



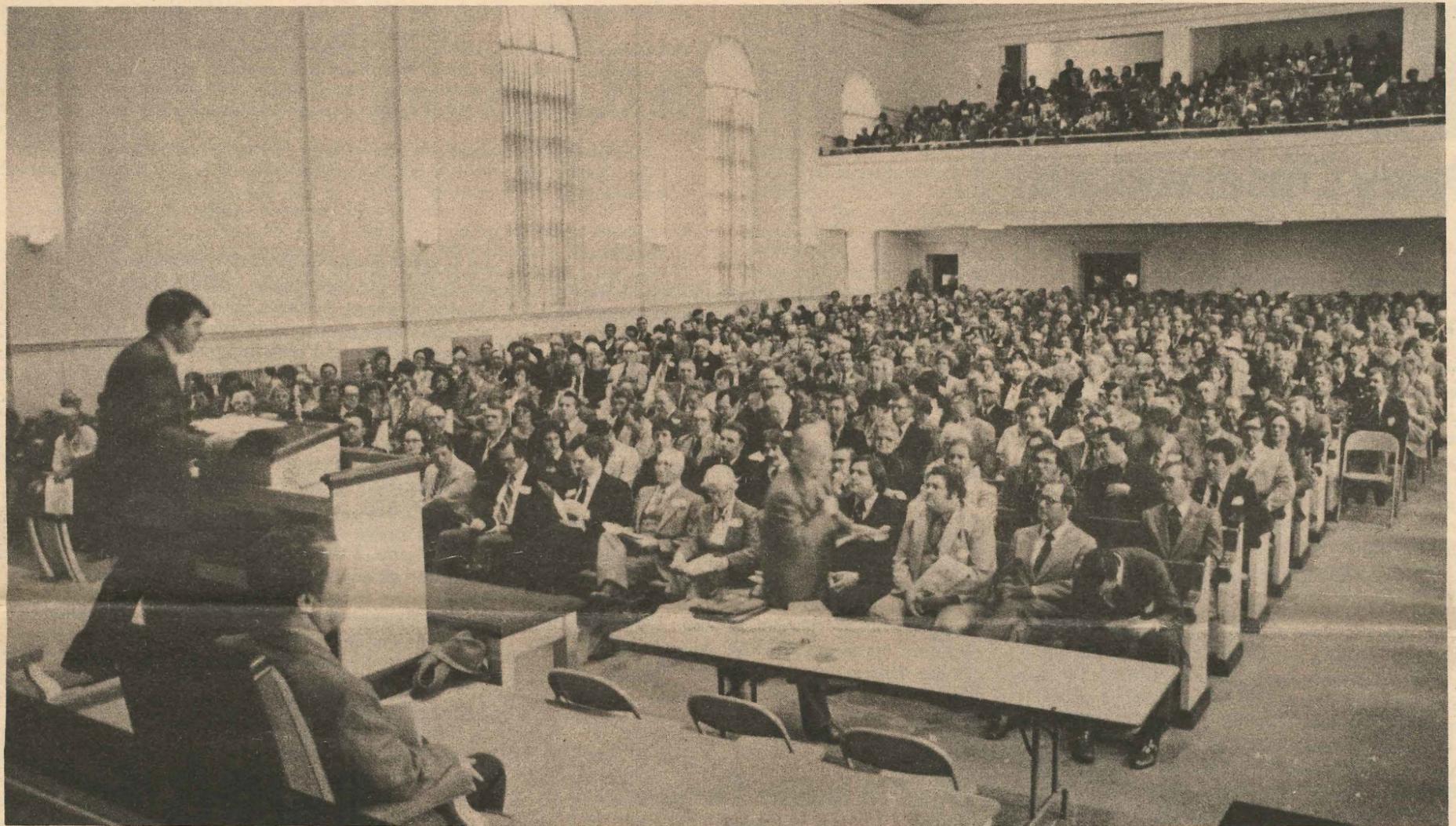
CONVENTION ISSUE



WESTERN RECORDER

VOL. 155, NO. 45, NOVEMBER 18, 1981

KENTUCKY BAPTIST NEWS JOURNAL



Gifts to SBC causes increased, Ohio link begins as controversy eludes messengers to state meeting

In a landmark decision messengers to the Kentucky Baptist Convention last week in Elizabethtown adopted a motion by the presiding officer, Bill Whittaker, pastor of Murray First Church, regarding Cooperative Program designations. Whittaker asked that the present 35 percent distribution of statewide Cooperative Program receipts to SBC causes be raised a minimum of five percent by the year 1990. Plans to implement the change would be left to the executive board.

An amendment to add similar increases to in-state Christian education proposed by Ben Elrod, president of Georgetown College, was overwhelmingly defeated by the body.

At least one messenger, Neville Claxton, of Lawrenceburg, called for going beyond the five percent suggested in Whittaker's motion.

When put to a vote, Whittaker's motion passed with token opposition.

In another major action the convention voted to enter a three-year partnership plan linking the state with Ohio Baptists. The objective of the plan is to launch 25 new churches and strengthen 125 existing ones in Ohio by 1985. Specific goals and strategies for accomplishing the task were outlined to the messengers.

Messengers adopted resolutions condemning attempts by state officials to place liquor in the state resort park system, expressed favor of a study of drunk driving in America and reaffirmed support of

the American Bible Society. They affirmed emphases of Bold Mission Thrust in regard to families and adopted resolutions expressing appreciation to several retiring or recently retired executive board staff members, and to the host church.

They designated Sunday, May 30, 1982 as Peace Sunday on the denominational calendar, calling for special sermons and other programs aimed at promoting peace.

They heard sermons and reports and adopted a budget of \$15.9 million for 1982-83.

The well publicized reaction of Bell Baptist Association to one of its sister churches accepting members without immersion never surfaced directly during the convention. Though there were rumors in advance of the meeting which threatened to disrupt the sweet harmony of recent years, nothing came of it.

Concern had been expressed in the corridors of Severns Valley Baptist Church over the disfellowshipping of messengers from First Baptist Church, Middlesboro, by Bell Baptist Association last month. The association took the action because of the church's open membership policy. There was speculation in advance of the convention that messengers from the Middlesboro church might not be seated at the state convention in Elizabethtown, but the issue was never debated.

It was, in fact, such a quiet week one metropolitan daily reporter who arrived for the rumored 'Baptist

fireworks' packed his gear the afternoon of the first day and returned home.

"It's a convention without issues," he observed.

He was almost right.

Even the election of a president, generally able to spark at least a mild contest of sorts, provoked none.

Of 811 votes cast, William D. Jagers, pastor of Cynthiana (Ky.) Baptist Church, easily ran away with the election, garnering 74% of the vote cast, or 599 votes. The remainder was split between Glenn Henderson, a Marrowbone layman (121 votes) and Henry Johns, pastor of Versailles (Ky.) Baptist Church (91 votes).

Henderson was later elected first vice president of the convention without opposition. Also elected without opposition was the new second vice president, Roy Faulkner, pastor of Evarts (Ky.) Baptist Church in Upper Cumberland Association.

Reelected were convention secretary Leo T. Crismon of Louisville and assistant secretary W. Austin Roberts of Danville, both also without opposition.

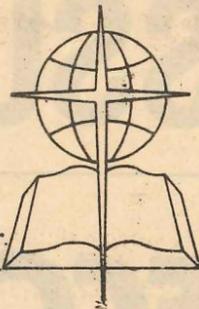
A final tally indicated 1844 messengers and visitors at this year's convention.

The convention voted to hold its 1984 session at Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville, Nov. 13-15. In previous conventions the body voted to hold the 1982 session at Lexington's Immanuel Baptist Church Nov. 9-11 and 1983 session at First Baptist Church, Paducah, Nov. 15-17.

Earnestly contend for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. —Jude 3

WESTERN RECORDER
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C. R. Daley

Daley Observations

A sweet, sweet spirit in Elizabethtown

It wasn't even sung but the song, "There's A Sweet, Sweet Spirit in This Place," perfectly characterizes the 144th annual meeting of Kentucky Baptists last week in Elizabethtown. Veterans of many, many conventions never remembered a meeting of more harmony, good will and downright delight. It was as free of controversy as the cloudless autumn skies and as beautiful in spirit as the November harvest moon.

The first surprise was the near record registration and attendance. The first session overflowed the large auditorium with chairs in the aisles and standing room along the walls. And they kept coming session after session making overall attendance from the beginning to the end the highest in years. The registration of 1844 exceeded last year's by 300.

Messengers responded positively to all the reports and addresses with the exception of part of the contents of the public affairs committee report. A majority of the messengers voting did not agree with the committee's position on the posting of the 10 commandments and the required presentation of scientific creationism in public schools. They said so and deleted that part of the report. This is Baptist democracy at its best. Positions expressed by official committees should always be subject to revision by the constituents.

The convention program on paper was not the most impressive array of celebrity speakers. Only one seminary president and one Southern Baptist Convention agency head had a part.

Nevertheless the convention addresses were appreciated more and will be remembered longer than those of most conventions. Convention president Bill Whittaker not only presided flawlessly but set the tone for the convention with one of the finest presidential addresses delivered to Kentucky Baptists. Gene Puckett, Americans United executive director, thrilled fellow Kentuckians with a resounding address on religious liberty. John Christian moved hearts with a stirring convention sermon. Baptist World Alliance general secretary Gerhard Claas humbled his hearers with eyewitness accounts of the high costs of serving Christ in many parts of the world and Radio and Television Commission president Jimmy Allen sent us home with greatly enlarged horizons.

The inspiring pageant depicting 200 years of strong worldwide ministry of Severns Valley Church was like a delightful dessert after a satisfying meal. Mrs. Roy Keith and Allen Case blended the spoken word and music into an unforgettable presentation of the heartthrob of a

great church.

But of all the things heard and felt at Elizabethtown last week, the most penetrating was the address of executive secretary Franklin Owen. If heard and heeded, Owen's address could be a watershed for Kentucky Baptists ushering in the most fruitful era in our history. It was an unusually clear analysis of contemporary Baptists and pointed to our best hope for being used of God in our times. We are making plans to print it in this publication in three installments.

Elizabethtown and Severns Valley Church have come to be the favorite meeting place for Kentucky Baptists. There's good reason because the community and the church are perfect hosts. Howard Cobble, the new Severns Valley pastor, and staff members Bill Ray, Allen Case and Archie Allison never forget one detail of planning.

Bold Mission Thrust will require different spending ways

With all that Southern Baptists are doing to reach the world with the gospel, including the Bold Mission Thrust emphasis, one almost universal characteristic of today's Baptist churches will guarantee failure without some radical change of ways. This is the preoccupation of churches with their own needs and wants resulting in spending a lion's share of their resources on themselves.

Golden Gate Seminary president Bill Pinson said it in Elizabethtown last week. He observed that the churches in the New Testament never used most of their offerings upon themselves but always upon others. He reminded us that a church never died because it gave too much to missions but that many churches and even denominations have died by giving too little for others.

Executive secretary Franklin Owen in expressing his concern for Baptists also said it. He pictured accurately the discouraging trend of suburban churches majoring on facilities in keeping with their surroundings and employing multiple professional staffs to do much of what members once did voluntarily while cutting back or putting on hold their gifts to world outreach.

Foreign Mission Board president Keith Parks has been saying the same thing loudly and clearly but with little effect so far. At the pres-

ent level of giving by Southern Baptists there can be but one conclusion. Without radical change in giving patterns Southern Baptists will not come near their goal of confronting every person in the world with the gospel by 2000 A.D.

What is the basis for such an indictment of Baptist churches in this generation? What is the record?

The proportion of regular church offerings going to world missions through the Cooperative Program which is the acknowledged lifeline of Southern Baptist outreach is less than 10 percent on the average and has been declining in recent years. Some of the largest Southern Baptist churches give less than five percent through the Cooperative Program and the nine to 10 percent overall average is only made possible by some churches giving as much as 20 to 30 percent through the Cooperative Program.

Fortunately special mission offerings have been increasing in recent years so these added to Cooperative Program gifts and other mission expenditures bring the overall percentage for mission gifts from churches close to 15 percent.

That's the picture then. Churches use about 85 cents of every dollar they raise on themselves. Does this seem right in a land where there are enough churches that if spread equal distance from one another not one would be far out of sight of another? In contrast some foreign mission fields where Southern Baptists minister have one missionary couple for as many or more people than are in Kentucky.

If we practiced what we preach, would it not be more appropriate for churches to spend 15 percent of their resources upon themselves and 85 percent on the rest of the world rather than vice versa? What are we saying when debt service and staff salaries are bigger items in the budget than mission gifts?

Many Southern Baptist churches once had a serious goal of using 50 cents for themselves and sending 50 cents of each dollar to evangelize the world. This dream has been mostly forgotten and this is tragic.

In efforts to subscribe church budgets members are often told they cannot outgive God. The more they give, the more they will have to give is the assurance. If this works for individuals, why not for churches?

Why not a new attitude toward raising funds for building facilities? Every time a dollar is put into buildings for ourselves, a dollar goes to share the gospel with the world beyond the church community. It could be that we would get the new facilities just as soon. If not, we could use them with a clearer conscience when we did get them and Bold Mission Thrust might become a reality.

