

George Wallace reflects on his own shooting, Reagan's, before Baptist public relations group

George Wallace, treating his stage as a pulpit, told a racially mixed Baptist group he holds no animosity toward the man who shot him nine years ago, ending his national political career and putting him forever in a wheelchair.

"I have forgiven him and prayed to God he has asked forgiveness for himself because you cannot enter the kingdom of God holding animosity toward another individual," said Wallace, wounded in Maryland while campaigning for the presidency.

Wallace, governor of Alabama for five years before he was shot, or "standing up" as he said, and governor for nearly seven years "sitting down," surprised a joint session of the Baptist Public Relations Association and a regional meeting of churches in transitional communities with an address that was more nearly a sermon.

He told the crowd of 300 in Birmingham, Ala. the shooting taught him the frailty of human life. "One moment you are in perfectly good health and in the twinkling of an eye you can be dead," he said. "In the twinkling of an eye you can be paralyzed."

"I was not the man I should have been," before the assassination attempt, he said. "I learned you should be ready to go at any moment by surrendering your heart to Jesus Christ and asking him to forgive you."

Wallace, a noted segregationist during his days as a powerful Southern politician, said the old way in the South is gone forever. Those who defended the old way thought it right, but were mistaken, he surmised.

Now the danger of rising racism is not in overt groups like the Ku Klux Klan and the American Nazi Party but "in the latent racism in the hearts of people who do not have the saving grace of Jesus Christ," he declared.

Those groups who use the Bible to defend their racism are "deadly wrong," said Wallace, who spoke for only a few minutes to the public relations group on the power of persuasion, then answered questions. "There is nothing in the Bible to indicate you can get in heaven by hating anyone because of race, color, creed or national origin."

Wallace feels vindicated, though saddened, by national events, particularly the emergency of crime. The warnings he voiced alone in 1968 and 1972 campaigns that crime would make people captives in their own homes "are now the conventional wisdom of everyone," he exclaimed.

Despite the attempt on his own life and the shooting of President Ronald Reagan, Wallace would not speak in favor of handgun controls because he said criminals do not obey regulations anyway. He did say if something had been done 100 years ago "to stop the proliferation of handguns we might not have the problem today."

Wallace, who lives in constant pain from his injury, stayed on stage after his address to listen to a sermon by Emmanuel McCall, director of the black church relations department of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board. After McCall spoke on the sufficient grace of Christ, he and Wallace embraced and Wallace was wheeled out.

Scripture Sharing delayed

The first printing of 400,000 copies of "The Road to Life," the book of Romans for the KBC Scripture Sharing plan, has sold out! The second printing of 200,000 is in the process. Back orders from KBC churches and associations will be shipped Apr. 24. Jay Brown, KBC evangelism director, says he regrets that some programs will be delayed but this is as fast as the American Bible Society could get a reprint.

Assassination attempt elicits comments by Daley, others

by Dan Martin, Baptist Press

Southern Baptists, like Americans everywhere, responded with dismay, sadness, shock—and prayer—to the "ghastly" attempted assassination of President Ronald Reagan.

R. Keith Parks, president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, led prayer over the public address system of the Richmond-based agency, praying for the President, the three other wounded men, their families and the accused assassin and his family.

In Jackson, Miss., William G. Tanner, president of the Home Mission Board, interrupted revival services at Alta Woods Baptist Church to lead the congregation in prayer for the quick recovery of the President and his three companions.

Reagan was shot in the chest as he left a speaking engagement in Washington, D. C., Mar. 30 and

Mission boards capture most BPRAs awards

The Southern Baptist Home and Foreign Mission Boards dominated the annual awards competition of the Baptist Public Relations Association in Birmingham, Ala., Mar. 29-Apr. 1.

The home board collected 11 of 62 awards while the foreign board took 10.

The Baptist Sunday School Board garnered four awards, and seven other organizations gained three each: Baptist World Alliance, Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, University of Richmond, Baylor University, Baptist Medical Center of Birmingham, and Word and Way, the journal of the Missouri Baptist Convention.

For the second year, David Wilkinson won the top prize for journalists, the Frank Burkhalter Award, for his feature article "Resurgence of the Ku Klux Klan." Wilkinson, now a student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, wrote the article while a staff member of the SBC Brotherhood Commission.

The other major awards, which included a plaque and a \$50 cash prize, went to Robert O'Brien of the FMB, Walker L. Knight and Everett Hullum, both of the HMB, and Linda T. Brown of Baptist World Alliance.

O'Brien won the Arthur Davenport Award for overall excellence in public relations.

Hullum was named the denomination's best photographer, winning the Fon H. Scofield Award for significant achievement in photography.

Mexican Bible Institute, Southwestern Seminary discuss possible merger

Trustees of Mexican Bible Institute and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary have approved recommendations to explore the possibility of a merger between the institutions.

Trustees of the San Antonio institution, owned by the Baptist General Convention of Texas, proposed the merger because "we have reached a point where we are at a crossroads," said Daniel J. Rivera, MBBI president.

Lloyd Elder, executive vice president in charge of long-range planning for the seminary, said the institutions have the same primary purpose, to "train men and women for the Christian ministry."

At present MBBI has 149 students from 22 states and nine foreign nations. The physical plant consists of eight buildings situated on 12½ acres in southeast San Antonio. MBBI has an operating budget of \$500,000.

underwent surgery for removal of a bullet from his left lung.

Three other persons—press secretary James Brady, secret service agent Tim McCarthy and District of Columbia policeman Thomas Delahanty—were more seriously injured.

Lynn P. Clayton, editor of the Baptist Message, journal of the Louisiana Baptist Convention, commented the United States "united in prayer" for the wounded men. "God answered that prayer," Clayton said, "... in the fact the President will not be incapacitated for long. And while the prognosis for Jim Brady at first was terrible, after a night filled with prayer by Christian people, he is showing strong recovery."

