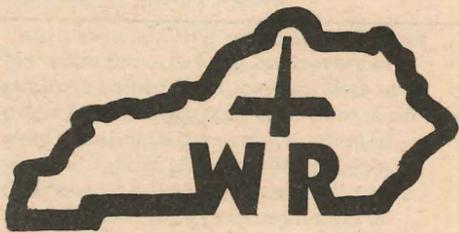




A placement service in print for unemployed ministers?, p. 2 . . . Readers respond to the question of divorce, p. 3 . . . A Taylorsville church dedicates a pavilion, p. 4 . . . A typical weekend at Oneida, p. 7 . . . Child care risks failure in dealing with scars and hurts of a lifetime, p. 7.



WESTERN RECORDER

VOL. 155, NO. 40, OCTOBER 14, 1981

KENTUCKY BAPTIST NEWS JOURNAL

State men conclude convention with revival session in Danville

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

"God never said you couldn't make a revival out of a Brotherhood meeting," west Texas evangelist Boyce Evans told a packed house at the final evening session of the state Brotherhood convention in Danville.

As Evans' voice cracked, men of all ages streamed down the aisles of First Baptist Church to renew their commitments to spiritual things.

The "revival" concluded two days of testimonies, sermons, sharing and fellowship which drew more than 1000 men and boys from across the state.

The response in the aisles came at the conclusion of a three-hour session which had already witnessed an address by J. D. Grey, former Southern Baptist Convention president, as well as a 75-minute sermon by Evans.

Said Grey: "When you're too busy to give God a little bit of your time, you're just too busy! He can take it all any time he wants to." Grey suggested the men invest their time in meaningful activities such as teaching Royal Ambassadors or a Sunday school class.

"Thank God for men who have the time to set a proper example for others," he concluded.

Evans suggested, "The only thing I know that has withstood the test of time is a life-changing experience with the Lord Jesus Christ."

He counseled against making "religious bell hops out of the preacher."

Earlier, Leon Clopton, a Hodgenville layman, reviewed the accomplishments of the Brotherhood of his church. For years, it sat inside the walls of the church, concerned only with itself. Then someone wrote the Home Mission Board for a mission assign-

ment, and the church has since routinely traveled to several states in recent years working in short-term mission projects. Clopton reported the good times and rewarding experiences the entire church had received from these mission opportunities.

The pastor of Ballardsville Baptist Church, Wayne Dozier, assured conventioners that the "only reason a church has for existence is missions.

"I believe that with all my heart," he allowed. "If a church doesn't have that commitment, it has no reason to be."

Dozier recounted recent years of growing mission vision in his church.

"A mission project can do one of two things. It can cause your people to do more, or it can cause them to say, 'I've done my thing!'"

"The things we have done haven't even scratched the surface," he declared. "We're still just 'playing church.' As a result, we're looking forward to what can be and what will be."

The men enjoyed a char-broiled steak dinner cooked on the parking lot by the men of First Baptist Church, Danville.

They elected Matt Sugg of Morganfield new state Brotherhood president. Other officers are C. A. Easterling, Somerset, vice president; and J. T. Raisor, Louisville, reelected recording secretary.

By previous action, the convention will be held next year Oct. 7-9 at Beacon Hill Baptist Church, Somerset. The 1983 Brotherhood convention was set at Florence Baptist Church on a date to be determined.

The Danville convention was the last at which Forrest R. Sawyer will serve as director of the KBC Brotherhood Department. He announced his retirement for Jan. 15, 1982 during the convention. (See WR, Oct. 7, p. 1.)

221 musicians converge on Cedarmore Assembly; 100 churches represented

They came from as far west as Paducah and Murray, and east from Jenkins and Ashland; from the north in Covington to the south in Franklin. They came from rural churches, town churches and city churches. They included 51 full time ministers of music, 43 volunteer music directors, at least 15 keyboard musicians, 30 Baptist college music faculty members and 37 children's choir workers.

"They" were 221 music leaders from 100 churches in 40 associations throughout Kentucky. They converged on Cedarmore Baptist Assembly for two concentrated days of music leadership growth Sept. 24-26.

Comments on this second Kentucky Baptist music leadership retreat described the program as "excellent resource persons," "good leaders," "good variety of subjects," "organized and smoothly run," "good fellowship," "good training for children's choir leaders," "well planned and pertinent material and classes," "something for everyone."

These and many other comments were evoked by program personnel including Betty Bedsole, Louisville, nationally recognized children's choir consultant; a message by Wesley Forbis, new secretary of the Church Music Department, Baptist Sunday School Board; Milburn Price, new dean of the School of Church Music, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; Reggie McDonough, assistant executive secretary of the SBC Executive Committee; and others.

The 221 who attended are already looking toward program plans for September 1982, including nationally known children's choir consultant Mabel Boyter, vocal and handbell concert artists Ken and Los Holland and three BSSB consultants—Dick Ham, Gerald Armstrong and Don Edmonson.



Autumn again

Piles of golden pumpkins are heaped under fall sunshine at the farmers' market in Irvine, Cal. Despite such bountiful harvest, many farmers face being forced off their land by soaring overhead and inflation. Home missions programs are attempting to offer help and answers to these Americans who feed us all.

Haworth uses systems to strengthen families

by David Smith, Staff Writer

The 1981 Haworth Conference Oct. 5-6 was rooted in a systems approach to strengthening families.

Meeting at Highlands Baptist Hospital, Louisville, the event was jointly hosted by the Baptist Board of Child Care and the KBC Department of Cooperative Ministries and Christian Life.