'Magnificent love'

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



Ministering to the children of the 80's



Counting the cost!

Some beautiful people, both young and old, have donated a year of their lives in volunteer service in recent years. One of the most dedicated to serve was Greg Burnard, a native of Virginia, who came to us last year. He had three years of study at Davidson College in North Carolina and has returned there for his senior year after his Oneida stint.

Greg recently wrote: "I just wanted to express my appreciation for your allowing me to serve at Oneida for one year. I believe I have gained many valuable memories and experiences and hope that I contributed to the program at OBI. My lasting impression of Oneida's work has been and will be, I'm sure, this: that in no other place have I seen the love of Jesus Christ manifested and demonstrated in so many tangible and real ways. Thank you again for allowing me the privilege and opportunity to share in and be a part of such magnificent love."

From one of our graduates, now in college: "Mr. Moore, I never got a chance to personally thank you for what you and Oneida did for me. The praise and glory goes to God, but Oneida gave him a much easier opportunity to speak to me. You and your work at Oneida are constantly in my prayers as well as the young people who are there.

"I just finished writing a letter to a lady whose son has had some really bad times. I wrote and told her how OBI helped me and how if he was willing to put forth of himself, it could help him too. He's really a good guy, but has a problem with the crowd he runs with as I had. In Christian love."

From another of our graduates now in a Tennessee college: "Thank you so much for the long letter. Thanks for the advice on studies. My Bible class, Pentateuch, is real interesting. For example, the other day we were studying about Jacob and his marriage to Laban's daughter. The professor spoke to the girls in the class in particular and showed that they should try to be like Leah rather than Rachel. Even though Leah was not attractive, she was a better woman because she looked to the Lord. Rachel, being pretty, only tried to please Jacob more than anyone else. I remembered the chapel service that day when you told of Aunt Arky.

"There are so many young people that I know that could both contribute to and benefit from OBI. I'm praying about a boy and I am going to talk to him about Oneida soon. There are bad influences all around him. I hated to miss Homecoming."

A very confused young man came to us some years ago from a central Kentucky town. He was very withdrawn, had trouble relating to his peers, was the victim of a broken home. His progress was steady here academically and athletically. He helped win a state championship while at Oneida. His father pronounced the change in his life's direction "a miracle."

Recently this came from him. "Well, hello Mr. Moore. I am now in the U. S. Navy and things have been going fantastic for me in the service. Right now I'm a candidate for appointment to the Naval Academy in Annapolis. How about that!"

And this from one of our recent graduates now in the Army: "I get to see how much better and on top of things I am because of what I learned at OBI. First, the way to see others, and to accept them as they are, without prejudice because of their race, religion or color. I have been able to adapt to barracks life because of the teamwork and the self-discipline I learned at OBI. God has truly blessed me and OBI."

Clear Creek Comments

Facts about Clear Creek School

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



1. Date founded: 1926
2. Purpose: to train adults for Christian ministry.
3. Administration: D. M. Aldridge, president, Board of Trustees made up of Christian businessmen and ministers.
4. Campus: 700 beautiful acres near Pine Mountain State Park.
5. Educational cost: The cost of teaching a student for one year is \$5500. Help is needed to meet this expense.
6. Work program: a means of helping students who need financial aid. Students work in construction, maintenance, clerical, secretarial, kitchen, cafeteria, carpentry, concrete work, electrical and plumbing.
7. Housing: family cottages, apartments or mobile homes meet the particular needs of students and their families.
8. Museum: Visit the lifelike scale model of Jerusalem.
9. Clinic: a medical clinic with a professional registered nurse on duty.
10. Children's center: a preschool children's facility allows ministers' wives to attend tuition free.
11. Radio: Devotional programs produced by the school that share the gospel annually in over 40 states.
12. Support: We receive financial support from the Kentucky Baptist Convention and from people who are interested in this kind of training program.
13. Christian in-service training: students participate in a program of practical Christian activities and learn by doing in missions, jails, hospitals, churches and street services.
14. Denominational affiliation: The school is in complete harmony with the policies, plans and programs of Kentucky Baptists and the Southern Baptist Convention.

How does one count the cost of rearing a child? You can attempt to budget costs of food, clothing, education, etc., but what about the unexpected? A friend once laughingly said to me, "If you count what a child eats up, wears out, breaks and wastes, it would cost a million dollars to rear each one."

The truth is, if couples waited until they could afford children, many would never have any. So, counting the cost on the one hand and considering the values, joys and opportunities on the other, most husbands and wives opt to become parents. Then as the costs and needs come, they are met through hard work, sacrifice and adjustments.

I have been counting the cost of the Kentucky Baptist Child Care Program. Yes, I knew the current annual budget calls for \$1,823,000. But who understands how much that is? So I tried to break it down into bite sizes so I could understand it. That figure translates into \$36,000 per week or just over \$5100 per day or \$214 per hour. Although the figures are staggering, at least I can understand them on an hourly, daily, or weekly basis.

If we Kentucky Baptists had known the cost, would we have launched the Child Care Program? Of course we would! Because Baptists saw the needs of homeless, hurting children. They understood the compassion and love of Jesus as he said, "Suffer little children to come unto me and forbid them not, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven." Through the years we have experienced the joys of child care, and though the costs have increased, the commands of our Lord are still valid. Therefore, counting the cost and finding it expensive, we Kentucky Baptists determine to pray, walk by faith and give sacrificially that the growing needs of hurting children can be met by Christians who care.

Who are we asking to meet these financial needs? More than 2000 Baptist churches with over 500,000 resident members. Surely we can meet the hourly, daily, weekly and annual cost.

The Thanksgiving offering offers every Baptist an opportunity to give one day's pay or more through your church and help meet the cost.

The columns on this page are paid space.

Meet Cumberland College Student



Deborah Lee Fossier

Deborah Lee Fossier comes from an actively loving Christian family. Her parents are both very active in their church and hold prayer meetings in their home.

Naturally, when Debbie chose Cumberland College, she did so for "...its Christian and academic discipline. At Cumberland, I feel very safe in the love of Christians. Dr. Taylor, our President, knows almost everyone here and this unique closeness makes a Christian family, atmosphere."

Debbie is an ardent student of sociology and psychology. She has a 3.5 grade point average and earns the praise of her major professors. Her concern is for people.

"Everyone hurts but a lot of times they are ignored. We should say, 'I care. I want to stop your hurt.' Beauty is in living. Everyone needs to enjoy happiness in living and to experience a new birth."

Deborah hopes to soon work in a caring, helpful relationship with children. "I love children because, in their innocence, they are impressive. Children are beautiful for they are closest to the image of God."

Deborah has found a warm, caring home at Cumberland College and she has been busy developing herself so she can soon spread that same love and concern among the many deserving children in these rugged mountains.

We want to help many others like Deborah.

President Taylor.

Please send me more information about how I can help other students like Deborah.

Name: _____

Address: _____

(Clip and mail to Dr. James Taylor, President, Cumberland College, Williamsburg, Kentucky, 40769)

Calvin Fields elected director of state Brotherhood work; succeeds Sawyer

Calvin Day Fields was elected director of the Brotherhood Department of the Kentucky Baptist Convention by the KBC executive board at its Nov. 9 pre-convention session in Elizabethtown.

Fields, 57, will succeed the retiring Forrest R. Sawyer Jan. 16, 1982. Sawyer completes 24 years of service at that time. Fields has been his associate since May 16, 1966.

In other personnel business, the executive board approved the promotion of Jack Palmer from second to first associate in the Sunday School Department. It also elected Wallace Miller, 46, religious education director of Northern Kentucky Baptist Association, as second associate in the Sunday School Department.

In financial matters, the executive board offered to the convention a 1982-83 Cooperative Program basic operating budget of \$11,891,000, plus a bold mission challenge section of \$3,109,000. Combined with additional income from miscellaneous sources the total projected budget for the convention year 1982-83 is \$15.9 million. The new year begins Sept. 1, 1982. The operational budget is divided 35% for SBC causes and 65% for KBC.

Convention business manager Barry

Allen reported receipts of \$1,692,532 for the first two months of 1981-82 budget year. While this is slightly below budget, it is 8.23 percent higher than gifts received in the same two months a year earlier.

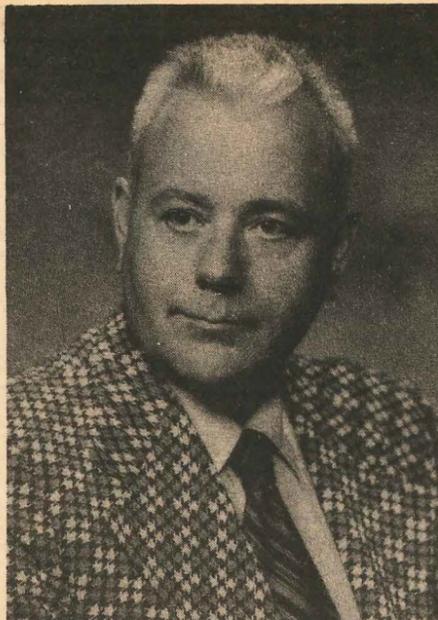
The board heard the report of its executive secretary-treasurer, Franklin Owen, to be delivered the next day to convention messengers. It approved the minutes of several earlier committee meetings, honored the memory of the late Dell Hames and Elroy Lamb, both former board members and Louisville pastors, and recognized members rotating off the board.

The executive board appropriated up to \$3000 to assist the SBC in financing a study of ascending-descending liability to determine the extent of involvement should suit be brought against the denomination or its agencies.

Calvin Fields, the future Brotherhood director, is a native of Marlowe Mining Camp, near Whitesburg. He attended the Marlowe public schools before moving with his family to Louisville where he graduated from Male High School. He served during World War II with the U. S. Marine Corps.

He received the BA degree in 1949 from Georgetown College and the BD degree from Southern Seminary in 1952.

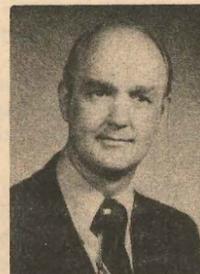
Fields is married to the former Marian Wigglesworth of Cynthiana,



Fields



Palmer



Miller

Ky. They have four grown children.

Fields' pastorates include New Salem Baptist Church, Salem Association; Fleming Baptist Church, Pine Mountain Association; and First Baptist Church, Liberty, Casey County Association. He has been association missionary in Salem Association (1955-57), Three Forks Association (1961-64) and local missionary at Oneida Baptist Church (1964-66).

The executive board meeting was held the day prior to the opening of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Bill Whittaker, pastor of Murray First Church, chairman of the board, presided.

Annuitants eat, meet; three testify for board

Three who receive benefits from the SBC Annuity Board testified on behalf of the board's retirement programs at the annual annuitants' luncheon Nov. 10.

Miss Rosa Fiechter and G. Allen West Jr., both of Louisville, and Mrs. O. W. Yates, Lexington, spoke of the reassurance their annuity checks give them each month. The luncheon was attended by several hundred retired church and denominational servants and their spouses, as well as convention personalities and staff.

Edwin F. Perry of Louisville presided at the gathering. J. Chester Badgett of Campbellsville recognized these new Kentucky annuitants who became eligible for benefits in the last year:

R. Perkins Atherton, Roy L. Britt, John R. Bullock, Elmer E. Burden, Rollin S. Burhans, Wallace H. Carrier, Harry S. Chester, William N. Claxton, Henry M. Downing, Taylor Hampton, Robert A. Holland, Hubert Jordan, Walter W. Peck, Wendell H. Rone, Willie O. Spencer, Harry G. Sullivan, Lester L. Terrell, Sherman E. Towell, Carl R. Townsend, G. Allen West Jr., Hugh E. Widick and James S. Wilson.

A memorial service for 19 annuitants who died during the last year was conducted by Allen W. Graves of Louisville.

The annuitants' luncheon is hosted by the KBC Annuity Department, Byrd R. Ison, director.

KBC owns four hospitals

Kentucky Baptist hospitals continually strive to meet needs of their communities, messengers were told.

Beginning with the first Kentucky Baptist hospital founded in Louisville in 1924 with 150 beds, Kentucky Baptists now operate four hospitals with 1145 beds. Two hospitals are in Louisville, and one each in Lexington and Paducah.

Additional expansion is planned.

If your church is planning to build, remodel, refinance or needs money for any purpose, I would welcome the opportunity of serving you. Feel free to contact me at any time for information and counsel, without obligation, for any of your financing needs.