Across the convention, leaders responded to the event.

Harold C. Bennett, executive director-treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee, commented: "I am heartbroken and extremely disappointed that such a tragedy happened. We have prayed for President Reagan and the other victims, and extend our deep concern to each family. My prayer is that God will help us as a nation at this critical time in our history."

SBC president Bailey E. Smith of Del City, Okla., immediately wrote to the White House "expressing deep regret and sincere prayer."

Violence and its causes also drew comment from some Southern Baptists.

Harry N. Hollis Jr., a staff member of the SBC Christian Life Commission, commented:

"As Christians, the place to begin understanding such an act is in the reality of sin and evil. The taproot of violence is sin. This is not a time to engage in guilt-ridden breast beating but rather a time to share the good news that Jesus Christ can change individuals and energize those individuals to do something to change our 'shoot-em-up' society."

C. R. Daley, editor of Western Recorder, noted the assassination try reflects "the price we pay for being a free and open people . . . of putting very few restrictions on individual liberties. Such a thing could not happen in a country like Russia but I think it is better to live in an open society and to take these kinds of risks than to live in a rigidly controlled society."

Daley also urged some sort of gun control: "I do not favor registration of all guns, but this shows we are far too careless in the ownership of handguns."

Gene Clark, missionary, former state pastor, dies

Southern Baptist missionary Gene Clark, 54, died Mar. 28 in Tokyo of an apparent heart attack.

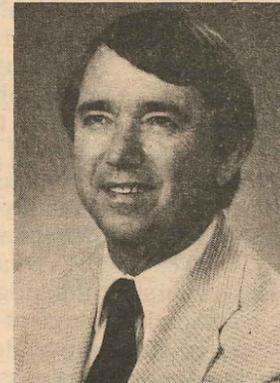
He had been general evangelist with Chofu Baptist Church, Tokyo, since 1974.

Clark, appointed in 1956, was chaplain and a teacher at Seinan Gakuin, a Baptist boys' school in Fukuoka, Japan, and a general evangelist there until 1965.

Clark was born in Asheville, N. C., but grew up in Avon Park, Fla. He was graduated from Baylor University, Waco, Tex., and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, with the BD degree.

Before missionary appointment, Clark was assistant pastor of Harmony Baptist Church, Louisville, and pastor of Rolling Fork Baptist Church, Nelsonville.

He is survived by his wife, the former Dorothy Lawhon of Avon Park; five children, a brother and sister.

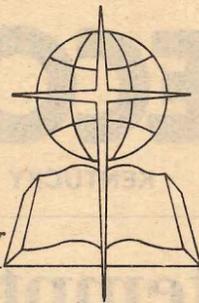


Clark

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

America pays a high price for a free and open society

Another attempted assassination of an American president! It's outrageous, shocking and incredible. One in a century would be terrible enough but one president killed, two assassination attempts on another president, one presidential candidate killed, another presidential candidate maimed for life and now another president narrowly escaping assassination all within the lifetime of today's high school seniors are shameful.

Why America, of all places? We have probably the most stable government in the world—no bands of political terrorists, no political revolutions, no government overthrows or military coups. How ironic that other countries with all of these have fewer assassination attempts, at least that we hear about.

This is just the point and is part of the explanation. The United States is a free, democratic society based upon a commitment to maximum individual freedoms. We put as little or least restraint on individuals as any country in the world. We can buy as many guns as we want, transport them freely across state lines with other possessions and stand within murdering range of any president who makes personal appearances. As has been truthfully said there is no way in our free society to completely protect a president from a determined assassin.

Should we change our system? Should streets traveled by the president be cleared of all spectators? Should presidents be required to wear bullet proof clothing? Should presidents in public appearances speak from a bullet proof enclosure? Should all spectators at presidential appearances be whisked?

No. To make a president 100 percent safe from a would-be assassin would be almost impossible in a free society. The changes required to do so would change us into a police state. This kind of cure would be worse than the sickness. The danger of assassination of national leaders is the price we pay for an open and free society.

This is not to say more precautions should not be exercised and that chances of what happened on Mar. 30 cannot be reduced. Easy and widespread ownership of handguns has to be called into question in our age of violence. This would-be assassin of President Reagan was found with three handguns in his possession last year and soon thereafter purchased two more in Dallas.

As a hunter and a defender of my home and family, I would not favor strict control of all kinds of guns but some national policy of restraint and control of the so-called "Sunday night special" is overdue.

It is true that determined criminals will get

guns one way or another but it surely ought not be as easy as it was for John W. Hinckley Jr. and for most murderers today.

Society as a whole cannot be judged by a few sick and demented individuals like presidential assassins but violence is in epidemic stage today and it is not discouraged by our growingly permissive society and our leniency for criminals, including murderers.

If capital punishment has a place as some of us believe, it's amazing that the assassin of Robert Kennedy is alive and seeking parole and that President Kennedy's assassin would probably be alive if not murdered by Jack Ruby. Other would-be assassins of presidents and presidential candidates have paid no higher price than going to prison. Demented persons like presidential assassins probably would not be deterred by thoughts of punishment but swift and certain justice would discourage many murderers of our day. Let us pray this assassination attempt will shock us into doing something about today's permissive spirit.

This bizarre event has theological implications for believers as do all events. Demonic powers became incarnate in a twisted mind but a divine providence overruled demonic powers and the victims were spared. This means the forces for good are ultimately stronger than the forces of evil and this would be true no matter how this event had turned out. This is our reason for gratitude to a loving God and our basis for hope in the ultimate triumph of good.

Cooperation is not the same as conformity

For Baptists cooperation and conformity are not the same and we better never forget it. Most Baptists believe in cooperation but few believe in conformity. Cooperation flourishes on voluntarism while conformity depends upon pressure and even coercion.

Early Baptists in England, on the continent and in America were rugged nonconformists. They rebelled vigorously against all forms of pressure to conform and loved their independence and autonomy so dearly that they were very reluctant to ever join any organizational structure of churches.

