

WESTERN RECORDER

Vol. 152, No. 27, July 5, 1978



Christian literature comes in many forms

The Power of words

Searching for something else I came across a box of old letters. Musing, I began to read, and suddenly encountered presences, poignant and precious. The spirit they had given me . . . the part of themselves these writers had poured into their messages . . . was still fresh, reassuring and renewing. And I began to meditate on these wonderful, live things . . . WORDS.

I believe those who can express ourselves and the feelings and thoughts of others, and can define and give wings to messages that go beyond time and distance . . . are instruments. We are of a breed set apart. Unencumbered by limits that often beset those with other talents, we are unhindered by time, age, distance, physical or language differences.

When we write "with all our heart," we are assured we will speak with our spirit as well as our words.

As the writer creates, and as the reader receives, both can be totally open, honest and without secret reservations. The spirits of the writer and the reader can be as intimate as the message moves them to be. And the understanding and effect can last forever. As a pebble tossed in a wide pool, the word's impact is limitless . . . ultimately beyond the confines of any border.

There is nothing new about the phrase 'the power of words' except that as the idea becomes reality we are always surprised.

"You are beautiful," he says, and she, having seen the mirror many times . . . believes that he believes. Reassured, she becomes a more fulfilled, confirmed woman . . . and the world begins to see a beautiful transformation.

If words can heal . . . or hurt . . . they have power. If they speak for the spirit . . . and have power to direct, interpret and inspire individuals, they can also have power over nations.

We must not play games with the word. For we are the word. When our spirit, which is The Spirit, uses our talents with the written word, we must take responsibility for the results. —Margaret T. Gilmore

Sunday, July 9 is Southern Baptists' annual Christian Literature Day observance. Two denominational writers have contributed thoughts about their profession and calling.

Why I write

I don't remember when it began, or what the original inspiration was. I do remember daddy bringing home an L. C. Smith Corona typewriter, already an antique when I first saw it.

I could have been no more than seven or eight years of age at the time, but that keyboard offered magnetic fascination to me. That may have been the catalyst that caused my initial attraction to words and their almost limitless combinations.

A few years passed, and I earned the reputation of neighborhood journalist, reporting everything of concern to the church and community through mimeographed "newspapers." I sold ads, composed editorials, covered news beats, handled interviews and edited features supplied by a "staff" of adolescent proteges of similar persuasion.

Preoccupation with writing and "publishing" was so absorbing that for me communication through the printed word became preferable to the spoken one. While other students protested, I found solace and comfort in assigned themes, book reports and term papers—almost anything requiring written communication.

Those little blanks on college entrance and job application forms and church talent surveys requesting interests and hobbies were always easy. Repetitiously I put down "writing." Anything after that was purely secondary and inconsequential.

To me, all one ever needed to transform himself into another place and another time was a notebook, a sharp pencil and an inquiring mind.

I'm grateful for that small measure of ability God dispensed to us scribes. It has brought this writer years of satisfying joy.

Sometimes I think of it as a trust from God to me. And with that trust comes inherent responsibility, for the printed page has the power to transform men's souls. If there were no other reason but that one, I would write.

For all of this, I give thanks for this gift of life, this gift of time to share with those who literally read my thoughts. —Jim Cox

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

WESTERN RECORDER

C. R. Daley Jr., Editor
James H. Cox, Associate Editor
Paul Whitler, Business Manager



C. R. Daley

Daley Observations

A letter from a lawyer

Letters from lawyers are not always a source of joy but one I received recently from my attorney friend, Earl Dean of Harrodsburg, made me exceedingly happy. It was an account of the last will and testament of Mrs. Flossie Campbell Martin.

I had seen Earl a few days earlier on the occasion of the death of our dear friend, Louis Ison, and he had told me Mrs. Martin had died and that the bulk of her estate would go to the Baptist Foundation.

Earl had prepared Mrs. Martin's will as he had done for the other Martins. Having no children and trusting Earl as a friend as well as an attorney Mrs. Martin also made Earl the executor of her will. By now the will has been probated and Earl is making careful plans to carry out Mrs. Martin's desires. Earl is not a Baptist but is a dedicated Christian and is making plans to dispose of Mrs. Martin's property for the maximum amount. He estimates the eventual total will exceed \$500,000.

With his letter Earl included a copy of Mrs. Martin's will including some codicils to the will written in her own handwriting. The document is revealing and inspiring. It says much about Mrs. Martin and the other members of this devoted family.

Mrs. Martin was the last survivor of the four Martin couples, none of whom had children and all of whom were devoted Christians with concern that their possessions serve their Lord after they died as they had during their lives. Her will is a beautiful expression of her fidelity to the desires of her family and her stewardship to the Lord.

In her will Mrs. Martin made modest cash bequests to several individuals close to her. She also left trust funds to the Bullittsburg Baptist Church, Mars Hill College and Clear Creek School. These were all relatively small. The bulk of the half million dollars or more residue sets up the Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Martin Trust Fund to be administered by the Kentucky Baptist Foundation with the Cooperative Program as the beneficiary.

In her handwritten codicils Mrs. Martin assigns her jewelry, silver, china, antique furniture and other personal possessions to family members and friends. The recipients include Henry Holladay and Bill Holladay, Kentucky Baptist preachers and nephews of Mrs. Martin. Henry and Bill will receive among other things the books and sermons of their grandfather and great grandfather, both of whom were preachers.

Ordinarily in wills the family members receive the bulk of the estate and the Lord's work gets what's left over or gets nothing. Mrs. Martin chose to demonstrate affection for friends and loved ones by leaving them personal items and

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family heirlooms and to demonstrate the first love of her heart in leaving most of her resources to the Lord's work.

