

## Menachem, be like Job, Jimmy Allen declares in talks with Israel's Begin in Jerusalem

Southern Baptist Convention president Jimmy Allen, in a 45-minute conference with Israel's Prime Minister Menachem Begin in Jerusalem, advised him to

'have the patience of Job' in the pursuit of peace and expressed Southern Baptists concern for continued religious liberty in Israel.

During his nine-day visit to Israel Allen also conferred with other key Israeli officials to express concern over the year-old anti-bribery law which makes it illegal to offer or receive material or other benefits to change religions. Baptists and other Christians in Israel have feared it might be misinterpreted to prevent evangelical Christians from witnessing to their faith.

Allen said he was encouraged by the reception he received from justice minister Schmu'el Tamir and other officials. Allen expressed concern that a new Israeli law now being written include adequate safeguards for religious freedom. Tamir assured Allen that he believes very keenly that Israel "should set the example before the eyes of the world of the protection of conscience."

Allen said the conference with Begin, which took place shortly after noon on Jan. 3, was a "very good visit." The two talked at some length about the current Middle East peace negotiations, with Allen assuring the prime minister of Baptist prayers for him, Egyptian President Sadat and the role played by the United States.

Allen said he had a frank exchange of views with David Glass, chairman of the Knesset committee on law and justice, the committee which dealt with the

antibribery law passed in December 1977.

Glass does not believe in evangelizing as part of one's faith and feels the law is necessary, Allen said. But the official listened to Allen's position that the law is not needed.

Allen, who made the trip to Israel as Southern Baptist Convention president but did not use convention funds for it, was honored at a reception in Jerusalem to which members of the city's religious community were invited.

He also was to meet informally with about 20 of the Southern Baptist representatives who serve in Israel before leaving for Scotland Jan. 6 to confer with leaders of the Baptist Union of Scotland. He and Mrs. Allen planned to return to the United States Jan. 10.

## Anita Bryant: SBC '78 winner

Anita Bryant's highly publicized visit with Southern Baptists in Atlanta won first place in balloting of Southern Baptist editors for the top 10 Baptist Press stories of 1978.

Miss Bryant's Atlanta episode edged out the murder of Southern Baptist missionary Archie Duna-way in Rhodesia, which finished second.

The hoopla during the week of the SBC annual meeting included 2000 gays picketing Miss Bryant's appearance at the SBC Pastors' Conference while 20,000 persons attending the conference gave her thunderous ovations. Later Miss Bryant lost the election for SBC first vice president by a vote of two to one but SBC messengers followed that up with a vote to commend her for her stance against homosexual rights.

Other stories in the top 10, according to Baptist editors and their staffs, for the year were:

3. First consultation of women grapples with the place of women in church-related vocations.
4. Continued decline in Southern Baptist baptisms and enrolments in most church program organizations while overall membership and giving rise.
5. President Jimmy Carter and SBC president Jimmy Allen urge support of the Mission Service Corps.
6. SBC meeting in Atlanta shatters all time record for registration of messengers by more than 4000, with registration of 22,872.
7. Traffic accident claims the life of Glendon McCullough, executive director of SBC Brotherhood Commission; proposal follows that commission merge with Baptist Sunday School Board.
8. Five of six states facing legalized gambling reject it.
9. Tuition tax credits die in Congress.
10. Retirement criticism: Two state editors and the Ohio convention criticize use of Cooperative Program funds to supplement, by \$500 a month, the retirement of Porter Routh, executive secretary-treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee.

## High rise for elderly jeopardized by lack of operating capital

An 18-month operating cushion for Belmont Plaza in Nashville has been discovered unusable and has put the Tennessee Baptist Service Corp. in jeopardy.

The corporation financed construction of the 123-unit high rise for senior adults through a \$5 million bond sale with the understanding that income from the sale would provide operating capital for up to 18 months.

"We discovered five weeks ago that none of these funds can be used for operating costs," Wade Darby, executive director of the corporation, told the Tennessee Baptist Convention's executive board. Because of the way the feasibility study and bond indenture were written "we were in serious financial condition from the first and didn't know it," he added.

Darby told the executive board the worst thing that could happen would be for the facility to default and be sold with the proceeds going to the bond holders. He emphasized the Tennessee Baptist Convention is not legally liable for the debt, since Belmont Plaza is a separate entity.

## Baptists exit Teheran

One Southern Baptist missionary family and a missionary journeyman plan to remain in the Iranian capital city of Teheran, even though the United States government is evacuating all non-essential personnel.

Henry E. Turlington said by telephone that his family and journeyman Michael Joe Sowder would remain in Teheran and continue with scheduled youth and church activities.

Other missionary personnel are already out of the country.

## Flood victims at Frankfort assisted by Mississippians

Mississippi Baptist volunteers brought their new disaster relief unit 640 miles to Frankfort to aid victims of extensive flooding.

Franklin Owen, executive secretary of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, extended the invitation after flooding left a thousand homes in Frankfort under water.

The unit served as a mass feeding kitchen after it was set up at Bellepoint Baptist Church. During the

four days the unit was in Frankfort the Mississippi volunteers and Kentucky Baptist volunteers served 1000 hot meals a day.

