

17 new leaders carry the ball in race toward the year 2000

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

*I wish that there were some wonderful place
Called the Land of Beginning Again;
Where all our mistakes and all our heartaches . . .
Could be dropped, like a shabby old coat at the door,
And never put on again.*

—Louisa Fletcher Tarkington

Southern Baptists have reached the proverbial "land of beginning again." We are two years into Bold Mission Thrust, a plan to witness to every human on earth by the end of the century. Much of our philosophy, method and zeal in carrying out that goal will be shaped by our leadership. And our leadership has just gone through a mighty transition.

Early in the seventies pastors, church and denominational leaders signified one theme frequently: the tremendous number of changes about to occur in the executive levels of almost every one of the convention's agencies and institutions before the end of the current decade. Their predictions have come true, and with the election in recent days of new heads of the Brotherhood Commission and the Foreign Mission Board, those changes are now complete.

Of 21 SBC agency and auxiliary heads on the job at the start of the decade of the seventies, only two—Duke K. McCall of Southern Seminary and Foy Valentine of the Christian Life Commission—are still in their same positions. Both also held their same responsibilities in 1960. In fact, 17 who served at the start of the sixties were in those capacities at the start of the seventies. There can be no mistake that the decade of the seventies has been the decade of change among Southern Baptist executive leadership.

Of 19 heads serving in 1970 who will no longer be at the helm of their agencies in 1980, 12 are retired; two retire by the end of December this year (Paul M. Stevens, Radio-TV Commission, and Baker James Cauthen, Foreign Mission Board); Harold M. Harrell served an agency which is no longer controlled by the convention, the Southern Baptist Hospital Agency; and four leaders have died—George M. Schroeder, Brotherhood Commission; Davis C. Woolley, Historical Commission; C. Emmanuel Carlson, Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs; and Arthur B. Rutledge, Home Mission Board.

Surely McCall and Valentine are beginning to hold some sort of record in SBC annals.

McCall, who will be 65 Sept. 1, has been granted a year's extension following his normal retirement date of July 31, 1980. It is possible for him to receive additional one-year extensions until 1985.

Valentine, who turned 56 only last month, could conceivably be at the helm of the Christian Life Commission well into the decade of the nineties. This might gain him the distinction of being the Southern Baptist executive leader with the record for longevity in one position in the convention's history. He assumed his current post June 1, 1960.

But McCall, on the other hand, assumed the seminary presidency Sept. 15, 1951. He would have nearly 34 years in the job if he remained until 1985, an unbeatable record for anyone now serving.

A look at the ages of 17 other agency and auxiliary heads currently employed indicates every one of them could continue to occupy their posts through the decade of the eighties, within the providence of God. Grady C. Cothen, Sunday School Board, would be the first to reach age 70, Aug. 22, 1990.

With the trend toward retirement at age 70, at least seven executives could reach the 21st century while in service. They include Russell H. Dilday Jr., Southwestern Seminary; A. Rudolph Fagan, Stewardship Commission; Hollis E. Johnson III, Southern Baptist Foundation; W. Randall Lolley, Southeastern Seminary; William M. Pinson Jr., Golden Gate Seminary; William G. Tanner, Home Mission Board; and Carolyn Weatherford, Woman's Missionary Union.

Another, Lynn E. May Jr., Historical Commission, will miss 2000 by only a couple of months.

Four more will reach 70 in the period 1996-98: Arthur L. Walker, Education Commission, and Landrum P. Leavell II, New Orleans Seminary, both in 1996; R. Keith Parks, Foreign Mission Board, 1997; and Milton Ferguson, Midwestern Seminary, 1998.

McCall, turning 65 this week, is the oldest of the group. Johnson, at 44, is the youngest.

In the decade of the seventies, the land of beginning again, Southern Baptists witnessed a change in command at their top administrative post. Harold C. Bennett became the fourth person in 62 years to direct the SBC Executive Committee. He took the reins from Porter Routh Aug. 1, 1979.

All four SBC boards changed executive leadership during the decade—from R. Alton Reed to Darold H. Morgan at the Annuity Board; James L. Sullivan to Grady C. Cothen at the Sunday School Board; Arthur B. Rutledge to William G. Tanner at the Home Mission Board; and, later this year, Baker James Cauthen to R. Keith Parks at the Foreign Mission Board.

Five of the six seminaries welcomed new leaders in the seventies: Harold K. Graves gave way to William M. Pinson Jr. at Golden Gate; Millard J. Berquist was replaced by Milton Ferguson at Midwestern; Grady C. Cothen was followed by Landrum P. Leavell II at New Orleans; Olin T. Binkley was succeeded by W. Randall Lolley at Southeastern; and Robert E. Naylor preceded Russell H. Dilday Jr. at Southwestern.

Among the smaller agencies, Kendall Berry was followed by Hollis E. Johnson III at the Southern Baptist Foundation.

At the Brotherhood Commission, George W. Schroeder's untimely death was followed by Glendon McCullough, whose untimely death was followed by the election of James H. Smith, who starts Sept. 15.

Rabun L. Brantley retired from the Education Commission Oct. 1, 1970, succeeded by Ben C. Fisher, succeeded late last year by Arthur L. Walker.

Davis C. Woolley's successor at the Historical Commission was Lynn E. May Jr.

Paul M. Stevens' successor at the Radio-TV Commission is the only executive yet to be named.

The Stewardship Commission's Merrill D. Moore was succeeded by James V. Lackey and subsequently by A. Rudolph Fagan.

C. Emmanuel Carlson gave way to James E. Wood Jr. at the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

And Alma Hunt was followed by Carolyn Weatherford at the Woman's Missionary Union.

Much direction, if Bold Mission Thrust is to be, is up to this executive leadership of our boards, agencies, commission and auxiliary. Many of these leaders could be around for most of the next two decades.

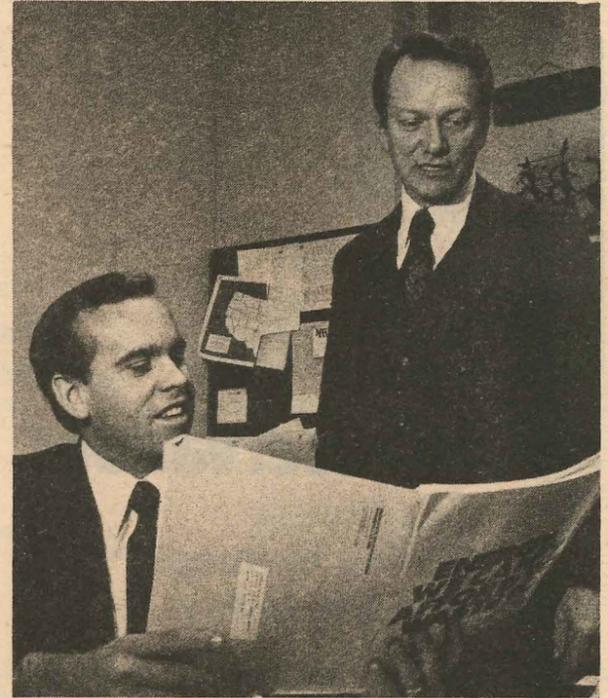
Where does all this lead?

One denominational insider recently pondered: Is Bold Mission Thrust really the dream of this new leadership, or that of its predecessors? Do these particular people have the gifts to cause it to catch on among the masses? Or is it unthinkable they might harbor other goals—greater, or lesser?

