



Western Recorder
MARCH 17, 1977

What About a Separate Christian Education Department?

Goal 6 in the report of the special study of Kentucky Baptist Christian education is the establishment of a department of Christian education of the Executive Board with a professional level staff member. (See page 7 in this issue of Western Recorder.) This department would represent the interests of our Baptist colleges and schools among all Kentucky Baptists. One step toward the implementation of this goal calls for the assignment of a present staff member to these duties. This has already been done. The target date for the full implementation of the goal is September 1978.



This is another of the most far reaching steps recommended by the study committee. Its ramifications should be carefully considered before full implementation.

One consideration is the cost involved in starting a new department of the Executive Board. The minimum outlay including office space, one professional staff member and secretarial help would be \$30 to \$40 thousand a year.

No doubt such a staff member would be of help to the colleges and schools. The role of the present Christian education committee of the Executive Board would be enhanced and presumably some things now done by the school presidents and other staff members of the Executive Board and the schools could be done better with the help of a full time director. The value of such a staff member would depend on the job description adopted and the professional competence of the person chosen for the office.

Such a move would not be a new venture for Kentucky Baptists. It was tried in the 1950's starting with a part time director and developing into a full time department with professional staff and directors elected by the convention. Two of the ablest men among Southern Baptists, Ben Fisher and Erwin McDonald, provided leadership for this department but it was abandoned after only a short existence.

There would be debate over whether this experiment was a success or a failure but the fact that it was abandoned indicates it accomplished less than expected.

My impressions of this experience are vivid because I happened to be one of the elected directors of this short-lived department. My experience was so disappointing that I can hardly be objective in my evaluation.

A strenuous effort was made by Erwin McDonald and these directors in the mid-fifties to give sound and progressive direction to our Christian education efforts in Kentucky.

But all the influence and efforts of this department were shot down in 1957 without even a warning. Completely ignoring and bypassing the Christian Education Department, recommendations for senior college status for two Kentucky Baptist junior colleges were presented directly to the convention messengers. The recommendations were approved leaving the Christian Education Department discredited and humiliated. It was subsequently replaced with the present plan of a Christian Education Committee of the Executive Board without full time staff assistance.

Whether a plan reestablishing a separate department with professional staff would be of more value than the experiment in the 1950's is a question to be considered. The Christian education picture of Kentucky Baptists is more stable today than then and the spirit among the schools and their leaders is better.

The most important question related to this proposal is what could be done more effectively for our schools with such a department and staff than is now being done by the schools themselves. The most pressing needs of our schools are a recognition by Kentucky Baptists of their value, strong financial support and increase in enrolment.

Would a super public relations effort on behalf of all our schools by a full time department enhance and make more effective the efforts of individual schools? Can more financial resources from individuals and foundations be secured by a representative of all the schools than the schools separately are now getting? The same question applies to recruitment of students.

Finally, would a full time department be worth the cost? It is assumed the \$30 to \$40 thousands would come out of Christian education funds before distribution to the schools. Could this be spent more profitably for student scholarships making it possible for more Baptist young people with limited resources to attend our schools?

The Grace of Gratitude

Gratitude properly expressed is as lovely as a lily and as sweet as a rose. Regrettably, some of those most deserving our gratitude are overlooked. Not so with the St. Matthews Baptist congregation in Louisville.

The Feb. 14 mail out paper of the St. Matthews church was almost entirely devoted to expressions of recognition and appreciation for Bill McAtee. Bill has been custodian of the congregation for 20 years and is high in the esteem

of everyone.

In addition to the expressions of the whole congregation, Bill received personal expressions from the pastor, the minister of music, the chairman of the trustees, the directors of the nursery and kindergarten, the chairman of the radio committee, the chairman of the food services committee, the chairman of the building and grounds committee, the chairman of the personnel committee, the educational secretary and the pastor's secretary.

The custodian in many ways has the hardest job in a church. He has to answer to and please more people than anyone on the church staff. Judging by the praise of his services, Bill must be an unexcelled keeper of the Lord's house.

Baptist Forum

So we are to turn off the violence and pester the TV stations for one week. After that little blow there'll be a good laugh and the violence will go right on.

Why not mount an all out effective campaign that will put them out of commission? Note the advertisers of the products which they sell. Meantime write the advertisers and tell them why you will not use their product. Money talks, and when the sales really fall off they'll listen and we'll get better programs. There is no other answer and we are fooling ourselves when we think that there is. If every christian, in fact every person, who gives lip service to deploring the poor quality of TV would stop buying the goods, our homes would clean up like magic.

Mrs. Ruth Hope Lessley, Paducah

"The Pastor's Wife Speaks to the Pastor" by Mrs. Ted Sisk in Feb. 10 Western Recorder met a real need.

I heartily concur with her conclusions on the calling, need and responsibilities of a pastor's wife. No wife needs to feel insecure being second to a husband that puts God first.

Mrs. Ralph Duncan, Pineville

I am grateful for Dr. Moody's articles which appeared recently in the Recorder. He has revealed an interesting trend in 20th century conservative scholar-

Gratitude is the queen of Christian graces. It blesses both the one who is its object and the one who is its source. It is regrettable that much gratitude which is sincerely felt is never vocally expressed and so the blessing of being thankful is not fully realized.

Gratitude should be our first reaction to God and to one another. All true worship really begins with being thankful to God and one of the sweetest fruits of Christian love is gratitude to others.

And so the St. Matthews congregation and Bill McAtee are the richer for the expressions of thanks for his 20 years of faithful ministry as church custodian. In the final accounting for our works, one who sweeps floors and wipes away dust for the glory of God will be as honored as those who preach and teach the gospel.

ship, viz., many of these Bible interpreters have moved from Postmillennialism through Amillennialism back to historic Premillennialism. While the progress they have made is encouraging, they still have one more step to take in order to catch up with the New Testament.

Moody argues for a Premillennial understanding of our Lord's return. This is good. But he also argues for a post-Tribulation rapture of the church. One might want to examine some criticisms of Moody's views in a current book by John Walvoord, President of Dallas Seminary, entitled *The Blessed Hope And The Tribulation*, (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1977).

Walter K. Price, Danville

Jerry Lewis broke down and cried on TV at six o'clock last Labor Day. He was exhausted after a long muscular dystrophy telethon and happy that \$21 million had been pledged. It came up eventually to \$23 million. This after a whole year of national effort by many people.

I know something else that is wonderful, and it won't get national coverage. Nothing will be said about it by the mass media. But after a promotional effort of six months Southern Baptists will give \$29 million for foreign missions through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering and more than \$11 million for home missions through the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering; for a total of

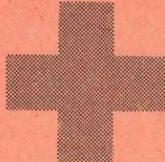
more than \$40 million for world missions!

This is great. By the grace of God we are able to send this gulf stream of financial support throughout the world; and I for one am grateful to be a part of a convention that is doing it.