Common interests in Christian education and missions brought these independent Baptists together but only after full assurance was given that their joint endeavors would be on a voluntary basis and not upon any power of the organization to dictate or to regulate churches. This is clearly reflected in one statement that often was the first article in constitutions of associations and conventions of churches. "This organization shall exercise no authority over the churches that compose it."

If this emphasis upon voluntarism is so deeply ingrained in Baptists, why bring it up? Because there is always a tendency to confuse cooperation with conformity. The larger and more successful any organization becomes, the stronger the tendency to centralize authority and to develop a model for all members to follow.

Southern Baptists have not escaped this tendency. In our early days of denominational cooperation, Baptist churches were a strange and varied lot but more and more the idea of an ideal church has evolved and by now we tend to judge churches and also their pastors by this model.

We are even prone to regard churches as non-cooperative if they do not conform to the model.

There's nothing wrong with this concept of a model Baptist church. In fact it's a beautiful thing to behold and achieving this ideal is a worthy objective. The fact, however, is that all churches and pastors don't agree on the model. In some instances a special situation demands a different model, in other instances a pastor's priorities don't fit the ideal. A model church in one community might not be a model church in another community.

It's noteworthy that some of our largest and most successful Baptist churches today don't quite fit the ideal. They don't give enough of their income through the Cooperative Program, they support non-convention affiliated institutions, start their own schools or otherwise deviate from the model. It has even been suggested that a church's Cooperative Program record be included in its pastor's qualifications for convention office.

The next step in the cult of conformity is to begin referring to those that don't fit the model as "they" and those that do fit it as "we." This leads to factionalism and strife.

There is an element of this in the current Southern Baptist situation. The last two Southern Baptist Convention presidents and their churches have been questioned for not fitting the model. In the case of president Bailey Smith and Del City Baptist Church it was the low percentage giving through the Cooperative Program. In the case of former president Adrian Rogers and Bellevue Baptist Church it was strong support of a non-convention affiliated seminary. Granted that these pastors and churches don't fit the model perfectly at every point, they are great cooperating churches and have every right to order their own ways. Such churches are never to be made to feel they are on the fringe because they don't cross their "t's" and dot their "i's" the same way the model Southern Baptist church does.

A model as applied to churches is all right if it always is in the state of becoming and never static. The fastest growing Baptist churches today are those not bound by traditional models but which are always searching for and trying different and innovative ways of doing things. Some of these innovations may turn us off or may fail but those that work often are eventually adopted as a part of the model.

We must remember that conformity more nearly fits a hierarchical church system but Baptist churches are a rich and wide variety where only voluntary cooperation can work. Churches, not the denomination, decide who cooperates. If we forget this, as we are prone to do, we're in trouble.

Baptist Forum

Anybody qualified for NM?

The New Mexico Baptist Foundation is searching for a man who is qualified to be director of the Department of Foundation and Church Loan Ministries. If you know of someone with qualifications for this position, the search committee would be pleased to receive your recommendation. Please contact Richard G. Elkins, New Mexico Baptist Foundation, Box 485, Albuquerque, NM 87103.

Richard E. Elkins, Albuquerque, NM

D. L. Meador honored

by C. R. Daley, Editor

The Woman's Missionary Union of Blackford Association sponsored an appreciation night Mar. 31 for pastors and the associational director of missions, D. A. Meador. It was the first such observance and was attended by a crowd which overflowed the Hawesville Baptist sanctuary.

Mrs. Beverly Kennedy, associational WMU director, presided. She presented each pastor and read a brief biographical sketch while representatives from his church stood. Steve Shumaker and Stephen Boyd presented special music.

The main feature of the program was a "This Is Your Life" recognition of Meador. Participating were Meador's minister brother, Ezra Meador; C. L. Hardcastle, former pastor of Hawesville; Mrs. Thelma Crowley, a long time Vacation Bible School worker with

Meador; Wallace Morris, Bowling Green evangelist whose ministry has been greatly influenced by Meador; and A. B. Colvin, Kentucky Baptist mission director during most of the years of Meador's service.

Meador is the associational missionary in Kentucky with the longest tenure—37 years. Before becoming mission director in 1945 he was pastor of several churches in the association. He is a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

The climax of the recognition was the presentation by Mrs. Kennedy of a set of keys to a 1981 automobile to Mr. and Mrs. Meador. The automobile was a gift from the churches and friends of the Meadors.

A reception for the Meadors in the social hall of the church followed the service of appreciation.



Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Meador arrived early for Blackford Association appreciation night in Hawesville Mar. 31. Meador was taken by complete surprise when he and Mrs. Meador were presented a 1981 automobile by Blackford churches and friends in appreciation of 37 years as associational missionary.

Crescent Hill calls pastor

Crescent Hill Baptist Church, Louisville, has extended a call to H. Stephen Shoemaker, 32, pastor of Beverly Hills Baptist Church, Asheville, N. C., as its pastor. He has accepted effective May 17.

A native of Statesville, N. C., Shoemaker grew up in Charlotte where his father was and is minister of music at Pritchard Memorial Baptist Church. He received the BA degree from Stetson University, DeLand, Fla., in 1970, attended Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C., and graduated from Union Theological Seminary, New York City, with the MDiv degree. He holds the PhD degree from Southern Seminary.

Shoemaker is married to the former Cherrie Quakenbush and is the father of a son, David, 3, and a daughter, Ann, born last summer.

He pastored Richland Baptist Church, Falmouth, while a Southern Seminary student. He has served the Asheville church since 1978.

abled submarine, the pastor of an inner city church says.

Joe Priest Williams, pastor of Baptist Tabernacle in Louisville, made the analogy as he spoke to a conference for churches in racially changing communities, sponsored by the department of black church relationships of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

"Being the pastor of such a church is much like being the captain of a disabled submarine that cruises just below the surface, unable to make it to the top," Williams said.

