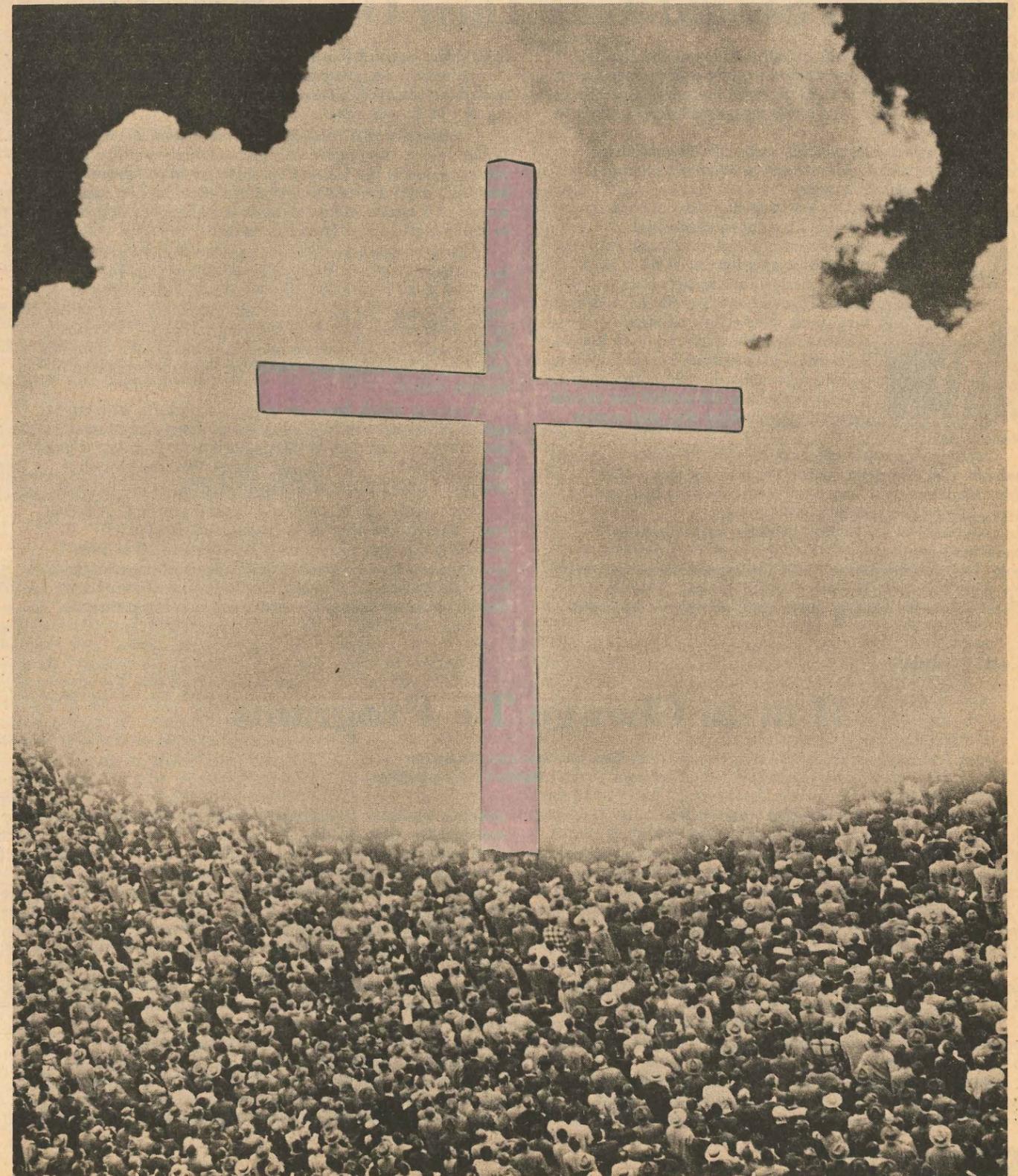

WESTERN RECORDER

APRIL 7, 1977



Churches Should Meet Their Own Obligations

Most everyone has heard the old joke about the Baptist deacon who prayed, "O, Lord, keep our pastor poor and humble." Then as if to help the Lord answer the prayer, he continued, "Lord, if you will keep him humble, we'll keep him poor."

Though worn with use this story still needs to be heard—not to make us smile but to remind us some Baptists still think this way.



Baptist preachers and starvation incomes have been associated throughout our history. There are several reasons for this. One is that during most of our history many Baptists have been literally poor, being rural farm folks or low salaried laborers. Another explanation is that early Baptists and some to this day believe a preacher should not receive pay for preaching the gospel but should earn a living another way and preach

without pay.

One can somewhat sympathize with the above reasons but not with the major reason for starving pastors and their families. This reason is downright stinginess on the part of those controlling church policies.

Practically every Baptist preacher can remember incidents related to pay which are humorous but lamentable. One I remember is related to a parttime pastorate in my early ministry. The pay was \$35 a week of which a \$3.50 tithe went back to the church. Someone suggested

raising the pay to \$40 a week whereupon one of the church fathers suggested that the pastor be told not to contribute the \$3.50 tithe each week and that would almost equal a \$5 weekly raise.

I heard of a case recently which is almost as ridiculous. When a more than justified raise was suggested for the pastor, some of the leadership objected on the grounds that the pastor's wife was working and so he had another source of income. Shame on such thinking! It's degrading to the church as well as to the pastor.

Executive Secretary Frank Owen's excellent article on bivocational pastors (*Western Recorder*, March 24, page 14) points out how many churches with limited resources enjoy the services of an able pastor because he or his wife makes part of their living in another vocation. This is well and good when necessary but not for churches which have the necessary resources but are dominated by miserly saints.

A church which does not employ a pastor's wife ought not expect to save money by counting her salary from another source as part of the pastor's pay. A pastor's pay should be in keeping with his services and the church's resources irregardless of whoever else in his family works.

Fortunately this is not a widespread practice. In recent years Baptist churches have made great strides in providing fair remunerations to pastors and other staff members. In fact, I have heard of only this one church lately which expects a pastor's wife to provide what the church could and should provide. But one is too many!

Guest Editorial

How to Change TV Programs

by Paul M. Stevens, President
Southern Baptist Radio-TV Commission

I saw a show on television the other night, "One Day At A Time," where the name of Jesus Christ was used 15 or 20 times. It was not used as part of a curse, but it was profaned nevertheless—spoken carelessly in dialogue created to evoke scornful laughter from viewers.

The name was used in blatant violation of its deepest meaning in "The Lord's Prayer" where the words "hallowed be thy name" describe how it should be used.

How can any Christian pray that prayer and then do nothing when seeing a program where Jesus' name, which is hallowed, is treated with such contempt?

The following is my response to that particular television program, and a flood of others, where my Lord's name has been used in vain:

Every time I think of Mount Everest just sitting, doing nothing except luring men and women to their deaths. I become almost incoherent with fury. It appears to be

nothing less than "nature-gone-mad" and deserves the contempt of all mankind.

Mountains are one of the best means of communicating beauty and serenity the world has ever known. Then why should that power be corrupted by this one, distant, snobbish range?