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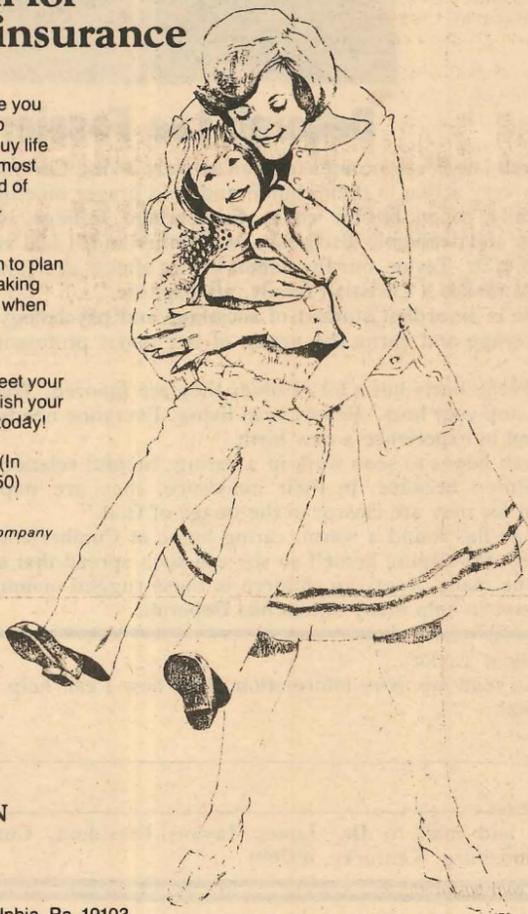
Happiness is knowing those you love are secure. And to help achieve that security, you buy life insurance. After all, it's the most sensible and affordable kind of protection for most families.

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Eldred M. Taylor, Executive Director of the Kentucky Baptist Child Care Program, discusses the history of the Thanksgiving Offering for child care with Franklin Owen, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. (Adv.)



New ministers' wives officers include [l-r] Mrs. Bill Whittaker, Murray; Mrs. Thomas Jenkins, Berea; and Mrs. Roy Boatwright, Louisville. Story follows.

'Sisters' thrive at E'town

About 75 ministers' wives were feted with dinner and entertainment built around the theme 'Sisters.' Hostesses from the host association dressed in costumes commemorating the 200th birthday of Severns Valley Church.

Mrs. D. M. Aldridge, Pineville, presided and Mrs. W. C. Ray, Elizabethtown, greeted guests. Mrs. Bill Tichenor, Princeton, introduced entertainment including music by Nancy Cron and Richard Hundley performing a medley of duets from "The Sound of Music." Don Blaylock, state Student Department director, pantomimed records.

Newly-elected officers were introduced: Mrs. Thomas Jenkins, Berea, president; Mrs. Hunter Hensley, Lexington, vice president; Mrs. Bill Whittaker, Murray, secretary-treasurer; and Mrs. Roy Boatwright, Louisville, program leader.

Historical Society reports

At its annual meeting in Bowling Green last summer, society members visited places of historical interest to Baptists in the Warren County area. During that meeting, the society voted to join the Kentucky Confederation of Historical Societies. The society also called attention to the upcoming meeting of the Southern Baptist Historical Society scheduled in 1982 in Charleston, S. C. At that time the tricentennial anniversary of Charleston First Baptist Church will be celebrated.

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Messengers vote link with Ohio to start 25 new churches, strengthen 125 others

Messengers to the Kentucky Baptist Convention adopted a plan which will link Kentucky and Ohio in Bold Mission Thrust endeavors during the period 1982-85.

The Kentucky-Ohio Church Partnership, as the program is called, proposes to involve 180 Kentucky churches in starting 25 new churches and strengthening 125 existing churches in Ohio.

"It won't be a one way street, however," says Tal D. Bonham, executive secretary-treasurer of the Ohio Baptist Convention, Columbus.

"We want churches in Kentucky to be blessed by all of this, and we feel they will. Hopefully, they will experience revival and a resurgence of evangelistic and mission-minded activity as a result. This should lead to new growth."

Bonham believes some churches will become involved in a long term relationship while others will enter into shorter projects.

"This is the kind of thing Bold Mission Thrust is all about," Bonham concedes.

The implementation of the cooperative plan between the two states will be coordinated by the Missions Department of the Ohio Baptist Convention, Arthur Walker, director, and the Direct Missions Department of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Bob Jones, director. They will put inquiring churches in Kentucky in touch with specific needs for new churches, or of existing churches, in Ohio.

Some examples of ways the two states may work together in the effort were given messengers to the KBC last week in Elizabethtown. They include:

Prayer support, vacation Bible schools, backyard Bible clubs, surveys, choir concerts, erecting a new building, witness training, landscaping, witness visitation, student ministries, starting a mission, Big "A" clubs, revivals—

pastor and/or lay people, locating prospective pastors, help in paying a pastor's salary, refurbishing temporary facilities, development in church leadership, testimonies in church services and training schools.

Many of these will involve groups such as senior adults, adults, youth, campers, Brotherhood, WMU, choirs, Sunday school teachers or other church officers. However, individuals and/or families may also have opportunities to work in these areas.

These general suggestions were offered to churches:

1. The beginning relationship may need to be for one activity covering a brief period of time. If the parties then mutually feel the relationship should be continued, a partnership for new church starts or for strengthening the churches could be formed.

2. For the best relationship over a length of time, there must be giving and receiving by both parties.

3. Always have a clearly understood written agreement when the sharing of financial resources is involved. This should include an annual review. Such an agreement can help both parties in making realistic plans.

These guidelines were presented to the state convention meetings of both states.

Newell addresses youth and recreation staffers

State youth and recreation directors enjoyed food and fellowship at a program including selections from 'Eastbound,' a Lexington musical group.

J. Altus Newell, pastor of St. Matthews Church, Louisville, shared his philosophy of the ministry as it pertains to total staff relationship with youth. He described it as 'TLC'—Trust, Loyalty and Communication.

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Single audit to encompass board, homes approved

A recommendation was unanimously approved that would allow the Board of Child Care to have one audit which would encompass the board as well as Spring Meadows and Glen Dale. At the same time, donors desiring to give to a specific area of the ministry would still be allowed to do so.

While ministering to the physical, mental and emotional needs of children, Baptists are able to carry their help a step further, to the spiritual realm.

New cottages have been dedicated at Spring Meadows and Glen Dale. There is some question about the future of the older cottages. While addressing that question, the board is committed to its primary purpose—caring for children.

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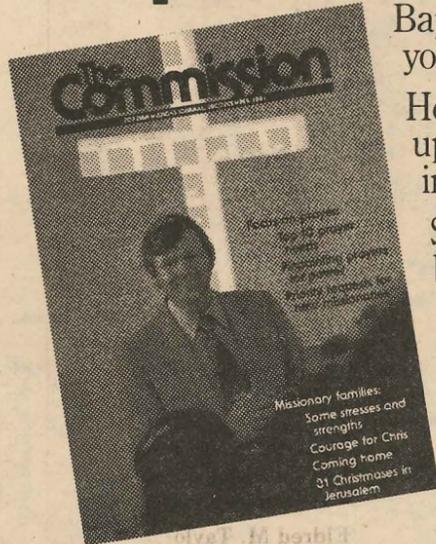
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Are we having fun?!

A busy secretary dashed from her office remarking, "Are we having fun?!"

Bill Ray, associate pastor of Severns Valley Baptist Church, chuckled. He explained that the remark became the motto for the staff since he and his wife vacationed in the mountains last summer. As his wife trudged halfway up a long mountain path, she panted, "Are we having fun?!" Indeed, the staff of the host church enjoyed their vigorous and extensive preparations for this 144th convention.

"Since we have had no pastor until recently to take the primary responsibility, all the staff has shared the load," commented Ray who has been at the church 12 years. "The staff response has been marvelous," he added.

In the years since Severns Valley last hosted the convention, Ray also noted the change in the registration process and the growth in the exhibit and book store display areas as the two most noticeable changes in his view.

Approximately 150-200 members of the 2900-member congregation have been involved in some way with the convention. Welcomers, ushers, parking lot helpers, nursery and first aid workers, coffee servers and registrars have filled most of these volunteer jobs.

Ray's jurisdiction has included the arrangement of the some 30 display areas around the church. Along with the usual committees involved in preparation Ray cited a "table committee" to acquire sufficient number of tables needed for the many uses during the week.

One of Ray's largest headaches for this convention has been the enormous crowds attending which have required additional ushers and parking people. The janitorial help has also been working overtime to keep up with all the demands on the facility composed of buildings on three levels. Ray also wished he could be everywhere at the same time.

The church's Christian life building with its recreational facilities was made available as a special service to those attending the convention. The consensus seemed to be that the folks at Severns Valley had gone out of their way to make their guests as happy and comfortable as possible.

Why did you come?

People had various reasons for attending the convention this year.

Karen, Mary Kay and John Whittaker got out of school for two days to be with their dad (convention president, Bill). They got to tour Elizabethtown, eat shrimp at Jerry's, visit with their grandparents enroute and sleep in a motel. In response to whether she liked her dad's message, Karen, 8, shrugged her shoulders saying, "I guess so."

Allene Knight, pianist for the Murray choir, came not only to accompany her choir and support her pastor, but also to visit with an elderly aunt in the area. Her mother had been Bill Jagers' mother's Sunday school teacher in Buffalo. She said, "I'm just thrilled to be a part of Kentucky Baptists."

Ron Anderson, 10-year-old who lived near the church, just happened over to see what was going on. He would miss the typical Wednesday night schedule, but was filling his Baptist Book Store sack with free literature and was filling out all sorts of forms. He especially liked the "Big Bells" display.

Barry Cecil, a Baptist Book Store employe, was working at the convention, his first. He is located at the Plainview Village Store in Louisville and saw his first convention as "enlightening."

"I've seen many excited people, all glad to see each other. All the pastors seem to want to know if their friends are still at their churches."

A missionary's view

Neville Claxon, recently retired 33-year career missionary in Africa, had positive words for the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

"Just because a controversial issue has not surfaced does not mean this has not been a hopeful convention. I feel a vitality here," remarked Claxon who with his wife was a messenger from First Church, Lawrenceburg. They are residing in the missionary home there for a year.

"I am very impressed with the convention's plans for development of implementing outreach. I am hopeful the beginnings they have proposed will end in an even greater thrust than first planned. As a convention, we are sufficiently concerned. I hope that there might be some way to get the churches involved more at the local level."

The Claxons, originally from Frankfort and Winchester, share a growing concern for the mission commitment among young people in our churches.

"The young people are not as involved as they should be. This may be an unintentional oversight not to make specific plans for youth mission emphases. The older people can give their

money and pray, but we need the youth to go for us."

The Claxons are enjoying the freedoms in America but they miss their friends in Africa. They are also concerned that the United States take a continued interest in Africa and the Third World nations for "much potential for the Lord's work lies there."

200 years of growing

"We're thrilled with our church. It is filled with some of the nicest people you'll find anywhere."

These were comments of Mrs. Alice Wade and Jane Marsee, registrars and members of Severns Valley Church for 66 and 40 years respectively. With great pride, the two recounted their church's rich and significant history.

The ladies remembered the time when the church provided only Sunday school and church services in a single building. Mrs. Marsee laughed, "Now I need no other social life."

Mrs. Wade explained that their "Young in Heart" group kept senior citizens happy and busy with tours, picnics and monthly meetings.

She remembers the days when one minister conducted everything in the worship service and all other matters. Her response to today's multiple staff was, "They seem to be very busy. There is much for them to do."

About their new pastor (J. Howard Cobble), they beamed. "He's tops! Everyone, regardless of age, likes him. He meets people easily."

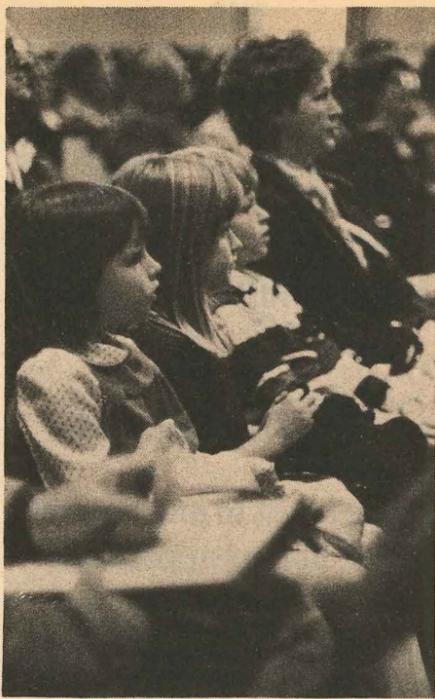
These charming hostesses considered hosting the convention a pleasure and an honor. Of the spirit in their congregation Mrs. Marsee said, "Our church grew even through the interim period. That showed our church was following God rather than a man."

Their church's motto also reflects this enthusiasm—"200 years and still growing."

An unusual briefcase

Leo Crismon, secretary of the Kentucky Baptist Convention and chairman of the Historical Commission, sports an interesting folder.

On his zippered case, he has nine nametags from previous Kentucky functions. Most came from previous Kentucky conventions in years past. Crismon's reply to his uniquely decorated notebook came, "I stuck them on this folder to preserve them. Often we lose track of things if we don't put them on something. I chose to put my nametags on this zippered case."



Bill Whittaker's family listened intently as their hero delivered the presidential address to the convention.

KBC Divisions

Church Services Division

Kentucky Baptist camps and assemblies grew this year and plan additional mother-daughter weekends, a new video room, a hiking trail and the completed prayer garden for the coming months.

The Church Music Department emphasized planning conferences across the state. Its enrolment has increased for the 11th consecutive year.

Last year 2471 decisions were made through the ministry of Baptist student unions, making Kentucky student work second in the SBC in the number of students reached and the student missionaries sent to fields of service.

