportunity to teach and train many more of our Baptist youth.

sessions of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Like any democracy our state Baptist Convention depends upon responsible participation by its constituents. Apathy is always a danger whether it is in a nation or in a denomination.

For this reason it is important that Kentucky Baptists in large numbers gather in Lexington next week to do the Lord's business. This will be the 139th annual meeting of Kentucky Baptists. We honor those of other generations who left us such a rich heritage by seeing to it that future generations are left the same heritage.

Guest Editorial

50 Years Make a Difference

by Alton S. Newell

One of the greatest problems facing people today is inflation. . . .

"The economics of our country just don't seem to work like they used to," recently stated one senior economist. Some of us have our own opinions, but let us leave the solution to the experts while we discuss the effects of this problem that is closer to home.

I believe the segment of our society that suffers the most from inflation is the church and its budget. Inflation adds to the cost of running a church as it does the running of a home. Consequently your stewardship or budget committee is going to need all your sympathy and prayers as it meets to prepare its suggested budget for the coming year.

Let us take a look at the attitude of some of our members concerning church expenditures. Far too many feel that our churches are spending too much money. "I can remember when the church spent only a fraction of what it does today," they will say. This is true, but let's take a look backwards.

One Building

About 50 years ago, many of our churches consisted of only one building. Inside it may have had some folding doors that separated space for Sunday school rooms. In some cases classes met in each corner of the auditorium competing with each other for the attention of their members.

There may have been no literature to teach by. Each teacher put his or her own interpretation on the passages that were assigned. No choir robes to buy or special music. They sang only what the congregation sang and at the same time. Some members of the choir sang in it only to express their own personalities, which they did well.

No educational director to pay. Didn't need one. Mr. So and So was Sunday school superintendent and had been for 40 years. He should know what he is doing. Don't need any outside help. No church secretary. No typewriter. No letters to write. Don't need to, everyone comes to church.

No air conditioning or utility bills to pay. Church was cooled by opening windows. The building was heated by a pot-bellied stove. The deacons furnished the wood. The pastor or a member of his family did the janitorial work. After all, it didn't take long to sweep out a building 20 x 40 feet.

Two Lamps: 10c

The two lamps for Sunday night service used about 10 cents worth of coal oil a month. The parking lot caused no

problems. Tied your horse or team to a fence post or parked your flivver along the road.

The pastor was not paid much. After all he had to work for the church only a couple of hours a week. Besides this, the people gave him everything. They always brought him a "mess" of whatever they had left at home. Once in awhile he had to preach at a funeral or perform a wedding ceremony, but after all he needed to do something for the Lord.

We have come a long way in 50 years. I am glad that we have beautiful, spacious auditoriums for worship. I am grateful they are cooled and heated and well lighted for our comfort; pleased that they are kept clean and orderly by a competent staff. I am thankful for the musical program that adds so much to our spiritual lives; glad too for the rest of the church staff that guides our church life and keeps its affairs in order.

I am well pleased with all the auxiliary activities of the church: athletics, ceramics, linguistic classes, activities for the senior citizens and the young people.

Full Time Pastor

But most of all I am grateful for a full time pastor who has time to do research, study, pray and bring forceful, challenging messages that affect my life. I am glad he has time to visit the sick, bury the dead, comfort the lonely, council the disturbed and listen to my problems.

Now, since I am grateful for all these things, I must also support a well-planned church budget.

This I am glad to do. Through my church budget I can share my life with a lost and troubled world.

By my gifts through our Cooperative Program I can put a bicycle at the disposal of a missionary to go into places I cannot go. I can put a bowl of rice in the hands of an old man in India suffering from malnutrition. And by reports I receive through my church, I can see a smile on his face. I can, through a medical missionary nurse, reach out and touch the fevered brow of a suffering little child in Calcutta or Bangladesh. By faith I can see that child grow up to be a missionary among his own people.

[Editor's Note: Alton S. Newell, a layman from San Antonio, Tex., wrote this article for the "Baptist Standard," state paper for Texas Baptists. We feel it is especially timely as churches are formulating budgets for the coming year.—C. R. D.]

Baptist News in Brief

Texas Baptists Conduct Business

Texas Baptists, in their 91st annual session in San Antonio, launched a statewide evangelistic campaign, approved a record \$24.6 million budget, and denied seating to two charismatic churches.

The 2,760 registered "messengers" approved resolutions on gambling and on parental rights and abortion, commended the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board for its efforts in coordinating denominational response to world disasters and hunger, and re-elected James G. Harris, pastor of University Baptist Church, Ft. Worth, as president.

The sessions were attended by some 3,410 Texas Baptists and guests, including registered messengers — largest since the Baptist General Convention of Texas (BGCT) last met in San Antonio in 1969. Record attendance was in Ft. Worth, where 3,777 registered in 1954.

Texas Baptists launched "Good News Texas," a 1977 statewide evangelistic campaign, and named evangelist Billy Graham as the effort's "national chairman." Graham lauded the \$1.5 million campaign as "one of the most important and ambitious evangelical undertakings in the country's history."

"This campaign is for all Texans,"

Graham said in a taped message. "Because the local church is the heart of this movement, 'Good News Texas' will offer every Texan the opportunity to share the gospel."

Of the record \$24.6 million Cooperative Program unified budget, some \$8.55 million — or 34.75 percent — will go to worldwide causes through the Southern Baptist Convention's (SBC) national Cooperative Program. The 1977 budget is \$2.4 million higher than in 1976.

The convention opened on a controversial note as four members of two Dallas area charismatic churches were denied seating.

Despite a recommendation from the convention's credentials committee that four members from the Beverly Hills Baptist Church in Dallas and Shady Grove Baptist Church in Grand Prairie be seated, messengers voted by a two-thirds majority to refuse seating to the four.