It's not enough to say that I don't have to think about Mount Everest, or look at pictures taken of it. That's a copout that just doesn't satisfy me. I want something done about Mount Everest. Put it off limits. Declare a ban on all news concerning the violence that takes place on its slopes.

The moral of this thin piece of satire is simple.

Television, like Mount Everest, is there. Banning it, ignoring it, censoring it, turning it off or not buying a television set in the first place, will have no effect on television. It will respond to the voice of its master, and it

will not go away and become silent.

And television's master is the public.

The responsibility of the public collectively toward television is the responsibility of each member of the public individually. When a nation of people, one by one, make their voices heard from coast to coast and border to border shouting in anger and frustration and resentment, "I've had enough. I won't stand any more," then something will be done.

Until then, fulminating anger on the part of a few, publicity hunting on the part of a few more, will do nothing to change things. And as long as those Nielsen ratings of 20s, 30s, and 40s are there, they are going to control television in this country. You will change television when you change those rating points.

The rabble-rousing of a few self-appointed experts who make grandiose pronouncements does one thing only. It keeps their names before the public long enough for them to get another government job.

Cynical? Me? No, not at all. But I've lived long enough to know that other than censorship, which would be the

death of the American way of life, there are only two ways to change the odious level of present television programming.

1. You can raise the level of the public's anger and disgust to a point where the Nielsen ratings will drop significantly, and/or

2. You can offer something better than what is being offered.

There have been times in the past when the public gorge of anger has risen to such a peak that reason fled and incoherent, uncoordinated sounds and actions took over. When this happens, the flow of history is changed.

If enough people, and I mean millions of people, filled to the limit with personal disgust, rise up and say to the Federal Communications Commission and the networks, "Enough! We won't stand for any more" and warn them to "stop abusing our air waves in such a manner," then things will change.

Voice your opinion to the networks. Write the advertisers. It's time someone did something about the profanity of some programs.

Baptist Forum

In writing a biography of Dr. and Mrs. Edgar Young Mullins, I need the help of all Baptists who are interested in preserving a very important part of our history. On behalf of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, I would like to ask all who may have books written by Dr. or Mrs. Mullins, or any other material bearing upon their leadership and service among us to send whatever materials they are willing to give to the Seminary to Dr. Ronald F. Deering, Librarian, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 2825 Lexington Road, Louisville, Kentucky 40206.

Any items of historical interest, or expressions of appreciation or quotations from speeches or articles by either of them, please send directly to me at the address given below.

Any help given in this very significant project will have great meaning for Baptists in all time to come.

Harold W. Tribble
2923 Pruitt Road
Port St. Lucie, Florida 33452

In response to my mysterious, anony-

mous friend's bewilderment as to why some Southern Baptists cling to the belief that divorced but born anew Christians should occupy the office of deacon, let me say that such affirmation of belief does not just lie in I Timothy 3:12. It seems plausible that the phrase, "Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife," could mean that a deacon should not be a polygamist rather than a divorcee as my anonymous friend and Dr. Robertson of Southern Seminary advocate. I do not proclaim to be a biblical scholar, but I am, as well as many other fellow Baptists, of the conviction that I Timothy 3:12 must be read in conjunction with other scriptural passages, just as we do with all other verses.

How can we ignore such vibrant scriptures as Paul's exhortations in I Corinthians 7:10-11 where he asserts that our Lord commands one not to depart from his wife. Surely this passage does not connote the idea of polygamy. Rather, that verse just as Matthew 5:31-32 and Mark 10:11-12 is speaking of divorce. No one is to divorce his spouse, except for fornication, and remarry for fear of commit-

ting adultery. Conclusion—Can we honestly say that I Timothy 3:12 does not address the problem of divorce?

In the Baptist Forum it was also asked how some Baptists can discriminate against a divorcee and not a born again criminal. On the surface it does smell of discrimination, but if more scrutinization is given a different odor may be discerned. When one commits a criminal act against man and later finds salvation, that sin is forever forgiven. I have no doubt that the divorced person's sin is also forgiven, that is, the immediate act of separating one from his or her spouse; but the forgiveness stops there. Paul says in Romans 7:2-3 the husband and wife are bound to each other by law as long as they live, but when death takes one of them they are free to remarry. Does this mean that a new Christian divorcee will be in violation of the law as long as his previous spouse lives? Thus, this is where the dichotomy lies between a criminal and a divorcee.

Roy C. Hall, Deacon,
Florence Baptist Church

Ch

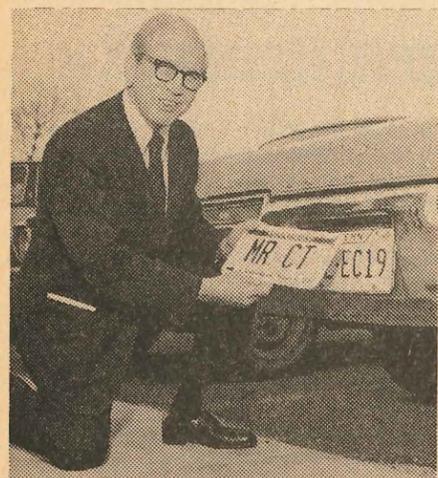
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To many Southern Baptists Philip B. Harris, secretary, Church Training Department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, is "Mr. Church Training," a nickname the state of Tennessee made official on his new license plate. Staff members of his department presented the honorary plate to Harris as a "token of their esteem and best wishes" for his retirement, effective July 1.

WMU Election Planned

Mrs. Wayne Dehoney, state WMU president, will preside Apr. 21-23 at the annual meeting of Kentucky Wo-

man's Missionary Union at Nelson County High School.

Other officers include Mrs. Encil Deen, Lexington, vice president; Mrs. Frank Hacker, Covington, secretary; Mrs. Horace Hambrick, Georgetown, assistant secretary; and Mrs. W.H. Jaegle, Louisville, treasurer.

Mrs. Jaegle, retiring after 29 years of service, will be honored at a banquet.

Officers will be elected for 1977-78 during the meeting.

SBC Activities Feature Annual Joggers Jubilee

Plans have been announced for the fourth Southern Baptist Convention Joggers Jubilee in Kansas City June 14 to promote jogging as a means toward physical fitness.

According to E. Eugene Greer of Dallas, general coordinator, the annual event will be held from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m. at a track adjacent to Arrowhead Stadium, where the Kansas City Chiefs, hosts of this year's Joggers Jubilee, play professional football.

Joggers Jubilee, planned to coincide with the opening day of the Southern Baptist Convention's annual meeting, is sponsored by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's Church Recreation Department which awards a certificate of participation to each jog-

ger.

No charge is made to participate, but a fee of \$1 will be charged for persons who ride buses to and from the stadium. Bus routes will be announced to all pre-registrants. Persons wishing to register should contact Murray Buschert, New Haven Baptist Church, 5501 Blue Ridge Cutoff, Raytown, Mo. 64133 by May 18, including name, hotel location and whether bus transportation to the stadium will be needed.

Three S.S. Sessions Set

Fred E. Halbrooks Jr., director of Sunday School Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, has announced three Sunday school sessions at Cedar-moore Baptist Assembly for this summer: Aug. 8-9, for associational officers and missionaries; and Aug. 10-11 and 12-13, sessions for church leaders.