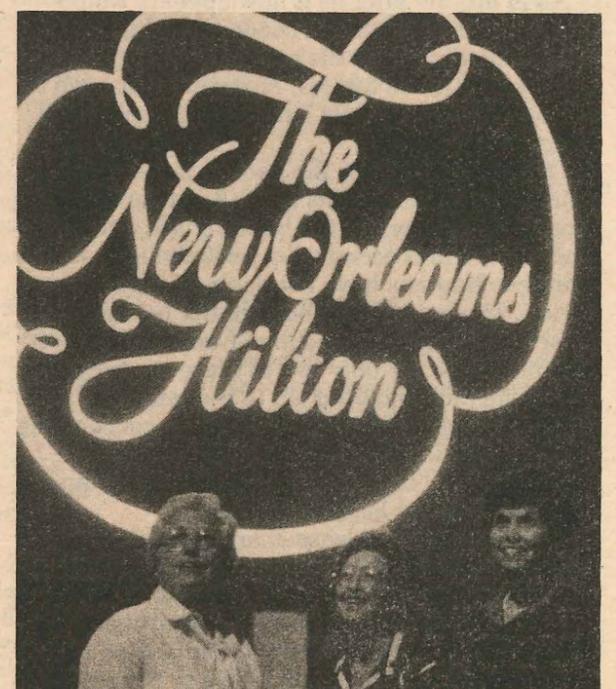
Mansell Pattison, chairman of the Department of Psychiatry and Health Behavior, Medical College of Georgia, said the systems approach is "a way of viewing human behavior as interactional with others."

"Our behavior is significantly influenced by others," he maintained. "There's a great idea in our society that we make up our own minds. Not so."

To illustrate how many people influence one's life, Mahan Siler, director of the School of Pastoral Care, North Carolina Baptist Hospitals, conducted an experiment. Calling on Kenneth Johnston, pastor of Salem Baptist Church, Little Bethel Association, he asked him to list his most important responsibilities. Johnston's list included four children, other relatives, the church and a farm.

Johnston held about a dozen strings in his hand as people representing each duty tugged on the other ends according to degrees of responsibility.

Other principal speakers included D. Swan Haworth, counselor at Siler's school; Robert Ellis, professional advisory committeeman for Louisville Baptist Hospitals' counseling center; and C. Vernon Cole, director, KBC Church Training Department.

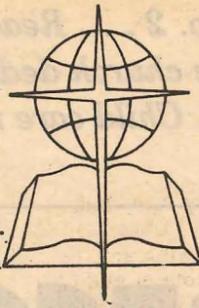


Jambalaya, here we come

Pictured outside the New Orleans Hilton, headquarters site of the 1982 annual WMU meeting, are [l-r]: Carolyn Weatherford, executive director; Mrs. Lois Hood, chairman of local arrangements, New Orleans; and Dr. Dorothy Sample, president, WMU, SBC. The hotel is located 17 blocks from the Superdome, site of annual SBC sessions to follow the WMU meeting.

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

Pros and cons of a new SBC building

The proposal for construction of a new \$6.5 million building in Nashville to house the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee and several other SBC agencies needs very careful examination by Executive Committee members. In a time when few Baptist families can afford to build a new house because of high building costs and even higher interest rates, churches and denominational agencies should be very careful to avoid any appearance of poor judgment in spending Baptist offerings.

There are some good reasons for this building project. The present building is overcrowded and its original structure does not allow for adding more than one additional floor which would still not provide adequate space. No additional land next to the present building is available for additional building or parking space which is also now limited.

The offer of a construction company headed by a lay member of the Executive Committee to construct the building, lease it to Southern Baptists for 20 years and give it to Southern Baptists at the end of 20 years is a proposition hard to turn down (WR, Sept. 30).

The offer of the Baptist Sunday School Board to give land for the new structure is also very attractive.

All in all, the offer as it now appears would give Southern Baptists a needed building at a cost decidedly below the going rate today.

There are some factors, however, that have to be considered seriously before final approval is given to this project.

The first is whether the need is urgent enough to justify building at this time. It is true that the number of workers in the building has doubled since it was first occupied in 1962 though Southern Baptists have not doubled in the same period. The assembly room will not hold all those attending the Executive Committee meetings but there are only two of these meetings a year. One more floor added to the building would relieve some pressure and it's conceivable one or more Southern Baptist agencies now housed in the building could find suitable quarters elsewhere to lease.

Estimates are the lease charges for the building to be paid to the construction company for 20 years would be close to a million dollars a year. This is far more than is presently required and presumably the Executive Committee and the agencies involved would have to have more Cooperative Program funds for lease payments.

The proposed manner of financing the construction poses some problems. The builder's first choice would be the sale of industrial revenue bonds. The earnings from these bonds are tax exempt, therefore they could be sold for

about 13% interest which would be an advantageous rate for the builder.

However, as the name suggests, these bonds were originally intended for use in attracting industry to a community and thus provide added employment and this project does not fit that description. These bonds have been approved, however, for projects similar to this one. The question is whether the use of tax exempt bonds would amount to a government subsidy at least indirectly.

One other consideration is the possibility of the appearance of conflict of interest. Ordinarily it's not a good idea for a Baptist agency to do business with a member of its controlling board. However, those knowing William Fortune, an Executive Committee member and head of the construction company making the proposal, are completely convinced he is a man of unimpeachable integrity and that the proposal is a sincere effort by a dedicated layman to make a contribution to Southern Baptists.

All the considerations listed above and others will be studied seriously by the Executive Committee before a final decision is made on this project. They are shared with our readers in order to keep them fully informed.

Western Recorder readers who desire to express their views on this project can do so by communicating with Kentucky Executive Committee members John R. McCall, 501 S. Second St., Louisville 40202 and/or John Dunaway, First Baptist Church, Corbin 40701.

Should churches invite applications for vacancies?

One of the unsolved problems of Baptists is how to put churches searching for pastors and staff members and pastoral and staff member prospects in touch with each other. At any given moment there are too many churches looking for pastors and staff members and too many prospective pastors and staff members looking for a place to serve who never get in touch with each other.

Actually we have no really effective plan to help churches and ministers get together. Our theology and polity have made us reluctant to employ much human instrumentality in this process. We believe the Holy Spirit leads churches to ministers and ministers to churches and we don't want to take over the Holy Spirit's work. We also recognize the complete autonomy of every local church and thus are reluctant to make uninvited suggestions as to the ministers they choose.