This editorial treatment of Mrs. Martin's last will and testament is intended to do more than honor a consecrated woman and family. It is a way of preaching to others who have resources and who love the Lord but have never gotten around to doing what Mrs. Martin did. Too many Baptists die without a will or leave their possessions in a way that will do little for the Lord and the spread of the gospel.

Only two things are required: a willing heart and a trustworthy attorney. Talk to God about your heart and contact the Kentucky Baptist Foundation if you do not already have a Christian lawyer like Earl Dean. It's that simple but it could be the crowning act of your life.

Happy Birthday to the American Baptist

The American Baptist, a sister publication of Western Recorder, celebrated its 100th birthday last month and we join others in sincerest congratulations and commendations to this official organ of the General Association of Baptists in Kentucky. Western Recorder and The American Baptist have always been closely related and at times the two papers have been printed in the same shop and have used some common material. It is awaited and read with appreciation each week by this editor.

Through the 100 years of its existence many individuals have contributed to the success of this publication but four stalwarts stand out. The first of these is George W. Dupee who should be credited with the beginning of the paper. Dupee was chairman of a committee appointed in 1869 to study the feasibility of starting a paper. The committee reported that such a venture was not possible at the time but Dupee had a different opinion. He invested his own time and money and began a publication called Baptist Herald.

In 1879 the name was changed to The American Baptist and the second stalwart, W. H. Steward, joined Dupee. Subsequently this unusual layman assumed management of the paper, a position he held for 56 years. In 1933 out of a sincere concern that the paper not fail Steward transferred the ownership of the paper to the General Association "free-gratis" assuming all old indebtedness himself.

Succeeding Steward was his understudy, W. H. Ballew. He saw the paper through some of its most difficult days. Under his leadership the site at 1715 West Chestnut St. was secured for the operation of The American Baptist. The former building was replaced by new facilities which

now also serve as headquarters for the state mission board and the business of the General Association. Ballew retired in 1957.

The fourth stalwart was a greatly beloved lady, Mrs. Henrietta Butler. She came to work for The American Baptist for a salary of \$5 a week. She literally gave up all including automobile, free time, vacations and money to serve the paper.

Today the paper remains in good hands with Victor McKinney Jr. as editor and Thurman Coleman as manager of the publishing board. It would be hard to imagine getting more for its investment than the General Association receives from The American Baptist. May the Lord continue to bless this good work for another 100 years or until he returns.

Baptist Forum

Believe in your pastor!

A problem exists in hundreds of Baptist churches today which is retarding the work of the churches and rendering the work of hundreds of pastors relatively ineffective. It is a fact that it has never dawned upon thousands of Baptist people that there are thousands of Baptist ministers today who are trained for their work in college and seminary, in a manner comparable to the training required by physicians and attorneys and other highly trained people. The result is so many Baptist laymen do not respect their pastor's knowledge of his work and refuse to respect his leadership. Then, when progress is not made, the minister is blamed.

Many ministers are leaving the ministry in despair today as a result. If a pastor tries to assume the leadership the New Testament says he should have he is accused of being a dictator.

It would amaze many Baptists to learn what their pastors have taken in the way of training. For instance, the Old Testament was originally written in Hebrew and the New Testament in Greek and the only way a pastor can speak with authority and eliminate guesswork is to learn to read the Hebrew and Greek, which is taught in our seminaries.

The minister is carefully trained in church administration, church order, church leadership, church management and church organization and knows how to organize and run a church. If he is a seminary graduate he has studied 2000 years of Christian history and knows the background of present-day Christian work. In the past 200 years millions of dollars have been spent in archaeological research in Bible lands. Countless relics of Bible times have been dug up which prove the truth of the Bible. Ministers study archaeology.

The minister studies sermon preparation. He even studies hymnology. These are just a few of the things ministers learn in the seminary. Nothing is omitted that the minister will need in his pastoral ministry. Eight years of study for a straight course, and two to six years more for a postgraduate degree. Yet thousands of Baptists do not take their pastors seriously.

In Acts 20:28 Paul refers to the pastor as an "overseer." The Greek word there is "episcopos," which means "superintendent." In 1 Tim. 4:17 Paul refers to the pastor as "elder." The Greek word there is "presbuteros" which means "one who is to be respected."

Southern Baptists have six seminaries and our program of training is second to none. Baptists need to realize this fact.

Walter M. Averett, Lexington

It's time to wake up to world hunger crisis

by W. David Sapp

My personal awakening to the world hunger crisis came in the summer of 1973 when I was serving as director of a Baptist day camp in Louisville, Ky. Around 11 o'clock one morning a seven-year-old girl wrapped her arms around my legs and asked if she could have lunch early. "Surely you can wait until the others are ready to eat," I said. She responded with tears.

"Please. I'm awfully hungry. I can't wait."

I paused. "But you have to wait from breakfast until lunch everyday."

"We don't eat breakfast. Mama says we can't afford it."

Our national awakening to the crisis came in 1974

and 1975 with the great drought in the Sahel region of Africa and the convening of the World Food Conference in Rome. Emaciated children and their malnourished, sad-eyed parents stared at us from the front pages of our morning papers. In an outpouring of concern many Baptists gave generously to alleviate the suffering.

In 1976, a group of Southern Baptist Convention agencies began to ask what they could do to keep this concern before Baptist people. The result is World Hunger Day, a special observance which was added to the denominational calendar by the Southern Baptist Convention at its 1977 meeting in Kansas City. It will be observed for the first time on Wednesday, Aug. 2, 1978, and is sponsored by six denominational agen-

cies: the Christian Life Commission, Foreign Mission Board, Home Mission Board, Brotherhood Commission, Woman's Missionary Union and Sunday School Board.

World Hunger Day needs to be observed in your church. It is a reminder of the desperate plight of others and the responsibility of Christians to help. There are still hungry children at day camps in Louisville—and Atlanta, and Raleigh, and Dallas, and Tulsa, and Nashville. Another drought is coming to the Sahel. People are still dying of hunger. WE CAN STOP IT! ". . . If you give food to the hungry, and satisfy those who are in need, then the darkness around you will turn to the brightness of noon" (Isa. 10, Moffatt).

