

WESTERN RECORDER

KENTUCKY BAPTIST NEWS JOURNAL

VOL. 153, NO. 9, FEBRUARY 28, 1979



Porter W. Routh [l], outgoing executive secretary-treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee, welcomes his successor, Harold C. Bennett, immediately after

Bennett's election. With the two are their wives, Ruth Routh [beside Porter] and Phyllis Bennett. [Photo by Toby Druin]

Florida's Harold Bennett to succeed Porter Routh

Harold Clark Bennett was elected unanimously as executive secretary-treasurer of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, succeeding Porter W. Routh, who will retire July 31, 1979 after 28 years in the post.

Bennett, 54, executive-secretary of the Florida Baptist Convention since 1967, will begin serving as the Executive Committee's executive secretary-treasurer elect Apr. 1.

He will be the fourth executive secretary-treasurer in the 52-year history of the Executive Committee, which serves as the Southern Baptist Convention between annual sessions except in areas assigned to national SBC agencies. The Executive Committee disburses the SBC's national Cooperative Program funds.

The action of the Executive Committee came in an evening session, Feb. 20, after Bennett, a veteran denominational executive, appeared before them as the nominee of the Executive Committee's search committee.

Earlier in the day, the Executive Committee voted 24 to 23 to change the agenda so that they could learn the nominee's name before the evening sessions to have more time to consider it. After a parliamentary tangle members heard the report of the search committee, chaired by Brooks Wester, Mississippi pastor and Executive Committee chairman, in two parts.

First, they gave unanimous approval to a salary package for the executive secretary position which called for annual compensation of \$45,843 in salary, \$4584 in retirement contribution (10 percent of salary) and \$1947 for hospitalization, group life and disability insurance. The package also includes moving expenses and other normal employe benefits.

Next, the committee received Bennett's name as the nominee and deliberated at length on the best approach for making the decision. They decided the vote should come after an informal session with Bennett that evening. The unanimous vote followed that session.

Bennett, a native of Asheville, N. C., who was ordained to the ministry in 1948, has spent 30 years in pastoral and denominational work. He was a pastor and chaplain for 11 years before joining the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn., in 1960 as superintendent of new work.

After more than two years in that post he became secretary of the Department of Metropolitan Mis-

sions, Home Mission Board, Atlanta, 1962-65, then director of the missions division, Baptist General Convention of Texas, Dallas, 1965-67.

Bennett earned a BA degree from Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, N. C. and MDiv degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville. Stetson University, DeLand, Fla., conferred an honorary doctor of laws degree on him in 1968.

In Jacksonville, Fla. he and his family have been active members of Deermeadows Baptist Church, where he has been a deacon and Sunday school teacher. He married Phyllis Jean Metz of Joliet, Ill. in 1947. They have three children.

7th seminary unfeasible; merger off; \$83 million ok

The SBC Executive Committee declared a proposal for a seventh SBC seminary unfeasible and recommended the SBC Sunday School Board and Brotherhood Commission not merge. It also voted to recommend an \$83 million 1979-80 national Cooperative Program budget.

The six seminaries were requested to work with the committee's institutions workgroup to extend their ministries to "the needs for theological education in the state conventions in the northeast, north central, western and northwestern areas of the U. S."

The Executive Committee studied a seventh seminary following a motion referred to it last year at the SBC annual meeting in Atlanta.

Following a joint study by the Brotherhood Commission and the Sunday School Board the Executive Committee voted not to recommend to the convention that the two agencies merge.

The \$83 million Cooperative Program budget, which exceeds the 1978-79 goal by \$8 million, includes \$71 million in basic operating and capital needs of SBC agencies and \$12 million in the Bold Mission Thrust challenge section.

Benefits were improved for Executive Committee employes, including a cost of living adjustment. The maximum retirement benefit was increased from 42½ percent of final salary to 50 percent of the average for the highest five years, based on 1½ percent per year multiplied by years of service. Retirement of future employes will be funded by 10 percent of salary annually.

Bennett says local church denomination's priority in preelection interview

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

"Magnifying the local church and helping it reach people around the world" is the number one priority of Southern Baptists as seen by the newly-elected executive secretary of the SBC Executive Committee.

In a 25-minute question-and-answer session preceding his election Feb. 20 in Nashville Harold C. Bennett, executive secretary-treasurer of the Florida Baptist Convention, also cited "renewed commitment to the preaching ministry" as a high priority for the 13-million-member denomination.

Bennett sees the SBC Executive Committee as an "enabling or assisting group to help the churches in their task of bringing men and women to God through Jesus Christ."

Bennett confirmed his belief that the Lord had led him to that particular occasion. He indicated if Executive Committee members felt similarly, confirmation would occur.

Asked his position on the role of women in the church, Bennett responded, "Women have a great and glorious ministry." Then, perhaps to keep himself out of hot water, he added, "We have a greater opportunity in the future to use not only women but men."

Bennett acknowledged that he would push for a greater emphasis on the Cooperative Program, hoping to see Southern Baptist churches raise their giving level from a present average of eight percent to as much as 15 percent.

He indicated that his style of leadership would call for gathering several talented and creative individuals around him, then give them the broadest leeway possible in which to operate.

Bennett and his wife of 31 years, Phyllis, entered the Austin Crouch Room of the SBC Building in Nashville to a standing ovation of thunderous applause. In addition to Executive Committee members several hundred spectators filled the gallery spilling out through open doorways into corridors surrounding the meeting room.

Bennett's name, biographical information and a compensation plan had been submitted to committee members earlier in the day for consideration. Thus, his appearance came as no surprise to the spectators who awaited the election.

Executive Committee chairman Brooks Wester of Mississippi, who was also chairman of the search committee, termed it "an historic moment." He acknowledged that this was only the fourth time in the Executive Committee's 52-year history that a leader was to be chosen.

When the period for questioning ended, the committee decided to take its vote without asking the Bennetts to retire from the room, a strong indication of its confidence in the outcome. The vote was unanimous.

Duke K. McCall, Southern Seminary president, who preceded Routh as executive secretary, asked if the spectators in the gallery could stand with the Executive Committee members and register their approval, also. No one waited for an answer. Everyone stood and applauded for a full two minutes.

The Bennetts were then seated, and SBC president Jimmy Allen concluded the evening with a challenging address.

Bennett will begin his service in Nashville Apr. 1, serving alongside Porter W. Routh until Routh's retirement July 31.

Bennett has several Kentucky connections.

From 1951-53 he was a student at Southern Seminary pursuing the MDiv degree. He was chaplain at the Kentucky State Reformatory at LaGrange and the Kentucky Woman's Prison at Pewee Valley at this time. For several months in 1952 he pastored West Point (Ky.) Baptist Church.

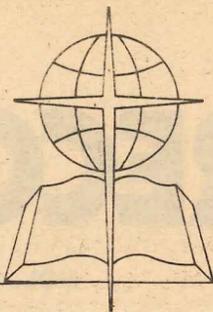
Later, while serving in Nashville, he was interim pastor at Little West Fork Baptist Church, Hopkinsville, in the fall of 1960.

In 1972 Bennett was named a colonel in the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels.

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

WESTERN RECORDER
(ISSN 0043-4132)

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



Published by Western Recorder Inc., Box 43401, Middletown, KY 40243 weekly, except for one week in July and December. Second class postage paid at Louisville, Ky.

Subscriptions: Single \$4.20; foreign, \$4.25; church budget, \$3.00. Payable in advance, except church accounts, which require tax exemption number.

