

WESTERN RECORDER

DECEMBER 9, 1976



Daley Observations

The Sights and Sounds of Two Worlds

Among the unforgettable memories of my childhood was the sights and sounds of the nearby swamps that abounded with fish and many kinds of game birds and animals. It was an enchanted world which I came to prefer at times to the world of persons and books. It afforded a kind of meditation unavailable any other place and sometimes I felt more a part of the world of nature than the world of mankind.

Even now sometimes in moments of today's hurried and hectic life I long for this wonderful world of childhood. One cannot return to childhood but it is possible to return to the enchanted places of childhood. I tried this during the Thanksgiving season this year.



Before the dawn of day, by the light of the stars and the help of a fellow nature lover I walked along the same dim trail I knew as a boy. Through the undergrowth we soon reached a long remembered spot beside a stream in the swamp. The recollection of fish,

deer, wild turkey and other game was as vivid as if it had been only yesterday.

The stars, still shining through the lofty pines, oaks and gums, began to dim as a touch of pink appeared in the east. The first sound was the greeting of dawn by a crowing rooster on a faraway farm. He was followed by the guttural chirp of a nearby wood thrush.

The next sound identified a swamp dweller who was unhappy with human invaders. This was a deer which no doubt sniffed the human scent and snorted his disapproval. Not satisfied with one protest, the buck moved from place to place snorting but never coming nearer to his enemy. In time came the whine and bark of a squirrel which drew a response from a fellow tree dweller.

The bluejays, crows and other birds eventually added their notes to the morning melody and the silent swamp of a short time before became a concert hall.

Baptist Pulpit Committees Could Do Better

Baptist pulpit committees must be the most non-conforming of all Baptist groups. If any two pulpit committees have ever gone about their task alike, I haven't met them.

This is all right as long as fair and ethical practices are followed. It's not all right when practices of pulpit committees are unfair and hurtful to other churches and pastors. Most pulpit committees mean well but they simply don't learn how to go about their task.

Secrecy seems to be the first concern of most pulpit committees. Secrecy by pulpit committee members is proper when it comes to sharing confidential information with their family members or their close friends in the congregation. It is a farce when it comes to slipping around other churches trying to be incognito.

Members of a pulpit committee are generally spotted by

What a world!

The wonders and beauties of nature so captivate me that I am tempted to worship the creation rather than the creator and redeemer of man and nature. The loving heart of God is not found in a beautiful tree in the same dimension as it is found in the ugly cross made from a tree. Nevertheless, natural revelation is an eloquent expression of God's love for mankind.

One may be a lover or even a worshiper of nature without being a worshiper of the God of nature but it would be hard to love God without loving the wonders of his creation.

The worship of God and the love of nature were as much a part of my childhood as eating, sleeping, playing and going to school. I cannot remember when nature's wonders and beauties did not point me to God. And so the story of God's sending Jesus to redeem lost man and corrupted nature was easy to believe and accept.

In childhood it is easier to sense God's presence in everything than it is in disenchanting and skeptical adulthood. For the child there is a God awareness in every rock and rill which is undisturbed by natural and scientific explanations of the wonders and beauties of nature. It was good to experience this childhood world again.

But the enchanted world of the swamp cannot long withstand the sounds of another world which is always nearby. This is the world of man and his busy activities. Gradually the sound of automobiles and trucks on a highway less than a mile away drowned out the concert of the swamp dwellers.

Momentarily I stood on the boundary line between the two worlds and longed not to have to return to the world of daily routine. Then I realized the need of both worlds. One would have no meaning without the other. The secret of abundant life is not to shut out either but to balance one with the other while worshiping God who gives us both worlds.

What a God!

a pastor and by some church members as soon as they enter the building. Dividing up to sit separately is a dead giveaway. Being vague or dishonest when greeted by visitors is dishonorable.

Why not be forthright? Check to see if the prospect is to be in the pulpit before going to the church. Do not announce your presence but be honest when asked your name and your mission.

Above all speak to the pastor instead of slipping out another door. If he is one of several prospects to be heard before serious consideration of any, say so. If he appears to be anxious to be considered, this makes it easier to know he is not likely the one to consider.

To slip in, slip out and never reveal your identity or purpose is unfair to a prospect. He knows you were there and not even to speak to him leaves the impression he

came through completely negatively.

Probably the biggest mistake of pulpit committees is the absence of any agreed upon criteria by which to measure a prospect. Personal impressions are important but they can be entirely wrong when based on only one contact.

More prospects are passed over for petty than for important reasons. Here's a recent example.

A committee showed up one Sunday to check out a prospect. Committee members slipped in and slipped out though the pastor and most of the congregation knew what was going on. The pastor never heard a word of any kind from the visitors. He was not anxious but he was curious to know what impressions the visitors received.

By chance he learned several months later how he was disposed of by the pulpit committee. He was ruled out of consideration for two reasons. One was his congregation members were not friendly to visitors and the other was

that few worshipers sat down front in the center section of pews.

No wonder pulpit committees make blunders. To make judgments on such petty grounds is an insult to the Holy Spirit.

These two reasons for negative reaction could have just as well been reasons for positive response. Coolness from church members could be expected if they knew what was up and if they loved their pastor and did not want to lose him. Empty front rows in a Baptist church is the rule instead of the exception. At least they were orthodox Baptists because orthodox Baptists always compete for the back seats.

There are helpful suggestions for pulpit committees. These can be had upon request from the Baptist Sunday School Board, 127 Ninth Avenue, North, Nashville, Tenn. 37234, or the Kentucky Baptist Convention, 10701 Shelbyville Road, Box 43433, Middletown, Ky. 40243.

Baptist Forum

STOP SIGNS

Stop!

Stop Thief! Before next year's convention I hope something can be done about those who steal time. I am disturbed and refer to Tuesday evening's program at the convention last month. Some of our Kentucky Baptist leaders owe Landrum Leavell an apology for stealing his time.

Stop Introductions! We waste a lot of time introducing people. If they have something to say, let them say it. If they don't have anything to say, don't worry about who they are.

Now, I'll Stop!