Where there is
Hunger,
there is pain...

much pain,
constant pain,
inherited pain,
killing pain.

We can stop it.

**OBSERVE WORLD HUNGER DAY
AUGUST 2, 1978**

Kentucky Baptists can help

Kentucky Baptists may channel their offerings for world hunger to the office of Franklin Owen, Box 43433, Middletown, KY 40243.

Monies collected by the Kentucky Baptist Convention are forwarded 100 per cent each month to the Foreign Mission Board, which responds to emergency and continuing needs around the world as funds permit.

Every penny given to world hunger is forwarded

through this channel to reach some need somewhere in the world.

During fiscal year 1974-75, when worldwide attention focused on the hunger crisis, Kentucky Baptists responded with an offering of \$102,548.14 through the KBC.

World hunger gifts dropped to \$52,530.73 in 1975-76, to \$48,662.70 in 1976-77 and \$22,773.10 for the first nine months of the current year.

Ideas for observing World Hunger Day

1. Place World Hunger Day on your church calendar. If the SBC-recommended date of Aug. 2 is not the best day for your church, choose another time.
2. Since World Hunger Day is on a Wednesday, you may choose to plan a "hunger banquet" at the time of your regular Wednesday night church dinner. Serve only rice and water or bread and water or nothing at all and give the regular price of the meal through the Foreign Mission Board to relieve hunger. For a detailed program using a World Hunger Banquet, obtain a copy of the *Missions Night Out Resource Booklet*, jointly produced by the SBC Brotherhood Commission and Woman's Missionary Union. It is available from Baptist Book Stores.
3. Focus your Wednesday night Bible study on Bible teachings about hunger. The Christian Life Commission's pamphlet, "The Bible Speaks on Hunger," can be used as a guide for the study. Copies are available at a nominal charge.
4. Your Brotherhood and Woman's Missionary Union can sponsor mission action projects to help the hungry. A church food closet can be established or canned goods can be collected for the food closet of your association or another church.
5. Brotherhood and Woman's Missionary Union can plan programs which will educate their members and the entire church about the reality of hunger both abroad and at home. They can inform people of the work being done through agricultural missionaries and the hunger relief program of the Foreign Mission Board. Information needed for such programs may be obtained from the Brotherhood Commission, Woman's Missionary Union, and the Home and Foreign Mission Boards.
6. Preach on the responsibility of Christians to feed the hungry.
7. Encourage church members to exercise effective Christian citizenship in order to encourage government representatives, officials and agencies to act responsibly on behalf of the hungry.
8. Invite a representative from a local hunger group to speak on hunger problems in the local community.
9. In prayer meeting and in private devotions pray for hungry people and uncaring Christians. Pray also for legislators, businessmen and other persons who have the power to alleviate the agony of hunger.
10. Distribute reprints of the *World Mission Journal* article entitled "What One Person Can Do About the World Hunger Crisis." Copies of the reprint are available free from the Brotherhood Commission.

11. Provide your church members with information about how they can make regular contributions to help the hungry. Church members should be encouraged to channel their gifts for overseas hunger relief through the Foreign Mission Board.

Further information about hunger may be obtained from: W. David Sapp, Christian Life Commission, 460 James Robertson Pkwy., Nashville, TN 37219.

Ben Elrod new Georgetown College president

Trustees of Georgetown College, meeting on the campus of the historic Baptist institution at Georgetown, elected the school's 21st president Friday, June 30.

Ben M. Elrod, senior vice president and director of development at Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark., will assume the presidency on Aug. 1.

Elrod, 47, is a native of Little Rock, Ark. and an Ouachita graduate. He holds BD and ThD degrees from Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, and the EDD degree from Indiana University.

In 1963 Elrod was named vice president for development at Ouachita, serving until 1968 when he was elected president of Oakland City (Ind.) College. He returned to Ouachita two years later as vice president for development. In early 1978 he became senior vice president and director of development for the Arkansas Baptist school.

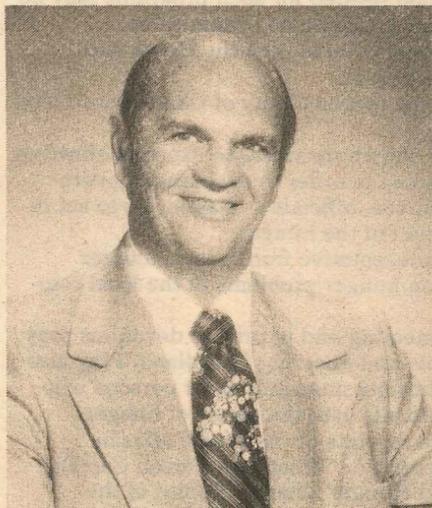
During an Oklahoma pastorate Elrod was a member of the Christian life commission of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma. He has led preaching missions to California and Hawaii under auspices of the SBC Home Mission Board.

He has been included in "Who's Who in the Midwest" and "Who's Who in Religion."

New editor named

John Hopkins, Christian social ministries consultant for the Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists, will assume the editorship of the convention's "Baptist Digest" July 15 while maintaining current duties.

Hopkins, 50, will fill the role on an interim basis, succeeding Lynn P. Clayton who becomes editor of the "Baptist Message," Louisiana Baptist newspaper.



Short

Mark Short Jr. will be recommended to the Arizona Southern Baptist Convention as executive director-treasurer at a called meeting July 7 in Phoenix. He would succeed Roy F. Sutton, who retires Dec. 31. Short, who will be 50 in July, is associate pastor and administrator at South Main Baptist Church, Houston. Earlier he was manager of Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference Center; minister of education at Nashville's First Baptist Church; and minister of music and education at First Baptist Church, Muskogee, Okla.