Paul S. James, Deltona, Fla.

A Public Service of this newspaper & The Advertising Council

We're counting on you.



Red Cross.
The Good Neighbor.

Baptist News in Brief

Single? This is for You!

"Developing a Leadership for Single Adults" is theme of a single adult conference May 27-28 at Cedarmore. It will deal with singles in New Testament context, adjustments of singles, life of singles in contemporary society and commitment of Southern Baptists to a singles ministry.

Reservation fee of \$5, applicable to costs, should be sent to Cedarmore Baptist Assembly, Bagdad, KY 40003.

SBC Religious Educators To Confront 'Bold Mission'

Religious educators will gather for the 22nd annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Religious Education Association (SBREA) in Kansas City June 12-13.

Emphasizing the SBC's "bold mission" objective to evangelize the world by the close of the century, the SBREA will confront "the bold mission of religious education" through Bible teaching, missions, discipleship development and personal involvement.

Program personnel include P. Kevin O'Sullivan, executive vice president, American Society for Training and Development, Madison, Wis.; William E. Hull, pastor, First Baptist Church, Shreveport, La.; Albert McClellan, director of program planning and associ-

ate executive secretary, SBC Executive Committee, Nashville; Billie Pate, supervisor and John Hendrix, consultant, pilot project section, Church Training Department, Sunday School Board, Nashville; Elaine Dickson, Sunday School Board; and W. Randall Lolley, president, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C.

A luncheon will honor Phillip B. Harris and A. V. Washburn, retiring this year after long service as secretaries respectively of the Church Training and Sunday School departments at the Sunday School Board.

Musicians Note 20 Years

Theme of the SBC Church Music Conference June 12-13 at Independence and Liberty, Mo., will be "Our First 20 Years."

A service of worship and praise including Donald P. Hustad as organ recitalist is set for Sunday at 6:30 p.m. Hustad is Southern Seminary professor of organ.

A concert by a Kentucky Baptist male chorale is scheduled Monday at 11:40 a.m. directed by J. Eugene Sutherland, minister of music, Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville.

Doug Smith, associate professor of church music, Southern Seminary, will lead a conference that afternoon at 3:30

on "The Use of a Solo Orchestral Instrument in the Worship Service."

The conference ends that evening with music from William Jewell College.

WMU Names K.C. Guests

WMU annual sessions in Kansas City, Mo., June 12-13, will be built around the theme "World, Listen!" They are planned Sunday at 3 p.m. and Monday at 9:30 a.m. and 2 and 7:30 p.m. in Bartle Convention Hall.

A drama, "Bold Missions from Adam to Tomorrow," is set for Sunday. Monday speakers include Mike Mojica, Robert Tremaine and Carlos Owens, missionaries; William G. Tanner, executive director-treasurer, Home Mission Board, Atlanta; and John R. Claypool, pastor, Northminister Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss.

WMU Gives TV Machine

The Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union has provided the state Sunday School Department with a videotape cassette player. According to Fred E. Halbrooks Jr., state Sunday school director, "Any church or association interested in our coming to show the Action film may contact our office."

Going to K. C.? Hurry!

Hotel rooms set aside for persons attending the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Kansas City in June are going at a rapid rate.

Some 5,150 of 6,268 rooms available were assigned as of Mar. 1, reports Billy D. Malesovas, assistant to the treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee.

Application forms are available from state Baptist executive secretaries or the SBC Housing Bureau, 1221 Baltimore, Kansas City, Mo. 64105. The housing bureau must receive an application in the mail before reserving accommodations, Malesovas said.

FBC, Washington, on CBS

The nation will have an opportunity to worship with President Jimmy Carter and his family—unless they are in Plains, Ga., for Easter—when CBS News airs the Easter worship services live from Washington's First Baptist Church Apr. 10.

Charles Trentham, pastor of the church where the Carters are active members, will preach the sermon to be aired on CBS from 11 a.m. to 12 noon EST.

It will be produced by CBS News, in cooperation with the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, Ft. Worth.

Pastors to Study Bible

The Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference in Kansas City June 12-13 will emphasize speakers equipped for Bible teaching, says Jerry Vines, conference president and pastor of Dauphin Way Baptist Church, Mobile, Ala.

Warren Wiersbe, pastor of Moody Church, Chicago, will conduct Bible studies at three sessions. Stephen Olford, Bible expositor of Encounter Ministries, Holmes Beach, Fla., will speak two nights.

Other speakers are Clyde Narramore, Christian psychologist, Narramore Christian Foundation, Rosemead, Cal.; John Tippet Jr., pastor, Calvary Baptist Temple, Savannah, Ga.; Homer Lindsay Jr., pastor, First Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Fla.; Carliss Odom, layman,

North Little Rock, Ark.; Sam Cathey, evangelist, Owasso, Okla.; R. G. Lee, pastor emeritus, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis; and W. A. Criswell, pastor, First Baptist Church, Dallas.

'Jesus' Coming to NBC

"Jesus of Nazareth," a six-hour biblical epic with a cast of internationally popular stars, has been scheduled by NBC-TV on two successive Sundays, Apr. 3 and 10. It will be shown in three-hour instalments, 8-11 p.m. EST.

The program was filmed from September 1975 through May 1976 primarily in Morocco and Tunisia.

Anne Bancroft will be featured as Mary Magdalene, James Farentino as Simon Peter, Ian McShane as Judas, Laurence Olivier as Nicodemus, Christopher Plummer as Herod Antipas, Rod Steiger as Pontius Pilate, Peter Ustinov as Herod the Great and Michael York as John the Baptist.

British actor Robert Powell plays Jesus Christ in the program.

Amos Child Care Veep

Bill Amos, executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Board of Child Care, Middletown, has been elected first vice president of the Southern Baptist Child Care Executives.

Meeting in Winston-Salem, N. C., the group elected George Norton of Florida as its president.

Court Reverses Kentucky Obscenity Conviction

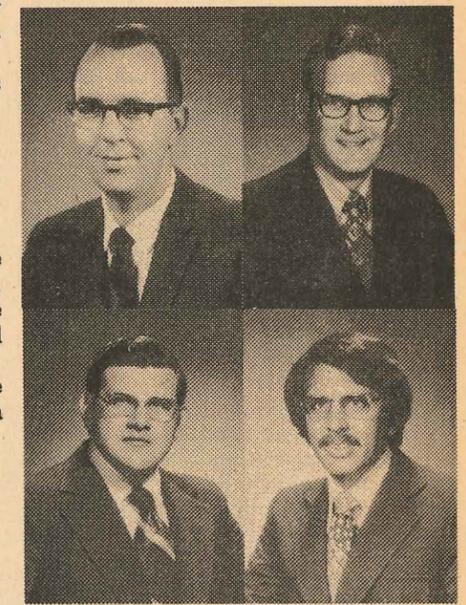
In its first major obscenity ruling of the current term the U. S. Supreme Court held unanimously that persons charged with transporting obscene materials across state lines must not be convicted on the basis of court guidelines not in effect at the time the alleged offense occurred.