Directors: C. Carman Sharp, Louisville, chairman; Harold J. Purdy, Madisonville, vice chairman; Billy D. Marcum, Brandenburg, secretary; William S. Blake-man, Winchester; Tom Butler, Paducah; Curtis Erwin, Glasgow; Garnett Hulette, Frankfort; William D. Jag-gers, Cynthiana; Donald J. LaBelle, London; O. G. Lawless, Bowling Green; Ronald P. Moore, Highland Heights; Gilbert Sapp, Russell Springs.



C. R. Daley

Daley Observations

Baptists at their worst and their best

Baptists sometimes are at their best when they appear to be at their worst. This was certainly the case last week in a frustrating session of the semiannual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee. Periodically Baptists in denominational meetings as well as in local churches have to go through a catharsis to remain healthy.

The frustrating session of the Executive Committee was touched off by a well meaning motion to amend the agenda to allow for more time for Executive Committee members to responsibly act upon the most vital recommendation they will ever likely consider as committee members. This was the recommendation for a successor to executive secretary Porter Routh.

The six member committee to recommend Dr. Routh's successor had planned to submit their choice for the position only an hour or so before a reception was scheduled in honor of the new leader. The motion to amend called for the report of the search committee in a morning session giving time during the rest of the day for consideration before the formal election in the evening session.

Unfortunately the presiding officer was also chairman of the search committee and immediately reacted negatively toward any change in the original agenda. It was also unfortunate and unjustified when the presiding officer charged the maker and supporters of the motion to amend the agenda with having a hidden agenda. This put the fat into the fire and produced sharp debate.

Though the debate was on procedure—namely, how and when to present a committee recommendation—a basic Baptist principle was involved. This is the principle of openness which recognizes the right of those making the ultimate decision to have all the information and all the time needed for responsible decisions.

This has been a perennial problem with the Executive Committee. Time after time far reaching proposals have been presented by some small subcommittee to the full committee with insufficient background information and with little or no time for questions and discussions. The result is that Executive Committee members often feel they are expected merely to rubber stamp the recommendation.

This was the appearance last week. As it turned out there was no Executive Committee member with serious reservation about the choice of the search committee but there were some who did not know the nominee. In wanting to amend the agenda they were saying, "Treat us with respect. Give us full information and time for consideration. Don't assume only you have access to the Holy Spirit and no one should

raise any question. We have the same access to the Holy Spirit as you and we are just as anxious to do God's will in this matter as you are."

This problem of insufficient information and time to act responsibly was pointed out several years ago by a committee studying the functions of the Executive Committee but the counsel of the study committee was not taken seriously by all Executive Committee members.

In one important assignment of the Executive Committee a change in recent years has been very helpful. This is in the budget recommending procedure. Formerly, the budget allocation recommendations worked out by a subcommittee were passed on for approval by other Executive Committee members in the same meeting in which they were worked out. This meant two-thirds of the Executive Committee members had very limited time to consider multi-million dollar appropriations before voting on what the other one-third had decided after long deliberation. This was not intentional railroading but it was a fault in the procedure.

Now a subcommittee meets in January to work out the budget recommendations. Their report is then mailed to the other Executive Committee members who have about a month to study the recommendations before acting on them in the February meeting.

Of course hindsight is always better than foresight but the search committee for Dr. Routh's successor should have followed this procedure. The Executive Committee members should have been mailed the search committee's recommendation at least two weeks before the meeting in which the election of the executive secretary was scheduled. The search committee in this instance was determined to keep their choice a secret until the very moment of election. To keep this kind of information a secret is impossible even if it were desirable.

Once the agenda was changed and Executive Committee members were given time for reflection, questions and discussion, there was "a sweet, sweet spirit" in that place and the nominee was accepted enthusiastically and unanimously.

Now back to the conclusion of the first sentence in this editorial. If the frustrating session served to teach us that recommendations must be openly presented and that Baptists demand enough time and information to be responsible in their decisions, it was indeed a valuable session. This has been our redeeming quality as Baptists. When our hearts are together but our heads are not, we can butt heads lovingly until hearts and heads are together. May it ever be so!

Trustees must live up to their trust

For the sake of clearer understanding the news article in last week's Western Recorder announcing the early retirement of Radio and Television Commission president Paul M. Stevens needs further treatment. The story broke just before press time and could be given only brief treatment.

On the basis of more than 20 years of observing the work of Paul Stevens and the Radio and Television Commission and of unpublished reports of recent months, I have two conclusions. The first is that Stevens has been highly successful but has shown questionable judgment in some instances. The second is that the commission's trustees elected by the Southern Baptist Convention have discharged their duties forthrightly and courageously in accepting Stevens'

resignation.

No one observing the work of Paul Stevens can but agree he has done an outstanding job. Taking the helm of our Southern Baptist radio and television ministry when it was but an infant, Stevens has led it to one of the most highly regarded positions among all religious programmers in the United States.

Stevens has unique gifts. He is a dreamer who comes closer than most leaders to making his highest dreams realities. He has surrounded himself with very able associates and the quality of programs produced is rightly a source of pride for Southern Baptists.

But success is a heady thing. Sometimes it distorts one's vision and tempts one to overestimate and overstep his administrative authority. It is not the rule but this can happen in local Baptist churches as well as in Baptist denominational life.

A successful pastor sometimes develops an exaggerated idea of his importance and presumes what he wants is always best for the church and should be endorsed without question. In the case of denominational agencies, sometimes executives of denominational agencies equate what is good for their personal welfare with what is good for the welfare of the agency and though they deny it or don't even recognize it, they expect the denominationally elected trustees to rubber stamp their proposals and policies.

The news release on Paul Stevens' early retirement is vague. Often this is the way such stories are reported and this may be the best way. But in this case it is not quite fair to Stevens nor to interested readers. It is clear from reading between the lines that Stevens' performance was not satisfactory in every way in the opinion of the trustees of the Radio and Television Commission. Administrators are not ordinarily relieved of their administrative responsibilities on the spot when things are going well.

The announcement of Stevens' retirement thus leaves a shadow over Stevens and the imagination of readers is likely to be worse than the facts. From informed sources the word is that there is nothing scandalous in this situation. It appears that the problem is questionable administrative policies over a period of years.

Among these policies are a retirement plan that would provide Stevens 60% of his over \$45,000 salary exclusive of Social Security and other plans plus an arrangement for Stevens to live in a commission-owned house the rest of his life. No other agency has ever made such provisions.

The other conclusion of this writer is that the trustees of the Radio and Television Commission should be commended for facing this situation honestly and dealing with it forthrightly. This is rather unusual for trustees of a Baptist agency who usually choose to put up with unsatisfactory situations rather than force a showdown. Such situations among Southern Baptist agencies seldom exist but when they do the example of the Radio and Television Commission trustees should be followed.

All trustees of state and national Baptist agencies should ponder carefully the words of Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission chairman Ray Scroggins who said the trustees have come "to a new realization of the magnitude of the responsibility of being a trustee of an agency of the Southern Baptist Convention and the realization that the trustees must fulfill their responsibilities in trust for the people who elected them."

Trustees must be trustworthy or our plan for operating Baptist denominational agencies will fail.



Miss Carwile



Miss Caskey



Miss Deroche



Miss Dixius



Miss Hargis



Miss Harned



Miss Swatzell

Statistics: music excepted, it's still the same old song

Four of the five Southern Baptist Convention church program organizations registered losses last year with church music experiencing an enrolment gain for the 14th consecutive year.