Early indications suggest these leaders are openly supportive of Bold Mission Thrust. At this point, there is no reason to doubt their sincerity. One thing is certain: the success of it can only be in proportion to how well the churches and their members carry out the plans fostered by the conventionwide agencies through their leaders.

It is a time of optimism perhaps unequalled in the 134-year history of the denomination. This decade of change has ushered in opportunities never before experienced by Southern Baptists.

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Sunday School Board staffers Jim Lowry [l] and Jerry Privette discuss energy conservation as it relates to Southern Baptist churches of the future.

Tough energy decisions: It is time Baptists took long, hard, flexible look

by Jim Lowry

Gross inefficiency of energy use cannot continue if the credibility of Southern Baptists is expected to remain high. We must begin immediately to accept the fact that energy consumption has reached crisis proportions and the simplest, most obvious way to remedy the crisis to a measurable degree is by practicing conservation in our homes and churches.

In our church buildings we must look seriously and questioningly at the logic behind oversized, high ceilinged sanctuaries that waste tremendous amounts of energy, particularly heat.

Jerry Privette, supervisor of the church building program and promotion section of the Sunday School Board's church architecture department, said temperature varies approximately one degree for every foot of height. Consequently, when thermostats are lowered to 67 or 68 degrees in the winter many people experience cold feet because of the temperature difference. If the high ornate ceilings are to stay churches must find ways to recirculate warm air which rushes to the ceiling.

Although much has been said about solar energy recently, it's doubtful solar will be of much help as an energy source to churches because it must be used on a daily basis for optimum benefit.

Churches can take advantage of nature by building facilities and placing windows to capture sun rays in winter and using deciduous trees or architectural design for shade in the summer. Also, Privette said no windows should be included on the north side of the building to provide better insulation in the winter.

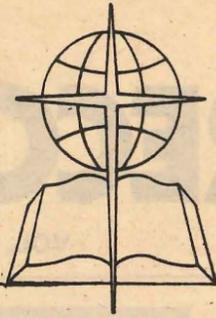
In Europe, where land is extremely expensive and difficult to acquire, several denominations combine their resources to build a worship facility to be used by more than one congregation. The building is used for worship all day Sunday, and for interdenominational day care and senior adult programs throughout the week.

Change will have to overcome some treasured Southern Baptist traditions, most of which are above reproach in relation to worship practices but are simply outdated in terms of energy conservation and stewardship of God's resources.

The time has come for serious introspection by Baptists at church and at home to see where we can contribute to conservation through leadership. Procrastination can only mean additional waste of our precious resources and deterioration of our witness in the community.

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

The missing element in Baptist life today

Pastor Guy Gordon's letter in this week's Baptist Forum is not included merely to let a dissident view be expressed. It is shared with Western Recorder readers because it says something that needs to be heard by all Baptists and especially by denominational leaders.

In the matter of the salary of the new executive director of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board which prompted Gordon's letter, leave Keith Parks out of the blame or the credit. He is about as humble and unselfish as any man in Baptist life and most likely he never mentioned salary provisions in discussions with the committee which recommended him.

Nevertheless, Mr. Gordon uses the proper word when he talks about "sacrifice." Sacrifice is the missing element in Baptist life today though it is the very heart of the teaching of Jesus and the key to every life that counts heavily for the Lord.

Look around us. What signs of sacrifice can be seen? Baptist church buildings are more monuments to affluence than signs of sacrifice.

If they were living today our Baptist forefathers couldn't believe their eyes. Baptist college and seminary students drive autos today which the best paid pastors two generations ago couldn't afford. More and more pastors who once lived in modest pastoriums next to the church are now moving to their own homes in the most prestigious subdivisions.

High salaries for the heads of denominational agencies have become a way of Baptist life. Whoever started it has put pressure on all the rest until now it is a matter of every agency doing as much for our leader as other agencies do for theirs. It is a vicious circle which nobody wants to be responsible for stopping.

I thought the recently begun practice of publishing salaries would slow down this trend but apparently not. The tendency is to rationalize and to justify rather than to reconsider.

Sacrifice begets sacrifice and the only hope for sacrificial giving or living on the part of Baptists in the pews is for it to be practiced by pastors and denominational leaders. There is no sign of such sacrifice in the setting of Baptist executive salaries today.

It's time some Baptist executives set an example. Someone not known for calling attention to himself should put a stop to this trend by refusing to accept a salary in excess of his basic needs. It will take something like this because it is obvious committees and boards don't have the judgment or the courage to do it.

The executive doing this would be accused of "grandstanding" and would be considered a

traitor by some fellow executives but it would be a step toward the saving of confidence and an example of the kind of sacrifice demanded in Bold Mission Thrust. At the present rate we can only expect a more serious crisis of confidence, Bold Mission Thrust will be a bust and the Cooperative Program will eventually suffer.

Instead of being a way of life for Baptists today sacrifice has become a word to use in fund raising campaigns and a subject for moving sermon illustrations. The spirit of sacrifice must be recovered from one end of our denomination to the other if we remain a dynamic people of God.

The answer to no baptisms

No religious group makes more use of statistics than Baptists and skillfully used they make us look fairly successful even when we are not. But there is one figure that cannot be used in any way except to make us feel bad. This is the number of Southern Baptist churches that go an entire year without a single baptism. Last year approximately 6000 Southern Baptist churches reported not one baptism during the year.

How should a church feel about such a record? What is a pastor to do in this kind of situation? In a few instances there may be a valid explanation for no baptisms in a whole year but these instances must be few.

Here's what one pastor in Kentucky did. When Glenn Mollette became pastor of Forks of Elkhorn church in Franklin Association and learned the church had not one baptism during the past year, he was disturbed and he set about disturbing the congregation.

On a Wednesday night he divided the 20 or so people at prayer meeting into four groups asking each group to pray and come up with a list of prospects in the community for conversion or transfer of letter. To his and their surprise the groups came up with a list of 50 prospects.

Then began a campaign of prayer and witnessing. Visible results began showing up almost immediately. Within one year this church with no baptisms and one transfer of letter the year before saw a harvest of 13 professions of faith and another 13 coming into the church by transfer of letters.

When this happened the whole life of the church was revived. Sunday school attendance almost doubled and offerings increased by more than one-third.

The experience of Forks of Elkhorn and pastor Mollette confirms at least two things. One is that no church field is without prospects no matter how it appears and the other is pastoral leadership nearly always makes the difference. A pastor is often ahead of the congregation but a

congregation rarely goes beyond the pastor.

The answer for a church with no baptisms to report is a pastor whose heart is burdened and who can lead others in the church to share this burden.

Baptist Forum

Whose sacrifice—Parks' or people's?

In the Aug. 15 issue of Western Recorder the announcement was made concerning the election of R. Keith Parks to succeed Baker James Cauthen as executive director of our Foreign Mission Board. I am sure the choice was a good one and I shall join countless others in praying for Parks as he assumes this gigantic task.

One of the outstanding features of the report was a glaring inconsistency which seems to be representative of our Baptist mentality. Parks is quoted as saying, "There are more 'winnable' people than at any time in history. We have not yet been willing to pay the cost in dollars that it will take." I am in agreement with his statement. But the question that comes to my mind is **who is going to pay the cost?** Where will the sacrifices be made? The article informs us that Parks' salary is to be \$45,000.00 a year. Again I ask, who is to sacrifice?