All nine justices agreed that the owner and manager of the Cinema X Theatre in Newport, Ky., cannot be convicted under guidelines the high court

laid down in June 1973, four months after the Kentucky men were charged with showing two obscene films. Convicted with them were two suppliers of obscene materials.

Justice Lewis F. Powell, who wrote the court's opinion, stated that "to apply (standards) retroactively . . . violates the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment." Speaking for himself and four other justices, Powell ordered the case sent back to Kentucky for a new trial.

The other four justices, while joining the majority view that the convictions were unconstitutional, disagreed with the decision for a new trial. Justice William J. Brennan Jr., the court's senior member, expressed the view that the law forbidding interstate transportation of obscene materials is "clearly overbroad and unconstitutional on its face."



Four Baptist Sunday School Board Church Administration Department staffers will lead a pastoral ministries conference June 17-18 at Midwestern Seminary. Clockwise, from top left: John Ishee, Ernest Mosley, Jerry Brown, Bruce Grubbs. Interested pastors should send registration fee [\$25 each, \$35 couple] to SBC Pastoral Ministries Conference, MWBTS, 5001 N. Oak St. Trafficway, Kansas City, Mo. 64118.

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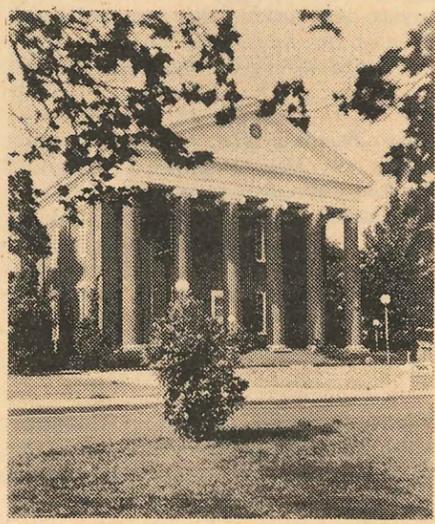
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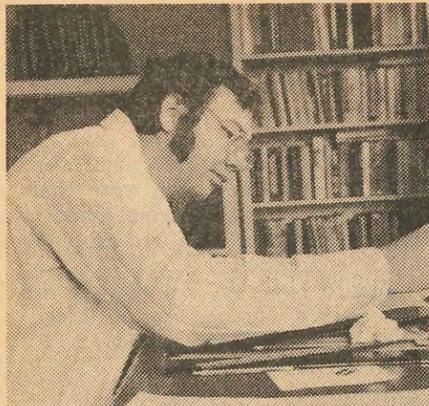
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Double Exposure

Giddings Hall, Georgetown College's most famous landmark, is listed on the U. S. Department of the Interior's National Register of Historic Places. This rare example of early 19th century Greek revival architecture was completed in 1840. It was designed by J. E. Farnam, math professor, and R. Rockwood Giddings, president. They and their students laid most of its brick. The structure is one of seven college buildings in the state recognized by the Kentucky Heritage Commission in 1972 for its historic value. Giddings Hall was renovated and refurbished in 1974 for administrative offices.



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Jerry Sieg, assistant professor of music at Cumberland College, Williamsburg, was one of 10 composers to have his new composition performed at the Feb. 10-12 Symposium II For New World Music conducted at Radford College, Radford, Va. Sieg's PRELUDE AND VARIATIONS was the only selection to represent small-college composers.

No Tuition for Elderly, Disabled at Bluefield

Bluefield College's tuition-free senior citizen program which received wide recognition at its inception last September has now been broadened to include more people.

According to Gary Poulton, the Baptist college's director of development, the program now defines senior citizens as any person who has reached the age of 60 and has been extended by the college administration to any person permanently disabled and retired for health reasons. The original program admitted only persons 65 and older on a tuition-free basis.

A college spokesman said he believes Bluefield College's program is the only one of its kind among private colleges in the country, although the Virginia legislature is considering legislation which would institute a similar program in state schools.

Tuition is normally \$630 per semester at the liberal arts college offering bachelors and associate degrees. Senior citizens and disabled persons will pay only a \$25 registration fee per semester.

The senior citizens program is an outgrowth of another of the college's innovative programs, known in the community as "Try One," which admits any person who has been out of school 10 years or more at a reduced tuition rate for one semester so that person can determine whether he or she wishes to return on a regular basis.

Career Symposium Held at Georgetown

Beginning with remarks by U. S. Congressman Carroll Hubbard and followed by a keynote address by Tom Corts, president of Wingate College, the first Georgetown College Career Symposium was held on the campus Feb. 21-23.

Corts, Hubbard and 23 other Georgetown College alumni headed the three-day program which included informal discussions in each housing unit, career conferences, classroom lectures and individual interviews.

Conferences in accounting, business management, church-related services, education, health, legal and social services and independent business were led by alumni and attended by current students.

John Butler, academic dean; Richard Carlton, coordinator of alumni affairs; and Wayne Moore, director of the student development center, coordinated the program sponsored by Georgetown's Farmers Bank and Trust Company and First National Bank and Trust Company.



Ronald Ball, son of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Ball, Pine Knot, Ky., recently joined the Promotions Staff of Cumberland College, Williamsburg. Ball earned his B.S. at Cumberland and his Master of Arts at Eastern Kentucky University.

Georgetown Chooses Presidential Scholar

David M. Wheeler, a senior at Russell High School, Flatwoods, has been named recipient of the 1977 Presidential Scholarship at Georgetown College.



Wheeler

The Presidential Scholarship is awarded each year to an outstanding entering freshman.

An honor student, Wheeler is a National Merit Semi-Finalist, a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the Latin Club and the 1976 All-State Chorus. He is an active member of the First Baptist Church of Russell. He plans to major in pre-medicine.



Baptist Student Director Don Blaylock [center] talks with New Orleans Seminary President Landrum P. Leavell [right] and Udell Smith, Louisiana Baptist Student Director, during the 18th annual meeting of the State Baptist Student Director's Association held recently at New Orleans Baptist Seminary. More than 20 directors of student work were present.

- Goal 1:** A goal of Kentucky Baptist colleges and schools is to have developed and implemented a comprehensive strategy by September 1, 1978, to interpret the importance of these colleges and schools to Kentucky Baptists.
- Goal 2:** A goal of Kentucky Baptist colleges and schools is to have translated their purpose statements regarding the development of Christian values

- leges and schools is to have completed a coordinated capital campaign for needed buildings and endowment by July 31, 1982.
- Goal 6:** A goal of Kentucky Baptist colleges and schools is to have encouraged the Kentucky Baptist Convention to establish and staff a full-time professional office for the promotion of Christian education and provide ade-

Goals

Christian Education Study Committee

into visible, effective programs by September 1, 1981.