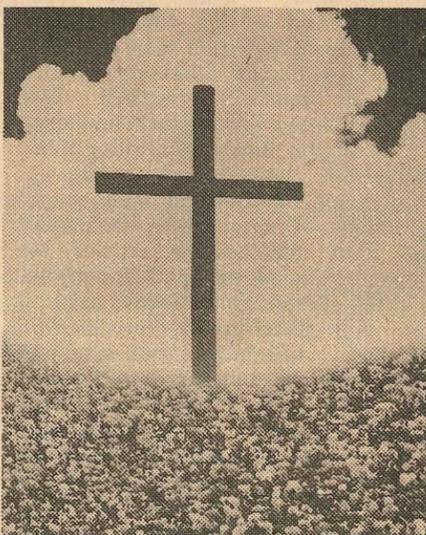
Correction

We regret and apologize for two errors in the news release on page 7 of the March 10, 1977, issue of Western Recorder related to plans of Baptist Homes for the Elderly, Inc. Attorney John G. Hicks, a trustee of the organization, informs us this is not a private corporation and that the 10 acre tract of land referred to was not purchased but was a gift.

Double Exposure

This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased (Matt. 17:5).

Countless billions pass through this world never hearing of Christ's great sacrifice for all humanity. Will Southern Baptists and other evangelical denominations continue falling short in the race to win a lost world to a saving Lord? Time will tell. One major step in the right direction seems to be Baptists' current Bold Mission Thrust emphasis with a goal of sharing the good news to every person on earth by the year 2000. Can it be done? Only if we are sacrificially committed to giving and personal witnessing.



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Western Recorder

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

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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

Bets Off in Tennessee

The executive board of the Shelby Baptist Association voted unanimously in Memphis to oppose the establishment of a race track allowing pari-mutuel betting in Tennessee.

The association, composed of 118 churches with a total membership of 120,974, "requested all levels of political leadership to reject the legalization of a race track in Tennessee and to spend more time and effort in bringing productive sources of revenue into the state...."

Triggering the resolution was a request by supporters of legalized horse track betting for the Tennessee General Assembly to permit urban counties to decide by referendum if they wanted gambling at publicly owned tracks.

Contending that criminal activity was flourishing despite all efforts of law enforcement activities, the Baptists said it was inconsistent for the government to legalize criminal activities (such as gambling) for itself and, at the

same time, to prohibit private enterprise from participating in the identical activity.

Freedoms Foundation Notes Kentucky Work

Three Kentuckians are among seven Southern Baptists recognized by the Freedoms Foundation, Valley Forge, Pa., through a Valley Forge Honor Certificate Award.

The award was given to the Home Mission Board's musical drama, "The Fabric of Freedom," which the seven starred in last year.

The drama, commissioned by the board in observance of the national bicentennial, was performed by student summer missionaries. The troupe traveled over 5,000 miles making 64 appearances last summer.

Kentuckians in the seven-member cast include Charles Gilliland, Shelton and Carol Harden, all of Louisville.

Profile of a Prayer Guide—

40th Birthday Here For Open Windows

Open Windows, a Southern Baptist devotional guide with a circulation that exceeds 800,000 for each quarter, celebrates its 40th birthday in April.

Since the first issue appeared in April 1937, Open Windows has provided 14,610 daily readings, taken from every book in the Bible and more than 900 chapters. The devotional guide is published by the Sunday School Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville.

A person who has read all of these scripture passages has read an equivalent of the entire Bible three times, and an individual who has been following the reading suggestions only since 1964 has read an equivalent of the entire Bible once. Sam Brents, current editor of Open Windows, requests anyone who has used this guide the entire 40 years to please notify him.

While the number of different writers of devotional comments runs into the unknown hundreds, they represent 30 states and as many foreign countries. Eleven persons have been listed as editor, and others have served for brief periods as acting editor.

Hight C. Moore, editorial secretary of the Sunday School Board in 1937, evidently was responsible for the new publication, but no editor was identified until a year later when Wallace Greene's name appeared. Greene, editor until 1940, wrote for the first issue and, 40 years later, for the April-June 1977 anniversary issue.

Subsequent editors were N.R. Drummond (1941-42), W.R. White (1944), Howard M. Reaves (1944-45), Gaye L. McGlothlen (1947-50), Donald F. Ackland (1951-62), C. Aubrey Hearn (1962-64), I. Lamar Maffett Jr. (1965-67), Mavis Allen (1969-70), Eugene Skelton (1970-71) and Sam Brents (1971-present).

Open Windows was a monthly publication until 1941 when it became a quarterly. The missionaries' prayer calendar, which lists the names of Southern Baptist missionaries on their birthdays, was begun in 1948.

In October 1976 a large print edition was added, giving readers a choice of two sizes.

Baptist News in Brief



Sam Brents [center] is current editor of Open Windows, Southern Baptist devotional guide celebrating its 40th anniversary this month. Donald F. Ackland [L] served the longest tenure of any editor [1951-62]. Wallace Greene [R] was the first editor [1938-40]. Brents has been editor since 1971.

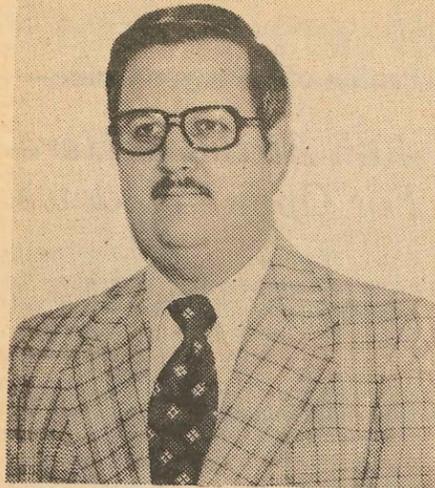
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Don Spencer Elected First Music Associate

Donald A. Spencer, 27, minister of music and youth at Versailles (Ky.) Baptist Church, has been elected associate in the Church Music Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, Middletown. He is the first person to fill that post and will assume his duties May 16.

Spencer is married and has three children.

He received the bachelor of music degree in 1967 from Shenandoah Conservatory of Music, Winchester, Va. He has done five years of seminary study on a part time basis.

Before going to Versailles he served Eastern Parkway Baptist Church, Louisville, five years as minister of music and assistant to the pastor. He had earlier served Boyce (Va.) Baptist Church one year during his college career.

BSSB, State Workers Set for Bible Clinic

The state Sunday School Department and the Baptist Sunday School Board will jointly sponsor a Bible Teaching-Learning Workshop Apr. 11-12 at Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville.

Sessions are scheduled beginning with registration at 1 p.m. Monday through Tuesday at 9:15 p.m. Age group conferences for 14 different groups are planned for four periods, and nine special interest conferences are set Tuesday afternoon.

Principal speakers include A.V.

Washburn, secretary, Sunday School Department, Sunday School Board, Nashville; and Lew Reynolds, director, Sunday School Department, Indiana Baptist Convention, Indianapolis.

Motels near Walnut Street Church are Holiday Inn, 200 E. Liberty St.; Howard Johnson's, 100 E. Jefferson; LaQuinta Motor Inn, 317 Warnock; Stouffer's Louisville Inn, 120 W. Broadway; and Rodeway Inn, 101 E. Jefferson St.