The flooding mission was the first operation for the disaster relief unit, which consists of a 40-foot moving van with outdoor feeding kitchen, fresh water tanks and limited first aid and other emergency supplies. A 15-passenger van and power boat accompanied the unit.

Among Kentucky Baptists, volunteers came from Bellepoint and Memorial churches in Frankfort and First Baptist Church, Winchester.

The Red Cross and other religious groups, including Church of the Brethren, Seventh Day Adventists and Salvation Army, assisted in the community relief effort.

## R. T. Skinner dies; was Recorder editor

R. T. Skinner, former editor of Western Recorder, died Dec. 20 at his home in Tampa, Fla., at the age of 86. He was buried in Bowling Green Dec. 26.

Skinner was editor of Western Recorder 12 years until his retirement in 1957. Before that he was pastor of Baptist churches in Milan, Tenn.; Birmingham, Ala.; and Bowling Green (First Baptist Church).

He was first married to the former Glenna Owen, who died in 1953. In 1956 he married the former Irene Hale, who survives.

Besides his wife, survivors include two daughters, Mrs. Elsie Hines, Crittenden, and Mrs. Sara Ratley, Magnolia, Ark.; two sons, James E., Alexandria, Va., and William O., Bowling Green; three sisters, Miss Onnie Skinner and Miss Marie Skinner, Murray, and Mrs. Annie Claybrook, Memphis, Tenn.; two brothers, W. C. Skinner, Dallas, Tex., and Edward Miller Skinner, Providence; 11 grandchildren; and several great-grandchildren.

A son, Thomas Eugene Skinner, preceded him in death.



Don Cherry, pastor of Bellepoint Baptist Church, Frankfort, passes out hot meals in the Bellepoint area, where 600 homes were left under water during recent flooding.

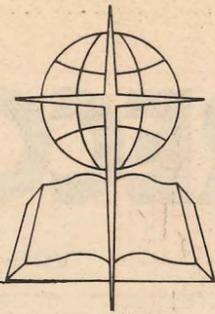
## GGBTS taps Cauthen

Baker James Cauthen, executive director of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board will be the first to fill the chair of world missions named after him at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary.

Cauthen, 69, will retire at the end of 1979, take several months for transition and begin teaching at Golden Gate in the fall of 1980.

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

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C. R. Daley

## Daley Observations

### R. T. Skinner: a strong leader, a true friend

Another good soldier of Jesus Christ has ended this earthly pilgrimage. R. T. Skinner died in December in Florida where he had lived since retiring as editor of the Western Recorder 21 years ago. His remains were appropriately returned for burial to Bowling Green where he was serving as pastor when he became Western Recorder editor.

R. T. Skinner made a valuable and lasting contribution to Baptists and his influence will be felt as long as time lasts. As his successor as editor I have been the beneficiary of his labors and have reaped much good that he sowed and cultivated.

Dr. Skinner was the personification of the best in Kentucky Baptist life and heritage. He held firmly to the fundamentals of the faith, wrote and preached them forcefully and lived them truly. He possessed a sweet and gentle spirit which came through in his writings as well as in his everyday life.

Under the editorship of Dr. Skinner the Western Recorder moved to a constructive force in Baptist life. He was no less a defender of the faith than some of his predecessors but his manner of expression was more gentle and he could expose a wrong view without roasting the person who espoused it.

Among his admirable personal traits was his love and treatment of young ministers. He treated young preachers who could learn much from him as his equal and never looked down or talked down to any of them.

He was unselfish and generous. He was known many times to visit small churches with seminary student pastors and when offered an honorarium would give it to the struggling pastor.

It is that side of him I remember and appreciate most instead of his able editorials. He was the Bowling Green First Baptist pastor when I became a seminary student pastor at Woodburn, a town just south of Bowling Green. At first I regarded him with awe and hesitation because of my youth and inexperience but he sought me out, befriended me and encouraged me.

So far as I know he had nothing to do with my selection as his successor though he encouraged me to accept when the Western Recorder directors invited me. I sought his advice and suggestions thinking he would have a lot to tell me. Instead, he assured me I could do the job and suggested I do it my way instead of any way he could recommend.

When he left the editorship, he left. Only an occasional letter or card came from him and these with the same gentle spirit.

I thank God for R. T. Skinner and pray that my successor will feel somewhat toward me as I feel toward him.

### Guest Editorial

## Five needs of missionary on furlough

by John Roberts, Editor  
Baptist Courier [S. C.]

The missionary on furlough has five primary needs. The most urgent need, and one to which churches and pastors can most readily respond, is opportunities to preach.

The missionary has a unique passion for telling of the need for spreading the gospel. He returns home on furlough each four years or less with a storehouse of stories about Christian teaching in countries where Christianity is not known. He likes to preach, to teach mission study courses, to call for mission volunteers in college audiences, to speak before various church groups and to tell his story.

In his eagerness to tell of mission endeavors the missionary sometimes exhausts himself with too many speaking engagements. The result is that some missionaries return to their places of service more tired than when they began furlough. Those extending invitations to the missionary should be considerate rather than persistent.