Active in numerous civic organizations he has been chairman of the board of Clark County (Ark.) Memorial Hospital and is currently a director of the Arkansas Baptist Medical Center System.

Elrod is married to the former Betty Lou Warren. They have two children. Paul Parks, Georgetown College

board of trustees chairman, said of Elrod, "He has distinguished himself as a man of exceptional talent as a pastor, educator and administrator. We look forward to his years of service at Georgetown."

Elrod succeeds Robert L. Mills, who will become chancellor of the college after a 19-year presidency.



The business of the Southern Baptist Convention went into a holding pattern while SBC president Jimmy Allen got a suit button tacked in Atlanta. Mrs. Allen made the repairs in time for her husband to keep a platform engagement with President Jimmy Carter.

Rhodesian missionary 'mustn't die in vain'

Christians were challenged not to let Archie G. Dunaway Jr. die in vain at a memorial service for the Southern Baptist missionary killed by guerrillas in Rhodesia June 15.

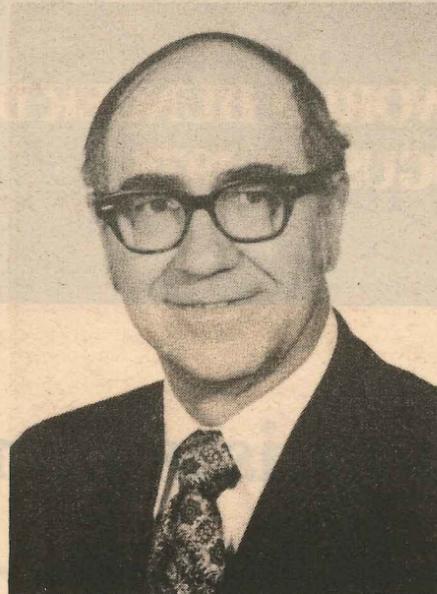
Davis L. Saunders, Foreign Mission Board secretary for eastern and southern Africa, said Dunaway was an example of a man who found God's will and purpose.

During the brief service at Nashville's Inglewood Baptist Church Saunders asked the overflow crowd "to follow his example, find and follow God's will."

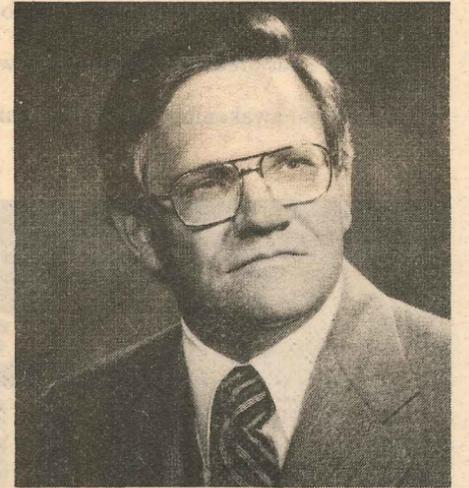
Meanwhile, missionaries will make major decisions by early July on the future of their work in Rhodesia.

Saunders said the mission (organization of Southern Baptist missionaries in Rhodesia) "is not going to allow missionary personnel to deliberately go into an area known to be unsafe."

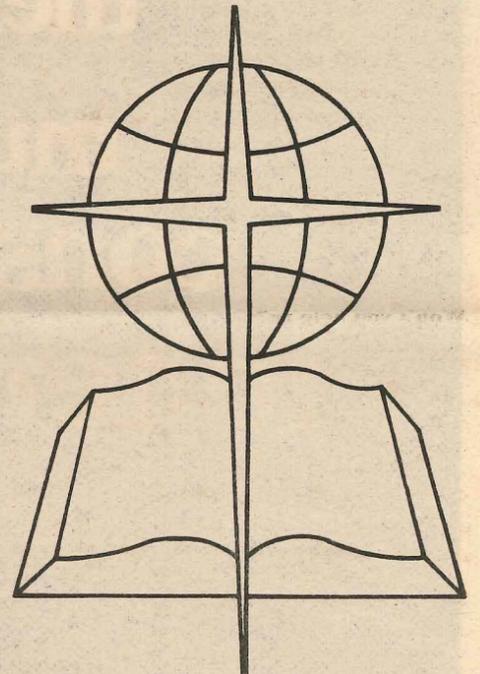
Missionaries on furlough ready to return to Rhodesia have been asked to remain in the U. S. until decisions are made concerning work.



Arthur L. Walker Jr., vice president for student affairs at Southern Seminary, has been elected executive director-treasurer of the SBC Education Commission, Nashville, effective Jan. 1. A Birmingham native, Walker was on the faculty and staff of Samford University for 20 years prior to 1976.



Elrod



This logo was adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Atlanta for voluntary use by the churches and denominational agencies as an identifying symbol.

If you want to get here, you've got to work at it

Construction on the addition to the Baptist Building in Middletown and remodeling of existing facilities has begun.

The development has required the closing of the two entrances most accessible for visitors and salesmen, on the south (front) and west sides of the building. In addition, approximately half of the parking space nearest Shelbyville Road is being used by the contractor.

Individuals and groups coming to the building should bypass the equipment in the parking lot, continuing around the building's back (north) side. They may park wherever space is available, walking to an east side entrance. This entrance is not seen—and cannot be reached—from the building's front. Wire fences enclose the new construction area.

The project is targeted for completion next May.

Ground broken for \$1.5 million Baptist Home for the Elderly

A groundbreaking ceremony for the \$1.5 million facilities of the Baptist Home for the Elderly was held in Louisville Sunday afternoon, June 25.

The first unit of the home located on Hounz Lane in eastern Jefferson County will accommodate 110 intermediate and personal care patients. Plans for the future include facilities for the retired.