In the final business session, one pastor voiced concern about the inherent dangers in the convention breaking fellowship with the two churches.

Richard Hammons, pastor of Shiner Baptist Church, said, "In our history, there have been other doctrinal differences of opinion which have broken fellowship. Many times fellowship is broken over speaking in English as well

as in tongues.

"I attended the credentials committee meeting which discussed this issue," Hammons said. "I am not completely convinced that these churches have done anything outside their churches that would cause disharmony. Let us be in prayer that we will be very cautious in breaking fellowship in the future."

SBC President James L. Sullivan, a convention speaker, also participated in the press conference with Harris. The question of seating charismatic Baptist churches, Sullivan said, could arise at the SBC annual meeting, which would be more "reluctant to speak on it because the Southern Baptist Convention is a more diverse organization (than the state convention)."

The question has been presented previously to the SBC (which meets each June) but it has "declined to take action," Sullivan said.

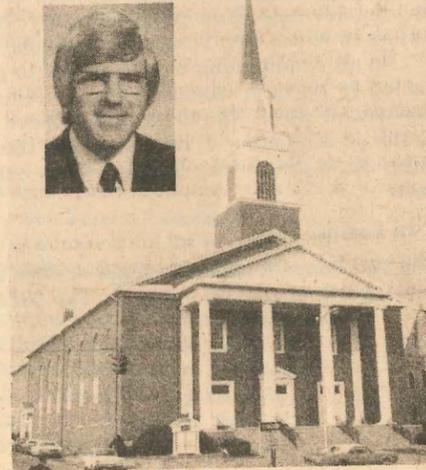
Reporters questioned Harris and Sullivan on an endorsement of one of the two major candidates for the United States presidency — Jimmy Carter, a Southern Baptist, or Gerald Ford, an Episcopalian. Both said they did not consider it appropriate openly to endorse either candidate.

"I would hope that any endorsement from any Baptist pastor would be considered an individual expression only," Harris said.

Double Exposure

Calvary Baptist Church, 150 E. High St., Lexington, will be site of the Kentucky Baptist Convention in its 139th annual meeting next week. L. Reed Polk Jr. (inset) is host pastor. The first session opens Tuesday at 10:40 a.m. The convention is scheduled to conclude at 12 noon Thursday. Preceding the convention Monday will be meetings of the KBC Executive Board, Pastor's Conference, Kentucky Baptist Religious Education Association and Kentucky Baptist Music Association. Pray for your elected messengers in their deliberations next week in Lexington that God may be honored.

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Missouri Baptists Debate Religious Liberty

The Missouri Baptist Convention, in annual session in Independence, considered resolutions on religious liberty and undesirable television programming, voted a record \$6.5 million budget, and met jointly with three black Baptist bodies.

Elected "messengers" to the 142nd annual convention also elected Milton Morales, a Kansas City businessman, as president and heard a motion on prayer for U. S. presidential candidates withdrawn before a vote was taken.

That motion asked the convention to hold a special prayer for the candidates "and in particular (for) Jimmy Carter, a fellow Baptist, asking God to grant his special guidance."

But the maker, Herbert Clinton, who had apparently received private negative feedback after the motion was made, withdrew it, saying "this has apparently been misunderstood as a political issue."

"The Bible tells us to pray for the saints (Christians)," he said. "I feel a need to lift up those I feel are Christian." He said the convention could not pray for his motion since the convention was not in agreement. "We must be in agreement to pray," he asserted.

The motion had drawn no public debate, pro or con, observers report.

Referred for further study, after debate, was a bylaw recommendation which said, "No (state Baptist) educational agency shall participate in any program of public aid which requires non-discrimination on religious grounds in hiring administrators, faculty or staff or in admitting students or which requires isolation of religion from the rest of the school's program or which gives government the power to monitor courses or to take other actions to impose a secular standard of government . . ."

But the messengers adopted a motion empowering its executive board to issue court suits in certain areas of religious liberty and adopted a resolution asking its agencies to "support this American principle (religious liberty) in all their relationships (with government entities)."

The convention also expressed appreciation for the recent defeat of a pro-

posed state constitutional amendment which would have allowed public aid to parochial school. The body thanked the 684,818 persons "who worked and voted against this threat to religious liberty" and noted that the defeat was the result of "the combined efforts of many religious, civic and professional organizations."

The meeting with three National (black) Baptist bodies came at two joint inspirational evening sessions, while the four bodies were holding simultaneous annual meetings. W. A. Criswell, pastor of First Baptist Church, Dallas, and Gardner C. Taylor, pastor of Concord Baptist Church of Christ, Brooklyn, were featured speakers at the joint sessions.

The resolution on television programming supported the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) Christian Life Commission's efforts to develop "appropriate and effective responses to undesirable television programming."

In other action, the messengers opposed a proposition under consideration by the Missouri legislature to hold presidential preference primaries on Sundays. The state now has no presidential primary but is considering one. The convention's vote expressed neither approval nor disapproval of the idea of a primary—only opposition to holding it on Sunday.

Bond to BSSB

Steve Bond recently was named publication services coordinator for the Broadman books and music section of the Broadman division of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Bond will work in his new position to help Broadman Press, publishing arm of the Southern Baptist Convention, meet the publication needs of Southern Baptist agencies, institutions and commissions as well as concerns of other specialized groups.

As publication services coordinator, Bond will work with Broadman division

personnel in taking the initiative to develop the kinds of products that will support, supplement and enhance Southern Baptists' efforts to win people to Christ through evangelism and mission actions.

Bond holds the A. B. degree from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and the M. A. and Ph. D. degrees from Vanderbilt University, Nashville. Before assuming his position at the Sunday School Board, Bond was an instructor at Vanderbilt University and a training administrator at the Rome (Ga.) Air Force Base.