Bill Barnard, Alexandria

THANKS BAPTISTS

Recently my wife and I completed our seminary studies at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. She received the certificate in theology and I the master of divinity and doctor of ministry degrees. The total cost of tuition for all our studies was approximately \$12,000, however, we paid only about \$700 of this and you, through the Cooperative Program gifts, paid the remainder or approximately \$11,300.

What you have done for us, you have done for every student who attends a Southern Baptist seminary. Thank you so much for investing money in seminary education and making it easier for us to be trained for the service of Christ.

Who can count the worth of a dollar when it is spent to provide theological education? Every sermon I preach, every hurt I help heal, every person I win, you share in it. Only eternity will reveal the wisdom and love you have manifested in your giving to seminary education through the Cooperative Program.

Mike Moore, Clayton, N. C.

JOB HUNTING

Bobby Ray Gaines, who for three years has pastored Bethel Baptist Church in Frankfurt, Germany, will be returning stateside in February 1977 and will be "looking for a job," as he puts it—pastorate, interim pastorate, revivals — "any kind of preacherly task at which I can serve my Lord and sort of advertise myself as being available." He has enjoyed his three years abroad, but feels led to return to the States. He is 40 years old, a graduate of Grand Canyon College and holds a degree from Southwestern Seminary. His family consists

of wife Joan and 10-year-old daughter Terrinda.

His present address is: Rev. Bobby R. Gaines, Pastor, Bethel Baptist Church, 6 Frankfurt a.M.50, Germany, AM Dachsberg 92.

Upon his return in February he may be contacted through his sister whose address is: Mrs. Charles H. White, 207 Brookside Avenue, Campbellsville, Ky. 42718.

Carrie L. Warf, Pikeville

HAZARD A GUESS

We are in earnest to locate the book *The Prophet of Little Cane Creek* written by Harold E. Dye, copyright 1949. This book is about the founder of our church, First Baptist, Hazard, Ky., A. S. Petrey.

We feel confident that if we can obtain sufficient copies perhaps we can revitalize the growth of First Baptist. This book will give us the history and we know will spur interest in our church.

We are appealing through *Western Recorder* for copies of this book. If anyone has a copy or information on how we can obtain copies please mail to: Harry Francis Jr., 401 Laurel Street, Hazard, Ky. 41701.

Harry Francis Jr., Hazard

Baptist News in Brief

Cooper to Help Carter

Owen Cooper, retired president of the Mississippi Chemical Corp. and former president of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC), has been named to a 10-member committee who will advise President-elect Jimmy Carter on potential governmental leaders.

"I don't know the scope or the depth of the committee, but I'm available to serve as I'm needed on an individual and selective basis," Cooper said of the appointment.

Cooper, of Yazoo City, Miss., who has known Carter for several years and supported him in the tightly contested presidential race in Mississippi which put Carter over the top in electoral votes required for victory, was president of the 12.7-million-member SBC for two terms, 1973-74.

President-elect Carter's press secretary, Jody Powell, said in Plains the committee members would not be eliminated from consideration for federal jobs in their own right, but Cooper told Baptist Press he doesn't anticipate taking a federal job.

... And at Carter's Ford

If the town's name sounds political, get a load of the local Baptist church's name. It's Carter's Ford Baptist

Church.

Members of the church in Colleton (S. C.) Baptist Association are still trying to manage a frozen smile when people link the name of the Southern Baptist congregation with the recent presidential campaign and election.

In fact, they probably haven't had as many cracks about presidential politics in Lodge, S. C., since Henry Cabot Lodge ran for vice president.

Brown, White Baptists To Merge in Houston

For the first time in Houston a Mexican-American Baptist congregation will merge with a predominantly white Baptist congregation.

West End Baptist Church will merge with the Iglesia Bautista Central (Central Baptist Church). The united church will use the name West End Baptist Church.

Both churches are affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention, the Baptist General Convention of Texas and Houston's Union Baptist Association.

Merger discussions began when Aurelio Gutierrez, Central's pastor, approached the leadership of West End Church about providing some type of assistance for the Central congregation.

Because of the merger Central

Church's property will be sold and Gutierrez will become associate pastor of West End Church. Donald J. Richards will remain as pastor of West End Church.

Both Richards and Gutierrez have worked as Southern Baptist missionaries. Gutierrez worked in Costa Rica, Honduras and Guatemala and Richards worked in Brazil.

The West End Church will offer two worship services on Sundays. Richards says one worship service will be conducted in English and the other will be conducted in Spanish. The Sunday schools will be merged, but three classes for adults wanting their lessons in Spanish will be established.

Richards says there was no opposition in the West End congregation to the merger. He says attendance at the church on Sundays averages around 300. The church has some 850 members.

Gutierrez says his church is equally enthusiastic about the merger. He says the church has a membership of 70, but has an average Sunday attendance of 75.

Mississippians Veto Porn

Messengers to the Mississippi Baptist Convention in Jackson passed a unanimous resolution asking for effective

legislation in the state against pornography, expressed appreciation for recent legislation in Mississippi which give clergy the right to "privileged communication," and passed a record \$8.4 million budget.

The pornography resolution was passed in response to a Mississippi Supreme Court ruling that reportedly says Mississippi laws are too broad to restrain the sale of obscene materials, although the United States Supreme Court has said that "contemporary community standards" may be defined locally instead of nationally.

In the resolution commending the state legislature for its July 1976 action granting privileged communication to Mississippi clergy, messengers noted:

"Whereas the emotional, mental and spiritual health of many of our citizens depends upon the free and confidential access to clergymen or spiritual advisors . . . this convention expresses its sincere appreciation to the legislature . . . for extending the right of privileged communication between persons seeking spiritual counsel and the clergymen with whom such communication is sought."

The \$8.4 million 1977 budget of Mississippi Baptists is 15 percent higher than that of 1976. Of the total, 32 percent will go to Southern Baptist causes worldwide.

Arizona May Keep Sutton

Arizona Southern Baptist Convention (ASBC) "messengers" at Tucson in 48th annual session asked their executive director-treasurer, Roy F. Sutton, to continue in his post and not retire before 1978. The convention will observe its 50th anniversary in 1978.