The truth is our practice is not consistent with our doctrine. In every instance I know the Holy Spirit uses human instrumentality in putting churches and ministers together. The list of prospects gathered by a search or a personnel committee is not dropped out of heaven nor revealed in a vision but comes over the phone or in the mail from flesh and blood sources.

An insightful Kentucky Baptist pastor has made a very interesting suggestion at this point. He says many Baptists have wished for a more

open and direct communication between the minister and the church looking for a minister. He asks what would be wrong with Western Recorder including as a regular feature a list of churches looking for a pastor or staff members. Any interested minister could then communicate directly with the search committee of the church.

No state paper has exactly done this so far as I know but this pastor has a point. Why would the Holy Spirit not work through such a method as he does with the haphazard ways churches now get in touch with prospects?

We are considering trying such a plan on an experimental basis. We would appreciate reactions to this idea.

If it works, we might even consider running a list of available ministers along with their credentials. We have never done this because we shun advertisement of ministerial services but we already do this in a way. What is the difference between a list of prospective ministers in a seminary placement office or in a Baptist Building file and a list in the state paper? Actually it would be more open and probably fairer to those prospects having no influential friends to recommend them. Of course any such plan would be subject to abuse and would have to be handled very carefully.

What about the idea? Let us hear your opinion.

Marse Grant will be missed

Just as all humanity has been diminished by the death of one good man, all North Carolina Baptists and many Southern Baptists have been diminished by the retirement of one good man. There are no special parallels between Anwar Sadat and Marse Grant but they both exerted much good influence widely. Sadat was president of Egypt and a world leader; Grant is the retiring editor of the North Carolina state paper and a North Carolina and Southern Baptist leader.

No leader is indispensable in Baptist life and there are always able replacements standing in the wings when a leader retires. Marse Grant, however, will be sorely missed. He knew what to say, how to say it and when to say it. Above all, he had to the courage to say it. He made the North Carolina Biblical Recorder not only a strong force in North Carolina Baptist life but also a telling influence in Southern Baptist life.

It's imperative his successor be another insightful and influential editor. The North Carolina paper wields wide influence and must have a strong editorial voice. It's one of the few state papers left with a separate board of directors which guarantees editorial freedom. The future health of Baptists depends upon a medium through which we might look at ourselves critically and speak to one another in candor.

Marse Grant did more than his part of this. The present credibility of Baptist leadership in North Carolina and in the Southern Baptist Convention stems from ministries like his. Thanks, Marse.

Baptist twilight zone

by John Wesley, Corbin

I have long admired our state editor for his willingness to keep controversial subjects before Kentucky Baptists in an effort to encourage dialog. There is no easy solution to the problem created when a Baptist pastor experiences a divorce in his own life. As Baptists we do not demand that our ministers be perfect, but we do expect a moral example from the person who is shepherd of our spiritual growth. Since family life is an institution that both nurtures and exemplifies our Christian faith, it is an area in which the pastor's words and actions should make a positive contribution.

The questions faced by a local congregation when considering the ministry of a divorced pastor are many. What is the biblical legitimacy of such a ministry? Did the pastor act with integrity in the circumstances leading to and beyond the divorce? Can the families of the congregation and community respect the divorced pastor as a religious leader? Frequently it is easier for the

church to turn away from the divorced minister and consider the ministry of a person who has not experienced the breakup of his family. This gets the church off the hook.

But where does it leave the divorced minister? His sense of call has not changed. He may still have the benefit of years of training in Baptist schools. His desire to minister in a parish environment or to preach within the church structure has not diminished. Provided he has acted with integrity and honor, his personal experience with divorce has made him identify more deeply with those who know sorrow and grief. The minister is still a pastor at heart, but a broken family relationship threatens to destroy any ecclesiastical relationship.

As a Baptist minister, I experienced a separation and subsequent divorce four years ago. Since that time I have existed in a Baptist twilight zone. I'm never sure whether it's almost daylight or dark. I have not been condemned by

Baptists in my efforts to secure another pastorate, but neither have I been encouraged by a church showing any interest in my calling, training or ability as a minister. Do Baptists have a place for me as an ordained pastor? Or should I look toward another tradition that, understanding the circumstances, would be open to my ministry?

I know Baptists are an autonomous people. That's one of the characteristics that makes me a part of the Baptist tradition. But there is a great need for Baptists to study the serious nature and extent of this problem through a special committee. And there is a need to establish a special investigative committee on a state or associational level that could deal with each divorced minister on a personal basis. Such a committee should have no authority over the local church or any power to revoke ordination. But such a committee could investigate the circumstances surrounding a divorce without involving the lives of local church members. It could grant or rescind an affirmation of the pastor's ministry. This would provide the church with some guidelines to follow when

considering a divorced minister for a position without having to become involved personally in the details of the minister's past. It would also free the divorced minister from the twilight zone by letting him know if his ministry is still acceptable to a consensus of Baptists.

The problems associated with divorce will not go away if we just ignore them. Nor is divorce simply a sociological factor that secular society must deal with. As it affects the marriages of many church members, it also will affect the marriages of an increasing number of pastors. How will Baptists respond? Hopefully, we will not open the door to receive ministers as pastors no matter what the circumstances of their divorce. Nor will we comfort divorced ministers by stripping them of their right to minister. My prayer is that we will establish a way to deal with this problem in an individual, personal and nurturing way. Not only are the lives of many ministers hinging on Baptists' response to this problem area but the potential leadership of many churches is at stake as well.

Baptist Forum

Redeemed, how you love to restrain it!

As a student of Southern Seminary who refused to turn in a "poll" of orthodoxy and as a minister (licensed) who was divorced and refused to think that God had forsaken him, I wish to address both editorials of Sept. 23, 1981. Upon a first reading, one might wonder what both editorials could have in common. Looking closer, however, will reveal a principle of orthodoxy which seeks conformity by exercising exclusiveness.

