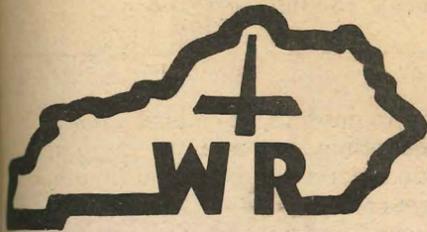


THIS
WEEK

January is Make Your Will Month on the SBC calendar, and Grady Randolph offers helpful suggestions, p. 4 . . . Forrest Sawyer is retiring next week from the KBC Brotherhood Department, but not from life, p. 4 . . . Several Kentuckians have been recently appointed to service by the Foreign Mission Board, p. 5



WESTERN RECORDER

VOL. 156, NO. 1, JANUARY 6, 1982

KENTUCKY BAPTIST NEWS JOURNAL

Surprise postage jump hits Baptist newspapers; affects Recorder

by Norman Jameson and Norman Chesser

After fighting and apparently winning a continued subsidy for second-class non-profit mailers this summer, Baptist editors learned in late December the subsidy will end Jan. 10.

The immediate effect for Baptist state newspapers and similar mailers is an increase in postage costs of at least 100% and up to 150%, depending on volume and weight of the newspaper.

"Congress lied to us," said Lynn Clayton, editor of the Louisiana Baptist Message, who is faced with an immediate annual increase in postage costs of \$126,000.

"At a time when the federal government is asking charitable organizations to pick up more of the load for the needy of society, they cripple our communication that is essential to doing what they asked us to do."

In meeting President Reagan's demand for an additional across the board reduction in domestic spending, Congress sliced nearly \$4 billion from the 1982 budget when it passed a stop-gap funding bill in mid-December to keep the government running through Mar. 31. The bill provided \$82 million less funding for the subsidy which provides preferential rates for non-profit second class mailers and was authorized by Congress when it set federal spending ceilings during

the first round of budget cuts last summer.

Had Congress appropriated the full \$696 million authorized for this postal subsidy, second-class non-profit mailers would have continued to move gradually toward paying their full mailing costs. Last June they reached step 10 of a 16-year phasing process started by Congress in 1970.

But as directed by the stop-gap funding bill, the Postal Service adjusted all preferred-rate categories except second-class within county and fourth-class library rates, to step 16 or full phase rates, effective Jan. 10. Second-class county and fourth-class library will be adjusted to step 13.

Reaction from Baptist editors varied from the feeling of Clayton to rather calm acceptance by Pres-nall Wood, editor of the Texas Baptist Standard, by far the largest of the 34 Baptist state newspapers, with 390,000 circulation.

"I don't think it's all bad," said Wood, whose cost will jump from \$9065 per week to \$22,098 per week. "The federal budget does need cutting and it's time for religious publications to pay their own way."

The Standard will immediately pass its increased costs to subscription customers, raising its church member plan from \$3.80 Dec. 31 to \$4.80 Jan. 1 to an unexpected \$5.50 Feb. 1.

Newspapers whose primary income is from subscriptions can more easily rebound from such a blow.

Others, funded completely through state Cooperative Program contributions, must wait a year before they can make a budget adjustment or ask for an emergency allocation from reserve funds.

One such newspaper is the Illinois Baptist. Editor Robert J. Hastings, who when he first heard of the changes, "just went into shock."

"We don't know what we are going to do," he said. "We have got money enough to go to the first of July. We just have to go to the board and ask for more money or cut back frequency. It boils down to that."

Particularly galling to the state Baptist newspapers is the fact that regular second-class mailers, who deliver a product for profit through the mails, will pay less per piece than non-profit mailers.

The surprise comes just after most churches have already determined their budgets for the coming year. Clayton said timing of the announcement was "more than coincidental," coming at a time when Congress was not in session.

C. R. Daley, editor of Kentucky's Western Recorder, says if he passes the costs on to his subscribers he will lose one-third to one-half of them. Passing on full costs will require raising his basic subscription from \$3.75 to \$5.75 and he said, "Every time we raise it a quarter, we lose several thousand."

"I hope I'm overly pessimistic, but I'm afraid I'm realistic," he said.

If Bold Mission Thrust goal is to be reached, trend will have to alter

Southern Baptists will have to establish new churches faster and keep existing churches alive if they are to meet the Bold Mission Thrust goal of 50,000 churches by the year 2000 says a research report prepared by the Home Mission Board.

During the decade of 1970-80 Southern Baptists recorded a net gain of only 1436 churches despite

having organized over 2600 churches, according to data compiled by Orrin D. Morris, director of the HMB research division.

"That means there were 1165 churches that either died, merged or left the denomination during the decade of the 1970s," said Morris in a presentation to Home Mission Board staff members.

When the decade began Southern Baptists had

34,360 churches and in 1980 the number had increased to 35,831.

Most of the new churches established during the past decade, 1696, were in the South, Morris reported. Yet in the South, the net gain was only 699. That means 997 of the new churches, 59 percent, disbanded, merged or left the SBC, Morris said.

The survival rate for churches in the Northeast and West is much brighter, Morris added. In the Northeast 110 new churches were reported during the decade, but there was a net gain of 136 churches. Morris explained that the net gain was higher than the number of churches constituted because 26 or more churches that were organized before 1970 had affiliated with the SBC between 1970-80.