An annual operating budget of \$1,673,944 was voted by the 384 messengers, with 22 percent to be distributed through the Cooperative Program unified budget.

The action asking Sutton to stay in his post confirmed a similar executive

board action, requesting that he stay on as the convention's chief staff executive through 1978.

Book Stores Fair to Kids

In all probability, few merchants would relish the idea of entertaining several thousand children for three days. However, two Baptist Book Store managers hosted nearly 5,000 youngsters in six days during this fall's Children's Book Fairs.

About 3,000 children, teachers, li-

(Continued next page)

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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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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.

Double Exposure

Student Day at Christmas is an annual opportunity for college, seminary and graduate students to assume leadership in church activities and acquaint church members with Southern Baptists' student program. "The Church Ministering on Campus" is this year's theme, encouraging development of churchmanship, or local church involvement. The observance is sponsored by National Student Ministries of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville. It is slated on the denominational calendar for Sunday, Dec. 26 this year, but is subject to the time preferable to each local congregation.

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Baptist News in Brief

(Continued from previous page)

brarians and parents visited the book fair in the New Orleans Baptist Book Store, while almost 2,000 people visited the Norfolk, Va., store.

"Children's book fairs are community service projects which we see as a subtle form of ministry," explains Bill Graham, director of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's Book Store division. "We point out that this is not a religious activity, and while some children bring money to buy books, we do not emphasize buying."

Special guests at the fairs often include award-winning authors and illustrators who talk with the children about their crafts.

The children also see a movie and an exhibit on how a book is made and are invited to browse through a selection of books.

Book fairs have been held in Atlanta, Nashville, Arlington, Tex.; Savannah, Ga.; Memphis, Oklahoma City and Jacksonville, Fla. Two more fairs are scheduled next year.

S. C. Debates Charleston

South Carolina Baptists, in annual

session at Spartanburg, called for an end to government interference at the Baptist College at Charleston.

"Messengers" voted a \$9,750,000 Cooperative Program unified budget goal, including an \$8 million basic budget, and passed a resolution opposing use of tax dollars to teach transcendental meditation (TM) in public schools. Some 35.5 percent of the budget will go to worldwide Southern Baptist mission causes.

The action on the Baptist College at Charleston grew out of a situation in which federal officials called for ending sectarian teaching and worship in facilities of the college funded by federal loans.

The convention accepted a report of its Government Funds Evaluation Committee which said the federal restrictions make it impossible to carry out the functions of the college as it relates to South Carolina Baptists and called for corrective steps.

The convention adopted wording of the committee which asked the college's trustees to take steps and expressed the opinion that "none of our educational institutions should accept any further funds for acquisition or construction of buildings which would cause restriction of purpose."

America's New 'Vatican' May Surprise Nashville

Plains (Ga.) Baptist Church had its highest attendances ever in Sunday school and worship service one week after the members voted, Nov. 14, to open the doors to persons of all races.

Seated on the front row in the sanctuary was Clennon King, pastor of a non-denominational church in Albany, Ga. His application for membership after the service was turned over to a watchcare committee for consideration.

It was King and his stated intent to join the 415-member congregation to which President-elect Jimmy Carter belongs that brought the church into the national limelight in recent weeks.

Carter was also present for the morning worship service where he gave the opening prayer:

"Oh, Lord, help us to bind our church together in a close sense of commonality of purpose, so that the wounds that have come upon us will be healed rapidly," Carter said.

As the service ended, Carter and his Secret Service escorts moved toward the rear door of the church, toward King.

Carter did not speak but as the President-elect walked by King took Carter's hand and kissed it, according to one witness.

King was later quoted as saying that he would have kissed Carter's feet as well. The black minister also said "it would be an honor to be a member of America's Vatican. This will be the Vatican of America."

The church's members actually have been drawn into greater participation instead of being on the verge of splitting, as some reports have indicated, church leaders said later.

An observer said the traditional song of invitation for decision had been sung, and the benediction prayer was about to be said when King moved to the aisle and came forward to ask for membership.

One observer said a younger black man nudged King who then stepped out and walked toward Edwards, in the front.

Blacks attended the Plains Church long before King attempted to attend services or join the church, observers said, and blacks attended the Sunday evening service on Nov. 14.



To tell the truth only one person was telling the truth when three men claimed to be Jack Gullledge during a recent taping of "To Tell the Truth." The real Jack Gullledge, editor of Proclaim magazine, published by the Baptist Sunday School Board's Church Administration Department, sits with his wife Shirley after the balloting.

Annuity Board decisions will affect retirement plans. positively!

by
Darold H. Morgan

Major policies approved by Annuity Board trustees during 1976 definitely will influence retirement planning and funding for decades to come. Some of these policies pertain to internal administration. But three decisions will have great impact on retirement benefits of members in a very positive way. Here are the decisions:

New Retirement Program. The new program, announced early in the year, goes into operation on January 1, 1978. The state Baptist conventions have approved it and are recommending it to their churches. After that date, any minister or church employee who joins the retirement program will be in the new plan.

The new program has two sections. One section pertains to the disability and survivor benefits in the event of a member's death. The state convention contributes up to \$200 a year

into this section for all eligible active career ministerial personnel. In the other section, the church is asked to pay a minimum of 10% of total compensation for the retirement of each minister and salaried employee.

Some current members may find it advantageous to participate in the new plan. If you stand to gain, you will have the opportunity to transfer during 1977.

We'll let you know in ample time!

New Fixed Income Plan. All Plan B participants will have a choice of the kind of investments they want the Board to make in their plan. They may choose the new Plan B11 with fixed income investments only, or Plan B10, which is a combination of equity and fixed income investments. Fixed income investments are those where earnings remain at a relatively stable rate, while equity investments vary.

New Annuity Rates. Retirement benefits for Plans B and C will be larger in the future because a new annuity rate will be used to figure these benefits. For persons retiring, benefits will be computed on 6%, up from 4% previously. Most persons currently retired will get larger checks in 1977 also.