Orthodoxy per se is of little value. Most of us admit a need and a desire to be confessional, to boldly confess belief. Orthodoxy by itself, however, is no measure of the quality of any Christian or any minister. How can one be "reassured" in orthodoxy when our own convention illustrates that it can be no guarantor of Christ-likeness? We used to ignore civil rights of black people, we used to dislike vehemently the Catholics and we are currently on record as being opposed to the equality of women while pari passu claiming orthodoxy! Robert Bellah, in "Beyond Belief," said it succinctly when he wrote, "The effort to maintain orthodox belief has been primarily an effort to maintain authority rather than faith."

The student poll, taken without prior consultation with the student body, was an attempt at exclusion. Those who did not respond or responded unorthodox-like can be simply labeled as "way out doctrinally" and of little import for the convention. Like our societal structures at large, we disdain differences and we like our convention like we enjoy our milk: homogenized.

It is interesting that your editorial on divorce appeared at the same time as the results of the student poll. By singling out the divorced, a class of persons is created in order to be excluded. The proverbial scapegoat, yes? No matter the often cruel and punishing expectations that our society places upon individual men and women, no matter that churches tend to squeeze the minister's family like a tube of toothpaste, it is much easier to heap the confusion of broken families upon the very victims of that brokenness.

You left room for redemption but you exact a severe price for it. This class of people is to be excluded from responsible participation in the community and if not excluded, at the least they should be watched carefully. Like the Jews who were forced to wear yellow stars, the divorced ought to wear a D so that all might know, so grandchildren might be shocked. It is unfortunate that your own attempt at redemption could not have begun with the fact that the great percentage of divorced persons in this country will remarry and have successful, productive marriages.

So, what is the point between the two editorials? It is that the price of "orthodoxy" and the goal of homogenized community is not only too high, but undesirable as well. I am reassured by those individuals who, in the face of a blunt tool of orthodoxy, chose instead to refuse filling out a "poll." I am encouraged by persons who love me and refuse to put me in a box labeled "divorced" and sit me on a shelf. There is comfort in knowing the Christ who forgives completely, who includes ultimately and who refused to exclude even the universe.

Michael Bledsoe, Louisville

Calling SBTS to task

I am disturbed. As a pastor I continually encourage our church to support the Cooperative Program. I believe in the Cooperative Program. However, on Monday afternoon, Sept. 28, 1981 I read an article in the Louisville Times about organizations that are able to be exempt from taxation.

In this article it was disclosed that Southern Baptist Theological Seminary had purchased a condominium for president McCall at the price of \$139,000. It is disturbing to see Cooperative Program money being spent in this way.

Southern Baptists have a great way of working together through the Cooperative Program. However, those who are responsible for expending the money should be wise and prudent in their spending. God placed us here to be good and faithful stewards.

Bill Crosby Jr., Shepherdsville

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Weddle



Davis



McSween



Mrs. Wilson



Mintz

Campbellsville staff up

Campbellsville College added three people to its faculty, two staff members and a part time instructor this fall.

Gordon Weddle, formerly a laboratory supervisor for Indiana University of Evansville, is teaching biology. He is a graduate of Oakland City (Ind.) College.

The college's fine arts division has added Roger Noel Davis to its faculty. A graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University, Davis moved from a teaching assistantship at Southern Illinois University. He has also worked on the staff of the national music camp at Interlochen, Mich. several summers.

Jim McSween is teaching social sciences at Campbellsville. He has taught at Walters State Community College, Morristown, Tenn., and at West Texas State University, Canyon, Tex. McSween is a graduate of University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

To its library staff Campbellsville College has added Nila R. Wilson as director of reader services and Graham W. Mintz as director of technical services.

Mrs. Wilson of Russell Springs has been a teacher and librarian in the Russell County school system and assistant professor in Eastern Kentucky University's library science department.

A graduate of Mars Hill (N. C.) College and Peabody College, Nashville, Mintz has been roving and interim librarian for North Carolina's Columbus County schools, bookmobile librarian for the Hopkins County-Madisonville, Ky., public library and evening librarian at Bladen Technical College, Dublin, N. C.

Campbellsville native Shirley Risen has been hired as a part time economics instructor at Campbellsville College.

Tymes rated tops

The Campus Tymes of Campbellsville College was recently awarded its second all-American rating by Associated College Press, Minneapolis, Minn.

Awarded by comparison with other monthly college newspapers in the United States, the all-American rating is the "highest national honor a publication can receive," according to the

ACP.

The fall semester issues earned marks of distinction in all categories: coverage and content, writing and editing, opinion content, photography, art and graphics and design.

Staff members are editor-in-chief Tom McDonald, assistant editor Steve Davis, cartoonist Gary Ford and staffers Richard Swihart, Barbara Duvall, Mary Jeffries and Dean George.

L. D. Kennedy, a Western Recorder state correspondent, has been the newspaper's adviser 16 years.

More freshmen at G-town

Georgetown College has its largest freshman class in almost a decade according to figures released recently by president Ben M. Elrod.

The college's total enrolment for the fall semester was 1263, identical to the fall 1980 statistic.

The larger percentage of freshmen among Georgetown's students is a cause for concern "with our losses at the upper class levels this past year," Elrod said. He attributes the drop to "the uncertain economy."

Moore fund helps 78

A scholarship offered by the Kentucky Baptist Foundation will provide \$750 assistance this year to 78 students attending Baptist schools in Kentucky.

The Francis and Ruth Moore Scholarship was begun in 1977 "to help students in financial need," according to Grady Randolph, Foundation director.

Francis Moore, a member of Central Baptist Church, Lexington, left more than \$800,000 to the Foundation for the scholarships on his death in 1976.

Only the interest from the bequest is being invested in the students, leaving the principal intact.