Kerr Named Supervisor

Horace L. Kerr recently began his duties as supervisor of the newly-formed senior adult ministry section in Sunday School Board's family ministry department.

Kerr came to the Sunday School Board from Jackson, Miss., where he was executive director of the Mississippi Council on Aging. He served as secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention for 16 years and as minister of education and administration for two Mississippi churches. He is a past president of the Mississippi Baptist Religious Education Association, and was a participant in the Southern Baptist Conference on Aging.

A native of Mississippi, Kerr is a graduate of Mississippi College, Clinton. He received the M.R.E. degree from Southwestern Baptist Seminary, Ft. Worth.

Need Summer Work?

Glorieta Baptist Conference Center, a year-round religious retreat 18 miles east of Santa Fe, N. M., is accepting applications for employment on the 1977 summer staff.

Inquiries should be addressed to Staff Coordinator, Glorieta Baptist Conference Center, Box 8, Glorieta, N. M. 87535.

Western Recorder

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

Published 50 times per year by the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Box 43461, Middletown, Ky. 40243. Second class postage paid at Louisville, Ky.

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WESTERN RECORDER

Box 43401

Middletown, Kentucky 40243

Viewpoint

What's So Great About Being a Baptist?

by James L. Britt, Pastor
Eastwood Baptist Church
Bowling Green, Ky.

"It's good to be a Catholic," said a young man who attended the 41st Eucharistic Congress in Philadelphia.

Recently a major television network gave a report on religion in America and turned the spotlight on Southern Baptists. Mr. Jimmy Carter's candidacy for the presidency has brought Southern Baptists into focus in a more unique way than the preaching of Billy Graham. One reporter commented, "He has given us a whole new vocabulary."

What's so great about being a Baptist? Once when J. B. Gambrel addressed the Southern Baptist Convention he said, "We may be many but we are not very much." Before I became a Southern Baptist I attended the Pastors' Conference in Chicago. I took time off from my preparations for final exams at a college in the suburbs of Chicago to travel by an electric train to hear R. G. Lee. His opening statement was, "Southern Baptists are the greatest body of evangelicals on the face of the earth."

To answer my question I have made an acrostic of the name Baptist. It is a name which came out of derision and persecution. We did not choose it but it was put upon our forefathers who held to the New Testament teaching of immersion following conversion. Consider Baptists then in the following way:

B — Believers' churches. We believe before anyone is received into the membership of our churches there should be evidence of the work of God's grace in his life. The believer in Jesus Christ as Lord and saviour is received into membership upon his public profession of faith and immersion. Baptists can be accused of many things but God forbid that we should ever have the accusation leveled at us that we did not preach the gospel and call a world to repentance and faith in Jesus Christ.

A — Autonomous churches. We are free to decide our own policy and program without direction from beyond our local congregation. The local body of immersed believers is to be free from party spirit and personal goals and

subject to the head of the body who is Christ. Thus we are a Christocratic people.

P — Priesthood of believers. The Reformation brought to light the lost New Testament teaching of the priesthood of the believer. Every believer has access to the Father through the Son. The Radical Reformation brought to light that every believer has the authority to declare the message of the gospel. The term "clergy" and "laity" are foreign to Baptist heritage.

T — Tradition. The tradition of Baptists has been in the field of missions. The modern mission movement began with the British Baptist William Carey. We have continued, as Southern Baptists, a program of cooperation initiated by Luther Rice and the Triennial Convention begun in 1814. We cooperate in a program of world mission support and the largest body of evangelical missionaries in the world is composed of Baptists. Another evidence of the noble tradition of mission concern is the extending of God's invitation at the close of our worship services in order for anyone present to make a decision prompted by the Holy Spirit.

I — Individual freedom. Roger Williams coined the term "soul liberty" which is the individual's freedom before God. No one is to intrude into such freedom. Wherever this freedom is enjoyed Baptists have suffered and wherever it is lacking then our brethren are suffering. We are delighting in something for which our forefathers paid dearly. An Iranian Christian told me recently, "It is hard to be a Christian in a Moslem country."

S — Sufficiency of the Scriptures. The Radical Reformation would have none of the tradition of Rome for as salvation was presented by faith alone so the Scriptures were taken as the sole authority for faith and practice of the local church. It is by the Scriptures that God addresses and instructs his people. They were written by men under the direction of the Holy Spirit and can be interpreted by all believers under the

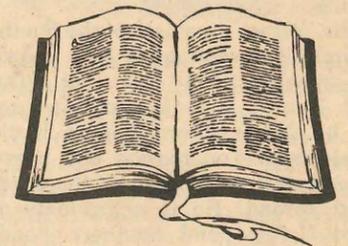
direction of the same Spirit.

T — Teaching ministry. The emphasis among Baptists has always been upon the Great Commission's "teach all nations" and "teaching them to observe all things." Among Southern Baptists growth has come as the result of teaching through our Sunday schools. One of our Southern Baptist pioneers in the West told of a filling station attendant who told him, "I can always tell those people who pass my station on their way to your church because they always have their Bibles."

Recently, I came upon a book written several years ago by Louie Newton. It is entitled *Why I Am a Baptist*. He relates asking the late Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes what was the greatest honor ever bestowed upon him. His response was immediate: "It was when I was a boy and went forward in the First Baptist Church of Oswego, N. Y., where my father was pastor and professed my faith in Jesus Christ. Upon the vote of that congregation I was received as a member. That sir, is the greatest honor ever to come to a boy or a man."

These are just a few of the reasons why it's great to be a Baptist.

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BESTSELLER



WORLDWIDE

Christian Education

Watts to Campbellsville

C. Michael Watts has been appointed Student Life Vice President at Campbellsville College.

Watts, a Danville native, is a 1959 graduate of Georgetown College and holds Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry Degrees from Southern Seminary.