Southern Baptists' Church Training program was estimated in December for a .2 percent gain for the year, but the final report showed a loss of .1 percent, or 2478 members.

Baptisms dropped again, decreasing by 9640 from 345,690 to 336,050, but membership rose .9 percent from 13,083,199 to 13,196,979 and SBC churches went up .4 percent from 35,255 to 35,404.

Receipts of the Southern Baptist Convention increased by 10.5 percent last year to a total of \$1,986,040,615.

Church music experienced an enrolment increase of 42,589, or 3.1 percent. Eight percent more churches (1864) reported new church music programs

Sunday school enrolment, down by almost 93,000, or 1.2 percent, decreased for the second consecutive year, following five years of increases. Total Sunday school enrolment is now 7,338,046.

Woman's Missionary Union enrolment decreased during the past year by 2.1 percent, or 23,119, to a total just under 1.1 million.

Brotherhood enrolment also experienced a loss, down 1.4 percent to 466,698, a loss of 6611.

Two SBC leaders named

Glen E. Braswell of Colorado and Alvin C. Shackleford of Tennessee were named to the presidency of their respective groups of SBC leaders.

Braswell is president of the Southern Baptist Association of State Convention Executive Directors.

Shackleford, editor of Tennessee's Baptist and Reflector, is president of the Southern Baptist Press Association.

Women learn to witness at Lexington . . .

Keynote speaker at this year's Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union annual meeting Apr. 5-7 will be Mrs. A. Harrison Gregory, president of the southwide WMU.

Meeting at Lexington's Calvary Baptist Church, Mrs. Harrison will also conduct a prayer period during other sessions of the event.

"Be Witnesses" is theme of the meeting. Sessions begin with an interpretation of the theme by students at Georgetown College.

Musicians include Jim Woodward, dean, College of Fine Arts, Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee; the Calvary Baptist Church choir; and the Georgetown College A Capella choir.

Additional speakers include David Book, missionary to New York; Victor Lyons, summer missionary to Houston; Wiley and Geneva Faw, missionaries to

. . . while at Bowling Green it's youth's turn

Group conferences on personal witnessing, exposing church youth leaders to youth evangelism strategies and resources, inspirational and practical witnessing techniques are included in the state youth evangelism conference Mar. 10.

Meeting at Bowling Green's First Baptist Church, 621 E. 12th St., the event will open at 10 a.m., concluding

Lay involvement in bold missions will be concern of SBC panel

Responding to a plea from a group of Baptist laymen in key business positions, the SBC Executive Committee voted to appoint a five-member committee to explore ways Baptist laypersons can be more effectively involved in Bold Mission Thrust.

The action came following a presentation by C. E. Price of Pittsburgh, Pa., vice president and general manager of the Industry Services Division of Westinghouse Electric Corp., who spoke on behalf of a group of 15 business and

professional executives concerned about involvement of laymen in Bold Mission Thrust.

Price called for Baptist leaders to allow laymen "to use our God-given talents and gifts as we participate as Baptist men in the mainstream of Southern Baptist life through Bold Mission Thrust."

He presented a detailed report suggesting ways that the gifts and talents of Baptist men could be utilized in the Bold Mission Thrust effort by Southern

Baptists to proclaim the gospel to every person on earth by the year 2000.

"Many Southern Baptist men who are now supporting para-church groups through participation and giving of their financial resources could become interested and involved in the approaches suggested in this report," Price said.

The report called for pastors to recruit, challenge, motivate and train their laymen in personal evangelism, and for a national strategy to enlist one million Southern Baptist laymen practicing personal evangelism on a daily basis.

The report suggested the Executive Committee organize a Bold Mission Thrust communications advisory committee involving Baptist laymen who are professionals in the field of communications to develop a national strategy.

In a more lengthy presentation to the program subcommittee of the Executive Committee Price explained that the 15 laymen involved in making the request were not part of any organized movement, and made no claim to represent all SBC laymen.

"We do believe it represents a reasonable percentage of executives and professional men, both active and retired, who desire to participate in a more meaningful way to undergird the Bold Mission Thrust program," he added.

The group met in Tallahassee, Fla., in January to discuss ways to more effectively involve laymen in Bold Mission Thrust after five of the men had gone on an extensive missions tour of the Northwest and West Coast sponsored by the Home Mission Board last October.

As a result of that involvement the men on the tour issued a plea circulated through Baptist Press urging that Baptist leaders (1) don't just ask us (laymen) for money; (2) take a chance on us and turn us loose to participate directly in missions, (3) use our professional skills in missions and ministry, and (4) take advantage of the influence of laymen to advance the kingdom of God.

Seven in Acteen's scholarship program

(See photos at top of page.)

Seven Kentucky high school seniors have received initial \$500 Acteen scholarships given by Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union.

Recipients are required to hold membership in a KBC-affiliated church and reach the level of Queen Regent in Acteen's Studiact to be considered. Applications, available from the state WMU office, must be returned by Jan. 15 of the senior year.

First recipients of the scholarships include:

Cynthia Carwile, Louisville; Gretchen Caskey, Bowling Green; Barbara Deroche, Louisville; Patti Dixius, Radcliff; Nancy Hargis, Lexington; Virginia Harned, Lebanon Junction; and Suzie B. Swatzell, Pineville.



Kentuckian John A. Wood [l], pastor of FBC, Paducah, and a trustee of the SBC Radio and Television Commission, talks with retiring president Paul M. Stevens [r] and Harold E. Martin, executive vice president, the commission's chief operating officer until a successor to Stevens is found.

News in Brief

Nigeria; Mary Moschella, US-2er in Kentucky; Jack Palmer, director of missions, Bethel and Logan associations; Fannie Cobb, missionary to Thailand; Norma Cobb, missionary to Japan; and Frances Pendley, missionary nurse to Yeman.

Churches reaching WMU's centennial goals will be recognized at a victory celebration reception in Lexington. Luncheons are planned for parents of Kentucky-born foreign missionaries and for association WMU directors. Baptist Young Women will dine at Immanuel Baptist Church one evening.

Lexington races starting Apr. 7 have caused hotel space to be at a premium. Early reservations are suggested.

Reservations in private homes should be received by Mar. 15. Address requests to Mrs. Paul Doss, 2056 Fallon Rd., Lexington, KY 40504.

at 4:30 p.m. It is sponsored by the Kentucky Baptist Evangelism Department and is for youth and their leaders.

Program personalities include Lowell Vann, Samford University chalk talk artist; Dave Bennett, Home Mission Board youth consultant; Ron Lentine, youth evangelist and karate instructor; and youth choirs from the host church and Lone Oak Baptist Church, Paducah.

Turlingtons leave Iran

The Henry E. Turlingtons, last Southern Baptist missionaries in Iran, were safely evacuated to Frankfurt, Germany Feb. 18.

Word on their safety had been anxiously awaited since the general evacuation was announced following seizure of the American embassy in Tehran. The Turlingtons were stationed in Tehran where he was pastor of an English-language congregation serving U. S. military and business personnel.

Missionary journeyman Michael Joe Sowder was evacuated Jan. 31 from Iran and is currently in the U. S. awaiting possible reassignment to Scotland.

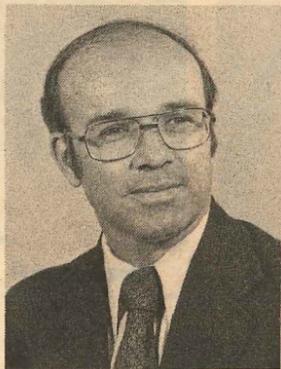
Other Southern Baptist missionaries and their families had left the country earlier during the escalating civil conflict.