Sunday school enrolment in Kentucky reached 366,254 last year, reflecting an increase of 4142 over the previous year. As Southern Baptists plan to increase Sunday school enrolment to 8.5 million by 1985, Kentucky has established three goals: victory goal of 386,472; challenge goal of 426,105; and hallelujah goal of 466,195.

WMU has set a goal of adding its organization to 350 Kentucky churches in the immediate future.

Missions Division

The goals of Bold Mission Thrust from October 1982 to September 1985 are to reach people, develop believers and strengthen families, recommended C. Vernon Cole to the KBC messengers. Cole is state director of Church Training.

Sunday, Jan. 24 and Wednesday, Jan. 27 will be days of prayer to revitalize that mission vision, he announced.

Enrolment of the Brotherhood program, also of the Missions Division, increased 14.8 percent in 1980-81.

The Evangelism Department reported its major 1982 thrust will be the statewide simultaneous revivals Apr. 4-25.

Business Division

An increase in assets and retirement benefits paid in 1980 was reported by the Annuity Board. However, many churches still furnish little or no retirement and insurance for their pastors and staffs.

"We often ask ourselves why it is a church can see the need of that which we call 'outreach' but never do a great deal of 'inreaching,' lamented Byrd R. Ison, director.

The changing economic climate and tax laws also affect the work of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation, Grady Randolph, director, reported to the KBC messengers.



The choir of First Baptist Church, Murray, was one of several to be featured last week.

Gradu-ates

They heard the good news from gents

Good fellowship and optimism were important elements of the alumni meetings of the schools at the 1981 convention.

From J. J. Owens' perspective, the past five years have been the best at Southern Seminary since 1937. Those and other optimistic comments highlighted the seminary alumni luncheon attended by 242 friends and alums. J. Altus Newell, national alumni president, and Gerald Lord, state president, brought greetings.

Wes Wilkerson, director of alumni affairs, announced enrolment is up with twice as many internationals as in recent years.

Southwestern Seminary alumni met for lunch with 32 former students and guests present.

Earl and Vivian Shoemake, Paducah, were presented the President's Award. The award is given by the school to those making significant monetary gifts. Bill Caldwell, associate professor, of education administration, spoke to the group. He announced that 53 stu-

dents from Kentucky had enrolled this fall and that the 20,000th student will graduate in ceremonies in December.

New officers elected were: John Walker, president; Dan Cooper, vice president; and Leon Simpson, secretary.

At New Orleans Seminary's luncheon Bradford Curry, director of the DMin program and coordinator of continuing education, brought greetings and reported increasing enrolment, faculty activities and campus improvements.

Bob White, 1980-81 state president and pastor in Frankfort, presided over elections for state offices. Ralph Thomas, Chevy Chase Baptist, Lexington, will assume the 1981-82 presidency. Billy Genet, Greenville, will be secretary-treasurer.

Guy Futral, pastor of Mayfield First Church, was elected president-elect and Russ Stephens, pastor at Drakesboro Baptist, was elected secretary-treasurer elect.

At Clear Creek Baptist School D. M. Aldridge gave his final address to

Kentucky alumni as a group expressing appreciation for the years of support. He presented Bill Jagers, newly elected president of Kentucky Baptists, and Leon Simpson, president-elect of Clear Creek.

Clear Creek has an increase in enrolment with all available housing filled.

New officers elected were: Drew Martin, president; Jerry Browning, vice president; Ron Doss, secretary-treasurer.

Friends and alumni of Campbellsville College met for breakfast sponsored by Joel Ray Sprowls, Hodgenville, and Henry Huff, Louisville.

Don Gowin, pastor at Green River Memorial, Taylor County Association, and president-elect of the college alumni association, brought greetings from the association and reported on alumni activities and goals for the coming year.

W. R. Davenport, president of Campbellsville College, reported college activities in the past year and plans for the coming year.

The group was entertained with a vocal selection by Erik Fearing, a stu-

dent at the college.

Friends and alumni of Cumberland College met for their annual breakfast. James Taylor, president, reported on gifts and grants given to the college and on improvements to the campus.

Taylor also told of the undertaking of the complete restoration of the famous historical viaduct and the president's home, Kentucky's World Fair Home in the early 1900s.

At the annual Georgetown College convention breakfast Ben M. Elrod, president, introduced several special guests. They included George Hays III, Louisville businessman whose family sponsors the event; Bill Jagers, KBC president-elect and Georgetown alumnus; Bill Whittaker, KBC president; and Dr. and Mrs. J. Howard Cobble. Cobble is pastor of Severns Valley Baptist Church.

Following a student musical presentation and slide program, Elrod updated the group on the college's decade of progress campaign which has generated nearly \$4 million thus far.

Reporters seemed to be every place last week as WR followed the news

Western Recorder's news team put it in touch with almost every action related to the Kentucky Baptist Convention in Elizabethtown last week. Those who put together the news package you are reading are pictured.

They include: C. R. Daley, editor; James H. Cox, associate editor; Mrs. Mary Branson, state correspondent, Madisonville; Mrs. Mary-Ann Drumel, state correspondent, Philpot; Mrs. Virginia Flanagan, direc-

tor of public relations, Campbellsville (Ky.) College; Gregory L. Hancock, state correspondent, Stanford; Ray Hayes, advertising representative; L. D. Kennedy, state correspondent, Campbellsville; Robin Oldham, assistant to the president, Georgetown (Ky.) College; David Smith, staff writer; Susan Taylor, staff writer; and Mrs. Beth Wyatt, director of public relations, Clear Creek Baptist School, Pineville.



Daley



Cox



Branson



Drumel



Flanagan



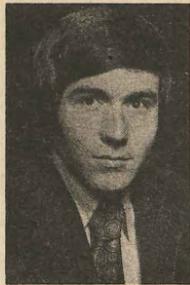
Hancock



Hayes



Kennedy



Oldham



Smith



Taylor



Wyatt

Educators optimistic in convention reports

Presidents of Kentucky Baptist schools gave encouraging reports at the Nov. 11 session.

A new program in computer science has been initiated at Campbellsville College with enrolments beyond expectations. The college is celebrating its Diamond Jubilee—the 75th anniversary of its founding as Russell Creek Academy.

Cumberland College has begun a data processing science program and an associate degree in mining technology.

For the third consecutive year Georgetown College has operated in the black with an annual budget of \$7 million. A student exchange program with the University of Caen in France has been established.

President D. M. Aldridge will retire from Clear Creek Baptist School June 15, 1982, to be succeeded by Leon Simpson, formerly of Dallas, Tex. On behalf of the convention Franklin Owen presented a plaque of appreciation to Aldridge for his years of service. Messengers gave the Aldridges a standing ovation.

Oneida Baptist Institute reported 221 professions of faith during the past year. Two of these young people were Moslem in background, nine were Catholic and one was from Communist China.

Construction of a new dorm to house 90 boys has begun.

The reports noted that costs of buildings and operations are rising faster than income. "Baptist colleges face stiffer competition from tax-supported schools every year," according to Jesse Stricker, coordinator of Christian education promotion.

A total of 107 students received financial assistance during the 1981-82 school year from the convention's matching funds program, Stricker said. Since the beginning of the program, 827 students have received matching grants.



T. A. Prickett [l] of Owensboro and Wallace Morris of Bowling Green peruse their favorite publication.

WR: good, bad news

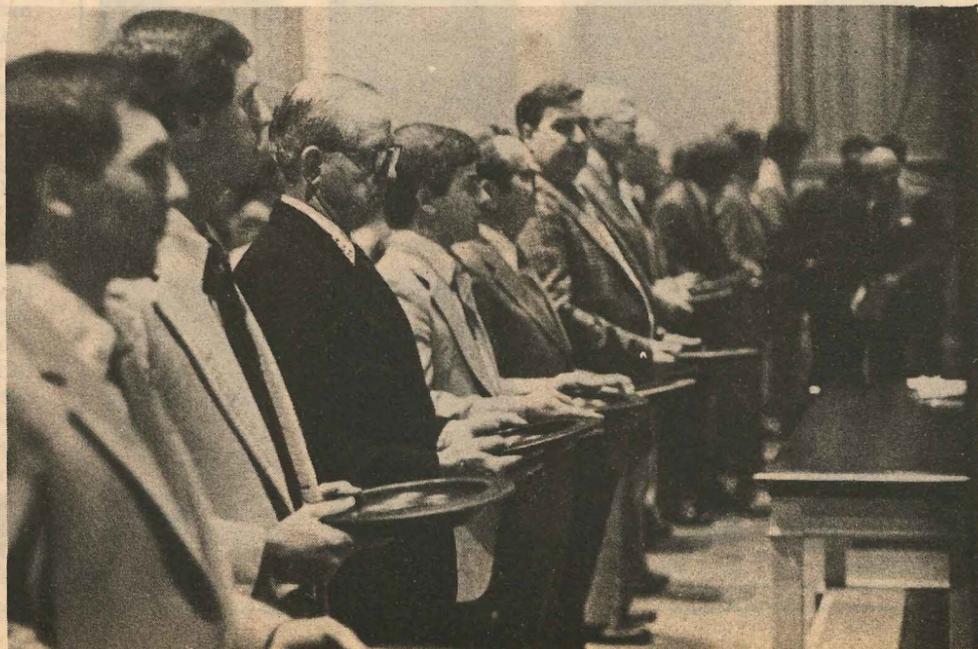
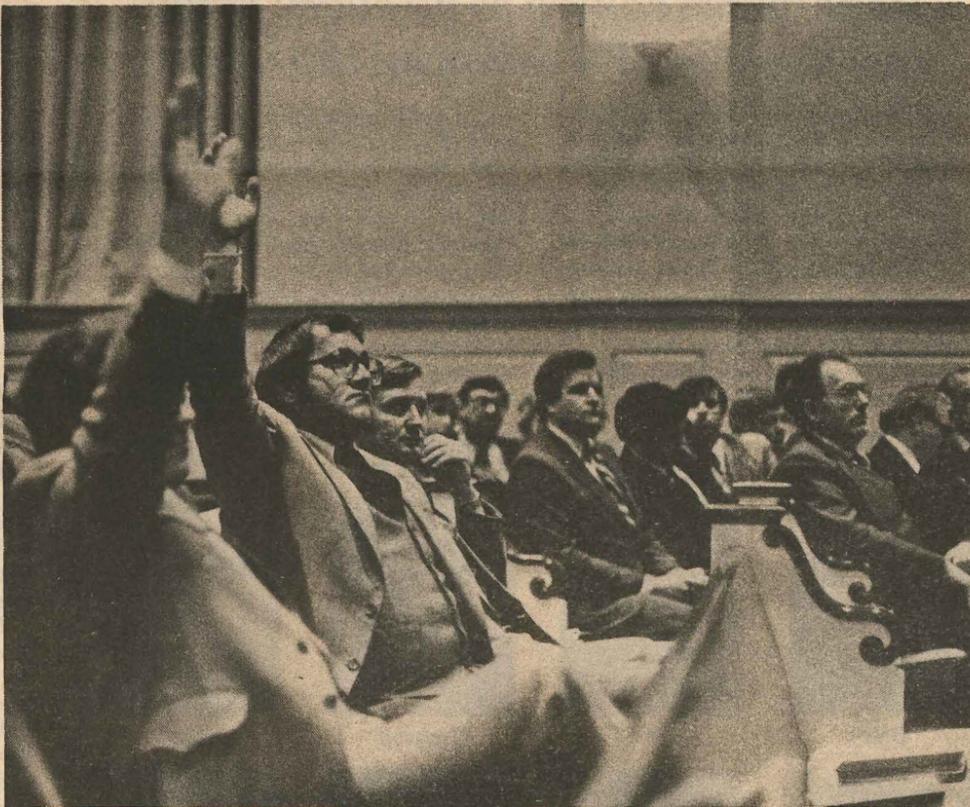
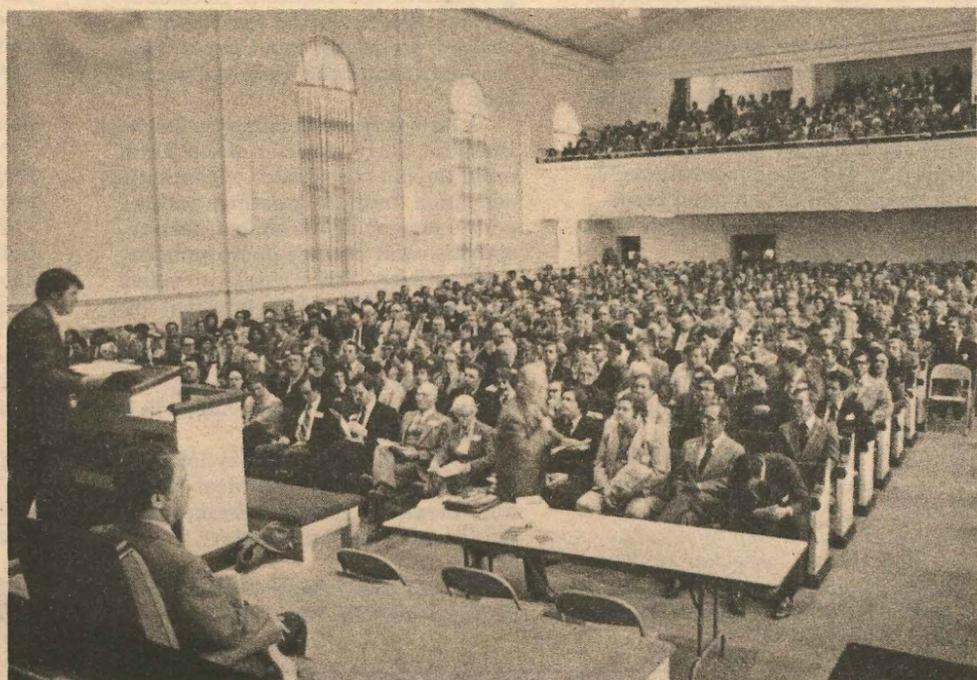
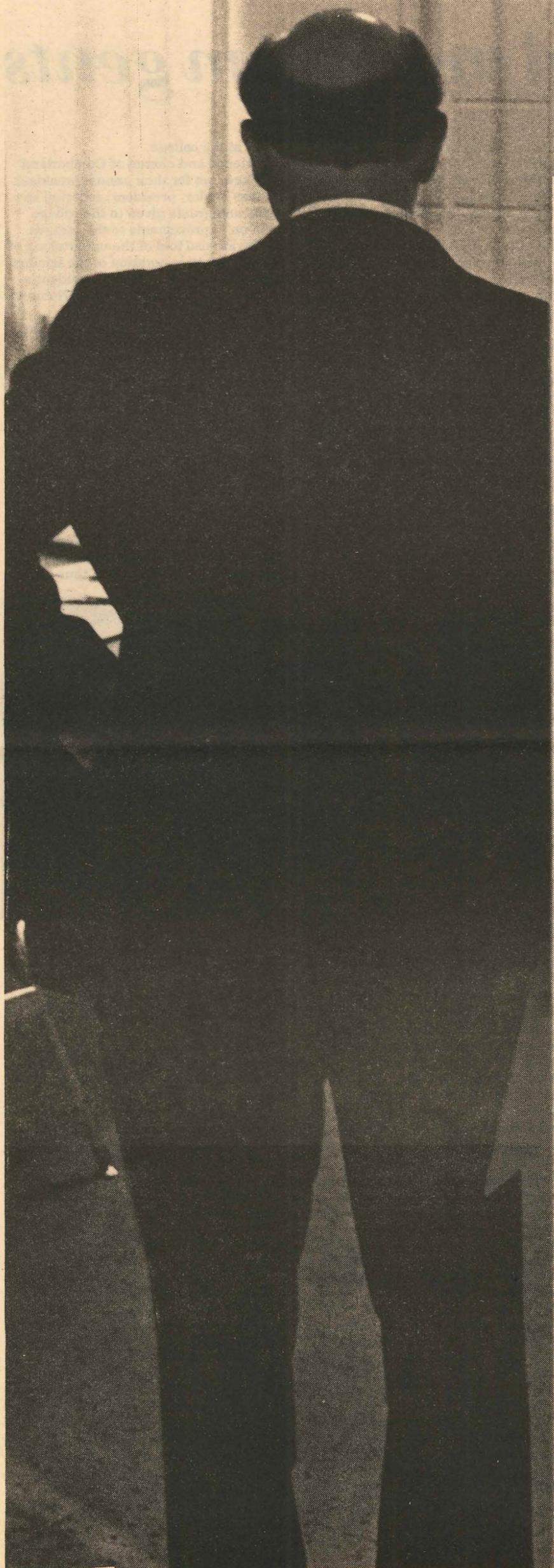
Western Recorder editor C. R. Daley gave convention messengers plenty of bad news and good news about the paper.

