

"Help for Families" will be offered at a Southern Baptist seminar Mar. 26-28 at Orlando, Fla. Speakers include [clockwise, from left]: George Gallup Jr., pollster; Rosalynn Carter, first lady; Harvey Cox, theologian; Phyllis Schlafly, writer. For information, contact W. David Sapp, Christian Life Commission, 460 James Robertson Pky., Nashville, TN 37219.

Furor erupts over IRS exemptions for schools

Participants in three days of hearings before a House Ways and Means subcommittee on proposed Internal Revenue Service guidelines for tax exemption of private schools collided repeatedly.

The IRS issued a proposed revenue procedure last Aug. 22 which would have required all private elementary and secondary schools to prove they operate on a racially non-discriminatory basis or risk losing their tax exemption. That proposal generated so much protest from private schools the IRS announced a revised procedure Feb. 13.

Some witnesses at the subcommittee's hearings attacked the revised proposal as an assault on religious liberty while others charged the revised procedure was a retreat from the earlier, stronger language against racial discrimination in private schools. Still other witnesses said the changes met their objections.

James E. Wood Jr., executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, charged the proposed procedure has "serious church-state constitutional problems inherent" in it. "The fundamental issue which is raised by the revised proposed revenue procedure is religious liberty and the separation of church and state, rather than the furtherance of an altogether meritorious public policy of abolishing racial discrimination," Wood said.

"It would appear that the only logical response of government would be to cease attempting to regulate bona fide churches and those agencies which they have established as integral to their religious mission," Wood continued. He urged the subcommittee to report out a bill which would oppose the IRS procedure as it relates to church-related, church-operated schools.

Jerome Kurtz, IRS commissioner, defended the proposed revenue procedure as the obligation of IRS in upholding federal policy of desegregation in education.

He also asserted that the procedure does not infringe on the First Amendment. "This proposal has no effect at all on anyone's religious beliefs," Kurtz said. "There is ample case law which says that religious practice cannot be illegal. A religion can operate a school and hold any beliefs but it cannot exclude minorities. That is against federal policy."

State Baptists pack the house at 'best evangelism conference ever held' last week in E'town

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

The largest crowds in years showed up in Elizabethtown last week for the state evangelism conference, and on every hand there was evidence the people got what they came for.

"The forced cancellations of the last two years due to severe weather have had an effect on the evangelism crowd," Jay Brown, director of the Kentucky Baptist Evangelism Department, observed. "The people are hungry for preaching of the Word, and this meeting is an oasis for many in the midst of the winter storm. Some have felt cheated for two years, and these were determined to be here this year."

They arrived by carloads, vans, buses and caravans. From the very first, the auditorium of Severns Valley Baptist Church was filled to capacity, balcony included. Folding chairs were added for day and night sessions. Monday night the 1100-seat auditorium (including folded chairs) contained an estimated 1200 persons as many lined back walls and corridors, listening in via the church's public address system.

Host pastor Verlin C. Kruschwitz, questioned if this was typical of a Sunday night crowd at his church, quipped, "No, that's only a Wednesday night crowd for us!"

"The size and enthusiasm of this crowd," said one spectator, "would warm any pastor's heart."

SBC president Jimmy Allen of San Antonio, Tex., was the man of the hour speaking before that largest crowd. He cautioned that "spiritual awakening is the

Racially changed church theme of HMB meeting Apr. 23-25 in Louisville

Louisville will host the Home Mission Board's third national Conference for Churches in a Racially Changing Community Apr. 23-25.

The meeting site is the Holiday Inn South, 3317 Fern Valley Rd. at I-65.

Program personalities include Home Mission Board staffers Edward L. Wheeler, associate director, Department of Cooperative Ministries with National Baptists; James L. Barber, assistant director, Department of Christian Social Ministries; John Havlik, director, evangelism education and writing, Evangelism Section; and Nelson Tilton, assistant director, Department of Church Extension; Southern Seminary faculty members Clyde T. Francisco, professor of Old Testament interpretation, and Paul D. Simmons, associate professor of Christian ethics; Grady Nutt, Louisville Christian entertainer; and J. C. Pyles, pastor, Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Church, Louisville.

Workshops include "Stages of Community Transition," "The Black Christian Experience," "Resources for Churches in Changing Areas," "Orienting Black Churches into SBC Associations," "The Laity in Racially Changing Communities," "Principles for Brothering My Brother," "Starting New Churches in Racially Changing Areas" and "Living with Tension as a Pastor."

A registration fee of \$15, including a banquet, is payable in advance to B. Carlisle Driggers, Home Mission Board, 1350 Spring St. NW, Atlanta, GA 30303. Make checks payable to Home Mission Board.

Wheeler and Barber will speak on "Interracial Dating and Marriage Counseling," Havlik and Tilton on "The Homogeneous Unit Principle" and Simmons on "The Pastor as Change Agent." Francisco will teach the book of Amos at the start of conference sessions. Nutt will entertain at a banquet. Music will be under the direction of Pyles.

only hope for this nation."

Speaking enthusiastically about Bold Mission Thrust, Allen declared, "I don't know if we can confront every person in the world with the gospel by the year 2000. But when Jesus comes, I want to be found out there trying."

Harold Tallant, Louisville evangelist, told the crowd the following day that "there are 72 people who die and go to hell every time the clock ticks. Do you believe it? Then how can you be a preacher and not be an evangelist?" he asked.

Speaking of divided churches, he remarked, "Rarely do I find a church divided that's busy about soul winning."

J. D. Grey, pastor emeritus of New Orleans' First Baptist Church, caused the preachers to analyze their tasks in five light-hearted addresses during the evangelism conference.