In the West 428 new churches were reported with a net gain of 347 churches (81 percent of the total) during the decade, while in the North Central states, 367 new churches was reported for a net gain of 254.

Morris observed that the net gain of churches in a region or state is much more significant than the total number of new churches established. "If you look only at the total number of churches constituted it can be deceiving and imply we are making progress as a denomination when actually an even larger number of churches may be merging, disbanding or leaving the denomination," Morris said.

In a listing of the top 10 states with the greatest net increase in the number of churches during the decade, California, with 114, and Florida, with 102, led the denomination.

Other top 10 states in net church increase during the decade included Texas, 86; South Carolina, 85; Ohio, 81; Northern Plains Convention (four states), 69; Alabama, 68; Tennessee, 62; Oklahoma, 57; and Arkansas, 56.

On the other end of the scale, Georgia led the list of the states with the smallest net increase, reporting a net decline of four churches during the decade. It was the only state reporting a net decrease in number of churches.

Other states ranked in the 10 lowest net change in number of SBC churches during the decade were Delaware, 2; Alaska, 4; Illinois, 7; Hawaii, Minnesota and New Mexico, 8 each; Louisiana, 11; Missouri, 13; and Nevada, 14.

Daley offers prophetic words to seminary graduates

Speaking to 83 mid-year graduates at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C., Chauncey R. Daley said "your first and foremost responsibility is to live and proclaim the gospel."

Daley, editor of Western Recorder, said while his remarks were not profound, "they are real." At times he painted a negative picture, saying "the setting for Baptist preaching today is not conducive for excellence." His negativism, he said, "is a way of saying your encouragement and comfort are to be found in God and not your hearers."

The former Southeastern trustee and father of one of the graduates reminded the audience that the press of duties will often force the minister to resort to short cuts in preparation. He called for a return to the practice of the sermon resuming its "rightful place in Baptist worship services."

Hitting hard at current practices, he said "in some services with one's eyes closed it would be hard to tell whether you were in a church or a night club."

"The gospel," he said, "only needs sounding in its simplicity, proclaimed in its purity and power and declared in its demands. It is not enhanced by chartreuse suits nor plunging necklines."

Daley reminded the graduates that the economics of being a minister are not adequate to justify the call. "The truth is," he said, "some of you will have difficulty finding any church that will support you and your family." He said some of them "will have to teach school, sell insurance or automobiles or real estate . . . to support your family and reach because there's fire in your bones."

The veteran editor also pointed to the dim pros-

pect for employment of Baptist young women for church related ministries. Citing the encouragement women have received from the churches to respond to the call of God and that the convention has provided training through its seminaries, the churches have said no when offered their skills.

"It's time our denomination and its leaders addressed the matter of proper utilization of Baptist ministerial man and especially woman power. It is time the Southern Baptist Convention provides for a study which would lead to some workable plan for ministerial employment compatible with biblical teaching even though it might challenge Baptist tradition."

Daley also noted that in the area of job security, "the unpardonable sin for a Baptist minister is to become 50 years old."

He said the materialistic culture in which we live is more influential than the teachings of Jesus.

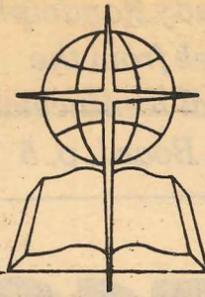
"How else," he asked, "do we explain the fact that on an average churches keep and spend on themselves 85 cents of every undesignated dollar while devoting 15 cents to the needs of the rest of the world?"

"Let's face it," he continued. "Many Baptist facilities of our day are monuments to our pride instead of expressions of our piety."

In his closing remarks, Daley said that "the fiercest battle you will have is whether to speak the word of the Lord as you understand it or to speak what your hearers want to hear—whether to be popular or prophetic. To be both is very difficult."

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

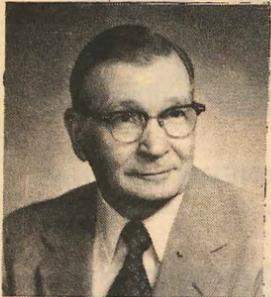
WESTERN RECORDER
(ISSN 0043-4132)
C. R. Daley Jr., Editor
James H. Cox, Associate Editor



Published by Western Recorder Inc., Box 43401, Middletown, KY weekly, except for one week in July and December. Second class postage paid at Louisville, KY. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Western Recorder, Box 43401, Middletown, KY 40243.

Subscriptions: Single \$4.99; foreign, \$5.00; church budget, \$3.75. Payable in advance, except church accounts, which require tax exemption number.

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C. R. Daley

Daley Observations

Questions from one who has the right to know

Dear Dr. Daley:

I want to express my thanks to you and Mr. James Cox for the articles in your Dec. 9 issue of Western Recorder advising of the Kentucky Baptist mission reserve fund of \$874,186 and what the executive board voted to do with it. If I understand correctly what I read, this money did not come from the Cooperative Program as these funds have already been distributed. Where did this money come from originally? Also, what was the goal mentioned in the article that was surpassed?