In a negative vein, he insisted sharply rising costs of mailing the publication threatened the newspaper. He cited inflation in general as contributing to rising production costs. He also said numerous churches tend to cut the state paper from their budgets when they begin to feel the economic squeeze, rather than other commodities or services.

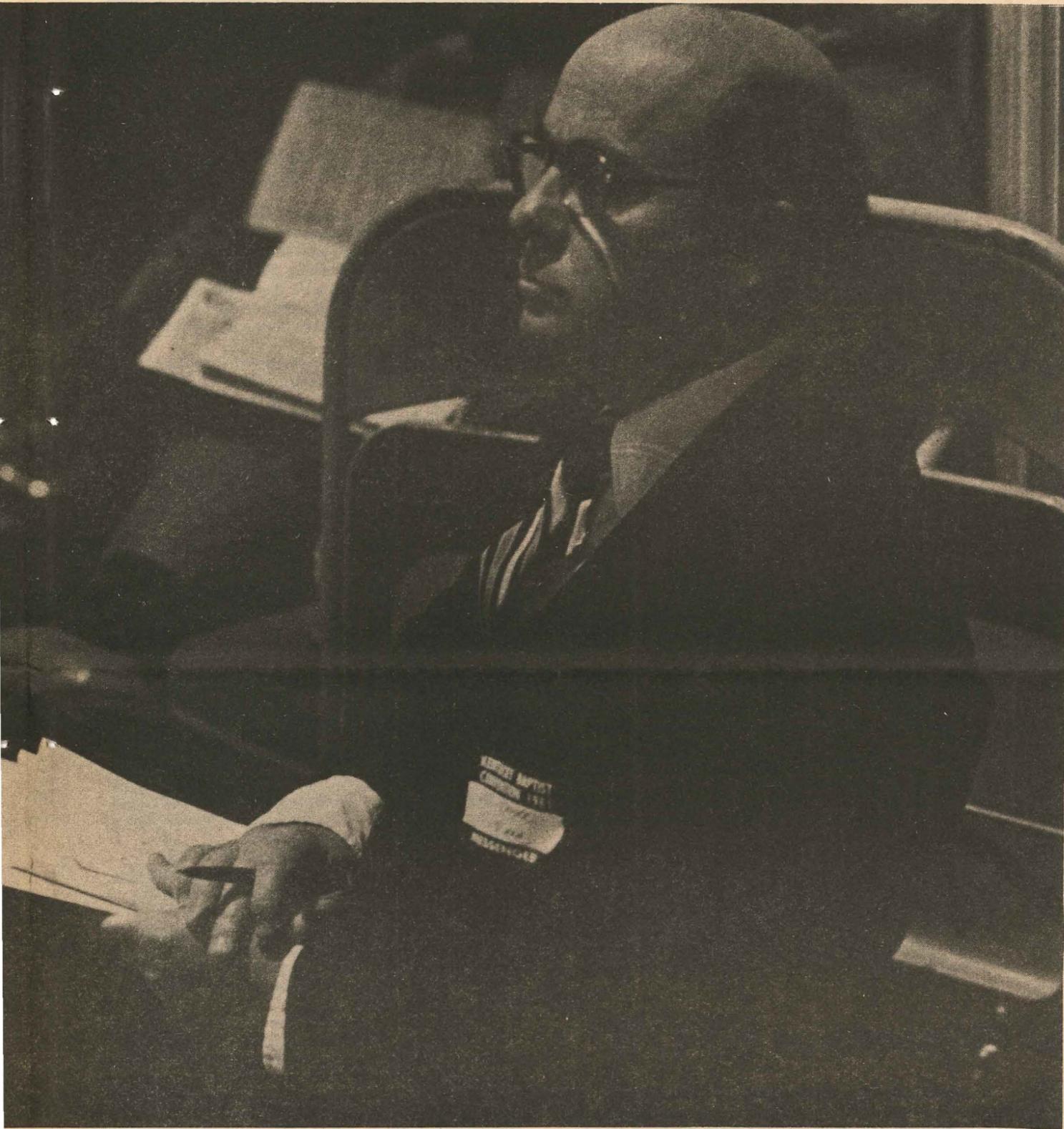
On the positive side, Daley expressed optimism that many churches are discovering the worth of an informed congregation and are providing the paper for all their members. He encouraged churches to consider the Recorder's back page for combining local church news with state and national news each week, and said several churches had been added to the list recently.

He also expressed thanks for the opportunity to serve, and to give his own opinions in the columns of Western Recorder. He welcomed opinions in opposition to his own for publication in the paper.

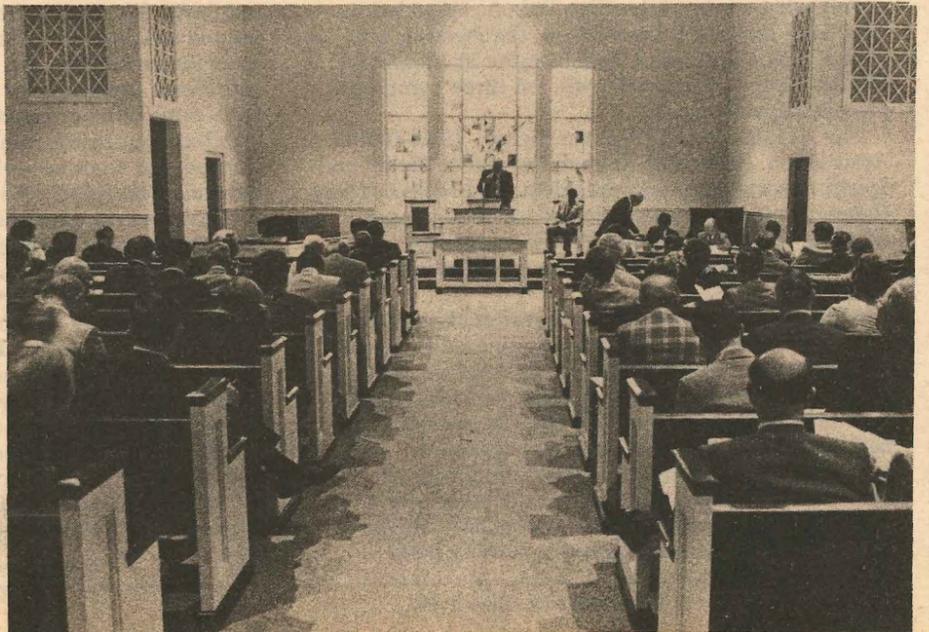
Dr. Owens Office



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William D. Jagers, above, considers the floor of the Kentucky Baptist Convention as president, elect. Jagers has pastored in Kentucky for 34 years and has attended the KBC in the capacity of messenger, committee member, spokesman for crucial issues and agency representative. He will preside over the executive board of the convention throughout this year, culminating his service at the close of the '82 session at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington.



KBC Pastor's Conference proposes church, pastor growth at convention

Pastors of Kentucky churches of all sizes comprised the program of the 1981 Pastor's Conference, Nov. 9 at Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown.

The conference was a preliminary meeting to the Kentucky Baptist Convention, held at the church last week.

David Haley represented the smaller church's viewpoint on "Growing Pastors, Growing Churches," the conference theme.

In the three years he has been pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church, Louisville, Haley has led the church from mission to constituted church status, directed it through a building program and seen more than 100 people join the small congregation.

The formula for growth, Haley said, is found in Isa. 54:2, God's encouragement that Israel will spread and grow as his people. "Enlarge your tent . . . spare nothing, lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes."

Lengthen through a bright vision for the future, Haley said. Strengthen the church's foundation, particularly Sunday school programs. But the key is to "spare nothing" in the energy and financial resources offered to the church. Spare nothing in feeding the people with sound preaching and in reaching out to

others in "New Testament evangelism," Haley said.

"Larger growing churches" were represented by Colburn Hooten, pastor of Hickory Grove Baptist Church, Independence, a church which has grown from 480 members to 1212 members in his 17 years there. In the 11 weeks prior to the Elizabethtown convention more than 250 persons had joined the church.

Hooten attributed the recent surge of growth to the church's emphasis on evangelism. "I don't know of anything that will make a pastor or his people grow better than leading a person to Christ," Hooten said.

Also represented at the conference were bivocational pastors. Steve Monroe, a salesman for Sears, has been pastor of Southside Baptist Church, Lexington, since 1979.

Wary of all labels, Monroe is especially so of "bivocational," a term which implies a part time pastor-ate. Most often bivocational pastors are full time, he said. "The pay is different; the prestige is different. But if he's needed by his flock he'll be there."

"How many of us, bivocational, full time or otherwise, have the courage to get our hands dirty with humanity?" Monroe asked, to go beyond the "comfortable," "self-imposed boundaries" of a specific



Wayne Padgett [left], 1981 president of the Pastor's Conference, congratulates president-elect Don Mathis, pastor of Central Baptist Church, Corbin.

church body into the work world. "Because of his call the bivocational pastor has the unique opportunity to do that."

Verlin Kruschwitz, associate director of Boyce Bible School, Louisville, and former pastor of the convention's host church, delivered the final address, "A Challenge to Grow," Tuesday, Nov. 10.

Vital to all pastors' growth, devotional life was the topic of the 1981 conference Bible study, led by Glen Hinson, author and Southern Seminary professor of church history.

Elected Monday night, new Pastor's Conference officers are Don Mathis, pastor of Central Baptist Church, Corbin, president; Rodney H. Travis, pastor of First Missionary Baptist Church, Benton, vice president; Keith Rogers, pastor of First Baptist Church, Loyall, secretary-treasurer.

Tim Owings, pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church, Frankfort, was the pianist. Organist was Austin Roberts, pastor of Lexington Avenue Baptist Church, Danville.