At one point, he discouraged the pastors from becoming restless and anxious to move after a brief tenure in one place. "If God has put you there," he intoned, "stay there until hell freezes over and the little devils go skating on the ice!"

Later, Grey observed that he had never been to an evangelism conference "where there's so much interest. You come early and you stay late," he said, "and this is refreshing and inspiring."

This reporter asked several in attendance for their observations of the two-day evangelism conference.

John Dunaway, pastor of Corbin's First Church, called it the best evangelism conference he had ever attended.

"There was not too much crammed into the program," said Dunaway. "I left each session feeling I could have stayed longer, and that was good."

Ted Sisk called his brief visit to the conference while enroute to another meeting "spiritually uplifting." The pastor of Lexington's Immanuel Church compared this conference favorably with those of other years, saying he was much impressed with the three addresses he heard.

Bill Ray, minister of education at the host church, saw it all from a different perspective.

"The crowd was simply so much better than previous years," he remarked. "I think it was because the fellows had been denied coming so much, and they pushed harder to get here."

At the Baptist Book Store exhibit, Louisville store manager Ruth Outzs commented that the customers were asking for a lot of renewal material this year. A session on lay renewal kicked off the evangelism conference.

Miss Outzs also said J. D. Grey's books were "selling quite well."

Editor C. R. Daley of Western Recorder reacted positively to the meeting. He called it a "spiritual pep rally," and observed that much of what was said might be a repeat of other years, but was good for the men and the churches.

Two of those interviewed gave high marks to Jimmy Allen.

"I heard Jimmy preach the best sermon I've ever heard him preach here today," said Calvin Fields, associate in the state Brotherhood Department.

Al Hardy, vice president for development at Campbellsville College, noted "Jimmy Allen filled my cup." He acknowledged that his own style of preaching is to be "open with your own personal encounters, and Jimmy did that for us here."

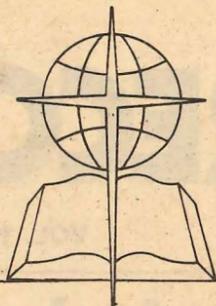
James B. Lewis, pastor of Louisville's Westport Road Church, summed it up saying "this is the one conference I won't miss all year."

"I constantly find something electrifying here," claimed Lewis. "Evangelism is where our heart lies as Baptists, and it's a recharging of spiritual batteries for me."

If there was a doubt about it in that crowd, the folks in Elizabethtown were belying the fact last week.

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

An old fashioned S R O meeting

"It was he who 'gave gifts to mankind'; he appointed some to be apostles, others to be prophets, others to be evangelists, others to be pastors and teachers—and others to be evangelism conference preachers." (Eph. 4:11, Southern Baptist Version). That's the testimony of many of the more than 1200 Kentucky Baptists attending the evangelism conference in Elizabethtown last week.

Evangelism conference preachers are a special kind. They are preachers to preachers mainly but most laymen also enjoy them. They put phrases together like Vance Havner and their preaching is the kind that induced shouting in olden days and produces amens today. They have a sameness that turns off a few of their fellows.

Nevertheless each of these meetings has its own spirit and flavor. This was true of the one this year. It was a S R O (standing room only) meeting of the old fashioned kind of evangelism conferences. The brothers and sisters with pent up "amens" found plenty opportunities to express them as their emotions were stirred by speaker after speaker.

The big three in the lineup this year were Jimmy Allen, J. D. Grey and Ray Roberts. The fans were a bit confused about the batting order because neither of these seemed to be satisfied just to get on base. They were all hitting in the clean up spot trying for home runs every time they got up.

Jimmy Allen is about the ablest speaker and the most enthusiastic motivator to come down through the Southern Baptist pike in a long time. He preaches with so much energy and fervor that listeners sweat just listening to him. How he does as much as he does, goes to as many places as he does and preaches as many times as he does is a wonder. I was with him week before last for three days in Nashville. He hardly had time to go by San Antonio for Sunday services before showing up in Kentucky last Monday. From Kentucky it was on to North Carolina and Tennessee for speaking appointments before returning to San Antonio for Wednesday night.

Of course this wonder man has a lot of help. Besides his staff members back in San Antonio he has the full time services of a dedicated and generous Baptist layman who flies him to all his appointments. Much of his preparation and a considerable amount of his sleep are enroute.

J. D. Grey, one of the all time outstanding Southern Baptist preachers, has enough physical infirmities to put him completely on the sidelines but when he hobbles to the pulpit an electric atmosphere fills the sanctuary. He has enough stories and jokes to fill several books and enough practical advice to Baptist preachers to fill sev-

eral more. He is proud of his Kentucky heritage and Kentucky has much reason to be proud of J. D. Grey.

Ray Roberts, the amazingly successful nurturing father of Southern Baptist work in Ohio, also has deep roots in Kentucky. He left the flourishing pastorate of First Baptist Church in Danville about 25 years ago to direct the activities of Whitewater Baptist Association in southern Ohio which then was aligned with Kentucky Baptists. Since then Southern Baptists in Ohio have increased almost unbelievably and now constitute one of the strongest Baptist conventions outside traditional Southern Baptist territory.

Yes, sir. In Elizabethtown it was old fashioned preachers preaching the old fashioned gospel with everyone having an old fashioned good time. The only thing markedly different from old time evangelism conferences was the music. It was far more effective. Indeed, it left nothing to be desired.

What lasting results beyond personal delight come from the high moments in Elizabethtown will be reflected in local churches and their evangelistic efforts.

At least everyone took something home from Elizabethtown—even J. D. Grey. He added one new story to his collection. It was the one currently coming out of Washington to the effect that if Jimmy Carter is ever born again, he doesn't want a brother.