From the \$874,186, it is stated that \$152,890 will be given to Southern Baptist Convention causes; what causes? \$113,332 to be divided among the Kentucky Baptist Convention schools and agencies; what schools and agencies? \$257,963 for 25 Delta Oldsmobile diesels with "appropriate extras" for use by executive board staff members. This totals \$524,185, leaving a balance of \$350,001. What does the board propose to do with the money that is left over? I like your comment, "One possible wrong impression could arise from the discussion. This is that the executive board is a better steward of funds entrusted to it than the institutions and agencies. This is not so. The institutions and agencies have been so strapped financially that even with the wisest management there has been no opportunity to build up reserve funds such as those of the executive board."

For the Kentucky Baptists to have this enormous sum of money and as you say, "Most Kentucky Baptists and some board members did not even realize were in existence," doesn't conform to good business practices. I have talked to ordained ministers and others concerning this; and they, too, know nothing about the Kentucky Baptist state reserve fund.

It seems to me that in these trying times when our country and economy are going through such a severe recession which, according to many economists may get worse, this money could be better utilized in many other ways; one in particular would be to help feed the hungry in this country and abroad. On Art Linkletter's TV program this past week he showed starving children around the world and was trying to solicit \$10 per month from individuals to provide enough food to keep these children alive. I don't see how the board can justify the luxury automobiles when a much less expensive one can be purchased and serve the same purpose.

Even though big money was made from interest on the \$874,186, why was it necessary to purchase 25 automobiles in 1981? It appears to me that Rev. Whittaker was on the right track when he suggested that the board consider purchasing only 10 automobiles.

Were bids taken to purchase these automobiles? I am sure that every automobile agency in

Louisville would like to have had the opportunity of giving a competitive bid for these cars.

As all Baptists know the Southern Baptist Convention's goal through Bold Mission Thrust is to reach every person in the world for Christ by the year 2000. It appears to me that maybe some of this money could be used for this mission.

I hope that my church will take your advice and request a board member to come to our church to explain, in detail, what happened at the meeting and to answer questions from the congregation.

Joseph H. Estes, Louisville

And here is an attempt to answer that reader

Your questions are welcomed because if you don't understand the details of the special distribution, other Baptists in the pews probably do not understand them either. Here's another effort to explain and, if readers are still perplexed, we'll keep explaining until all questions are answered and all minds satisfied. The objective in the explanations we offer is not to seek approval or disapproval of the executive board action but understanding what happened.

Again, let it be clearly understood the funds in the special distribution were not 1980-81 Cooperative Program funds which were already distributed by an approved formula. They were funds accumulated over the years by the executive board and interest earned on these funds. Of course the funds were originally Cooperative Program money since that is the only source of income for the executive board except small allocations from the Baptist Sunday School Board and the Baptist Home Mission Board for specific programs in Kentucky.

How did the executive board come into possession of such an amount of money? This is an important question and the answer is a little complicated. There are three parts in the explanation. They are: (1) the fiscal policies of executive secretary Owen and the executive board; (2) the accelerated offerings from Kentucky Baptist churches; and (3) the unusually high interest rates during the last several years.

When executive secretary Owen took office Kentucky Baptists were about \$1 million in debt. He disliked debt and especially interest payments and thus led the convention to think in terms of securing the needed funds for most future capital expenditures before committing them. The rapidly increasing Cooperative Program gifts from Kentucky Baptist churches made this possible and soon Kentucky Baptists were out of debt and constructed such buildings as student centers on college campuses and paying for them when completed.

In the meantime a mission reserve fund was begun as early as 1943. The justification for this fund was to provide some way to take care of Kentucky Baptist personnel including state sponsored missionaries and other employees in the event of some crisis in which all contributions to the convention were cut off. But because convention budgets were not always met and any available money over operating requirements was quickly used for some desperate need, the balance in the mission reserve fund was insignificant when executive secretary Owen took office.

Again the accelerated church offerings and Owen's fiscal policies made more and more

funds available to put into this mission reserve fund. In the meantime interest rates skyrocketed and the mission reserve fund brought in unbelievable amounts of interest.

Most Kentucky Baptists were not aware this was happening but not because it was kept secret. All transactions were approved by the finance committee of the executive board and thus, by the executive board, though some board members likely did not even realize what was happening. The record of this fund was always in the annual audit approved by the executive board and printed in the convention annual. That such funds were accumulating was not highly publicized probably because such publicity encourages proposals to spend them.

As the mission reserve fund grew there appeared reason to determine how much was enough. It was decided by executive board action that a goal of 75% of six months operational needs of the executive board would be proper. As it turned out the goal based on last year's operation is now \$3,666,657. This was reached and exceeded by \$109,497 by Aug. 31, 1981.

The question then was what to do with the \$109,497 excess in the mission reserve fund, another \$436,832 of unrestricted funds accumulated during the year and \$327,860 interest earned on these funds in 1980-81. This made the total of \$874,186 which was used in the special distribution.

The executive board followed staff recommendations that \$436,832 of the \$874,186 total be distributed according to the Cooperative Program 1980-81 distribution formula, 35% to the Southern Baptist Convention and 65% to Kentucky causes. This 35% came to \$152,891 for Southern Baptist causes (Foreign Mission Board, Home Mission Board, seminaries, etc.).