...A Comfort to Take Bus

The Woman's Missionary Union of the Kentucky Baptist Convention will sponsor a bus trip to the Southern Baptist Convention in Kansas City, leaving June 11 and returning June 16.

Traveling expenses, including lodging at Ramada Inn (meals not included), are \$125 per person. The trip is open to WMU members, their husbands and others interested.

Additional information is available from Rosa Fiechter, state Baptist Women's director. Reservation con-

firmations require a \$50 deposit by Apr. 15 to WMU Office, Box 43433, Middletown, KY 40243.

Raymer Leads Youth Music

Kentucky native Elwyn Raymer will direct Baptist All-State Youth Choir Recording Festivals at Barren River State Park Apr. 29-30 and Kentucky Dam Village State Park May 6-7.

Participating choirs will have qualified by singing in regional festivals in 1977 and prepared five anthems for recording.

Raymer is vice president and general manager of Triune Music Inc., music publisher in Nashville. He will lead the two statewide combined youth choirs in producing a 33 1/3 RPM recording.



With Dale "on the road" for Christ Dale Evans Rogers TRIALS, TEARS AND TRIUMPH



Many days and nights spent "on the road" underlie the glamour of show business, but Dale Evans Rogers has found a new kind of road travel through Christ—and she loves it. Join Dale on "the King's Highway" and share her unique opportunities to serve the Lord. \$4.95

Order From Your Baptist Book Store

Published by FLEMING H. REVELL COMPANY

Ninth and O Calls Camp Director

Ninth and O Baptist Church, Louisville, has called Ronald Jackson as director-manager of Churches Camping Facilities, Boston, Ky. Ninth and O purchased the camp a year ago and has been using it on a limited basis.

McKay to Bruner's Chapel

John McKay has accepted the call of Bruner's Chapel Baptist Church, Harrodsburg, to be director of music and youth. He is from Richmond, Va. and is married to the former Nancy Kirkland. The McKays are graduates of the University of Richmond.

Naylor Honored

Jack C. Naylor, for nine years pastor of Oaklawn Baptist Church, Paducah, has resigned to accept the pastorate of Laurel Hill Baptist Church, Orlando, Fla. A proclamation stated: "The members of Oaklawn Baptist Church would like to bestow upon Jack Naylor the title of Pastor Emeritus—honorary pastor for life, in recognition of one who has truly given himself in the Master's service."

Personnel Changes

Gardner to Hopkinsville

David Gardner, pastor of First Baptist Church, has resigned to accept the pastorate of First Baptist Church, Hopkinsville. He is a native of Owensboro and a graduate of Georgetown College and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. From additional study at Southern Seminary he received the doctor of ministry degree last year.



Gardner

Before going to the Greenville pastorate he served as pastor of Columbia Baptist Church and the Munfordville Baptist congregation. He is married to

the former Barbara Shelton, daughter of Hicks Shelton, retired director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention Evangelism Department.

Stanford Calls Hancock

Stanford Baptist Church, Stanford, has called Gregory Hancock, director of communications for the Kentucky Baptist Child Care Program, to be interim pastor. He is a graduate of Georgetown College and Southern Baptist Seminary. He joined the child care staff in 1975 to establish the communications program there.



Hancock and his wife, Sharon, live in Middletown.

Crew Accepts Williamsburg Call

First Baptist Church, Williamsburg, has extended a call to Roger Crew to serve as associate pastor for education and youth. The Alabama native is a graduate of New Orleans Seminary.

Shannon to Bethlehem

Rickey Shannon has assumed duties as pastor of Bethlehem Baptist Church, Washington County. He has served Gravel Switch Baptist Church, Marion County, and Hedgeville Baptist Church near Danville. He has also served Lancaster Baptist Church, Lancaster. Shannon is a student at Southern Baptist Seminary.

Zion Names Directors

Zion Baptist Church, Henderson, named Neil and Marsha Sherouse as directors of youth. They are former journeymen to Japan and are students at Southern Seminary.

Mitchell Resigns

George R. Mitchell has resigned as part-time assistant to the pastor at Southside Baptist Church, Louisville. He will serve Hildale Baptist Church, Clarksville, Tenn., as minister of recreation.

Darnell to Elizabethtown

George Darnell is the new pastor of Valley Creek Baptist Church, Elizabethtown. He is the former pastor of Ransdell Chapel Baptist Church, Louisville, N.C. Darnell is a graduate of Belmont College, Nashville, and Southeastern Baptist Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C.

Taylor to Serve Ninth and O

Warren Taylor of Virginia Beach, Va., was called by Ninth and O Baptist Church, Louisville, to serve as minister of music and media. He will provide leadership in music, media and other ministries.

Deaths

Wilkey Dies

Hubert W. Wilkey, father of Jay Wilkey, professor of church music at Southern Seminary, died March 7. Funeral services were held in Leitchfield.

It may very well be that the single Christians who are obviously aware of their "aloneness" are the ones who can best help the church come back to the New Testament model of "the family of God." In these days of family dislocation and breakdown the church needs to be rediscovered as the extended family of the Lord Jesus Christ for all of us.

It has been my experience as a pastor that often those to whom the church means the most are "the singles"; the divorced, the widowed and the never married who have found the church to be their family.

The vastly increased number of singles in our society has caught the church by surprise. Some single Christians have experimented with one form or another of communal living and have provided some new models for the old biblical model of the church as family. All our congregations need to draw on the capacity of singles to "love the brethren" and to center their lives in the fellowship of the church. All too often our congregations have simply seen the singles as people to exploit and isolate on the basis of their singleness. We have segregated the singles into classes and departments by themselves and in many a committee meeting we have said: "Let John do it because he isn't married and therefore has lots of time on his hands."

God calls each one of us, and he calls us to be content and not embarrassed "in whatsoever state we find ourselves"—single or married. The single Christian answers God's call to do his will in his singleness as does the married person answer God's call in partnership with his spouse. We, however, need to celebrate much more effectively the gift of single people to the church on every level. Christian history is replete with those who were single to the glory of God.

My own personal singleness was a gift to the Braemar Baptist Church in Edmonton, Alberta, to which I was called from Southern Seminary. It was a home mission cause being started from scratch. Because of the blossoming petroleum industry, Edmonton was one of the fastest growing areas in North America. For a few years the Lord required a workaholic to get a special job done in that congregation. A workaholic does not make a good marriage partner but can be extremely effective as a mid-wife in the birth of a new congregation in a difficult area.

Within our local congregations there has been a neglect of the potential for ministry of the vastly increasing num-

Singles: Building the Church

by Don J. Burke, Highland Baptist Church, Louisville

Viewpoint

ber of people who wait late to marry, never marry or return to singleness through divorce or death of a marriage partner. While the statistics indicate that we do one of our worst jobs in church with regard to the single adults, my experience has indicated that those singles who do participate in our church life and find a surrogate family in the church often form a core of the most loyal attenders, givers and servers. This should be sensitively nurtured.