- Goal 3:** A goal of Kentucky Baptist colleges and schools is to have encouraged Kentucky Baptists to maintain their annual investment in Christian education through the Cooperative Program at a minimum of 30% of the Kentucky Baptist Convention portion of the annual income of the program by July 31, 1982.

- Goal 4:** A goal of Kentucky Baptist colleges and schools is to have designed and implemented joint programs of cooperation by September 1, 1979.
- Goal 5:** A goal of Kentucky Baptist col-

lege operating funds for vigorous promotional activities by September 1, 1978.

- Goal 7:** A goal of Kentucky Baptist colleges and schools is to have a comprehensive long-range plan for the fiscal stability of each institution including strategies for capital debt limitation developed and adopted by the trustees of each institution by July 31, 1979, to serve as a primary guideline for the fiscal operation for the period 1979-1984.

- Goal 8:** A goal of the Kentucky Baptist Convention is to have established an effective, equitable formula for the dis-

tribution of Cooperative Program funds to Baptist colleges and schools in Kentucky by the beginning of the fiscal year 1977 subject to review by the Christian Education Committee at least once every five years.

- Goal 9:** A goal of Kentucky Baptist colleges and schools is to have established a comprehensive student recruiting plan on each campus to enable each institution to achieve its optimum enrollment by July 31, 1984.

- Goal 10:** A goal of Kentucky Baptist colleges and schools in cooperation with the Kentucky Baptist Convention is to have established a continuing program to increase the level and quality of trustees' performance of their duties by July 31, 1980.

- Goal 11:** A goal of the Executive Board of the Kentucky Baptist Convention is to have reorganized the Christian Education Committee by July 31, 1977, to provide leadership for the implementation of recommendations in the Christian Education Study Report with subcommittees relating to the institutions in the areas of financing, student enrollment, trustees, and the promotion of Christian education.



Gras
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Anita Bryant's Show Cancelled

by Adon Taft

Singer Anita Bryant's vehement anti-gay rights activities have cost her a potentially lucrative job hosting a daytime television sewing show, but she's been offered a consolation prize.

The show's chief sponsor—the Singer Company—gave her a top-of-the-line, electronic "Athena" sewing machine, valued at \$1,300, and Singer vice president Edward Trevorrow said his firm won't ask for the machine's return, even though Miss Bryant's television contract has been cancelled.

She said she will return the machine anyway. "It would be the only honest thing to do," she added.

At a press conference in her spacious Miami Beach home, she charged that the cancellation was "blacklisting. . . . I have been blacklisted for exercising the right of a mother to defend her children, and all children, against their being recruited by homosexuals," she said.

Miss Bryant has been spearheading a petition drive exhorting the Metro Commission to revoke a month-old ordinance prohibiting discrimination against homosexuals.

Singer and the film company making the series pilot decided it would prefer a hostess whose activities were less controversial. The telegram cancelling the contract cited the "extensive national publicity arriving from the controversial political activities" Miss Bryant has engaged in.

The show is planned to be a talk show with an emphasis on sewing, fashion and arts and crafts. "We want this to be a pleasant show," said Trevorrow. "We'd like to have as little difficulty as possible in any direction."

Miss Bryant said the move had dashed a lifelong dream "to have a television series of my own to entertain and present wholesome subjects to my fellow Americans." She said the cancellation was a complete surprise. She had been rehearsing songs for the pilot and practicing sewing on the new machine, which has 24 automatic stitches and a buttonhole maker.

Miss Bryant's husband and business

manager, Bob Green, said she had been offered "thousands of dollars" to make the pilot film and "hundreds of thousands of dollars" for the television series, which was expected to run three-to-five years. He said he is discussing a possible breach-of-contract suit with his lawyer.

Despite this setback, she said she is undaunted in her fight to have homosexuals "keep their perversions in the privacy of their home." She said she will continue her fight in Dade County and expects to launch a national campaign to stop a similar bill introduced this month in the U. S. Congress.

"I am accountable to God first," said Miss Bryant, a Southern Baptist. "Those who do not share in my conviction may continue to blacklist my talent, but with God's help, they can never blacken my name."

Miss Bryant also does commercials for the Florida Citrus Commission and First Federal Savings and Loan. Both organizations said they have no plans to cancel her contracts, although they have

Hazel Moon, missionary to Nigeria, has arrived in the States for furlough. Before she was appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1947, she was school nurse at Woman's Missionary Union Training School (now merged with Southern Seminary), Louisville.

Mabel Summers, missionary to Lebanon, may be addressed at E-687, Mail Service for Lebanon, Larnaca, Cyprus. A native of Nelson County, she was appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1948.

Kentucky Acteen Wins Bicentennial Arts Contest

Michelle Wainscott, age 14, of New Liberty, placed first in "Baptists' Contributions to Freedom in America" subject in Acteens Bicentennial Creative Arts Contest sponsored by Woman's Missionary Union, SBC.

Miss Wainscott's



Miss Wainscott

Missions & Ministries

been besieged by letters from homosexuals and their sympathizers urging the cancellation of the contracts.

News About Missionaries

Mr. and Mrs. Karl D. Babb, missionaries to Rhodesia, may be addressed at PB 735, Gatooma, Rhodesia. Before they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1975, he was pastor of Poplar Grove Baptist Church, Glencoe, Ky.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel R. Cobb, missionaries to Thailand, may be addressed at Box 3, Chanthaburi, Thailand. The former Fannie Morris of Kentucky, she was born in Versailles and grew up in Sadieville.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph W. Harrell, missionaries to Kenya, may be addressed at P.O. Box 30405, Nairobi, Kenya. Before they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1958, he was pastor of Clifton Heights Baptist Church, Louisville.

entry, a poem, is featured in the March issue of Accent.

She is a member of New Liberty Church.

Prayer Urged for Uganda

Southern Baptist missionaries assigned to Uganda are all in Nairobi, Kenya, following a holiday weekend visit, Feb. 18-21, with their children who attend a boarding school in Kenya.

Communications have been severed between the two countries, and the missionaries will remain in Kenya awaiting further developments.

News reports filtering out of Africa link Ugandan President Idi Amin with the death of Anglican Archbishop Jananai Luwum and claim his government is purging Christians. Amin denies the charges.

News reports on Feb. 25 said Amin had asked all Americans in the country to meet with him on Monday, Feb. 28.

Acting Ugandan Ambassador S. M. Cherebet, according to reports, told U. S. State Department officials that some 175 Americans in the country have nothing to fear and may either leave the country or remain.

Southern Baptist missionaries have moved freely back and forth across the Uganda-Kenya border and have experienced no difficulties in continuing their work, according to the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

"We have had a request for a call to prayer for the people of Uganda during this troubled time," said Davis L. Saunders, the Foreign Mission Board's area secretary for Eastern and Southern Africa. "Our missionaries have not been directly affected. However, the missionaries are calling Southern Baptists to a time of concentrated prayer for the nation of Uganda and the Christian people there."

