

WESTERN RECORDER

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Allen—Southern Baptists' 'extended profile'

After a year as president of SBC, Jimmy Allen looks backward and forward

by Toby Druin, Baptist Standard

Q. You have been the most active or aggressive Southern Baptist Convention president in recent memory. What is your concept of the presidency? Obviously you have felt it is more than presiding at the annual meeting.

A. The structure of our convention doesn't give a president any authority and that guards the democracy and strength of local decision making by agencies. But the president is the only person who is elected by the people at large. In a very real way he represents the convention. He is on every board and agency—the only man who can move in and out of every one as a welcomed, participating member of the Southern Baptist constituency. I feel the president has a responsibility to help be a pacesetter for what the convention has expressed its will on and what its needs are. He helps set the agenda for Southern Baptist life.

Q. What is on that agenda as you see it?

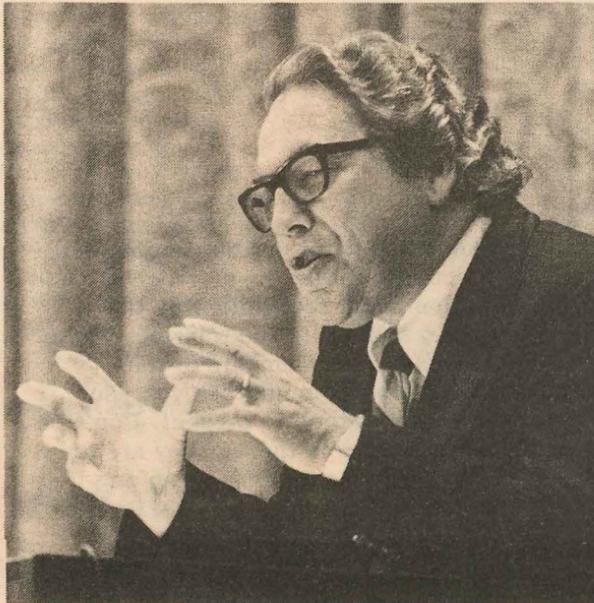
A. Our convention has set its agenda for Bold Mission Thrust, the effort to greatly increase our missions giving and missionary force and reach the world with the gospel by the end of the century. I consider that a mandate to every agency and to the president that we are going to move into this aggressive new expansion in missions which we have now voted on in two conventions. The president also becomes in some way a kind of extended profile of Southern Baptists to the nation at large. Because of the attention that has come to us in recent times, we have a real opportunity for the people at large to know who Southern Baptists are, what we are and what we are doing. It will be a brief attention span, and the president should do what he can to communicate to society at large who Southern Baptists are.

Q. What has been the reactions of the boards, agencies, etc., to your activist role as president?

A. Interesting, and at first some surprise because we have not had a president who has interpreted the role in quite the way that I have. But I have been welcomed. Once they understood the president's presence is not in any way to make critique of what is happening, but to understand it so he can communicate it to the constituency . . . and to participate in the discussion, I have found there has been a real welcome.

Q. Do you think you are setting a precedent for others?

A. I don't know. I think we are in, at least in my



judgment, a unique time and whether or not there will be another time when a president needs to take this aggressive a stance in trying to help marshal the forces of Bold Mission Thrust, only time will tell. I think in a more quiescent time in Southern Baptist life a president could fulfill his responsibility without doing all that I am doing. At another time, another season, I would probably follow a different style.

Q. But isn't the way you have conducted your presidency merely an extension of the Jimmy Allen personality?

A. I don't think, as I have heard some say, that this is a matter of personality. As my friends called before last year's convention and asked if they could nominate me I thought through what this would mean. I asked myself what were the things I felt would be necessary for the convention to do to fulfill its mission thrust. These things are very close to my heart and to the heart of our congregation.

Q. How do you feel about the progress we have made as far as Bold Mission Thrust is concerned and do you feel many of our people have confused Bold Mission Thrust with the Mission Service Corps—the effort to enlist 5000 missions volunteers by 1982?

A. Our people have not learned our terminology, but they have caught the heartbeat—and that is what is

important. The heartbeat that is being caught both from the pew to the pulpit and the pulpit to the pew is an interaction in which a different level of people are catching the spirit of God dealing with us for bold missions opportunities.

Q. What would you suggest to give Bold Mission Thrust and the Mission Service Corps more impetus?

A. An acceleration of promotion and communication on the state level of these new concepts of participation missions—immediate organization for both personnel and resources. We need financial resources so we can make happen what the rhetoric has called for.

Q. You are asking for organizations in the states?

A. Yes, the agencies have responded more quickly than the states have which is normal. The agencies are structured now so that they can deal with what we now have. They are moving into the promotional stance that they have not had before. We have gotten over the initial shock, the questions have been answered and we are tooling up to promote it.

Q. What about the financing of the Mission Service Corps—the money to support the volunteers during their one- or two-year terms of service?

A. The financing is awaiting the same kind of emotion that the enlistment of people awaits. I think the money is there and it is not a threat to the Cooperative Program or mission offerings to seek it. I think it is new money and people who have been giving to other causes—to para-church groups—will get excited about it and channel it into mission causes. We are waiting on communication; people just don't give to what you haven't asked them to give.

Q. You and Owen Cooper were cohosts for a meeting in Washington May 2. Wasn't that meeting about support of Mission Service Corps and wasn't it a departure from our usual method of missions support?

A. Owen Cooper and I called the meeting in Washington of about 100 persons from across the Southern Baptist Convention who have financial resources and concern for missions. We asked them to come together and talk about the Mission Service Corps and to present to them the challenge of giving over and above their tithes and other mission support in major gifts to sponsor volunteers here and overseas. We hoped to raise \$1 million. As to it being a departure (continued on back cover)



Jimmy Allen faces SBC officers (l-r) Olan Runnels, Kansas City; Richard Sutton, Topeka; Martin Bradley, Lee Porter and Porter Routh, all of Nashville.