Executive Committee makes a good choice

Harold Bennett is an excellent choice as executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee. The recommendation of Bennett by a search committee was not only received with enthusiasm but it relieved discerning Executive Committee members of fear that a different kind of leader might have been recommended.

In this respect the members of the search committee should be commended. In all likelihood most anyone recommended would have been elected because it's a rare thing for a committee's choice to be rejected.

Bennett fits the description of the type leader most observers feel should serve as executive secretary. He is a strong person but not overly aggressive. He is willing to let others have the spotlight but shows up well when the light focuses on him.

He is a person of many gifts with proven experience. He is a detail person par excellence. He does his homework well and knows what the real issues are.

Very important is the fact that Bennett comes from the rank of state executive secretaries and is held in high esteem by them. After all the Cooperative Program funds of which Bennett will be guardian come from the states, therefore he must have the confidence of these state leaders.

The other group of leaders he relates to most intimately is the heads of Southern Baptist Convention agencies. In this relationship understanding, fairness and impartiality are indispensable and Bennett has demonstrated these to the satisfaction of all who know him.

Humanly speaking Harold Bennett has the desired qualities for this ministry which is most crucial in Southern Baptist life but human qualities are not enough. For this reason put him on your prayer list. This above all he would ask of fellow Baptists and there's no way to help him more.

Worth noting

Based on additional information received since the appearance of a Jan. 17, 1979 editorial and in fairness to local distributors, it should be noted that local Coca-Cola bottling companies are separately owned and operated from the Coca-Cola Company in Atlanta. The Coca-Cola Company manufactures beverage syrups which it sells to local bottling companies who produce the finished soft drinks for sale in their areas. At present, the Coca-Cola Company says, there are no plans to distribute the wine through the soft drink distributors.

Baptist Forum

A sweet, sweet spirit in that place

I have been where God has demonstrated his power on many occasions, but never more clearly than in Nashville recently. We came to the Executive Committee meeting after most of us had prayed for God's guidance to hear the recommendation of the search committee for the new executive secretary.

Tuesday morning we discussed and debated procedure until some tension filled the air. There was actually some question as to what to expect when we came to vote on the man—not whether he would be approved, but rather in what spirit that approval would be given.

The request was made for the nominee to be present to make a statement of philosophy and answer any question. There was question as to how much more about him we would know after he spoke than what was already known. What really happened was that God took charge of the meeting. There was a presence of the Holy Spirit authenticating the recommendation of the search committee. Oh, the Holy Spirit came not as a rushing mighty wind or tongues of fire, but his presence was unmistakable. When the Executive Committee voted on Harold Bennett of Florida to be the new executive secretary-treasurer of the Executive Committee, not one of us present felt anything other than this is God's man for this time.

Once again when a giant is laying aside his mantle as Porter Routh is doing, we find that God is raising up his new leader, Harold Bennett, for the hour and authenticating that person for the task by the unmistakable presence of his spirit.

I thank God I was privileged by Kentucky Baptists as one of your Executive Committee members to be allowed to share in a special moment when the Holy Spirit was present giving a unanimity of decision and unity of spirit.

"To God be the glory, great things he has done."

John Dunaway, Corbin

No use for the ACLU

In attacking a new Kentucky statute allowing the posting of the 10 Commandments in public classrooms the Kentucky Civil Liberties Union has once again demonstrated that peculiar and selective indignation which the mention of God seems to arouse in them.

The anti-God prejudice in the whole national American Civil Liberties Union structure is apparent in their continued opposition to the recognition of God in public life.

Beginning with the Pilgrims, the builders of our nation acknowledged the sovereignty of God and his son Jesus Christ not only in their religious lives but in their social and political lives as well. In declaring and securing our independence and nationhood, the founding fathers gave testimony over and over again of their faith in and dependency on God. We find this testimony in their proceedings, writings and documents. Were these men such fools that they could not interpret and obey that very constitution which they had themselves framed and ratified?

Howard Mayberry, Louisville

'Dissatisfaction' leads to dismissal of Radio-TV Commission's Stevens

by Bruce Buursma,
The Dallas Times Herald

Paul M. Stevens last month announced his early retirement as president of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, telling reporters an old back injury was causing constant pain.

But some members of the commission's board of trustees have told the Times Herald they were prepared to force Stevens out of the \$45,234-a-year position if he had been unwilling to step aside quietly.

At the heart of the dispute, according to trustees, were Stevens' administrative abilities, the programming emphasis of the commission, marketing of commission-produced programs and retirement benefits for Stevens.

Stevens, 63, stoutly defended his administration in a lengthy interview. But he admitted there is a growing sentiment in the 13-million-member Southern Baptist Convention for his commission to produce "evangelistic, testimonial, straight preaching" programs.

The board of trustees last October decided "the commission should change its programming policies and go for more direct preaching-type of material," said Stevens. "And they know I had never produced that kind of thing. Nor could I put it out and be satisfied."

But some trustees say their grievances with Stevens extend beyond his programming instincts.

There is some astonishment among

board members at the value of Stevens' retirement perks. One annuity program, approved by the commission's board of trustees in 1966, provides him with an annual payment equal to 60 percent of his highest—and current—salary. That plan would pay him slightly more than \$27,000 a year.

Another annuity program, into which Stevens has been paying 10 percent of his income, would provide him with another \$10,000 annually.

Further, the board of trustees in 1972 granted Stevens full use, after retirement, of the commission-owned home in which he now lives. The home, built for \$42,500 in 1966, now carries an assessed value of \$185,000. Under the agreement, Stevens and his wife can continue to live in the home—without paying taxes, utilities or upkeep—until they die.