'Jesus of Nazareth' slated for repeat TV performance

An expanded version of "Jesus of Nazareth," the award-winning TV biblical epic, will be presented on NBC-TV in April. The film has been expanded to eight hours from its original 6½ hours to include footage never seen in this country.

It will be telecast in four two-hour segments Apr. 1, 2, 3 and 8.

The film tells the story of Jesus Christ from his birth, focuses on his teachings and miracles, the agony of the crucifixion and the spiritual power of the resurrection.



John Cobb Smith
Ft. Worth, Tex.



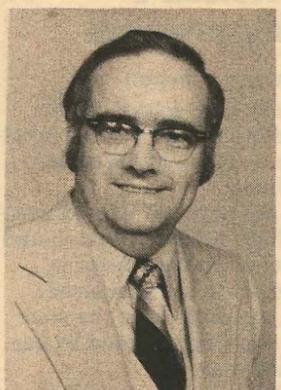
Robert B. Taylor
Ft. Worth, Tex.



John A. Wood
Paducah, Ky.



Robert E. Kersey
Paducah, Ky.



Robert Young
Louisville, Ky.

STATE

COMMUNICATIONS

CONFERENCE

MARCH 29-30, 1979

Severns Valley Baptist Church

Elizabethtown, Kentucky



Mrs. Bonita Sparrow
Ft. Worth, Tex.



Bobby Sunderland
Atlanta, Ga.



Thomas R. King
Nashville, Tenn.



Anna Mary Byrdwell
Middletown, Ky.



Harold E. Martin
Ft. Worth, Tex.

ESPECIALLY FOR

- Pastors
- Ministers of Education
- Church Secretaries
- Sunday School Teachers & Officers
- Church Training Leaders
- WMU & Brotherhood Officers
- Church Public Relations Committees
- Church Media Center Staffers
- Church Members Who Want to Write
- Superintendents of Missions
- Associational Office Staffs
- Church TV & Radio Volunteer Staffers
- Denominational Employes
- Agency Communications Staffs
- College & Seminary Communications Students
- Anyone Who Communicates Within/For the Church

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, MARCH 29 — 1:15 p.m. and 7 p.m.
FRIDAY, MARCH 30 — 9 a.m.

Communications exhibits throughout the conference
Fellowship dinner Thursday evening at the church

General session topics:

"Mass Media Evangelism"
"Broadcast Media Looks at Religion"
"What Southern Baptists are Doing in Electronic Media"

Communications workshops
(choose any four):

Creative Displays and Interest Centers—Darrell Wood, Director of Communications, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville

Church Cassette Ministry—John Brown, Consultant, Japanese Victor Corp., Knoxville, Tenn.; Cookie Jones, Technical Sales Representative, Magnetic Tape, Nashville, Tenn.

Beginners in Broadcasting—Jimmy Waters, TV Evangelist, Macon, Ga.

Radio—John Cobb Smith, Assistant Vice President, Radio and Television Commission, SBC, Ft. Worth, Tex.

Television—Bob Taylor, Radio and Television Commission, SBC, Ft. Worth, Tex.; John Wood, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Paducah; Bob Kersey, Associate Pastor, First Baptist Church, Paducah; Robert Young, Associate Pastor, Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville

Cable—James Fadely, Video Systems Consultant, Gray Communications Consultants Inc., Birmingham, Ala.

Writing for Religious and Secular Press—Bracey Campbell, Supervisor, News and

Information Section, Office of Communications, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.; Mrs. Bonita Sparrow, Vice President-Promotion, Radio and Television Commission, SBC, Ft. Worth, Tex.

Freelance and Curriculum Writing—James H. Cox, Associate Editor, Western Recorder, Middletown

Total Church Public Relations—W. C. Fields, Assistant to the Executive Secretary and Public Relations Director, SBC Executive Committee, Nashville, Tenn.

Broadcast Engineering/Sound Systems/Church Acoustics—Glen Collins, Electronics Consultant, Technical Industries, Nashville, Tenn.; Bill Hammond, Television Division Manager, Technical Industries, Nashville, Tenn.

Associational and Church Newsletters—Wesley M. (Pat) Pattillo Jr., Vice President for Development, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville

Workshop for Persons Not Mechanically Inclined—Andrew B. Rawls, Director of Media Services, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville

Evangelism Through Mass Media—Don Fearheiley, Supervisor, Bible Correspondence Section, Bible Teaching Division, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.; Bobby Sunderland, Director, Department of Mass Evangelism, Home Mission Board, Atlanta, Ga.

Registration fee of \$5.00 covers program materials and fellowship dinner. Payable in advance to: Kentucky Baptist Convention, Box 43433, Middletown, KY 40243

Mountains to the Mississippi

Congregations

Blevins to offer Revelations drama
James L. Blevins, professor of New Testament interpretation at Southern Seminary, will present "The Revelation of John—in Art, Music and Drama" at Broadway Baptist Church, Louisville.

The program—at 7 p.m. Mar. 4—will feature slides, music, dramatic dance, narration, staging and interpretation.

Blevins will speak in the 11 a.m. worship service the same day. His sermon will introduce the evening program.

Casey to preach in Indianapolis
Swiss Colony Baptist Church, London, will send pastor James E. Casey Jr. to preach a revival at Koinonia Baptist Church, Indianapolis, Ind., Apr. 1-6.

The church is paying their pastor's expenses and he is giving his service to help Koinonia Church in the Bold Mission Thrust effort.

Freeda Harris' mother very ill
The mother of Freeda Harris, who served at Marrowbone Center for many years, is in serious condition at Pikeville Hospital.

Her mother, Mrs. Bailey, has been hospitalized for several weeks. Mrs. Harris has been constantly at her side though she is in poor health herself.

FBC, Richmond, adopts deacon rotation
For the first time in its 151-year history, First Baptist Church, Richmond, is using a deacon rotation plan.

The church recently elected 22 new deacons and ordained 14 of them Feb. 4. Forty deacons—eight of them life deacons—now serve the church.

The group is undergoing training at monthly meetings. Pastor Mack T. Harris is teaching the related books. The deacons will use the family ministry plan after the study is complete.

St. Matthews drops deacon sex barrier
St. Matthews Baptist Church voted in February business session to change church bylaws to allow all qualified persons to be nominated for office of deacon without regard to their sex.

Roberts rate high at Lexington Ave.
Rev. and Mrs. Austin Roberts were crowned king and queen of the Lexington Avenue Baptist Church, Danville, sweetheart banquet Feb. 14.

The banquet turned out to be a surprise in honor of their 15th anniversary at the church.

Two hundred fifty members and friends, many bring valentines, came to express their appreciation for the pastor and his wife.

The anniversary celebration culminated with Pastor Appreciation Day Feb. 25.

Mark study at Ridgcrest Church
Ridgcrest Baptist Church, Beaver Dam, recently finished Bible study in Mark's gospel. John M. Carter, pastor of Calvary Hill Baptist Church, Stanford, was the teacher.

Average attendance was 48 in spite of the snow. Jesse Tichenor is pastor at Ridgcrest.

Probe features Stephen Chilton
Stephen Chilton, 15, Kentucky Royal Ambassador president, is featured in the March 1979 issue of Probe magazine for Pioneers as the March Pioneer on the Move.