He has served Kentucky pastorates at Union City, Lexington, Albany and Greenville and is a past president of the Clinton County Ministerial Association. He has done mission work at Dale Hollow Lake and Lake Malone. In 1976 he was a member of a mission relief team to Guatemala.

Watts is married to the former Alice Brent and they have two children.



Watts

Hobbs, Johnson Head \$10 Million Campaign

Herschel H. Hobbs, pastor emeritus of First Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Okla., and Wallace E. Johnson, recently retired vice chairman of the board of Holiday Inns, Inc., have been named as co-chairmen of "Resources for Excellence," a \$10-million endowment and capital needs campaign for Southern Seminary, Louisville.

Duke K. McCall, seminary president, announced their selection and indicated the financial campaign would officially begin in the spring of 1977, the 100th anniversary of the seminary's move to Louisville.

Hobbs, former president of the Southern Baptist Convention, is best known as the speaker for 18 years on "The Baptist Hour," a radio program produced by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission and heard on several stations throughout the country and abroad. He is a graduate of Howard College and Southern Seminary.

Johnson, co-founder of the Holiday Inn chain, is also chairman of the board of Medicenters of America, Inc., a

health-care facility chain based in Memphis, Tenn. An active Baptist deacon, he was named "Lay Churchman of the Year" in 1965 by Religious Heritage of America, Inc. He has served on the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Southern Seminary, with a total enrollment of over 2,400 students, is the largest private institution of higher education in Kentucky and is the largest seminary of any denomination in the eastern United States.

KACRAO Elects Baker

Cumberland College registrar Roger D. Baker was chosen president-elect of the Kentucky Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers at the group's Oct. 13 meeting.

KACRAO represents 53 Kentucky colleges and has a membership of over 200. The association works with professional agencies and organizations in order to promote higher education.

A native of Berea, Baker is a graduate of Cumberland College and Union College. He has done further study at Ohio State University and Nova University.

He is a former member of the Williamsburg City Council and is presently serving as Williamsburg city judge. Baker has served as vice president of the Cumberland Valley Lodge Number 28, Fraternal Order of Police and vice chairman of the Cumberland Valley Regional Crime Commission.

Baker is married to the former Pearl Clem of Cawood and they have one son.

Enrolment Up at Two European Seminaries

Record enrolments for the fall semester at the Baptist seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland, and in Novi Sad, Yugoslavia, have been reported by European Baptist Press Service.

The Novi Sad seminary enrolled 43 students to more than double its previous high of 17 registrants. The Ruschlikon seminary enrolled 58 students for official credit, with about 10 more participating in classes.

Last year, the Yugoslavia seminary began providing theological education on differing levels to all members of the country's Baptist Union and now offers classes for full time and lay pastors and other lay persons. Sixteen of the Yugoslavia seminary students are also enrolled full time at the University of Novi Sad.

The Ruschlikon enrolment represents 19 countries and six continents, with a record 31 enrolled in the bachelor of divinity degree program.

\$100,000 Gift Given to Southeastern Seminary

Three gifts to Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C., including one of \$100,000 to endow a professorship of evangelism, were announced during the school's board of trustees meeting.

The \$100,000 gift made anonymously by a North Carolina family, a seminary spokesman said, was accepted by the trustees as a challenge gift, to be matched \$2.00 for \$1.00 to endow the professorship.

The other two gifts for \$10,130 and \$6,085 were from First Baptist Church, Pensacola, Fla., in cooperation with the Florida Bar Association, and from the Harold C. and Francine C. Fechner Charitable Trust, respectively.

In other action, the trustees elected Tom Brandon, pastor of First Baptist Church, Sherman, Tex., as chairman for 1976-77; vice chairman, Frank Campbell, pastor of First Baptist Church in Statesville, N. C.; treasurer, Edgar Wyatt, a Raleigh, N. C., businessman; and secretary, John Howell, pastor of Crescent Hill Baptist Church, Louisville, Ky.



Baker



Missions & Ministries

Carter to Receive CPA

Arlie Carter of Lebanon, Ohio, has been approved to receive Church Pastoral Aid (CPA) by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

CPA is a salary supplement to enable a new mission congregation to have a full time pastor who will lead them to self-support. Persons receiving CPA are listed among the Home Mission Board's missionaries.

Carter, a native of Kentucky, will be pastor of Hillsborough Baptist Church, Hillsborough, Ohio. He has pastored churches in Waynesburg, Willisburg and Harrodsburg.

HMB Appoints 23

Twenty-three missionary personnel were appointed by directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board during the board's October meeting in Atlanta.

The total includes four missionaries, six missionary associates, one US-2 missionary, and 12 endorsed to receive pastoral aid as missionary pastors.

Named missionaries were Carolyn Moble of Atlanta, Ga.; Ollie and Thelma Trout of Niles, Mich.; and Becky Whorton of New Orleans, La.

Margarito and Emma Barboza of Yoakum, Tex., and Charles and Viola Cress of St. Charles, Ill., were named missionary associates, and Young and Kuk Yoon of Los Angeles, Calif., were appointed missionary associates/students.

June Below of Gainesville, Fla., was appointed a US-2 missionary to serve with her husband, Ken, in language ministries among seamen in Charleston, S. C. Her husband was appointed to the two-year term in September. US-2 is a peace-corps like program for young people interested in giving two years of their lives to mission work.