With increasing frequency we receive news of large salaries, benefits and gifts for our leaders, all of which come from the mission gifts of Southern Baptists. There was a time when I thought the salaries and benefits of our Baptist leaders should be a matter of open record. I have changed my position, for I see the figures which are published are having a negative effect on our efforts to increase mission gifts.

This article is written out of a spirit of jealousy. Not personal jealousy, for I have made no sacrifice. God has placed me among a people who believe "the laborer is worthy of his hire." But these same people do believe there is a reasonable limit and that we are responsible for the way we use the tithes and offerings of God's people. No, I do not think I am jealous of another person, but I am jealous of the use of the money our people give. You see, I tell them they are not giving to the church; they are giving **through** the church to their Lord. I think many of them give in that spirit and I want this spirit to grow.

This writer is a missionary Baptist. In more than 30 years in the pastoral ministry he has preached increased missions giving. He believes in the Cooperative Program and other programs of Southern Baptists. In the last two weeks the members of our small church have given \$4,300.00 for world hunger relief. We are committed to Bold Mission Thrust. Admittedly, we have not reached the point of sacrifice. And quite frankly, I doubt if the rank and file of Southern Baptists will be led to sacrifice unless we who are in the places of leadership on all levels show them that we practice what we preach.

Who will pay the cost? That question will await the answer.

Guy Gordon, Earlington

Baptist News in Brief

Alaskans cut budget and delay executive search

Alaska Baptists cut their budget 12.5 percent and decreased their percentage of budget contributions to the Cooperative Program from 29 percent to 25 percent during the annual meeting of the Alaska Baptist Convention.

The budget cut, from \$878,644 in 1979 to \$768,492 for 1980, is an effort to overcome a deficit incurred when contributions from Alaska churches fell below expectations. The deficit, which reached as high as \$75,000, is now \$53,000.

Messengers elected William B. Lyons, pastor of New Hope Baptist Church, Anchorage, to a second term as president of the convention.

Besides cutting the budget to save money, the convention's executive committee decided not to begin the search for a new state executive secretary to replace Troy Prince until the budget deficit is erased and the convention's giving through the Cooperative Program is back to at least 29 percent.

The delay in hiring a replacement for Prince, who resigned as of July 15, is anticipated to save \$47,400 in salary, travel and part time secretarial help for the office.

Annie Armstrong offering good, but not over top yet

The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions is having its best year ever but hasn't exceeded its \$15 million goal, said William G. Tanner, executive director-treasurer of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

"In fact," he added, "we do not expect to reach the goal."

A Baptist Press article reported in early August the Annie Armstrong offering had exceeded its goal with contributions totaling \$15,452,000 July 31.

"That report was incorrect," Tanner said. "On Aug. 17 contributions to the

Annie Armstrong offering amounted to \$13,487,462, or nearly \$2 million below what was reported."

The \$13.4 million in contributions represents an increase of 16.01 percent over 1978 contributions by mid-August. It also represents 89.92 percent of the goal.

"We did not want people to slack off in their giving, thinking the offering had reached its goal, when, in fact, it has not," Tanner said.

Living Water retreat set

The second annual Living Water Camp Meeting is scheduled Sept. 14-15 at the Family Life Enrichment Center, Renfro Valley. Activities include music, Bible studies, seminars, teaching and fellowship. At least 10 musical groups are scheduled to participate.

Activities begin Friday at 6 p. m. and run through Saturday noon. Reservations may be made to Living Water, Box 605, Mt. Vernon, KY 40456.

This event is sponsored by Cleft Rock Retreat where Bob and Eddie Fields minister.

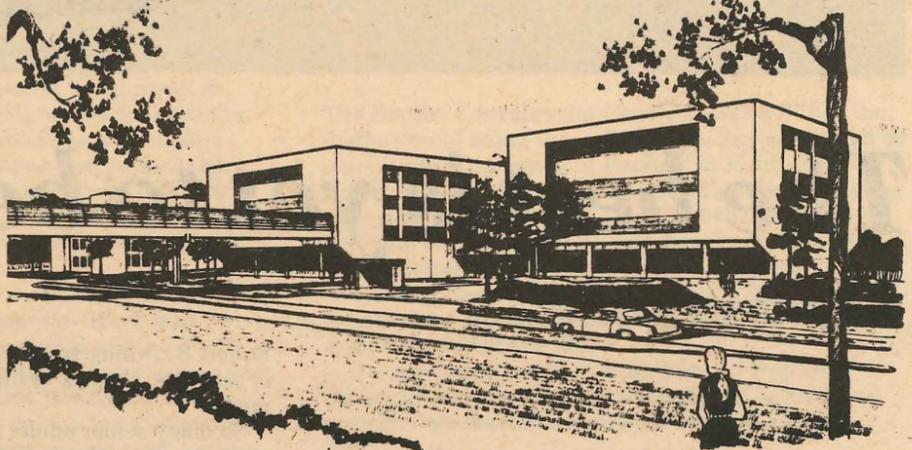
Melvin Hayes passes

Melvin H. Hayes, 61, died Wednesday, Aug. 22, at Suburban Hospital, Louisville. Hayes, a native of Brazil, Ind., was the husband of Dorothy McGown Hayes, bookkeeper at Western Recorder.

Hayes was an active member of Woodland Baptist Church, Middletown.

Services were held Saturday, Aug. 25, at McAfee Funeral Home with entombment at Resthaven Mausoleum in Louisville.

Along with his wife, survivors include a brother, Carl V. Hayes of Cross Plains, Tenn., and two sisters, Mrs. Fern Powers of Brazil, Ind. and Mrs. Ruby M. Smith of Louisville.



The Baptist Hospitals have announced an application is being filed with the Louisville and Jefferson County Planning Commission requesting office building zoning for development of its 12 1/4-acre Kresge Way site opposite Baptist Hospital East. After six years of

researching needs and uses beneficial to the area and the hospital a committee of the board of directors has concluded the professional medical office space is most suitable. Plans call for a cluster of low and medium rise medical office buildings as pictured.

Kentucky makes plans for Bold Mission Thrust



The Kentucky Baptist Convention is giving strong support to Bold Mission Thrust, the Southern Baptist Convention emphasis to share the gospel of Christ with every person in the world by the year 2000, according to Jay Brown, chairman of the Bold Mission Thrust committee for KBC.

Beginning Aug. 31 with Gasper River and Russell Creek Associations and continuing throughout the fall the state convention is assisting associations in Bold Mission church leadership conferences.

"We want to assist the associations in providing an opportunity for churches to look at their potential and set goals," Brown said. "With these meetings, churches have the first planning stages of Bold Mission Thrust."

"These conferences are right on target with the Bold Mission Thrust emphasis of growing, going and giving," explained Brown.

The conventionwide emphasis adopted in Kansas City, Mo. in 1977 proposed to share the word of Christ with everyone in the U. S. by 1982 and the world by 2000.

In addition to the overall goal the Southern Baptist Convention has proposed to grow nationally in Bible study enrolment by 12 percent and in baptisms by 10 percent by 1982.

Career and short term mission volunteers also are expected to be enlisted to facilitate the proposed bold growth. A total of 1000 career missionaries,

5000 one to two year full time volunteers and approximately 100,000 short term volunteers will be recruited.