The article deals with his struggle with cancer—his right leg was amputated because of bone cancer in 1976 and he presently faces several months of chemotherapy treatments.

A member of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Anchorage, he praises the RA program: "I really enjoy the fact that I am given an opportunity through Royal Ambassadors to do something for someone else."

Doris Yeiser earns B.P.W. award
Doris B. Yeiser has been named 1978-79 Woman of Achievement by the St. Matthews Business and Professional Women's Club. She is administrative assistant in the KBC executive offices.

She has been state president of the Federation of Business and Professional Women, president of the Council of Women Presidents, a board member of the Women's Chamber of Commerce and is currently first vice president.

For four years she has been director of the St. Matthews B.P.W. individual development plan, training members in self-improvement, leadership ability, club management and speaking.



Miss Yeiser



Butler

Ninth and O recognizes pastor
Ninth and O Baptist Church, Louisville, celebrated the 10th anniversary of pastor LaVerne Butler on Feb. 11.

During those 10 years the church has added several new ministries, including a daily radio program, a weekly television ministry, bus outreach, a day care center, Christian Day School, 80-acre camp and a guidance and counseling clinic.

As part of the celebration, the church emphasized a Sunday school promotion—Ten More for Ten. Each of the 37 departments aimed for 10 more than the average attendance.

Ninth and O recently launched a "Together We Build" program featuring debt retirement, extended TV ministry, building renovation, camp lodge and the acquisition of additional property over the next three years.

The church has also voted to give Butler six weeks off for a refresher study.

Pearces to be at Winchester
J. Winston Pearce and his wife Winnie will participate in a conference for pastors, deacons and their wives at Northside Baptist Church, Winchester.

Sponsored by Boone's Creek Association, the program is set for Mar. 12-13.

Both Pearces are deeply involved in Southern Baptist life. Both are writers.

They will deal with such topics as "Interesting Things I've Seen Deacon/Pastor's Wives Do," "Interesting Things I've Seen Deacons/Pastors Do," "Pastor-Deacon Relationships," "Supportive Role of Wife," "How to Encourage One Another (Pastors and Wives)," "Deepening Your Spiritual Life" and "Ministry of Deacon-Pastor

Families in Home, Church and Community."

Ross Figart, director of associational missions, Boone's Creek Association, and Vernon Cole, KBC Church Training director, are also on the program.

Figart will speak on "Some Things Deacons and Wives Should Know About the Pastor's Family." Cole will discuss "Some Things Pastors and Wives Should Know About the Deacons' Families."

Deaths

Joseph Rattliff dies in Greensburg
Joseph C. Rattliff, Greensburg, died two weeks ago at the age of 53.

He was a pastor in churches in Kentucky, including Brush Creek, Pleasant Ridge and Mt. Gilead.

Survivors include his wife, Barbara Jean; a married daughter, Reba Karen; and a son, Jerry.

John R. Sampey's widow dies
Ellen W. Sampey, 94, the widow of John R. Sampey, died Feb. 20 in Birmingham, Ala.

Her husband was president of Southern Seminary, Louisville, from 1929 until his death in 1942.

The funeral was held in Birmingham last Thursday.

Missions

Maude Skinner is MSC volunteer
Miss Maude Skinner, who was born in Harrodsburg and grew up in Dry Ridge, left earlier this month as the first Missionary Service Corps volunteer from Ohio.

She went to Nagasaki, Japan, by way of Tokyo. She is staying in the home of career missionaries Pratt and Rita Dean of Alabama.

Miss Skinner recently took early retirement from her public school career of 19 years in the Cincinnati area. Five years before that she taught English and speech in northern Kentucky high schools.

She is a graduate of Cumberland Junior College and Georgetown College, and holds a masters degree from Miami University, Oxford, O.

In Nagasaki she works in the mission center and the local Baptist church in addition to teaching English at Provincial Junior College for Women and Nagasaki University Business College.

On Tuesday mornings she teaches the gospel of Mark to a group of Japanese women.

She is a member of First Baptist Church, Mason, O., where she teaches Sunday school, works with children in Children Training, is church hostess and sings in the choir.

A reception was held by the church in her honor Feb. 11—two days before she left—and she was given a money tree.

Arthur Patterson is pastor of FBC, Mason.

Glynn McCormick in Guatemala
Glynn Douglas McCormick is currently a teacher in an inter-American school in Quezaltenango, Guatemala.

McCormick, from Paducah, went overseas as a Mission Service Corps volunteer through the Foreign Mission Board.

Some \$2500 of his support needs are being borne by Royston (Ga.) Baptist

Church while the balance of \$1266 will come from undesignated MSC gifts.

His mailing address is: Mr. Glynn Douglas McCormick, Apartado 24, Quezaltenango, Guatemala, Ca.

Saar new music, youth director
Larry Saar is the new music and youth director at Bethany Baptist Church, Mt. Washington. He will serve part time. Irvin Cope is pastor.

Curtis Fox to Swiss Colony
Swiss Colony Baptist Church, London, called Curtis Fox, a Cumberland College student, as minister of music and youth.

Fox is a native of Miami, Fla., and a graduate of Florida Bible College. He is working toward a church music degree at Cumberland.

He and his wife and three children will move on the church field Apr. 1.

Fox held a similar position at First Baptist Church, Fountain City, Tenn. James E. Casey Jr. is the pastor at Swiss Colony.

Petersen to Riverside Church
O. J. Petersen is the new pastor of Riverside Baptist Church, Louisville. For the past 3½ years he was pastor of King's Road Baptist Church, Toledo, O.

While at Southern Seminary, he was associate minister of evangelism at Walnut Street Baptist Church.

Petersen spent three years with the Arthur Blessit Evangelistic Association on Sunset Strip.

He and his wife, the former Nolena Otis, have two children, Dawn, 5, and Daniel, 6.

Stevenson to New Salem Church
Stanley Stevenson, a Somerset native, was called as pastor of New Salem Baptist Church, Lincoln County Association, Stanford.

He is former pastor of Pleasant View Baptist Church, Somerset, and is enrolled as a fourth-year student at Clear Creek School.

Stevenson is married to the former Linda Hansford. They have two children: Kelli, 3½, and Micah, seven months.

Chester Irvin to Gethsemane Church
Chester C. Irvin has been called as pastor of Gethsemane Baptist Church, Long Run Association. He will begin Mar. 4.

He holds a BS degree from University of Louisville, MS from University of Kentucky, BD from Southern Seminary and ThM from New Orleans Seminary.

Irvin has been pastor of churches in Kentucky, Missouri, Illinois and Alabama and has taught at Missouri Baptist College and Georgetown College.

Irvin and his wife, the former Dorothy Franke, are Louisville natives. They have two sons at home, Mark and Bob, and two married daughters, Mrs. Sharon Hutchins and Mrs. Jane Horne.

William Shoulta to Long Run Church
William E. Shoulta is now pastor of Long Run Baptist Church, Jefferson County.

Shoulta and his wife, Jill Thompson Shoulta, are graduates of Paducah Community College and Murray State University.

Shoulta was youth minister of Rosebower Baptist Church in Paducah and came to Long Run from the pastorate of Freedom Baptist Church, North Vernon, Ind.

'Powerline': A different tune to the same message

When "Powerline" hit the air waves in 1969 the host was playing "Everyday People" and telling teenagers they are very special people to God. Today the host plays a different tune but he still spreads the Christian message to millions of young people.