Another need of the furloughing missionary is a place to live. Coming to the United States for a year requires much adjustment for the missionary and his family. It is especially difficult for children of school age. A furnished house waiting for him takes much of the anxiety out of furlough time.

Many churches "adopt" missionary families by having a house ready for their time in the United States. Some churches own missionary homes, but a growing number find it more practical and easier to tailor a house to the needs of the family by renting.

The missionary is stranded without a car. Transportation is furnished as needed in mission work, but not during furlough. The missionary averages driving 30,000 miles to speaking engagements and conferences during his year at home. Transportation can become a big problem.

The furloughing missionary needs time to be with his family, to visit relatives and close friends. His first days, usually a week to a month, should be his own for sharing with loved ones. The decision should be left up to him as to when he is ready for other things.

He needs time also for rest, for medical examinations and dental care. One of the basic purposes of the furlough is safeguarding the missionary's health through rest and preventive medicine.

He must have time for study, for refresher courses and spiritual training. He should be allowed to give first preference in his calendar to available opportunities for study.

The career missionary spends seven to eight years of his life on furlough. Churches and pastors should never make the furlough a time of chaos by interference and schedule changing. They can give rich meaning to these years, and in so doing gain a blessing for themselves, by helping the missionary in areas of need.

## Baptist Forum

Church 'deplores' use of CP funds

In its regular business meeting on Dec. 13, Cedar Grove Baptist Church passed the following resolution: "Whereas the Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church, Muhlenberg County, is a strong supporter, and has been for years, of the total missions program of the Southern Baptist Convention; and

"Whereas not only have we preached and taught missions to our people, but we have given liberally, and sometimes sacrificially, to the Cooperative Program;

"Be it therefore resolved, that we deplore the use of Cooperation Program being used to provide additional retirement income, secretarial help, automobiles and other benefits to retiring denominational executives; and

"Further resolved, we shall no longer support the Cooperative Program by sending money to it until this practice is resolved to our satisfaction; and

"Further resolved, we shall continue to preach and teach missions, and give money to support mission causes that we feel are worthy of our support."

Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church  
Gerald Jones, Pastor  
John Laster, Moderator

Pray for FMB search committee

This is a call for you to continue to unite in prayer as the search committee is prayerfully at work seeking the person who will succeed Baker J. Cauthen as executive director of the Foreign Mission Board.

We would welcome your input or whatever you would want to share with this committee.

All correspondence should be addressed to: Mr. Hunter Riggins, Chairman of the Search Committee, P. O. Box 2188, Poquoson, VA 23662.

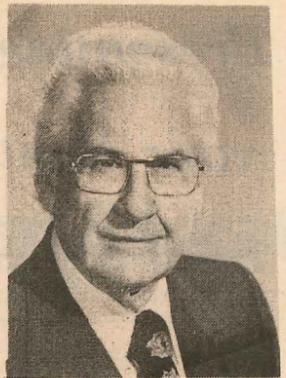
Mrs. Ray Mullendore  
Search Committee Member  
Bowling Green



# STATE EVANGELISM CONFERENCE



Jimmy Allen



J. D. Grey

**SEVERNS VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

ELIZABETHTOWN, KENTUCKY

FEBRUARY 26-27, 1979



Ray Roberts



Bobby Sunderland



*"The Evangelistic Church  
on  
Bold Mission"*



Reid Hardin



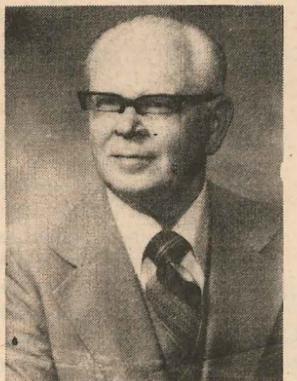
Harold Tallant

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Monday, February 26 — 10:00 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, February 27 — 9:00 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

## CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

JIMMY ALLEN, President, Southern Baptist Convention, and Pastor, First Baptist Church, San Antonio, Texas • J. D. GREY, Pastor Emeritus of the First Baptist Church, New Orleans, La. and former President, SBC • RAY ROBERTS, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, State Convention of Baptists in Ohio • BOBBY SUNDERLAND, Director, Department of Mass Evangelism, Home Mission Board, SBC • REID HARDIN, Director, Department of Renewal Evangelism, Home Mission Board, SBC • HAROLD TALLANT, Evangelist and Director of Education, Highview Baptist Church, Louisville • VERNON COLE, Director of Church Training Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention



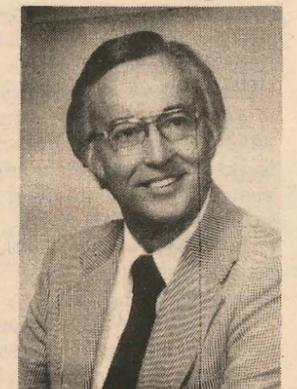
A. B. Colvin



Franklin Owen

## CONFERENCE MUSICIANS

RONALD WILBURN, Music Evangelist and Director of Music, Grace Baptist Church, Lexington • JIM AND JOYCE CORDELL, Director of Music and wife, First Baptist Church, Somerset • JANE HOLLOWAY, Soloist, former Miss Alabama • GARY GRIESSER, Music Evangelist, Burlington, Kentucky • ALLEN CASE, Music Director, Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown • BLESSED ASSURANCE SINGERS, Musical Group, Severns Valley Baptist, Elizabethtown • EUGENE QUINN, Director of Church Music Department, KBC • DON SPENCER, Associate Director of Church Music Department, KBC • HORIZON, singing churchmen of Northern Kentucky



Jay Brown



Vernon Cole

+ + + + +  
JAY BROWN, Director, Department of Evangelism, KBC  
FRANKLIN OWEN, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, KBC

# Presenting your Baptist Building staff



Whitler



Mrs. Byrdwell



Mrs. Dillard



Rogers



Spencer



Sawyer

## Whitler: being out among people makes his work a ministry

Paul Whitler makes a point of "being out among the people; it makes my work more of a ministry than just a job."