The growing children in a congregation are an inheritance from the Lord for the entire congregation. Trained and dedicated single workers have a vast storehouse of love to shower upon these children. Isn't it reasonable to suppose that a working mother of five children gets to the place where she can be irritable with regard to the emotional demands of her own children and is therefore not as emotionally prepared to love the children at church, in Sunday school and in the other programs as would a single person who otherwise may not have an avenue for expressing his love for children?

The single person may be more quickly disposed to accept the full New Testament doctrine of the church as family than someone who still has an extensive extended family. The single people in our congregations should be organized and challenged to develop models of serving the congregation and, in a very particular way, serving each other through experiments in living together and sharing life together that could become models for married couples who need help in coping with isolation, with urbanization and mobility.

Christian communes have grown up here and there across the country and are probably not the answer for a significantly large number of people. However, there are other more practical experiments such as in the Old Cambridge Baptist Church in Harvard Square, Mass. A number of the members of the congregation, some married and some single, and some of the married couples childless and some

with several children got together and bought an apartment building. They all live in the apartment building maintaining separate residences with separate kitchens, but do have a weekly meal in common, share worship daily and provide for the sharing of many material things including running the building as a cooperative.

The emphasis should not be on developing isolated programs for "the singles." Any heavy emphasis on their singleness through separate classes and programs only accentuated their "strangeness" within the Christian family and really is counter-productive from the point of view of developing a genuine Christian lifestyle for the whole congregation. I believe that the emphasis should be not so much on developing a Christian lifestyle for singles but a lifestyle that is Christian for all the believers and a Christian lifestyle for the congregation.

It should further be remembered that there are very few "committed" bachelors and unmarried women. Few Baptists have taken an oath of celibacy! One does not need a degree in psychology to know that deep within the heart of all single people is the idea that one day they may very well be married.

The category of "married" or "single" should not have a dominant place in describing a child of God who is above all else an integral member of the household of faith. "Ye also, as living stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God by Jesus Christ!"

Living life in isolation as implied by "singleness" is foreign to the New Testament understanding of the abundant life in Christ. However, being married is not the necessary New Testament description of the Christian lifestyle either. The Christian community is made up of people who are meant for each other and live in covenant with each other and for each other as a "spiritual house."

Baptists, with their high view of "the local church" should know this, rejoice in it and act on it.

Nigerian Family Reunited By Students and Churches

by Nancy McGough

After three years of separation, a Nigerian family has been reunited—thanks to a group of concerned seminary students and a number of churches with generous congregations.

Rufus Adetona, now a student of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, left his family in 1973 to come to the United States to better prepare himself for Christian service in his country. Since then he, his wife, Olanike, and children, Jide (10) and Oye (5) have been hoping some way would be provided so they could be together. The youngest was just two when Rufus left, and could not remember his father.

Their dream came true when another Southern Seminary student, Bud Turner, became concerned about his friend and decided to do something about it. The two had also been classmates at Samford University, Birmingham, Ala., before coming to Southern.

Turner, who refuses to take praise for his efforts, simply said he and friends living on the third floor of

Sampey Hall began talking about it and decided, "Let's just try to raise some money and see if we can get them over here."

Their efforts began in mid-October. The students dug into their own pockets, and many returned to their home churches and explained Rufus's situation. And in response to the need of a young man they had never met, churches in Clarksville, Tenn., Decatur and Anniston, Ala., Indianapolis, Ind., and several other cities reached into their pockets to help. In addition, the Sunday school class of which Rufus is a member at Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville, also contributed.

Shortly after Thanksgiving, the students trooped over to Rufus's apartment and presented him with the \$1,200 they had collected. Plans were begun immediately, and on a snowy day in this new year, Rufus's shivering family stepped off of the plane.



After three years apart, the Adetona family has been reunited. Rufus, at left, has been in school at Southern Seminary while his family, Oye [front], Jide [center] and Olanike remained in Nigeria.

They had never seen snow before—in fact, had never been in cold weather—and saw the United States as a winter wonderland.

Adjustments to a new culture as well as climate have begun. Olanike is finding it difficult to cook the new foods which "are not like ours at home." And so, "I have been the cook since they've come," Rufus said with a laugh.

Rufus is from a royal family in Nigeria and was raised as a Moslem. Southern Baptist missionaries led him to Christ as a young man. Olanike's father, a pastor, befriended the young Christian. Rufus had visited her home several times before he met Olanike, who was away at college.

"I think my coming here will be fruitful," Rufus recalled he thought the first time he saw Olanike. And he was right. The couple was married in 1962.

Rufus said he will probably be at the seminary, earning the Ed.D. degree, for about three more years.

But there is no doubt these next three years with his family will be far less lonely than the first three he spent alone.

NOBTS Adopts Budget; Approves Construction

Meeting in annual session, the board of trustees of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary adopted a record \$3,008,000 budget, approved a building program and promoted faculty members.

A portion of the largest budget in the seminary's history will be used in the remodeling of the women's residence halls before the opening of the 1977-78 school year this fall.

Approval was given to begin work on a nearly \$150,000 recreation center to include a remodeled gym containing saunas, lockers, table game room, supplies for roller skating and a Universal weight lifting room.

Hoover Establishes Scholarship

William G. Hoover of Carbondale, Ill., has established a scholarship fund at

Christian Education

Southern Seminary.

To be entitled the William G. Hoover and Bonita R. Hoover and the James S. and Lucinda A. Russell Scholarship, the fund will provide financial assistance to Southern Seminary students preparing for positions of ministry.



Commonwealth of Kentucky treasurer Frances Jones Mills [right] poses with Cumberland College president J.M. Boswell and Cumberland College Young Democrats Club president Jacki McCall at the conclusion of an address she made to the college's student body. Mrs. Mills urged the students to participate fully in the political process if they wish to insure that their children also grow up in a free society.

Missions & Ministries

Mary Gould Honored

Mary Gould, retired Southern Baptist missionary, has been honored recently for 28 years of service in Thailand. An engraved bronze plaque has been forwarded to her at her Covington, Ky., home "To express our love and appreciation," according to Maxine Stewart, Southern Baptist missionary press representative in Thailand.

Miss Gould was appointed as a foreign missionary by the Foreign Mission Board in 1948. She went to Thailand after missionaries were forced to leave China. Medical retirement due to back problems was granted in 1976.



Miss Gould

In Thailand, Miss Gould worked several years in literature publication and promotion. At the same time, she also served as missionary advisor to area churches and chapels. At the time of her retirement, she had been working in Bangkok with day care centers, where she trained workers and witnessed to the children's families.

Miss Gould was born in Dayton, Ohio, and grew up in Covington. She was graduated from Eastern Kentucky State College, Richmond, with the bachelor of science degree and from the University of Cincinnati with the master of science degree. She also studied in Woman's Missionary Union Training School (now merged with Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville). Before going overseas she taught school in Covington for 10 years.

40 Walk 9-Days For Evangelism

Forty men, including missionaries, pastors and deacons, took part in a nine-day walk from village to village as an extensive evangelistic crusade was held in the Rivercess area of Liberia.

The goal of the project was to evangelize and organize converts into

Bible study-prayer groups, according to Southern Baptist missionary press representative, Evelyn Evans. Another goal of the workers was to identify places where permanent churches could be started or old churches revived.