An Urgent Appeal. Regardless of where a member serves, he has a first class retirement program. Our primary objective is to make it even better. Thousands of staff members in our churches need the benefits of this pension program. May I again appeal to each layperson to see that his church provide all staff members protection benefits based on an amount equal to 10% of total compensation. Each employee will need at retirement all the benefits the full 10% will yield.

We're always glad to serve you. If you have any questions about the Annuity Board programs, write me. I'll see that you get an answer as quickly as possible. Or you may call our toll free number any time between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. (CST) Monday-Friday. Dial 1-800-527-4767.

SERVING THOSE WHO  SERVE THE LORD

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Kentucky Baptists at Work

Jonathan Creek: A River Where God Is

by Jim Cox, Associate Editor

Jonathan Creek is half-a-mile wide.

"Back where I come from in Virginia," George T. Gray, Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly manager, says, "a creek is something you step over—or at least, take a running leap and jump over!"

That isn't quite the case at the famous 'creek' which forms much of the outer boundary of one of Kentucky's largest religious encampments, however.

A finger of water jutting off the west bank of Kentucky Lake's mid-section, Jonathan Creek is a picturesque lakeside setting. In the fall leaves alongside it turn gorgeous colors. And while the camp has the distinction of a rural address of a town a dozen miles away (route 1, Hardin), it is actually located only three miles out of Aurora, Ky., in Marshall County.

As Manager Gray conducts visitors over the 120-acre campus which he so obviously admires, he recalls the tract's inception as a Baptist encampment.

"The land was government property at one time," he explains. "TVA owned it but didn't need it and sold it to a private citizen. Although not a Baptist, the individual became impressed with the possibilities the site offered for some worthy purpose, and when the opportunity presented itself he sold it to the Baptists."

Was he by chance dreaming dreams and seeing visions?

West Union Baptist Association, which includes Baptists in Ballard and McCracken counties, purchased the site in the early 50's. Jonathan Creek was incorporated in 1955 and 10 other western Kentucky Baptist associations became coowners and operators of the fledgling encampment.

These associations, in addition to West Union, which continue to own the assembly today are: Blood River, Caldwell-Lyon, Christian County, Fulton, Graves County, Little Bethel, Little River, Ohio River, Ohio Valley and West Kentucky.

A Board of 44

Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly is administered by a 44-member board including two elected trustees, modera-



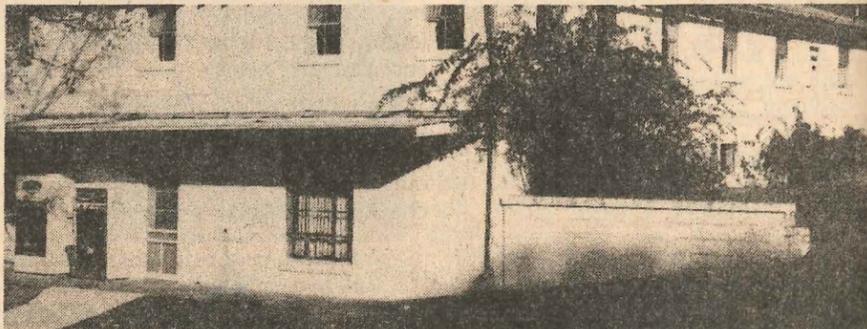
Jonathan Creek Manager George Gray [left] and Earl Warford, Blood River associational missionary, chat outside the new conference center.

tor and missionary from each of the 11 sponsoring associations. The board meets quarterly.

Gray, the camp's resident manager, is responsible to the board for the day-to-day operations of the camp. He has been doing that for four-and-a-half years, since leaving the superintendency of Spring Meadows Children's Home in Middletown.

"It was hard to get used to living so far from a big city," he recalls. "But we love it here, and as long as we feel God has work for us to do here, we'll remain."

"We" includes Gray's loyal companion of many years, Estelle, who helps him in the year-round task of cooking home style, cleaning dormitories, greeting guests and helping campers have a good camping experience generally. Gray frequently addresses the girl he married from their home town of



This two-story structure houses dining and kitchen facilities and meetings.

Bedford, Va., as 'My Wife' instead of 'Estelle.' She is as vital to that camp's operation as Gray is himself, he believes. "She's my right arm."

Gray graduated from Bluefield Junior College and the University of Richmond and entered Southern Seminary in 1962, completing the M.Div. degree in 1965. During those years he served Plum Creek Baptist Church, Vevay, Ind., as pastor.

He went to Spring Meadows in 1965 as assistant superintendent, rising to superintendent his last two years there, 1970-72. The Grays have two daughters, ages 26 and 23.

What type of program does Jonathan Creek offer?

A check of the projected schedule for 1977 reveals a camp for retarded, two youth camps for sponsoring associations, Girls in Action, two G. A. and Acteen camps, two boys' camps and a youth music conference. In addition to these five-day weeks, there are numerous weekend events: Acteens: preview, WMU leadership conference, volunteer music leader's conference, Baptist Women and husbands' retreat and January Bible preview. Numerous other events will be scheduled by church, associational and state groups later.

Not the Ritz

Accommodations at Jonathan Creek are not in a class with the Waldorf Astoria but you would not expect that. Waller Dormitory, a three-wing single level structure, presently accommodates 150 persons very comfortably, although a new state law going into effect next May will reduce that maximum to 125.



Recreation at Jonathan Creek includes a swimming pool in a woody setting.

Thirteen cabins for boys on the camp's perimeter provide a closed setting for about 90 young men and their counselors. Here boys' camps may be conducted without disrupting other assembly programs going on simultaneously.

Gray is generally pleased with the attendance in 1976. The G. A. camp, for instance, registered 93, while the Acteen camp served 46. Boys' camps drew 86 and 55 in two different weeks, and a whopping 147 registered for one of the girls' weeks.

"But the thing that I'm proudest of," says Gray, "is the evidence that God is working at Jonathan Creek. Statistically we registered 95 decisions this past summer, including professions of faith, rededications and commitments to full time Christian service. In five summers that number has totaled 871 decisions.

One can go to camp at Jonathan Creek as reasonably as anywhere. For \$9.50 you can stay overnight and have three home-cooked meals in the camp's spacious second-floor dining hall, provided you're from one of the 11 sponsoring associations. Even if you're not you can receive the same benefits for \$11.50.