He estimates he spends five months out of the year attending associational meetings and giving reports on Western Recorder, for which he is business and circulation manager.

He urges churches to avail themselves of the benefits of Western Recorder subscriptions, including the weekly church page service.

Whitler saw the value of the state paper during his 20 years in the pastorate: "I've never pastored a church since I've been in the ministry where Western Recorder wasn't in the family budget plan.

"Even more important, I see it as the communication link between Baptists that goes into every home on a weekly basis.

"Right now we're reaching about 83 percent of all active Baptists in the state. And we are encouraged by the response we are having to our church page service.

Whitler has found the position he has held the past seven years interesting. "The exciting part of the job has been traveling around and sharing with the ministers," he says. "Also, collecting news from Kentucky Baptists, talking with program directors and knowing what's going on around the state has been interesting."

He attended Campbellsville College, Western Kentucky University, Kentucky Wesleyan College and Southern Seminary.

He says fishing is his main hobby.

Though no longer in the full time pastoral ministry, he has held seven interim pastorates while at WR.

He and his wife Maxine are the parents of two daughters, Rachel and Debbie. Rachel is currently a missionary journeyman to Davao City, Philippines. Debbie is a student at Campbellsville College.

## Anna Mary Byrdwell: BYW has a lot of growing to do

Anna Mary Byrdwell, a native Kentuckian, is WMU consultant for Baptist Young Women, an organization for 18-29 year olds.

Mrs. Byrdwell graduated from Campbellsville College and Southern Seminary with a major in music. Later she taught school in LaRue County, worked on a church staff and was active in church camp programs. When she came to the KBC in June 1967 she was director of the Sunbeam Band. In 1970 the age levels changed and she became Acteens director until 1976 when Baptist Young Women became her number one responsibility.

Mrs. Byrdwell began working in GA camps in 1957. She confesses, "I was involved in other things but still knew the direction of my life would be mission work."

A part of her work as consultant involves "promoting, training, establishing new organizations in the local church."

She states that "Baptist Young Women have a lot of growing to do in Kentucky. Churches who do not have a BYW could contact us. We send sample material and resources to help start a BYW. I also enjoy visiting churches to meet with interested young women."

Mrs. Byrdwell states that this is the first year, for several years, that BYW is being actively promoted on college campuses.

The entire WMU organization has a state convention each spring—this year in Lexington.

Baptist Young Women has a spring retreat at Jonathan Creek and a fall retreat at Cedarmore each year.

Mrs. Byrdwell lives in Shelbyville and attends First Baptist Church there, commuting to Middletown each working day. She teaches an Adult II Sunday school class, sings in the choir and is mission action chairman for her Baptist Women's group.

## Childhood: 'most important years of life'—Polly Hargis Dillard

Polly Hargis Dillard is motivated by a belief that the early years of childhood are "the most important of all.

"Too many churches have yet to become deeply aware of the importance of childhood," she says regretfully. "I see my place as that of undergirding parents and church leaders, strengthening the impact they are making on these children."

Two years ago Mrs. Dillard accepted the post of preschool-children's coordinator in the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Church Services Division.

In addition to helping individual churches and associations through conferences, she hosts a variety of specialized events. Included are professional staff retreats, preschool leadership retreats, early childhood education workshop, weekend retreat for workers with mentally retarded, workshop for cradle roll workers and more. During January 1979 she is teaching early childhood education at Golden Gate Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif. She is the author of numerous curriculum units and books for children, still loves to write and finds time to do what for many would be an absolute chore.

Well prepared for such assignments, Mrs. Dillard's very first job after college was as superintendent of Sunday school work in the Baptist Sunday School Board's Beginner Department, 1939-50. After leaving the board she became director of children's work and weekday education at Main Street Church, Hattiesburg, Miss. From there she taught childhood education at Southern Seminary, 1953-58, and in the late 60's worked in the Head Start program of the Louisville Board of Education.

A native of Somerset, she's a graduate of UK and Peabody College. She married Badgett Dillard in 1957, now a Southern Seminary vice president. They have two adopted children, Stephen, 18, a sophomore at Berea College, and Ann, 17, a high school senior.

## Doing or telling? Bill Rogers finds struggle, conflict there

William H. Rogers, director of cooperative ministries and Christian life for Kentucky Baptists, believes we live in a 'throwaway' society.

"We aren't touching people," says Rogers. "We are bombarded by the media, and in many cases it does our thinking for us."