During the next month pastors and deacons returned to the villages to teach new converts and to leave Bibles and cassette tapes for study-prayer groups. Follow-up will be done each month during 1977 under the direction of Southern Baptist missionary Ted E. Cromer.

HMB Taps Hart, Whittaker

Alfred Carl Hart has been elected director of the division of chaplaincy of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board. The election came during the Spring board meeting of the 68-member board in Phoenix. Directors also elected Fermin Agustin Whittaker as assistant director of the department of language missions.

Hart has been associate director of the division of chaplaincy since 1970. He came to the board after being director of chaplaincy for the Tennessee



Hart



Whittaker

Department of Corrections. Previously, he was chaplain of the Brushy Mountain Prison in Petros, Tenn., and of the Shelby County Penal Farm in Memphis, Tenn. He also served as pastor of churches in Tennessee and North Carolina. A native of Collierville, Tenn. he is a graduate of Bethel College and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

William G. Tanner, executive director-treasurer of the Home Mission Board, said he is "very pleased" with Hart's election and noted Hart is "a person who is not limited to one area of the chaplaincy, but is familiar with all areas."

As director of chaplaincy, Hart will

oversee work of the Chaplain's Commission, which procures and screens Southern Baptist candidates for the chaplaincy and recommends endorsements where appropriate.

Whittaker, a native of Colon, Republic of Panama, has been Spanish church growth worker for the language missions department with the Southern Baptist General Convention of California. Previously, he was pastor in Pico Rivzra, Calif., and Palgrave, Ontario, Canada. He is a graduate of Toronto Baptist Seminary and California Baptist College.

The Mines Go To Manila

After 46 years of ministry, Marshall G. Mines has retired. Well, partially.

At 63, he and his wife, Eunice, leave this month for a year in Manila, in the Philippines, to serve as volunteer missionaries in the Baptist Publication Center there, while one of the career missionaries goes on furlough.

Mines has been a pastor, an army chaplain, a city missionary, and for the last three years was Dean of Students and Registrar at Mid-Continent Baptist Bible College in Mayfield, Ky. Since 1959 he has operated a hobby print shop called "Missionary Press."

Under the Volunteer Mission Program of the Foreign Mission Board, Mines and his wife will serve without salary.

Gentrys Chosen as US-2ers

Samuel and Myra Gentry, students at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, have been appointed as US-2 missionaries by the Home Mission Board. They will serve in El Portal, Calif.

Gentry, a native of Louisiana, and his wife, a native of Missouri, will receive master of religious education degrees from Southern Seminary later this year. He is a graduate of Louisiana College and she is a graduate of Southwest Baptist College. She also has served as a HMB student summer missionary in Missouri, Washington, D.C., and Indiana.

Hot Lunch Program Cuts Senior Adults' Loneliness

By Mike Creswell

Mark Burnham wears the gray mantle of advanced years with stately grace. Semi-retired, his wife died four years ago, and he now lives with his daughter. His days would be spent in loneliness, if it wasn't for a five-days-a-week lunch program for older adults at nearby First Baptist Church.

There he enjoys a wholesome, hot meal with 40-70 friends — all 55 or older. Like many of them, he gets there a little early and stays a little late for "fellowshipin'." "This is the high point of my day," Burnham said during a recent noon meal at the church: "I meet a lot of my friends here, and I love them everyone."

That the church would remember senior adults impressed Burnham. "People tend to push us away and say we don't amount to anything, we're finished. Well, we're not finished. We're still here," he said emphatically. Burnham's own life justifies his remarks. Still an active gunsmith, he turns out highly-prized flintlock rifles in his own shop.

Pastor Norman Gillespie saw many Mark Burnhams in Moncks Corner two years ago and decided his church should do something to help.

Moncks Corner is a small town of about 3,000 residents outside Charleston, one of the state's three largest cities. Many senior adults have settled in the suburban town because of its convenience to downtown, its fishing and hunting facilities and its proximity to military installations. Many of them are retired military personnel.

The "something" turned out to be the hot lunch program. "I figured that senior adults could benefit from such a program. Many of them sit around home all day with nowhere to go and nothing to do after they retire from their life's work. They don't get out and see anyone, and many times they don't even bother to change out of their night clothes all day for this very reason," he said.

The lunch program Gillespie said, gives many senior adults a good reason to get dressed and get out for fresh air and — more importantly — a fresh

outlook on life. Nutritional meals also meet another need for older citizens, Gillespie said: "When they sit around all day, it often carries over into their meals. Instead of fixing a hot, well-balanced meal at least once a day, they get by with just a sandwich or something easy to fix, and probably something easy on the budget. It's no wonder many of them are in poor health."

Gillespie administers the program with Frank Ling, associate pastor, and David Brien, minister of education, and volunteer church members who help. The meals are not free, but Brien said the modest \$1-a-plate price is easily afforded by the moderate-income participants. By planning menus carefully in advance and buying foods wholesale, the program costs the church nothing.

Church members provide the staff needed beyond a paid cook. Meals are served buffet-style with beverage, homemade biscuits and dessert, and includes free seconds. Reservations are made each morning, so little food is wasted, Gillespie noted.

Only half the older adults are First Baptist Church members. The rest live or work in the neighborhood. Though two couples have joined the church through the program, evangelism is not stressed.

"It is a service ministry," Brien explained. "What we're interested in is providing a chance for fellowship among the senior citizens." Brien feels the program's fellowship role is succeeding. For example, one elderly woman would come just long enough for the meals then leave immediately without saying a word.

"Now she comes early and stays late like most of the others, so she can talk," Brien said. "She has found that the people here are interested in her, and now she's interested in them too."

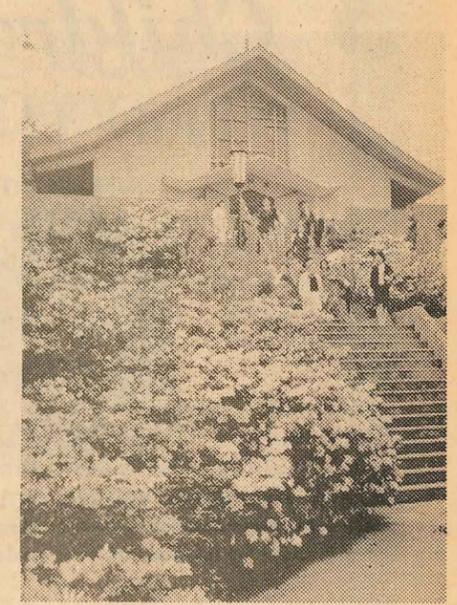
A meals-on-wheels extension of the program serves five to a dozen persons each day, as church members take food out to older persons whose mobility is restricted.

A general interest film or some other

program is offered weekly, and outings on the church bus are held periodically. Staff member Frank Ling has taken the senior adults to Richmond, Nashville and Florida.

Two other results of the program were unforeseen. First Baptist Church members now have a keener awareness of senior adults needs, Brien said, and plans are under way to expand the ministry.

Also, many senior adults have shown an interest in the persons at the other end of the age spectrum—the children in First Baptist Church's day care center and kindergarten. "It's really something to see the older ones and the young ones together," Ling said. "You see, these older folks really have something to contribute—and they can still enjoy life."