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

WESTERN RECORDER

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C. R. Daley

Daley Observations

Counsel for a Convention Messenger

Dear Editor:

I have been appointed a messenger to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Atlanta. I plan to attend but I need some help. Since it will be my first convention to attend, will you tell me something about what to expect and how I can meaningfully participate?

All the sessions seem to run far longer than I am used to being in services. Am I expected to attend every minute of every session? How will I find some old friends who will likely be there? How do I go about it if I want to speak on some of the issues? I have heard much about denominational politics in conventions. Will there be any of this in Atlanta and how can I recognize it? Please help me any way you can.

A Messenger

Dear fellow messenger:

Congratulations on being a messenger to the 1978 Southern Baptist Convention in Atlanta. It will be an interesting experience which you will never forget but be prepared for some surprises.

The first impression you will have is how in the world is anything ever done in such a meeting. You will think there are more Baptists outside in the halls, on the streets and in the exhibit areas than are in the meeting. In some respects it will appear more like a Fourth of July picnic than a religious gathering.

But don't be fooled. The meeting is going on and doing well. All the messengers are rarely in the sessions at the same time. Only a precious few sit through every minute of every session. Most messengers look at the printed program and select the times they want to be inside. The election of officers, resolution presentations and debate, miscellaneous business and special speakers like Billy Graham are the favorite times for most messengers to attend.

As for finding old friends, there will be an information table in the lobby which can give you the hotel and room number for most registered messengers. Call very late at night or very early in the morning. Otherwise your best places to look are hotel lobbies, corridors around the auditorium and the Baptist Book Store area.

Should you have something to say to the messengers your only opportunity will be in the form of a resolution or during a miscellaneous business period or in debating some recommendation. Have several copies of your resolution or motion written out. You will not be allowed to read the entire resolution but only to give its subject and have it passed on to the resolutions committee for consideration and later report. If your motion is seconded and

ruled in order a time later on the program will be set for its consideration.

Your best chance for recognition by the presiding officer is to go to the rostrum. There you will find one or two members of the committee on order who might ask you your name and what you intend to present. Don't be frightened or offended by these. They are only trying to help you be heard and to run an orderly convention.

If you ever get the chance to speak, do it briefly and interestingly. Stick to issues and never deal in personalities. Messengers are generally courteous and patient up to a point but after then can be brutal to one who seems to be speaking to hear himself.

As for denominational politics, they will be few in Atlanta. President Jimmy Allen will be reelected likely without opposition. So will the two secretaries. There may be some politicking for the two vice presidents though one of them is generally a local person who has exerted much effort in preparation for the convention.

One pressure group may be working to elect a vice president. The Baptist Faith and Message Fellowship, a self-appointed and self-styled doctrinal watchdog group, has held several meetings in different parts of the country teaching strategy to get their choices elected to influential positions in state conventions as well as the national convention. Judging by the past this group is more likely to try to claim as one of their own someone elected for other reasons than to elect one themselves.

The convention will be a great experience for you but don't be too naive. A favorite quip is that Southern Baptists go to conventions with the 10 commandments and a \$10 bill and don't break either. The 10 commandments can survive even though Atlanta has all the temptations of a large convention city. The \$10 bill is another matter. Southern hospitality a la Atlanta costs so you better take a fist full of bills and be ready to part with them.

At first you will question whether the Lord can really accomplish much in a Southern Baptist Convention. Upon reflection you will likely conclude he is the only hope for anything getting done.

The Editor

'A Good Soldier of Christ Jesus'

To live in this world 90 years is unusual, to live for 90 years as O. W. Yates has lived is amazing and inspiring. This beloved pastor, educator and denominational leader passed his 90th birthday on May 23 and has slowed down

only a little. His body is weakening but his mind is sharp and his spirit is undaunted.

Over the years O. W. Yates has become known and loved for several special traits. One of these is his love for and encouragement to young preachers. This started early in his ministry as a teacher at old Bethel College and has lasted to this day. Every Baptist preacher who knows him knows he has a friend and trusted counselor in O. W. Yates.

Another trait which many of us envy is his boundless energy and unflagging commitment. He comes as close to having found the fountain of youth as any man alive and this is not because he has taken it easy in any way. During many of his years he taught a full load and preached every Sunday going long distances by bus, train or any other way. Many weekends he would arrive from preaching appointments barely in time to meet Monday morning classes.

To the amazement of many he took on the Rosemont pastorate at 63, the age many of us are thinking of retirement. He wore out more shoe leather after 65 than many of us wear out before 65.

There was a saying among the Lexington brethren that when a moving van parked and opened the door to unload, out of the van walked O. W. Yates to enlist the family before their furniture was unloaded.

Yates doesn't know the meaning of retirement. He has been retired officially several times but paid little attention to any of them. Upon retirement from Rosemont he and Mrs. Yates were presented a white Cadillac. The first time President Robert Mills of Georgetown College saw him ride up on the campus he remarked, "He will wear that Cadillac out and probably several more before he quits."

A Cadillac is about the most unfitting symbol possible for the lifestyle of this man. Though well taken care of in recent years, he, like the Apostle Paul, learned early in his ministry how to be satisfied in whatever condition he found himself. Often this condition was mostly poverty. Wayne Ward remarked informally that he learned sometime after he was a student of Yates that the professor was paid \$1,200 a year for teaching a full load.

It's good to have a preacher among us like O. W. Yates. When critics charge that preachers have it easy and preach mostly for money, O. W. Yates makes them liars. And in a time when there is quite a bit of moving into and moving out of the ministry according to encouragement and discouragement, we have a model in O. W. Yates for staying by the stuff in good and bad times.