Funding for Bold Mission Thrust is to be provided by an enlargement of local church financial bases by a suggested 15 percent annually. Cooperative Program gifts are expected to double by 1982.

But, as Brown suggested, "For Bold Mission Thrust to be a success, it must happen on the local church level. It cannot happen on the state or national level unless the churches become excited and commit themselves to it."

The goal of the committee planning the church leadership conferences is to involve every church in every association in planning. "We are contacting every association and encouraging them to conduct one of these conferences," Brown explained. "We offer our assistance if they request it."

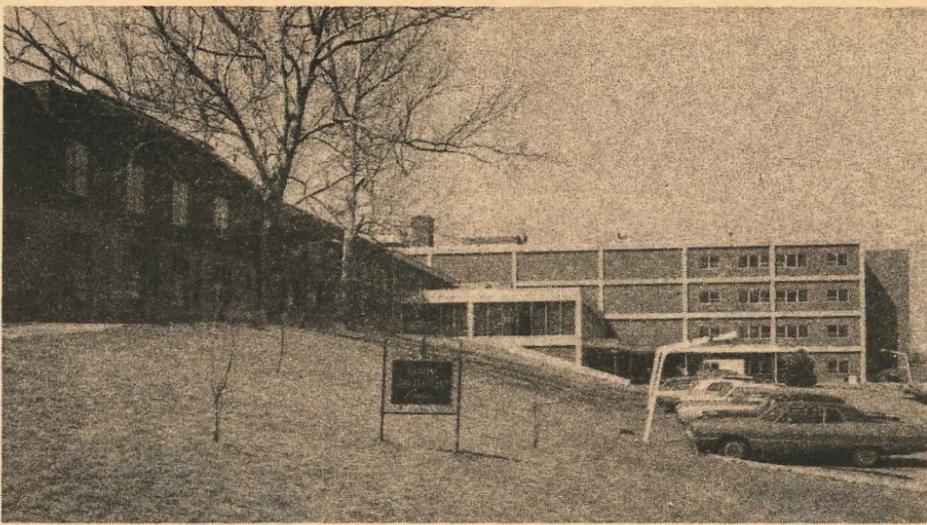
The conference includes an explanation of Bold Mission Thrust, an inspirational message and time for each church to reflect on their past ministry and project for the future.

"Even if a church does not participate in Bold Mission Thrust this will be a good exercise to see how it is ministering to its community and identify areas that need work," Brown suggested.

Bold Mission Thrust is not a short term involvement project; it is a concerted effort over several years. The Kentucky Baptist Convention is working to impress upon churches the importance of getting involved.



JOT fan Chris Tucknies is ready to blow his horn for the animated JOT's eight new TV episodes. New adventures of the bouncy, mischievous character [he's the one on Chris' shoulder] teach children moral values. JOT is produced by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission in cooperation with the Foreign Mission Board and is seen by half million viewers each week.



The Baptist Convalescent Center, sponsored by Northern Kentucky Baptist Association, is a 166-occupant facility that overlooks greater Cincinnati.

The best is yet to be?

by Jimmy Hester, Staff Writer

With the senior adult population increasing annually, what are Southern Baptists in Kentucky and throughout the nation doing to meet their needs?

Robert Browning said, "Grow old with me. The best is yet to be, the last of life, for which the first was made."

So many senior adults grow old alone and the last of life is not the best. Old age carries social, economic, psychological and religious problems.

Baptists, in many ways, are meeting the challenge set forth by the needs of senior adults through nursing and retirement facilities. But the question of whether we are doing all we can remains.

Across the Southern Baptist Convention

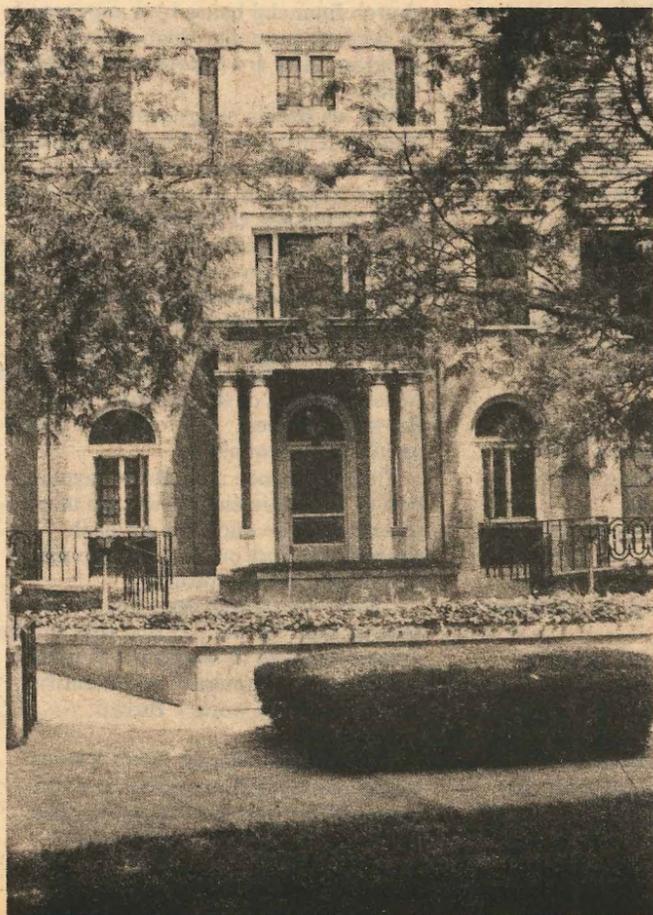
A survey of state Baptist convention annuals reveals how states in the Southern Baptist Convention are reacting to the need for facilities for the elderly.

Although there are, no doubt, Baptist sponsored homes in every state, only 15 of the 33 state conventions sponsor homes for the elderly.

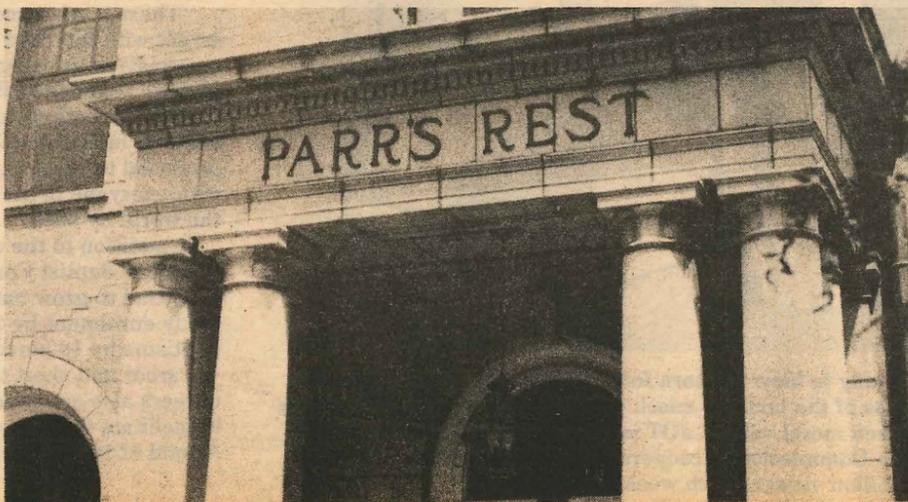
Of these, eight are in the southeast: Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee, Alabama and Louisiana.