Pastoral evangelism seminar in Lexington

Apr. 20-21, Grace Baptist Church, Lexington, Ky. Conference leaders Lewis Drummond, Findley Edge, Richard Harris and Jay Brown. Send \$5.00 registration fee to Evangelism Department, KBC, Box 43422, Middletown, KY 40243. Sessions: Apr. 20, 1:30; 6:30 p.m.; Apr. 21, 9:00 a.m., 1:30 p.m.

March CP figures up

March contributions through the national Southern Baptist Convention Cooperative Program reflected a 14.02 percent increase over March 1980.

During March, contributions amounted to \$6,885,176, of which \$6,534,207 was undesignated and \$10,350,968 was designated, primarily to the Annie Armstrong Easter offering for home missions and the Lottie Moon Christmas offering for foreign missions.

A sinking feeling?

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Mountains to the Mississippi

Congregations

Madisonville Second burns note
Second Baptist Church, Madisonville, has retired the last bonds on its sanctuary which was built in 1967 at a cost of \$125,000. The congregation held a note-burning service Mar. 8 during the morning worship service.

Members of the building committee include Austin Eddings, Elgan Myers, Cardis Clayton, Keith Orange, Johnny

Carson, Grace Eddings, Ethel Tucker, Joyce Clayton and Betty Traylor. Truman Davis is pastor.

Morningside observes anniversary
Morningside Baptist Church, Louisville, observed its ninth anniversary and homecoming Apr. 5. Features of the day included dinner on the grounds, high attendance goals in Sunday school and Church Training and an afternoon homecoming program.

C. R. Daley, Western Recorder editor, spoke at the afternoon meeting. Harold Sanders is pastor.

New Salem pastor attends clinic
Malcolm Hester, pastor of New Salem Baptist Church, Cox's Creek, attended



Mark Hamm, Baptist student minister at University of Kentucky, and Bunyan Wallace, pastor of First Baptist Church, Brook Park, Oh., are flanked by eight UK students who spent their spring break doing an area survey for the Ohio church.

Evangelism Explosion III's international leadership clinic Mar. 20-25.

The clinic, attended by 70 pastors and laypersons, was held at First Baptist Church, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. The focus of the clinic was to train individuals to more effectively share their faith with others.

Personnel

Trice accepts call from Trinity
Steve Trice, former pastor of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Severns Valley Association, resigned effective Mar. 22. He has accepted the call to pastor Trinity Baptist Church, Shirley, N. Y.

Calvary calls husband-wife team
Steve and Gayle Hooks have joined Calvary Baptist Church, Simpson Associa-

tion, as youth directors.

Hooks is a graduate of Western Kentucky University and is a teacher at Franklin-Simpson High School. Mrs. Hook, also a graduate of WKU, is a registered nurse at the Bowling Green Medical Center. The couple has one son.

Lindsey accepts Temple Hill position
Bill Lindsey has accepted the call as minister of youth and music of Temple Hill Baptist Church, Monroe Association.

Missions

Kentucky couple on furlough from Italy
Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Crabb Jr., missionaries to Italy, have arrived in the United States for furlough. Their current address is 1965 Norris Place, Louisville.



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Conflict Ministry in the Church

Conflict Ministry in the Church

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Larry L. McSwain is director of the Masters of Divinity Program and associate professor of Church and Community at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky.
William C. Treadwell, Jr., is pastor of Faith Baptist Church, Georgetown, Kentucky.
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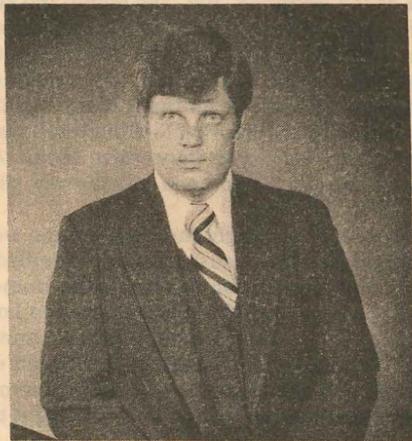
Agency executives glow over WR column results

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

It was almost 12 months ago that William E. Amos, then executive director of the Baptist Board of Child Care, sat down to pen some lines about a former Spring Meadows youth who had telephoned him to say "thanks." Western Recorder's Apr. 30, 1980 issue carried Amos' experience as new ground was broken for what has become an established pattern among several KBC institutions in their relationship with their state Baptist paper.

A lot of water has gone under the bridge since WR printed those lines. Amos resigned his position in the fall and departed for Florida. But the beat goes on, now more than ever. The idea of providing an editorial column for institutional staff members to talk regularly with their constituency has not only proved popular with Child Care workers, it has caught on with other institutions and prospered there, too.

This is a nostalgic look at what has transpired.



Taylor

Cumberland College

Cumberland College, which had been running frequent ads the previous year, decided to go with an ad in every issue for a year. Recently, Cumberland president James H. Taylor said the school would probably start a weekly column when its present contract expires.

As a result of the weekly advertising, Taylor said, 195 people have seriously inquired about wills and bequests. And 228 churches and members of Kentucky Baptist churches are participating in the school's Scholarshare program because of the ads.

"Our ads have everything to do with one human being talking to another human being about how God has prospered him, about how that person feels about his or her responsibilities to God and man and how he or she could respond by supporting worthy human endeavors," Taylor exclaimed.

"It was and continues to be my purpose to be a good steward of all those resources which God has entrusted to us. Our ads have to do with serious stewardship. I am told large portions of our population die every year without having written a will. That is simply tragic when one considers so many of our Baptist institutions need and deserve charitable bequests," Taylor continued.

Taylor pointed out that in each of the Cumberland ads this statement appears: "If you would like this information in contemplation of a gift to your local Baptist church, or to a sister Baptist institution or agency, just ask for the material and we will send it without any obligation on your part whatsoever." A specialized premium is sent to those responding to the ads.