The half-hour radio program, produced by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission in Ft. Worth, celebrates its 10th anniversary this month. What started out as a dramatic change to religious programming is now the world's largest syndicated program.

"Our goal was to develop a program for teenagers that would fit in with their lifestyle, yet provide a Christian influence," said Claude Cox, commission marketing director and the show's writer. Kirk Teegarden, of the commission staff, produces the program.

"In doing research for 'Powerline' I discovered that if we were to reach young people we would have to go where they were—and that was to rock music," said Cox.

"I noticed that many of the songs on the hit charts could be used as a springboard for comments on Christianity by a Christian announcer.

"We had to develop a program that station managers would accept. If we didn't get it past them then all our efforts would be in vain."

The early "Powerline" programs were quite different from Today's shows because the audience has changed, said Cox. "Ten years ago the kids were rebellious and really into the drug culture. Many were

runaways and they were asking a lot of questions about sex and interpersonal relationships.

"Religion, too, was a bad word in the late 60s, so we had to slip any mention of Jesus in by the back door, so to speak. We would tell them about the Christian life before they could turn us off. It was very subtle."

Cox said today's young people are more sophisticated than those of 10 years ago. "They're interested in things like ecology, government and health and we've had to adapt 'Powerline' to meet those needs. When the program started they (teenagers) were interested in today. Now they're interested in tomorrow. They're also more open to ideas on Christianity."

"I think broadcasters were surprised when we introduced the show because it was such a dramatic change from traditional Baptist approaches to evangelism," said Cox.

"But they seemed to like it. Contemporary music stations find few programs of this nature that are so near to their own format. 'Powerline' helps stations meet their public service obligations to their communities.

"We are not trying to sell denominationalism, organized churches or an institution," said Cox. "We are talking about God in a straight-forward manner."

"Powerline's" format includes songs selected from the top three hit charts bridged with comments by a professional disc jockey. Problem letters from listeners and solutions are read on the air. The identity of

the authors is never revealed.

Listeners are encouraged to write for help with their problems and a trained counselor answers each letter personally.

"Many of these kids don't have anywhere to turn for help except to 'Powerline'," said J. P. Allen, head of the commission's counseling department.

"In 1978, 76,984 young people wrote as a result of hearing 'Powerline'," said Allen. "More than 11,000 of these requested personal counseling."

The need for a fully-staffed counseling department at the commission stemmed from a series done on sex and dating.

Several early programs featured two-minute vignettes on various areas of sexuality. Apparently that hit a nerve and the letters began to pour in.

As a stimulus to keep letters coming, Cox began to make available free offers on the air. These have included posters, iron-on transfers and book covers. Last year almost 66,000 teenagers wrote into request the free gifts.

"Because of the show's format there hadn't been too much opportunity to present the plan of salvation, but if the kids wrote in for a free gift we can include a salvation brochure in with the offer," said Cox.

Since the inception of "Powerline," the tone of the program has changed with the times, said Kirk Teegarden, the show's producer.

Teegarden, who carefully selects all music for the program, said, "Young people will hear many of their favorite hits on 'Powerline' but some songs are never played on the show because they are inconsistent with the Christian way of life."

In addition to looking at the song's lyrics, Teegarden also considers the lives of the performers.

"Powerline's" host is professional disc jockey Jon Rivers. Rivers is the morning man on Ft. Worth's KFJZ-FM, but he's "Brother Jon" to millions of "Powerline" listeners.

"We use professional announcers because it gives more polish to the finished product," said Teegarden.

The fact that "Powerline" is aired on more than 1000 stations hasn't kept Southern Baptists from striving to reach more stations.

"The more stations we have, the more kids hear about Christ and the more lives can be given new directions," said Cox.

'The Deacon' editor gets first hand involvement in deacon ministry

Ordination to the deacon ministry is a special, significant time in the life of Christian laymen.

Henry Webb's recent deacon ordination holds doubly significant meaning for him. Webb, an ordained pastor, also is editor of *The Deacon* magazine.

Other editors of *The Deacon* have served their churches as deacons, but Webb is the first to be ordained to the deacon ministry while editor of the magazine, which is published by the pastoral section of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's church administration department.

Webb says the practical impact of his ordination as a deacon should be in increased involvement in the lives of the church members in his family ministry plan flock.

"In my present church, I am not functioning as an ordained pastor, but as a member," Webb explained. "The role here is different than in the last church where I was a member and the pastor."

"Ordination, whether to the deacon ministry or the gospel ministry, is being set apart for a specific role in ministry," he said. "Both ordinations are significant high points to me."

"Now as a deacon, I have been set apart for another role. I am not renouncing my first ordination," he explained, "but the church is choosing and setting me apart for the specific ministry assigned to deacons."

"I don't anticipate a major transformation in my ministry because of my ordination as a deacon," Webb said. "As a pastor, I worked closely with deacons and understood the deacon ministry, which will enhance my work as a deacon."

Webb moved to the Sunday School Board in 1977 from Honolulu, Hawaii, where he had been pastor of Kalihi Baptist Church for nine years.

"I still function in a pastoral role as editor of *The Deacon*," he said, "as an equipping minister. Through the magazine, I continually try to equip deacons across the country to do their ministry," he said.

According to Webb, the pastoral ministries team is composed of the pastor, church staff and deacons, with no distinction of status since they are all part of a team. The distinction among members of the pastoral

ministries team is for the specific function to which they are called to serve in the church. Pastors and deacons sharing the ministry can understand each other's roles as they lead and serve the congregation.

For Webb, the ordination as a deacon was a natural step. "The ordination was an external symbol of what I already felt," he said. "It is a clear distinction of my present role as a layman in my church."



Henry Webb [r], editor of *The Deacon*, is a former pastor who recently was ordained as a deacon. He is shown here with his supervisor Ernest Mosley, who also is a former pastor now ordained to the deacon ministry.

Christian Education

Allen to give lectures at Georgetown College

SBC president Jimmy Allen will be the Danford Thomas Lecturer at 8 p.m. Mar. 8 in John L. Hill Chapel at Georgetown College.

Allen is pastor of First Baptist Church, San Antonio, Tex.

The Danford Thomas Memorial Lecture Foundation was established in 1920 by Rhodes Thomas in memory of his father, for many years a member of the Georgetown faculty.

According to Carl Fields, chairman of the Danford Thomas Lecture Committee, "The Mar. 8 lectures takes on special meaning for the college and community. We are indeed proud that the president of the Southern Baptist Convention will be on our campus for this lecture during the year that Georgetown College celebrates the 150th anniversary of our founding."

Allen will speak on world hunger. The lecture is open to the public. There is no admission charge.

Two students named Sports Ambassadors

Georgetown College students Jay Callis and Joey Perez have been named members of the Sports Ambassadors baseball team for this summer.

A ministry of Overseas Crusades, Sports Ambassadors combines athletic competition with Christian ministries in Asia, Africa and South America.

Callis, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Callis, Pendleton, is a member of the executive council of the student government association, secretary of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, secretary of Circle K and a member of Baptist Student Union Council. A member of Phi Kappa Tau fraternity, he was named to Alpha Lambda Delta, the freshman honorary. He is a member of Sligo Baptist Church.

Perez is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Dunavan, Pleasureville. He is captain of the Fellowship of Christian

Athletes and a member of Phi Kappa Tau. He plays intercollegiate football as well as baseball at Georgetown.

He is a member of Pleasureville Baptist Church.

C'ville seeks churches' input through council

President W. R. Davenport has announced the formation of the Campbellsville College Church Relations Council at the school.