North Carolina sponsors the most facilities with six. Following North Carolina are Texas (5), Virginia (4) and Oklahoma (3).

Several conventions are in the early stages of planning facilities or building homes. Alabama and Ohio are in the process of building; Tennessee is talking with Baptists in Memphis and Johnson City about establishing facilities. Virginia is also studying the possibilities of adding a home in the southwest part of the state. South Carolina is expanding its ministry to include small facilities in cities throughout the state; others are conducting studies to determine the feasibility of expanding.



Parr's Rest Nursing Home, located in the Highlands area of old Louisville, is one of Kentucky's oldest facilities. Parr's Rest is a home for women.



Not all projects are successful

Homes throughout the convention have been successful, but there are those that have struggled and in some cases failed.

A recent example is Belmont Plaza, a retirement center built by the Tennessee Baptist Service Corporation. The corporation is technically separate from the state convention, but the Tennessee Baptist Convention gave birth to the corporation, elects its directors, sets its debt limit and approves all additional spending.

Belmont Plaza is a 123-unit high rise apartment complex located in Nashville for senior adults. The project was in trouble beginning in Nov. 1978 when it was discovered excess funds from a bond sale could be used only for construction and not for operating expenses as originally intended. When the facility was completed Feb. 1, 1979 it could not open.

A special session of the state convention was called Apr. 5 to deal with the situation. This was the first called session of the convention in 104 years.

Messengers rejected the option of pumping more money into the facility to keep it under control of the convention. The corporation had asked the convention to increase its debt ceiling from \$5 million to \$6.5 million and to designate \$100,000 per year to the corporation from the state Cooperative Program budget.

The convention overwhelmingly adopted a seven-point recommendation of a study committee to sell or transfer ownership of the building as soon as possible.

In a called session of the executive board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention Aug. 9, a recommendation was proposed concerning the disposition of the facility.

Because the plaza is located adjacent to Belmont College, the Belmont Plaza study committee did not propose the facility be sold outright. This would give Baptists no control over the use of the building.

Instead, the proposal was to transfer Belmont Plaza to the Consolidated Resources Corporation of America, Atlanta, Ga., Nov. 1. The facility would be managed by Retirement Centers of America, Cleveland, Tenn. and operated as a residence for senior adults on a rental-only basis.

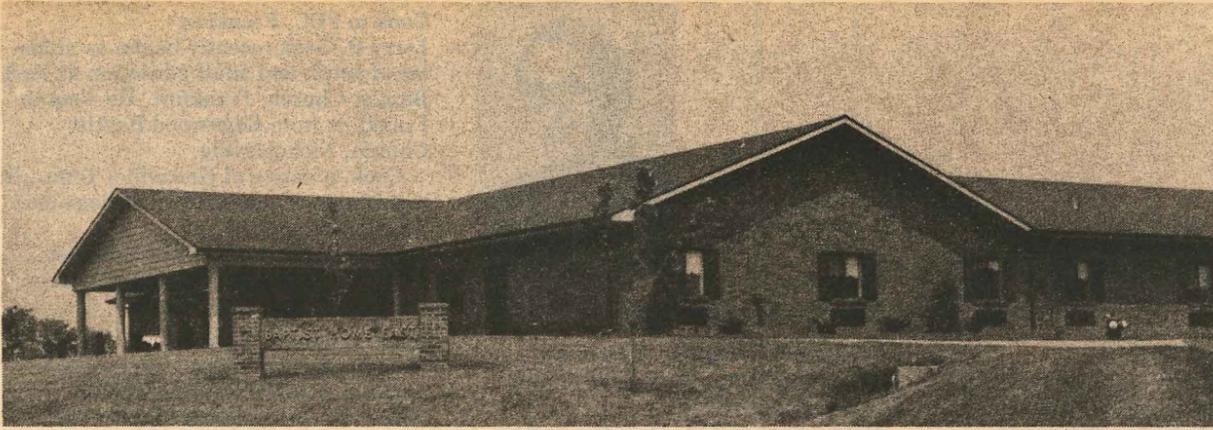
Technically, the state convention would still be liable for the total debt with Consolidated Resources Corporation standing between the bond holders and the convention for \$3.5 million of the total debt.

The proposal also called for a three-member policy-making committee made up of a member from the state convention, the financial firm and the management firm.

The executive board gave little consideration to the proposal by the committee. After little discussion, a substitute motion was presented which would have Belmont Plaza retained by the state convention and operated by a committee of the executive board.

Because some felt this was in opposition to the April decision of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, the board voted to seek more information on the committee's proposal and the substitute motion. The issue will be presented at the Sept. 11 meeting of the executive board.

For Tennessee Baptists, what began as a dream turned into a nightmare and continues to be a vital question with no easy solution.



Baptist Home East, a recently opened 110-bed nursing home, is located on Hounz Lane in Louisville. The home is designed to accommodate patients requiring personal and intermediate care.

Kentucky Baptist Convention not involved

The Kentucky Baptist Convention has taken the approach of the Southern Baptist Convention. The philosophy has and continues to be that this need can be met on the local level better than on the state or national level.

A. B. Colvin, director of church-minister services for the Kentucky Baptist Convention, said "the state convention can and does encourage involvement by churches and associations, but we do not become directly involved.

"Homes for the elderly cannot be properly administered from Middletown if the homes are somewhere out in the state," Colvin explained. "We could not even successfully administer a home in Louisville.

"A home such as this will never make it unless the people in the local area are concerned about a ministry to the elderly," Colvin stated.

There have been occasions when the Kentucky Baptist Convention could have become involved in a ministry to the elderly.

Larry Dauenhauer, director of administrative services at the Kentucky Baptist Board of Child Care, explained: "When the Board of Child Care closed the home in Morehead, it was offered to the state as a home for the elderly. The state convention refused the offer primarily because several educational institutions sponsored by the convention were struggling at the time." The home at Morehead was taken by the state of Kentucky.

"The Board of Child Care has made some suggestions over the years," Dauenhauer continued, "but they have not been accepted."

Meanwhile in Kentucky, Baptists respond

In Kentucky, homes for the elderly have emerged primarily from the concern of individuals. A look at three homes in Louisville and one in northern Kentucky illustrates there would be no homes, either nursing or retirement, if it were not for the interest of concerned individuals.

One of the oldest homes in Kentucky is Parr's Rest Nursing Home in Louisville. Daniel G. Parr (1825-1904) was a wealthy real estate man after the Civil War. Upon his death, he left land and buildings to many organizations for varying causes. As an active Baptist layman at Walnut Street Baptist Church, Parr left land for Parr's Rest Nursing Home. The home was built in 1914 and continues to operate in the Highlands area of old Louisville.

According to the chief administrator at Parr's Rest, Miss Dorothy Cable, "The home is under the care of a board of trustees set forth in the will of Daniel Parr. There are two members that serve a specific term from Walnut Street Baptist Church and three life time members from Broadway Baptist Church."

"Parr's Rest, a home for women unable to care for themselves, is Baptist in that it was founded by a Baptist and is under the trustee care of Baptists," Miss Cable explained.

Along with his duties at the Board of Child Care, Larry Dauenhauer is also a trustee for Baptist Homes for the Elderly Inc. This organization recently opened Baptist Home East in Louisville, a nursing home for the elderly.