A more appropriate theme for the service of appreciation at Rosemont could not have been found than the one used, "A Good Soldier of Christ Jesus."

BULLETIN

President Jimmy Carter has accepted an invitation to address the National Conference of Baptist Men June 16 in Atlanta.

The rally was rescheduled for 9:30 a. m. to permit Carter to continue on to Panama where he will participate in Panama Canal Treaty ceremonies.

Prior to the speech several thousand Southern Baptist laymen, women and pastors are expected to attend vocational breakfasts in Atlanta hotels.

Baptist News in Brief

Skyway Inaugurates New Link in Baptist-Catholic Health Services

by James H. Cox,
Associate Editor

A patient from Louisville's St. Anthony Hospital is escorted to Highlands Baptist Hospital to use the CAT scanner, an instrument utilizing sophisticated x-ray technology and computer for extensive diagnosis.

At the same time, a patient from Highlands is wheeled to St. Anthony for cobalt therapy, frequently used in cancer treatment.

One morning last week these two inaugurated use of the hospitals' newly completed skyway connecting both institutions.

The skyway and an adjoining professional building provide a physical tie between St. Anthony and Highlands Baptist hospitals, which announced a formal sharing program of some facilities and services a year ago.

Highlands Medical Center is believed

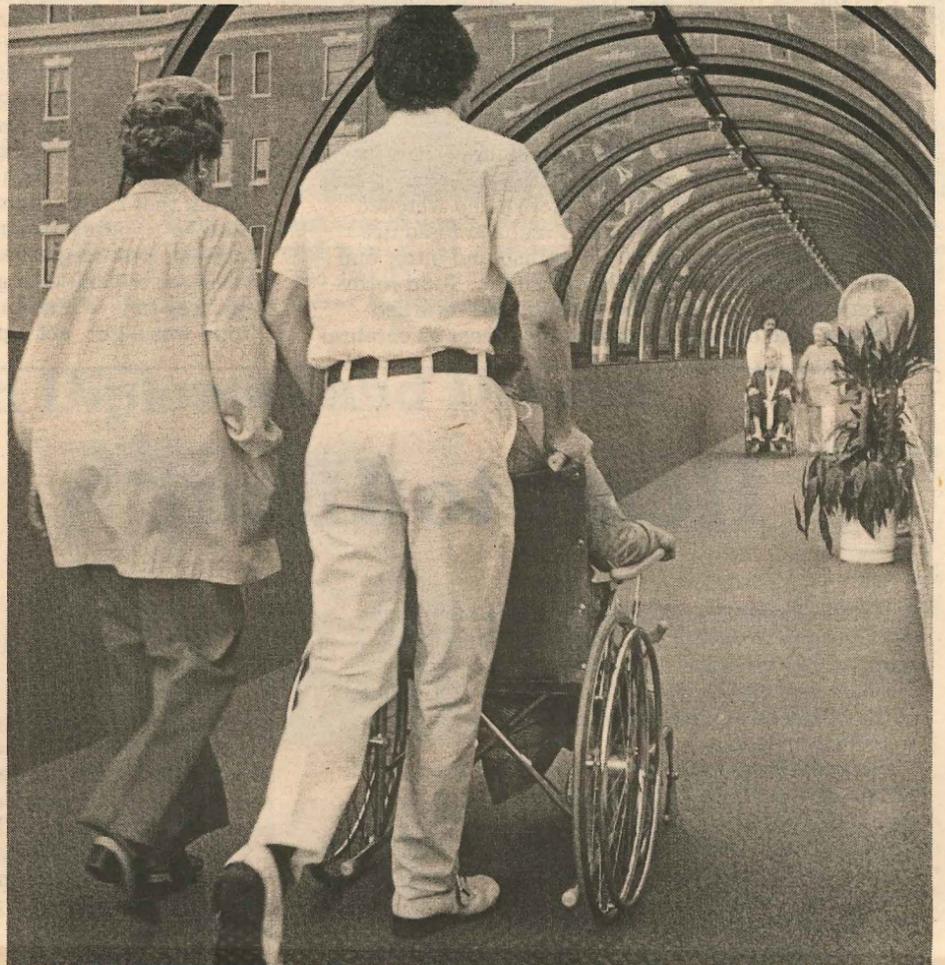
to be the first such Baptist-Catholic association in the nation, and was organized to help contain medical costs and provide a full service medical center to the community.

The skyway roof is made of clear plastic. Before it was constructed patients requiring services not offered by the hospital where they were confined were transported by ambulance to the neighboring hospital.

Primary shared services include the CAT scanner, cobalt therapy, Day Care Center and educational seminars.

The hospitals have developed a "buddy" system to relieve patients' apprehension about entering a new hospital. Each patient is accompanied by a hospital volunteer, who will stay with him from the time he leaves his room until he returns to it. A member of the hospital staff transports the patients.

The governing board of Highlands Baptist Hospital is elected annually by the Kentucky Baptist Convention.



At Rosemont, Lexington

O. W. Yates Feted on 90th Milestone

Rosemont Baptist Church, Lexington, surprised O. W. Yates with a 90th birthday celebration on May 21. An overflow crowd of Rosemont Baptists and visitors expressed their love and appreciation to the beloved pastor and educator in a special Sunday morning service and a reception. Rosemont was the last church Yates served as pastor.

The special service was planned and presided over by Rosemont pastor Jerome Brown. Wayne Ward, Southern Seminary professor and former student of Yates, delivered the sermon using an outline given him by Yates when Ward was a student at Ouachita College. The other speaker was Eugene Enlow, son-in-law of Yates and pastor of Beechmont Baptist Church in Louisville.

O. W. Yates was born in Chatham, N. C., and is a member of the same family which has given to Baptist leadership such figures as Kyle Yates, long time Southern Seminary teacher and Walnut Street pastor, and Matthew Yates, one of the first Southern Baptist

missionaries to China. Yates received his training at Wake Forest College, Southern Seminary and Peabody College.