Weekly camp fees are \$20 for sponsoring associations and \$25 for others.

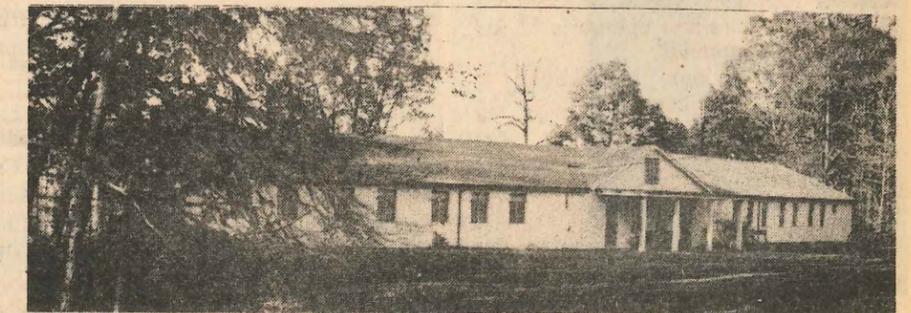
The camp's annual operating budget is currently \$78,000. Churches in the sponsoring associations choose how much they will give to the camp's upkeep, thus contributions from churches and associations vary widely. Some churches do not designate anything while others give liberally to this enterprise training the whole person.

Jewel in the Crown
Physically, the central attraction of Jonathan Creek, about which Gray and the sponsoring associations tend to brag, is a conference center only recently completed and dedicated. This two-story ultra-modern glassed-in structure includes a 200-seat auditorium and assembly offices on one level, and on another similar space which may readily be partitioned into nine small class rooms.

The very latest in appointments, carpeting, lighting, heating, air conditioning and sound system make the facility multipurposeful and something of which all Baptists may be proud.

In addition to Gray, there is one other full time person on the camp's staff year round, although an assistant director is currently being sought. The summer staff includes two full time cooks, several young people, directors and leadership for the various programs.

Gray and his board are making an all out effort to establish the camp as a year round operation, and have had some success in this campaign. A



Waller Dormitory presently sleeps 150.

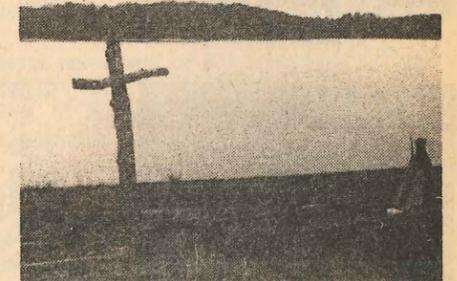
number of church and associational weekend events are scheduled right through the coldest months of the year.

Some have suggested that Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly should be added to the Kentucky Baptist Convention's operations at a future date. In this way it would be able to receive Cooperative Program funding. How does this suggestion sound closer to home?

"If the state was going to take it and make something out of it, many would be interested," Earl Warford, Blood River Association missionary, believes. "But not otherwise."

Gray feels it might be "advantageous" for the camp, but also adds, "The state people have about as much access to the camp now as they could want. We welcome them whenever they can come."

A memo book, a souvenir from Jona-



The cross is central to the purpose of the lakeside campfire setting.

than Creek, states this goal: "To win the lost, strengthen the faithful and revitalize the unconcerned."

If a camp can do all that it is fulfilling a worthwhile mission by making a vital contribution to the constituency it serves. Jonathan Creek seems to be trying.

1977
**KENTUCKY BAPTIST STATE
 EVANGELISM CONFERENCE**

Severns Valley Baptist Church

ELIZABETHTOWN, KENTUCKY
 JANUARY 17 & 18
PROGRAM

Monday Afternoon

- 2:00 Song ServiceRonald Sholar
 Welcome and PrayerV. C. Kruschwitz
- 2:20 Bible StudyClyde Francisco
- 2:50 C.A.R.E. RevivalsFrank Crumpler
- 3:20 Song and Special Music
- 3:30 MessageBailey E. Smith
 PrayerThomas E. Huls

Monday Evening

- 6:30 Concert of Sacred Music....Hale and Wilder
- 7:00 Bible StudyClyde Francisco
- 7:30 Concert of Sacred Music....Hale and Wilder
- 8:15 Song and OfferingEugene Quinn
- 8:30 "Evangelism — An Outgrowth
 of Worship"G. Earl Guinn
 PrayerGene Bronston Waggoner

Tuesday Morning

- 9:15 Song ServiceRobert E. Kersey
 PrayerRaymond Ward
- 9:30 Bible StudyClyde Francisco
- 10:00 MessageFrank Crumpler
- 10:25 Hymn
- 10:30 MessageBailey E. Smith
- 11:00 Song
 Special MusicKim Wickes
- 11:15 MessageG. Earl Guinn
 PrayerRandall Jones

Tuesday Afternoon

- 2:00 MusicEugene Quinn
- 2:15 "Revival at Oneida"George R. Bausum
- 2:35 "Evangelism Through Mission
 Points"Billy Fred Mackey
- 2:55 "Evangelism in the Country"Bob Jones
- 3:15 Music
- 3:30 "Maturing Christians in Christ"....Jim Henry
 PrayerIsaac B. McDonald

Tuesday Evening

- 6:30 Special MusicCampbellsville College
- 7:00 Song and OfferingAllen B. Case
- 7:15 MessageJim Henry
- 7:45 Special MusicSeverns Valley Choir
- 8:05 MessageThomas Hicks Shelton

GROWTH EVANGELISM



Clyde Francisco



Jim Henry



Kim Wickes



G. Earl Guinn



Robert Hale & Dean Wilder



Bailey E. Smith



Frank Crumpler

Thomas Hicks Shelton

Christian Education



Deborah Fitts, 21, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert O. Fitts, Pineville, was crowned Homecoming Queen at Cumberland College. She is a senior majoring in elementary education and minoring in music.