James B. Lewis, pastor of Westport Road Baptist Church, Louisville, presided. Allen West, executive director of

Long Run Association; Hankins Parker, pastor, Melbourne Heights Baptist Church, Louisville; and Leo Crismon, secretary of Baptist Homes for the Elderly, Inc., were program participants.

Lewis said the facilities are the culmination of long efforts on the part of many. He said he hoped the project will inspire additional interest among Baptists who have done too little in ministry for the aged.

This Baptist ministry for the aged in Louisville was inspired by a bequest of the Wigginton family some years ago. The bequest stipulated that the ministry would be conducted by a board of directors representing Baptist churches in the Louisville area cooperating with Long Run Association of Baptists.

James B. Lewis is chairman of this group. A home for homeless and indigent men, as the Wigginton will specify, has been operated in a converted residence on Third Street in Louisville for about 10 years.

Finances for the enlarged project have come from a fund raising campaign in Louisville Baptist churches and from private local lending agencies. The first unit is expected to be ready for occupancy soon after the first of 1979.

Officers for Baptist Home for the Elderly, Inc., are Cornell Snow, president; John Hicks, vice president; and Leo Crismon, secretary.



James Lewis (l) and Cornell Snow (r) help Lewis Ray with the shovel at the ground-breaking for the new facilities of the Baptist Home for the Elderly, Inc. Ray, retired, has worked long for a ministry to the aged. Lewis is chairman of the directors and Snow is president of the organization.

Grant irked by N. C. House; resigns post

Marse Grant, editor of Biblical Recorder, official journal of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, has resigned as chairman of the State Goals and Policy Board because of tactics used to push a mixed drink bill through the legislature.

Grant was appointed to head the 15-member top citizens advisory group a year ago by Gov. James B. Hunt Jr. He said he was "disillusioned" with the actions of the General Assembly in his letter resigning from the unpaid post.

"It's not that we lost," Grant said about passage of the local option liquor-by-the-drink measure, "but the manner in which the proponents won."

conducted business in annual meetings in Asheville, N. C.

The Education Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, which earlier elected Arthur L. Walker Jr. as its new executive director-treasurer, also named Dan Grant, president of Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark., as commission chairman; John Johns, president of Furman University, Greenville, S. C., as vice chairman; and Tom J. Madden, director of convention ministries, Tennessee Baptist Convention, Brentwood, Tenn., secretary. Walker, vice president for student affairs at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, will succeed Ben C. Fisher.

The Association of Southern Baptist Colleges and Schools elected Randall H. Minor, president of Shorter College, Rom, Ga., as association president, and Robert Sutherland, president, Missouri Baptist College, St. Louis, Mo., vice president. H. I. Hester, retired educator of Liberty, Mo., was reelected secretary, and Milton Ferguson, president of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., was reelected assistant secretary.

The Education Commission voted to retain Fisher as a consultant on call for two years, to continue his hospitalization and insurance in retirement and present him with a retirement check for \$2,500. Both the association and the commission honored him with tributes and gifts at a retirement dinner. He will live in Murfreesboro in his native North Carolina and will write, lecture and serve as an educational consultant.

The ASBCS reelected Fisher as executive secretary for the coming year.

SBC Educators elect new officers

Southern Baptist educators elected slates of officers for 1978-79 and

Baptist Forum

Won't you help us?

I am pleased to see that the Home Mission Board has released a 10-minute film, "An Act of Love," about the Mission Service Corps. I have for a long time believed that "informed Baptists are the best Baptists." I hope that many pastors will call for this film and show it to their folks so they can see how the Lord can use them to "evangelize" and "congregationalize" in our land.

In fact, how about seeing it "live"? Many vacationers travel I-90 on their way to Niagara Falls, the Adirondacks, New England, Canada, etc. I would like to invite them to turn off at Exit 7 and spend a day in Erie. Ours is the only Southern Baptist church inside the city limits for 130,000 people. Located in the inner city, we are plagued by parking problems and a glaring lack of Sunday school, youth and music workers.

"Laborers for the harvest" are our most pressing need. There are 4500 unchurched within 3/4 mile of us!

Our 48-member church has established two missions and plans for the beginning of another this summer; there is also an institutional ministry in a nursing home and a cassette ministry to shut-ins. But the home base must be strengthened if we are to continue our outreach. Maybe some Recorder readers would hear God's call to our area if they see that film, then come to look at the challenge and opportunity!

In his service, yours,

Tom Adams, Pastor
Open Bible Baptist Church
501 E. 5th St.
Erie, PA 16507

Hate sin but love that sinner!

I have recently read of Anita Bryant's comments at the Southern Baptist Convention in Atlanta in which she chastised Baptist ministers for lacking

"backbone" in not being more militant toward homosexuals.

The Bible clearly states that homosexuality is a sin. The Bible also says that the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control. Jesus tells us to love one another as he loves us. The underlying theme of the New Testament is love, not militancy.

I agree with Miss Bryant that we should not be hesitant in making a clear stand. We should be eager to tell others what Jesus Christ means to us and what he could mean to them. We should be a bold witness for Christ. However, we should be more concerned with emphasizing the positive aspects of a life with Christ than with enumerating one's sins. Jesus will convict one of his sins.

I was a student of history in college. I was turned off by reading of the blood that was shed and the pain inflicted during the Crusades, the Inquisition and the Salem "witch hunts," all in the name of God. I'm in prayer now for those who have been injured because Miss Bryant's stand has given "God's backing" to those who need an excuse to bash heads in.

Homosexuality is a sin, but the homosexual is a creation of God. God, because he is God, can easily hate the sin and love the sinner. We, because we are mere mortals, cannot easily separate the two. I pray that Miss Bryant, and all of us, can.