Rogers sees a problem Baptists face in keeping a proper balance between doing and telling. But at the same time, he will tell you he's an optimist, believing the kingdom of God is in God's hands.

"My basic task is to seek the kingdom first. But in practice, it's so much easier to talk about it than to do it," he confirms.

Rogers has been doing his job almost continuously since 1971, except for a few months when he served the Kentucky Baptist Board of Child Care.

A native Russellvillian, he married the former Martha McPherson of that city, and together they lead consultations and conferences on marriage and family life across the state. Last year they participated in 20 such weekend encounters for churches and associations.

They have two sons, Harris, 30, and Ronald, 29, and two daughters, Brenda, 24, and Carol, 21. Only Carol lives at home, where she attends the University of Louisville. The others are married.

Rogers holds degrees from Western Kentucky University and Southern Seminary. He served several state pastorates, including Eastwood Church, Bowling Green, 1954-61, and Melbourne Heights Church, Louisville, 1961-71.

He describes himself as "basically a tinkerer." His hobby is restoring lanterns he acquires, then refurbishes into electrical lamps, giving a few as gifts each year.

Rogers loves his work. He is convinced "the department has its brightest days ahead of it," he says in summation.

## Spencer: Music Department concerned with church needs

The Church Music Department is one of the six departments in the Church Services Division, supported by Kentucky Baptist churches through the Cooperative Program.

Donald A. Spencer, associate director, states that most of the responsibility there is shared by himself and Eugene Quinn, director.

Spencer came to the Church Music Department in May 1977 from Versailles Baptist Church, where he had been associate minister of music, youth and administration.

Spencer and his family are members of Hurstbourne Baptist Church, where he is a substitute Sunday school teacher and sings in the adult choir. Currently, he is interim minister of music at Beechland Baptist Church.

Spencer stresses, "We are constantly striving to make ourselves available to churches. We are concerned with equipping music directors, and particularly part time music directors. We are always willing to work with any association or local church needing help.

"We are striving to make churches aware of the music resources available to them and to acquaint them with the potential for more effective use of music in worship services."

The Church Music Department offers help to associations, churches and individual directors through clinics, retreats, camps, festivals and various other resources.

The department sponsors two volunteer director retreats in the fall, an annual retreat for full time staff in the summer and a retreat for the music faculty of Kentucky Baptist colleges in the fall. Children's music camps and youth music assemblies are held annually at Cedarmore.

"We're interested in helping leaders to fully use music for Christ," he concludes.

## Sawyer likes motivating Baptist men for service

"The prettiest picture I see is when a pastor and his laymen play together, pray together and work together," Forrest Sawyer smiles. "It's as pretty a picture as I see in all of denominational life; that's where it's at."

Behind that statement lies the director of the state Brotherhood Department's idea of Baptist men motivated for service.

"The imperativeness of an involved manpower in order for the church to do what all it needs to do is so obvious we sometimes glide over it," Sawyer observes.

Two ways to motivate men, in his opinion, are to educate them about missions in the local church and through world missions conferences. But the best motivation comes through actual mission service—aiding in disaster relief, helping build churches, conducting lay led revivals and participating in crusades.

"This sort of thing reflects itself in a man's attitude of what he can do, his church can do and his denomination is doing," Sawyer relates. "When non-professionals see and get a vision of what is being done, something gets transmitted to the people."

The Oklahoma native says his work is his hobby; there is such variety that "there's no drudgery about it." And when he needs a break from his 'hobby,' he plays a little golf.

Sawyer earned his AA degree in music from Duncan College in 1937. After seven years with a petroleum company, he felt God's call for full time service. He prepared to enrol in Southwestern Seminary but agreed to become Brotherhood director for Illinois Baptists. He assumed his current position in 1958.

Sawyer is married to the former Iris Eileen Guymon and they have two sons, David and Daniel; a daughter, Mrs. Charles (Anita) Corbin; and two grandchildren.

## Picture this: 19 from the Bluegrass State earn degrees from Southern Baptist Seminary

Nineteen Kentuckians received degrees from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary Dec. 22.

Warren C. Hultgren, pastor of First Baptist Church, Tulsa, Okla., addressed more than 260 members of the seminary's fall graduating class.

Kentuckians among their number included, by degree program:

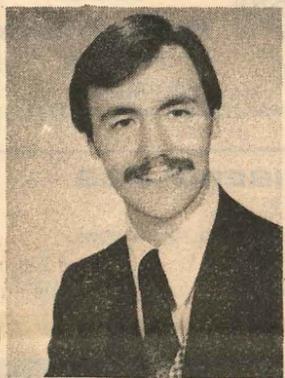
**Master of Divinity [MDiv]**—William Larry Bouland, Paducah; Billy C. Burton, Pinckneyville; Lawrence Robb Crosby, Louisville; Jerry Wayne Delaney, Bellevue; Linda G. Frost, Louisville; Richard A. Graham, Greenville; Jimmy W. Morrison, Independence.

**Doctor of Ministry [DMin]**—Gary King, Lexington.  
**Master of Church Music [MCM]**—David R. Bratcher, Henderson; Timothy E. Burgher, Clay City; Richard Taylor Case, Lewisport; William H. Orton Jr., Greenville.