THE LOOK OF SPRING: With azaleas in full bloom, the Taiwan Baptist Theological Seminary, Taipei, is truly beautiful. The seminary will celebrate its 25th anniversary with graduation ceremonies this spring. A total of 199 students have graduated since its founding in 1952.

1977 Music Weeks at Cedarmore

MUSIC ASSEMBLY FOR YOUTH AND ADULTS

July 18-22

Register Early: Use special registration form supplied by Church Music Dept., P.O. Box 43433, Louisville, 40243. Request reservations from Cedarmore Baptist Assembly, Rt. 1, Bagdad, Ky. 40003.

For Youth and Counsellors: Send \$5.00 Reservation Fee per person with special registration form. Pay additional \$34.00 upon arrival. Bring pillows and linens.

For Other Adults: Send \$5.00 Reservation Fee and pay \$64.50 upon arrival for Boone Lodge, or \$60.50 for Motels.

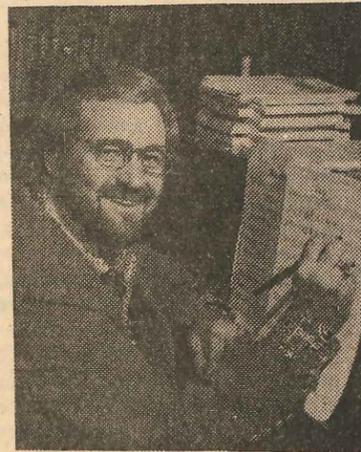
Counsellors: A man must accompany each group of 10 or less boys and a woman must accompany each group of 10 or less girls, whose ages are under 18.

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Registration Details: Send \$5.00 Reservation Fee per person with special registration form from Church Music Dept., to Cedarmore Baptist Assembly, Rt. 1, Bagdad, Ky. 40003. Pay additional \$31.00 per person upon arrival. Bring pillow and linens.

Counsellors: 1 man per 10 or less boys and 1 woman per 10 or less girls.

Luggage: Include classroom, recreational and concert clothing. No recreational clothing permitted except during recreational periods.

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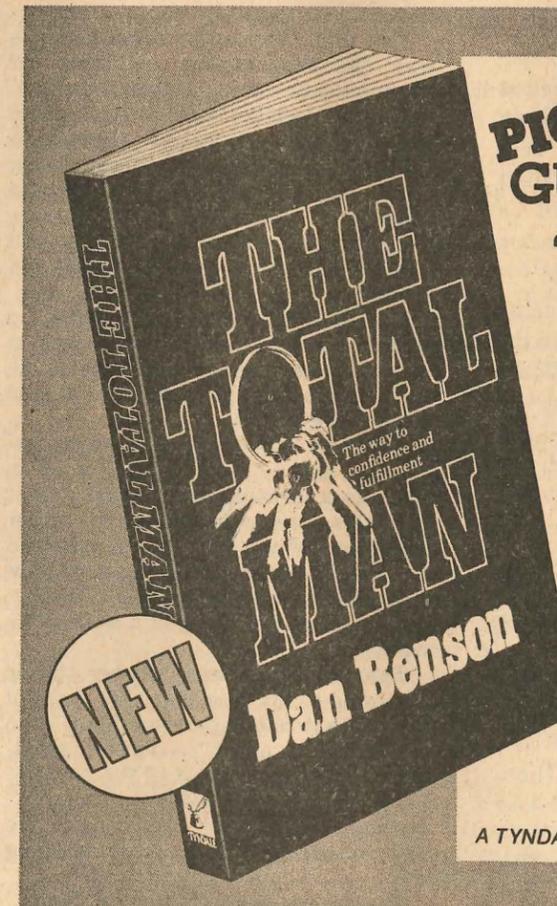
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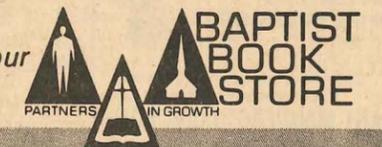
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Frank Owen

"HARDWOOD TIGHT"



Once I took a walk in a Georgia woods with my friend, Tom Hankinson, of the State Forestry Service. A walk in the woods is always good, and more especially so, with someone who knows something about trees.

Mr. Hankinson had a little hand drill gadget that could reach to the center of a modest sized tree trunk and extract a drilled out stem on which the rings could be counted to determine the age of a tree. We made some very interesting observations. Some trees grow as much in five years as others do in twenty.

Soft wood grows faster than hard wood but it can't stand near as much strain and doesn't build nearly as strong a house. I have seen Christians that make me think of both kinds of trees.

The thing that most impressed me was the tremendous influence of environment on trees of whatever kind. Favorable location has worlds to do with the fate of a tree. Hankinson drilled one pine tree about eleven inches in diameter and counted the rings and pronounced that it was twenty-four years of age. It was well located, had ample room to spread and grow.

He drilled another pine tree in another location, scarcely six inches in diameter and to my amazement, he counted the rings and declared it was fifty years of age.

"Why is the latter tree so scrawny?," I asked. He replied, "it is in what we call a hardwood tight." That is, it was being suffocated by other trees that robbed it of its strength and so shaded it from God's sunshine that it could not grow the spreading top that it needed in order to build a worthwhile trunk.

The situation was doubly tragic according to my friend, in that three of the four hardwoods surrounding it were varieties that never produced marketable timber in that part of the country. They simply amounted to "weeds," preventing the tree that could have been worthwhile from ever becoming so.

Is your life in a "hardwood tight?"

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson for Apr. 17, 1977

by H. C. Chiles, Murray, Ky.

International Series

Jesus Assures His Disciples

Two disciples, Cleopas and his unnamed companion, had gone from Emmaus to Jerusalem, a distance of about seven and one-half miles, to observe the feast of the Passover. While they were in Jerusalem Christ was crucified. Over that they grieved deeply. Disappointed and disconsolate, they never expected to see Christ again.

Luke 24:13-16

As these disciples walked wearily along the road together, discussing their blighted hopes, a stranger overtook them and listened to their conversation. Cleopas inquired if he had been dwelling in Jerusalem and had heard about the things which had taken place there during the last few days. He replied, "What things?" The disciples answered by telling him about Jesus of Nazareth, the fate which had befallen him, and their own disappointment. Beginning with the writings of Moses and continuing through the prophets, the stranger expounded the scriptures and authenticated the events which had taken place. Their hearts were warmed strangely but before he had finished they had arrived at Emmaus.

Luke 24:25-35

With Oriental insistence, the disciples constrained him to accept their cordial hospitality. They were so completely fascinated by his talk that they did not want him to go farther. This stranger was just as willing to be entertained as they were to offer hospitality. He never refused to enter the house of any man, when invited properly.

No sooner had he entered the home until he changed from guest to host. At the evening meal, "He took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them." Instantly they recognized him as the Lord Jesus Christ and immediately he vanished from their sight. He had convinced them that he had risen from the dead and had given them the hope and inspiration which that fact was calculated to bring. Their recognition of him caused a new hope to surge through their souls. Their recognition of Christ alive from the dead so revived and thrilled them that they immediately departed for Jerusalem with quick and eager pace, to bring to the other disciples the good news that they had seen and heard the Lord.

