

WESTERN RECORDER

KENTUCKY BAPTIST NEWS JOURNAL

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Late headlines

Brotherhood elects Smith

James H. Smith, 58, executive secretary of the Illinois Baptist State Association, was elected without opposition as executive director of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission.

Smith was chosen from more than 100 candidates to become the fifth chief administrative officer of the missions education agency succeeding Glendon McCullough who died in a traffic accident Aug. 23, 1978.

Forrest Sawyer, Kentucky Brotherhood director, was among several who publicly applauded the trustees for their action following the election of Smith.

Smith begins Sept. 15 at a salary of \$35,978, with a retirement annuity of 10 percent of salary, payment of premiums for hospitalization by the commission and a \$120,000 life insurance policy provided. In addition, the trustees approved \$7600 for the purchase of a new commission car for Smith and \$2000 to operate it during the next 12 months.

FMB election is Tuesday

M. Hunter Riggins Jr., chairman of the Foreign Mission Board's search committee, has announced the committee will bring a unanimous recommendation on the successor to Baker James Cauthen at a closed door session of trustees Monday, Aug. 6 at Glorieta, N. M.

Cauthen has been the board's executive director 26 years and is retiring at the end of 1979.

The election will be held Tuesday morning.

SBTS acquires Gaines Dobbins collection

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary recently received the personal library of Gaines S. Dobbins pending settlement of the long time Southern professor's estate. The library was received from Austin Dobbins, son of the late Dr. Dobbins.

Approximately 2000 volumes, occupying 47 shelves and 37 boxes of files from Dobbins' long career as a leader of Christian education, are now housed in the restricted area of the library. It's hoped the collection will be ready for circulation sometime during the coming school year, with each volume containing a nameplate indicating it is part of the Gaines S. Dobbins collection.

"Southern is extremely fortunate to have the carefully chosen collection of this renowned innovator in theological education. The collection emphasizes not

Refugee sponsorship urged for Baptists

William Tanner, executive director of the Home Mission Board, in a memo to directors of associational missions throughout the Southern Baptist Convention, urged the promotion of sponsorship for refugees from Indonesia.

Kentucky Baptists can help, according to Robert C. Jones, director of direct missions for the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Areas where refugees will require assistance include housing, food, clothing, understanding the American culture and the world of work, education and transportation services.

Although congregational sponsorship is most effective because of the variety of resources upon which to draw, Jones said "sponsorship may be offered by an individual church member, Sunday school class or department, WMU group, or other appropriate group in the church."

Jones said the biggest problem "has to do with the red tape necessary in getting a person here and the uncertainty of when one will arrive. The process can take up to three months from the beginning until the time the refugee arrives."

Request for sponsorship is made through the Home Mission Board. The Direct Missions Department has the appropriate applications that can be mailed to the HMB. For further information and applications, contact Robert C. Jones, Direct Missions Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, Box 43433, Middletown, KY 40243, (502) 245-4101.

only all gamuts of religious education, but also church administration, pastoral care, evangelism and outreach, as well as many other subjects," said Ronald F. Deering, librarian at Southern.

Dobbins, who died at his home in Birmingham, Ala. last September, was professor at Southern from 1920-1956. During that time, he was instrumental in establishing Southern's School of Religious Education. He was the first dean of the RE school from 1954 until his retirement in 1956. In 1968 seminary trustees awarded Dobbins the E. Y. Mullins Denominational Service Award, named him dean emeritus of the School of Religious Education and later established the Gaines S. Dobbins Chair of Church Administration.



Stevens



Martin

Radio-TV leaders comment on changes

The chairman of the Southern Baptist Convention's Radio and Television Commission trustees said 46 men—36 ministers and 10 laymen—have been recommended for the presidency of the agency.

But Fred W. Isaacs Jr. of Cosby, Tenn. said the trustees are in "no particular rush" to find a successor to Paul M. Stevens. They will concentrate first on setting programming goals for the agency and then find a man to carry them out rather than hire a president first and then establish programming priorities.

He said they hoped to have a president before next year's Southern Baptist Convention in St. Louis.

Stevens, who had directed the commission since 1953, stepped down from administrative control last February after trustees questioned programming and management practices and retirement policies. Harold E. Martin, executive vice president, was named chief administrative officer.

Isaacs said Martin was highly regarded by the trustees and would be given consideration as a new president is sought. But he said consideration also will be given to the other 45 persons who have been recommended by 84 "sponsors" from 32 states.

Since assuming control of the commission in February Martin has been directing a reorganization effort and several long time commission employees have left while the responsibilities of others have been changed.

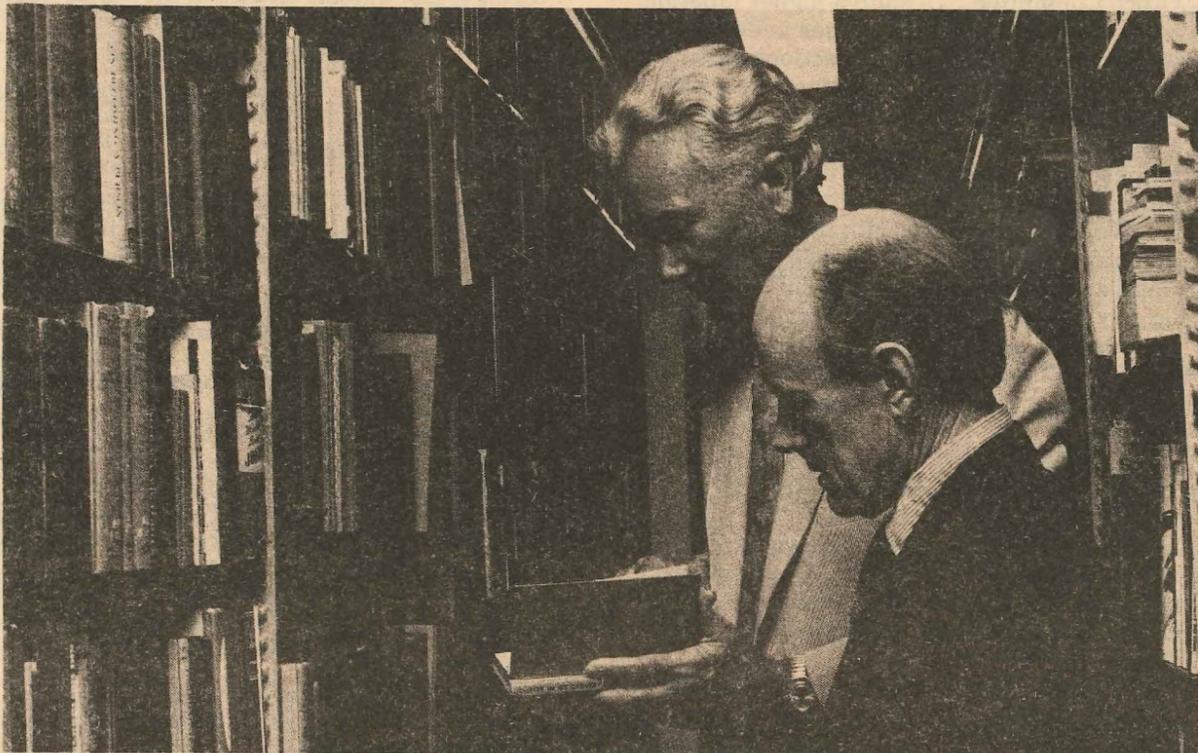
James Holcomb, vice president for support services, left in April after 22 years with the commission. Martin said Holcomb's job, which had dealt largely with community relations, was no longer needed.