The executive board kept 39% (\$170,609) of the remaining 65% and divided the other 26% (\$113,312) with Kentucky Baptist agencies. This specific Kentucky Baptist agency distributions were: Campbellsville College—\$16,441; Cumberland College—\$33,704; Georgetown College—\$22,030; Clear Creek—\$9506; Oneida Institute—\$6337; Baptist Hospitals—\$1939; Child Care—\$6146; Western Recorder—\$6626; WMU—\$10,602.

The executive board then added to the \$170,609 (39%) the \$327,860 earned in interest and the \$109,494 of excess from the state mission reserve giving a total of \$607,963 for use by the executive board. By way of recapitulation the \$874,086 was divided \$152,891 for Southern Baptist Convention, \$113,332 for Kentucky Baptist agencies and \$607,963 for the executive board.

The \$607,963 executive board part was allocated as follows: fleet vehicles, \$257,963; church building loan fund, \$100,000; Cedarmore capital improvements, \$100,000; Baptist student centers, \$100,000; salaries and benefits adjustments, \$50,000.

So much for where the money came from and how it was allocated.

As for the wisdom of buying 25 vehicles for staff travel, you have expressed yourself and others have the right to their opinions.

It ought to be said that action of the board did not specify what kind of autos were to be bought though the allocation would be sufficient to buy Oldsmobile Delta diesels which the first four purchased several months ago were.

Business manager Barry Allen reports he will seek competitive bids for purchase and maintenance on at least two makes of automobiles.

Oneida Journal

Stored in heaven

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



Reading old diary entries brings back many long forgotten events and emotions. They, like pictures, capture and preserve a moment in time.

During the past year, an elderly former teacher, who first heard our founder speak as a 15-year-old girl in Ottawa, Kan., was back for homecoming and gave me her diaries covering her Oneida years. She first came here by horse and wagon. Also, recent, I was allowed to xerox a copy of the diary entries of a former teacher and president of Oneida covering 15 years of Oneida history, extending back more than 50 years ago. Fascinating!

Last night I was blessed with the opportunity to read diary entries of a former Oneida teacher who has served with me. They give some real insights, some names are changed:

"8-27-75: Busy as we are here, our days are so full one has no time for boredom. Am praying for Johnny as only our Lord knows how someone feels who grew up feeling rejected and unloved. Please, Lord, help him to find the importance of himself. Help us as Christians to be more understanding and more loving. Many of us having grown up with love find it difficult to comprehend the world of unloveables. Classes were pretty good today. Lord, help me to do my best with these young people. Help them learn to apply themselves to their work and help me not to fail someone I'm responsible for."

"8-28-75: 'I'm so thankful God has given me the opportunity to be here at Oneida. Please Lord, help Mrs. ——— to be more understanding and loving. Kids don't really mind being corrected, but rejection hurts! Today Susie is on my heart. Help her, Lord, to get over her homesickness. Thank you for allowing me the privilege of the devotion in homeroom this morning. Bless what I said.'

"8-29-75: 'I too Joe's bus route this morning and it's truly beautiful seeing the sun rise over the white clouded hills. It is a joy being around the kids up Rid Bird Creek. Father, bless that boy that had to be sent home last night. Help him to know we mean the best for everyone, and we can't let them go on breaking our rules. Help me to do better with my fifth period class. Above all help me to love each one even when I must discipline them. Bless Mr. Moore and Mr. Halcomb as they lead us here. Keep our school filled with thy spirit.'

"9-3-75: Thank you Lord. Fifth period was more orderly. Please give me more love and patience."

"9-4-75: It was a day without any great troubles. I wish I could get to know each one more personally. Oh, Lord, to have more wisdom . . ."

"9-5-75: Today Nancy is on my heart for prayer. Help her to accept Christ as her personal savior, to lead her in all areas of life, fill her with peace. I enjoyed Mrs. DeJarnette's devotion this morning."

"9-6-75: Thank you, Lord, that you love us, imperfect as we are. I pray for Joey. If he could accept Christ as Lord of his life, he could not be so filled with self, but could think of others. I've failed him so badly. I pray for guidance."

"9-9-75: I'm thankful, Lord, that you hear our little prayers and you answer. I have found our prayers are stored in heaven and last forever. It is so important for us to pray. Rev. 5:8; Rev. 8:3-4. I pray for our school and our leaders, also for my husband as the head of my house. I pray for our President and the leaders of our nation, that they may be filled with God's spirit, and that others may know how great is God."

Clear Creek Comments

Why CCBS?

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



Clear Creek Baptist School (CCBS) has unique strengths to be considered by persons who are offered many alternatives in today's world. A student must ask himself why he should choose a Bible school for his education rather than another school, and why he should choose one school out of the many others available. The strengths of CCBS provide answers to these questions in the following ways.

Everything learned is related to the Christian life and service in God's kingdom. Although experience is highly valued by today's culture and academic pursuits are de-emphasized, we know that experience may also be deceptive. A Christian school is committed to the proposition that "experience is not enough." Education provides a way which helps a person know where he is and how he is to get to where he is going. Therefore, at the heart of a Bible school education is the study of God's word for each person's life.