Composed of about 90 members from Kentucky and several adjoining states, the group reflects the views of Southern Baptist churches to the administration.

The council also acquaints churches with procedures of the college, assists Campbellsville in ascertaining the will of the churches, promotes student enrollment and financial support, and obtains representative advisement on college operations.

The council has five committees: program development, financial support, outreach services, student recruitment and public relations. The committees will meet twice a year and the council annually.

Grant for Georgetown

Georgetown College received a \$7000 grant from the Education and Community Support Program of Ashland Oil, Inc.

The grant will provide funds for the renovation and equipping of a physical fitness area in Alumni Gymnasium.

College president Ben M. Elrod said, "As a result of Ashland Oil's generosity, the entire campus will have access to a greatly improved physical fitness area."

Cumberland College receives Sears grant

Sears-Roebuck Foundation recently presented a \$16,300 unrestricted grant to Cumberland College.

The grant was part of Sears' Aid-To-Education Grant program to 21 private colleges and universities in Kentucky.

LIFE AND WORK SERIES

Paul was deeply impressed by the gracious manner in which God had dealt with the people of Israel. They had occupied a position of unique privilege. They were the chosen people, the custodians of the divine oracles, the recipients of various important revelations, the beneficiaries of many precious promises and the national instrument for the revelation of the divine will. But when the Messiah came to them, the vast majority of them refused to receive him.

Romans 9:14-15, 19-24 The Hebrew people ignored the fact that their privileged position and favored status sprang from God's sovereignty rather than from their own merit. Their unbelief caused the hardness of their hearts, and their spurning of the wondrous grace of God resulted in the divine opening of the door of faith to the Gentiles. The apostle emphasized that God is sovereign over all; therefore, the Israelites did not have any

INTERNATIONAL SERIES

1 Corinthians 3:10-23 After preaching in Athens Paul journeyed to Corinth. For a year and a half he lived in Corinth and there labored with phenomenal success. Soon after his departure, a learned and eloquent Jew, Apollos, arrived in Corinth and proclaimed the gospel with power and persuasiveness. One group in the church exalted Apollos above Paul, and another group exalted Paul above Apollos. When Apollos left Corinth, certain Judaizers, who were bitterly opposed to Paul's teachings, came to the city and proclaimed their beliefs. Disgusted with the divisions among the church members over preachers, some declared: "We are neither of Paul, nor Apollos, nor Peter, we are of Christ."

Jesus Christ is the one and only adequate religious foundation. No other foundation is permitted by God, nor needed by man.

On this foundation we must build only that which is completely harmonious with it. Let each of us strive to do his very best work with the kind of

Is man really free?

right to question God's purpose or to seek to thwart it. Through God's sovereignty grace is made available to all who will receive it in true faith.

Romans 9:30-32; 10:12-13 The forgiveness of sins and eternal life are not achieved by Jews or Gentiles through their noble thoughts, unselfish deeds, generous contributions or so-called good works, but by grace through faith as a gift from the loving Saviour.

Each person who repents toward God and believes on Christ is obligated to confess him before others. Unless it arises from genuine faith in the heart, confession is nothing more than empty words. Note that there is a heart duty, "Believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead," and a mouth duty, "Confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus." Confession is an external evidence of faith. The inward faith must be expressed by the outward testimony.

Building on Christ

material that will endure. Those who build with perishable materials will have their works consumed. They shall suffer the loss of their labors, inward satisfaction and personal reward. Those who build with imperishable materials will win the approval of the Lord, and will receive appropriate rewards.

Paul warned against glorying in men instead of glorying in God, who provides for us all the priceless things which have been made available to all who receive Christ as their Saviour—forgiveness of sin, peace of mind, satisfaction of soul, joy of heart, victory in life and a home in heaven. Since we are possessed by Christ, for "ye are Christ's," we are to spend the time which is given to us in doing what our Lord wants us to do. Keeping our eyes upon the risen Christ and walking in the pathway of obedience will afford us much satisfaction and joy, and bring to our fellowmen numerous blessings, and redound to the honor and glory of our wonderful Saviour and Lord.

Frank Owen

Decline in baptisms

There is a commendable and growing concern abroad in our denomination because of the decline in baptisms in the last few years. After reaching a peak of just over 400,000 baptisms we fell into a decline which has reached a low of 337,000 last year. This is an alarming trend because baptism is the way that men declare their conversion and commitment to the kingdom of God. It is also an initial requirement for church membership.

I think it well to point out, lest we overlook it, that though the above decline is very serious it is not necessarily a fatal sign, certainly not in degree.

Remember, we are not unbaptizing people. Rather, we are now gaining at a slower rate. It is not a net loss but a less rapid net gain. We are still baptizing 337,000 a year, which makes us by far the fastest-growing major denomination. We are concerned, but not defeated.

Viewed from the outside I believe this trend has much of its explanation in a world that is getting harder to win.

There is so much more competition to get an audience with people and they are so much harder to reach. Sometimes it is the hard-heartedness of the wicked world and sometimes it is the cold encrustation of sophistication. In either case modern sinners are hard to penetrate.

Seen from the inside, maybe the trend is caused by a lower level of Christianity on the part of believers. Much of the growth of early Christianity stemmed from its inspiration to holy living. The world had reached the depths of nauseating debauchery and hungered for a nobler way of life.

Again, seen from the inside, our decline in baptisms may be the result of our increased education and culture. Certainly learning and culture in themselves are not to be considered evil, but they do carry with them a hazard. They can insulate us from others. They can make us morally neutral and spiritually sterile. Such a people, even though we call ourselves Church, cannot win sinners. Tomorrow's cry for Baptists must be "Evangelize!"

Marketplace

A MATURE LIVE-IN

To care for one child, have separate living quarters, earn a salary. Call after 5:30. (502-456-2672).

OFFICE 897-6541 RES. 239-7868
FOR A NEW OLDS OR A PREFERRED USED CAR
C. W. Woodson, Jr.
TRI-CITY OLDSMOBILE
BRECKINRIDGE & DUTCHMANS LANES, LOU

STEEPLES LIGHTS
BAPTISTRIES SIGNS
P.O. BOX 2250 DANVILLE, VA. 24541
PHONE (804) 797-3277
BOWLING UNITED INDUSTRIES

Buyers Guide

For Sale: 28 church pews, 13 feet long, white ends, cherry finish, good condition. Also 7 gothic light fixtures. Contact Burlington Baptist Church, Burlington, KY 41005. 606-586-6529.

Aluminum Siding, exterior decorating, quality work. Call Colville Aluminum Co. (502) 425-3102.

SERVING ALL RELIGIONS
Prices to satisfy every preference and need
AIR CONDITIONED PARKING AREAS
Since 1848
149 Breckinridge Lane Phone 896-0349
PEARSON FUNERAL SERVICE
Louisville, Kentucky
Member: Ky. Funeral Directors Burial Assn.
Member: National Selected Morticians
by invitation

Ye shall be witnesses

"It sure looks good to me," Cliff remarked with a sly smile. Cliff, who is blind, sanded pews so Christian Service Corps witness Carolyn York from Floral City, Fla., could help paint pews and auditorium walls in Cliff's Olean, N. Y., church building.

"The Lord had something real special in mind for us in West Virginia," reported Walter and Lorene Sammons of Poquoson, Va. They and sons Doug and David surveyed and conducted backyard Bible clubs, vacation Bible school and adult Bible study in Mount Storm, W. Va. Doug and David also gave puppet shows.