When asked what 'Baptist' had to do with the home, Dauenhauer explained: "Baptist Home East is

an outgrowth of the Wiggington Corporation. The Wiggington Home for men was on Third Street in Louisville. Before Mrs. Wiggington died, she made arrangements in her will establishing a trust for a home to be administered by Long Run Association. Upon her death, a board of directors was established consisting of one member from each church in the association. This was the extent of the association's involvement."

"The Wiggington board of directors decided to build a nursing facility in Louisville. The board elected trustees, who became the foundation for Baptist Homes for the Elderly Inc. Baptist Home East has been built as a result of that decision," Dauenhauer concluded.

This complicated process is typical of most homes that have been established in Kentucky. Another example is Baptist Towers.

Baptist Towers Inc. is a nonprofit corporation as is Baptist Homes for the Elderly Inc. The corporation was formed by a group of businessmen from Walnut Street Baptist Church.

Baptist Towers is a \$3.5 million high rise apartment complex in downtown Louisville. It is designed for low and moderate income persons 62 years of age and older who want to enjoy comfortable, independent living.

Although the complex was conceived by a group of laymen from a local church, the project is not directly related to the ministry of the church. Since funds for the facility came from the Department of Housing and Urban Development a sponsor had to be secured. On paper, Walnut Street Baptist Church is the sponsor, but there are no financial connections.

A unique situation in northern Kentucky

The Baptist Convalescent Center in Newport has the distinction of being the only such facility sponsored by one district association of Baptists in Kentucky. The Northern Kentucky Baptist Association has sponsored the home since 1952. The capacity has risen from 50 occupants to 166 in the 27-year history of the center.

The center has not always been so well off. It was a shoestring operation until recent years and was faced with serious financial problems following the expansion of the facility in 1967.

George Jones, executive secretary of Northern Kentucky Association, and a number of laymen and pastors organized the center and put it back on its feet.

Today, as is true with the homes and centers for the elderly that have survived, the Convalescent Center is successfully meeting the needs of the elderly in the Newport-Covington-Cincinnati area, but only after some trying years and a great deal of support from concerned Baptists who saw the importance of making the last of life the best.



Baptist Towers is a \$3.5 million high rise apartment complex located in downtown Louisville. The complex has 102 efficiency apartments and a number of one-bedroom apartments. The complex houses over 200 senior adults. Baptist Towers is not a nursing home; each person must be able to care for himself.

Mountains to the Mississippi

Congregations

Brownsville celebrates 105th
Brownsville Baptist Church, Edmonson Association, celebrated its 105th anniversary with a homecoming celebration Aug. 26.

The worship service was led by pastor Don McConnaughay and some former pastors of the church. Also featured was Doug Anderson, gospel singer from Louisville.

A pot luck dinner at the church followed the morning worship service.

FBC, Sturgis burns note
First Baptist Church, Sturgis, held a note burning service Aug. 5 to celebrate the retirement of the \$150,000 indebtedness on the sanctuary.

Participating were Jack Chambliss; Mrs. Evelyn Hurley; Mrs. Carolyn Dalton; Brodie Ambrose, pastor; Mrs. Quentin Wesley; Barry Blakeman, associate pastor; Bill Whittaker, former pastor; Charles Pryor; Bowers Wallace; Carroll Seibert and C. J. Brown.

Revivals

39 decisions at Egypt
Egypt Baptist Church, Irvine Association, recently had a successful revival with two professions of faith and 37 rededications.

42 come at Pleasant Run
Pleasant Run Baptist Church, Booneville Association, reports 21 professions of faith, one by the promise of letter and 20 other decisions during a recent revival.

36 decisions at Indian Creek
Indian Creek Baptist Church, Monroe Association, recently had revival services. It reports 15 professions of faith, 16 additions by baptism and five by transfer of church letter.

Ordinations

Harmon ordained at Parksville
Barry Harmon was ordained to the gospel ministry Aug. 5 by Parksville Baptist Church, South District Association.

Harmon is pastor of Mt. Freeman Baptist Church. He will enter Clear Creek School in the fall.

Three ordained at Williams Memorial
Williams Memorial Baptist Church, Boone's Creek Association, recently ordained three deacons: Edward Jarvis, Edward Wells and Michael Woolery. The ordination sermon was preached by missionary Ross Figart.

Personnel

Jones resigns Spring Bayou
Bob Jones has resigned as pastor of Spring Bayou Baptist Church, West Union Association. He accepted the call to pastor Shively Heights Baptist Church, Louisville.

Dorris to FBC, Morgantown
Frank W. Dorris has been called as pastor of First Baptist Church, Morgantown, Gasper River Association. Dorris returns to FBC, having been pastor from 1967 to 1974.



Cook

A native of Kentucky, Dorris is a graduate of Georgetown College and Golden Gate Seminary.

Dorris went to FBC from the pastorate of Auburn Baptist Church, Auburn.

Turner to Sinking Spring
Billy Turner began as pastor of Sinking Spring Baptist Church, Murray, July 22. Turner moved to Sinking Spring from the pastorate of Altona Baptist Church, Calvert City.

Turner, a native of Calloway County, is married to Larue Jones.

Huff retires, enters evangelism
Esau Huff has taken early retirement after 22 years as pastor of Trinity Baptist Church, Indianapolis, Ind. Huff has entered full time evangelism and may be contacted at 303 Jacksboro St., Somerset, KY 42533.

Hodges called to Temple
George Hodges has accepted the call to be pastor of Temple Baptist Church, West Union Association.

Cook to FBC, Frankfort
Larry R. Cook recently began as minister of youth and adult education at First Baptist Church, Frankfort. He went to Frankfort from Edgewood Baptist Church, Nicholasville.

Cook, a native of Knoxville, Tenn., is a graduate of Georgetown College and Southern Seminary.

Cook is married to Carla Griesser. They are the parents of three children: Lori, Dwayne and Amy.

Insko resigns at Calvary
Larry Insko has resigned as associate pastor of Central Baptist Church, Boone's Creek Association. He has accepted a similar position at Far Hills Baptist Church, Dayton O.

Crittenden calls Hall
Crittenden Baptist Church, Crittenden Association, has called Ronald Hall as pastor.

Hall, a native of Grant County, is a 1973 graduate of Practical Bible College, Binghamton, N. Y.

He has pastored churches in Montana and New York. He comes to Crittenden from the pastorate of Hatch Hollow Baptist Church, Union City, Pa.

Hall is married to Doris Stewart. They have three children: Ronald S. Hall of Dry Ridge, Sherry L. and Tony A. Hall who live with their parents.

Doss called to Calvary
Calvary Baptist Church, Boone's Creek Association, has called Ronald Doss as pastor.

Doss is a recent graduate of Clear Creek School.

BROTHERHOOD CONVENTION

**First Baptist Church
Bowling Green
October 5-6**



Rollin Burhans
Pastor



John Foe
Brotherhood
Director

Join Rollin Burhans and John Foe as First Baptist Church, Bowling Green hosts the state Brotherhood Convention. A golf tournament will kick off the activities Friday at 9 am at Bowling Green Country Club. The first session is at 3 pm on Friday with the convention concluding Saturday with the traditional "Free bean-soup supper."