A few other lower echelon employees have also left because of changes made, positions eliminated or responsibilities shifted.

Truett Myers, a senior vice president of the commission, was the latest to announce early retirement. Myers, 58, who has been with the commission 22 years, said, "I asked for early retirement and got it." He would not comment on whether he was pressured to leave. Any further statements, he said, would have to come from Martin or Bob Taylor, a senior vice president and Martin's chief assistant.

Claud O'Shields, 64, the commission's field representative for the southeast in Wilmington, N. C. also went on early retirement, effective June 30, with salary paid until his 65th birthday in March 1980. The commission, which announced it would probably reopen a field office in Atlanta, gave ill health as the reason for O'Shields' retirement.

O'Shields, however, has disputed the report that his ill health—high blood pressure requiring a daily check—was enough for him to retire early. He said a commission statement that his health "presented a dangerous situation" was "conjecture on their part and in fact is not so." He said he had "no reason to retire or intention of retiring."

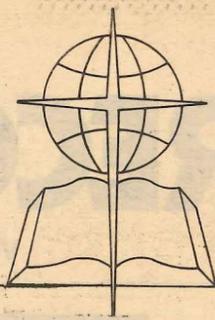


Ronald F. Deering, front, and Allen W. Graves view part of the Gaines S. Dobbins collection recently given Southern Seminary. Deering is librarian at Southern

and Graves, dean of the School of Religious Education, is the Gaines S. Dobbins Professor of Church Administration.

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

Needed: More honesty with Baptist young women

One source of frustration for Baptist editors is the abundance of excellent available material for which there is no space to publish. An example is the avalanche of good things prepared and delivered each year for the Southern Baptist Convention and its related meetings.

This year was no exception. Speeches delivered in Houston which at other times would get front page treatment had to be passed over lightly because of so much news at one time.

One speech that fits that category was delivered by Anne Davis at a dinner for women sponsored by the Woman's Missionary Union. Miss Davis is a social work teacher at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Professor Davis told the 300 or more women present that too many girls come to Baptist seminaries thinking an education will guarantee them a place of employment in denominational or church life. This is simply not so, said Miss Davis, and young women ought to be made aware of the difficulties facing them before they respond to a call to the ministry and before they enter seminary training.

The denomination in its literature and other communication channels should begin early to acquaint young women with what may be in store for them if they enter the ministry, contends Miss Davis. As it is, she says, the difficulty of finding a place of service does not strike home with some of these young women until they are about to finish their training.

Miss Davis is so right. We are not being fair with many dedicated young women and, for that matter, with a good many young men who enter the ministry. Too many are not finding places to serve when they finish seminary training and it's not their fault. They are the products of our traditional emphasis upon calling out the called and strong appeals to young people for surrender to the ministry heard in regular worship services and more especially in youth retreats and summer assembly commitment services. It is easy to say and it sounds so right that if God calls one into the ministry, there will be a place to serve but it does not always appear to work out that way. It would be amazing to know how many Baptist young people have been led to such a commitment only to find later it just didn't work out the way it was supposed to. It would be surprising to know how many Baptist seminary graduates are not now in the ministry.

But this is moving off the subject which is being fair with young women regarding the difficulty of employment in Southern Baptist ministries. One seminary president has said the seminary can be responsible for training women for ministry but cannot be responsible for finding them a place to serve. This is true but it's small comfort for a young woman who has

spent six or seven years beyond high school to be trained only to learn no church or denomination agency wants her service except on a voluntary, non-paying basis.

Let's be fair with our young people and especially with our young women about the difficulty of finding a place to serve with pay.

More cents for postage makes no sense

State Baptist papers have been dealt another knockout punch by the United States Postal Service. As of July 6 mailing cost for the Western Recorder was increased by another 25 percent with more to come every year. How many more times we can get up after the count of nine is the most serious question we face. It seems the United States president or someone could say "halt" to this mad rush to put second class mailers out of business.

Larry High, a former Western Recorder staff member and now acting editor of The Maryland Baptist, has told it like it is. We share his thoughts which could not be better expressed.

"The Maryland Baptist you are holding cost a whopping 22 percent more to mail than the last issue of your state Baptist paper. On Friday, July 6, the U. S. Postal Service increased non-profit second-class postage for the eighth consecutive year as part of its ten-year escalation plan.

"Coupled with a ludicrous 48 percent increase last year, postage costs for The Maryland Baptist have soared 70 percent since May, 1978. During the past 13 years, mailing costs for your state Baptist paper have climbed more than 1,225 percent.

"This year's increase comes even though the Postal Service is on the way to its first year in the black. The agency has recorded a surplus of more than \$523 million since October 1, 1978. Despite a daily profit margin in excess of \$1.83 million the mail handlers have seen fit to increase second-class postage another 22 percent.

"Postmaster General William F. Bolger recently told the House of Representatives Post Office Committee, 'Despite a higher inflation rate than expected and the rises in energy costs, we are running ahead of projections so far.'

"We certainly hope his projections weren't much more than \$1.83 million daily profit. Bolger also told the House Committee, 'The biggest threat we face is the continuing high inflation rate.'

"We can sympathize with the postmaster general at this point. The biggest threat state Baptist papers face is the high inflation rate largely caused by the Postal Service. We have experienced eight years of double-digit postal increases. Two more yearly increases are planned and what comes after that is anyone's guess.

"The die is cast for state papers to be pushed out of business by such ridiculous mail cost hikes.

"Postage rates for church newsletters have also been increased recently. If your church regularly publishes a newsletter more and more of the budget must be set aside to pay increased fees.

"President Jimmy Carter has made known his goal of keeping inflation at seven percent or less. His assistant, Alfred Kahn, has threatened to expose those who do not adhere to this price increase ceiling.

"Yet the United States Postal Service is

allowed to levy a 22 percent increase while it is making money 'head-over-heels.' When and if Kahn publishes a list of seven percent guideline violators, we think the Postal Service should head the list."

Baptist Forum

SWBTS committed to Southern Baptists

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary belongs to the people of our Southern Baptist churches. We know that and take great pride in such a rich, sacrificial and missionary heritage. There is every reason for us to thank God for our ownership and opportunity in this day of Bold Mission Thrust.

The trustees of Southwestern have already expressed with forthright confidence their intention to continue to meet their responsibility to the convention and to Southwestern. Our president, Russell H. Dilday, has sought to act openly and positively as the executive of a Southern Baptist institution accountable to the convention.

Southwestern Seminary has more than 100 of its faculty and staff who stand committed to the great historical position on biblical authority and missionary mandate. We are more than ready to stand beside you and other Baptist leadership in the challenging days. You already know that, but we take this occasion to express to one another our mutual trust, commitment and high calling.

Lloyd Elder, Ft. Worth, TX

"Who, if not you?"