Approved to receive Church Pastoral Aid (CPA) were:

Lester M. Arnold of Williston, N. D., to service in Watertown, S. D.; Billy Bristol of Elkins, W. Va., to serve in Elkins; Arlie Carter of Lebanon, Ohio, to serve in Hillsborough, Ohio; Terry Crocker of Ft. Worth, Tex., to serve in Montpelier, Vt.;

Also, Tom Daniel of Ft. Worth, to

serve in the Ahwatukee area of Phoenix, Ariz.; Ralph Hall of Jefferson City, Ore., to serve in Las Vegas, Nev.; Aubrey Jones of Holly Bluff, Miss., to serve in Springfield, Vt.; Bud Kidwell of Bellwood, Ill., to serve in Oak Park, Ill.;

Also, Emmett Miller of New Orleans, La., to serve in Hagerstown, Md.; Roy Mullens of Brighton, Mich., to serve in Brighton; Douglas Pilot of Greencastle, Pa., to serve in Greencastle; and John Stair of Coraopolis, Pa., to serve in Indiana, Pa.

Miss Moble will be director of weekday ministries at the West End Baptist Center in Atlanta. Previously, she was director of weekday activities at Browns Mill Park in Atlanta.

The Trouts will serve in Niles, where he will be director of missions for the Southeastern and Lindale Baptist Associations. Prior to his appointment, he was pastor of Bethel Baptist Church in Niles.

Miss Whorton will be associate day care director at Friendship House in New Orleans. She is a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

The Barbozas will serve in Yoakum, where he will be a mission pastor.

The Cresses will serve in the Fox Valley Baptist Association in St. Charles, Ill., where he will be church extension director.

The Yoons will serve in San Francisco, where he will be pastor of a Korean congregation. He is a graduate of Korea Baptist Seminary, and will attend Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif.

Growth Expected to Continue in Philippines

Baptist church membership in the Philippines has experienced extraordinary growth in the last two years and with a "Win One, Begin One" campaign well under way, another good year is expected, according to Southern Baptist missionaries in Manila.

"A growth of 25 percent in one year in net membership is rather phenomenal in the history of missions," said Joseph B. Underwood, Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's consultant for evangelism and church development.

Mission Work Proceeding Normally in Thailand

Mission work is proceeding normally in Thailand since the October military takeover of the government, according to Southern Baptist missionary Ronald C. Hill.

Hill, chairman of the Thailand Baptist Mission (organization of Southern Baptist missionaries), said the situation is calm and church meetings are still being permitted. He did not indicate any changes in the work of the mission or churches.

Portuguese Form HMB

A record number of 178 "messengers" to the Portuguese Baptist Convention voted to form a three-member Home Mission Board (HMB), at their 43rd annual assembly in Viseu.

Five new churches were admitted to the convention to bring its number of cooperating churches and missions to 55.



Mr. and Mrs. James A. Lunsford were two of seven retiring Southern Baptist missionaries honored recently for their service on foreign fields. They served for 36 years in Brazil. At the time of their retirement they were stationed in Brasilia, the national capital. Baker J. Cauthen, executive director of the Foreign Mission Board, awarded the Lunsfords certificates of appreciation for their service. The missionaries also received service pins and love gifts.

Christian Perspective Ranks "Romans" High

"From a Christian perspective, 'Romans' is the most important letter ever written." A rather bold statement, perhaps, but J. W. MacGorman feels very strongly about the Letter to the Romans for several reasons.

MacGorman, professor of New Testament at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex., is author of "Romans: Everyman's Gospel," the adult textbook for 1977 January Bible Study.

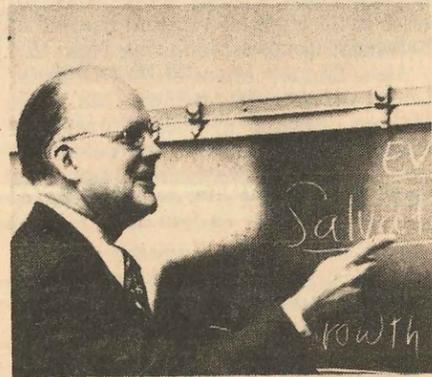
"The letter has a message for people everywhere," he said. "It is the most complete statement of human need and of the power of God's grace to meet that need that we have in the New Testament." MacGorman observed that Romans merits the title that a former writer gave to it, namely, "The Gospel According to Paul."

"It is a powerful document," he went on to say, "and will be strong medicine for those who have exaggerated ideas of man's goodness." According to MacGorman, Romans "lays bare the sin of the human heart," but also magnifies, "the wonder of God's redeeming grace."

The professor does not believe that Paul painted an exaggerated picture of decadence in the Greco-Roman world in Romans 1:18-32. "There are places in the world today where the depravity described in Romans characterizes the culture." Bringing the issue closer to home, he said, "No one can understand contemporary American culture adequately without the insights of Romans 1. What our culture calls 'alternate lifestyles,' Paul called reprobation or degeneracy."

MacGorman has a personal interest in Romans, too. One of its great passages, Romans 8:28-29, is "the passage above all others in the Bible, through which God has spoken to the deepest needs of my life." He emphasized that the "good" promised in verse 28 is defined in verse 29 as an increasing conformity to the likeness of Jesus Christ.

Because of the importance of Romans, MacGorman foresees great things happening in the lives of Christians if they will take time "to break the busy stride of their lives long enough to give



J. W. MacGorman, professor of New Testament at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, is the author of "Romans: Everyman's Gospel," the adult textbook for 1977 January Bible Study.

God an opportunity to speak to them through his word."

MacGorman has a personal testimony concerning the power of Bible study. "I have great respect for what the Spirit of God can do for a searching heart with an open Bible. I was not converted in a revival meeting, a worship service, or during a personal visit, but rather alone in a hospital bed with an open Bible," he recalls.

The native Canadian has been teaching at the Ft. Worth seminary since 1949. In recent years MacGorman has served as a New Testament consulting editor and contributor to the Broadman Bible Commentary series. A book written by MacGorman in 1974, *The Gifts of the Spirit*, remains one of the most popular treatments written on the Holy Spirit.