Lois Jane Huddleston of Williamsburg, a gospel recording artist, provided special music along with Charles Flener, chaplain to the Jefferson County Police Department.

Music ministers meet, affirm calling at KBC

"Let it grow, let it flow," urged Eugene Sutherland, director of the Kentucky Baptist Music Association's (KBMA) chorale as he rehearsed nearly 90 members of the KBMA at the 27th annual meeting Nov. 9 at Mill Creek Baptist Church, Radcliff.

Milburn Price, dean of the School of Church Music at Southern Seminary, addressed the association on the importance and creativity required to make music come alive. He explained music has grown and must flow in our contemporary worship.

Citing Psalm 150, Price encouraged the use of music as a powerful tool in dealing with the struggles of life. "There must be a resurgence of Christian songs," Price pointed out.

Briefly tracing the history and use of sacred music from the first to the 20th century he emphasized the major evangelical movements in recent centuries have been accompanied by a new use of Christian songs.

Price continued, "What a wondrous diversity of resources we have to draw from for contemporary worship music. Let's use all of it."

Price closed his address by giving God the glory for every melody and challenged his listeners to "move toward the fulfillment of our high calling as ministers of the gospel through the medium of music."

Members of KBMA presented Eugene Quinn with a brief case and a standing round of applause for serving 25 years as director of the KBC Church Music Department.

During the KBMA business session Bruce Richardson, minister of music at Versailles (Ky.) Baptist and present vice president of KBMA, was elected president. Carl Moman, minister of music at First Baptist, Bowling Green, was elected vice president and Alan Chamness, minister of music at First Baptist, Henderson, was elected secretary-treasurer. Danny Arterburn, minister of music at Ft. Mitchell Baptist, and Dean Gray, minister of music at Hartford Baptist, were elected members at large.

Richardson summarized the purpose of KBMA as a means of "providing fellowship and inspiration along with materials and programs to help the minister in music to grow and flow."

KBREA reflects, anticipates

The Kentucky Baptist Religious Education Association (KBREA) met at Stithon Baptist Church, Radcliff, for its annual meeting Monday, Nov. 11.

Mike King, 1981-82 KBREA president and associate in the Church Training Department of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, welcomed the group. James Whaley, director of the KBC Church Services Division, spoke concerning "KBC—As I Have Seen It Grow."

Whaley said in the 1930s and 40s Kentucky Baptists were eager to grow. "We wanted strong leaders" and were willing to follow them, he recalled. In the 50s and 60s more people began to question the denomination, its leaders and programs, he said.

The 70s began the era in which Kentucky Baptists now find themselves, according to Whaley. The denomination began to design programs for the needs of particular groups such as singles and ethnics, he concluded.

Mavis Allen, Sunday School Department and planning coordinator, Baptist Sunday School Board, tried to answer the question, "Where is Sunday school going?"

"When I was 20 I could give real pretty devotions. When I was 30 I was a rip-snortin' good speaker. Now I say 'uh' a lot because I'm not so sure I have the answers," she admitted.

Providing answers to the question of Sunday school's direction, she insisted Sunday school material will have to adapt to changing morals, families and

careers.

To illustrate, she used a Home Life magazine which gave directions for a home Bible study. The Bible study material was not based on the assumption that a mother or father would lead. "It is designed for a teenager to lead two little brothers in Bible study while mommy is with her boyfriend and daddy doesn't exist."

Glenn Hinson, church history professor at Southern Seminary, spoke on "The Baptist Tradition—An Endangered Species." He maintained while many things threaten to destroy Baptist heritage religious educators can help preserve it by discovering alternative ways to teach it, conducting classes and conferences to instruct in Baptist tradition and recovering Church Training programs.

At the KBREA banquet that evening Dan Aleshire, professor of religious education at Southern Seminary, told the group, "A funny thing happened to me on the way home from Sunday school." The funny thing was "Faith has come to me."

While he had been engaged in Sunday school activities such as winning Bible drills, noticing pretty girls and drinking coffee, "a gracious God was reaching into my life in ways I never realized," he concluded.

Newly elected KBREA officers are Harold Phillips, Deer Park Baptist Church, Louisville, president; Johnny Taylor, Gardenside Baptist Church, Lexington, president-elect; and Marsha Huguley, Eastwood Baptist Church, Bowling Green, secretary-treasurer.

Graves urges Bold Missions at KFDM

The Kentucky Fellowship of Directors of Missions (KFDM) met Monday, Nov. 9 at Glen Dale Children's Home, Glendale, for their third annual meeting.

Following a tour of the Glen Dale facilities led by Glen Dale director Robert Carlin, the meeting convened. Diane Cottrell, a staff member at Immanuel Baptist Church, Elizabethtown, led three hymns and provided special music.

The KFDM elected Hughlan Richey, Little Bethel Association, president; Eugene Reynolds, Bethel and Logan Associations, vice president; and reelected Ray Cooper, Tates Creek Association, secretary-treasurer. R. G. Shelton, Green Valley Association, was presented a plaque honoring him as "Director of the Year."

Allen W. Graves, senior professor of church administration at Southern Seminary, addressed the group.

He told the audience they call themselves many titles—missions directors, associational missionaries and directors of missions. "Whatever you call yourself, you have a high calling," he suggested.

In 1963 in Pass Christian, Miss., hundreds of associational leaders reexamined the place of the association in Baptist denominational life, Graves recalled. He felt this meeting was a turning point

toward stronger associational missions.

He quoted the address offered at the 1963 meeting. "We have not come out for a wake but for a coming out party. We are not here to gather mournfully around the deathbed of an organization that has outlived its usefulness. We are here to launch new and significant programs for (the association) that will have some of its greatest years ahead."

After mentioning many of the 1963 plans Graves warned, "It's not enough to talk about our history. Several goals set in 1963 are not achieved in 1981."

Graves encouraged the KFDM to establish colleague support groups for ministers in each association. He also said the association should meet "our desperate need for doctrinal harmony. We must continue to try to find the solutions."

Concerning the association's communication task, "We must continue to call out and train a vast army of mission action volunteers for service here in the churches in the homeland and as overseas mission volunteers," according to Graves, recently returned from a year of mission activity in Nigeria.

"If we're going to be Baptists and Bible-believing Baptists, we're going to be missionary Baptists," he concluded.

Convention statistics

Presidential Appointments

The following chairmen of committees of the convention were named by newly-elected KBC president William D. Jagers:

- Committee on Committees**—David Bratcher, Henderson
Committee on Order of Business—Ted Sisk, Lexington
Committee on Credentials—John Kruschwitz, Ft. Thomas
Committee on Arrangements—James B. Lewis, Louisville
Committee on Resolutions—Harold Wainscott, Covington
Committee on Public Affairs—William Austin Roberts, Danville
Committee on Obituaries—Tom Atwood, Clinton
Committee on Constitution and By-laws—Wallace Kent, Frankfort
Committee on Nominations—Isaac McDonald, Hodgenville

Committee on Nominations

Preacher of Annual Sermon for 1982: Rollin S. Burhans, Bowling Green
Alternate Preacher: J. Howard Cobble, Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown

Executive Board

Association; Name; Term Ends
Bethel; Doug Downing, Adams, Tenn.; 1983
Blood River; George E. White, Murray; 1982
Bracken; Tom T. Prather, Augusta; 1984
Christian County; Bob Lowery, Hopkinsville; 1984
Davies-McLean; Tom Stokes, Calhoun; 1984
East Lynn; Gary Landis, Greensburg; 1984
Elkhorn; C. Hoge Hockensmith, Lexington; 1982
Mrs. Anna White, Lexington; 1984
Kenneth Underwood, Versailles; 1984
Willis T. Hood, Mt. Sterling; 1984
Enterprise; Dean L. Pack, Prestonsburg; 1984
Franklin; Ron Burdon, Frankfort; 1984
David M. Jackson, Frankfort; 1984
Fulton; Ronnie J. Wilburn, Hickman; 1984
Gasper River; William L. Cook, Morgantown; 1984
Graves County; C. Ronald Cruse, Water Valley; 1984
Guy C. Futral Jr., Mayfield; 1984
Greenup; Jerry Traylor, Worthington; 1983
Green Valley; Bob C. Hardison, Sebree; 1984
Henry County; Mrs. Alonzo Payton, Turners Station; 1984
Irvine; Lester Lee Nash, McKee; 1984
Laurel River; Seymour Wattenbarger, London; 1984
Liberty; R. Tommy Tucker, Horse Cave; 1984
Lincoln County; Stanley Stevenson, Hustonville; 1984
Little Bethel; Ralph Gill, Madisonville; 1984
Roy E. Love, Nortonville; 1984
Little River; Harold F. Skaggs, Cadiz; 1982
Long Run; Greg C. Earwood, Louisville; 1982
Henry Huff, Louisville; 1982
Sam W. C. Bell, Jeffersonton; 1983
Harold D. Tallant, Louisville; 1984
James B. Lewis, Louisville; 1984
Mrs. J. P. Williams, Louisville; 1984
James A. Hawkins III, Louisville; 1984
Joseph R. Estes Jr., Louisville; 1984
Lynn Camp; Johnny Jervis, Corbin; 1984
Mercer; Mike Moynahan, Harrodsburg; 1984
Monroe; Jerry Anderson, Gamaliel; 1983
Mt. Zion; Warren Hale, Corbin; 1984
Muhlenberg; Charles Midkiff, Greenville; 1982
Nelson; Bob C. Litton, Chaplin; 1984
Richard M. Shields, Cox's Creek; 1984
North Concord; M. A. Reese, Barbourville; 1983
Northern Kentucky; Ira McMillen Jr., Florence; 1983
Ohio County; Glenn Armstrong, Beaver Dam; 1984
Ohio River; Gean Smith, Smithland; 1982
Pine Mountain; Ted V. Bumgardner, Jenkins; 1984
Pulaski County; Richard Donovan, Somerset; 1983
Roy E. Vincent, Somerset; 1984
Severns Valley; Lawrence Hall, Elizabethtown; 1984
Taylor County; Bob E. Martin, Campbellsville; 1984
Three Forks; H. Kenneth Dick, Hindman; 1984
Upper Cumberland; Roy Faulkner, Evarts; 1984
John Lambert, Loyall; 1984
Warren; Paul M. Welch, Bowling Green; 1984
Robert F. Browning, Bowling Green; 1982

Western Recorder

Terms ending 1984:
O. G. Lawless, Bowling Green
John Christian, Hopkinsville

Clarence Benedict, Newport
H. Gary Coltharp, Madisonville

Kentucky Baptist Foundation

Terms ending 1984:
Guy Billington, Murray
John W. Kruschwitz, Ft. Thomas
P. A. Stevens, Louisville

Board of Child Care

Terms ending 1985:
Judson Lambert, Bardwell
Henry Hobson, Russellville
Isaac McDonald, Hodgenville
Donald Gowin, Campbellsville
Fountaine Jones, London

Georgetown College

Terms ending 1985:
Kenneth Denton, Ashland
Wally O. Montgomery, Paducah
Frank Steely, Ft. Thomas
Joe Priest Williams, Louisville
Donald Chatham, Shelbyville
Charles W. Midkiff, Greenville
Mrs. Roy Keith, Elizabethtown
T. L. McSwain, Louisville
James K. Pierce, Lexington

Campbellsville College

Terms ending 1985:
O. D. Hawkins, Owenton
Hobert Reynolds, Inez
George Patmore, Marion
Howard Worley, Mayfield
George W. Ransdell, Louisville
Everett Lee, Campbellsville
Wayne Gaunce, Glasgow
Hugh Smaltz, Hartford
Michael Crain, Franklin

Term ending 1982:
David McLellan, Bowling Green

Cumberland College

Terms ending 1985:
George W. Griffin, London
M. A. Reese, Barbourville
Floyd D. Price, Hardinsburg
Bill Hacker, Corbin

Clear Creek Baptist School

Term ending 1983:
Mrs. Frances Allen, Bowling Green

Terms ending 1984:
Herschel Jennings, Arlington
John W. Black, Corbin
Cecil E. Yearly, London
Roy S. Faulkner, Evarts
R. O. Johnson, Lancaster
G. T. Moody, Murray

Oneida Baptist Institute

Term ending 1983:
Earl Davidson, Brodhead

Terms ending 1985:
Mrs. J. Everett Bach, Jackson
S. Earl Rippetoe, Russell Springs
Ben Rice, Manchester
Seymour Wattenbarger, London

Historical Commission

Term ending 1982:
Mrs. Billie Emmons, Ashland

Terms ending 1984:
Larry Smith, Louisville
Jewell Barrett, Paducah
Wendell Rone Sr., Owensboro

Baptist Hospitals Inc.