He served from 1918 to 1933 as teacher, dean and president of Bethel College in Russellville. When Bethel closed he moved to Ouachita Baptist University in Arkansas to teach Bible. In 1946 he came to Georgetown College as fund raiser and personally raised most of the funds to build the John L. Hill chapel. Later he became executive secretary of Central Baptist Hospital and took over the task of raising funds for the construction of the hospital facilities in Lexington.

While in Lexington he began helping the struggling Rosemont congregation which was not much beyond mission status. The church which he served for 14 years experienced amazing growth under his leadership and now is one of the leading Kentucky Baptist churches.

Yates lives with his wife at 158 N. Arcadia Park, Lexington, KY 40503.



Participating in 90th birthday festivities for O. W. Yates (second from left) are (l-r) Eugene Enlow, Wayne Ward and Jerome Brown.

Anita Bryant to be Candidate For an SBC Vice Presidency?

Anita Bryant has been asked to accept a nomination for a vice-presidency of the Southern Baptist Convention when it meets in annual session in Atlanta June 13-15 but hasn't decided whether to accept.

Miss Bryant and her husband Bob Green agreed that it would be an "honor" for the entertainer to be nominated. But she said since she knows little about the position and doesn't want to become part of anything she can't be active in, she could not say whether she would accept a nomination.

Miss Bryant, a Southern Baptist, will address the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference June 11 preceding the annual SBC meeting in Atlanta.

The request to accept a nomination for vice president came "many weeks ago" according to Green, who manages his wife's career and appearances. The SBC has two vice presidential posts.

Miss Bryant said she hoped her appearance at the conference will have a "positive effect" on the tone of the convention.

"People will see life as it really is," she said. "They will see the harassment we've had to endure. If these (pastors) are strong leaders and the men of God they're supposed to be I would think it would make them all the more determined to stand up for God

and his righteousness."

Miss Bryant, who prefers to be identified as simply a "pro-family mother" rather than an "anti-homosexual rights campaigner," says the "fishbowl" she's lived in since the first homosexual ordinance repeal in Dade County, Fla., has put her under immense pressure.

"You can't win no matter what you say," she said. "You're going to have one side mad at you or everybody. So I've stopped being concerned with the criticism of men. I'm concerned with the criticism of God and that's the only way I can handle it."

Her efforts have also earned her numerous death threats and created the need for security wherever she travels. She says she welcomes the security and takes "great precautions" but is not afraid for her life "because my hope is in eternity and the Lord Jesus Christ is my peace and joy."

N. C. Writers' Paradise

For the third time the Western North Carolina Christian Writers' Conference will be held at YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly, Black Mountain, N. C.

The dates are July 30-Aug. 3, according to Southern Baptist writer Yvonne Lehman, conference director. The program features representatives of nationally known religious publishing houses and denominational presses.

Information is available from Mrs. Lehman at Box 188, Black Mountain, N. C. 28711.

Don Stewart NOBTS Veep

Don Stewart, 42, head of the religion and philosophy department at William Carey College, Hattiesburg, Miss., since 1963, has been named executive vice president of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, effective June 1.

Earlier Stewart was pastor of Perkinson (Miss.) Baptist Church.

He is a graduate of William Carey College and New Orleans Seminary.

Bridgebuilders TV Times

"The Bridgebuilders," 30-minute color motion picture featuring Kentucky Baptists, will be shown on TV stations across the state this week.

City, channel, day and times are:
Evansville, 7, Thursday, 7 p.m.
Hazard, 57, Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Cincinnati, 5, Friday, 7 p.m.
Lexington, 18, Friday, 7 p.m.
Nashville, 4, Friday, 7 p.m.
Knoxville, 6, Friday, 8:30 p.m.
Huntington, 3, Saturday, 7:30 p.m.
Louisville, 11, Saturday, 8:30 p.m.
Paducah, 6, Sunday, 12:30 p.m.

Twice Given My Son

by Marshall Phillips

Just a few days ago I was reminded of our helplessness and dependence upon God. Over the years I've tried to give my children to God and I thought I had succeeded until crisis came and I was forced to face reality.

The first crisis came while we were serving as Southern Baptist missionaries in East Africa. Our only son Todd was born while serving in Nairobi, Kenya, and I was determined to give him more of my time and attention than I had given our two girls. The girls had come into our life while I was struggling though school. As a full time student and pastor I just didn't have much time and perhaps projected my frustrations and anxieties into our family life. With Todd it was going to be different! He was our pride and joy when we came home on our first furlough in 1964.

In 1968 just a few weeks before our second furlough we found Todd unconscious. As I carried him to the hospital in Mombasa, Kenya and watched the doctors try to revive him I realized I had not given him to the Lord. I was selfish and bitter and thought God was taking him from me. Todd recovered after six days in the hospital and returned home. The doctors diagnosed his illness as cerebral

malaria which causes brain infection. I had carried many Africans to the hospital because of the same disease and had seen several die from it.

A few short weeks elapsed and we thought Todd was totally over his illness so we started on our furlough. Our plane was about two hours out of Nairobi when Todd lapsed into unconsciousness again. We frantically tried to revive him. Only the providence of God could have made it possible for the plane to be carrying two American nurses, a Greek doctor and an American neurologist. The plane was ordered back to Nairobi. The return was the longest three hours I have ever spent. It was during that return flight I was able to say, "O.K. God, he's yours." I found a peace in my heart at that moment. Regardless of the outcome Todd belonged to God. God gave him back to me and I was free to love him unselfishly for the first time. Todd was a gift, not a possession! As I carried him

to the ambulance waiting at the airport I knew he was going to be alright.