New picnic shelter begins Taylorsville rec area

First Baptist Church, Taylorsville has a 16-acre recreational area located near a main highway junction planned in connection with the Taylorsville impoundment of Salt River. A part of the recreational area has been landscaped and a large picnic shelter has been constructed.

Dedication services for the new facility were Sept. 6 with pastor Harold Mauney in charge. A period of family recreation and a picnic dinner preceded the service in which those most responsible for the acquisition and develop-



ment of the property were recognized. The 16-acre tract of land was given to the church by Tom and Nellie Snyder. It has been in the family for 160 years. The Snyders and Mauney are confident the Lord inspired the gift.

Mauney had envisioned a recreation area for the church for several years but had no idea where it would come from. In the meantime the Snyders, always interested in church work, were looking

for a way to express gratitude for the Lord's blessings. Mauney shared his dream of a church recreation area with Snyder when he visited Snyder in the hospital. After the pastor left Mrs. Snyder told her husband this might be the answer to their prayers.

A few days later Mauney received a call from the Snyders requesting him to come by their house. Upon arriving he saw maps spread out on a table and was shown the 16 acres as a possible site for the church recreation area. The pastor agreed it was an ideal site but quickly asked the selling price. When told it was not to be a sale but a gift, Mauney quickly called the church deacons and trustees together to accept the gift.

Mauney says possibilities for development of the area are unlimited. He envisions baseball, volley ball and other playgrounds along with picnics, retreats and evening worship services in the summer.

The Snyders expressed hope the project would meet needs of church members but they said there were no restrictions in the deed and they would rather have no part in deciding what developments are planned for the property.

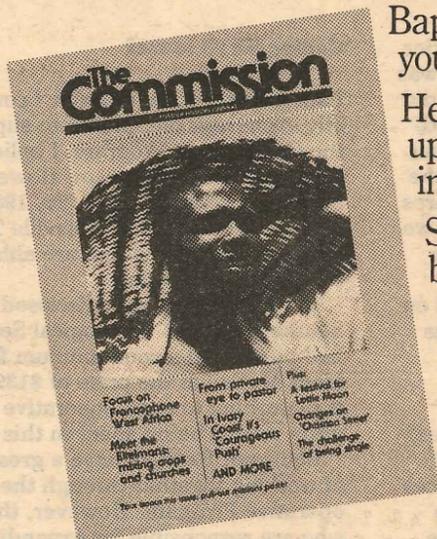
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 June 14—EUROPE—15 Day, \$2,159.00.

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Baptist News in Brief

TBC executive's wife dies

Joy Owen, sister-in-law of Kentucky Baptist Convention executive secretary-treasurer Franklin Owen, died Sunday, Oct. 4, in Brentwood, Tenn. after a long struggle with cancer. She was 54.

Mrs. Owen's husband and Franklin Owen's brother, Carroll, is ministries director of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

An accomplished musician, Mrs. Owen was a graduate of Furman University, Greenville, S. C., and attended Southern Seminary.

In addition to her husband she is survived by one son, Dan of Memphis, Tenn.; two daughters, Elaine and Jo-Ellen of Brentwood, Tenn.; and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Campbell of Taylors, S. C.

Funeral services were Oct. 7 at First Baptist Church, Paris, Tenn., where her husband was pastor 17 years before joining the state convention staff two years ago.

The family has established in Mrs. Owen's name a memorial fund for cancer research at the Oncology Clinic of Vanderbilt University.

Egyptian missionaries safe

All Southern Baptist personnel in Egypt were out of Cairo when Egyptian President Anwar Sadat was assassinated Oct. 6.

Roger and Linda Rucker, of Texas and Kentucky, were visiting churches in Fikriya and Minya in central Egypt and Michael and Madeline Edens, of Oklahoma and Louisiana, were in Jordan for a week's vacation. Both couples are studying Arabic in Cairo.

1700 missionaries asked

More than 900 requests for new missionaries have come into the offices of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board calling for 1700 persons to commit themselves to overseas ministries.

The requests listed 955 jobs for new career missionary couples and singles, missionary associates, two-year journeymen and special project workers. Because many of these jobs are filled by couples, the total persons involved add up to 1700. They are needed for assignments as church planters, preachers, educators, medical workers and for a variety of other positions ranging from business and communications specialists to social ministers.

N. C. editor to retire in '82

J. Marse Grant, for 22 years editor of Biblical Recorder, journal of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, announced he will retire in September 1982.

Grant, 61, who has been editor of the weekly newspaper since 1960, said the retirement was "totally my decision."

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The only pressure I have had is to remain."

He is a diabetic and he said his health was a factor in the decision, but not a major one.

Grant, a layman, was editor of Charity and Children, a publication of the North Carolina Baptist Children's Homes, for 10 years prior to assuming his role at Biblical Recorder.

He is probably best known in North Carolina for his role in the defeat of the 1973 statewide referendum for liquor by the drink. The referendum was thoroughly defeated with 97 counties voting against it. Five years later the legislature gave counties the right to hold liquor by the drink elections.

B'hood loses staffer

Roy Jennings, 57, communications executive at the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission for 22 years, has resigned to direct a new office of communications for Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis, effective Nov. 1.

Joseph H. Powell, hospital president, said the new office will handle public relations, news, art, photographic and field services, advertising and printing for the three units of Baptist Hospital, and will serve as a consultant to regional affiliated hospitals. Baptist Hospital is owned by the Baptist state conventions of Arkansas, Mississippi and Tennessee.

State park liquor opposed

Christian County Baptist Association in its annual meeting has lodged a strong protest with the governor of Kentucky and members of the state legislature against the introduction of alcoholic beverages into the state park system in Kentucky. Rumors persist that this will be on the legislative agenda in next year's General Assembly and that the governor may favor such a provision.

The protest from Christian County Baptist Association came in the form of a resolution which was voted unanimously. The resolution pointed to the disastrous effects of alcoholic beverages served in state parks upon the wholesome recreation for which the state

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park system was designed.

The resolution called upon the Kentucky Baptist Convention to voice a similar protest with the governor and state legislature members.