L. Dail Haney
Nicholasville

Bootlegging the Bible

In 1974, while a student at the University of Kentucky, I had the unique opportunity to spend three weeks in Romania as a guest of that Communist government. I had read of the hardships that the underground church was experiencing and hoped to meet some

fellow Baptists there. But I realized that it would be difficult for a tall, bearded, English-speaking redhead to seek out underground Baptists among the Romanian people. I abandoned the idea but I did write out several copies of John 3:16 in Romanian and carried them in my billfold.

Near the end of my trip I met an elderly musician who invited me to his apartment to play some folk music for me. The language barrier was great but the afternoon passed quickly until I discovered why this man had shown so much favor to me over the other members of my group. Pointing to the small cross around my neck he nervously asked in almost a whisper, "Catholic or Protestant?" — "Protestant" — "Baptista?" — "Yes!" Tears of joy pouring down his face, this frail gentleman, hardly five feet tall, hugged me and was so excited that I feared for his health. Speaking only in whispers we talked several hours about our Baptist brothers in his city and in America. He produced a hymnal and pieces of a Bible that had belonged to his mother. These were hidden under a cabinet. He wanted Bibles so badly for his adult grandchildren. I gave him my New Testament from my travel bag and the homemade tracts from my billfold. I ache with regret that I did not have just one more New Testament or even a few loose pages from a Bible to give him.

I am troubled that Christians, especially the editor of Western Recorder, could doubt the "smuggling of holy things" into Communist countries. In the editorial, "Is Bible Bootlegging Right?" we are asked, "Does God condone dishonesty and illegal smuggling, even of the Bible?" The editorial reply is, "A moral end does not justify an immoral means to reach that end." I ask, what is moral in Communist law that denies man freedom to worship God? Should we not obey God rather than men? (Acts 5:29) I am happy that Peter and the apostles

were "immoral" when they were demanded to stop preaching Jesus as messiah!

I plead with Kentucky Baptists not to take the advice of this editorial on avoiding "Bible bootlegging" but rather to study the advice of a Pharisee named Gamaliel (Acts 5:34-42) and support sending God's Word even to Communist countries. As Gamaliel says, "If it is of God, you will not be able to stop them, lest you find yourselves fighting against God."

In regard to the editorial statement that Bible societies over the world do not distribute scriptures by smuggling or any other clandestine methods, I would like to find out where those thousands of Bibles are going that are printed in Russian, Romanian, etc., if they are not eventually smuggled into those Communist countries. I support the spreading of the Word by any and all possible means. After all, Christ did not commission us to take the gospel to all the world except to where it is against Communist law.

S. Parker Boggs, Baxter

Bobby soxers, perhaps?

I enjoy Western Recorder and believe, in general, you do a good job of publishing a newspaper. However, the June 21 issue contains an unfair, biased statement.

The Anita Bryant concerns are controversial and I won't voice my opinion on the issue. In your article discussing the 2000 who picketed Anita Bryant outside the pastors' meeting you state: "Most were dressed in jeans and were under 30 years of age." This is thinly veiled bias. Not all pro-gay rights people are in jeans and under 30 years. That sentence is irrelevant to the rest of the article. College students and those just past that age don't need that type of bias directed at them.

Sharleen Matter
Louisville

Mountains to the Mississippi

Congregations

Mission tour for Latonia youth
The Agape Singers, the senior high youth choir of Latonia Baptist Church, Covington, will leave on a mission tour to Vail, Colo., June 30 and return July 10.

They will visit Truman Library in Independence, Mo.; Eisenhower Memorial in Abilene, Kan.; and the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo.

While in Vail, they will conduct four backyard Bible clubs, give six concerts and participate in visitation and census work.

Charles Wells, minister of music at

Latonia, will direct the tour. Chaperones will be Mr. and Mrs. Bill Batson and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stephens. Harold Waincott is pastor of the church.

Dedication services at Lancaster
Dedication services were held by Lancaster Baptist Church on Sunday June 18 to commemorate the redecorating of their sanctuary. The project included new wall to wall carpeting, cushions for the pews, new chandeliers, painting and remodeling of the pulpit area.

The morning dedication service was followed by dinner on the grounds and a piano recital by Bill Rutledge, minister of music and youth. William G. Humphrey is pastor.

Second summer conference July 22
The Kentucky Baptist Convention Sunday School Department will sponsor a second summer Sunday school conference at Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly July 22.

Conferences will begin at 8:30 a.m. and end at 4 p.m.

A full age group faculty will assist local church and associational leaders in age group work. New teachers and officers will be taught how to use church literature.

Sunday school leaders may write or call Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly, Route 1, Hardin, KY 42008 (telephone 354-8355) and make reservations for meals.

Homecoming at East Hickman
East Hickman Baptist Church, Lexington, celebrated its 191st anniversary in



Mrs. Harold D. Tallant, Louisville, and her granddaughter, Laura Friel, 2, Mt. Zuliet, Tenn., stopped by the North Central Mission Thrust booth at the Southern Baptist Convention. There they picked up bags of peanuts and tracts about pioneer missions.

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Pastor Richard Harris (l) and other members of Burgin (Ky.) Baptist Church watch as the note symbolizing their building debt goes up in smoke. The others are (l-r) Mrs. Eddie Russell, Mrs. Bill Waggener, L. T. Brown, Alfred Caddell and Bob Thompson. The church began an effort in November 1977 to liquidate the final \$16,314. The last payment was made Apr. 20, some 12 years before the scheduled final payment date of Feb. 13, 1990. The church began construction in 1969 on a \$220,000 church building and in 1971 on a new parsonage.

a homecoming celebration on June 25. The celebration was climaxed with a fellowship meal on the grounds.

The homecoming services featured as the preacher the new pastor of the church, Michael Knight. The new pastor and his wife, Kim, came to the church May 7.