Todd recovered after two weeks in a Nairobi hospital. We returned to East Africa with Todd on medication. When we came home in 1972 our doctor advised us it would be unwise to return as it was a critical time for Todd since the medication would be slowly withdrawn. He is now completely off medication and is in perfect health.

During the past few years my wife and I have prayed that Todd would give his heart to Jesus. He was just too timid to step out. It really became a problem with me. Here I was the pastor, and my son, 14, hadn't made a profession of faith. I knew he had already accepted Jesus in his heart but was just too timid to stand in front of the congregation. Once again I confessed my own helplessness to God and asked forgiveness for my selfish motives. Once again I was able to say, "He's yours, God." Just four days later God gave him back to me again. Todd walked the aisle and publicly gave his heart to Christ.

I've learned that life is a constant giving of ourselves and loved ones to God and that only by giving can we be free to love.

Heart to Heart

At Baptist hospitals they're talking some people's problems back to health

Louisville Baptist hospitals have prestigious reputations for quality health care but most Kentucky Baptists fail to realize the extent of their services. Perhaps the most overlooked and under-used ministry of the hospitals is the pastoral counseling and consultation center.

The center was developed to provide a place of refuge and strength for persons caught up in the stress of daily living—and especially those experiencing family conflict, deep personal losses and anxiety related to illness. The center also provides caring and competent counsel for those who choose a minister as a helping person.

Services range from individual counseling to premarital, marriage and family counseling. Growth group and stress group counseling is also available.

Tom O'Neal, director of pastoral care at Louisville Baptist hospitals, is presently serving as director of the counseling center. Associate director Derle Underwood will assume the directorship as soon as he completes certification requirements in October.

O'Neal explains that although the services are offered by Baptist hospitals anyone is eligible for counseling regardless of race, religion, nationality or age. The staff has counseled children as young as five in a family counseling situation and men and women as old as 70.

"Counseling is a middle class, white phenomenon," O'Neal notes.

The typical case is a white woman 35 or older who has been married for a period of time and is depressed or upset about her marriage and family relationships. She had children early in her marriage and the last child has entered school.

"This is when the flack hits," warns O'Neal.

She is depressed because she and her husband are not communicating and updating their marital relationship. Her husband is usually overworked at his job and she is left alone to deal with the children.

The woman may have gone to her pastor who sensed something behind the depression and referred her to the center. She may be afraid to share her feelings with her husband or is trying to protect him from her feelings. Many times the husband will eventually come in with the wife and they begin to deal with their problems.

"Admitting the problem is the first step," reasons O'Neal. "Many people resolve their difficulties in three or four sessions if caught in the early stages."

"However, if an affair or divorce threat has already resulted the problem is not resolved as quickly."

Cost for the services is funded by Louisville Baptist hospitals. All fees go back into the hospital.

The normal fee for a one hour session is \$20, but the fee is negotiable between the counselor and client and is decided upon in the first session.

At one time higher fees were charged for couple or family counseling, but now the cost is the same for all across the board.

Some insurance companies offer partial or total payment for counseling and the client must work with his own company to obtain proper forms and information.

by Laurie K. Taylor, Staff Writer

The center is staffed by eight white males between the ages of 32-39. Each counselor is full time and is certified or working on certification by the American Association of Pastoral Counseling. The center is exploring the possibility of hiring a woman part time.

The center staff is in regular consultation with medical, psychological and pastoral consultants. They offer individual and group consultation to pastors and will work with the pastor on a consulting basis and supervise his counseling.

"We are gearing to offer consultation for pastors through a pastor's lab that will deal with church situations," O'Neal shared.

Another exciting new adventure for the center is the development of satellite centers in other communities. The staff plans to travel to other areas of Kentucky upon request of the particular commu-

ity for a certain number of hours per week.

Of special interest to many Kentuckians are the heart seminars led by Underwood. The eight session counseling conferences are for heart attack and stroke victims and centers on resulting marital problems and basic adjustment dilemmas. Cost for the seminar is \$80 including the spouse's fee.

"Our uniqueness is our pastoral orientation," suggests O'Neal. "All the counselors are ordained ministers. We pick up where the local pastor isn't trained or doesn't have the time to handle counseling."

The clinic is reaching out to pastors' families, too. Counselors help troubled pastors resolve their problems. Fees are especially negotiable for clergy and anonymity is absolutely guaranteed.

If you need a listening ear and a helping hand dial (502) 583-4841 (Highlands) or (502) 897-8144 (Baptist East).

Christian love and concern are as near as your telephone.



The Kentucky Baptist counseling and consultation center is a refuge from the stress of daily living.

Dameron Finance Director

Paul Dameron, admissions counselor at Campbellsville College, was named director of financial aid at the college.

A native of Marion, Dameron received his B.A. degree from Campbellsville College with a



Dameron

major in Bible. He served as pastor of Rolling Fork Baptist Church in Gleanings, Ky.

Dameron is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harlan T. Dameron of Marion. He is married to the former Marilyn Goss.

Kentuckian Rice Grad

Ronald D. Rhodus, a Kentuckian, recently graduated from Luther Rice Seminary when president Robert G. Witty conferred 371 degrees. Services took place at Jacksonville, Fla. First Baptist Church on May 5.



(L-R): A. G. Thomson, professor of music, Woodridge Spears, professor of English, and Richard Scudder, chairman of the sociology department, were honored at a retirement luncheon in the Lee E. Cralle Student Center of Georgetown College May 6. The three have served Georgetown a total of 97 years.

Southern Students Celebrate With Diplomas and Dreams



Thirty-four students from Kentucky are among the nearly 300 spring graduates at Southern Seminary.

Howard Kauffman, president of the Exxon Oil Corporation, will be speaker at the June 2 graduation ceremony. His son and daughter-in-law are among the members of the largest senior class in the school's 119 year history.