EEOC, 2; SWBTS, 1

The U. S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans has denied a request by Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary for a hearing before the full court in the seminary's four-year-old lawsuit with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Seminary president Russell H. Dilday Jr. said the seminary has not decided what action to take next. No reason for the denial was given by the court.

In a July 17 decision the circuit court had ruled the seminary was a "wholly" religious institution entitled to the status of a church but that employees who performed tasks which "are not totally ecclesiastical or religious" were not ministers entitled to First Amendment protection.

The ruling was made on an appeal by EEOC to the Fifth Circuit Court. A lower court decision by U. S. District Judge Eldon Mahon of Ft. Worth in January 1980 has refused to grant EEOC's request to force the seminary to file employe information forms on all personnel.

Dilday said the seminary now must decide within 90 days whether to appeal the case to the U. S. Supreme Court.

"Should the decision of the appeals court stand," Dilday said, "the district court in Ft. Worth would work with us to determine which staff positions would fall under EEOC jurisdiction."

Reagan avoids social ills

President Reagan declined to say whether he will actively push Congress for legislation on issues such as abortion, prayer in public schools and busing.

Asked if he will give more than "rhetorical support" to such a "social issue agenda," Reagan avoided a direct answer.

Leaders of the conservative movement have challenged the President to push for new laws outlawing abortion and school busing and permitting states

and local school boards to require school prayer.

Giving \$4.7 million up

Southern Baptist giving through the national Cooperative Program ended the 1980-81 fiscal year nearly \$4.7 million into the Bold Mission Thrust challenge goal.

September's undesignated mission gifts through the unified budget were \$6,577,346, most of which went toward a \$13 million challenge goal because all of operating and one-fourth of the capital needs budgets were met with receipts through August.

The challenge goal is to fund projects for Bold Mission Thrust, the convention's ambitious project to present the gospel to every person by the year 2000. The Foreign and Home Mission Boards will receive 72 percent of the challenge funds, the six seminaries will share 15 percent, Radio-Television Commission 10 percent and Brotherhood Commission three percent.

State 9th in SBC total

California led all state conventions in number of messengers sent to the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in Los Angeles in June.

Churches from the host state accounted for 1984 of the unexpectedly large total of 13,529. Last year, when the meeting was in St. Louis, just 108 attended from California, according to statistics compiled by Lee Porter, SBC registration secretary.

Texas churches sent 1841 messengers to Los Angeles and North Carolina sent 1150.

Georgia and Tennessee were next with 871 and 856 respectively.

Other top 10 states and the number of messengers sent to the convention were: South Carolina, 713; Alabama, 685; Virginia, 631; Kentucky, 607; and Oklahoma, 594.

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KBC Activities

Here and now

OCTOBER

- 17 G. A. Missions Fair for girls grades 1-6. Elizabethtown, Severns Valley Baptist Church. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. \$1 registration includes lunch. Reservations through WMU, KBC

Planning ahead

OCTOBER

- 23-24 Associational Officers' Briefing, Cedarmore. Friday evening meal through lunch Saturday
24 G. A. Missions Fair for girls grades 1-6. Murray, First Baptist Church. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. \$1 registration includes lunch. Reservations through WMU, KBC
31 Associational Officers Briefing. Jonathan Creek. 9 a.m. to early afternoon. Same meeting Oct. 23-24, Cedarmore

NOVEMBER

- 1-7 Royal Ambassador Week
9-12 Kentucky Baptist Convention meetings. Elizabethtown, Severns Valley Baptist Church
9-10 — Executive Board Meeting, Religious Education Association;
9-10 — Music Association Meeting, Pastor's Conference
10-12 — Convention in session
15 American Bible Society Day. Suggestions available from The American Bible Society, Box 5656, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10017
15-18 Foreign Missions Study. Books available from Baptist Book Store for each age group. Theme: "French Speaking West Africa"

PROGRAM CHANGE: JANUARY BIBLE STUDY PREVIEWS

January Bible Study Preview programs listed in the 1981 Baptist Diary have been CANCELLED. Each association has been asked to plan and conduct its own Bible Study Preview. The Sunday School Department is cooperating by offering financial assistance toward honorariums, materials and travel expense for the Bible teacher or conference leader.

- 22 Child Care Day
26 Thanksgiving
30-12/1 State Executive Board Meeting. Middletown, Kentucky Baptist Building

Frank Owen



New opportunity

I wonder how many other ordinary people are confused by today's political perceptions? One party seems to tell us that the country can't stand deficit spending much longer. They tell us it now takes more than 99 million dollars a year to pay the interest on our national debt. This constant load greatly affects inflation, taxes and other problems and must stop increasing.

Another party seems to proclaim that there is no limit. We can spend vastly more than we make from now on and it won't make any difference. It is different with governments that can print money than it is with people who only have it in limited amounts.

Right there is where I am confused. I am not capable of judging between these two opposite poles of counsel being given us. I am distressed by the sad, sad newspaper stories about people who will be hurt by the current curtailment of welfare state benefits. I don't want to see people reduced to hardship. On the other hand, I realize that the country can't continue what it can't afford.

I used to tell my family of five before entering a restaurant: "Boys, I love you and would like to buy you everything in the restaurant, but \$1.75 each is all your Daddy can pay for, so don't ask to order any more." (Of course, prices are higher now.)

One thing is certain. Whichever side is telling us the most truth, the curtailment of welfare benefits is now a fact, at least for the foreseeable future.

Christians have a better opportunity to share personally in human need. We older people may again see numerous beggars on the street corners. Neighbors may again have to become acquainted with each other and their needs; and share on a personal basis. The churches may be called again to maintain much larger and active benevolence funds.

Personal charity has almost dried up in this impersonal world, with government doing the charity. It may be a great open door for Christians to give better personal witness to needy people with whom we learn personally to share our goods.