"There are a whole lot of grass-roots Baptist ministers who can't comprehend that," said Frederick W. Isaacs, a Cosby, Tenn., Baptist layman who is chairman-elect of the trustees. "Today's society demands full disclosure. And (in the Southern Baptist Convention) we are subject to disclosure to 13 million stockholders."

There is also some concern about the value of the broadcasting time the commission programs receive. The commission, which operates on a \$3 million budget, does not pay for air time and many of its programs are used to fill unpurchased slots in radio and television schedules. The commission said

its programs received \$18 million worth of free air time in 1978, but some trustees regard that as an inflated figure, claiming many of the programs are aired at "dog times" or "when the sinners are in bed and the saints are in church."

"We have felt there has been more concern (on the part of the commission) to placate the networks than to placate the denomination," said Isaacs, explaining he found it "suspect" that the commission spent between \$30,000 and \$35,000 to film the Ft. Worth Symphony.

Stevens said all prior boards of trustees to whom he has answered have "been supportive and depended on me. They have been proud of my work." He said he is puzzled by the recent turn of events.

The retirement compensation, he said, is "no surprise to anyone." But the scope of it, he said, "disturbed some of (the trustees). None of them have that kind of program in their churches."

He described the commission-owned home as "an extension of this plant . . . built for entertaining the commission and other guests. There's nothing in the world fancy about it. It's a nice comfortable home. Instead of being condemned for it, the commission will some day reap the reward from it."

Stevens also defended his programming policies and said the film of the Ft. Worth Symphony was a goodwill gesture.

"All religious institutions today are under the threat of becoming subject to being taxed," he said. "And the power to tax is the power to destroy. We receive free fire protection and free police protection and yet we do not pay any taxes to this city. I have a sense of gratitude. We produced the film on the symphony, and I looked at it as paying the rent of the commission to the city of Ft. Worth. And it was approved by the board."

"Now I'm getting hit in the face with productions that were well-received and made a contribution to the spiritual life of America. If criticism is leveled that these are not evangelistic films, that would be true. But if criticism is leveled that they are not spiritual films, that would be wrong."

On his alleged shortcomings as an



Stevens

administrator, Stevens said: "I've put together a staff without equal in the field of religious broadcasting. I've led in the building of a plant that is without equal in the world. I've been able to secure the cooperation of the radio and television industry in a spectacular way. We're audited regularly. There has never been one criticism of our management techniques before."

Stevens, who was relieved of all administrative responsibilities with the commission last month, will officially retire Oct. 31. But he repeated his intention to devote much of his time over the next few years investigating electronic evangelists and religious entrepreneurs. One of his chief goals, he said, is to force the "glamour boys of religious broadcasting" to make full financial disclosure.

Anita first with readers

Southern Baptist activist Anita Bryant has been voted Most Admired Woman in the annual poll taken by Good Housekeeping magazine for the second year in a row.

Many of the letters written in connection with the survey indicated that even persons who do not agree with Miss Bryant's views on homosexuals admire her for having the courage to express them in public.

Another Southern Baptist, first lady Rosalynn Carter, was ranked seventh in the poll.

Other women who ranked high in this year's Good Housekeeping poll were: 2. Betty Ford; 3. Pat Nixon; 4. Mother Teresa of Calcutta; 5. Barbara Jordan; 6. Beverly Sills; 8. Phyllis Schlafly; 9. Muriel Humphrey; 10. Queen Elizabeth II.



Three seminary presidents will receive Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary's 1979 distinguished alumni award in Houston June 13 during the Southern Baptist Convention. [l-r]: Russell H. Dilday Jr., Southwestern; W. Randall Lolley, Southeastern; William M. Pinson Jr., Golden Gate.

Baptist Forum

'Many thanks' for church-state editorial

Many thanks to C. R. Daley for the well written editorial on church-state relations (WR, 2/14/79). The issues involved are complex and the lines of distinction are at best imprecise.

Those churches who venture into the realm of providing an education for our young people should welcome the inspection and accreditation of the state. Parents of children enrolled should be assured the curriculum is adequate and the diploma earned will be accepted by any college or university in the nation.

The frightening thing about so called "church schools" is not so much their obvious failure to desegregate but their willingness to narrow the spectrum of what is meant by the word "education." Among other things, "education" should expose children to as many different ideas, ethnic groups and value systems as possible. Meeting people of different cultures who hold various ideas of religion is essential for a well rounded education. However, many church schools frown on teaching anything outside their particular religious beliefs. Supposedly, this guarantees that children brought up in such a system will have the "correct" belief.

Any religion which must win converts by limiting exposure to ideas is not worth believing. Competent Christian scholarship is well able to offer a concise explanation of the contents of our faith. Sound scholarship, the kind many church schools try to avoid, is

to be welcomed, not feared. Ignorance may be bliss; but never preferable.

Alan G. Trent, Reelsville, IN

Keep the faith, baby

In regard to the remarks of Regis Martin printed in the Courier-Journal, I assure you this does not reflect either the official views of the archdiocese of Louisville or the majority of Catholics.

I am acquainted with Professor Simmons and feel his presence in the community is not only an asset to the Baptist people but to all of us as individuals. That does not mean I always agree with his views; however, I do respect his integrity and professional training, as well as the quality of his Christian concern.

The fact that Mr. Martin is employed by the archdiocese does not mean that he is speaking for persons in higher offices than himself.

Henry C. Mayer, Louisville

The greatest of these . . .

At the risk of sounding like I have a Messiah complex, I would like to say a few words about the mistreatment of ministers. By ministers I mean everyone who serves on a church staff, including pastor, minister of music, minister of education, youth minister and any other specialized minister on the church payroll.