Christians should study history, speech, literature, art, philosophy, language and the sciences in order to understand the world's people to whom it is our mission to preach. But for Christians, education must also issue in the service of preaching, teaching and other ways of communicating the gospel. Therefore, an integral part of our program here is the study of the practical ministries courses, including in-service training.

A second strength of our program is that a student is encouraged to attain goals that seem beyond his reach. A Bible school education should require him to work and stretch beyond his abilities.

A third strength of CCBS is our commitment to helping the student develop his character. Our programs require the development of self-discipline. A student is expected to be responsible, and he is allowed to reap the benefit or consequence of his responses.

For example, chapel services are required of our students. Attendance policies are strict. Students are given guidelines for Christian conduct at all times, whether on campus or not.



Ministering to the children of the 80's



Put it in the box, or—

Eldred M. Taylor,
Executive Director

In our abundance of material things, it is easy to think that happiness is found when one possesses things. But the truth of God is expressed well in Luke 12:15, "A man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth."

James Dobson, one of America's foremost Christian advocates of the family, tells of an experience which vividly illustrates the fact that happiness is not found in things. He and his family played Monopoly for the first time in many years. Shortly, some of the old excitement came back, especially as he began to win. Everything seemed to go his way, and he became master of the board. He soon owned Boardwalk and Park Place; he had houses and hotels all over the place. His wife and children squirmed as he collected \$500 bills into his pocket. Then the game was over. He had won. Mrs. Dobson and the children went to bed and he was left to put everything back in the box. It was then, Dobson says, that he was struck with an empty feeling and he got the lesson. Suddenly all of the excitement was gone. He realized he did not own any more than those he had defeated. It all had to go back in the box!

In the game of life we struggle and accumulate and buy and own and possess and refinance, then suddenly we are at the end of life and have to put it all back in the box!

Even while we accumulate material things, they really belong to God. We are only custodians. If God's ownership and our stewardship is recognized, we find an alternative to putting it in the box. Portions of it may be invested in the kingdom work of God now and it will bear fruit until the end of time. Another way to keep from putting it in the box is to plan through one's will. Thus, when the end of life comes, those things—instead of being put in the box—will be put in the work of God and will work on after one's earthly life is over. This way those things are invested in that which lasts forever.

Have you remembered the Kentucky Baptist Child Care Program in your will? Why not do it today? You also may have an insurance policy which could be assigned to the child care ministry. Plan now so you won't have to put it in the box.

The columns on this page are paid space.

Meet Cumberland College Student.



Martha Ragan

Martha Ragan, daughter of a Baptist minister, came to Cumberland College because, "I visited other Baptist colleges but God led me here."

After coming to Cumberland, Martha experienced some difficult times, including some personal "hard times". Through the help and understanding she received at this Baptist school, she was able to climb from that valley. "People at Cumberland were concerned about me and helped me. People here are loving and caring and you can feel the love of Jesus everywhere."

Although a mid-westerner, Martha has adopted the mountains as a second home. "I have very strong feelings about the mountains and the mountain people."

Her strong feelings prompted her to donate her talents and services as a Summer Missionary at Cedar Crest, a youth camp at Bagdad, Kentucky. "I was a counselor for young girls 10-18 years old. I was mother, friend, nurse, and, most importantly, Christian witness to those girls. I tried to always be there when they needed me."

Martha wants to always be there when people need her. "God has called me to be a home missionary. I feel like a lot of people haven't yet heard about God. I want to tell them and I believe you should first start at home by telling those people around you."

Martha's new home has become Cumberland College and the mountains. We are looking for others who want to make us home.

President Taylor,

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

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

What I have left . . .

by Grady Randolph, Executive Director, Kentucky Baptist Foundation

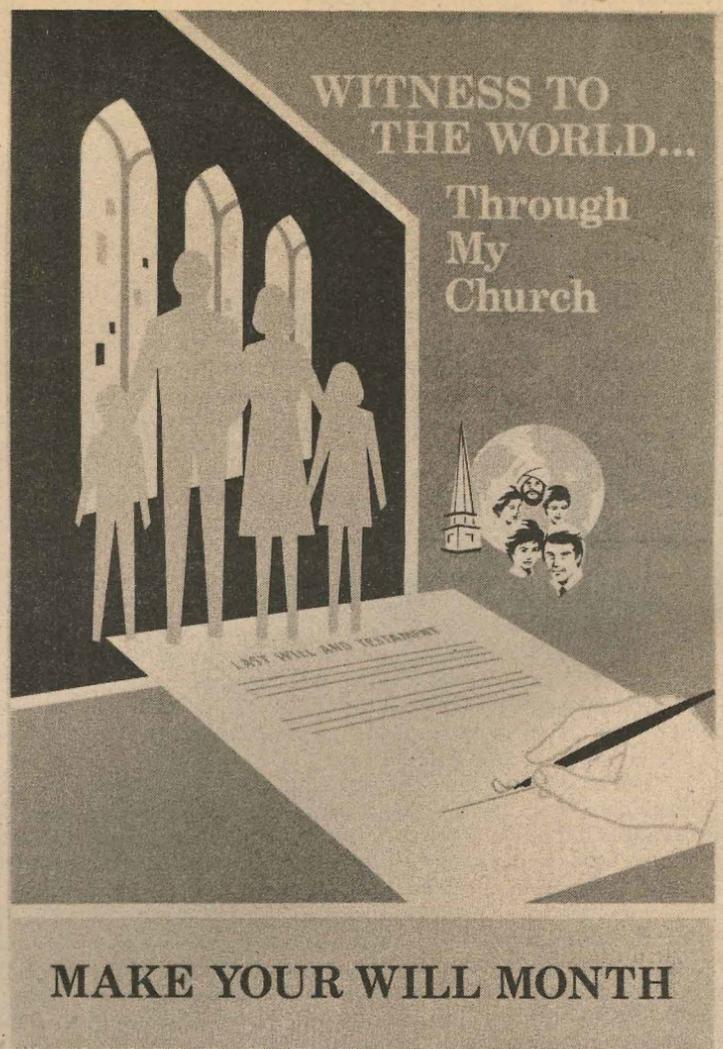
"What little bit of this world's goods I have left at my death, I want to leave for the cause of Christ. All my life I have tithed through my church to support the Cooperative Program. I would like to continue that after my death."