Terms ending 1985:
Aubrey W. Lippert, Boaz
Bruce F. Wills, Wickliffe
Clyde F. Ensor, Louisville
Ted Sisk, Lexington
Lynwood Schrader, Lexington
James Highland, Shelbyville

Temperance League of Kentucky

Terms ending 1984:

Daniel S. Crawley III, Frankfort
E. C. Dockery, Morgantown
I. Houston Lanier, Lexington
Richard Oldham, Bowling Green
Eugene Reynolds, Russellville

Committee on Committees

Committee on Order of Business

Terms ending 1983:
Harold Mauney, Williamsburg
Bill Cubine, Paducah

Committee on Credentials

Terms ending 1983:
M. A. Reese, Barbourville
Larry Birkhead, Spottsville
Jerry Barron, Paducah

Committee on Arrangements

Terms ending 1983:
Mrs. J. Brandon Price, Paducah
James B. Lewis, Louisville

Committee on Resolutions

Terms ending 1983:
Wayne Dehoney, Louisville
Gary Coltharp, Madisonville

Committee on Public Affairs

Terms ending 1983:
Edwin F. Perry, Louisville
G. Allen West, Louisville

Committee on Obituaries

Terms ending 1983:
Southern Region: Curtis Erwin, Glasgow
Southeastern Region: Charles F. Jones, Pineville
Western Region: Wendell H. Rone, Owensboro
Central Region: Bruce Hartsell, Louisville

Committee on Constitution and Bylaws

Terms ending 1984:
David Overman, Henderson
Robert Street, Campbellsville
Charles Hedrick, Mt. Vernon

Committee on Nominations

Terms ending 1983:
North Central Region:
Calvin Perry, Alexandria
Morris Norfleet, Morehead
Northeastern Region:
Cohen Campbell, Betsy Layne
Southeastern Region:
Herbert Jukes, Hazard
Southern Region:
George W. Smith, Leitchfield
Mrs. Ronald Bradley, Scottsville
South Central Region:
Robert DeFoor, Harrodsburg
C. E. Jacobs, Somerset
Southwestern Region:
Bruce Wills, Wickliffe
Albert Judson Lambert, Bardwell
Western Region:
Charles W. Midkiff, Greenville
Central Region:
Mrs. Drucilla Highland, Shelbyville

Special Reports

Cooperative Program: Person to report: Douglas T. Strader, Somerset; Alternate: Archie Oliver, Berea
Home Missions: Person to report: Harry Hunter, Henderson; Alternate: John Fox, Lexington
Foreign Missions: Person to report: Mrs. Horace Hambrick, Georgetown; Alternate: Greg Hancock, Stanford
Conventionwide Education: Person to report: Joe Lewis, Georgetown; Alternate: John M. Sykes Jr., Ashland
Radio and Television: Person to report: LaVerne Butler, Louisville; Alternate: Bob E. Martin, Campbellsville

Convention messages



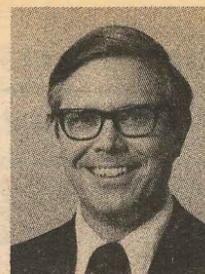
Allen



Owen



Claas



Pinson



Puckett

Jimmy R. Allen

President, Radio and Television Commission, Ft. Worth, Tex.

The evidence that the Bold Mission Thrust among Southern Baptist Christians is in the rhythm of God for his people in the world is abundant. On the one hand there is a stirring of God in the spirits of Christians of all groups. The energizing force of God's presence is calling us to a new assault on the powers of darkness. On the other hand, there is an assault of the forces of darkness. Never has the gospel been subject to more ridicule than in the very day in which presidents proclaim their faith, leading performers in the arts, sports and industry come to new experiences with God.

It is a time to call for our boldest, most creative thinking and action. It is a time to return to the basics of the gospel. It is a time to discover new means of cooperation in the family. It is a time to communicate with new urgency the good news that Christ has come, suffered, died, risen and is coming again.

It is high time to experience God. There is no substitute in investment of organizational energy for good causes—struggling to bring men's behavior into line by legislative force, arguments about the philosophical issues, for the basic experience of God.

It is high time for our nation to rediscover compassion. In a day of raging anxiety, increasing obsession with our own pain, tidal waves of greed separating us from each other, the characteristic that has made our nation great is evaporating from the land.

It is high time for boldness and strategizing to reach the world. It is time for the new technologies to create new boldness. The catalytic force of Bold Mission Thrust may well be the new telecommunications efforts of Southern Baptists.

The ACTS network with its potential for having access to every home in America in the next few years becomes a new wave of Bold Mission Thrust which is important to us not only for its primary cause but also because it lifts the level of the total availability of our fellowship to God.

Franklin Owen

Executive Secretary-Treasurer, KBC

The committee on order of business invited me to speak about my concerns for our convention and Baptist life. I have tried to target on things that perhaps most affect our success in the many and huge goals of Bold Mission Thrust.

I am concerned for the fellowship among the churches and their ministers. Are we demanding excitement and showmanship to the point of wrongly thinking that Christlike pastors are failing? Do we still realize that more important than what our pastor can do is the question of what he is?

I have a deep concern for the rate at which churches are dismissing their

pastors, or deliberately discouraging them into resigning with no place to go. I am distressed also to observe instances of the autocratic pastor whose sometimes inappropriate pulpit anger and highhanded misuse of his office as pastor provokes bad treatment from the congregation.

I am concerned about the Cooperative Program. This great program is the best way to support world missions on a systematic basis. But now we are drifting back toward the previous competitive system. Extra offerings have been added and are continuing to be added. I have a concern whether this may go too far.

Our denomination is like a great tree with its roots, trunk, limbs and branches, foliage, blossoms and fruit. The good health of the entire tree is necessary to the fruit. Let me mention our state institutions. They are very important to our identity. Bold Mission Thrust is largely an SBC program with little consciousness of our state institutions. We must work them into our state applications of Bold Mission Thrust goals and promotions.

I'm concerned also that many able churches seem content, generally, with lower aim for Cooperative Program giving than in other years. We must challenge some of our great suburban churches to see a vision of greater proportions of mission giving—more like the great downtown churches of yesterday. Suburbia is now where the people are.

I'm concerned for the future unity of Southern Baptists. Our task to proclaim the gospel to the whole world by 2000 A.D. demands the greatest measure of unity in fellowship, purpose and strength we have ever had.

Gerhard Claas

General Secretary BWA, Washington, D. C.

Two years ago I attended a reception at the Academy of Science in Siberia. The dean of the academy asked me, "How can you experience Christ today? He was just a human being and he belongs to history." Rev. 1:9-18 furnishes three answers to this important question.

1. We are lonely—but never alone. The Lord had to tell John, "You are looking the right way. You are facing the need of the churches, but you should look at me. These are not your churches; these are my churches. You are not serving the churches. You are serving me. It is not you, but me, who has the final responsibility."

2. Christ is the very center of the church. When I was pastoring a Baptist church in Hamburg, West Germany, I once had a very unusual experience in a Lutheran church. The pastor did not begin the service with a call to worship or any kind of invocation, but even before the organ played he went up to the pulpit saying, "Ladies and gentlemen, before this service begins I have to make a very important announcement." And after a little pause he continued, "The Lord is present."

It is exactly this that you and I experience in today's times. The Lord is

present in his church. He speaks to his people. He gives his spirit into the hearts of his folks and he is building up his church. Meeting with Christ means to experience his love and his mercy. But he is also sending us to present him to the people of our world.

3. Christ is the only hope for the future. It is the Lord and him only who has the whole world in his hand. No wonder the book of Revelation has become the great comforter of the church in tribulation.

John recognizes another change. The risen Lord does not have a sword in his hand but a key and what a key! It is a special key to which no second copy exists. It is the key to hell and death and the Lord says, "I will open and no one can close, I will close and no one can open." Christ is the only hope for the future because he has the key to life—to even eternal life.

Isn't this our great experience with Christ—that we have come from death to life because he has brought us into a new stand? There is no greater experience in this world than to just serve the risen Lord.

William M. Pinson

President, Golden Gate Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Cal.

Southern Baptist seminary education is in strong condition—growing and exciting. It is still the wonder of the Christian world. The growing and expanding of the seminaries is the expansion of the churches. You send them to us. We trust we send them back to you equipped to serve and to minister and to send them to the world on missions.

We consider ourselves not on the fringe but an integral part of the entire missions effort. The reasons the seminaries are an integral part of missions are interesting. There are four of them. (1) The six Baptist seminaries were started by Baptist people, with Baptist trustees and faculty that are Baptists, and Southern Baptists have been a mission people from the very beginning. (2) All are committed to the Bible as the word of God, to the study of it and the proclamation of it. Anyone who studies long the Bible comes away mission minded. (3) People in the seminaries are committed to the lordship of Jesus Christ. Christ said to go ye into all the world and preach the gospel. The promise of Christ is conditional on mission involvement. (4) The Holy Spirit indwells in the people who are in the seminaries. Those who are involved in seminary education are committed to a Holy Spirit empowered and committed life. The Holy Spirit is given to us so we can with power proclaim the message of Christ to a world who needs to hear about him.

Seminaries try to educate people. The best trained minds are the best used persons in the sharing of the gospel with the world.

Without prayer support mission activities will falter and fail, therefore there is an increasing emphasis in the seminaries on prayer. Seminaries are becoming prayer centers as well as education centers.

Missions go forward on the basis of stewardship. We simply must have a biblical grasp on stewardship and what we are to do with material things. Baptists are increasingly becoming a materialistic people. There has never been a church that has died because it gave too much to missions. There have been whole denominations which have died because they gave too little to missions.

We are all to be part of God's worldwide mission effort. You learn to do missions by doing missions. Everyone of us is part of God's mission endeavor. We must quit thinking in terms of a foreign mission or a home mission activity.

R. G. Puckett

Executive Director, Americans United for Separation of Church and State, Silver Springs, Md.

The dream lives on!

The enemies of Jesus always wanted him in a no-win situation. They did not trap the God-man in Catch 22. Rather than choose one of the 10 commandments, he combined the first four in a new commandment: Love God with your total being.

Jesus set forth a principle which gave birth to a dream. The community of faith and the corporate society were not mutually exclusive.

Baptists said it well and they said it early in our history. "The magistrate is not to meddle with religion or matters of conscience, nor compel men to this or that form of religion."

Freedom is fragile. The liberties we love, whether they are social, political, economic or religious, are subject to loss without a constant sensitivity to their importance.

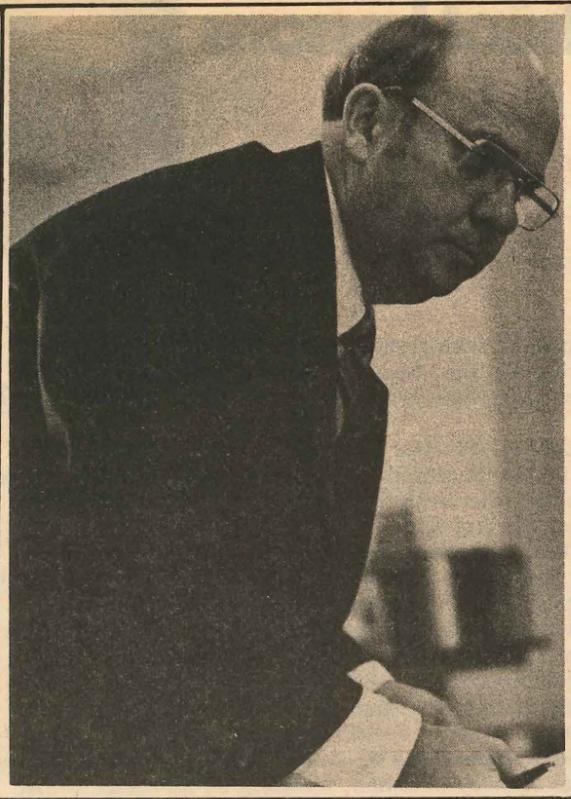
We easily give lip service to separation of church and state and religious liberty but the true principle is sometimes lost in our struggle with our own fears and prejudices.

The present posture of the new right religious groups is a break with the traditional, historical position of true evangelicalism and fundamentalism. We Baptists are in the mainstream of that tradition. Believe the Bible, preach the gospel, convert individuals and changed individuals will change society.

Nowhere in the world have Baptists prospered as we have in America. The record for Baptists is impressive in America and Kentucky but I submit to you this would have been impossible without the freedom of religion guaranteed in our nation.

Some day, we shall be ushered into that ultimate freedom. We shall see him as he is. We shall be welcomed into the great eternity with words of affirmation: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

Someday, not now, but someday, we shall know the meaning of ultimate freedom. When we gather around the great white throne, we shall sing with all of God's children, "Free at last. Thank God Almighty, we're free at last." Keep on struggling, the dream lives on!



Bill Jaggers

reveals an idealistic heart concerned for missions, Baptist colleges and student unions and world hunger upon election as 1982 KBC president

Following William D. Jaggers through a crowd of Kentucky Baptists is like following a magnet through a box of nails. Everyone converges on the man and those who don't shake his hand pat him on the back or wave.

Not the slightest vestige of plasticity clouds the personality of KBC's new president. His sincerity invites intimacy and compels attention. He is not a man of imposing physical stature yet his charisma defies opposition and one gets the impression, in his presence, that he is a much larger man.

Jaggers was born in Bedford, Ind. "by accident," he laughs. "My parents had gone north seeking work during the depression days. They just happened to be there when the time came."

The Jaggers moved back to Kentucky, living first in Bonnierville, then Upton, and on to Buffalo, in Larue County. There a young Bill Jaggers accepted Jesus Christ as his savior and, later, responded to the call to preach.

The family moved to Elizabethtown in 1945.