As I watch the news tonight I see, as Americans, we have wasted our energy and gone too far in debt. Who will cut down driving, air conditioning, heating, etc.? Waste is a sin.

II Chron. 7:14 says: "If my people who are called by my name shall humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, forgive their sin, and heal their land."

That is a promise to us as Christians. We get so excited about what Madeline O'Hare is doing and never see what the Lord is saying to his people!

Who, if not you?

Mrs. George Calico Jr., Mt. Sterling

If you're keeping score . . .

Seems to me, with the election of Dr. Adrian Rogers as president of the SBC, the score is now:

Christians: 1 — "Lions:" 0

Hooray!

Mrs. Charles Waters, Louisville

"Be fruitful and multiply"

The suggestions for fighting the world's hunger problem as outlined in the article by the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission are for the most part commendable.

However, though surely unintentional, the recommendation that families limit themselves to no more than two children advocates taking lightly one of God's commandments and encourages the ignoring of his advice and preferences.

God is perfect wisdom. Yet, he does not regard children as part of an economic problem. His commandment in Gen. 1:28 is for families to "be fruitful and multiply," and in Ps. 127 and 128 the joys and blessings of having many children ("a gift of the Lord") are described.

Many of our Christian teachings are not obviously practical. That is one reason faith, obedience and trust are so vital and when practiced make for an exciting Christian life.

Compassion for all the needy as proclaimed in Matt. 25 is a Christian must, but the first priority of Christ is to have the Gospel spread throughout the world, and according to Lk. 12:31 the seekers of God's kingdom will have all their needs added to them.

Tommye F. Boston, Louisville

Baptist News in Brief



Lindsay



Bush



Fowler



Hollis

Guerrillas raid Baptist compound in Rhodesia

Guerrillas took about \$1600 and medical supplies worth another \$350 to \$400 from Sanyati Baptist Compound northwest of Gwelo in Rhodesia July 15.

Ralph L. Rummage, chairman of the organization of Southern Baptist missionaries in Zimbabwe Rhodesia, said four guerrillas arrived at the home of Noble Sithole, principal of the secondary school at Sanyati, about 9 pm and asked for money. When he could give them only about \$45, they asked to be taken to the treasurer, who gave them about \$1500 in school fees.

The guerrillas took the two men to the hospital, where they released them and took an additional \$45 and medical supplies, mostly antimalarial and injectible drugs. No one at the hospital was molested or threatened, said Rummage.

The school and the hospital continue operating under local Baptist leadership but have long standing contingency plans in case guerrilla activity forces the staff to evacuate. No missionaries have resided on the compound since guerrillas murdered Southern Baptist missionary Archie G. Dunaway Jr. in June 1978.

Pastor's Conference needs contribution

The Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference, which started the year with no money in its treasury, fell \$2731.84 short of its expenses at its 1979 meeting in Houston, according to Homer G. Lindsay Jr., immediate past president.

Lindsay, pastor of First Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Fla., is requesting contributions to help make up the deficit.

"If you received a blessing from the Pastors' Conference in Houston and would like to help us get out of this hole," Lindsay said, "please send money to Dr. John Hatch, pastor, First Baptist Church, Lakewood, 5602 112th St., S.W., Tacoma, WA 98499." Hatch was secretary-treasurer for the 1979 Pastors' Conference.

Figures released by Hatch show the Pastors' Conference had \$12,401.25 in bills and took in \$9669.41 in offerings, leaving \$2731.84 owed.

The breakdown shows bills of \$490 for security guards, \$50 for piano tuning, \$800 for platform erection, \$3646.25 for union labor in conference set-up, \$2195 for printed programs, \$4100 for coliseum rental and \$1120 for decorator's fees.

Bush takes Penn-Jersey newspaper production role

Ellis M. Bush, executive secretary-treasurer of the Baptist Convention of Pennsylvania-South Jersey and editor of the convention's newspaper, will assume production control of the newspaper beginning with the August issue.

The Penn-Jersey Baptist, official publication of the convention, has been produced in Lutherville, Md. since it was founded in 1971. It was distributed monthly as the first two and last two pages around the Maryland Baptist and produced by Maryland Baptist editor Gene Puckett. Puckett had a similar arrangement with the New York and

New England publications.

In assuming control of all aspects of the newspapers' production, Bush, who has been executive in Penn-Jersey for a year, said he needed more space and "This is another step forward in assuming responsibility for communication with our constituents and expanding the media services of the convention office."

The Penn-Jersey Baptist will be produced as an eight-page tabloid 11 times a year with a combined June-July issue.

Southern Baptist joins Bread for the World

Ruth Fowler, staff writer-consultant for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, will join Bread for the World, New York City, Oct. 1.

Miss Fowler will serve as staff associate for communications, working with Bread for the World and Bread for the World Education Fund. She will edit publications and background papers, direct communications and media efforts and assist with church relations.

Bread for the World was organized five years ago as an interdenominational, grass roots Christian citizens' movement to urge governmental action on world hunger and poverty issues in the United States and abroad. It has 26,000 members throughout the U. S.

Bread for the World Education Fund is a legally separate organization established by Bread for the World to improve Christian awareness of world hunger needs and Christian stewardship responsibilities.

Miss Fowler, who will maintain her Southern Baptist church affiliation, was a writer for KRBC-TV, Abilene, Tex., before joining the Foreign Mission Board. She recently completed a book on world hunger for the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union entitled "The Woman I Am in a Hungry World."

A native Texan, she is a graduate of Hardin-Simmons University and has done graduate work at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Home missionaries named in July meet

Kenneth Brooks of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board personnel staff was among 33 persons appointed to home missions service during the July meeting of the board's directors at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center.

Others appointed as missionaries were: Jackie and Eletha McClung of Atlanta; Art and Darlene Taylor of Jacksonville, Fla.; and Vernon and Fern Wickliffe of Hope, Ark.

Appointed as missionary associates were: Stanley and Joanie Albright of Gatlinburg, Tenn.; Jerry and Jacqueline Folsom of Alamogordo, N. M.; Dixie Lynn Hunke of Beaverton, Ore.; Perry Joe and Cheryl Petty of Tyler, Tex.; and Joshua and Somchit Vang of Des Moines, Iowa. Sixteen mission pastors were approved to receive financial aid.

Five-year limit threatens missionaries in Indonesia

At least one Southern Baptist missionary family is included in the approximately 100 missionaries in Indonesia

whose residence visas are being renewed for only six months.

Government letters are being sent to missionaries of various organizations who have been in Indonesia at least five years, reported Edward O. Sanders, Southern Baptist mission chairman.

If this "five-year rule" continues it will force almost 90 percent of the Southern Baptist missionaries in Indonesia to leave the country within the next two years as their annual visas need to be renewed.

"This is the gravest crisis we have faced in our Southeast Asia ministry since Vietnam and Laos fell," said William R. Wakefield, Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board secretary for Southeast Asia. "I'm calling on Southern Baptists to pray that an effective door for ministry and witness will remain open in Indonesia, especially since it is the fifth most populous nation in the world and is very open to the gospel."

Hollis named to committee

An official of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission has been appointed to a 40-member national advisory committee to help plan and implement the long-stalled White House Conference on Families.