This quote is part of a conversation that took place with a lady who had inquired about how she could accomplish her desire. Noting that she did not have great wealth and needed all current assets for her livelihood, it was suggested that she leave her assets, at her death, to the Kentucky Baptist Foundation for the Cooperative Program through her will.

There are some basic considerations in planning a gift by will:

- (1) There must be the desire to do something for the cause of Christ. A sense of Christian stewardship is essential.
- (2) This gift must be made in conjunction with other responsibilities which one may have for loved ones and others.
- (3) A properly drawn will or other instrument should be used. Be sure the will conforms to the laws of the state and that it takes advantages of new tax regulations in order to make the gift more secure and avoid unnecessary taxes.
- (4) Consult your Kentucky Baptist Foundation about the charitable bequests that are included in your will.
- (5) Clearly identify all charitable causes, institutions and agencies by their legal names. A recent will had a bequest leaving a sum of money to the "Southern Baptist Missionary Board." Since this is not a legal name, it took considerable explanation and a court order to get this bequest for a Baptist cause.
- (6) Avoid the temptation to be your own attorney. This could be a costly ego-trip. It is wise to read and study materials about wills in order to know just what you can do. It is also wise to consult legal counsel in the preparation of the will.
- (7) Be sure that the will is in a safe place. The best place is to deposit it with the person or institution who is named as executor. An unsigned copy should indicate where the original is deposited. This copy can be left with some relative or friend.
- (8) Act now! Tomorrow may be too late.

If "What I have left . . ." is your desire, make your plans to see that it happens. Write or call the Kentucky Baptist Foundation, Box 43433, Middletown, KY 40243 for further information or assistance.



FORREST SAWYER

The only man to serve three states as Brotherhood director about to retire. Or is he?

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

The times, they are a changin'.

For Forrest R. Sawyer, and for Brotherhood work in Kentucky, a new dimension in time takes place Friday, Jan. 15. That's the day Sawyer completes 24 years as director of the state Brotherhood Department—and the day he retires.

His eyes danced playfully as he recalled that—except for three years since 1946—Sawyer has "been keeping Illinois, Alabama and Kentucky from having a state Brotherhood secretary." He is, in fact, the only person to have served as many as three state conventions in this capacity. It's a record that even Eugene Quinn, state music secretary in Illinois before coming to Kentucky 25 years ago, can't match.

Now 66, Sawyer rambled over his experiences in men's work in Baptist churches spanning nearly 36 years.

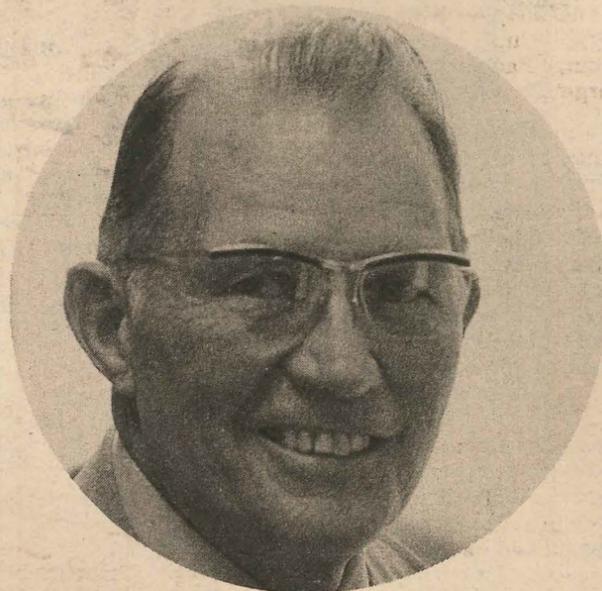
"We are so far ahead of where we used to be," he suggested, "it's downright encouraging."

"We are so far ahead of where we used to be, it's downright encouraging."

- He pointed out a study of SBC annuals reveals:
- Brotherhood leadership projected the idea of an Every Member Canvass
 - Deacon training was begun with Brotherhood leaders
 - State Baptist papers were helped by concerned men to improve their readership and circulation
 - Brotherhood was involved in getting the Annuity Board established and in putting church staffers in the program.
- "However," Sawyer observed caustically, "these things have been taken away from men who started them and who could and would do something about them."