The professor hopes, "a lot of fuzzy thinking about right and wrong will be challenged by the study of Romans this January." He wants to see Christians strengthened in their basic commitment to Jesus Christ. Also he adds, "There is enough of the gospel in this letter for the Spirit of God to convict any lost person of his need of Jesus Christ as Lord and saviour."

January Bible Study materials are available in Baptist Book Stores for all age groups.

Training Seminars Set

Improved services for church libraries media centers will be a goal of two upcoming seminars at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

The first seminar, Jan. 10-14, provides information on the classification and cataloging of library materials: Led by Jacquelyn Anderson, consultant in the Board's church library department, the seminar mixes laboratory work with lecture and discussion.

Participants will have a chance to classify and catalog books, audiovisuals and music. The week's schedule includes a visit to a Nashville church library media center, orientation to the board's Dargan-Carver Library and a tour of the Sunday School Board.

Another seminar will be offered Jan. 24-28, in which Carlton Carter, also on the church library department staff, will discuss ways to promote services of a church library/media center.

Both seminars will be held in the board's Church Program Training Center. A \$30 registration fee includes two meals and all necessary materials. Participants are responsible for their lodging.

Persons interested in attending should send the \$30 fee to the Church Program Training Center, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, TN. 37234.

Revivals

Decisions at Oneida

George R. Bausum, pastor of Oneida Baptist Church, reports a revival in the church and among students of Oneida Baptist Institute.

The actual revival with Don Pinson from Hazard as evangelist resulted in 132 persons making public decisions. Revival had already broken out among the students during the first week of school.

The combined results now include 145 students at Oneida and eight other young persons making public decisions since Aug. 16. Of these, 57 are awaiting baptism and 13 have been added by letter or statement to the Oneida church.

The Baptist Threat

by Duke K. McCall,
President, Southern Baptist Seminary

The idea of a Baptist in the White House has sent some Americans into a panic. Maybe they did not notice that Harry Truman and Warren G. Harding were Baptists. The trouble is that Jimmy Carter not only is a Southern Baptist, he talks like one.

Maybe that will make most Southern Baptist voters cast a ballot for him, but I doubt it. In the meantime, the furor in the news media underscores some lessons we Southern Baptists need to learn.

First, news reporters are woefully ignorant with reference to the largest evangelical religious body in the United States, the Southern Baptist Convention. They have ventilated a lot of half-baked tripe in their columns and on the air.

Some of them, including national television news commentators, are plain incompetent, not because they did not know about Southern Baptists before Jimmy Carter broke on the scene, but because they did not bother to do adequate research. Southern Baptists need to identify a denominational spokesman to the news media so that a reasonable facsimile of Southern Baptist views and activities will be communicated.

The second lesson is that outside of the deep South there are many people who think that Southern Baptists are not worth knowing. In much of the United States "Baptist" carries the connotation of a "fringe group."

Our self-image as a denomination responsibly related to American history and to the American decision-making process is not widely shared beyond our own churches. Outside of the South we have not thus far made the right kind of political noises to be taken seriously.

Let me illustrate the point: if Episcopalians have a ridiculous debate over the ordination of women, it is viewed nationally as an aberration among dignified, responsible community leaders. If an emotionally disturbed Southern Baptist gets on the floor in one of our conventions, he is reported as "typical," even though the embarrassed messen-

gers pay no attention to his proposals.

Southern Baptists have many responsible leaders in business and civic life, as well as political life, but they have not yet been seen as typical Baptists. Probably they did not even identify themselves as Baptists. The lesson is that we need to honor quite consciously our fellow Southern Baptists who are functioning responsibly and successfully in secular arenas. Separation of church and state does not prohibit assurances of pride and support and prayer for the Baptist makers and shapers of our society.

Another important lesson: Southern Baptists really are different. We cannot make ourselves look like the main line church bodies in America. On the spectrum of religious bodies in the United States, we are right-wing, evangelical (we would say evangelistic). We have a more puritan ethic in our official pronouncements, if not in our personal practices, than many other religious bodies.

We regularly make our collective statements about alcoholic beverages, pornography and dancing. Whatever these sound like to us, they sound like voices out of the past to modern Americans. We are different. We do talk about the Bible in simpler terms. We are more dogmatic in our theological positions. We do invest more of our time, energy and money in our local church than do most of the members of main line denominations.

Paint us purple with passion if a public official advocates any form of gambling. Color us absent in the ecumenical meetings. Paint us red with rage if one of our leaders takes a stand on a public issue with which individually we do not agree.

But that is only one side of us. We put our money into hospitals and schools; we produce hosts of dedicated young people for all kinds of benevolent causes; we even help Presbyterians and Episcopalians by providing some of their leadership because of wedding bells. We take our religion so seriously

that a sizable percentage of us actually act on our theological convictions some of the time.

So God forgive us. We act just like human beings, while claiming to be the children of God.

At this point in time I do not know whether Jimmy Carter will make it to the White House or not. I am very happy, however, that he does make it to the Baptist church house regularly.

I am glad that the discussions about him have let us Southern Baptists see how we look to other people. And while they were looking, maybe they will discover that we Southern Baptists, at our best, are not anti-intellectual, anti-Catholic or anti-Protestant or anti-fun or anti-anything.

We think God likes people, including us. In fact, he liked us while we were yet sinners and offered us the good life, abundant life.

Deaths

O. C. Markham, 75, president of Mid-Continent Bible Institute, Mayfield, died Oct. 22 as the result of an automobile accident.

Services for Markham, who had been with the school since its beginning in 1949, were held on Oct. 25 at First Baptist Church, Mayfield. Burial was at Clinton, Ky.

Markham was a member of the Historical Commission of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Survivors include his wife, Anne; a son, Charles, of Lexington; a brother, J. Marvin Markham, and a sister, Mrs. Marcus Tidwell, both of Tennessee.