"Our ads have helped our local Baptist churches and sister Baptist institutions almost as much as they have helped Cumberland," said Taylor. "But that is our purpose. I make no apology for wanting to promote serious stewardship. I see the institutions complementing each other's work through unique identities and our commitment to Christian education."



B. Moore

Oneida Baptist Institute

Oneida Baptist Institute's Barkley Moore has been similarly pleased with response to his advertising column in Western Recorder.

The school's president said, "My decision to write 'Oneida Journal' weekly in the Recorder is one of the most effective things I've done during the nine years of my stewardship as Oneida's president. I have had scores of letters. Most have come from people we've never had contact with before. Many send gifts which are, for the most part, first time gifts. Others express prayer support."

Moore cites a letter from Pauline Summers of Lexington which he received a few weeks ago as typical:

Until your column came out in the Recorder, Oneida School was a dim, far off school, somewhere in the Kentucky mountains. Now it's made very real and the word pictures you have written for six months are most interesting and inspiring. I look forward to them every week. This way of writing about each Baptist school regularly should have been done in this manner down through the years of the Recorder. I hope it continues. Each article has been a sermon. I hope to visit there one day. God bless all your work.

Cordelia Hazelrigg of Owensboro expressed sentiments practically "word for word like that of many others who have written," according to Moore:

I enjoy your writings in the Western Recorder. I look forward to reading them. I wish I could come to visit you. You are doing a great work.

Oma Carter, describing herself as a "well wisher for Oneida's work," wrote:

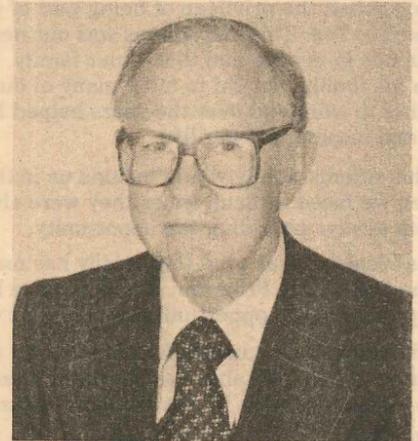
Enclosed is a check to Oneida School. I enjoy your writings in the Western Recorder. Keep up the good work. We are for you and such good institutions that have been a blessing for so long to the needy children of our state.

Moore added, "I wonder why we did not start the column years ago. Our payments to the Recorder for the printing of the column weekly help to strengthen the financial base of our state Baptist paper. We are happy to have a part in that worthwhile effort. At the same time, I am now convinced that each dollar expended will return many fold. Our ministry is mutually strengthened in kingdom service."

Moore has joined his counterparts in asking to continue his annual contract for a column in the Recorder when his

present one expires in June.

"We didn't know where the money would come from before we began it," he said. "Now we don't know how we did without it for so long."



Aldridge

Clear Creek Baptist School

D. M. Aldridge, president of Clear Creek Baptist School, Pineville, is "extremely pleased with the results of 'Clear Creek Comments'" in Western Recorder. "It perhaps has been responsible for more attention focused on our school among Kentucky Baptists than anything we have done."

"It is a rare day that passes without someone remarking about 'Clear Creek Comments,'" he disclosed. "In the few months the weekly column has appeared the school has received unusual response."

A director of missions in Virginia wrote:

Dr. Aldridge, From time to time I have enjoyed reading the articles that are published in Western Recorder. I always am happy to read about Clear Creek because it has been such a great blessing to me and I am sure to countless other people.

Another letter writer stated:

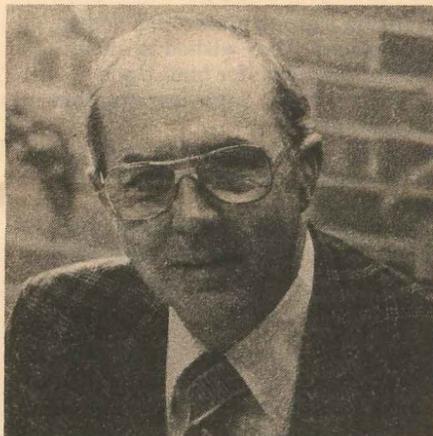
I enjoy your column you have every week in Western Recorder. I didn't know much about the work at Clear Creek and your articles have been very informative. Is there some way we could help out some of your families from time to time?

Still another wrote:

Dear Mr. Aldridge, Thank you for your comments in Western Recorder. Recently this was the factor that kept the Recorder in our church budget. One of the members expressed how she had learned so much about Clear Creek and the Oneida school since the articles have been appearing in the paper. I think this is a very helpful thing you are doing and trust it can continue.

Other persons have called or visited the school to see the model of Jerusalem after reading Clear Creek Comments, Aldridge reported. "It has been an effective tool of communication for Clear Creek Baptist School, and when coupled with display ads, the response has been unbelievably good."

And to think . . . it all began with a way for Child Care to tell its story to the people it serves.



T. Moore

Board of Child Care

Tom Moore should probably be credited with the column's inception. Child Care staff members and Western Recorder officials had been meeting for some time to determine ways each agency could mutually benefit in an expanded communications arrangement. Some ideas were discarded as too costly or impractical when a weekly column in which the agency's leaders could talk directly with their supporters was proposed. The idea clicked. Arrangements were made through Moore, Child Care's development director.

Looking back over the year, Moore said the column "has been very positive in its results, and I hope that our new director will choose to continue with it."

Moore claimed Bill Amos received considerable mail in favor of the column before he left. "I only received word by word of mouth, but there have been many positive responses," he allowed. "If there were ever any negative responses, it was never about the column but what was discussed in the column."