Harry N. Hollis Jr., associate executive secretary and director of family and special moral concerns for the Nashville-based agency, is the only Southern Baptist representative to be named to the committee.

Bryan elected to hold commission chair

Margaret F. Bryan, a Nashville realtor, was elected chairman of the Southern Baptist Commission on the American Baptist Theological Seminary at its annual meeting in Nashville.

She is the first woman to hold the highest elected position of any Southern Baptist Convention board or agency.

The 16-member commission acts as a liaison between the SBC and the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc. in matters relating to the American Baptist Theological Seminary, a predominantly black Nashville school.

Mrs. Bryan, a member of First Baptist Church, Nashville, has written numerous articles for denominational publications. An alumni of Vanderbilt University, she has done graduate study at George Peabody College. Her husband is Nashville physician J. Thomas Bryan.

Youth evangelism clinic

The Kentucky Baptist Convention Department of Evangelism will conduct a training clinic in youth evangelism Sept. 28-29 at Calvary Baptist Church, Lexington.

There will be five sessions of witness training and three sessions of fun, fellowship and worship.

Joe and Gloria Morrell of Nashville will present a program of puppet entertainment. Don Blaylock, director of the Kentucky Baptist Student Work will present periods of fun, fellowship and music. Allen Case and the Blessed Assurance Singers of Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown will present special music.

The clinic will include training sessions to prepare youth to give a Christian witness to youth.

There will be no charge for registration. Motel reservations should be made early. For information contact Jay Brown, director of evangelism, KBC.

Home mission offering ahead of last year

After a slow start, Southern Baptists have contributed \$12,989,746 to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions.

"I think that is tremendous," said William G. Tanner, executive director-treasurer of the Home Mission Board.

Tanner expressed some apprehension that economic uncertainties, energy problems and inflation might hinder the annual offering after receipts had run below expectations during the spring.

However, Tanner reported that in mid-July, the offering had attained 86.6 percent of its \$15 million goal.

Tanner added the offering is 16.5 percent ahead of last year at mid-July.

The Home Mission Board depends on the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions for nearly half of its \$32 million annual budget.

Baptist church, car damaged by explosion

Most of the windows of University Baptist Church in Beirut, Lebanon, were broken and a car belonging to Southern Baptist missionaries was badly damaged in a bomb explosion.

The dynamite charge, placed in front of a stationery store, discharged during the night. Damage to Baptist property was coincidental, according to a cable sent July 24 by Southern Baptist missionary press representative Frances (Mrs. J. Wayne) Fuller. She said such bombings are politically motivated and have been common in Lebanon since the civil war began five years ago.

Southern Baptist missionary James P. Craigmyle, from Indiana, is pastor of University church, an English-language congregation.

Mission trip plane crash kills five, injures seven

Five Baptists from west Texas were killed and seven others injured when a plane carrying them on a missions trip in the U. S. Virgin Islands crashed moments after take-off July 24.

Killed en route to ten days of Bible school, preaching and church pew building at the St. Kitts Baptist Church were: Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Connel Jr., 52 and 50; Jack Rosinbaum, 49; Stephen Sapaugh, 15; and Sharon Geye, 33; all members or former members of First Baptist Church, Clyde, Tex.

A co-pilot and two of the other 21 people on the capacity-loaded plane were reported to have been killed.

Other Baptists in the 12-member missions team injured were Riley Fugitt, pastor of First Baptist Church, Clyde, his wife, Vonceil and their son Mickey, an evangelist; Mrs. Preston (Murlene) Porter; Lisa Melton, 17; Caleb Watson, 15; and Pam Patton, 19. Fugitt is in the U. S. Navy Hospital in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The others have been flown to Hendrick Memorial Hospital, Abilene, Tex.

Twenty-Third and Broadway Baptist Church revisited

by Jimmy Hester, Staff Writer

In June 1977 Western Recorder associate editor James H. Cox visited Twenty-Third and Broadway Baptist Church in Louisville's west end. The result of that visit was an article reporting the beginning of a ministry unique to Southern Baptist church life. The church had called copastors, a man and his wife.

That was two years ago. What has happened at Twenty-Third and Broadway since that Sunday in June when the church ordained a woman to be one of two pastors?

John and Joy Sylvester-Johnson began their third year in June as copastors. A lot of water has gone under the bridge since they began a ministry in a church many thought would not be in existence today.

John and Joy agree that Twenty-Third and Broadway was a good church for their type of ministry to be launched. "For the first time, no other church would have done. The church had gone through some rough times," explained John. "Those who wanted to leave had gone. Those who remained were dedicated to the church and in agreement about what they wanted. They were excited about the possibilities of copastors and very supportive."

Twenty-Third and Broadway Baptist Church was a prominent church in the west end as late as the 1940's. Most of the members moved out of the immediate area and affiliated with other churches. Today it is a metropolitan church reaching into southern Indiana and distant communities around Louisville for its membership. There are 143 members in the congregation. Between 50 and 60 attend Sunday school each week. There are as many blacks as whites in the congregation.

A shared ministry

John and Joy have been careful to share their ministry. "We both do everything," explained John. "We visit together. We make it a point to conduct funerals and weddings together. We rotate preaching duties. One Sunday, I will preach the morning service and Joy will preach in the evening. The next Sunday we will swap."

Being copastors allows a pastor to be in two places at the same time. "When we need to we can divide things so we can cover more ground. We do this with hospital visiting sometimes," Joy suggests.

The Sylvester-Johnsons feel they complement each other well in the ministry. John explained, "Joy and I have different styles. We have different backgrounds. I was a history major in college and she majored in drama. The church appreciates the variety. Some members relate to Joy better than they do to me and some relate to me easier. We feel we reach more people this way."

Although they make it a point to rotate duties, there are some that each enjoys more than others. "I like for John to handle the business sessions and he feels more comfortable with me doing children's church. But we both do each because we feel it is important for our ministry," Joy said.

In the beginning . . .

What is now a comfortable ministry has not always been that way. "In beginning our work at Twenty-Third and Broadway other ministers reacted to us with hostility. More so to me as a woman than to John," Joy explained. "I can remember attending associational meetings and being totally ignored. Pastors would shake hands with people on my right and left but completely ignore me."

"I suppose they thought we were coming into the association to push for drastic changes," John

rationalized. "All we wanted to do was be an active part of the association like any other church."

With time and resolutions passed in the association and at the state convention placing the authority of ordination in the hands of the local church, attitudes changed. "We realize that it just took time to break through," explained John. "The reaction was more to Joy being ordained than us being copastors. When that was settled, we became more accepted."

Response to the Sylvester-Johnsons surfaced in many forms, but primarily through state Baptist papers. John explained. "When we first began people expressed themselves through letters to the editors of Baptist papers. We only received one critical letter about our ministry, and it was concerning our names instead of what we were doing as ministers." When the Sylvester-Johnsons began their copastorate, Joy retained her maiden name to insure her individuality.

"In most letters to the editors," John continued, "people were concerned about expressing their ideas on women in the ministry, not about us in particular as copastors of a church."

"I guess they felt we were beyond help at this point," Joy added with a smile.