My question is: Why are there so many people in so many churches who want to attack, slander, criticize,

harm, belittle and even dismiss the ministers? I realize that some of this is caused by jealousy. There seems to be a common trend toward being jealous of one who has an education, who has a certain amount of influence, who displays some talent and who is trying to do some good. But you would think church people would want to support, strengthen, encourage, defend and cooperate with the ones they called to lead them. This certainly would make for a more peaceful church family and a more effective work for the Lord. And if a minister is not fulfilling his responsibility or is doing something detrimental to the church's ministry, he should be counseled privately and confidentially.

Another question: What do people hope to accomplish by trying to hurt or cast suspicion on the church ministers? If a member complains to another member that she was in the hospital and the pastor did not visit her, what good has she done? If she were seriously concerned that the minister visit the sick, she would have let him know she was going in the hospital or would speak to him alone about it later. Spreading poison or lies about ministers among members and outsiders is minister-baiting. This is the same tactic the Jewish leaders used to put Christ on the cross.

The church has enough problems trying to combat the forces of Satan in society without being hindered by having to deal with uncivil wars within the fellowship. Love should motivate all our thoughts, deeds and words in the body of Christ.

Tom Miller, Nicholasville

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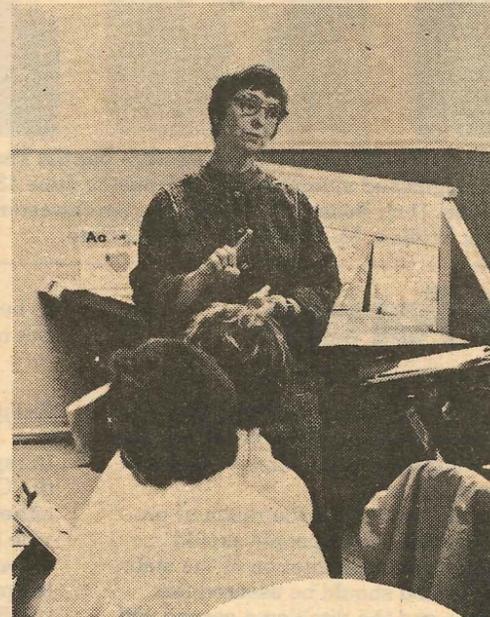
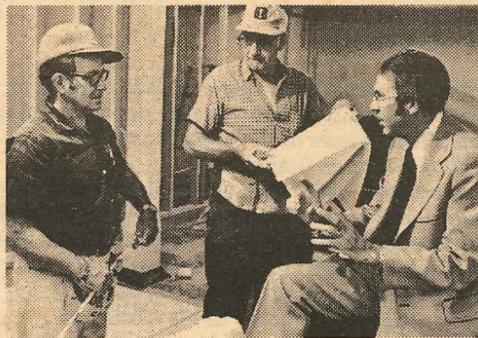
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William G. Tanner



Executive Director-Treasurer



Mountains to the Mississippi



Goatley



Prather



Tipton



Mrs. Stauffer

Congregations

Goatley to direct fellowship center
Wilbert Goatley Jr. was elected director of the Baptist Fellowship Center and superintendent of missions for Central District Association, effective Feb. 15.

The center is a mission project sponsored by 135 churches of Long Run Association (white Baptists) and 142 churches of Central District Association (black Baptists).

Goatley is a native of Kentucky. His father, W. H. Goatley, is pastor of First Baptist Church, Eminence.

Wilbert Goatley Jr. graduated from Eastern Kentucky University and is a student at Southern Seminary. He will continue as a part time student until he graduates.

He previously worked at the center in summer camp and as a counselor and program person.

Clinton men on mission trip

Bob Samples, Sammy Sugg and Mark Helstein—all of First Baptist Church, Clinton—assisted a South Dakota mission Feb. 17-28.

They did repair work on a newly purchased building in Wolsey, S. D., and conducted visitation in the area.

They paid their own expenses while the Clinton church received a \$2000 special offering for building materials for the mission church.

A missionary commissioning service was held Feb. 11 for the three. Thad Hamilton is pastor at FBC.

WMU to consider by-law changes

Two recommendations for changes in the by-laws of the KBC Woman's Missionary Union will be considered at next month's annual meeting.

The first recommendation is the deletion of Section 6 of Article IV.

The second is the formation of a new section following Section 3 of Article VII reading: "The Nominating Committee shall recommend a replacement for the unexpired term of an officer. The Executive Board shall be polled."

Old sections 4, 5 and 6 would be re-numbered sections 5, 6 and 7.

Deaths

Deacon Roy F. Austin dies

Roy F. Austin, a deacon at Baptist Tabernacle Church, Paducah, died Feb. 7.

Since joining the church in 1930, Austin had held nearly every place of service including church treasurer and Sunday school director.

A retired pharmacist, he was a past president of the Kentucky Pharmaceutical Association. Prior to his retirement he operated Austin Drugs.

Nelson Webb dies at 76

Nelson Webb, a Baptist minister for 51 years, died at the age of 76 in Falmouth Feb. 12.

He had ministered in churches in Kentucky, Ohio and Illinois and his last Kentucky pastorate was Berlin (Ky.) Baptist Church.

He was also a public school teacher

for 30 years and retired from teaching in 1970.

He is survived by his wife Margaret Mary, three daughters and two sons.

Memorial services were conducted in Falmouth and burial was in Forest Lawn Memorial Park Cemetery in Erlanger. The family has requested that expressions of sympathy take the form of donations to Oneida Baptist Institute.

Robert H. Tolley dies

Robert H. Tolley, who pastored several Kentucky churches, died Feb. 13.

A resident of Lexington, he had served Evergreen, Pilgrim and Corinthian Baptist churches there and others in Louisville, Winchester and Frankfort.