Several of the other state convention-operated institutions were quick to jump on the bandwagon when they heard of Child Care's success in this avenue of communication, too.

by Tom Moore,
Spring Meadows Administrator

APRIL 19, 1981

H. C. Chiles



A day of reflection

I have just participated in services for Willie Logsdon who has gone on to be with the Lord. This has been a day of reflection for I had the privilege of serving with the Logsdons and other wonderful Christians as their pastor at Vine Street Baptist Church, Louisville. It took me back to happy, meaningful days in my ministry.

Meeting the funeral director in Brandenburg, Bill Adams, a very fine young man who feels that he is ministering to the needs of others, brought up memories.

I once had the privilege of being part of another Bill Adams' family who lived in Amarillo, Tex. This Bill Adams was our next door neighbor and a very positive influence in my life and that of our family. When my daddy died, Adams, along with his family, sought to meet many of our needs. He provided a place for my mother to work and over the years helped her find jobs which brought more meaning and income into her life.

This Adams family would include us in their vacations and help us to feel a part. When we faced difficult times they were always there to stand by, never doing it for us but always providing the opportunity.

As I look back at what that family has meant to us, I reflect on what we are doing at the Child Care Program. It is that same kind of ministry, not doing for children but providing the opportunity and support when it is needed.

Providing opportunities for our children to have meaningful futures, to improve their lot in life, and above all, to find Christ, to know him personally, to know the love and compassion he has for them—this is the essence of our ministry.

Mr. and Mrs. Adams are gone now, but I wish I could express to them how much we appreciated what they meant to us in those days when life was not easy. I am sure there are multitudes of people across this state living productive, happy, committed lives, who feel thankful to God for the Child Care Program that ministered to them and remains ever present to minister in the name of Christ to children and families who find life not too easy.

VICTORY OF THE RESURRECTION

International Series

Matthew 27:62-66 Joseph of Arimathea obtained permission from Pilate to remove Christ's body from the cross. He and Nicodemus prepared the body for burial and placed it in Joseph's tomb.

The following day the chief priests and Pharisees, recalling Christ's predictions that he would rise from the dead, approached Pilate. They urged him to prevent Christ's disciples from stealing his body out of the tomb and claiming that he had risen. Pilate ordered the religious leaders to seal the tomb and place soldiers to guard it.

Matthew 28:1-10 Even though the tomb was sealed, a huge stone was rolled in front of the entrance. But, the stone, the seal, nor the guards could keep Christ a prisoner to death. Christ's body remained in the tomb until early Sunday morning. Then God raised him from the dead. Christ laid aside his grave clothes and walked out of that tomb a living Lord, triumphant over death and the grave.

At dawn on Sunday morning Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and John, and Salome approached the tomb wanting to anoint Christ's body with perfumes. They beheld an impressive scene. An angel of the Lord had descended from heaven, the stone had been rolled away, and the angel was seated upon it. Christ was not in the tomb.

Observing how frightened the women were, the angel said: "Fear not ye, for I know that ye seek Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here, for he is risen, as he said." This declaration reminded the women of Christ's predictions. The angel urged them to "see the place where the Lord lay. And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead." Immediately the women departed to carry the good news to the disciples that Christ was alive.

Christ met the women and greeted them saying "All hail." The presence of Christ dispelled their doubts and brought them unspeakable joy.

GOOD NEWS OF CHRIST'S RESURRECTION

Life and Work Series

Luke 24:10-11 At dawn on Sunday after the crucifixion a group of devoted women hastened to the tomb where Christ's body had been placed. They wished to anoint his body with spices and perfumes as an expression of their love for him. Upon entering the tomb, they discovered Christ's body was not there. After learning that Christ had risen, the women told the disciples the good news.

Luke 24:21-24 As Cleopas and his unnamed companion walked wearily along the road together, a stranger overtook them and listened to their conversation. He engaged them in conversation, but they still did not recognize him.

Luke 24:36-39 After Christ revealed himself to the two disciples in Emmaus, they were so thrilled that they departed for Jerusalem with a quick and eager pace. They took to the other disciples the good news that they had seen and heard the risen Lord. As they related their experiences, Christ appeared in their midst and said, "Peace be unto you."

Seeing the disciples filled with terror and fear, Christ showed them his hands and feet. Leaning forward with amazement and wonder, the disciples beheld the print of the nails. He invited them to touch him. He also ate a piece of broiled fish and some honey before their eyes. This convinced them that he had actually risen from the dead.

Luke 24:50-51 After commanding his disciples to evangelize the unsaved, Christ led them out to Bethany. There, on the Mount of Olives, Christ lifted up his hands and bestowed upon them his blessing. Then, he "was parted from them, and carried up into heaven."

They truly worshipped Christ and returned to Jerusalem filled with great joy. They were ready at the call and direction of the Holy Spirit to be faithful witnesses for Christ to those who did not know him.

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FOR SALE: Books. Not Quite Heaven, Prayer-Poems for seminary/college students. \$3.00 to Don Aycock, 2011 St. Xavier, Louisville, KY 40203. 4-1-01

CHOIR ROBES FOR SALE - 30 blue collegiate robes in excellent condition for sale at best offer. Contact Broadway Baptist, Lex., Ky. Phone (606) 276-2592 for information. 4-8-00

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Clear Creek Comments

D.M. Aldridge, President
Clear Creek Baptist School
Pineville, Ky. 40977



God always provides

Each time I visit Israel I am amazed at its history. People who visit our campus to see the unusual model of Jerusalem frequently comment that they did not realize Jerusalem is so small. In fact, it is only about one square mile. Many things have happened within the confines of the city which ultimately affected the history of the world.

That brings me to my purpose for writing this column today. What happens at Clear Creek Baptist School is extremely important because it affects the world in some way.

Let me give you an example. The other day a student walked into my office for a conference. When the student sat down, I could see that he didn't have much of a problem. The smile on his face was too big! At first, as he spoke telling me his story, that smile just got bigger and bigger. Toward the end, the smile turned into tears of joy.