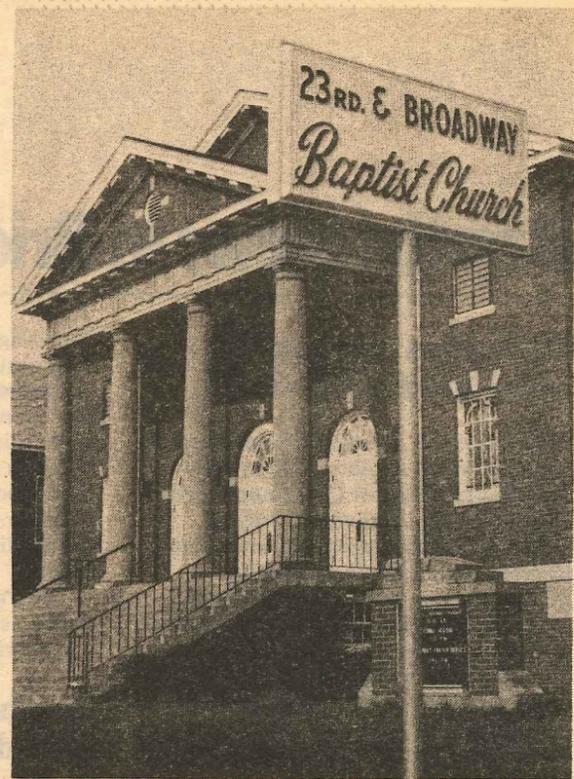
"Those who did take the time to write us directly were very supportive of what we were doing," said John.

Congregational decision making

"A question that always arises when people talk with us about being copastors is where does the buck stop? Who makes the final decision?" This has never been a problem for John and Joy. "We believe in extreme congregational polity," explained John. "Decisions are made by the congregation under the spirit and leadership of Jesus Christ. At Twenty-Third and Broadway the congregation makes the final decision."

"We find we are just like the congregation," Joy continued. "We don't always agree on things. We can usually gauge the feelings of the congregation because John and I have different approaches to matters. This is an advantage over the single pastor ministry because we can see many sides instead of just our own."

Joy, who made a commitment to the ministry in a W. A. Criswell revival, appreciates her role as a copastor. "I don't have the feelings and frustrations most minister's wives have. There are no pastor's wife feelings. I know what John is going through because I have been and am there along with him."



Addition to the ministry

A family might not appear to fit into a husband and wife ministry, but the Sylvester-Johnsons would disagree. "When we first began talking about becoming copastors, people would say, 'what if a child comes along?' Now that is not an if, it is a fact," John stated.

The ministry of two became the ministry of three Mar. 24 with the birth of a son, Anders. "He goes to the church with us during the day. We have a bed in the office for him," Joy explained.

Anders has become an important part of their ministry. "We take him with us on many occasions. The shut-ins especially like for him to visit. One 97-year-old lady in the church lives to see Anders come back," Joy stated.

Sometimes, but rarely, the Sylvester-Johnsons use a babysitter. John says most of the time "while one of us is away or busy, the other cares for Anders."

The Sylvester-Johnsons feel the ministry of Twenty-Third and Broadway is to the local community. "We are attempting to meet community needs through ministries directed to local people," John explained.

"For example, the church assists with a nutrition program for the community," Joy added.

So, what's ahead for the Sylvester-Johnsons? John is a graduate student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary but for him and his wife, their church is more than a place to minister while at seminary. "We want to do the best job we can at Twenty-Third and Broadway. We bought a house in the west end near the church and plan to stay for a while," Joy said.



John, Joy and Anders Sylvester-Johnson

Mountains to the Mississippi



The Hostetlers

Congregations

Sharon Grove breaks ground
Sharon Grove Baptist Church, Bethel and Logan Associations, had groundbreaking for a new church building May 20. The building will be located on Hwy. 106 approximately a mile from the present building. Robert Futrell is pastor of Sharon Grove.

Dundee dedicates building
Dundee Baptist Church, Ohio County Association, dedicated their building July 8. They have installed a baptistry, restrooms and redecorated the auditorium.

A "Sharing of forty-six years in the ministry" service was held in the afternoon.

I. L. Baughn is pastor of Dundee.

Sparta note-burning



Sparta Baptist Church, Owen County Association, held a note-burning service June 24 to celebrate the liquidation of indebtedness for their two-year-old sanctuary and educational facility.

Participating were (l-r): Dennis Lafferty; Alva Lowe, deacon chairman; Joseph Lowe; Carl Varble; Dale Samuel; Clarence Stewart; Jimmy Bond; Frank D. Farley, pastor; Thurman Lafferty; and former pastor Gene Langner.

Kentuckian has award winning sermon
A Kentucky pastor has been selected as one of 15 Southern Baptist preachers from more than 300 entries for inclusion in this year's volume of Award Winning Sermons.

Allen F. Harrod, pastor of Lebanon Baptist Church, Central Association, contributed a sermon on Christian growth entitled "The Advantages of Trouble."

The Award Winning Sermon Project is conducted to aid and encourage pastors and lend support to them, accord-

ing to James Barry, preaching consultant in the church administration department of the Sunday School Board and coordinator of the project.

GA's gather in Greenville
Muhlenberg Association sponsored a GA day camp at Second Baptist Church, Greenville, June 9.

The 136 GA's and adults met to learn about nature and experience God in his creation. They also were provided opportunities to learn about mission work in Spain. The theme was "Spain: A land of contrasts."

Sixteen churches were represented: Bethlehem, Calvary, Drakesboro, Greenville First, Hazel Creek, Mt. Pisgah, New Cypress, Oak Grove, South Carrollton, Beechmont, Dunmore, Ebenezer, Graham, Greenville Second, New Harmony and Roland Memorial.

Personnel

Freeman to Auburn

Terrence L. Freeman recently began as pastor of Auburn Baptist Church, Bethel Association. He came to Auburn from Gilead Baptist Church, Glendale.

Freeman received a BS degree from Middle Tennessee State University. He earned MDiv and DMin degrees from Vanderbilt Divinity School, Nashville.

Freeman is a board member of the Kentucky Baptist Board of Child Care.

Married to the former Beverly Anderson of Smyrna, Tenn., Freeman is the father of two children, Tracy, 5, and Troy, 2.

Cedar Creek calls Perkins

Ken Perkins has been called as pastor of First Cedar Creek Baptist Church, Bardstown.

A native of Owenton, Perkins is a graduate of Georgetown College and Southern Seminary.

Perkins comes to Cedar Creek from the pastorate of Scaffold Lick Baptist Church, Lexington, Ind.

Perkins is married to the former Elizabeth Stricker. They have one son, Jeremy.

Chapman to Fairview

Fairview Baptist Mission, Franklin, has called John Chapman as pastor.

Chapman comes to Fairview from Sioux Valley Baptist Church, Sioux Falls, S. D. where he has been pastor five years. Chapman's ministry also

includes intern assistant at First Baptist Church, Clarksville, Tenn.; mission pastor at First Baptist Church, Franklin; and pastor of Mt. Gilead Baptist Church, Allensville.

Chapman graduated from Western Kentucky in 1971 and received a degree from Southern Seminary in 1975. He is working on a doctor of ministry degree from North American Baptist Seminary.

Chapman is married to the former Karen Davenport. They have two children, Chris and Lisa.