**Four Cumberland Profs
 Visit Cape Canaveral**

On Nov. 14, four members of the Cumberland College mathematics and physics departments (Joe Early, Cecil Morris, Mike Davis and Chester Nevels) toured the space facilities at Cape Canaveral, Fla. The tour came immediately prior to a national math conference at Orlando which the group attended and at which Early, chairman of Cumberland's mathematics department, actively participated.

According to Early, "We were invited, by Mr. Ernest C. Spivey, Chief, Systems Training and Employee Development, at the Cape, to acquaint us with the technology needed to make the space program successful."

The group toured the entire NASA complex including the launch control center, vehicle assembly building and all of the launch control facilities.

At the launch facilities, the Cumberland group visited the site of the major Apollo manned space shots. The visitors were allowed to witness an actual launch of a Delta Rocket Vehicle and a satellite.

**Virginia Students Observe
 World Hunger Awareness Day**

College students in the town of Bluefield, Va., are keenly aware of international cultures and have a new world vision after the World Hunger Awareness Day observed at Bluefield College.

Students at Bluefield College, a Virginia Baptist college, sponsored a lunch of rice and tea in the college dining hall instead of the regular nutritional meal based on a balanced diet. The Student Government Association unanimously supported the substitute meal, as did the college administration. The money saved by not preparing the regular meal in the small college's dining hall plus donations totaled more than \$350, or about one dollar for each student attending the college.

The entire amount has been forwarded by the Baptist Student Union to the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. The funds are designated for use by the Foreign Mission Board's department of world hunger and disaster relief.

The college administration donated the portion of board for the meal normally paid with the semester's fees to the cause. Commuting students, faculty, staff and visitors from the commu-

ity paid \$1.50 or more each for the simple meal of rice, nshima (cooked, unseasoned corn meal) and tea.

A time of prayer for relief of suffering in the world was observed on a voluntary basis at the college. A prayer corner was set up in the cafeteria so students and others could spend some time in thanksgiving and prayer.

**New Orleans Sets Pace
 In Enrolment Increases**

Based on final fall enrolment figures, New Orleans Baptist Seminary has recorded the largest increase in enrolment among the six Southern Baptist seminaries.

New Orleans Seminary, with a first term enrolment of 906 compared to 720 for the same period last year, is enjoying a 26 percent increase in total enrolment.

The seminary also boasts a record 51 percent increase in new students enrolling for the first time this fall, as well as a 12 percent increase in returning students.

Naylor Announces 1978 Retirement from Seminary

Robert E. Naylor, president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary since 1958, announced his retirement plans during the fall meeting of the seminary's board of trustees in Ft. Worth, Tex. The retirement will become effective in August 1978, climaxing 20 years as president and 50 years since entering the 68-year-old seminary as a student.

In a statement to the trustees, Naylor expressed his indebtedness to the trustees, to Southern Baptists and to God. "I am filled with gratitude for the privilege that is mine and feel blessed beyond measure by God. My retirement plans are made with joy — a joy shared with trustees, faculty, staff and students — every day it has been a joy," he noted.

Judge Oswin Chrisman of Dallas,

chairman of the 36-member board, and vice chairman T. Earl Ogg, Monroe, La., will appoint a presidential search committee in early 1977. The committee will be composed of seven trustees and a student and a faculty representative.

The board voted to reelect Chrisman and Ogg as officers of the board for another 12-month term, elected two new faculty members, added courses to the curriculum, approved campaign plans for the seminary's "Eight by Eighty" fund drive and heard reports.

In other action, the trustees heard a report on the current status of the seminary's Eight by Eighty drive, which seeks to raise \$8 million by 1980 for capital improvements and endowment needs. It was reported that over \$2 million has been raised during the first year of the drive.

Missions & Ministries

Chilean Missionaries Distribute 6,000 New Testaments, 100 Bibles to Soldiers

Southern Baptist Missionaries Marcus L. (Mark) Driggers and O. D. (Bill) Dyches distributed 6,000 New Testaments and more than 100 Bibles among the Chilean Army personnel in camps in northern Chile, near Calama.

The two had met Colonel Eduardo Ibanez, who is the governor of the district and the Chilean Army's commander of regiments in the northern area, while in missionary orientation. Ibanez was at the Allied Officers School at Fort Benning, Ga., when he and other officers were invited to meet missionaries going to their countries.

After Driggers settled in Santiago, Chile, he contacted Ibanez who had been transferred to Calama. When Driggers and other missionaries made a trip to Calama, they made a point to stop and see Ibanez.

"He received us very cordially and during the course of the visit he said they felt a great need for New Testaments," Driggers related.

A committee of the Chilean mission (organization of Southern Baptist mis-

sionaries) decided to buy 3,000 New Testaments and 100 Bibles. "A friend from the Evangelical Uniform Mission obtained 3,000 more New Testaments from the Gideons," Driggers added.

With the Bibles, Driggers and Dyches set out on the journey which took them through the deserts to the north, to Calama. "When we got there," Dyches explained, "The colonel kept saying how the Lord had brought he and Mark together. He said the door was open from the government to go to all the regiments to distribute literature or New Testaments."

After distributing Bibles and Testaments in Calama, the two went to other military camps. They gave out all 6,000 New Testaments and the over 100 Bibles.

Driggers and Dyches agrees that ministry to the vast number of soldiers in northern Chile is now an open door to Southern Baptists to go and preach "if there were people to go through the door."



Helen Ruchti was elected president of the European Baptist Convention at its 13th annual meeting held recently at Frankfurt, Germany. She is the first non-ordained president of that convention. She and her husband, William, are Southern Baptist missionaries serving in Rome, Italy. She is currently involved in writing and recording a twice weekly radio program plus numerous other writing assignments and church activities.

Baptists Help Drought Victims in Nicaragua

Funds provided by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board have brought aid to victims of a recent drought in Managua, Nicaragua. The \$5,000 in emergency relief funds was used to buy food and seeds, according to Stanley D. Stamps, Southern Baptist missionary.

Normally the rainy season extends from May through October. This year the rains did not begin until the end of September. As a consequence, staple crops of rice, beans, corn, sugar cane and cotton were severely hurt.