Fairview members do missions work
Gerald A. McCants, pastor of Fairview Baptist Church, Russell Springs, re-

ports two young ladies from his church, Carolyn Shelton and Mary Lou Grizzell, spent two weeks recently in mission activities in Mexico.

They paid their own way with some help from the church. They assisted missionaries in building new facilities for the children's camp and shared their Christian witness.

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Lupton



Brooks



Hagan



Buell

Revivals

38 decisions at Gray Hawk
Gray Hawk (Ky.) Baptist Church reported 31 rededications, six professions of faith and one addition by letter in a recent revival.

13 additions at Spring Street
Eleven came for baptism and two by letter in revival services at Spring Street Church, Boone's Creek Association.

13 baptisms at Jeffersonville
Jeffersonville Baptist Church, Boone's Creek Association, reported several decisions including 13 coming for baptism during a recent revival.

Personnel

Edwina Mills to Trinity Church
Edwina Mills, a native of Guston, was called to Trinity Baptist Church, Moultrie, as minister of education.

Miss Mills recently received the MRE degree from Southern Baptist

Theological Seminary. She earned a bachelor's degree in music education from Murray State University.

She has been a choral and general music instructor, associate BSU director at the University of Hawaii during the summers of 1974 and 1975 and summer missionary with the Home Mission Board. She was also a summer intern for Faith at Work in the Columbia (Md.) Baptist Fellowship.

Walker to Sanders Church
Robert Walker is the new pastor of Sanders Baptist Church, Carrollton. He is retired from the Army and is attending Boyce Bible School at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Walker was ordained Apr. 30 at Farmdale Church, Louisville. He and his wife, Mattie, have a son and two daughters.

Evans new music, youth minister
First Baptist Church, Bardwell, called Steve Evans, Owensboro, as full time minister of music and youth.

A. Judson Lambert is pastor.

Mike Harmon to Grafenburg
Mike Harmon, former minister of music at West End Baptist Church, West Union Association, accepted the same position at Grafenburg Baptist Church, Shelby County Association.

Lupton to FBC, Hopkinsville
Kenneth D. Lupton is now minister of education and outreach for First Baptist Church, Hopkinsville.

Lupton is a graduate of Columbia Bible College and received the MRE degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in May.

Before assuming his responsibilities June 1 he had experience as a youth worker, camp counselor, teacher and preacher.

Brooks to Elkhorn City
Earl D. Brooks is the new pastor of Elkhorn City (Ky.) Baptist Church.

A native of Shelbyville, Ind., Brooks is married to the former Marilyn Ann Davis. They are the parents of four children.

Brooks graduated from Clear Creek

Baptist School and received a bachelor's degree in theology.

White Plains calls Hagan
White Plains Baptist Church, Scottsville, called Dillard Hagan as pastor. He comes from Athens, Tenn.

Hagan was ordained by Mill Creek Baptist Church, Tompkinsville, and has pastored in Kentucky and Tennessee.

Camp meeting crusade at Middlesboro
The annual camp meeting-Bible conference of Cumberland Mountain Evangelistic Association is slated July 24-29 at Middlesboro.

Held in conjunction with a tent crusade the meeting will feature Jesse Buell as evangelist. Others on the program include James Millikin, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary; F. F. Baird, Louisville, Ky.; and Dr. and Mrs. John R. Isaacs, retired home missionaries now living in Florida.

A singspiration will be held July 29 with Betty Jean Robinson, the McKamey Family and the Walkers.

Sunday School Lessons H. C. Chiles

Lessons for July 16, 1978

Life and Work Series

Rooted in Christ

Colossians 2:6-19a

Paul was fearful that the Christians at Colosse, who were free in Christ, might be led astray by the false philosophers who were propagating that which they called "wisdom," but what was in reality only "empty deceit." Aware of the peril of rationalism, Paul urged his readers to be loyal and true to Christ. Three things characterized the philosophy to which Paul referred: it was after the tradition of men, it was after the rudiments of the world and it was not after Christ.

The Judaizers promised the Colossian Christians they would experience real fulfillment provided they would heed the elaborate teachings which they were imparting to them. To this offer Paul responded with the reminder that they had already come to fulfillment or fullness of life in and through Christ. God's fullness dwells in Jesus Christ. In his baptism Christ portrayed what he was going to do at the close of his earthly ministry, namely die, be buried and arise from the dead. In

the act of scriptural baptism the believer announces he has repented of his sins, died to sin, his previous life of sin has been buried, he has received from Christ a new and victorious life, and henceforth he intends to live a life of Christian fruitfulness to the glory of God.

Grieved deeply because some of the Christians could not rid their minds of the notion that true religion consists of observing certain rigid rules, regulations and ceremonial laws, Paul reminded them of their spiritual condition before Christ saved them and of their freedom in Christ after their Christian experience.

After dealing with the error of legalism, Paul turned his attention to the error of mysticism. Since Christ had replaced the shadow with the substance, Paul warned the Colossians against accepting the teachings of anybody who sought to enlist them in approaching God through intermediaries such as angels. Christians have always had direct access to God through Christ their Saviour and Lord.

International Series

Steadfast workers

II Thessalonians 3:1-16

In this practical section of his epistle to the Thessalonians Paul emphasized the vital relationship between belief and behavior.

Paul urgently requested the steadfast workers among his readers to pray for him. He urged them to pray specifically that God's word might not be hindered but have a free course and be glorified. He also requested the steadfast workers to pray that he and his companions might "be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men."

In contrast with people who were unfaithful, Paul magnified the faithfulness of God. On the basis of his personal experience and of the testimony of other devoted Christians, Paul assured his readers that God would strengthen them and enable them to do the things which they had been commanded to do.

Paul instructed steadfast Christian workers to separate themselves from those who are disorderly in their conduct, after admonishing them to live in accordance with God's will, but have shown their unwillingness to follow a godly example. He

emphasized that it is the privilege, duty, honor and glory of believers to be Christ's fellow-workers. He taught that every person should have a legitimate and honorable occupation and should work for a livelihood.