Survivors include his wife Nancy; five sons, Robert and William, Lexington, Rudolph, Milwaukee, Wis., and Ernest and Harvey, Louisville; two daughters, Mary Emma and Thelma Thomas, Louisville; 26 grandchildren; and 21 great-grandchildren.

J. R. Scrivener dies from burns

Baptist minister J. R. Scrivener, 88, died recently of injuries he suffered in a fire at his home south of Glasgow.

He had apparently been fueling a fire at his home when the fire broke out.

Survivors include his wife Sudie; a sister, Catherine Wells, Glasgow; a brother, Draney, Louisville; and a foster son, A. D. Ralston, Texas.

Funeral services were conducted at Oak Grove Baptist Church with burial in the church cemetery.

Ordinations

Jeffrey Houghton ordained to ministry

Jeffrey R. Houghton, a junior at Cumberland College, was ordained by Main Street Baptist Church, Williamsburg, Feb. 18.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ruben Houghton, Hamilton, O.

Personnel

Grant Prather to South Carolina

Grant W. Prather, Louisville, is vice president for operations at South Carolina Baptist Hospital in Columbia.

Prather was previously assistant vice president for administration at Louisville Baptist Hospitals. He was family service director of Resthaven Memorial Park, Louisville, when he accepted the position with the South Carolina Hospital.

Mrs. Prather is the former Betty Lou Graves of Louisville.

High Street calls Gary Kasey

High Street Baptist Church, Pulaski Association, called Gary L. Kasey as associate pastor with responsibilities in youth and education.

He began Feb. 25.

Kasey holds a bachelor's degree from Cumberland College and is currently a student at Southern Seminary.

He was formerly minister to youth at Arcade Baptist Church, Louisville.

Treadwell to Faith Church, Georgetown

Bill Treadwell is the new pastor of Faith Baptist Church, Georgetown. He came from Crescent Hill Baptist Church, Louisville, where he was minister of education and administration. While there he was also adjunct professor of religious education at Southern Seminary.

He earned the MRE degree there in 1959. He earned his undergraduate degree from Union University, Jackson, Tenn. He is a past summer missionary to Central America.

Treadwell and his wife, the former Louise Johnson, have three children: Cindy, 19; Chuck, 17; and Christy, 15.

Mrs. Treadwell, who holds a BA degree from Brenau College and an MA from Converse College, worked part time on the education staff at Crescent Hill.

Liberty Church calls David Sheram

Liberty Baptist Church, Madisonville, called David W. Sheram as minister of music and youth.

Sheram did interim work in Alabama and Arkansas before coming to Madisonville from Grayson Valley Baptist Church, Birmingham, Ala.

He is a 7½-year veteran of the Air Force and a third degree black belt instructor in the Korean martial art Tang Soo Do Moo Duck Kwan.

Sheram is working toward a bachelor's degree in music education at the University of Evansville.

He and his wife Jan have two daughters, Janine Gay, 6, and Jamie Danielle, 7 months.

McConnoughhay to Brownsville Church

Donald McConnoughhay brought his first message as pastor of Brownsville (Ky.) Missionary Baptist Church Feb. 11.

He came from Valley Station (Ky.) Baptist Church, where he was assistant pastor. He is a student at Southern Seminary.



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McConnoughhay and his wife Barbara have three children: Taya, 8; Allen, 5; and Cary, 7 months.

Terry to Trinity Church, Paducah

Stuart Alan Terry is the new minister of music at Trinity Baptist Church, Paducah.

Terry, 22, graduated with a bachelor's degree in music from Belmont College.

New role for Bobby Vassar

Bobby Vassar, minister of youth at First Baptist Church, Shelbyville, has a new role there—minister of recreation and Christian activities.

B. J. Tipton to FBC, Russell

B. J. Tipton was called as minister of music, youth and education of First Baptist Church, Russell, in Greenup Association.

He began Feb. 16. He came from Gonzalez (Fla.) Baptist Church.

He holds a BS degree from East Tennessee State University and an MRE from New Orleans Seminary.

He is married to the former Linda Sue Caudell. They have two children: Michael, 5, and Angela, 2 months.

Tipton is currently writing for the 1980 Bible Book Series for Youth for the Sunday School Board. A former professional drummer and singer, he was music director for Pensacola Bay Baptist Association the past two years.

Jim McKenzie is FBC's pastor.

Barbara Stauffer adds SS duties

Eminence (Ky.) Baptist Church has extended the staff responsibilities of Barbara Stauffer from part time music/youth minister to include education responsibilities in Sunday school.

Pastor Stanley Chaney says that under Mrs. Stauffer's leadership the church has all graded choirs with 106 enrolled. The youth group runs as many as 50-60 on special occasions.

Mrs. Stauffer is married to Garth Stauffer, a University of Louisville medical student.

Buyers Guide

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

For Sale: Used church pews. Good condition. Lengths range from 7'-9". Call (502) 965-2732 or (502) 365-3136.

Looking for a pastor? Pulpit committees will want the new "PULPIT COMMITTEE MANUAL." Order from H. H. Kuhnle, 305 Clinton Road, Lexington, KY. 40502. Price, \$1.75 postpaid. Dr. C. R. Daley says — "... the best I have ever seen."

EXPERIENCE IS THE BEST TEACHER

And no experience is quite like a visit to Eureka Springs, whether you are six or sixty. Visit the Christ of the Ozarks, the Bible Museum, the Christ Only Art Gallery and other sacred projects. Experience the grace and charm of the Little Switzerland of America. Ride the new trolley car through the historic downtown shopping district. Bring the group and be assured that no matter how large or small your number, Eureka Springs has the perfect accommodations. Come as a group and stay as a group. In beautiful, scenic, inspirational Eureka Springs. Write for our free full color visitor's guide, Eureka Springs Chamber of Commerce, P. O. Box 551, Eureka Springs, Arkansas 72632, or call, (501) 253-8737.