With thousands facing hunger and defeat, the Nicaraguan government announced a plan of providing food and seed for some farmers in exchange for public work, Stamps further explained.

According to Gustavo Wilson, executive minister of the convention, the money sent by the Foreign Mission Board will help at least 35 families during two months which is the critical period until other short-term cash crops can be planted and harvested.

Baptists Aid Victims of Mexico Hurricane

When the winds and damaging floods of Hurricane Liza hit in early October, they left about 500 dead, 500 missing, 1,400 injured and 15,000 or more homeless in La Paz and in other parts of Mexico. The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board appropriated \$41,000 for relief efforts to assist the stricken hurricane victims.

Part of the money was used for heavy plastic and corrugated tar paper for

shelter for over 1,000 families in La Paz, Los Mochis and Navajoa. The materials were distributed by Baptist church members to those most affected.

Ninety-eight blocks of homes were swept away in La Paz when a river diversion dike broke spilling a 17-foot wall of water on the city, according to Dr. Lee Baggett, Southern Baptist representative physician.

Baggett, along with a Mexican Bap-

tist doctor and dentist, composed a medical team from the Baptist hospital in Guadalajara. They surveyed needs and administered medical aid in La Paz and the remote southern tip of the Baja Peninsula by invitation of the Mexican public health officials. On a five-day trip across the desert south of La Paz, the team worked in 14 villages and towns and treated 256 patients, including 25 dental patients.

Viewpoint

The Effects of Fear Upon Relationships

by Robert W. Darby, Cumberland College

During the 1930's our nation was experiencing much frustration due to "the great depression." Families were standing in bread lines and vast numbers of men were unemployed as economic instability prevailed. In the midst of this condition, President Franklin D. Roosevelt said to the people, "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself."

But why should we dread the effects of fear? What does fear do to a relationship? Consider the possibility that fear destroys our trust for others; it reduces our relationships with people to a thing concept. Fear isolates us into a dark, cold and lonely prison of the mind and causes us to see and hear "things" that are not there. We often feel like people are "out to get us." We begin to believe that our mate, family, friends, or even God cannot be trusted. We freeze and want to panic.

Why do we have a tendency to panic under stressful conditions? Psychologically speaking, we fear losing control of one of our most prized possessions — OUR PERSONHOOD. And yet, our

many fears include not only losing control of our personhood but our identity as well. Rather than risk the loss of these "treasures of life" we turn inward and begin to build walls of self protection that would repel the strongest invader; and since the characteristics of paranoia may cause us to interpret the attempts of people seeking to understand us as being too threatening, we withdraw hostilely behind our emotional walls for protection. But all the while we are living in agony. We are frustrated and lonely. Our walls are so high that we cannot see out nor can others see in. We are isolated.

In the midst of this bizarre state of mind brought about by fear we encounter "the grief experience." And yet, the source of this grief cannot pass without removal of "the wall." Why? Simply because we are grieving over our own inability to control life's circumstances.

When obsessive fear grips our mind we are not only out of harmony with others but we are out of harmony with the one person we are attempting to protect — OURSELVES. In the process of defending "our treasured soul" we often are overwhelmed by a magnitude of psychological fears, thus becoming imprisoned in a fearful state of mind. But how can we emerge from a self-imposed prison of fear and become free

from the devastating effects? How are we to lower our defensive walls and become enabled to develop more trusting relationships?

Consider the possibility that we must first see a need for change and consequently desire a healthy relationship so badly that we are willing to risk losing our treasured selfhood in the process. Our desperate and often despairing cry is "I want to trust someone but can I trust myself?"

The giving of one's self completely for the sake of a trusting relationship is difficult and threatening but necessary for happiness. Is this a new truth? Certainly not! It is as old as our Lord himself. Listen to his words of wisdom recorded in the gospel of Matthew. "He who loses his life for my sake will find it." What is Jesus suggesting in this statement? Consider the possibility that he means the psychic energy of a healthy personality is not drained void through recurring loneliness, constant boredom, excessive tension or defensiveness. Consequently, the fears of man have been dealt with and stability has prevailed. The healthy personality can afford to "forget" but not "neglect" himself in order to become involved in relating to other people. He is thus enabled to set his fears aside and follow the example of Jesus Christ.



Jim Hollingsworth [left] greets the Tom Clark family at the door of Good News Baptist Church in Selma, Ala. The church recently was refused membership in the Selma Baptist Association. Hollingsworth, pastor of the church, says their open door policy — accepting blacks as members — was the reason. Blacks in Selma say they may make effort to integrate the 24-member churches of the association.

On the Air

Clean-Up, Paint-Up, Fix-Up

Staffers Perform Magic, Transform Radio & TV Commission Offices As Do-It-Yourselfers Save \$10,000

Cinderella had a fairy godmother to turn her into a princess. The Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission building had its staff members who, using paint brushes and scrub rags instead of magic wands, transformed their building from dusty and gray to squeaky clean.

Radio and television producers, secretaries, printers, data processors, fund raisers, film editors and vice presidents—they all stepped out of their traditional roles to join in what could only be described as a "labor of love."

That labor of love saved the Radio and Television Commission (and the Baptist denomination) nearly \$10,000.

"When our new building was ready to be occupied, it became obvious to those of us moving into new offices that

we were leaving old offices somewhat the worse for wear," observed Paul M. Stevens, Commission president.

So, a committee of staff members, including Jo Darden of the Television Department, Don Hull of Audience Systems and Services, and Paul Schmidt of Data Processing, toured the building taking detailed notes of needed improvements — paint here, a wax job there, more careful cleaning in other areas.

Jack Oxford, the Commission's vice president of buildings and services, looked at the list and — using information from a national construction estimator — figured it would cost \$11,202.95 to make the roughly 48,000 square feet in the old building as bright as the new building.

But the employees, under the gentle prodding of Miss Darden, Hull and Schmidt as well as their own pride in where they worked, elected to do the work themselves.

The Radio and Television Commission supplied the paint and some cleaning materials. Many employees brought their own paint brushes, roller and cleaning rags from home. They also supplied their own elbow grease.