Saunders said that, as in all countries where there is political or civil tension, the people and their lifestyle have been disrupted.

A WMU Staffer Named Paul?

by Phil Burgess
Staff Writer

There's a unique scene around the state WMU offices these days. In the midst of all the activity you'll find a young man. He's Paul Lawrence, a Southern Seminary student who will serve an internship as editor and writer of WMU materials.

"He will be in on the planning of activities and he will write different kinds of things, not just news articles," stated Kathryn Jasper, executive director of WMU. Miss Jasper added that Lawrence will help in the production of Kentucky Notes, a quarterly paper of WMU.

He is also planning to write skits for the promotion of magazine subscriptions.

Lawrence is a native of Elkin, N. C. He graduated from Gardner-Webb Col-



working with Nancy Ferrell, state Acteen director.

"I will be a liaison between the people and the news media," Lawrence declared.



Pastor Hanna Fahme surveys the remains of his church in northern Lebanon. It was burned during the civil war that claimed more than 30,000 lives. The basic structure does not appear to be damaged, said Frances [Mrs. J. Wayne] Fuller, Southern Baptist missionary.

Dehoney, Committee Discuss Canadian Southern Baptists

More than 50 Southern Baptist leaders and agency representatives met in Nashville to share their views on the best ways to encourage some 35 congregations in western Canada who identify themselves as Southern Baptists.

At last year's SBC annual meeting, Hazel Simpson of California moved that the convention "immediately extend encouragement to Southern Baptists dwelling and working in Canada by financial assistance plus any and all other means of support that we make available to ministry outside of the United States and its territory."

Wayne Dehoney, Louisville, Ky., pastor and former SBC president, spoke to the motion at the convention.

Other committee members are M. Hunter Riggins of Virginia, vice-chairman; William O. Crews Jr. of Oregon, William L. Self of Georgia, Rollin S. Burhans of Kentucky, Grady Wilson of North Carolina, Travis S. Berry of Texas, and James G. Harris of Texas, president of the Foreign Mission Board.

lege, Boiling Springs, N. C., with B.A. degree in English in December 1975.

Lawrence is in the School of Religious Education at Southern Seminary, concentrating in the area of Christian journalism. He plans to graduate next December.

"My goal is denominational work and WMU offered that possibility," he declared.

Lawrence pointed out that the Southern Baptist Convention's WMU has men on the magazine staff. "It's part of the expanding image of WMU," he said.

However, Lawrence's experience will not be limited to the state office. "I've applied to be a summer missionary with the Home Mission Board. I need the experience and I want to make a contribution."

He plans to work with the state WMU this semester and then again next fall.

His work will carry him to various locations in Kentucky, wherever WMU activities are held.

He is also involved with Acteens,

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Western Recorder has relied upon Southern Baptists' denominational news service for more than three decades to present the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. Here's why.

Baptist Press

The People Who Tell You Like It Is

by Robert O'Brien

Authenticity is a good word and a good concept. It has been an integral part of the Baptist Press philosophy of reporting Southern Baptist news since the (BP) logotype, a registered trademark, first emerged in 1946.

The role of Baptist Press as a reporter of news about Baptists and of interest to Baptists has drawn praise and criticism during its 30 years.

Like any human enterprise it has on occasion deserved some of both and none of both as succeeding staffs have sought to merge journalistic ethics with their call to serve God as reporters of SBC affairs.

Representatives of the national news media have repeatedly given Baptist Press (BP) high marks for its integrity and accuracy in dealing openly and authentically with newsworthy events. Too often their confidence in Christians has been shaken by religious sources that resort to evasiveness, even outright dishonesty, in response to controversy or crisis.

Those who have responded in such a way have found themselves mistrusted when they needed to be believed and embroiled in a continuing controversy when they could have ended one with a timely, straightforward report of facts.

Baptist history is full of examples. Because a state Baptist editor led them to realize they must not dodge a tough issue, Indiana Baptists headed off a crisis of confidence with some churches in their state convention.

The situation involved embezzlement of thousands of dollars by a trusted employe. Instead of allowing themselves to become tainted by association through cover-up Indiana Baptist leaders dealt with the unfortunate matter openly and fully through the state

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paper, local media, and Baptist Press. They sowed honesty and reaped the respect of their constituents.

History also records unfortunate episodes in which Baptist bodies who shunned openness also reaped what they sowed.

Baptist Press has taken its share of criticism, and even abuse, for its insistence on dealing openly and factually with controversy.

Not that Baptist Press has insisted on printing everything negative it knows about denominational affairs. That stance would be irresponsible. Good editorial judgment involves not only what is reported but what is not reported. Newsworthiness is a professional judgment that must be made with intelligence and sensitivity.

Modern church history, which we are in the process of making, must be reported with the same forthrightness shown by the biblical writers who reported such things as the sin of David and Bathsheba, Peter's denial of Christ, Judas' betrayal, Christ's human desire in the garden of Gethsemane to avoid crucifixion, and dissension in the first-century churches.

Bible writers didn't say, as some religious leaders of today might: "We can't tell the people that sort of thing. It might upset them and affect their almsgiving."

Instead, Old and New Testament writers reported what might be considered negative events in an honest, positive context, which resulted in growth of spiritual understanding.

Against that context Baptist Press operates out of the SBC Executive Committee, 460 James Robertson Parkway, Nashville, Tennessee.

In 1946 editors of state Baptist papers requested the establishment of a news service. The assignment went to the Department of Survey, Statistics, and Information at the Sunday School Board, then headed by Porter Routh, now executive secretary-treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee.

The following year the Executive

Committee assumed the (BP) function and C. E. Bryant, its newly elected publicity director, took responsibility for it.

Bryant was followed in 1949 by Albert McClellan, now the Executive Committee's associate executive secretary and director of program planning. W. C. Fields, the current director, came to the post from the editorship of the Mississippi Baptist paper in 1959 and also serves as assistant to the executive secretary and director of public relations for the Executive Committee.

In 1955 (BP) expanded its efforts when Theo Sommerkamp, an experienced newsmen, joined the staff.

After 10 years, Sommerkamp was succeeded by Jim Newton, who remained for eight years. Robert O'Brien, current news editor, succeeded Newton in August 1973.

Later that year James Lee Young came to the newly created position of feature editor. This position grew out of a long-recognized need to expand feature materials for state Baptist papers and the secular press.

In adding staff members (BP) has put

One veteran news writer called (BP) "the best news service outside the AP in the nation."

a premium on journalism training and experience, firsthand denominational knowledge, and Christian commitment.