Markham

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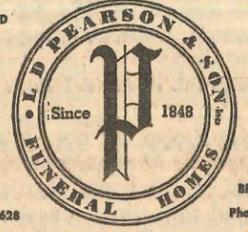


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ATTENTION MINISTERS' WIVES: A newspaper strictly for preacher's wives is being published by a pastor's wife in Pensacola, Fla., so they can share with one another the blessings, problems, and insights peculiar to their position. It is called **Helpmeet**, costs \$3 per year, and is available at P.O. Box 3541, Pensacola, FL 35206.

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Mountains to the Mississippi

C.C.I. at Cedarmore

Christian Camping International held its Southern Regional Convention at Cedarmore Baptist Assembly, Bagdad, Oct. 11-13.

The theme for the convention, "Pursuit of Quality in Christian Camping," was carried out in workshops ranging from Marketing, Business Management, Maintenance and Health and Safety to Food Service, Recreation and Creative Programming.

Activity leaders included B. F. Dodrige, Dept. of Marketing, Memphis State University; Gordon Adams, staff representative, Navigators, Knoxville;

Jim Walker, consultant, Food Service Facilities, Nashville; Ronnie Wallace, director of Camp Joy, Brownsville; Hubert Smothers, president of Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy, Seymour, Tenn., and Jerry Douglas and the puppeteers of Parkland Baptist Church, Louisville.

Cox Authors S.S. Unit

James H. Cox, associate editor, *Western Recorder*, has written a unit for Bible searchers (boys and girls in grades 5-6) for November, to be used in Southern Baptist Sunday schools.

Personnel Changes

Lackey to S.S. Dept.

James V. Lackey has been named consultant in the Sunday School Department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville. His primary responsibility will be in the development of new Sunday schools.

Before assuming his present position he was sales consultant in the board's Broadman Division. He has also served as executive director of the Stewardship Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention.



Lackey

Southside Calls Ezell

Southside Baptist Church, Princeton, has called David Ezell as Minister of Music and Youth. He is to begin his duties on Nov. 7.

Ezell, a Hopkinsville native, is a junior at Murray State University. He is majoring in music education.

Don R. Mathis pastors Southside Baptist Church.

Child Care Adds Soloc

Ron Soloc has joined the staff of the Kentucky Baptist Child Care Program as Coordinator of Community Services for the Metropolitan Louisville region.

Soloc is a graduate of Taylor University and attended Grand Rapids Baptist Theological Seminary. He comes to the Child Care Program from a position as Juvenile Judicial Officer for Genessee County Probate Court, Flint, Mich.

Express Your Opinion
in
The Baptist Forum

Frank Owen

Straight Legs



He was a big, strong, heavy baby. His doctor didn't want him to walk too young. We could not prevent his determination to stand up and walk at eight months. Maybe this caused it. I don't know.

His legs became so bowed that he tripped over his feet when he tried to run. Something had to be done. So, to the bone specialist in Atlanta.

The doctor put him in monstrous braces, a hinged steel structure made into his shoes, and reaching all the way to the circumference of his waist. For a long time he couldn't get up or down without help. Apparently, they were as painful as they looked.

The doctor seemed abrupt, unbending, sort of played God, I thought. Mrs. Owen and I determined to go along with his demands, though.

The little fellow cried for 50 miles, as we drove home, kicked and screamed. It broke our hearts. I hated myself for carrying out the doctor's demand that he be left in such a steel vise. We asked ourselves, will he hate his parents for subjecting him to this?

He took cod liver oil, too — nasty stuff — mean old parents to treat a child so. We didn't enjoy it. One doctor said the cod liver oil would straighten his legs without braces. The other had said braces. We didn't know. We did both.

Years have passed. There seems no love lacking for the parents who did this to him. His legs are straight now. He is as glad as we are. Straight, strong legs stand him up six feet and five inches. Will his life keep straight, too? I think so and pray so, for three such sons.

There were also moral and spiritual braces which we tried to keep properly adjusted — the Gospel dosage regulated — mean old parents.

God, keep them all morally and spiritually straight! Wherever they may fall short forgive them, and me, for parental failure.

Maybe this isn't just the story of me and my boys, but also of you and your boys — all boys and girls. "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Prov. 22:6).

Sunday School Lessons

Lessons for Nov. 14, 1976

by H. C. Chiles, Murray, Ky.

International Series

The Reconciled Life

Romans 12:3-18

In view of what our Lord has done for us and wants to do in and through us, nothing short of dedication to him will completely satisfy Christ and make life what it ought to be. Although we present our bodies as living sacrifices to God, we must continue to live in a world whose spirit and practices are antagonistic to Christ. It is God's will for believers to have a different way of living from that of this materialistic and sinful world. We must refuse to become conformed to it. The call, then, is for non-conformity to the world and for surrender to the transforming grace of God. Unless a Christian makes a definite presentation of his body to God, his aim in life is apt to be the acquiring of money, fame, pleasure, or power.

God wants us to forsake the plans we have formulated for ourselves, and to seek to discover his will for our lives because it is good, acceptable to him, and perfect. To many the will of God is something to be avoided, or, at least, to be endured. But, in reality, the will of God for us is always best.

Inasmuch as God has distributed gifts and graces to different individuals in different measure, it is the part of humility and wisdom to evaluate ourselves correctly, avoiding both overestimation and underestimation. Whatever our gifts may be, it is our responsibility to live in accordance with the Lord's will, for his glory, and for the benefit of others.

In these verses seven gifts are mentioned — prophecy, ministry, teaching, exhortation, giving, ruling, and showing mercy. These gifts are to be used for the winning of the lost to a saving knowledge in Christ, and for the edification of the saints.