Sunday School Lessons

OCTOBER 18, 1981



H. C. Chiles

GOD ACTS TO LIBERATE

Life and Work Series

Exodus 12:30-32 When nine plagues failed to accomplish the desired result, God resorted to the infliction of death upon the firstborn in every home in Egypt with the exception of the Israelites. Each household could protect their firstborn from this plague. They were to take a yearling male lamb without blemish, slay it, catch its blood in a basin and with a brush of hyssop apply the blood to the lintel and the sideposts of the door to their house and remain inside until God gave permission to come out. It was the blood alone which made them safe. By the same token, it is the blood of Christ alone that provides safety from judgment against all sin.

As soon as it became known that the firstborn in every Egyptian home had died, Pharaoh panicked and surrendered. He urged Moses and Aaron to take their families, flocks and herds and leave the country at once, but he begged them to "bless" him before taking their departure.

Exodus 13:21-22 When the children of Israel left Egypt and started their journey to the promised land, God chose to lead them the long way through the wilderness so they would not encounter any enemies for some time. Also, God wanted to display his supernatural power by bringing them safely through the Red Sea, by drowning Pharaoh and his hosts, and to organize them into a nation before they reached their destination.

They enjoyed the blessing of God's companionship as he led them in the right and best way. As they journeyed with him God provided manna from heaven and water from the rock for them. As we travel the way God chooses for us we shall enjoy his presence with us, his protection over us and his provision for us. What more can we ask or expect from him?

Exodus 14:30-31 The Israelites had barely withdrawn from Egypt when Pharaoh regretted that he had permitted his slaves to escape. Immediately he and his army pursued them, hoping to prevent them from leaving the country. Aware of Pharaoh's wrath and intentions and pursued by their enemies, at whose hands they were expecting a prompt and terrible death, the Israelites blamed Moses for their plight. Moses assured the people that God would protect them. Holding out his rod over the Red Sea as he had been commanded, Moses had the joy of seeing God open the way through the waters before the eyes of the surprised people and they walked through on dry ground. When God opens the way people can walk in perfect safety.

When Pharaoh and his people pursued them into the midst of the parted waters, Moses stretched forth his rod again and the waters returned to their natural state. The rolling waters closed in and drowned Pharaoh's mighty host, but every Israelite was safe on the shore. The winds and waves drove the bodies of the drowned Egyptians upon the shore, providing the Israelites weapons and armor.

Exodus 15:1-2, 13 These verses contain a joyful song of praise to God as the source of strength, the subject of song and the spring of salvation in commemoration of his miraculous deliverance of the children of Israel from the Egyptians at the Red Sea. Their terror at the sight of their pursuers was soon turned into awe, reverence, gratitude and praise of God. They were delighted to have the opportunity to express their appreciation and praise to him for what he had done for them.

WHAT THE LORD REQUIRES

International Series

God's reminder. Micah 6:3-4 Highly displeased with the terrible sins of the Israelites, God challenged them to explain why they had grown weary of him and deserted him.

As proof of his abundant love God reminded the Israelites of things he had done in their behalf, mercies they should not have forgotten. He called to their attention that he had miraculously delivered them from the land of Egypt, enabling them to journey to the Jordan River. When King Balak had invited Balaam to pronounce a curse upon them as they journeyed, God influenced Balaam to bless them instead. Pleading, God asked them to state their grievances against him, if any.

God's requirements. Micah 6:7-13 In a string of abominable sarcastic questions they asked what God was expecting of them. Their ignorance of what would please God revealed their condition. The question, "Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?", was a clear indication of the depths of degradation to which the people had sunk, for it refers to the abominable custom which prevailed among the heathen of offering their own children in sacrifice. Seemingly they were willing to offer anything except what God asked for, namely, the love and obedience of their hearts.

Without hesitation God told them what he was requiring of them. Pleasing God was not a matter of outward observances, but observances of the heart which expressed itself in godly living. God emphasized he would never be pleased with the totally disregarded. As long as they etched pride, injustice and cruelty their sacrifices were valueless and an abomination in God's sight. His first desire is for the obedience of his children. "What doth the Lord require of thee?"

1. "To do justly." God wants us to think, speak and act justly. Give to God his due; love him with all your mind, heart, soul and strength. Give others their due, never harming their persons, property or reputation, and loving even your enemies as Jesus taught. Give yourself your due, caring for your soul, keeping your body well, your heart pure and your tongue free from evil.

2. "To love mercy." God asks us to show kindness, tenderness and mercy in dealing with others. He wants us to have a mercy in feeling that will lead to mercy in action. Needing mercy ourselves, let us yield our rights rather than press them to the extreme.

3. "To walk humbly with" him. Walking humbly with God means friendship, companionship and fellowship. Walking with God results in progress, joy and triumph. One who walks humbly with God will do justly and love mercy.

This threefold requirement of doing justly, loving mercy and walking humbly with God includes our works, our worship and our walk. These requirements, the minimum of what God demands of his children, are met through Christ, never apart from him.

Oneida Journal

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



Clear Creek Comments

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



'On the run'

Several times each year many of our students are taken to see the "Hensley Settlement," a pioneer village on top of a steep mountain on the border of Kentucky, Virginia and Tennessee. Going as far as possible by bus, it is then a difficult five-mile climb to the top and five miles back. This trek is a part of the required Appalachian Studies course that all graduating seniors must have in addition to a year of Bible study and the meeting of all state requirements. At 4:30 a.m. Sept. 26, 40 of our students, their teacher, principal and another staff member struggled out of bed, had breakfast and were on the road by 5:30 a.m.

Later in the day the cross-country team left for a meet and the soccer team traveled to Lexington to play Henry Clay. Our cross-country team came in second among a number of teams, but our soccer team was defeated, the only loss in seven games.