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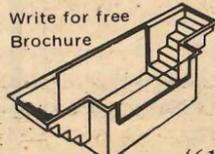
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Baptist News in Brief

Dedicate new library for Baptist Hospitals

Louisville Baptist Hospitals' Hagan Library was dedicated Feb. 13. Located at Highlands Baptist Hospital, the library was named in honor of H. Hart Hagan, first president of the hospital's medical staff, and his son, the late William Hagan.

H. Hart Hagan was a member of the founders group of the American Board of Surgery, the first staff surgeon at Louisville General Hospital, a recipient of the Southern Seminary Foundation Award for founding the seminary medical clinic, professor at the University of Louisville Medical School and a deacon at Walnut Street Baptist Church.

Annuity Board offers tax sheltered program

Ministers and other church employees can build a larger retirement annuity through the Annuity Board's retirement program and have it tax sheltered.

Federal law allows ministers or employees and their churches to tax shelter as much as 20 percent of their total compensations when participating in a retirement plan through the Annuity Board.

"Each year's contribution, when tax sheltered up to the 20 percent limit, is nonreportable for tax purposes," says Harold Bailey, director of Church Development. "The earnings are also tax deferred. You don't have to pay taxes until you actually draw benefits from your account at retirement. At that time, you are normally in a lower tax bracket and will have additional exemptions."

For further information write him at the Annuity Board, SBC, 511 North Akard Building, Dallas, TX 75201, or dial one of the toll free WATS numbers: 1-800-527-9010 or 1-800-527-9003.

Allen backs Anita, Briggs

Southern Baptist Convention president Jimmy R. Allen does not agree with the assessment of the Anglican bishop of California that "the greatest deterrents to human rights and freedom are Bible-thumpers like Anita Bryant and John Briggs."

In a Feb. 18 front page article in the San Francisco Sunday Examiner, Allen defended the stands of Miss Bryant of Florida and Senator Briggs of California, who led initiatives in their states to limit the rights of homosexuals.



The Louisville Baptist Hospital's Hagan Library at Highlands Baptist Hospital will meet the educational, informational and research needs of staff members.

SBTS placement office links churches and grads

The surge that doubled enrolment at Southern Seminary over the past five years is producing larger-than-ever graduating classes now.

A record 270 students graduated in December and almost 500 are expected to graduate in June.

Southern's placement office is helping churches find the person God has called to serve in staff positions.

David Thurman, assistant director of placement, suggests a church make an initial call describing the position it wants filled. Thurman or Rodger Murchison, director, will select three to six resumes. After a church has reviewed the resumes the placement office will set up interviews with one or all students, or the church may contact a student directly.

A booklet, Available Now, containing a biographical sketch of each graduate is available on request.

Belmont Plaza: completed or completely finished?

A special session of the Tennessee Baptist Convention has been called for Apr. 5 to deal with financially troubled Belmont Plaza, a Nashville highrise apartment complex for senior adults.

Belmont Plaza has been in trouble since November when it was discovered excess funds from a bond sale could be used for construction and not operating expenses as intended.

Belmont Plaza was built by the Tennessee Baptist Service Corporation and is technically separate from the state Baptist convention. But the Tennessee Baptist Convention gave birth to their corporation, elects its directors, set its debt limit at \$5 million and must approve additional spending.

Directors of the Tennessee Baptist Service Corporation have indicated they will ask Tennessee Baptists for a \$1.5 million letter of credit at the special session which could be used to borrow additional funds. They also will ask for assurance that the service corporation will receive a minimum of \$100,000 per year from the state's Cooperative Program budget.

LIFE AND WORK SERIES

Through spurning the wondrous grace of God, stumbling over the teaching of salvation by grace through faith in Christ, refusing to accept the righteousness of God as a gift and trying to obtain it through human efforts and rejecting Christ, many of the Israelites deprived themselves of the salvation which had been made available to them.

Romans 10:14-16, 21 Because the only way whereby the unsaved can escape from condemnation is through Christ and God's message of salvation by grace through faith in Christ is for all, the good news must be carried to all who have never heard it. Preaching the gospel of Christ is the greatest task that engages the mind and energies of man.

Our possession of this glorious gospel and the positive command of Christ placed us under the obligation from which there is no evasion or exemption. It is our inestimable privilege and imperative duty to share the gospel with all who have never heard it. To this end

INTERNATIONAL SERIES

1 Corinthians 5:9-13 In the church at Corinth was an undisputed and notorious case of brazen incestuous immorality involving a young man and his stepmother. The shocking thing about this abominable affair was the almost unbelievable attitude of the church members toward it. Their tolerant attitude toward this case of flagrant depravity and disgraceful licentiousness destroyed their influence over the pagan unbelievers around them.

With righteous indignation Paul rebuked the church for her failure to discipline this sinful member. Evidently, the woman in the case was not a church member, because Paul's proposals as to disciplinary procedure were directed against the man alone.

Writing specifically to those who were in the church, Paul requested them to exclude from their membership this fornicator who had his stepmother as a concubine. Knowing full well that the church had the right and duty to discipline her members, Paul requested the Corinthian Christians to sever social ties and not to company with fornicators, coveters, idolaters, railers, drunkards and extortioners. Failure to do so was tantamount to giving approval to these forms of wickedness.