Payne to Cairo

Ellis Ray Payne has accepted the call to be pastor of Cairo Baptist Church, Green Valley Association.

Hetzel to Illinois

Max Hetzel has resigned Urbancrest Baptist Church, Lebanon, O. to accept the pastorate of Calvary Baptist Church, Morris, Ill. Hetzel is a graduate of Southern Seminary.

Hyland Heights calls Hale

Rodney Keith Hale has accepted the pastorate of Hyland Heights Missionary Baptist Church, Greenup Association.

The Williamsburg native is a graduate of Cumberland College with a degree in religion.

Before accepting the Catlettsburg church, Hale was pastor of churches in Mt. Zion Association.

Hale is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Hale of Westwood. He and his wife, Karen Yvonne, are the parents of two sons, Nathan and John.

Wilson accepts Providence

Ray Wilson has been called as pastor of Providence Baptist Church, Estill County. He is a former pastor at Calvary Baptist Church, Boone's Creek Association. He has been in evangelistic work in recent years.

Bottoms to New Hope

Bob Bottoms recently began as pastor of New Hope Baptist Church, Springfield.

Bottoms comes to New Hope from a four-year pastorate at West Liberty. He was also associational missionary there.

A native of Perryville, Bottoms grew up in Louisville. He is a graduate of Georgetown College and attended Southern Seminary.

Bottoms is married to the former Joyce Stanley of Muhlenberg County. They have four children.

Missions

Hostetlers to Panama

Mr. and Mrs. H. R. (Hal) Hostetler Jr. were among 38 persons named missionaries by the Foreign Mission Board at its July meeting in Richmond, Va.

The Hostetlers will work in Panama. He will be a music promoter and she will be a church and home worker. He is minister of music at Meadow Hill Baptist Church, Louisville, and serves in the National Guard at Fort Knox.

Hostetler was born in Rapid City, S. D. and grew up in Portsmouth, Va. He received a diploma from Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, a BA degree from Virginia Military Institute and a MCM degree from Southern Seminary.

Mrs. Hostetler, the former Brenda Skelton, was born in Petersburg, Va. and grew up in Portsmouth. She received a diploma from Moody Bible Institute, a BS degree from Old Dominion University, and a MRE from Southern Seminary. She also attended Longwood College, Farmville, Va.

The Hostetlers have two children, Daniel Edward, 8, and Diane Ruth, 7.

The Hostetlers will go to Stone Mountain, Ga. in September for a 14 week orientation before leaving for Panama.

Deaths

Robert H. West dies

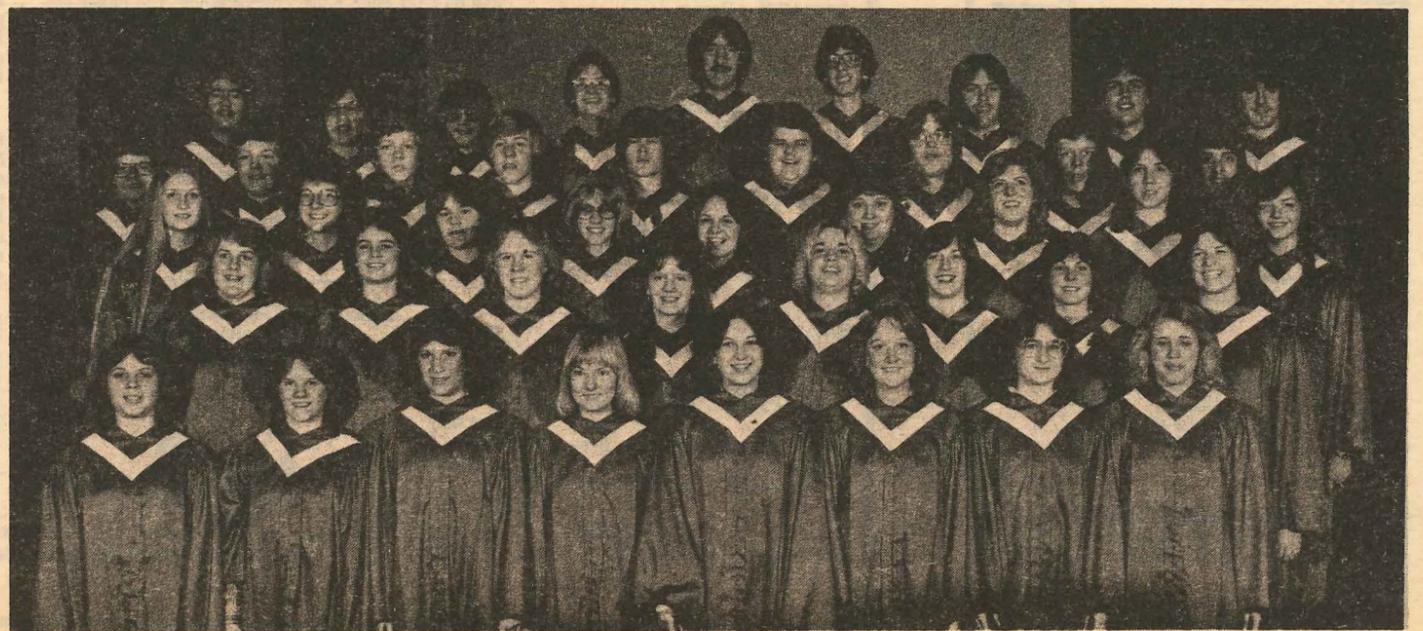
Robert H. West, a member of Highland Baptist Church, Long Run Association, since April, 1935, died June 8.

West joined the Kentucky Central Life and Accident Insurance Co. in 1920 as an agent in Elizabethtown. In 1937 he succeeded his brother, T. O. West, as secretary-treasurer; he became executive vice president and secretary in 1952 and president of the firm in 1958. He retired as chairman of the board in 1962.

West lost his wife, Rachel, in March, 1971. On May 26, 1972, he married the former Kathlene Allen Somers, who survives his death.

In a resolution adopted by Highland Baptist Church, the honor deacon was said to be "throughout the years a source of strength to our fellowship, both in his attendance and in his financial support." West "will be remembered for his jovial, courtly manner; he was a true Southern gentleman."

The Youth Chorale of Lone Oak Baptist Church, Paducah, recently returned from a ten day mission tour through Iowa, Missouri and Kansas. The climax of the tour was participation in the Southern Baptist Youth Choir Hallelujah at William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo. The Hallelujah is a national music festival. Each choir performs a thirty minute concert before judges. The Youth Chorale from Lone Oak was chosen as the outstanding choir in category II [difficult music] for the 1979 Hallelujah. The chorale has 55 members; forty formed the touring choir accompanied by nine counselors. Tony Whitfield is minister of music; Willis W. Henson is pastor at Lone Oak.





Kentuckian to Trinidad
Gene Meadows, pastor of Walnut Grove Baptist Church, Caldwell-Lyon Association, will join a mission team for two weeks in Trinidad, a country with one Baptist church.

Prayer for BMT
Bethlehem Baptist Church, Central Association, recently held prayer services for Bold Mission Thrust.

Two services were conducted; one during the noon hour and another in the evening.