Our Lord never placed a premium on laziness or encouraged anyone to be a parasite on society. To the Thessalonians Paul said, "When we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat." The necessity of eating proves the necessity of working. Paul's reference to working is not to those who are unable to work, but to those who are unwilling.

"The Lord of peace" to whom this verse (v. 16) refers is none other than Jesus Christ, the Son of God, through whose atoning work on the cross peace between God and men, and between men, was made available to all who would place their trust in him. This wonderful peace which Paul possessed and enjoyed immensely is what he earnestly prayed that his readers might possess and enjoy. And it is available to us on exactly the same terms that it was available to Paul.

Frank Owen

Honest voice

Sometimes it takes a foreign voice to tell us what we wouldn't tolerate from family and friends. The Russian expatriate Alexander Solzhenitsyn has pointed out the moral, spiritual and cultural deterioration of American life in his recent commencement address at Harvard University. He declared that European and eastern life is growing stronger while American and western life is softening. It comes as a surprise to be exhorted to godliness by a Russian expatriate who sought asylum here and now laments our declining culture and spiritual values.

My patriotic nature wants to be angry at him, but I'm forced rather to be grateful for his warning. We need some voice to chide us into seeing ourselves as we really are. We remember the story of "The Emperor's New Clothes" and all the complimentary remarks the people made until a little child cried out, "but the emperor has no clothes on!" Solzhenitsyn included in his indictment, our current, western "intolerable music." This hit the target dead center for the raucous sounds that come out of my AM radio, which I only flip on for a moment anymore, to see if there is news, or perhaps a ball game.

Will human hearing survive our restaurant juke box blast? Dare I mention occasional ear-splitting programs, even in sanctuaries, that all but crack the plaster and break the windows? Our good manners have sometimes kept us from crying out that it is too loud (and sometimes too long, considering the rest of the program). We have, on occasion, politely applauded renditions that sound like they are being made up extemporaneously, while our souls long for the great music of the masters which, indisputably was composed in advance.

The renowned, Nobel prize-winner Russian intellectual has dared say it—"intolerable music." Maybe he'll start a new trend that will catch hold among many musicians of greater capacity who sometimes appear to have too nearly surrendered to their environment and to whom we must look hopefully to lead us out of the wilderness.

Christian Education



Leigh

Odell Leigh to Campbellsville post

Odell Leigh has been named director of development at Campbellsville College.

Leigh, who has already assumed his office, previously was president of Consultant for Church Consultants, Inc., in Danville. He is an ordained minister and pastored 26 years in Kentucky Baptist churches.

A native of Eubank, Ky., Leigh earned his BA degree from Georgetown College and completed a year of graduate study at the University of Kentucky. At Southern Baptist Theological Seminary he earned BDIV and MDiv degrees.

Leigh, a private pilot, is a veteran of World War II, serving in the Air Force. He was elected to the Kentucky Baptist executive board four terms and has done mission work in Alaska.

Leigh is married to the former Virginia Chitwood and they have four children, Norman, Iris and Dana, all married, and Kenwyn, who will be a freshman at Campbellsville High School this fall.

Kentuckians earn seminary grants

Two Kentuckians are among 16 students named Rice-Judson Scholars at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

They are Alicia Beth Simpson and Jeffrey Tilford Shadownen. A 1976 graduate of Eastern Kentucky University, Miss Simpson has been chosen a Luther Rice Scholar. She is a member of Porter Memorial Baptist Church in Lexington.

Shadownen is a member of Bowling Green First Baptist Church and is a graduate of Western Kentucky University. He was named an Adoniram Judson Scholar.

The Rice Scholar Award is an annual \$500 grant given students who plan church-related work in the United States. The Judson Award is an annual \$500 grant given those who plan to serve as foreign missionaries.

Ralph Holtzclaw to Clear Creek

Ralph Thomas Holtzclaw, pastor of Poplar Grove Baptist Church, Glencoe, Ky., has been appointed professor in the theology department and director of admissions at Clear Creek Baptist School.



Simpson

He has been pastor of churches in Virginia and Kentucky and was formerly personnel director with Tennessee Eastman Company. He is married to the former Sandra Kingston and they have four children, Hannah, 11; John, 9; Sarah, 7 and Joel, 2.



Shadownen

Aleshire joins seminary faculty

Daniel O. Aleshire, research associate at Search Institute in Minneapolis, Minn., was named assistant professor of church and denominational ministry at Southern Seminary.

The post is funded by the Baptist Sunday School Board to instruct seminary students on resources available to ministers and churches from SBC agencies. The board provides funding for similar posts at each of the other five SBC seminaries.

Beginning in the fall Aleshire will teach in the schools of theology and religious education. He will also be a consultant in the School of Church Music for specific courses.

A native of Columbus, Ohio, Aleshire is a graduate of Belmont College and George Peabody College. He received an MDiv degree from Southern Seminary and was a visiting professor there last summer.

He has served in the pastorate and on the staffs of churches in Tennessee and New Jersey. While working on his PhD he was Baptist campus minister at George Peabody College.

Daniels earns diploma in theology

Roy Daniels of Middlesboro received a diploma in theology from Baptist Bible Institute May 26 in graduation ceremonies held in the gymnasium of Graceville (Fla.) High School.

SEBTS adds faculty trio

Three persons, including an ordained woman, have been added to the faculty at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Suzanne Martin Davis, an ordained Baptist minister, has been named associate director of student-field ministries.

Luke B. Smith, associate professor of religion at Averett College, Danville, Va., was elected professor of supervised ministry.

Claude York Stewart Jr. has been named assistant professor of theology.

Christian Literature Day

July 9



Western Recorder

July 5, 1978