He and his wife and children had moved to the Clear Creek campus without really knowing what to expect. They knew God wanted them there, and that he would provide for them during their years of study. But as inflation became greater it was not so easy to make ends meet. Most of you realize that it is hard to study when you are worried about putting food on the table and buying clothes for the kids.

To be quite frank, this student had begun to worry too much and it almost got the best of him.

At this point, however, the story begins to change. He had received a call from a church asking him to come for a visit. They had a pastor so he knew he was not going for a "trial sermon," and he knew that he could not consider any type of staff position since he still had three years of school to go. He thought perhaps they just wanted to know more about Clear Creek Baptist School.

He attended Sunday school and church services the appointed day, told the congregation about his call to the ministry, how God had provided for their needs since coming to the mountains to study, and how much they really depended upon the Lord.

The response was overwhelming. The church had decided to "adopt" a Clear Creek student family and invited him to share with them. Before the student family left, the congregation had decided to pay all his tuition, fees and housing for as long as he attended Clear Creek.

Amazing, you say? Well, not really. God always takes care of his own. I can tell you about others. If you would like to provide for one of our students, please let me know. Write to me at the above address and I'll tell you how it can be done.

Oneida Journal



Barkley Moore, President
Oneida Baptist Institute, Oneida, Ky. 40972

Heavenly treasure

An outstanding booster of Oneida is Morman Kersey of Louisville who celebrated his 75th birthday in January. His love of people, young and old, has kept him young. His appearance and vitality are that of a man many years younger.

Kersey loves the Lord and he is constantly about the Father's business. He goes about "doing good" for all with whom he comes in contact. His interests are many but Oneida is right at the top of the list, and we are grateful for that.

Kersey was 12 years old when his father, the late Rance Kersey, was ordained a Baptist minister. He learned the joys of ministering to the needs of others as his father ministered and preached.

For 25 years Kersey owned the Stockyard Farm and Dairy Supply store in Louisville. Though retired now, he still works three days a week.

He visited Oneida once in the 60's and then came again in 1973. At that time he became excited about what he saw happening with young lives. He returned home and bought a station wagon for the purpose of bringing people to see Oneida. Since that time he has brought scores of people for visits. Many of them are now active Oneida supporters.

His volunteer efforts have resulted in the school receiving at least \$120,000 in donations. Several people have informed us that "because of Morman," Oneida is included in their wills.

Kersey is active in Van Buren Baptist Church. His wife, Agnes, is a wonderful helpmate in all her husband's efforts. He has helped many young preachers through his love.

As I write another great soldier of the Lord and friend of Oneida is quite ill. He is Elmer Herron of Erlanger. This man, 87, made three visits each year to Oneida until about two years ago. His enthusiasm was bringing clothing for our used clothing store, the "Jot 'em Down." The store is named for the store in the old Lum 'n Abner radio show.

Like Kersey, Herron always brought one or two people with him so he could get them interested in our work.

A friend wrote recently, "Elmer has always been such a great Christian. I love him so much." We echo that.

Another remarkable friend is Mrs. Gertrude Tobey Perkins, still mentally and physically vigorous at age 95. She and her lawyer husband, the late John Perkins, made their first visit to Oneida over 50 years ago.

Mrs. Perkins, a lifelong resident of Pulaski County, taught for 52 years. She has been an active Christian for 82 years, 65 of those years in First Baptist Church, Burnside.

Mrs. Perkins and her daughter, Velma Perkins, visit Oneida several times each year. Mother and daughter recently visited bringing a cash donation, clothing and three of Mrs. Perkins' quilts which she still makes at age 95.

KBC Activities

Here and now

APRIL

- 10-12 State Acteens Convention. Louisville, Holiday Inn Fern Valley. Information from WMU, KBC
- 12 Cooperative Program Day. Material and resources from Stewardship/Promotion Dept., KBC
- 13-19 Jewish Fellowship Week

Looking ahead

APRIL

- 17-18 Campus BYW Retreat. Cedarmore. Evening meal 17th through afternoon 18th. Reservations made with Cedarmore
- 19 Easter
- 20-21 "Pastoral Evangelism" Seminar. Lexington, Grace Baptist Church. 10 a.m. on 20th till 4:30 p.m. on 21st. Make reservations with Evangelism Dept., KBC
- 20-24 Baptist Doctrine Study. Books available through Baptist Book Store
- 23-25 Annual WMU Meeting. Ashland, Unity Baptist Church. 7 p.m. on 23rd through noon on 25th. Baptist Young Women supper on 24th. Reservations with WMU Dept., KBC
- 24 Adult/Youth Music Festival. Louisville, Parkland Baptist Church
- 24 All Ages Music Festivals. Hopkinsville, First Baptist Church and Mayfield, First Baptist Church
- 24-25 All State Youth Choir Festival East. Cedarmore. 7 p.m. on 24th through 4 p.m. on 25th. Register with Music Dept., KBC
- 25 Children's Bible Drills. Register 11 a.m. local time; drills begin 12:30. Hopkinsville, Second Baptist Church and Lexington, Immanuel Baptist Church
- 26 Life Commitment Sunday. Materials in Baptist Program

Frank Owen



Is it right? Is it true?

After forty-seven years in the ministry one is able to look back in memory through both liberal and conservative trends that have come and gone. There are times when the popular tide seems to run toward at least a relatively liberal viewpoint. (I use the word "liberal" in its nobler sense.) There are other times when the tide runs strong toward the conservative point of view.

These popular trends toward the more liberal or more conservative often constitute the atmosphere in which Christians must make their decisions on whatever issues that arise.

There appears to be strong temptation to those of us who like to be on the popular side to go with the current trend, whatever its direction. On the other hand, many of us seem equally tempted to posture ourselves contrary to the trend. Human nature seems capable of predisposition both ways. Some people seem, by their natures, inclined to follow the popular side and others equally inclined to step forth on the unpopular side.