Graduates from Kentucky include Robert Gayle Baker, Georgetown, MDiv.; Charles E. Benton II, Richmond, MRE; Donald Kent Berry, Philpot, MDiv; Monty Dale Carney, Louisville, MDiv; Gary A. Chapman, Winchester, MRE; Jerald Lloyd Chase, Bellevue, MRE; Steven Boyd Cook, Princeton, MDiv; William Michael Corbin, Greenville, MRE; Daniel Brian Cromer, Louisville, MCM; Charles Leroy Cox, Evarts, MDiv; Stephen L. Hadden, Elizabethtown, MDiv; Mark Anthony Hamm, Louisville, MRE; Lloyd Michael James, Stanford, MRE; Michael S. Lassiter, Jeffersonton, MRE; Gerald I. Miller, Louisville, MDiv; Grant Lee Minton, Louisville, MDiv; Sylvia Lee Morris, Hodgenville, MRE in SW; Robert Nash, Frankfort, MDiv; George H. Nickle, Louisville, MDiv; Randal T. Pollock, Mayfield, MDiv; Roger B. Richardson, Versailles, MCM; Eugene K. Roberts Jr., Mayfield, MDiv; Gerald L. Rudolph, LaCenter, ThM; William Edward Shoulta, Paducah, MDiv; Robert Keith Smyser, Winchester, MRE; Darryl Ray Stanford, Lexington, MCM; Narvin L. Stowers, Louisville, MDiv; C. Phillip Tallant, Bowling Green, MCM; Stephen E. Thompson, Fredonia, MDiv; and Frances E. Wright, Stanton, MCM.

Not pictured are Eva Rose Gutmann, Louisville, MDiv; Ron Fellemende, Louisville, DMin; Harold L. Malone, Louisville, DMin; and K. Lee Chaudoin Jr., New Castle, MRE.

8 DAYS - 7 NIGHTS

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WHAT A WAY TO GO!

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that is.

Whether you plan to go to Atlanta for the WMU Annual Meeting and Southern Baptist Convention by bus, car, or motorcycle, there is no better way to go than through Birmingham and the national office of Woman's Missionary Union.

At the WMU, SBC building you can see home and foreign missions artifacts, bits of missions history, and missions education in the making.

The building is open for tours Monday through Friday from 8:00 until 4:30. (Exceptions: On June 12 the building will be closed so that WMU employees may attend the Annual Meeting. June 13 the building will be open only from 10:00 until 4:30.)

To make group reservations call Mrs. Ellen Johnson at (205) 322-6511 or write her at WMU, 600 North 20th Street, Birmingham, Alabama 35203.

RESERVATIONS
NOT NECESSARY

AN ACT OF LOVE

"An Act of Love" is about ordinary people with extraordinary commitment. Through the eyes of volunteers the film describes Mission Service Corps (MSC), the plan to put 5,000 volunteers on home and foreign mission fields.

Home Mission Board leader William Tanner, President Jimmy Carter, and SBC President Jimmy Allen present the challenge of MSC.

An act of love...going or giving so others can go...can be your response.



SOUTHERN BAPTIST
CONVENTION

AN ACT OF LOVE (10 min.). This 16mm color film is available free from your state convention office. To become an MSC volunteer or sponsor, write: David T. Bunch, HMB, 1350 Spring St. NW, Atlanta, GA 30309.

MARKETPLACE

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Personnel

Crandall to Shelbyville
Jim Crandall, a Southern Seminary student, has been called as minister of education at First Baptist Church, Shelbyville, effective June 1.

Jordan to Pleasant Run
Frank Jordan is the new pastor of Pleasant Run Baptist Church, Forkland. He left Black Jack Baptist Church, Simpson County.

Franklin Resigns Newton Creek
Joe E. Franklin resigned the pastorate of Newton Creek Baptist Church to accept a pastorate in Tennessee.

Gibbons to Northside
John Gibbons, a student at Clear Creek Baptist School, is the new pastor of

Northside Baptist Church, Middlesboro. He is also a coal miner. He and his wife, Brenda, and their two children live in Pineville.

Guess Accepts Oak Grove
Daniel Guess accepted the pastorate of Oak Grove Baptist Church.

W. R. Mays to New Salem
W. R. Mays has been called as pastor of New Salem Baptist Church. He was formerly pastor of Camp Ground Baptist Church.

Watson Resigns Oscar
Bernard Watson resigned the pastorate of Oscar Baptist Church.

Carter Leaves Faith Baptist
Leo Carter resigned the pastorate of Faith Baptist Church.

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Congregations

Centennial at FBC, Central City
First Baptist Church, Central City, will celebrate its centennial with a full day of activities Sunday, June 4.

A fellowship coffee will be at 8 a.m. and large Bible classes taught by former staff members will begin at 9:30 a.m. Worship will begin at 10:30 a.m. Members and guests will have lunch on the grounds followed by a dedication service at 2 p.m.

All three living former pastors, Ray Dean, Francis R. Tallant and W. R. Cook, will be present. Most of the former music directors will also be there. That group includes M. V. Foster, 85, who will lead a hymn in the morning service, Lewis Foster, Doyle Eddings, Gus M. Kalos, Joe Allen, Clarence Tudor, Jon Edwin Lam, Al Mellnik and Ed St. John. Mrs. June Lam, former education director, will also be present.

The church was originally a united Baptist church, growing out of a revival meeting in 1878 led by elders W. P. Bennett and D. L. K. Maddox.

In its 100 years, the church has baptized 2,073 and accepted 1,347 by letter. It has sponsored two missions which have since become churches, Calvary Baptist Church and Temple Baptist Church.

Wilson L. Lofland is the present pastor.