**Master of Religious Education [MRE]**—Debra Darlene Blair, Elizabethtown; David T. Connelly, Louisville; Stephen C. Cooper, Paducah; John Edward McClure, Louisville; Barbara Payne Walker, Frankfort.

**Master of Religious Education in Social Work [MRE-SW]**—Cecilia W. Aldridge, Hopkinsville.

**Doctor of Education [EdD]**—Kenneth L. Mahanes, Lexington.



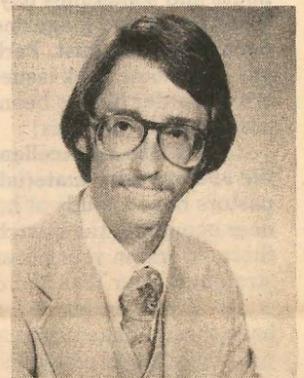
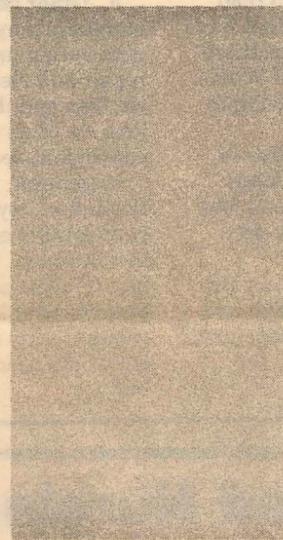
Bouland



Graham



Case



Cooper



Burton



Frost



Morrison



Orton



McClure



Crosby



Bratcher



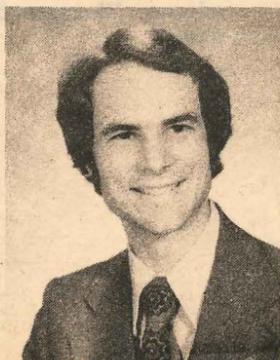
Blair



Walker



Delaney



Burgher



Connelly



Aldridge

# Avoiding cabin fever

by K. Maynard Head

Most pastors, church staffers and active church members are not accustomed to staying at home, and when nasty weather forces a change of plans, many are hard-put at finding things to do.

When this happens, Kentucky-style "cabin fever" can result. Psychologists call it sensory deprivation and it may occur when people are confined to their homes due to the weather.

If you feel an attack of "cabin fever" coming on, try the following:

1. **Pastors may catch up on important reading.** Most pastors complain about having too few hours to do all the "necessary" things. Being snowbound can give him added hours and sometimes days to read those books and magazines that have been gathering dust. Perhaps there are even some back issues of Western Recorder he has been saving to read at times like this!

2. **It is also an excellent time to file and organize materials.** Many pastors have a study at home or live near enough to the church to get there. Work on your library, straighten your files and clean your study. If you are above average and have these things in good shape, try planning church activities for the next few months. You may even

work on sermon outlines and illustrations and reserve Saturday evenings for the family!

3. **Update your mailing list.** If you exchange church bulletins or newsletters with fellow pastors, you can compare your church's attendance with his. Sometimes attendance at your church may not be as bad as you think when compared to a church in a heavy snowfall area. Of course, the reverse may be true, so be prepared.

4. **Make good use of the telephone.** The elderly and the shut-in will welcome a call from the pastor or an associate. Most church members do not expect a home visit during inclement weather but they do appreciate a telephone call.

5. **Other church staff and active members may utilize this time to plan spring and summer activities, repair and clean equipment, organize files and do those endless odd jobs we often put off "until a more convenient season."**

In general, when snowbound or flooded in, try to keep busy. Change your routine and make the best of the situation. When all else fails, just remember that even when confined to your home due to the weather, this is still "the day the Lord hath made. Rejoice and be glad in it."

# Student missions conference set Feb. 23-25 at seminary

"Building Bridges" is the theme of the 23rd annual Student Mission Conference at Southern Seminary Feb. 23-25.

The conference annually draws more than a thousand college and university students to Louisville to examine issues relating to Southern Baptist missions. This year's conference begins with a 7:30 p.m. general session Friday, Feb. 23.

Speakers and conference leaders include Davis L. Saunders, SBC Foreign Mission Board secretary for eastern and southern Africa; Wana Ann Fort, missionary doctor in Sanyati, Rhodesia; Wendell Belew, director of the Missions Ministries Division of the SBC Home Mission Board; and Donald and Lynne Gurney, missionaries serving the Colorado Springs area and the U. S. Air

Force Academy.

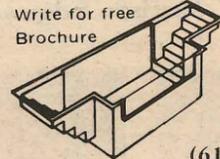
Karen Ballard, a former journeyman in Korea, and Bill McCann, a former US-2 volunteer in Wyoming, will also be featured.

Special music during the conference will be provided by composer George Gagliardi of Nashville, Tenn., and seminary students.

Registration fee is \$7 per student with limited on-campus free housing.

To register or for further information write: 1979 Student Missions Conference, Box 375, 2825 Lexington Rd., Louisville, KY 40206.