In the afternoon a bus load from Allansville Baptist Church in Clark County arrived for a tour. In the evening a Louisville couple brought its only child, a daughter, to see the school and be interviewed, a two-hour process that I personally handle with each incoming student. I think it very important that I know as much as possible about each arriving student and have the opportunity to discuss in detail the negative as well as positive factors that should be considered when making such an important decision. "Homesickness" is just a few days away and needs to be prepared for. Interestingly enough, with our largest enrolment ever, we lost far fewer the first month this fall than I can ever recall. It is not logical, but then our work cannot be explained by logic. Ours is a faith work and the ways of the Holy Spirit are often inexplicable to us.

While all this was happening our students had gone about their daily chores. Many of the boys dug potatoes both morning and afternoon, and it was a beautiful early autumn day for such an activity. Others mowed grass, raked leaves, worked in maintenance. Girls and boys cleaned buildings and worked in the kitchen and dining room. In the afternoon there was the usual two hours of "free time." This is a time when boys and girls can be together, chaperoned by some of the staff. Some play ball or tennis, swim, fish, hike. Others simply sit and talk. A few read or study in the library. Some take a nap back at the dorm. In the evening a movie was shown.

Sunday morning, it was "early-to-rise" and a trip with several of our students to speak at the worship service of Forks of Dix River Baptist Church in Lancaster. There was no time for lunch because I had to speak and give the invocation at the 10th anniversary celebration of the Seventh Day Adventist Hospital that afternoon at Manchester.

Returning to campus I found 24 people waiting to be taken on tour including three prospective students arriving from Princeton, Bardstown and Oak Ridge, Tenn.

In the meantime our choir had sung at Calvary Baptist, London. That congregation led by pastor Seymour Wattenbarger is a spiritual powerhouse. In the afternoon our choir provided the music for the Adventist celebration at Manchester.



Ministering to the children of the 80's



'Risking failure'

Eldred M. Taylor,
Executive Director

Very often one is admonished to be careful. This usually means, "Don't take foolish risks." That is not bad advice! However, not all risks are foolish. To the contrary, some risks are very wise. However, if something is a risk, it means there is room for failure.

Life itself is a risk because it can be a failure, but we believe it is not a foolish risk. There is a risk in love and marriage, and while that risk brings failure for some, it proves most successful for others. When a husband and wife bring children into this world risk is involved, but we believe it is worth risking failure to have them. Any time one reaches out to help or bless another, risk is involved. The one to whom we reach out may reject the offer or may receive the offer and misuse it. In either case there seems to be failure, but the possibility of success made the risk worth trying.

To minister to hurting children and disturbed families, it is necessary to risk failure. Not every child we accept into our program does well, returns home and becomes a strong, successful adult. Some would suggest that such hard cases should not be received; rather, we should only take children into our care who will do well. Although this kind of selection would make us look good, I believe our mandate to minister calls us to accept the risks of failure involved in trying to minister to the hard cases.

Often we receive into our care and facilities a youth with such background, scars, hurts and attitudes that it seems almost hopeless to turn that life around. But remembering that our Lord loves all people and no case is too hard for him, we take the risk of failure. Admittedly, sometimes we fail. But honestly, there are many times we do not fail. So we believe the risk should be taken because of who our Lord is and because of the needs of such young persons.

Pray for your child care work. Support us with a generous Thanksgiving offering, and be patient with us when one of our children does not turn out right. Remember, the rich young ruler went away from Jesus. Jesus risked his life on the cross to save us, but not everyone believes in him. We here at your child care ministry are risking failure every day so that we might be all things to hurting children in the hope we will help some. Child care with a spiritual emphasis is worth risking failure.

Christian wills emphasis

Everyone of age has a will. It is either the one written by the state or the one that has been tailored to meet family needs.

Basically, state laws say that an individual has the right to use, give or dispose of property to any one or any cause and in any amount during life. However, at death that right ceases and the distribution of property becomes a privilege! A privilege that can only be exercised if there is a will.

Without exception every Christian should exercise the privilege of having a will. Too often this is neglected, and the accumulated possessions of a Christian slip into the hands of those who waste or use them selfishly. The lack of adequate planning can also mean addition taxes. These things do not have to happen!

How can a church help?

Keep the matter before the people. Use bulletin inserts, special bulletins, tracts or posters. Carry articles in the weekly newsletter. Use the bulletin board.

Sponsor conferences. Select the date. Enlist the leaders—use local attorneys, bankers, CPA's, life underwriters, etc. Often the staff from your Baptist Foundation office can assist.

Provide resource material. Tracts—these are available in limited quantities from banks, local or state bar associations and your Baptist Foundation office.

Books—place books on estate planning and Christian money management in your church library.

Use testimonies. Enlist a young couple to give testimony on the importance of a will in providing guidance for a Christian environment for children. Another person could talk about the satisfaction which comes from the knowledge that because of planning, accumulated possessions will be used for family needs and other Christian causes.

Preach on the subject. Sermon ideas are often available from your state stewardship office. You may also want to invite a representative from your Baptist Foundation office to preach.

The columns on this page are paid space.

Cumberland College,

The Story of

Kathy Irvin:



Her Mission Through Nursing

Kathy Irvin, Cumberland College nursing graduate, was told in her younger years that she was going to be a missionary.

Kathy replied, "Well, maybe I am. Appalachian nursing has a broad missions field. No matter where you go, you will always find people who need help."

Kathy, a native of Lynch, Kentucky, where her father is a coal miner, has seven brothers and sisters, three of whom attended Cumberland.

Being a nurse in life or death situations can create tremendous strain. In times of need, Kathy looks ". . . to God for help. I always appreciated the Christian environment of Cumberland and my instructors who helped me and encouraged me to turn to God to meet my needs."

Presently a charge nurse at St. Mary's Hospital in Knoxville, Tennessee, Kathy continues to minister to those in need.

There are many like Kathy, who, with only a little help and encouragement, can reach out to those in need. We want to help them.

President Taylor,
Please send me more information about how I can help other students like Kathy.
Name: _____
Address: _____
(Clip and mail to Dr. James Taylor, President, Cumberland College, Williamsburg, Kentucky, 40769)

The Thirty Thousand Movement

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