Whether we are officers or just members of a church, there are some qualities which should be displayed by all of us in our Christian living and serving. Among them are the following: modesty, humility, sincerity, love, dedication, interdependence, dependability, and Christlikeness. Praiseworthy virtues may be summarized in obedience to God and service to men.

In their relationships with others, Christians should be characterized by unfeigned and fervent love. Anything that savors of insincerity or hypocrisy is despicable in God's sight and should be abhorrent to us.

We must have a real interest in and love for our fellow Christians, and prove it by what we do for them.

Many have the tendency to quarrel and fight, but this manner of life is never satisfactory or profitable. Moreover, it is so unnecessary. Throughout this life we shall meet rebuffs, unpleasant circumstances, and unkind criticism. The natural thing to do is to meet blow with blow, but Christ's way is to meet blow with forgiveness and kindness. Retaliation is never Christlike or successful.

Life and Work Series

God's Expendables

Those who have received Christ as saviour, enthroned him as the Lord and master of their lives, acknowledged that all they possess has come to them from God and belongs to him, and have committed themselves to his service are to expend themselves in the doing of his will.

I Corinthians 4:1-2

Paul, Apollos, and Peter were ministers of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God through whom some of the Corinthians were led to believe on Christ and be saved. God never intended that the church in Corinth should become divided over them.

Having been entrusted with the message of salvation in Christ, we are required to be faithful in dispensing the gospel according to the directions which the Lord has given us.

Philippians 2:25-30

Among the devout servants of Christ, who were exceptionally faithful in stewardship, and who wielded a tremendous influence for the Lord, was Epaphroditus. This dedicated Christian was a valued associate, brother, and companion of Paul, for whom the apostle had a most tender affection. When the members of the church at Philippi were informed that Paul had been imprisoned in Rome, they assembled, bringing their personal gifts with them, and designated trustworthy Epaphroditus as the one to carry their gifts of love to Paul. What a beautiful example of the sense of the oneness of true believers in Christ! Their expression of loving concern meant so much to Paul.

After completing his mission for the Philippian church, Epaphroditus threw himself into the Lord's service with such ardor that he became seriously ill. When he had recovered sufficiently to return to Philippi, Paul wrote the church there and admonished them to welcome Epaphroditus as an heroic servant of the Lord.

II Corinthians 8:1-5

Paul sought to motivate the Corinthian Christians to generosity by citing the wonderful liberality of the church members in Macedonia who, under very adverse and trying circumstances, had shared their limited means with the suffering saints in Jerusalem. Their personal afflictions, the numerous persecutions to which they were subjected, and the depths of their poverty failed to make them unmindful of the trials and tribulations of others.

The remarkable expression of love on the part of the Macedonian Christians stemmed from the fact that they were yielded Christians. They "first gave themselves to the Lord." Having given themselves to the Lord, it was not hard for them to dedicate their substance to him. The giving of self is always followed by the giving of substance. The measure of a Christian's love for and dedication to his Lord is seen in his giving.



Their Baptistry is Portable

A Baptist congregation in the Chicago suburb of Maywood, Ill., got tired of going to church in another neighborhood to baptize new members, so they built their own. That idea may not be unusual, but their new baptistry sure is. It's portable and mobile, made of two-by-fours and thick plywood, fastened by machine bolts and lined with heavy vinyl.

Broadview Baptist Church is one of about 15 black congregations affiliated with the Chicago Metropolitan Baptist Association and the Southern Baptist Convention. Pastor C. W. Hopson said they usually baptize the first Sunday of each month and had been going to Faith Baptist Church in nearby Melrose Park.

"But that took away from the service," he admitted. "Many of our people didn't know why we baptize, and most didn't bother to go to watch. At that time our building also housed the associational offices, and since it wasn't ours, we were not free to tear out a wall and build a permanent baptistry."

An idea came to deacon William Rorer, and he began to pray about it. "I knew we needed something we could take apart and store after using it on Sundays. But I'm no artist. I don't even think artistically," said Rorer, a data processor for the Veterans Administration.

"God laid a design on my heart, and I sat down and sketched it," Rorer recalled. "He showed me it could be done. I showed the sketch to Bro. Hopson, and we began looking for someone to build it.

"We started going through the Yellow Pages, looking for crates or boxes. I called one man on the South Side who seemed to be waiting," said Rorer. "We don't do anything like that," the man said, "but come on down and we'll work something out."

The lining was another problem. Rorer knew backyard swimming pools have a heavy vinyl lining so he looked up "plastics" in the phone book, and again there was someone else waiting on the other end. So he went to the company.

"We figured the dimensions — 4 feet deep, and 6 by 8 feet wide — and the plastics company made the liner within the tolerances of their product," the deacon said. "And we didn't even have the box yet.

"I took my sketch to the box company. They made a few refinements, checked it out for engineering to make sure it would hold the weight of several hundred gallons of water, and

said they'd build it. When I went to pick it up, I asked how much it cost."

"If you don't hear from us, don't pay us anything," the man answered. They haven't heard.

"This baptistry is the only one of its kind," says pastor Hopson, "and it's an answer to prayer. The associational offices have moved to Oak Park, but the baptistry is still adequate. We didn't really have in mind that it would go to other churches. But another church has come here to use it, and the Berea Baptist Church in Oak Park has taken it to their church."

LOTTIE WHO?

Lottie Moon was

- (a) a Suffragette in New York
- (b) a poet
- (c) a missionary to China

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The airplane represents an expense-paid trip to Hawaii for Dr. and Mrs. Herschel H. Hobbs [center], honored by the Radio and Television Commission's board of trustees for 18 years of service on "The Baptist Hour." Hobbs also was presented the Commission's Distinguished Communications Merit Award by Paul M. Stevens [right], Commission president. Jerry Hobbs [left] was flown in from Delaware to be with his parents.