The point of this effort of written expression is to observe that we should not be predisposed either to the liberal or conservative position of issues that arise but entirely to their rightness or wrongness, whether liberal or conservative. To become enamored of liberalism itself, as such, or conservatism, as such, is to be locked in by prejudice rather than truth.

So the question is, do I take my position because it is liberal, or conservative? Never! Is it right? Is it true? This is the question. God forbid that our responses or attitudes should be controlled by any trend. Truth is the objective.

"It is of the highest importance, my brothers, that your speech should be free from Oaths (whether they are "by" Heaven or earth or anything else). Your yes should be a plain yes, and your no a plain no, and then you cannot go wrong in the matter." (James 5:12 Phillips Translation)

Midnight reflections of a pastor

by K. Maynard Head,
Staff Correspondent

Midnight comes early for a tired pastor, and in just a few seconds a new day will have begun. My aching body tells me it's time to crawl into bed, but my mind refuses to slow down. Sleep won't be easy to obtain so I must spend the next few minutes reviewing the activities of this Lord's Day and planning tomorrow. Even though Jesus urged us to let tomorrow take care of itself, I find that injunction one of the most difficult to obey.

I look back on this morning's service with mixed emotions, feeling hope and optimism because of the several expressions of goodwill from several of the worshippers, yet, at the same time, somewhat discouraged by some who were not there today. As one lady left the building she said, "Thank you for the message. I needed it this morning." However, I couldn't help but think of others whom I felt should have been there also. Next week, I hoped, would find them in a pew, but not really believing they would come.

The service this morning drained me of much of my spirit, as many of my sermons do. Our Sunday school

attendance was up somewhat, and the crowd for worship was a little above average. I recall being lifted by the music of the choir and especially by the two special songs by our dedicated soloists.

After a short lunch, I spent much of the afternoon preparing for the Bible study in Revelation I am doing on Sunday evenings, and in order to prepare my materials, it was necessary to leave for church at five o'clock. The hour and a half of fatiguing study and teaching of Revelation just about consumed what energy I had left and by nine o'clock I was arriving at home, about to collapse.

Tomorrow will bring another busy day. My older son was injured in a basketball game last week and I must take him to the doctor. We still do not know if surgery will be required, and due to one of those circumstances where a child reaches 19 and an insurance policy is being changed, I am not sure he is covered. A telephone call from a member struggling with an empty feeling because a child has married and is moving drains me even more, and now my shoulders begin to hurt. I will probably miss tomorrow night's deacons meeting where several pressing matters will be discussed, and try to prepare myself for Wednesday's business session. It will be difficult to try to find the funds to finance all the programs

that seem necessary, and just around the corner is income tax.

As I sit here, I am becoming acutely aware of the worn socks and shoes I am wearing and wondering where I will find the money to purchase that suit I desperately need.

Before me lies my son's account from college, and with another semester coming to an end, the search for income for another year of college begins. The bill for the replacement of a hot water heater for my home almost stares up at me, and the statements from the oil companies for gas for the car seem to get bigger each time.

Even as I type, the over-worked typewriter is making funny noises as if it is trying to tell me it is about ready for some repair work. It also doesn't seem that the ribbons last as long as they used to.

Outside the dog barks, signalling that life goes on, almost oblivious to my thoughts. Tomorrow will dawn, perhaps, and I will start all over again, but the cares of the demands of life bear heavily on me tonight.

In the midst of it all, I am reminded that God will put no more on us than we are able to bear, so I will smile soon, and urge my church members and friends to trust the Lord.

I just pray that I will take my own advice!

Highways and hedges

Church landscaping can be a positive factor in outreach to the community

A landscape plan designed for efficiency as well as beauty can be a factor in attracting people to churches, according to Jim Coile, landscape architect in the Sunday School Board's Church Architecture Department.

Coile said landscape design services are geared to individual situations and can include help in site selection and providing a master property plan and landscape plan.

First Baptist Church, Lancaster, S. C., recently utilized Coile's services for a landscape plan in which he designed a structure to house the bell from the old church building.

"In this instance, the planting plan enabled the

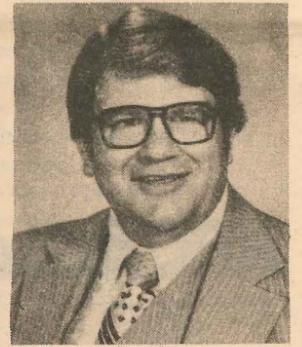
church to take project bids, which ranged from \$7000 to \$20,000," Coile said. The church accepted the \$7000 bid for a considerable savings.

"This service not only saved the church money but upgraded their image in the community," Coile noted. "With the landscaping completed, the church grounds are often used as a site for outdoor photographs and the Chamber of Commerce has featured the church in several publications."

Coile also works with camps and assemblies, providing them with master plans for their property. The landscape design service of the church architecture department is provided on a cost recovery basis.



Ragan Courtney



Raymond Bailey

Drama conference to be led by Courtney, Bailey

Conferences on drama, puppetry and communication arts will be offered during a leadership drama conference at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center June 27-July 3.

Scheduled concurrently with Bible-preaching conferences at Ridgecrest, the drama conference is sponsored by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's Church Recreation Department.

Ragan Courtney, a Southern Baptist actor, director, poet and playwright, will be the special guest artist for the week. Raymond Bailey, who teaches preaching and drama at Southern Seminary, will serve as worship leader.

Conferences will be offered on drama in worship, producing musical drama, puppet ministry, puppet construction and production, drama with youth, directing, acting, technical production, multimedia, monologues and pantomime.

Workshops offered each afternoon will provide opportunities to observe or participate in a variety of productions.

To register, send a \$30 deposit for each person, to Registration, Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Box 128, Ridgecrest, NC 28770.



Jim Coile [l], landscape architect in the church architecture department, Baptist Sunday School Board, discusses a landscaping plan with Nashville land-

scaper Kevin Smith. Landscaping is just one of the services offered to churches through the Church Architecture Department.