Zone missionary Homer Albright commented on the Sammons' work: "Excellent! Need more like them." This Christian Service Corps family served in one of the 600 counties in the United States with no Southern Baptist witness. Two boys were saved during Bible school. A Bible study now meets each Wednesday in Mount Storm. Some troubled families are being counseled.

"Her eyes were like stars," recalled Mina Franks, 70-year-old widow from Macon, Mo., who watched a little girl walk back up the aisle after making a decision one night during camp worship service near Joliet, Ill. Mina had witnessed to her.

"There is simply no way to describe all the benefits," declared Pastor L. Jerome Smith, who, with 31 others from Clarkesville (Ga.) Baptist Church witnessed in Pierce and Weippe, Ida.

"Some of the benefits"? Contacts with 700 families in the Pierce-Weippe area; six backyard Bible clubs for 100 children ages 3-15, 35 of whom had been touched by no previous religious outreach; seven professions of faith, nine rededications and one commitment to Christian service during nightly revival services; remodeling a former saw-sharpening shop into a mission building—only six weeks later a newly constituted Southern Baptist church was meeting in it.

These are typical Christian Service Corps volunteers' testimonies: people saved, Bible study groups formed, church buildings fixed up, new churches started, counseling for people with problems—things many take for granted in comfortable, sometimes complacent churches. Some forget they don't exist in many communities, because no one has gone to witness.

Two widows, each serving alone; one family of four; 32 people in one church group—these too are typical of those who go each year to shine the light of the gospel in dark places. Not seminary-educated professional ministers—just "ordinary" church members who can knock on doors to take surveys and invite; who can paint, hammer, saw, and cook; who can tell Bible stories to children; who can drive vans and station wagons to bring kids to vacation Bible school or revival services. Just witnesses. Just "ordinary."

people—like you.

Mike Robertson, assistant director of Home Mission Board's Special Mission Ministries Department, coordinates Christian Service Corps assignments. He cites these needs for 1979:

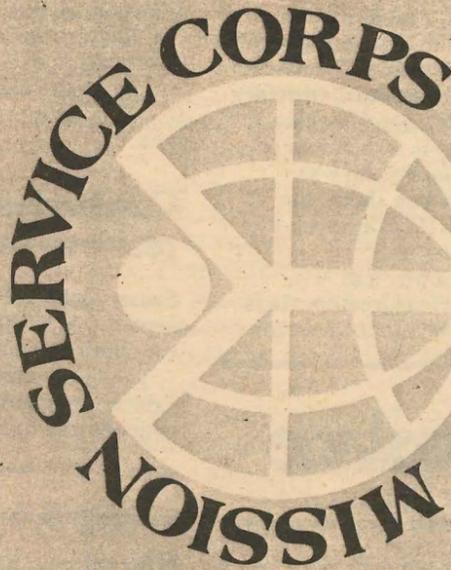
- Visitation and survey in key counties (such as the Sammons did in West Virginia)
- VBS and BBC in rural and remote areas (such as the Clarkesville church's project)
- Children's work in cities and mission centers (such as Mina Franks' work in Illinois)
- Construction/renovation in hundreds of places (such as Carolyn York's work in New York)
- Ministry to tourists (such as you could do)

What does a witness have to be or do to help in Christian Service Corps/Bold Mission Thrust projects?

- Caring and creative people
- Willing to share
- Interest and/or experience in VBS, music, survey visitation, children's work, resort ministry, or construction

• Adaptable persons for inner-city work

That's what Mike Robertson says. Write him at 1350 Spring Street, NW, Atlanta, GA 30309. Some Homer Albright out there needs a witness like you! Perhaps next year you'll be reading YOUR story.



SOUTHERN BAPTIST
CONVENTION

"If you ask me for anything in my name, I will do it"

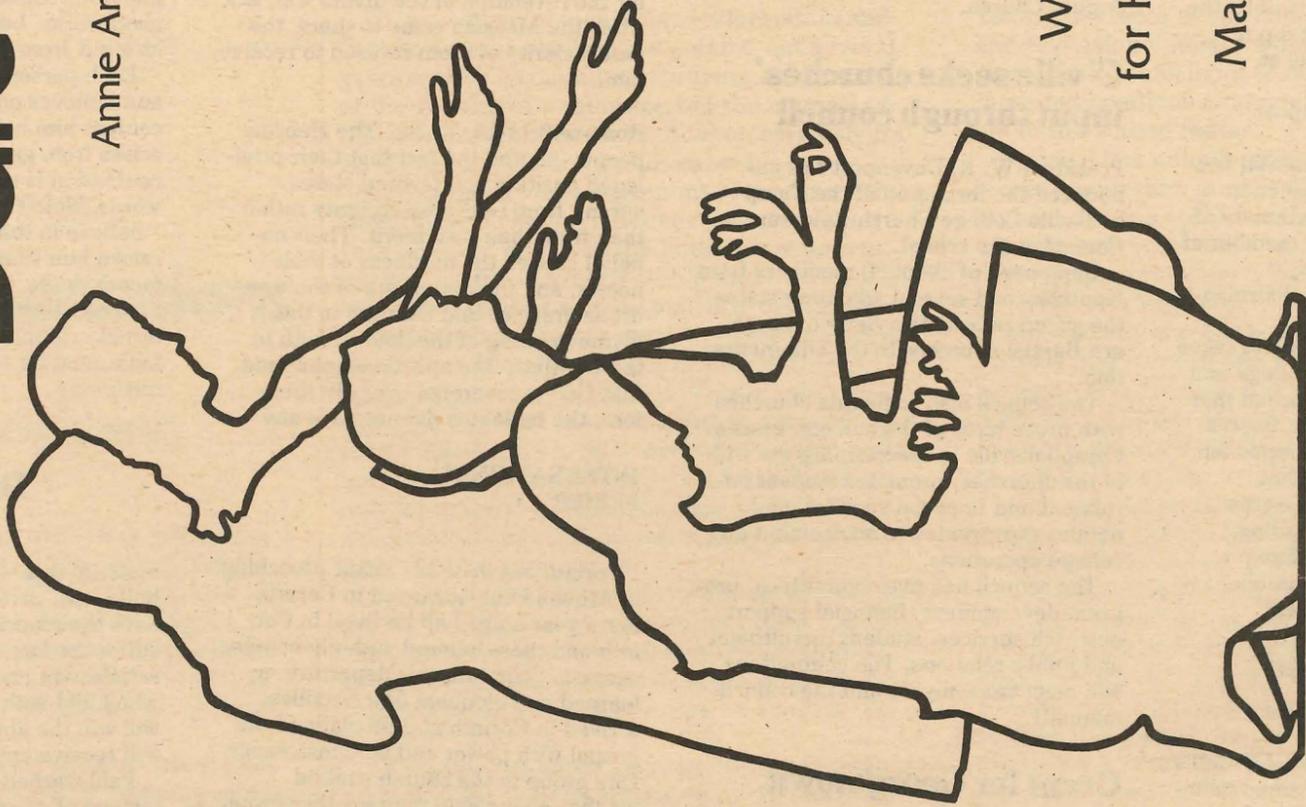
(John 14:14 TEV).

Dare to Ask

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
National Goal:

\$15,000,000

Dare to Give



Week of Prayer
for Home Missions

March 4-11, 1979



WESTERN RECORDER

KENTUCKY BAPTIST NEWS JOURNAL

FEBRUARY 28, 1979