"One of the biggest problems laymen have today in getting involved in the Lord's work is that the boards and agencies of our conventions are preacher-dominated. The preachers communicate, write and speak to themselves, and won't let a trained laity become involved," Sawyer surmised.

"If Baptist pastors would just try it the other way, we wouldn't have all the preachers out of work or looking for another church," he remarked.



"I have a conviction, however," Sawyer added. "Some day God's going to get out of it what he wants."

Writing in the January issue of World Mission Journal, published by the SBC Brotherhood Commission, Sawyer allowed: "Many more men would be involved in church work if pastors would remember they were at one time laymen."

Last spring Sawyer entered Baptist East Hospital in

Louisville with what was later diagnosed as asthmatic bronchitis. His doctor recommended two things:

"Retire and change climates."

In September Sawyer decided to take his doctor's advice—half-way—to retire, and see about the climate later.

He and his wife of 41 years, the former Iris Guyman of Salem, Ill., are parents of three grown children—a son in Miami, Okla., and a son and daughter in Jacksonville, Fla., all of whom are married. They would welcome the Sawyers to their places of residence but Sawyer isn't ready to make commitments to anybody in this regard just yet.

"I've promised myself I will work at nothing for six months," he declared.

Besides, Iris has been enrolled since 1980 in the University of Louisville's College of Interior Design. She'll have a degree by the end of 1982 if all goes well, and while "I don't know if she will ever use it, I'll be thrilled for her to have it," Sawyer injected.

Anyone who knows him well could hardly imagine Forrest Sawyer sitting on the sidelines very long, however.

In fact, he's received a number of invitations already.

The Baptist Federation of West Africa has asked him, through the Foreign Mission Board, to participate in a stewardship campaign in July and August.

The Men's Division of the Baptist World Alliance wants him to do something for them in June in Zambia.

He has a Mission Service Corps invitation to Texas. He has a few scattered dates on his calendar for Baptist Men's Day and Cooperative Program prayer breakfast meetings across the state.

And he's agreed to supply copy for a 1983 Cooperative Program Day brochure produced jointly by the SBC Stewardship Commission, Woman's Missionary Union and Brotherhood Commission.

Forrest Sawyer isn't about to retire next week; he's only shifting gears.

When asked, he summed up his plans—and his career—well: "I cannot do nothing."

Those who know him would have to agree.

Christian Education

Cumberland choir tours

The Cumberland College Chorale, under the direction of Joseph Tarry, recently completed a tri-state performance tour of Virginia, Maryland and Washington, D. C.

The Chorale gave performances featuring both religious and secular music at Baptist churches.

The Chorale is composed of 46 Cumberland College students. Because most of the students are from the eastern Kentucky area, they are referred to as "The Sons and Daughters of Appalachia," by Tarry.

The Chorale presented a Christmas concert with another group, The Cumberland Singers.

Fant to head Ruschlikon

Clyde Fant Jr. was named president of the Baptist Theological Seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland, during the Foreign Mission Board's December meeting.

His selection is contingent upon successful completion of application that he and his wife are making to become missionary associates, who serve renewable four-year terms in English speaking work overseas.

Fant, 47, is pastor of First Baptist Church, Richardson, Tex., and a former professor of preaching at Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex.

The Ruschlikon seminary's executive board nominated him and the European Baptist Federation Council ratified the nomination before the Foreign Mission Board acted Dec. 8. He will succeed C. Ronald-Goulding, who became interim president in 1980 at the age of 65.

SBC seminary numbers up

A modest 2.6 percent increase at Southern Baptists' six theological seminaries pushed total enrolment to more than 10,000 for the first time.

Including the 509 enrolled in non-credit courses campus enrolment in all categories for the fall 1981 terms is 10,058, up 251 over fall 1980, according to statistics released by the seminaries.

Southern Baptist seminaries account for 18.4 percent of enrolment in seminaries in the U. S. In 1980, SBC enrolment accounted for 18.2 percent of overall enrolment.

Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex., enjoyed the largest numerical increase among SBC seminaries with 138, showing an increase for the 17th consecutive year and putting its total at 3934, including 97 non-credit students.

Golden Gate Seminary, Mill Valley, Cal., realized the greatest percentage growth. Its increase to 628 in all programs from 590 was 6.4 percent.

Two seminaries, New Orleans and Midwestern, suffered slight decreases. New Orleans dropped seven to 1341 including 103 non-credit students and Midwestern in Kansas City, Mo., dropped eight to 520 including 38 non-credit students.

Enrolment at Southeastern Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C., increased 22 to 1268 in all programs, including no non-credit students.

Southern Seminary in Louisville continues as the second largest SBC semi-

nary with a gain of 68 students to 2367, including 248 non-credit. Of the six Southern Baptist seminaries Southern's student body contains the largest percentage of women students.

Southern's women compose 26.2 percent of the student body compared to the six seminary average of 19.2 percent. The 67 women at Midwestern compose only 12.9 percent of the student body, the SBC low.

Female enrolment at other SBC seminaries is 651 at Southwestern, 16.6 percent of total enrolment; 168 at Southeastern, 13.2 percent; 300 at New Orleans, 22.4 percent; and 121 at Golden Gate, 19.3 percent.