Today, with a mailing list of approximately 400 outlets, (BP) goes about five times weekly, free of charge, to 33 state Baptist newspapers, over 150 newspapers, to radio and television stations in every metropolitan market, about 25 news services and national magazines and an assortment of other religious publications and college newspapers in the United States and abroad.

Baptist state paper editors and the secular press alike report that they depend on Baptist Press as the major source of their news about Southern Baptists.

One veteran news writer, Bob Ford, of the Dallas Bureau of the Associated Press, called (BP) "the best news service outside the AP in the nation."

Baptist state papers devote a major share of their space to (BP) copy to bring their readers in touch with what's happening in the nation's largest Protestant-evangelical body.

And an amazing amount of copy finds its way into the secular press. The

Washington Star, for example, once reported that it had used, verbatim, some 35 of its stories in a year.

Many reporters lift material from (BP) stories to shore up their own copy or use the news service for leads and tips for developing stories.

George Cornell, national religion writer for the Associated Press, has used major sections from (BP) in developing interpretative columns.

Often, SBC agencies have found that channeling their copy through (BP) gets better results in local papers and state Baptist papers than a direct release from their offices.

(BP) criteria which have won this respect from the media include: a premium on journalistic quality, honest reporting and avoidance of promotional copy about a product, event, or program unless it has news value in its own right.

Because it is the official news service of the Southern Baptist Convention, the biggest majority of news carried by (BP) concerns developments of the 17 SBC agencies and three SBC-related agencies.

(BP) averages about 900 news and feature stories a year, drawing from an informal network of newspaper reporters, state paper editors, denominational news and public relations practitioners and stringers.

A large portion of (BP)'s coverage flows from six bureaus located at the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, Washington; the SBC Home Mission Board, Atlanta; the SBC Foreign Mission Board, Richmond; the Sunday School Board, Nashville; the SBC Brotherhood Commission, Memphis; and the Baptist General Convention of Texas, Dallas.

Generally, the bureaus file copy over Western Union telex machines direct to the national (BP) office in Nashville, where it is evaluated, edited, and

processed.

In Washington the (BP) bureau is accredited to cover the White House, Supreme Court, United States House of Representatives and the Senate.

Although each bureau plays a major role in decision-making on handling and usage of (BP) copy, the national office staff at the Southern Baptist Convention Building, Nashville, makes final decisions.

Bureau staffs, made up of trained journalists, do not serve (BP) exclusively. They are employed by their agencies in journalistic and public relations responsibilities.

Probably the biggest undertaking each year by (BP) involves reporting the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Reporters have said Southern Baptists run a better press room operation than national political parties or NASA during a moon launch.

Fields, the Convention's press representative, supervises the overall public relations and press relations for the annual meeting.

O'Brien, who has responsibility for setting up the news operation, manages the press room, which serves 150 to 250 religious and secular news personnel. Young oversees the photo operation, which includes photo sales to messengers as well as photography for news media.

A staff of reporters and photographers from Baptist agencies — all pros — cover all Convention events quickly and comprehensively.

Edited copy goes to a team of produc-

tion personnel who mimeograph and distribute it to reporters covering the Convention.

The premium is on reporting what happened with no punches pulled and getting copy to reporters before their deadlines.

That kind of treatment has earned the confidence of reporters from major national news media to small local dailies. Often newsroom copy finds its way into print or on the air with little or no change.

Reporters have said Southern Baptists run a better press operation than national political parties or NASA during a moon launch.

Volunteer service of SBC journalists, photographers and others is the key to why Southern Baptists finish first in the eyes of the media in Convention coverage.

Baptist Press, inextricably part of the public relations program of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee, has no qualms about that relationship because the staff believes that good public relations is good journalism practice and vice versa.

Throughout the year (BP) makes no pretense to cover everything of significance about 12.5 million Southern Baptists in 50 states and nearly one million Baptists in countries where Southern Baptists have missionaries. There isn't enough staff, time or money to cover everything.

But through a cooperative effort, probably unique in religious journalistic circles, (BP) has striven to become, as one reporter described it, "the Associated Press of Southern Baptists."

As with the AP, (BP) has member newspapers — the 33 state Baptist publications which are first in its concern.

(BP), to be certain, has a duty to honestly and accurately reflect news about Baptists to the secular world and seek, wherever possible to report events that say something redemptive to the world.

But a duty, no less important, involves keeping Southern Baptists informed on a wide spectrum of issues confronting the denomination.

Issues vital to the future of the Southern Baptist Convention face Baptists personally, as well as their churches, associations, state conventions and their national fellowship.

Baptists must have facts. Then under God's leadership they usually make right decisions.

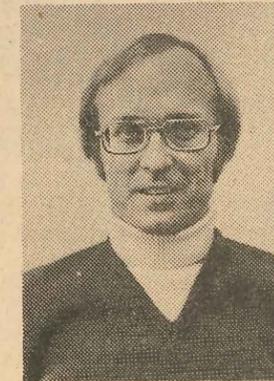
Baptist Press and state Baptist papers undergird the democratic process which has helped to make the denomination great.