Earl Pike, pastor of Muldraugh Hill Baptist Church and moderator for Central Association, preached during the noon service. Judy Russell, Springfield, provided special music.

Jay Brown, director of evangelism for the Kentucky Baptist Convention, preached in the evening service. The Bethlehem choir presented special music.

Rickey Shannon is pastor of Bethlehem Baptist Church.

BMT in Indiana
The youth choir from Beaver Dam Baptist Church, under the direction of Brenda M. Thomas, minister of music, took a mission trip to Chandler, Ind., June 23-30.

The group of 33 was assigned by the Home Mission Board to assist Cypress Baptist Church in locating prospects in Newburgh, Ind. to start a mission.

The choir had 115 enrolled in

backyard Bible clubs and surveyed 850 homes during the week.

FBC Henderson plans BMT project
First Baptist Church, Henderson has undertaken an ambitious Bold Mission Project in West Virginia. The church sent deacon Jack Collier to Kingwood, W. Va., in June to purchase two-and-a-half acres of land and rent a home adjacent to it for a mission site.

Plans call for conducting a vacation Bible school the week of Aug. 3-10 and for a revival team from Henderson to spend a week in October in Kingwood.

Plans call for putting a pastor on the field in cooperation with the Home Mission Board. The pastor would live in the home which has been purchased

and would conduct services in a trailer instructed for use as a church. David Bratcher is pastor at Henderson First Baptist.

Louisvillians part of BMT
Arcade Baptist Church and Carlisle Avenue Baptist Church were represented in a recent Bold Mission Thrust project in Maumee, O.

Pastor James W. Hall of Arcade and Gordon Higbee, a member of Carlisle Avenue, spent a week working on a small church in the Ohio community. Hall, an experienced carpenter, and Higbee worked 60 hours during the week to put a truss roof on the building.

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Deer Park on Bold Mission

Deer Park Baptist Church, Long Run Association, recently completed a second project for Bold Mission Thrust.

Harold Phillips, minister of education, read in the January issue of *Contempo* magazine of the need for construction workers in Indiana. Upon contacting the Home Mission Board, the church received its first assignment in April to Emmanuel Baptist Church, Seelyville, Ind.

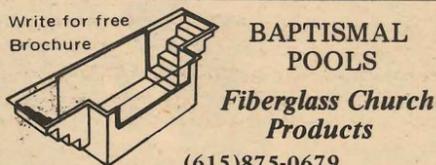
Four workers spent a weekend helping church members complete work on a new building. Workers included Duanne Hill, Jimmy Hester, Bill Merritt and Phillips.

A second assignment was received in May through the Home Mission Board to Pleasant View Baptist Church, New Washington, Ind. Pleasant View was beginning work on educational space.

Workers spent a Saturday helping lay the foundation for the new facility. They included Brian Barnes, Dale Dunlap, Hill and Phillips.



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LIFE AND WORK SERIES

Visions and response

Very few have an opportunity to live on the basis of first choices. Most know something of broken plans, thwarted ambitions and promising doors being closed. But when God closes one door, he opens another.

Acts 16:9-10 Forbidden by the Holy Spirit to go to Bithynia and proclaim the gospel, Paul landed in Troas. On his first night he had a vision of a European standing with outstretched arms, begging, "Come over into Macedonia and help us." Before noon the next day he and his colleagues were sailing to Europe.

Acts 16:14-15 On their first sabbath in Philippi, Paul and Silas attended a prayer meeting composed of women. Lydia, a successful businesswoman, needed salvation. As Paul preached, the Lord opened the heart of Lydia and she trusted Christ as her saviour. She followed Christ in baptism and became a faithful Christian witness.

Acts 16:19, 23-24 To an evil spirit in a slave girl Paul said: "I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." When the evil spirit left her, Paul and Silas were seized, subjected to an unfair trial, beaten and thrust into prison.

Acts 16:29-34 While Paul and Silas prayed and sang hymns, an earthquake shook the foundations of the jail. The jailer cast himself at the feet of the itinerant preachers and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" He was told what to do: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved."

When the jailer trusted Christ, he saved him and gave him the blessed assurance of salvation. As evidence that Christ had saved him, he followed his Lord in baptism. Soon the members of his household received Christ also. The jailer had a dinner in his home with Paul and Silas as honored guests.

INTERNATIONAL SERIES

Isaiah's response to God's call

Isaiah 6:1-8 Capable and ambitious Uzziah ascended the throne of Judah at the age of 16 and reigned 52 years. He began his reign as an ardent reformer. "He did that which was right in the sight of the Lord." Uzziah erected great towers, built strong defenses and made noteworthy achievements.

Among Uzziah's admirers was Isaiah, a young man of honor, wisdom and literary genius. When Uzziah died and was buried, Isaiah went to the temple to seek God's ways and find comfort. In the record of his transforming experience three things stand out: a vision, a voice and a volunteer.

In the temple Isaiah received a vision of the Lord. He saw the Lord "sitting upon a throne" reigning in majesty and glory, waiting to reveal himself. Isaiah saw celestial beings standing near the Lord's throne, full of energy, enthusiasm and fervent love. Each covered his face with two wings because he was overwhelmed with a sense of awe and reverence, not able to look into the face of the Lord. Each covered his feet with two wings, because of his sense of unworthiness. Each stood with two wings outstretched, anxious to render swift obedience to the Lord.

Isaiah's vision of the Lord made him aware of his own impurity. His vision resulted in conviction, confession and cleansing. Isaiah was able to enter upon a life of usefulness.

Isaiah heard the voice of praise: "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory." He heard the voice of pardon: "Thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged." He also heard the voice of purpose: "Whom shall I send and who will go for us?" He knew the Lord was calling.

In response to the vision and the voice, Isaiah became a volunteer by saying: "Here am I; send me." Without consulting anyone, he unselfishly offered himself to the Lord. Isaiah intended to deliver the Lord's message to the best of his ability to whoever would hear and heed it.

Religious liberty

Frank Owen

Freedom is precious to Baptists. We have contributed mightily in history, gaining and granting religious freedom. The story of Roger Williams in Rhode Island is one of Baptist leadership in winning and granting religious liberty in America.

Usually, when we speak of religious liberty, we have in mind political and governmental relationships with church organizations. But in addition to the external granting and receiving of religious liberty, there is an internal dimension to the question. We owe people beyond our fellowship the same freedom of conscience that we expect others to give us and we owe the people within our own constituency some proper measure of conscience freedom and religious liberty.

There is a great body of religious faith and practice in which we Baptists generally hold fellowship together. Yet we are not a creedal people and we deliberately avoid creedal confinement. Baptist congregational units and Baptist individuals are to be accorded reasonable freedom of conscience. We are not automatons without capacity for individual conviction and expression and we must not try to reduce each other to automation.

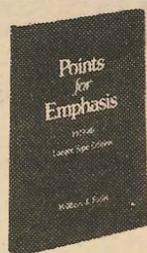
Orthodoxy is important but so is freedom. These two elements must be blended so as to protect that precious ingredient so emphatic in Baptist history; namely, voluntarism in religion.