Jaggers was educated at Georgetown College (BA, 1953) and Southern Seminary (BD, 1957; and ThM, 1958). He and his wife, Dodie, studied in preparation for ministerial field service as foreign missionaries. "We considered it very prayerfully and seriously and talked to the foreign missions representative (at the seminary) who felt it would be good for us to get some practical experience in a mission church.

"The church at Jackson, Ky. up in Breathitt County called us and we went, spending four happy years there."

The Jackson church supported four missions during Jaggers' ministry; not all started under his leadership but continued and developed throughout those years.

In 1962 Irene Cole Memorial Baptist Church, now First Baptist, Prestonsburg, called Jaggers as pastor. The ministerial partnership was to span 16 years and result in an additional six missions.

"And I guess, having spent some time in the mountains, we decided, maybe this is really where the Lord wants us in the prime years of our lives, to be in the mountains.

"The foreign field never had the same attraction for us."

To say an attraction is not the same is not to say it does not exist. Jaggers sees his missions concept tempered by his years in the mountains certainly not quenched. He looks toward volunteer missions after retirement as "just a tremendous experience."

He cites the volunteer missions involvement of the Chester Badgetts (First Baptist, Campbellsville) in Hong Kong and the D. M. Aldridges' (Clear Creek Baptist School) upcoming trip to Zambia.

"I think those are great things. I would hope we could do that someday."

Someday will have to wait, just now. Cynthiana Baptist Church has current plans for Jaggers' considerable talents. In only four years with that congregation he has urged the church to increase giving through the Cooperative Program 20 percent. He has also promoted the adoption of an Ohio mission church

through the new "Church Partnership" program.

Obviously, missions remains a headline in Jaggers' ministry. "I would like to make that a major emphasis of where I go and what I speak and what I do as president," he explains. "I feel if I can accentuate missions—dramatize missions in any way I would like to do that.

Jaggers goes on to speculate about lay involvement in missions: "I think there are a lot of people looking for something to do. A lot of busy, busy people today want to do mission work, not study missions or give to missions but do missions.

"I'm afraid we tend to 'professionalize' the work of missions, transact it through pastors and paid staff people, and the result is the lay people never get in the ball game."

The new president acknowledges the special ability of the larger or more affluent church to enter into personal missions but he does not feel the smaller congregation should be exempt.

"The local association could be the key to small churches getting involved," he suggests. "Many, many years we've not emphasized the value of the small churches in what we are doing. Most of the pastors I know have come from small churches, many of our missionaries, too.

"There are many who come from larger churches as well, but I think a lot of emphasis on those areas is placed by our small churches. The small church might not be in the top 10 or top 20 of anything according to our statistics, but who knows what God's top 10 or top 20 might be?

"Small churches can combine their abilities through the association and find they are not exempt from any mission activity a larger church might undertake."

The convention that elected Bill Jaggers was notably free of divisive issues. Jaggers, however, realizes such issues are inevitable in a religious denomination characterized by autonomy. He gives Kentucky Baptists credit for unique maturity with regard to such matters. "There seems to be a stability here that perhaps some other states don't have. I think that's a tribute to the solid leadership we've had.

"There are some things that are major enough that an association has to stop and take notice. But when that happens I think all of us need to keep our minds and our hearts on what we are all about."

One of the "issues" Jaggers sees affecting Kentucky Baptists in the not too distant future is the issue of separation of church and state as it relates, specifically, to the college campus.

"Federal and state aid to students is simply not as available now as it has been in the past. The individual students might not have noticed it yet but they will next semester or the next.

"I would hope our Baptist institutions will remain strong against pressure to compromise because they're going to face plenty of it. They're going to hear people say, 'I would send my son or my daughter to a Baptist school if the tuition were not so high.'

And they're going to hear the government say, 'We'll help you lower tuition by lending or granting you money, dependent upon your willingness to agree to certain of our requirements.'

"And the end result is that if we offer more (at our Baptist institutions) we're going to have to pay the bill for it.

"Of course, if we ever come to a time when we can look at ourselves honestly and say, 'We really don't offer any more than a state or federally supported institution,' then we ought to get out of the business."

What then? What if the day comes when Baptists are no longer able to foot the bill for higher education? What if the cost of maintaining Christian institutions that parallel the roles of secular institutions rises beyond our material means? Jaggers sees an answer in an existing organization: the Baptist Student Union.

"Our campuses are seeing a lot more students who go home on weekends. We used to call them 'suitcase campuses' and they will help the church maintain an influence over college students because the students will probably be back in the local church every weekend. Between the weekends, however, we have the BSU. That needs to be developed and strengthened over the next few years to be able to supplement the potential loss of the denominational campus. Actually, it needs to be strengthened whether our colleges encounter crises or not. There are always unchurched students to be reached on the secular campus.

"I've been surprised to learn that the second highest cause of death among college students is suicide; and I think that statistic could be diminished if we beefed up our BSUs with, say, counselors—trained, Christian counselors. I think we ought to let it be known the counselors are there and the BSUs offer other things that students need to survive the college experience."

Bill Jaggers is, admittedly, an idealist. But his track record is astounding when it comes to translating ideals into reality.

He has a special concern for dealing with world hunger and considered the inclusion of World Hunger Day on the Southern Baptist calendar a tremendously responsible move.

"Most of our lifestyles—mine included—are really far more convenient and extravagant than they ought to be," he comments. "We Americans still have a lot to work on in this area."

He recalls a friend who served in Bangladesh during the war for independence and the visit that man made to his home some time later. "He was always thin," Jaggers offers, "but when I saw him that time, his cheeks were sunken and I could see the muscles outlined against his bones.

"I never in my life felt so fat."

There is no smile on Jaggers' face when he makes such comments. They are not intended as rationale or polite conversation. They seem to be an exposure of his own heart.

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H. C. Chiles

NOVEMBER 22, 1981

KBC Activities

Here and now

NOVEMBER

- 22 Child Care Day
- 26 Thanksgiving

Planning ahead

- 29-12/6 Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas offering. Theme: "How Shall They Hear?" Program and promotional materials available from WMU, KBC
- 30-12/1 State Executive Board Meeting. Middletown, Kentucky Baptist Building

DECEMBER

- 6 Foreign Missions Day in Sunday school
- 25 Christmas
- 27 Student Day at Christmas

Looking Ahead

JANUARY 1982

- 4-8 January Bible Study Week
- 10 Witness Commitment Day
- 18 Area Evangelism Conference. Louisville, Cedar Creek Baptist Church
- 19 Area Evangelism Conference. Lexington, South Elkhorn Baptist Church
- 22-23 Deacons, Pastors and Wives State Conference. Cedarmore
- 24 Baptist Men's Day
- 24 and 27 Prayer Emphasis for Bold Mission Thrust '82-'85 and April Simultaneous Revivals
- 25 Area Evangelism Conference. Owensboro, Bellevue Baptist Church
- 26 Area Evangelism Conference. Bowling Green, Calvary Baptist Church
- 29-30 Deacons, Pastors and Wives State Conference. Kentucky Dam Village, Gilbertsville

Frank Owen



Random wisdom

Quotations, proverbs, old sayings and scriptures have always been collector's items for me. I don't know how many we might quote if the space were unlimited, but let us share just a few that come to mind momentarily: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven." (Matthew 5:3)

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not to thine own understanding.

In all thy ways acknowledge him and he shall direct thy paths." (Proverbs 3:5-6)

"Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and in all thy getting get understanding." (Proverbs 4:7) "Be not the first by whom the new is tried nor the last to lay the old aside." Alexander Pope

"You can never tell the depth of a well by the length of the handle on the pump." Anonymous.

"I'd rather be the first man in the Iberian Village than the second man at Rome." Julius Caesar

"If as many as three people say you're a 'Donkey' put on a bridle." Spanish Proverb "There is hardly any product on earth that someone can't make worse and sell cheaper; and he who considers price only is this man's lawful prey." John Ruskin

"A penny saved is a penny earned and a promise made is a debt unpaid." Benjamin Franklin

"Blow, blow thou wintry wind, Thou art not so unkind as man's ingratitude." Shakespeare

"Don't criticize the man who limps until you have walked a mile in his Moccasins." Indian Proverb

"It is part of the calling of the ministry to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable." Anonymous

"I have been young and now I am old and yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken nor his seed begging bread." (Psalm 35:25)

"Tis better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all." —Tennyson

"Jesus said, 'I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day. The night cometh, when no man can work.'" (John 9:4)

On Tennyson's Sundial in his garden were engraved the words: "The Night Cometh."

GROWING IN CHRIST

International Series

Ephesians 4:1-16 In Ephesians four, with great tact Paul proceeded from the doctrines to the duties, indicating that the "heavenly calling" demands "heavenly conduct." Duties are based upon doctrines, creed determines character and belief is expressed in life.

The plea for Christlikeness—Eph. 4:1-10 Our Lord has bestowed upon every Christian a glorious calling. It is the will of God for all Christians to walk worthily of the high, heavenly and holy calling wherewith they are called. To do so they must have the power of the indwelling spirit of God.

A Christian's walk, to be in keeping with his heavenly calling, must be with humility, gentleness, patience, forbearance and in spiritual unity. Any exhibition of pride, any attempt at self-seeking or any bitterness of spirit are not of the Lord. God's children are expected to manifest the virtues of lowliness, meekness, forbearance and love. A consistent Christian walk is an impressive sermon.

Involved in this appeal for walking worthily are the seven unities as expressed in verses four to six: one body—the church, one spirit—the Holy Spirit, one hope—of resurrection and sharing in glory, one Lord—Jesus Christ, one faith—in Christ the all-sufficient savior, one baptism—dramatizing the death, burial and resurrection of Christ, and one God—the father of every Christian, sufficient for all needs. Christ makes these various gifts (verse seven). His gifts are bestowments of grace and are never measured by our merits.

The plan for Christlikeness—Eph. 4:11-12 Among Christ's gifts to his churches are: apostles—those who are called, separated, endowed, ordained and sent forth as ambassadors for Christ, prophets—men who have had a peculiar insight into the will of God and have received a definite commission to speak for him, evangelists— itinerant preachers who go into regions where churches have not been established and proclaim the gospel to those who have never heard it, introduce them to Christ and establish churches, pastors and teachers (two functions of the same office). Each of these divinely given responsibilities is a sacred trust. Believers are to be instructed, indoctrinated, equipped and trained for Christian service in order that the body of Christ may be enlarged and strengthened.

The purpose of Christlikeness—Eph. 4:13-16 Although the ideal set forth in verse 13 will not be fully realized until we enter the presence of the Lord in glory, too much stress cannot be laid on the fact that every child of God has a definite work to do for him on earth.

It is distressing when one fails to grow physically, but much more so if one remains for years only a babe in Christ. What a pity that so many church members are such stunted and undeveloped Christians! Would that something might be said or done to cause them to escape from protracted childhood spiritually! It is important that God's children grow into spiritual maturity and be established in the truth, so as to avoid being disturbed or swayed by any false teachers. Hearing and speaking the truth are means by which this may be accomplished. But the truth should be proclaimed in love rather than in contention.

TRUTH TO SET YOU FREE

Life and Work Series

John 8:31-40, 45-47 Slavery is a terrible thing, whether it be political, mental or spiritual. To be subjected to the type of life where one can speak and act only by the permission of another is a tragedy beyond description. Political coercion may imprison the body and intellectual error may degrade the mind, but the most abject and fatal bondage of all is that of the soul under Satan.

By nature all men are in bondage to sin and Satan. No man has been able to break that bondage by his own strength. Nor will any ever be able to do so. Apart from Christ all are the slaves of Satan. Christ alone is able to break the power of sin. Through Christ the slaves of Satan are redeemed from sin and delivered from the power of the adversary. To release people from bondage to sin was the purpose of Christ's incarnation and crucifixion.

This passage of scripture on the subject of liberation from Satan and sin came from our Lord Jesus Christ. Christ was ever a champion of freedom. He wanted people to possess and enjoy freedom. Yet, everywhere he turned he found people who were enslaved in one way or another. Sometimes they were aware of it, but frequently there were those who did not realize they were enslaved.

Christ taught that real spiritual freedom is based on truth and is imparted through sonship. True freedom comes to us through the son of God. Possessing perfect freedom, Christ claims the ability and prerogative to make people free indeed. Freedom given by Christ is the only free and permanent freedom.

Christ, the great emancipator, provides deliverance from past guilt, exoneration from the punishment of sin, admission into the family of God, and liberty from the fear of death and what comes after it.

Christ's freedom is deliverance from the bondage of the mind, will and spirit. Thank God for the liberty of the spirit, even where there is captivity of the body. God's children possess and enjoy freedom within, even when they are subjected to pressure from without.

Christ also gives liberty from the blindness of tradition which obscures the clear shining light which flows from the truth. He gives liberation from the fear and dread of the unknown, thus enabling the Christian to look with calmness upon any action of God.

Christ readily acknowledged that the Jews were the physical descendants of Abraham, but he denied that they were his spiritual descendants, and he declared that their conduct proved they were not. By their rejection of God's truth and of his son they proved they did not have Abraham's kind of faith. By their attitude toward God's son the Jews proved they were followers of Satan. By their refusal to heed God's word they proved they were not of God, but of Satan. If they had been the children of God, they would not have rejected God's truth and attempted to take the life of God's son.

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