Fields



O'Brien



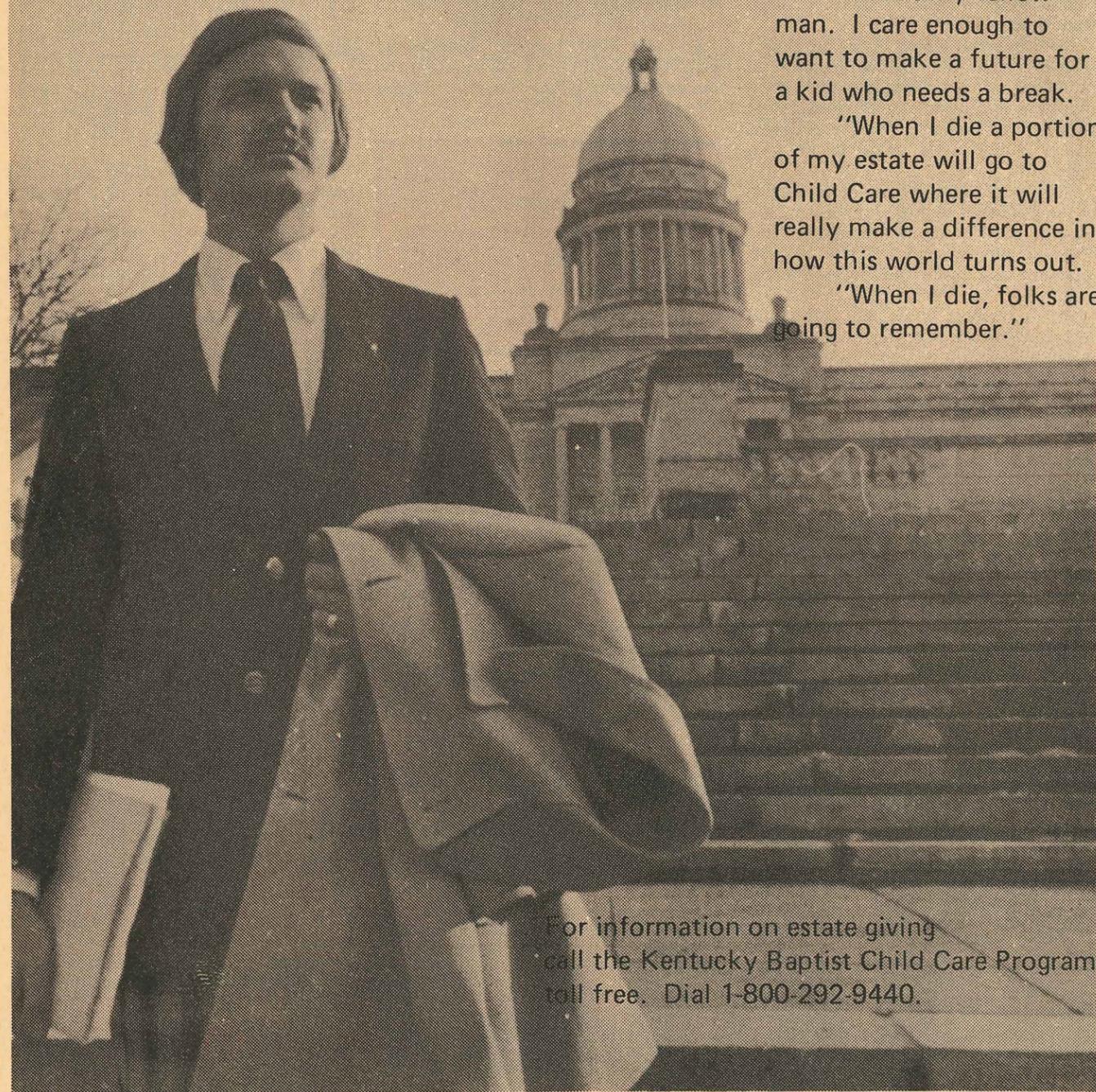
Young

"When I die, folks are going to remember me."

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"When I die, folks are going to remember."



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Deaths

Charles E. Smith, pastor of Hawesville Baptist Church and a member of the Executive Board of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, died Saturday, Feb. 26 of a heart attack. Funeral services were held Mar. 1 in Hawesville with burial in Russellville.

The infant granddaughter of the Robert H. Culpeppers, missionaries to Japan, died Jan. 20 in North Carolina. Culpepper is a former pastor of Buck Run Baptist Church, Forks of Elkhorn.

Granville C. Sandusky, a Baptist minister and author, has died in Phoenix, Ariz.

The Wayne county native organized Sandusky's Chapel Baptist Church and pastored Stearns Baptist Church and Whitley City Baptist Church in McCreary County, the Ferguson Baptist Church in Pulaski County and First Baptist Church, Holly Springs, Miss. The Southern Seminary graduate also pastored Cloverport Baptist Church for 30 years. He was the author of two religious novels.

Funeral services were held Feb. 10 in Cloverport. Survivors include one brother and two grandchildren.

R. T. Russell, former secretary of evangelism for the Georgia Baptist Convention, died Feb. 3, after a long illness. He was 81 years of age.

Russell led the Georgia Baptist evangelism program from 1955-64. He had previously been pastor in Georgia, Florida and Kentucky. He was a graduate of Brewton-Parker Junior College, Mercer University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Mrs. Mitchell T. Walker, a long time member of the Springfield Baptist Church, has died. She was a teacher in the Springfield Baptist Sunday school for more than 40 years.

Briggs Scott Sr., deacon in Barren River Baptist Church, Warren County Association, died Feb. 13. He had served as deacon of the church since 1951 and as treasurer for 25 years.

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Frank Owen



VINE OR FRUIT

I have some grapevines where I live and some apple trees that need pruning. I don't know much about pruning for fruit. Yesterday I saw a man in the edge of Jeffersonville, Indiana pruning his vineyard. I stopped and asked him, "What is the objective in pruning the vines? I must prune mine, too. What am I trying to achieve? What is the basic principle?"

"The purpose is to reduce the vine to no more than the best selected branches for new growth and fruitage," he said. "Eventually it all goes to vine, with fewer and fewer grapes. The vine must be kept cut back if it is to continue to bear fruit."

"What about apple trees which are not bearing and are filled with crowded, multiple limbs?" I asked.

"The principle is somewhat the same," he said. "You have all tree and no fruit. You have to reduce the tree to get the fruit."

I came home and read John 15:1-2: "I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandmen. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit, he taketh away, and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it that it may bring forth more fruit." (KJV)

I have now trimmed my apple tree. I hope to prune the grapevines this evening. But it all made me think of my life and all of our lives as Christian servants. It seems like we do the same thing that my grapevines and apple trees did. We pass through a fruitful time but then we begin to become all tree or all vine. The servant tends to become more important than the fruit he is supposed to bear.

I always understood the first half of the verse concerning the taking away of the branch that doesn't bear fruit, but the man in Jeffersonville made me see clearly the rest of the verse "and every branch that does bear fruit, he prunes that it may bear more fruit." (RSV)

We must not allow the servant to get too important. It is the service, the fruit itself, that is to be exalted. A little kinship here to the statement of John the Baptist, "He must increase, but I must decrease" (John 3:3).

Sunday School Lessons

Lessons for Mar. 27, 1977

by H. C. Chiles, Murray, Ky.

International Series

The Way of Responsible Stewardship

Through being faithful stewards of that which God entrusts to his children, they are able to prove that they have accepted the Lordship of Christ, that they truly love him, and that they are vitally interested in the salvation and spiritual welfare of others.

Luke 16:10-15

One who is faithful in little things will be faithful in larger things. One who is not faithful in little things would not be faithful in larger things, if he should have the opportunity to do so. Faithfulness in stewardship and in service for Christ must take precedence over all other activities of Christians.

In the realm of service for Christ there cannot be any divided allegiance. Either one is for Christ or against him. Of necessity, one cannot serve two masters.

Although the Pharisees justified themselves in the eyes of men, they were unable to justify themselves with God. It is one thing to justify yourself before men, and entirely a different matter to justify yourself before God. In the light of verse 15 we are reminded that today much goes on under the guise of piety which in reality is an abomination to God.

Mark 12:41-44

When the time arrived for the annual offering for the temple service, the pious Jews came from far and wide, bringing their offerings to the temple of their God. As they brought their offerings for the defraying of the expenses of divine worship and the maintenance of the temple, the observant Christ sat where he could see them casting their contributions into the treasury. After the rich had ostentatiously thrown in their large contributions, a poor widow timidly, modestly, voluntarily, joyously, and sacrificially dropped her offering into the treasury as she walked by. What made her act of worship so gracious was the spirit in which it was rendered, the purpose for which it was done and the relation it bore to her means and ability.