Nobody ever expounded the Scriptures as Christ did to those two heavy-hearted disciples, changing their ignorance into knowledge, their doubt into faith, their despondency into hope and their cold hearts into burning ones. Note that it was when Christ talked to them about the things which were taught in the scriptures that their hearts were aflame and not while they were doing the talking.

When they arrived in Jerusalem, they readily found the eleven disciples already excited by the report that Peter had seen the risen Lord. Zestfully they rehearsed their experience with Christ on the road to and in Emmaus, thereby adding to the chorus of certitude and gratitude that the saviour had risen from the dead.

Life and Work Series

Workers Together For Christ

I Timothy 1:1-2

Paul was not an apostle by self-appointment or by the choice of men, but this important office was conferred upon him by God the Father and Christ the Son. Paul tenderly referred to Timothy as his true child in the sphere of the Christian faith. Paul rejoiced in the fact that he had been the channel through which the gospel of Christ had been communicated to Timothy and that it had resulted in his birth into the family of God.

Paul expressed his longing for his friend to have three wonderful blessings — "grace," the unmerited response of God to man's need, meaning here the benefits of sustaining and sanctifying grace; "mercy," the compassion of God which is exemplified in his desire and readiness to forgive in spite of the lack of merit on the part of the recipient; and "peace," which expresses the state of the one who is reconciled to God.

Acts 16:1-5

Although he was the product of a mixed marriage, Timothy received excellent religious instruction from his mother and grandmother, both of whom were devout and devoted followers of Christ.

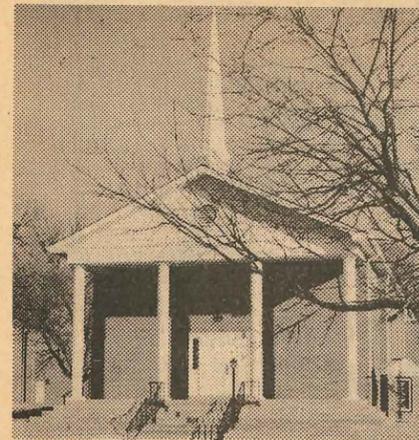
When Paul returned to Lystra on his second missionary tour, he was so favorably impressed with Timothy that he chose him to be his companion on the journey. Timothy actively participated in the work of the Lord. Timothy readily answered Paul's challenge to fulltime Christian service.

Anxious to avoid any complications in the work of evangelizing the Jews, Paul suggested that Timothy submit to the rite of circumcision in order that he might be allowed the privilege of teaching in the synagogue. Timothy willingly granted Paul's request and submitted to this rite even though it was not binding in the new dispensation and had nothing whatever to do with the salvation of the soul.

Philippians 2:19-24

Timothy's rare sweetness of disposition, sincere and earnest faith in Christ, and genuine loyalty to his friends resulted in his receiving Paul's deep appreciation and hearty commendation. No man meant more to Paul than Timothy, and yet Paul's love for the Philippian Christians was so great that he was willing to let Timothy go to them. All who knew Timothy were convinced of his unselfishness. Timothy sought the interests of Christ and the salvation and welfare of people.

With pleasant anticipation Paul looked forward to sending Timothy to Philippi. Paul expressed the hope that he might be able to follow his reliable co-worker into their midst ere long. Whether or not this fond hope was ever realized we are not told.



First Baptist Church, Calvert City, celebrated 100 years of continuous ministry in 1976. The church marked the occasion with concerts, a youth team for revival, guest speakers and special activities. Harold Tallant preached the centennial revival; Franklin Owen, executive secretary-treasurer of the state convention, preached on centennial Sunday and R.G. Lee gave messages on August 8, 1976.

Church Reaches \$797

Beech Grove Baptist Church, Owenton, reached \$797 in offerings for one Sunday in February. The church, which usually has \$150 to \$200 in offerings each week, set a goal of \$500 to meet oil and electric bills and an insurance payment. Mike Gibson is pastor.

Central Ordains

Paul Gillem was recently ordained a deacon in Central Baptist Church, Ashland.

The church has remodeled the sanctuary and plans to make further improvements this summer. John P. Weaver is pastor.

Union Breaks Ground

Union Baptist Church, Cynthiana, broke ground in February for the construction of a sanctuary. A tornado destroyed Union's sanctuary in 1974. The new structure will cost \$70,800. Members of the building committee are

Burley Johnson, pastor of the church, Mrs. Braden King, Virgil Dryden, Floyd Doyle and Donald Doyle.

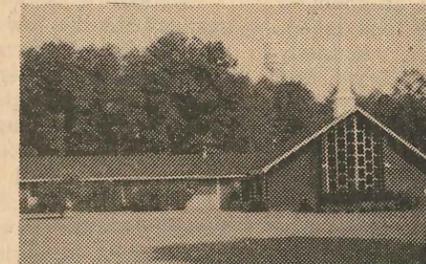
Shely Still Active

Gilbert Shely, former pastor of churches in Anderson, Mercer, and Woodford counties, continues his ministry even though retired. Shely preaches, marries couples and conducts a weekly Sunday school lesson on radio. He has been moderator of the Mercer Baptist Association and has served as a member of the executive board, Kentucky Baptist Convention.

He is a graduate of Berea College and Southern Seminary.



Bruner's Chapel Baptist Church, Harrodsburg, held a noteburning ceremony January 30. The \$100,000 sanctuary was made possible by the church borrowing \$75,000 and raising the balance. The 12 year note was paid in seven years. The church is now debt free. Arnold Moon is pastor.



Jamestown Baptist Church held a note burning service in March. The church building was constructed in 1968 at a cost of approximately \$100,000. The church also celebrated its 50th anniversary recently. Mattie Stephens and Emma Allen, two charter members, participated in the service. James Watt is pastor.

Whites Run Holds Clinic

The Whites Run Baptist Association held a deacon-pastor clinic at First Baptist Church, Carrollton, March 15. Eldred Taylor, pastor of First Church, Somerset, and three deacons of the church, led the clinic.

Participants examined ways in which the deacon and pastor could work together.

Pike Protests TV

In the March executive board meeting of Pike Association the churches voted to send letters to CBS, NBC, and ABC television networks in protest against sex, crime, and violence being portrayed. Over 3,000 letters will be sent to the networks by Pike Association Baptists.

Pike Association requests that other associations join in this stand.

Thompson Recuperates

Wheeler Thompson, well known for his ministry among Kentucky Baptists, suffered an acute coronary heart attack Mar. 2 and is hospitalized in Jess Parrish Memorial Hospital, Titusville, Fla. 32780. Mrs. Thompson reports her husband is responding well to treatment but will remain hospitalized for some time.

Pomeroy Awarded

Dudley Thomas Pomeroy, professor at Clear Creek Baptist School, Pineville, was awarded the Legion of Merit from the United States Army, Atlanta. The award, given on the basis of extraordinary service, was presented through the 1188th Outpost Unit which he served for 11 years.

Pomeroy, a former pastor in Kentucky, South Carolina, and Georgia, recently retired from the military as a full colonel.



Pomeroy

Mountains to the Mississippi