Frank Owen

Emphasize baptism

We are determined to find ways to place greater emphasis on the winning of new converts and bringing them into the church fellowship through the door of baptism. Jesus said "baptize them." Baptism was and is the divinely appointed method by which people publicly declare their faith in Jesus Christ, their acknowledgement of him as lord and saviour and their commitment to the kingdom of God.

We realize the great importance of numerous other ministries, but probably above all is the baptizing of the new convert upon a valid Christian experience.

I could wish that bookkeeping customs and monthly reporting carried over into baptismal statistics. Since they don't, we are determined to salute the baptizing churches and their ministers more widely each year.

It has long been the custom of this office to send out a letter each year congratulating the 100 leading churches in giving to the Cooperative Program. Later came the custom to recognize the

God's saving purpose

we need to recapture the vision of a lost world, the missionary passion, and the spirit of sacrifice.

Romans 11:1, 25-26, 30-36 Paul reminded the ones to whom he was writing that he was both a Jew and a Christian. Aware that the first Christians were Jews, and acknowledging the fact that the majority of the Jews had rejected Christ, which had been the source of great grief to the apostle, he was grateful that a remnant of thousands of them had become believers. Because the majority had refused to believe on Christ, the gospel had been preached to the Gentiles, who were more responsive to it.

To prevent the Gentiles from becoming proud of their having accepted the gospel, Paul reminded them that God was not through with the Israelites. It was God's intention that both Jews and Gentiles hear the one plan of salvation, which was applicable to both races, and that all be assured that any and all who would receive Christ would be saved.

Discipline within the fellowship

tors, coveters, idolaters, railers, drunkards and extortioners. Failure to do so was tantamount to giving approval to these forms of wickedness.

1 Corinthians 6:1-8 Unfortunately disputes had arisen between some of the members of the church at Corinth. Instead of the parties involved reaching agreements among themselves, or through the wise counsel sought by them and obtained from other members of the church, they took their fellow members into the civil courts for the purpose of acquiring a settlement of their differences.

Paul was shocked and astonished that they were conducting themselves in such a manner that they, the members of the church, were incapable of determining what was right or unwilling to do it. Paul made it clear that Christian brethren should settle any disputes that may arise between them in a brotherly spirit. Litigation in courts between professing Christians affords non-Christians a splendid opportunity to ridicule Christianity.

100 largest-giving churches on a per capita basis.

Last week we added two letters of recognition; one congratulating the 100 churches and pastors baptizing the largest number and the other saluting the first 100 leaders in baptisms on a per capita basis.

Jay Brown's printed program of last week's wonderful evangelism conference listed the 10 leading baptism churches and their pastors and the association evangelism chairmen, together with the number of baptisms in each association. Again, the committee on order of business for next fall's convention is inviting leading baptizers to give the closing prayer at each of our seven sessions.

Thus are we striving more to lift up soul winning by recognizing baptisms. Our faith would perish from the earth in one generation if we ceased to win new converts. Baptism publicly signals the convert's new start. Other ministries will assist his growth. Let the spearhead effort in Bold Mission Thrust be baptisms.

BASICS OF SUNDAY SCHOOL GROWTH CONFERENCE

March 12-14, 1979

Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center
Monday 7:00 P.M.—Wednesday 12:00 P.M.

Target Audience:

Pastors, Ministers of Education, Directors of Missions,
Sunday School Directors

Cost:

\$50.00 TOTAL (Includes double occupancy accommodations, meals,
and conference materials)

To register:

Send \$20.00 to Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center
Ridgecrest, North Carolina 28770

At 90, she carries on active prison ministry with her savings

Cornelia Vann traded a 14-room home in North Carolina's mountains for a one-room apartment in an Atlanta retirement home.

She also traded \$2000 in hard-earned cash for correspondence Bible courses for prisoners.

Five years ago — at age 85 — Mrs. Vann talked with Carl Hart, director of the chaplaincy division of the Home Mission Board about her desire to share some savings.

Somehow, prisoners and prison ministries kept creeping into the conversation. Mrs. Vann saw prisoners for the first time as a young girl in Texas. Then in North Carolina, while married, teaching school and rearing a daughter, Mrs. Vann employed a household helper with a young son, John.

John often was picked on by other boys. One day the boys jumped on John. But it was another boy who got hurt. He died the next day.

"John didn't have a lawyer. They sent him to the penitentiary," Mrs. Vann explained. She visited John in prison and finally secured his release. She still keeps in touch with the family.

Their names are among the many listed in the spiral notebook that contains her prayer list . . . right

down the page from Billy Graham and Carl Hart.

Mrs. Vann, who taught at Mars Hill College in North Carolina for 40 years until she retired in 1961 as head of the modern languages department, decided prison ministries — especially scholarships for correspondence Bible courses — was the place to designate her gift.

She put her \$2000 into a long term investment trust fund. The interest — about \$150 a year — provides courses through Seminary Extension for prisoners recommended by a Southern Baptist chaplain, who cannot otherwise afford them. Courses are \$15 to \$25 each.

Seminary Extension, a department of the six Southern Baptist seminaries, is one of only three religious institutional programs accepted by the Accrediting Commission of the National Home Study Council. It offers courses in numerous subjects on simplified and college levels. Some courses are available in Spanish.

Mrs. Vann admitted the needs of prisoners seem overwhelming. "I only wish my gift was more," she said. "People don't usually care anything about prisoners. Mighty few have any love for them at all."

But with her gift, Mrs. Vann proved her love.



Cornelia Vann, 90, who provides Bible correspondence courses for prisoners through the gift of her savings, talks with Carl Hart (c), director of the Home

Mission Board's Chaplaincy Division, and Bob Lam, associate director for home study education for Seminary Extension.

Church Training Youth Week March 11-17

Theme: "Youth Reaching Out"



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MARCH 7, 1979