KBREA to Meet

The Kentucky Baptist Religious Education Association's annual meeting will

be held at Third Baptist Church, Owensboro, Ky., on Nov. 13. A list updating all persons who serve churches across Kentucky is being carried on presently. Anyone who serves in a church in the education areas who is not a member is requested to notify the KBREA by mailing name and address to KBREA, Box 43483, Middletown, KY 40243.

Information is needed so the KBREA can send its newsletter containing information about the meeting.

Note Burning at West Broadway
West Broadway Baptist Church is having their note burning ceremony on June 4. It will take place during the morning worship service with dinner on the ground following at 12:00. At 2:00 p.m. there will be a special program with speaker Allen West, executive director of Long Run Association.

Aberdeen Postponement

Aberdeen Baptist Church has postponed the date for their 125th anniversary celebration from June 11 to Sept. 24.

Red River Elects Officers

Red River Association recently elected new officers who are as follows: Tommy Sparks, Campton, moderator; Jim Overbee, Brush Creek, assistant moderator; Herman Hurt, Beattyville, clerk; Richard Easterling, Frenchburg, assistant clerk.

These officers assumed duties following the spring semi-annual meeting of the association held at Beattyville

Baptist Church on Apr. 21.

Red River has nine cooperating churches.

100th Anniversary at Lonoke

Lonoke Baptist Church, Hart County, will celebrate the 100th anniversary of its building Sunday, July 30. Services will be held all day with lunch at noon.

Former pastors and older members of the church will be recognized and everyone is invited to get reacquainted and share in the fellowship.

The church was organized in 1803. The church is located on Road 571, which joins Uno at Road 31 east and Road 31 west at Hart County High School.

100 Years For Corinth

Corinth Baptist Church will be celebrating their 100th anniversary on July 2.

W. L. Crumpler, associational missionary of the Crittenden Association, will bring the morning message. Following will be lunch on the ground. At 2:30 there will be a special service with speaker Franklin Owen. A special invitation is issued to former members and pastors.

The pastor is David Abernathy.

Ordinations

Brush Creek Ordains Overbee

James Overbee, pastor of Brush Creek Baptist Church, Red River Association, was ordained to the ministry by the church on May 14.

Dennis Brewer, associational coordinator served as interrogator of the council of ordination. Tommy Sparks, pastor of Campton Baptist Church, served as moderator and John Justice, pastor of Booneville First Baptist Church, delivered the charge to the candidate and church. Williams Bromley, assistant pastor of Jackson First Baptist Church, also served as a member of the council.

Deaths

Mrs. Emerson Honored After Death
Della Thomas Emerson, member of East Baptist Church, died on Apr. 4. She was honored by resolutions adopted by East Baptist Church WMU for her faithfulness as a Sunday school leader and as an outstanding example of faith and courage to the WMU.

Revivals

Friendship Has 33 Decisions
Friendship Baptist Church, Boone's Creek, recently completed a revival which resulted in 10 professions of faith and 23 other decisions.

51 Decisions at Summersville
Summersville Baptist Church, Russell Creek Baptist Association, reported 51 decisions, including 14 persons coming for baptism and two by letter in revival.

Calvary Revival
Calvary Church, Boone's Creek, experienced six conversions.

Sunday School Lessons

Lessons for June 11, 1978

H. C. Chiles

International Lesson

Resolving Conflict

When the gospel of Christ was first preached in Antioch the people were assured if they would repent and believe on Christ they would be saved.

The Controversy—Acts 15:1-2

To Antioch, where Paul and Barnabas had preached salvation by grace through faith in Christ, certain teachers came from Judea and started a controversy. They denied the sufficiency of faith in Christ for salvation. They declared male Gentile believers could not be saved unless they observed the Mosaic law by submitting to circumcision. They caused confusion over the question, Can Christ save or does salvation come through Christ plus something else?

Paul and Barnabas refuted the false teachings. The thing that aroused the apostles was not observance of the rite of circumcision but the attempt to make it a condition of salvation. The teachers could not be persuaded to stop their erroneous teaching. The apostles decided to go to Jerusalem and consult other apostles and elders about this important matter. They wanted this settled for the sake of the Christian movement. The church at Antioch selected Paul, Barnabas and Titus (Gal. 2:1), and perhaps others, for this mission.

The Conference

When the conference formally convened in

Jerusalem, the problem was presented with the hope of obtaining a ruling. After many expressed opinions, Peter delivered a discourse consisting of a statement of facts and an appeal. He made it clear neither Jews nor Gentiles are saved by grace through faith plus works. Peter dealt the critics a severe blow. The verdict of the council was it was not necessary to keep the Mosaic law in order to be saved. There was no justification for requiring Gentiles to be circumcised.

The Conclusion—Acts 15:22-31

James, president of the council, summarized what had been said. He suggested a letter be written setting forth instructions for the proper guidance of both the Jewish and the Gentile elements in the church and it be carried to the brethren in Antioch.

The council wisely arranged to send their own representatives to Antioch bearing the written instructions, in order there not be any question as to the decisions of the apostles and elders. The communication was taken by Judas (surnamed Barsabas) and Silas, who were leaders in the church. When members of the church at Antioch heard the reaffirmation of the truth they rejoiced. Naturally, they were interested in publishing the correct conclusion for the consolation of all others who might be concerned. They were anxious to share the good news with others.

Life and Work Series

Jacob—When a Man Meets God

Genesis 32:7-12, 17-18, 29-30

Delivered from the thralldom of Laban's service, Jacob journeyed towards home, only to discover he must confront Esau, who years earlier had threatened to kill him. After seeing his family across the Jabbok, Jacob tarried behind in solitude, perhaps to ask God to bless his efforts to appease Esau whom he had wronged in order that he might arrive at his destination without injury or loss.