The widow's offering was the smallest contribution that was cast into the treasury that day, but it was the largest sum that she could have contributed because she did not have anything left. Christ always sees who gives, sees what each one gives and knows why each gift is made. He knows the amount each one gives in his name and for the ongoing of his work. He also knows the amount that each person keeps for his own use.

How does our Lord measure and evaluate a gift? Christ measures a gift by the amount of love, cheerfulness liberality and sacrifice there is in it. One's attitude toward giving to the work of the Lord is a splendid revelation of that person's character and the reflection of his love of Christ. This widow's gift was an expression of her love and devotion.

Life and Work Series

Pilate — The Compromiser

Mark 15:1-15

The most tragic drama of the ages was about to be enacted. In it Jesus of Nazareth and Pilate of Rome faced each other as the chief actors.

Pilate was a champion fence straddler, a spineless and weak-kneed pussyfooter. He knew what he should do, but he was too cowardly to do it. He wanted to satisfy both the enemies and the friends of Christ by adopting what is sometimes called a "middle-of-the-road" plan.

The elders, chief priests and scribes brought Christ before the Sanhedrin for a thorough examination, but without any intention of giving him a fair trial. They sought a death sentence only. Members of the Sanhedrin asked him, "Art thou the Christ?" He replied, "If I tell you, ye will not believe." When they asked, "Art thou the Son of God?", he answered in the affirmative. Thinking that was all they needed, they rushed him to Pilate, because they could not inflict capital punishment.

When Pilate asked, "What accusation bring ye against this man?", they refused to name the crime with which he was charged. They had condemned him for blasphemy, but they did not mention that, or the fact that they had tried him already. They took the bold stand that they would not have brought him to Pilate if he had not been an evildoer. Then, Pilate asked for specific accusations, whereupon they preferred three charges against the saviour—perverting the nation, forbidding them to pay taxes to Caesar, and claiming Jewish kingship.

To avoid a public examination, Pilate had Christ ushered into his palace. There he asked him: "Art thou the King of the Jews?" Christ replied: "Thou sayest it." Pilate did not see anything in this admission sufficient to merit judgment from his court. Concluding that Christ was only a harmless enthusiast, and not a rival of Caesar, he returned and announced to the multitude that the accused was not guilty. His verdict met with howls of rage. Pilate then decided to let Herod handle the case. Unable to find anything wrong with the prisoner, Herod punished him and returned him to Pilate, who then proposed to chastise him and release him, thinking that would please the populace and not do Christ too great an injury.

Pointing to Christ and Barabbas, a notorious robber, Pilate asked, "Whom will ye that I release unto you?" A mighty chorus of voices shouted, "Barabbas!" Casting aside all sense of justice, Pilate delivered Christ to the blood thirsty mob. His effort to prove his innocence by washing his hands and saying, "I am innocent of the blood of this just person," was in fact an evidence of consciousness of guilt.

Kentucky Baptists take time to minister in their home state and they also make time to minister in far away places. Recently, eight Kentuckians went to Honduras to perform needed work there.

Bob Duggins and William Bailey of Elizabethtown, Hardin Hatfield of Glendale, Cloyd Tucker, Bill Klaber and Bob Cook, all of Middletown First went to Honduras in January of 1975 to assist in reconstruction efforts sponsored by the Brotherhood Department following a hurricane that hit that country. While there they met Leslie Keyes, chairman of the Southern Baptist missionaries in Honduras.

In 1976 Keyes was on furlough and stopped in Elizabethtown to see Bob Duggins. From their discussions of Baptist work in Honduras, Duggins learned of a camp in need of a chapel. This gave Duggins the idea to head back to Honduras and do some more construction work. And, on Feb. 2 of this year Duggins, Hatfield and Bailey headed south to do just that.

Prior to his departure, Duggins, a superintendent of construction work, explained his decision to go back to Honduras and work some more. "It's just one of those things many people might feel they'd like to do but will not commit themselves to," he said.

He added that on his first trip he had realized the great need for Christianity in Honduras and "the people really appreciated what we did for them." Duggins noted "the main thing that keeps me going is the feeling of doing something for the Lord's work, the giving for others."

Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown, of which Duggins is a member, helped him pay his expenses and Severns Valley Baptist Association helped pay Hatfield and Bailey's way.

On Feb. 20 Bill and Ruth Klaber, Winnie and Cloyd Tucker, and Bob Cook, all of Middletown first went to Honduras to join the Kentuckians and nearly 30 men from Florida's Brotherhood Association already doing construction work. It was the first trip to Honduras for the ladies. All members of this group paid their own expenses.

The group from Middletown remained in Honduras until Mar. 5. Hatfield and Bailey had stayed on the job for two weeks. Duggins scheduled

'Doing Something for the Lord's Work' Keeps Kentuckian Going

by Debbie Harris, Staff Writer

Kentucky Baptists at Work

his return to Kentucky for Mar. 12.

Cloyd Tucker explains that the encampment where the construction work took place is almost 60 miles from the nearest city and is about 10 miles off a paved road. The name of the camp, Bagope, means "Baptists enjoying fishing" and is appropriate for the camp is located beside Lake Yojoa, a mountain lake 18 miles long, six miles wide and nearly 300 feet deep. According to Tucker, the Southern Baptist Convention and the Foreign Mission Board own nearly six acres at the site, which is at an elevation of 2000 feet.

Bagope is primarily used as a camp for missionaries and national pastors. Located on the grounds are a boat house, a kitchen with living quarters above it, plus a quadplex, a duplex and a single cabin for housing.

The chapel and adjoining prayer tower recently built will provide much needed space for the summer encampment. Bob Duggins coordinated the actual building program.

According to Tucker, the chapel is 30 feet by 60 feet. The prayer tower is 9 feet by 9 feet and its top is 30 feet above the ground, making the structure the tallest in that region.

The buildings are constructed of concrete blocks made by hand on the building site. The floors are made of cement tiles, another oddity in that region, and asbestos roofing.

Total cost for the construction project is estimated to be \$9,000, none of which was taken from money collected in the Lottie Moon Offering. All of the money used for the construction project was donated by churches and individuals.

The first devotional service was held in the new chapel on Friday, Mar. 4 with official dedication taking place on Thursday, Mar. 10.

Tucker feels the encampment "is really going to be a nice place" and that "many people will be won to Jesus" because of it. When he left Honduras the lights were yet to be installed and the floor tiles (nearly 2300 in all) were still being laid.

He describes his work experience there as being very enjoyable, a "refreshing retreat." The workers not only did construction duties but also shared with one another through testimonies, sermons and Bible studies.

He noted the Hondurans are a "wonderful, happy people in the midst of much poverty. There the fields are really ripe for the harvest. After the hurricane things really turned for the Lord." Tucker added that the Kentuckians have hopes of returning next year to do more work.