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Federal regulations now assess heavy penalties on second class postage users with 10% or more of total available monthly space devoted to advertising. Even free space promoting Western Recorder is now under this law. We regret that this ruling has forced us to cancel or refuse advertising from many reputable sources because the federal assessment cannot be offset by revenue generated from advertising which exceeds 10%. As a result, we must predetermine advertising space allocations for a given month well in advance to be certain we do not exceed the 10% limit for the month. Our regular advertisers are discovering they can no longer request an ad to appear with only two or three weeks' notice. Available space is often committed two months in advance. If you plan to advertise with us, we suggest reserving space at least two months in advance. We regret this inconvenience, apparently another trend of the times.

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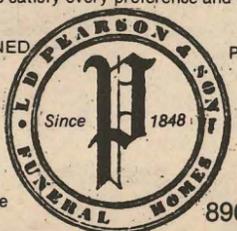
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## We want to help you—will you help us?

Keeping track of church staff changes in Kentucky sometimes seems like an impossible task for us.

We get such information from a variety of sources such as new staff members themselves, church secretaries, church and associational newsletters and local secular newspapers.

Unfortunately, the news sometimes reaches us several weeks after a person begins his new ministry.

Often, we don't receive enough information. For instance, the name of a new pastor and the name of his new church just doesn't do justice to the situation.

We prefer not to say very little about one staff member and a great deal about another. And we prefer to use the information as quickly as it becomes available.

This helps Western Recorder to be more current and it helps our readers across the state be better informed about their family of Ken-

tucky Baptists.

Churches can help us in our attempt to be even more effective as a "people paper."

When your church calls a new staff member, immediately answer the following questions plus any pertinent facts you feel are important:

1. Name of new staff member.
2. Staff title.
3. Name of church, city, association.
4. Date service begins.
5. Church and city of previous staff position.
6. Education (college, seminary, theological school) and degrees.
7. Currently a student? Where?
8. Married? First name and maiden name of wife and her home town. Names and ages of children.
9. If staff member other than pastor, what is pastor's name?

## Sunday School Lessons H. C. Chiles

Lessons for Jan. 21, 1979

### Life and Work Series

### The sins of good people

Sin is universal. All are sinners by nature, by choice and by practice. There are degrees of wickedness and guilt but all have come short of the standard. Because all have sinned and are in a terrible plight, they are alike in their need of salvation, whether Jews or Gentiles.

#### Romans 2:1

The self-righteous Jews considered themselves far superior to the Gentiles and took delight in exposing their sins and in condemning them unmercifully. Seemingly they were not aware of the fact that they were guilty of the same sins as the Gentiles. No one has the right to attempt to usurp the place of the divine judge.

#### Romans 2:17-24

Whereas the Gentiles had a God-implanted and instinctive knowledge of right and wrong, the Jews were possessors of a written revelation from God. Instead of being grateful for the high and holy privileges with which they had been endowed, the Jews were extremely proud of themselves and of the fact that God had made them the custodians of his revelation.

### International Series

### The Christian's hope

Hope is a combination of desire, expectation, patience and joy.

#### Romans 8:18-25

Living victoriously in Paul's day was extremely difficult and dangerous. In the evil environment one was subjected to persecution and suffering. After readily acknowledging that suffering was unpleasant and often without any justification, Paul sought to encourage and challenge Christians who were suffering for Christ's sake to endure their hardships bravely and courageously, inasmuch as their sufferings were so insignificant in comparison to the glory that awaited them.

According to verse 22, the creature groans under the weight of sin and without full knowledge of what the ultimate end is going to be. According to verse 23, the Christian groans within himself, not as a helpless sufferer but as one who is awaiting the complete redemption of his body in the resurrection. The groans of the Christian do not always reach the ears of men, but they do get God's attention.

Having Christ as our Saviour and Lord, as well as our example, and possessing the clear revelation of God's will in the scriptures, we should let him manifest himself in and through us. The disparity between the profession and the practice of many who call themselves Christians is causing unbelievers to lose faith in them, to ridicule them, to reject Christ and to harden their hearts. Hypocrisy has a devastating effect on Christianity and deeply grieves the Lord.

#### Romans 3:9-10, 19-20

From the Old Testament Paul proved that Jews and Gentiles were under condemnation of sin. Every man lacked personal righteousness. Apart from Christ, man in his natural condition stands before God under the burden of condemnation and under the blight of divine wrath. No man can ever attain righteousness on the strength of his own merit. If any sinner is to be delivered from condemnation, it is a certainty that righteousness had to be provided for and imputed to him. Such a righteousness was wrought by Christ and becomes the possession of every one who truly believes on him as Saviour.

All of the great triumphs which our faith leads us to expect have not materialized, but they will. Until they do, we are nourished and inspired by hope. Whereas fear is the frightful waiting for something worse, hope is the anticipation of something better.

#### John 14:1-3

On the night before his crucifixion Christ calmly announced to his disciples that he was going to leave them. They were sorely troubled at the thought of separation from the Lord Jesus, whom they loved dearly. No longer would they be able to carry to him in person their problems and make him the sharer of their difficulties as had been their custom.

Observing the troubled look upon their faces and the billows of anguish that surged through their hearts, Christ spoke the gracious words of comfort recorded in John 14. Christ taught them that, after he left them, they were not to think of him as having ceased to be. He assured them that he was going to another abiding-place to prepare for their coming, and that in due time he would return for them and take them to be with him.