Buyers Guide

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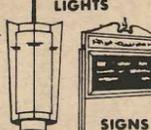
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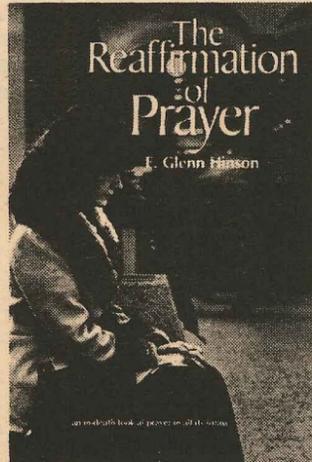
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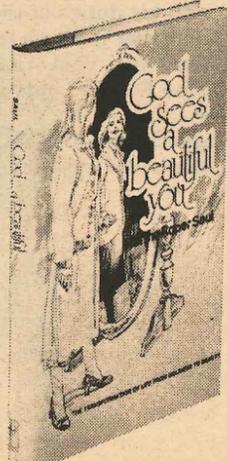
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BROADMAN



Sunday school lessons this week include lessons for Sept. 9 and 16. This is to accommodate a state missions section in next week's Western Recorder.

Sunday School Lesson

H. C. Chiles

SEPT. 9

INTERNATIONAL SERIES

God's saving acts

God demonstrated his great love for his people in numerous acts he performed in their behalf, but they rebelled repeatedly and refused to do what he commanded. **Deuteronomy 26:5-11** Some Israelites went to Egypt to purchase grain. They later found themselves in slavery, something they had not anticipated.

While in Egypt they increased in population so rapidly the Egyptians thought of them as a threat to their security, especially if they joined forces with Egypt's foes. Hardships were inflicted upon them by the Egyptians. The afflicted people cried to the Lord, their only hope of deliverance. Out of deep concern for their welfare, God heard their cry and performed mighty acts to deliver them from cruel bondage.

Like everything he does, God used miraculous power to deliver the oppressed Israelites for a purpose. He brought them out of Egypt to bring them into the land he had promised them. In this fertile and fruitful land, God made provision for the needs of his people.

Thankful to God for his acts of mercy and judgment, the Israelites memorialized what he had done by the observance of "The Ceremony at the Presentation of First Fruits."

Exodus 15:11-13 In Exodus 15 appears the first song recorded in the Word of God. It focuses attention upon the great superiority of God over Pharaoh and his hosts. The immediate occasion for this song was the destruction of the Egyptian armies. Their terror at the sight of their pursuers was soon turned into genuine gratitude and hearty praise to God. In commemoration of God's miraculous deliverance from the Egyptians at the Red Sea, the children of Israel sang God's praises and magnified his name in joyous gratitude.

LIFE AND WORK SERIES

The cost of concern

Blinded by prejudice and boiling with hatred against Paul, some Asiatic Jews aroused the crowd against him. Paul was seized, dragged from the inner court of the temple and beaten unmercifully.

Acts 21:31-33 The mob thought they could do what they pleased with Paul, but they were mistaken. His life was not in their hands but in the care of God. He saw to it that the news of the riot reached the ears of the chief captain. The captain and a number of his troops rushed down the stairs to quell the mob. At their appearance, the enraged mob stopped beating Paul. Unable to get a sensible answer for the reason for their fury, the captain decided to take Paul and examine him.

Acts 22:22-24 When Paul related the details of his experience of salvation, his audience listened with rapt attention. Upon his declaration that the Lord sent him to preach to the Gentiles, the attentive listeners exploded with rage and demanded Paul be put to death. When the chief captain heard the uproar, he ordered Paul to be taken to the barracks and subjected to cruel scourging forcing him to confess to his crime.

Acts 23:12-15, 23 A band of 40 ruffians entered into a conspiracy to kill Paul. They vowed they would neither eat nor drink until the job was completed. The conspirators planned to murder the apostle as he was being taken from the barracks.

The captain summoned two centurions and instructed them to call out 470 trained and heavily armed men to transfer Paul under the cover of darkness to Caesarea, thereby making it impossible for the treacherous conspirators to kill him en route.

Frank Owen

I had a great friend in Toccoa, Ga. He was A. T. Cline, long time pastor of First Baptist Church there with whom I was privileged to serve in several revival meetings and other relationships. He is in heaven now.

I was young in the ministry in those years and perhaps my greatest asset was the fact I had an ear for counsel from older men who had been over the same road I was to travel.

Dr. Cline had a bit of mild opposition in his church. Men who have been around for awhile have a few people who no longer are enthusiastic about their leadership and ministry.

Though I was pretty young yet, I had been pastor of my Georgia congregation long enough to have begun to feel such circumstance. Some people like to change pastors pretty often—some like it to be more often than the Lord will cooperate. Dr. Cline and I were talking about such pockets of resistance in our congregations and how one should best conduct himself in light of this. His statement on this was a gem of wisdom and revealed a great deal of what is required in a man to be able to

SEPT. 16

INTERNATIONAL SERIES

God's authority and rule

Through the centuries men have questioned God's authority and right to rule. **Matthew 21:33-41** Aware of his approaching crucifixion, Christ stood in the temple, faced his bitter enemies and answered their attacks in words no other ever spoke. By means of parables Christ brought them to the point where their own words condemned them for their hypocrisy and rebellion.

Christ told about a man who owned a piece of fertile land. On it he planted a vineyard with the choicest vine. He fenced it and erected a tower for a watchman. He prepared a winepress and left it in the care of others.

In due season the owner sent his servants for fruit but the husbandmen abused them. A large group of servants went and received similar treatment for requesting the fruit which belonged to the owner. Finally, he sent his son. He was seized, cast out and slain.

This householder represents God; the vineyard represents the nation of Israel. The husbandmen represent the rulers and leaders of Israel. The servants represent the prophets and teachers God sent to warn the Israelites of their disobedience and wickedness. The son represents Jesus, who was about to be put to death when he spoke this parable.

Christ let his hearers know there was not the slightest possibility of an evasion of responsibility on their part. A reckoning day was coming. Christ wanted to save them from judgment, but they would not let him.

Ere 40 years had elapsed, Jerusalem was destroyed, the temple was burned and laid in ruins and the Jews were scattered over the earth.

Matthew 13:44-46 One interpretation of the first of these two parables is that the treasure hidden in the field symbolizes Israel, scattered among the nations of the world because of their rejection of Christ. Another interpretation is that this treasure represents the kingdom of God, which was of such incomparable worth to Christ he readily paid the price of his blood shed on the cross to secure and restore its lost beauty.

Nothing is comparable in value to the kingdom of God. The man's abandonment of everything in order to secure the pearl of great price finds its meaning and culmination in Christ's death. Christ considered it important to give up all he had to secure for people the privilege of being subjects in his kingdom.

LIFE AND WORK SERIES

Seizing opportunities to witness

Acts 24:14-15 Calmly and frankly Paul denied the false accusations which Tertullus made against him. Paul's defense revealed his willingness to open the record of his Christian life. He related his experience of salvation and declared he had been sustained by his faith in God which had resulted in his obedience. Paul acknowledged the basic issue in his trial was his belief, hope and preaching of the resurrection of the dead. This doctrine was not a deviation from Judaism but actually the great hope of the Jews.

Acts 24:24-25 Later Paul was summoned to appear before Felix and Drusilla. It matters little whether they sent for Paul out of curiosity, or a desire for financial gain, or because they wanted to be entertained or amused, or out of hungry hearts. Paul preached a model sermon with three divisions—righteousness, self control and the judgment to come.