Jacob sent messengers to Esau to ascertain his current attitude towards him. They returned with news Esau was on his way to meet Jacob, accompanied by 400 men, without a friendly word. Jacob was "up tight." He quickly divided the people with him into two groups, each in charge of half of his livestock, in hopes at least one of the bands would reach Canaan.

After arranging matters himself, Jacob called on

God to help in the execution of his plans, instead of reversing the order. Jacob wanted the assurance of the protection of God, but was not willing to yield his life to the use of God. After expressing his desire for divine protection Jacob began planning to accomplish it himself.

God commissioned messengers to take hold of Jacob to prove to him he was his own worst enemy. God had him wrestle with Jacob in order to bring his will into submission. Jacob's resistance was so strong it became necessary for God to deal with him in severity. As a final stroke of subdual the wrestler pressed against the socket of Jacob's thigh and threw it out of joint, leaving him powerless. When the victorious wrestler asked for a release in order to leave, Jacob held tightly and said, "I will not let thee go, except thou bless me." Jacob discovered the hour of his physical prostration was the hour of spiritual triumph.

Frank Owen

Dead Freedom Tree

Coming away from the Louisville area Red Cross luncheon at Chestnut and Jackson St. May 16 I noticed on the front lawn a bronze memorial marker at the foot of a small tree, bearing the inscription, "The Freedom Tree." It is a handsome little plaque placed there in 1973 in memory of soldiers missing in action and of all prisoners of war. It caught the eye and interest of this World War II survivor. I stopped to read the inscription and noticed that the small tree rising from the marker had died. I imagine the bitter winter was too much for it. Maybe its variety has trouble surviving in this climate. Possibly, it suffered neglect in a dry spell. Maybe it got scarred from lawnmower traffic.

However the Freedom Tree perished. It is, until replaced, a parable, a reminder that freedom must be planted deep and strong. It must be shielded from destructive forces. Care must be exercised in behalf of freedom by all who cherish its worth. It must be watered and fed and nurtured; and sometimes defended, sometimes replanted.

Ralph McGill, the late editor of the Atlanta Constitution whose writings blessed me during my Georgia years, said, "Freedom is like an old hat. It fits so well and feels so comfortable, we forget that we have it on." We wear freedom so comfortably that we adopt a casual attitude toward it. We neglect it. We assume it. We forget to appreciate it, forget to care for and tend it, protect and defend it, promote and uphold it. Who was it who said, "The price of liberty is eternal vigilance?" We also forget to be concerned for those who don't have much freedom.

I am sure they will be replanting the dead Freedom Tree soon and it will again bear witness that freedom lives. We must all take interest in and contribute to the good health of all life's Freedom Trees. They are God-given. Let us plant and tend them. For ourselves; for others. "... where the spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom" (II Cor. 3:17).

Jimmy Allen (continued)

from previous giving patterns we have plowed the same ground for institutions in the past. There has never been any hesitation to ask people of financial means to build some building, but we have not tapped this resource for ongoing mission expansion in ways that para-church groups have tapped our resources. This is a one time meeting, but I hope it is a pattern of things that will be happening in every state in the SBC.

Q. What are you doing about Mission Service Corps volunteers and support in your own church in San Antonio?

A. We have a young couple going to Syracuse, a girl about ready to go to Africa and five short term Volunteers in Missions going to start a church in New York.

Q. Your activist role has probably caused you to set some travel records for a convention president. Have you kept track of how far you have traveled and how many states you have been to as president?

A. No, but my pilot tells me we probably have flown 30,000 miles within a 600-mile radius of San Antonio.

Q. Are Southern Baptists the same people you thought they were before your election?

A. Yes, my ministry has caused me to move across the nation and I know the diversity in Baptist life. It hasn't surprised me. It is encouraging to see the commitment and energy of Southern Baptists.

Q. Are you concerned about the denomination's shift away from its blue-collar beginnings?

A. It is a very disturbing trend. I am gravely concerned about our understanding our root systems and opening ourselves to bivocational ministry. I think we must see the denomination put its affirmation behind the bivocational minister and the small church in the working man's section of town. That's where we started and who we really are in our best moments.

Q. What has been the effect of your presidency on your church?

A. Very interesting and inspirational. Our church has developed a lifestyle of ministry and missions, participation missions—a kind of adventure missions. They see this whole participational missions thing as an extension of what they have discovered over the last three or four years to be an exciting way to live for Christ. Prayer chains have evolved—people calling the church to find out where I am and praying for me. The rallying of the church and the staff to this thing has been beautiful. The Lord has continued to bless us with a lot of people being saved and a lot of spiritual energy. There is, of course, a slippage and there always will be at the point of the pastor's leadership, of his being present and able to perform things that are in his heart. But the tension has been in my own spirit. A church pays a price when the pastor is involved in this sort of thing, but our church has paid the price more willingly because of the mission effort—they really see it as part of their extended ministry.

Q. What do you think will be the issues the convention will deal with in Atlanta?

A. The big emphasis is Bold Mission Thrust; that will be the overall positive issue. But a number of issues probably will come up that usually emerge when Baptists get together. We probably will have a continuation of debate over women's role in the church. We will discuss world hunger, moving toward a conference on world hunger. And we will probably have some folks come worried over orthodoxy, about biblical authority. There probably will be some effort to elect somebody and somebody probably will share the feeling our trustees are not trustworthy. I think it is healthy for people to ventilate their feelings. My only concern is that we not react to accusation from outside Southern Baptist life that we are not staying with the Bible. I think Southern Baptists are staying with the Bible. The people who are in our evangelism and missions forefront are people who believe in the authority and accuracy of the Bible.

Q. Will you offer yourself for reelection?

A. Yes. My feeling all along has been that this is a two-year commitment. It will take that long to bring the necessary kind of attention to the task before us. It's not the kind of thing you can do in a year's time. It is not to say that someone else couldn't do the job, but I have a sense of trusteeship with the vision.