Working partially on time provided them by the Commission and partially on their own time on Fridays (the Radio-TV Commission works a four-day week and the building is usually closed on Fridays) Commission staffers started at the third floor of the building and cleaned and painted their way to the basement.

In all Commission employees spent 1,274 hours painting, 68 hours cleaning and \$1,068.95 for supplies.

The total savings was nearly \$10,000.

"I'm so proud of them I don't know what to do," said Stevens.

Frank Owen



LIFE'S RECORD

Men's lives leave tracks: where they have been, what they have done, what they have thought important. I saw this illustrated as I flew with a friend in his light plane above the eastern mountains. We looked down on the paths, the roads, the highways of men. We were looking at the accumulated footprints of humanity.

Those roads (the tracks left by men) led to the villages of commerce, to the schools, the stores, the courthouses, the churches. Some of the tracks were wide, some narrow—all sizes. Thus remain the accumulated footprints of the generations which declare what people have believed to be important and how much so.

Each person leaves a record. Did you ever think of this in connection with the stewardship of your money? Halford Luccock of Yale told of a friend who was writing a biography of another man and used his check stubs as a basis of study of the man's life. He could thus learn what the man had believed in most; what he had done, what he had been, what he thought was important, what he had loved. The check stubs told the story.

The way one has spent his money will leave tracks as plain as those roads, highways and paths that one may see from an airplane. Suppose all the monetary expenditures of our lives were totaled up in columns of subject matter and God's work and program had a column. What would that figure look like after your life and mine?

I told some of my friends as I left a former pastorate that I would continue to be very interested in the church's long range future after being gone because I had a sizable investment in the church, both of my life's years and my tithed income.

I have the feeling that God's records will be perfectly accurate, perfectly complete and the columns will show what we have spent and for what. And God will have a column with a total on the balance sheets that bear your name and mine.

Sunday School Lessons

Lessons for Dec. 19, 1976

by H. C. Chiles, Murray, Ky.

International Series

The Coming Celebrated

The title of the lesson in the Life and Work Series is "The Joy of Christ's Coming." The title of the lesson in the International Series is "The Coming Celebrated." Both lessons are based on Luke 2:6-20.

The recital of the matchless story of the birth of Jesus Christ, our saviour, who was born as no other person has ever been born, and whose coming has meant more to the world by far than that of any other person, is of perennial interest and blessing to all who know, love and serve him.

The Arrangements for the Saviour—Luke 2:1-5

Just prior to the birth of the Lord Jesus, Joseph and Mary were in Nazareth, some 60 miles north of Bethlehem in Judea, the place where Micah had foretold that the Saviour would be born (Mic. 5:2). In order that they might be at the proper place at the right time, God caused Caesar Augustus, the Roman emperor who was wanting and needing more money, to issue a decree that all the world over which he had control should be enrolled, every man in the city where he was born, with a view to taxation and perhaps military service. In obedience to the decree of the duly constituted authority, Joseph and Mary wended their way to Bethlehem. When not even an improvised corner could be found in the inn to shelter and protect the expectant mother, Joseph and Mary were granted permission to stay in the stable.

The Advent of the Saviour—Luke 2:6-7

There, without the presence and assistance of a physician, nurse or attendant in the hour of her great need, Mary "brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn." What foreboding in those words! Lack of hospitality was the experience of the Lord Jesus throughout his earthly ministry. "He came unto his own, and his own received him not" (John 1:11). Do you have room for him in your thoughts and conversations?

The Announcement to the Shepherds—Luke 2:8-14

At that time there were lowly shepherds in the Judean hill country, watching over their flocks by night. While these humble shepherds were guarding their sheep and protecting them from robbers and wild beasts, they were visited by an angel of the Lord. As the glory of the Lord shone round about this heavenly messenger, the shepherds were frightened. Under those circumstances, most anyone would have been filled with fear. Seeking to calm the shepherds the angel said: Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." In order that the shepherds might recognize the Saviour, the angel said: "Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger." Thus the angel revealed intimate knowledge and announced the most wonderful news that was ever given to man. Instantly the heavenly hosts sounded forth a paean of praise because of the birth of the Saviour. The angelic host sang

Life and Work Series

The Joy of Christ's Coming

the praises of God because of his wondrous gift of the Prince who had come to bring peace to the hearts and minds of the people of this sin-cursed world.

Our praises are certainly due to our saviour and Lord who has brought so many and such wonderful blessings to the people throughout the world. Our praises reach their highest level in our dedicated and self-giving services to those who need them in the matchless name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Action of the Shepherds—Luke 2:15-20

Stirred profoundly at hearing that lovely carol and its wondrous message, immediately after the departure of the visitor from heaven, "the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us." Eagerly and earnestly the shepherds hastened to Bethlehem with the full assurance that they would find "the babe lying in a manger."

When they arrived at their destination, the shepherds did not find any magnificent building with royal surroundings, but they found a precious babe surrounded with the common things that were usually kept in barns. Upon seeing the newly-born saviour lying in a manger, the shepherds were filled with reverent awe and joyous gratitude. They immediately went forth to tell the wonderful news of what they had heard and seen.

As they returned from Bethlehem, the shepherds were "glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen." They rejoiced because they had seen the Son of God, who was to bring so many and such wonderful blessings to needy people. Let all Christians behold the love which God displayed at Bethlehem when Christ was born, and join with the angels in singing:

"Joy to the world! The Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heaven and nature sing."

Having availed themselves of the glorious opportunity of gazing upon the saviour in person, the shepherds promptly set themselves to the great and challenging task of proclaiming to others, who were less fortunate than they, the good news about the Saviour whom they had seen. In this respect they set for us and for all others who have been the beneficiaries of his glorious gospel a splendid example. If people are to be saved, they must hear about the one who can save them. Since Christ has saved us, there has been within us an impulse as deep as life itself prompting us to make him known to others. Let us be faithful in witnessing for Christ, who has forgiven our sins and given to us eternal life.



Claude Cox, radio producer for the Radio and Television Commission, offers to paint the head of Jim Hughes, assistant vice president, Special Projects, during the staff's recent clean-up, paint-up, fix-up program which saved Baptists nearly \$10,000.

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