In Christian Education institutions, for example, we are concerned about orthodoxy, but no honest educational environment can render unaskable by decree the questions with which human scholars must grapple. Our Baptist schools must be soundly Christian but it would be false to try to achieve this by forbidding honest, research into questions the world commonly asks. Potential doubts must be confronted before faith can win victory.

I realize the ice is thin here but in all my ministry I have tried to be a moderating voice when winds begin to blow that can become violent when extreme.

We've heard and felt some recent winds stirring. Let's not forget our dedication to religious freedom, both externally and to our own people.

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Christian Education



Treadwell registrar at Georgetown

Louise Treadwell has been named registrar at Georgetown College, according to John Butler, academic dean.

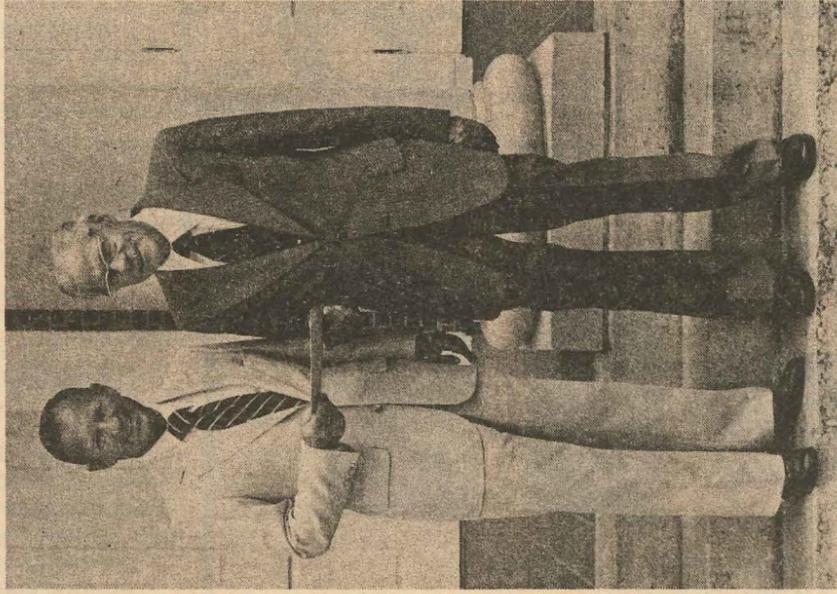
A native of Paragould, Ark. she attended Furman University and Union University before graduating from Brenau College. Mrs. Treadwell earned a master's degree in history from Converse College. A former high school teacher, she has worked on the staffs of state Baptist conventions in Kentucky and Tennessee. She was a visiting instructor at Southern Seminary in 1979.

Mrs. Treadwell is the wife of W. C. Treadwell, pastor of Faith Baptist Church, Georgetown. They have three children.

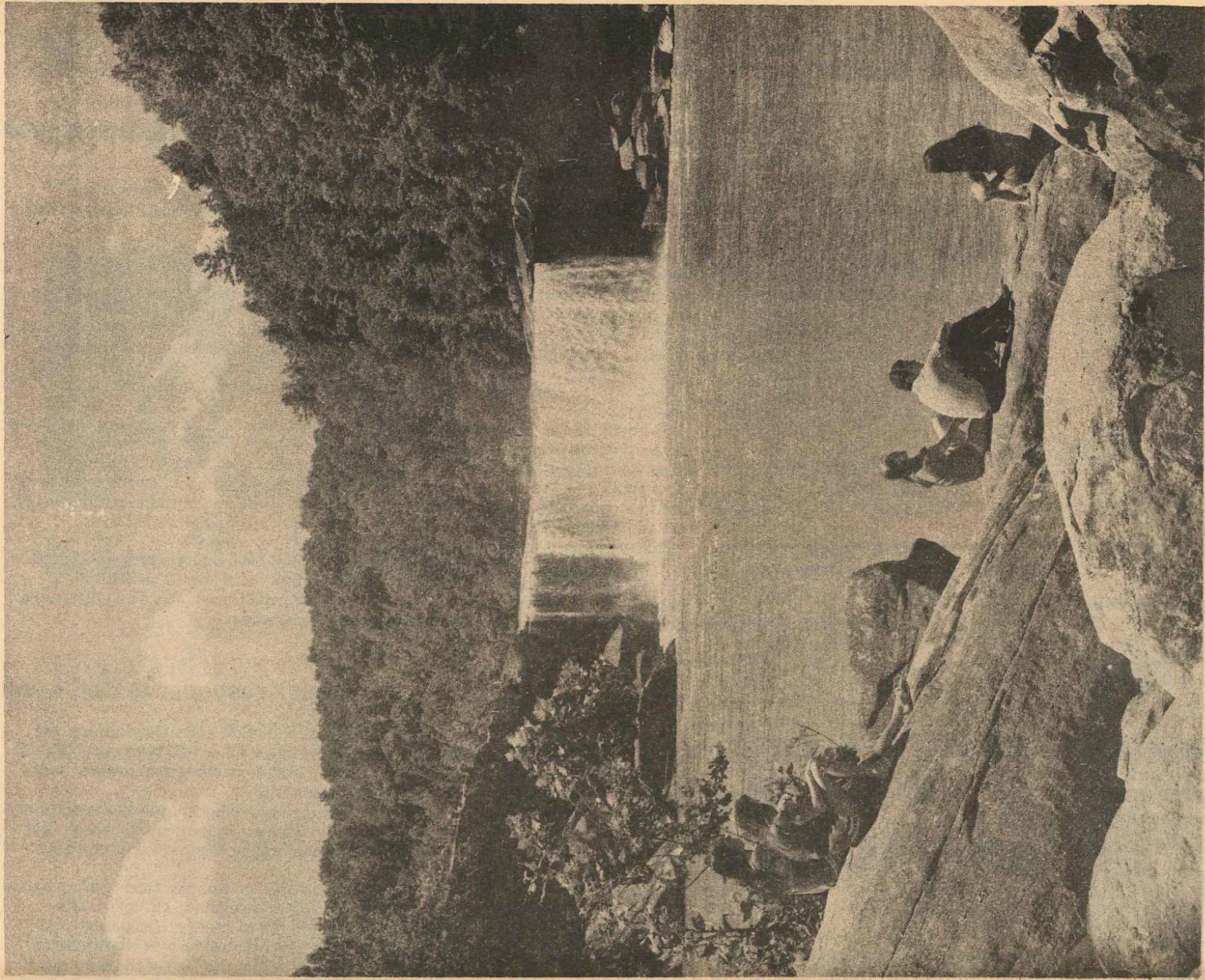
Kentuckian graduates

The list of graduates of the Luther Rice Seminary for 1979 includes Guy M. Deane Jr. of Marion. Deane received his master's degree.

Margaret Dee Bratcher [r.], a native of New Bern, N. C., recently was presented the Broadman Seminarian Award at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, making her the first woman to receive the annual award from any of the six Southern Baptist seminaries. She is shown with Elisabeth Lambert, assistant dean of students at the seminary. Miss Bratcher is minister of education at New Hope Baptist Church, Jeffersonville, Ind.



W. C. Jenkins [l.], representative of the Allstate foundation, recently presented Cumberland College president J. M. Boswell a grant of \$18,000 to be used in the school's associate degree in nursing program.



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AUGUST 1, 1979