## Frank Owen

### New year—old paths

An old program that has sometimes failed can occasionally have brighter promise as a second effort than one more attempt to start something new. The holy scriptures do not commend the Athenians for ever seeking "... to tell, or hear some new thing" (Acts 17:21). The book of Ecclesiastes declares "... there is nothing new under the sun" (Eccl. 1:9).

Sunday school leaders today are seriously looking back at principles expounded by Arthur Flake and J. S. N. Barnette that made for growth and fruitfulness, but were subsequently neglected and largely abandoned.

Not all organizations that have faded or died have done so through inherent weakness. Some have failed from changed living and recreational habits in American culture. Customs will change again. Culture will be as fickle toward modern habits of life and recreation as it was to now faded church organizations. Our society could turn from modern ways and back to old paths, perhaps unaware. Let Christians keep old paths well trod for wandering feet to find the way again.

If such paths are grown over, chop them out again while they can still be found.

I once knew a church whose mighty women's missionary leaders somehow failed to pass the torch to the upcoming generation, which largely acquired other interests and established other habits and activities. There was a dry spell, but then came still another generation that had never tasted the thrill of women's missionary work. It was time to try again for their sakes and it succeeded.

Perhaps your own church once had a strong Brotherhood group with three or four stackpole men around whom a great fellowship grew. But, by the time these noble men faded the new generation had involved themselves in other things. Brotherhood reached a dry spell in leadership. Is the well still dry? Have you tried the pump on the present generation? New ideas are great, but don't forget to pick up the nuggets again that have been spilled from the sacks of those who have traveled before you. "... Ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein ..." (Jer. 6:16).



## Hope to receive SBC award

Comedian Bob Hope will be guest of honor and receive the Distinguished Communications Medal during the 10th Annual Abe Lincoln Awards program Mar. 1. The awards, sponsored by the SBC Radio and Television Commission, will be held in Tarrant County Convention Center, Ft. Worth.

The Abe Lincoln Awards honor broadcasters across the nation for their achievements in advancing the quality of life in America and helping the industry enrich its service to the public.

"The Distinguished Communications Medal was designed to honor persons who have made unusual contributions to this country," said Paul M. Stevens, commission president. "It is given only when a worthy recipient is determined. This year that person is Bob Hope."

Eight Abe Lincoln Awards, as well as special service awards, will be presented this year to outstanding broadcasters.

Hope is especially cited for the "continual contributions he has made to his fellowman and his country," said Stevens.

"Bob Hope has emerged on the world scene as unique in his compassion for the American serviceman and in his ability to make the world laugh in its darkest hours. For four generations his humor and personality have bridged the gap between every segment of American life."

Hope is the first entertainer to receive the medal. Previous recipients include the late Walt Disney, Billy Graham, Lady Bird Johnson and former CBS president Frank Stanton, now president of the American National Red Cross.



## Index names associate editor

Michael E. Jones, 29, has become associate editor of The Christian Index, state newspaper for the Georgia Baptist Convention.

He succeeds W. D. (Dub) Joiner, who has become editor of The Metter (Ga.) Advertiser.

Before joining The Christian Index, edited by Jack U. Harwell, Jones spent six years as a cartographer with the mapping and graphics section of the Georgia Department of Transportation, where he also edited an employe publication.

He is a graduate of Georgia State University with a degree in advertising art and journalism.

## Plan ahead for this seminar

Steps in long-range planning will highlight a "Church Long-Range Planning Seminar" at Lexington May 21-23.

The three-day seminar, jointly sponsored by the Sunday School Board's Church Administration Department, Elkhorn Association and the Kentucky Baptist Convention, is designed for pastors, church staff members and church long-range planning committee members.

Seminar topics will include "Planning: What It Means to a Pastor and to a Church," "How to Help People Accept New Ideas," "How to Determine God's Mission for Your Church" and "How to Develop a Long-Range Plan of Action."

A \$35 registration fee, which includes most planning materials, should be sent in advance to Vernon Cole, Kentucky Baptist Convention, Box 43433, Middletown, KY 40243.

## Seminaries' growth rate slows

Enrollment declines, felt by America's colleges for five years, crept to the six Southern Baptist theological seminaries last fall and stuck a pin in their ballooning growth rate.

After three years of gaining nearly 1000 students annually, the seminaries increased a negligible 43 students, to a total of 8892 in all degree and non-degree programs, a growth rate of 0.4 percent.

The growth in degree-granting graduate programs was a meager 0.2 percent, to 8408, according to figures released by the Association of Theological Schools.

Southern Baptists this fall accounted for 18.1 percent of the 46,460 students enrolled in seminaries in the U. S. and Canada. Last year, Southern Baptists accounted for 18.5 percent of 45,222 students, in 198 seminaries.

Statistics indicate a significant increase in female enrollment in programs that traditionally lead to ordination. Southern Baptist seminaries reported 262 women enrolled in master of divinity programs, compared with 4402 men.

Three Southern Baptist seminaries showed small enrollment decreases: Golden Gate, down 2.3 percent; Southern, two percent; and Southwestern, 0.8 percent.