Only one member of the audience was impressed by the sermon. Felix was convicted of his sins and filled with fear of the judgment. He deferred accepting Christ because he did not want to give up his sins.

Acts 26:19-22 After telling how new light and life had come into his soul, Paul made the glorious claim that he "was not disobedient to the heavenly vision." After hearing and heeding the voice of the risen Christ, the remainder of Paul's life was characterized by faithful obedience to him.

Acts 26:27-29 Turning directly to Agrippa, Paul asked, "Believest thou the prophets?" Before the king had time to reply, Paul answered for him, "I know that thou believest." Seized by the Holy Spirit, Agrippa exclaimed, "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian."

Paul expressed the noble desire that Agrippa were a Christian like himself with one exception, namely, "these bonds."

Clerical wisdom

remain in the same pastorate 30 years, as he had done. (His reply was good wisdom for other vocations as well as the ministry.)

He said, "I am not afraid of opposition. I have little or no fear of what others may do to me, but I am very fearful lest someone should nag at me until he gets me so frustrated I should fall victim to the temptation to make some rash statement or do some rash act by which I could destroy myself."

If I could say a word to our younger ministers, as well as those perhaps not so young, it would be to advise—keep your cool, keep calm, maintain a patient, steady, Christian poise, as becomes one whose faith is in God and whose love of the people is stronger than their occasional non-support.

"Bid the older men, be temperate, serious, sensible, sound in faith, in love and in steadfastness. Likewise urge the younger men to control themselves. Show yourself in all respects a model of good deeds, . . . integrity, gravity and sound speech that cannot be censured . . ." (Titus 2:2,6-8 RSV).

Missions & Ministries



Mr. and Mrs. Fred H. Findley



Mr. and Mrs. Robert D. Hughes



Mr. and Mrs. Emmett E. Powers

FMB appoints missionaries

Mr. and Mrs. Fred H. Findley Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Robert D. Hughes and Mr. and Mrs. Emmett E. Powers were among 34 persons named missionaries by the Foreign Mission Board at its August meeting at Glorieta (N. M.) Baptist Conference Center.

The Findleys, natives of Alabama, will work in Bangladesh, where he will be a general evangelist and she will be a church and home worker.

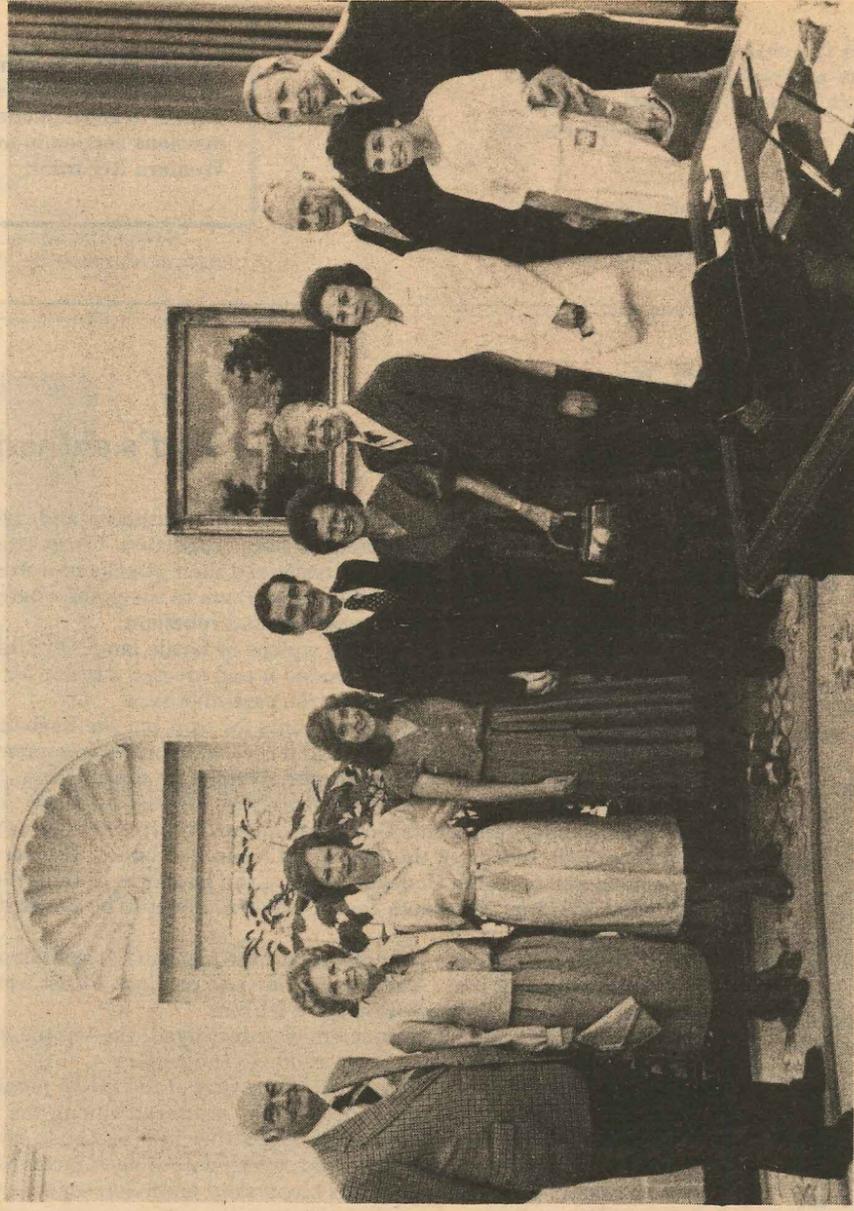
Most recently, he was pastor of Walnut Hill Baptist Church, Park City. Both are students at Southern Seminary where he plans to receive the MDiv degree and she expects to receive a diploma.

Mrs. Findley is a freelance calligrapher. Designs she has completed include three denominational service awards for the trustees of Southern Seminary and the seal for the 1977 Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union convention.

The Hughes will serve in Nigeria, where he will be a mass communications specialist and she will be a church and home worker.

Hughes, son of Robert D. Hughes, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist General Convention of California, is pastor of Union Baptist Church, Defoe. He is also an instructor in religious drama and an audiovisual technician at Southern Seminary, where he plans to receive the PhD degree in December.

Former, present and future Kentuckians met at Semarang, Java during the annual meeting of Baptist missionaries in Indonesia. Clyde and Nancy Lee Francisco, Louisville, chat with Wendell Smith [I], Betty Smith [r] and their son Mark. Francisco, professor of Old Testament at Southern Seminary, was Bible teacher for mission meetings in Indonesia and other Southeast Asia countries. The Smiths, natives of Rineyville and furough residents of Elizabethtown, will be sending Mark to Georgetown College, their alma mater.



SBC IN THE WHITE HOUSE — At President Jimmy Carter's invitation, newly elected Southern Baptist Convention officers and their wives participated in a get-acquainted session. From left: Abner McCall, first vice president and president of Baylor University; McCall's wife, Marguerite; Rosalynn Carter; Janice Rogers, daughter of SBC president Adrian Rogers; Adrian Rogers, SBC president and pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis; Rogers' wife, Joyce; Carter; Phyllis Bennett; Harold Bennett, executive secretary-treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee; Valerie Touchton; Don Touchton, second vice president and pastor of the Central Baptist Church, Brandon, Fla.



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