The six seminaries graduated 2282 students between Oct. 1, 1980 and Oct. 1, 1981. That total includes Southwestern, 843; Southeastern, 285; Southern, 576; New Orleans, 338; Midwestern, 108; and Golden Gate, 132.

NOBTS extends studies

Beginning this month New Orleans Seminary and the Language Missions Division of the Home Mission Board will effect an agreement to offer accredited theological education through Puerto Rico Baptist Theological Seminary in Rio Piedras.

New Orleans Seminary in cooperation with the HMB and the Florida Baptist Convention began Spanish language seminary work in 1978 at its ethnic branch in Miami, Fla., and later added French language studies. Spanish course work is also offered by the School of Christian Training at the seminary.

Badgett takes C-ville post

J. Chester Badgett has been named director of church relations for Campbellsville College, according to W. R. Davenport, president.

Badgett, recently returned from a one-year appointment by the Foreign Mission Board to the Kowloon Baptist Church in Hong Kong as interim pastor, was pastor of Campbellsville Baptist Church for 30 years.

Born in Middleburg, Badgett earned degrees from Georgetown College and Southern Seminary.

Campbellsville promotes 3

Danny Davis, Janet Kessler and Edwina Thedford, Campbellsville College faculty members, have received promotions according to Robert S. Clark, academic vice president.

Davis has been promoted to associate professor of health and physical education. A native of Paris, Tenn., he holds degrees from Union University, Jackson, Tenn.; Western Kentucky University; and Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tenn., where he earned his doctorate.

Mrs. Kessler will be assistant professor of secretarial science. From Campbellsville, she holds degrees from Campbellsville College and Harvard University.

Mrs. Thedford has been promoted to professor of music. She earned degrees from Northwestern Louisiana State College, Louisiana State University and Southwestern Seminary, where she received both a bachelor's degree and a doctorate.

Foreign Board appoints 69; several from Kentucky

Several people with Kentucky associations were among 62 named missionaries by the Foreign Mission Board Dec. 8 at Manassas (Va.) Baptist Church.

The new missionaries will go to Pine Mountain, Ga. this month for a 12-week orientation before leaving for the mission field.

Carlton and Cornelia Walker will work in Japan where he will be a general evangelist and she, a church and home worker. He is from Lynchburg, Va.

Born in Bowling Green, Mrs. Walker is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Graham of Bowling Green. Eastwood Baptist Church there is her home church.

She attended Western Kentucky University and has worked as a nurse intern in Richmond, a missionary journeyman in Tanzania and a staff nurse in Durham and Wake Forest, N. C.

The Walkers have one child.

Doug and Debra Williams will work in Zambia; he will be a general evangelist and she will be a church and home worker. He is a native of Richmond, Va.

Born in Danville, Mrs. Williams is the daughter of William and Mrs. Bogie of Hustonville. First Baptist Church, Danville, is her home church.

She received the BS degree from Campbellsville College and has attended Eastern Kentucky University, Cumberland College and Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex.

Jeffrey and Catherine Pound will work in the Philippines where he will be a general evangelist and she will be a church and home worker.

A Columbus, Oh. native, he holds a MDiv degree from Southern Seminary. Pound has been a chaplain at a nursing

home in Hodgenville.

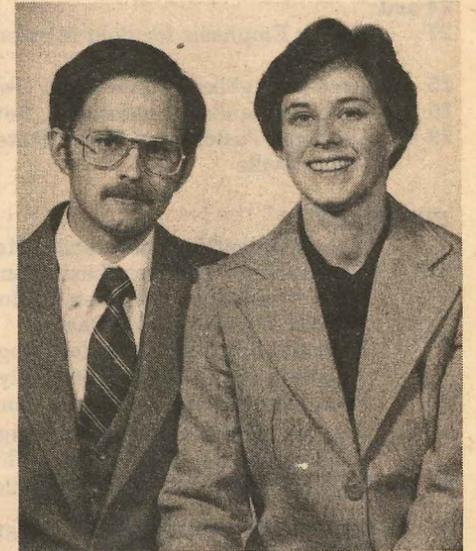
Mrs. Pound was born in Louisville. The Pounds have three children.

David and Melody Graham will work in Dominica where he will be a dentist and she, a church and home worker. Most recently he worked as a dentist in Bowling Green. They are members of Eastwood Baptist Church there.

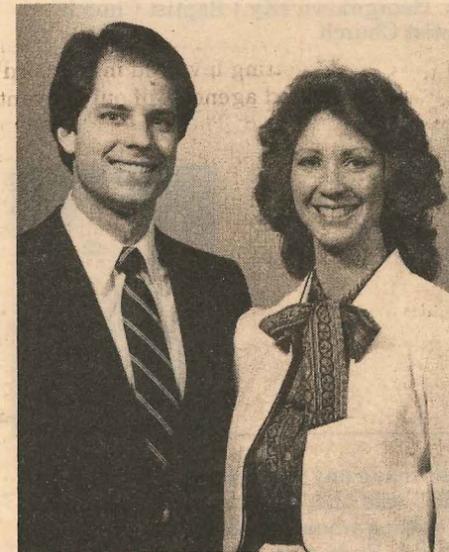
Born in Louisville, he is the son of Lewis and Mrs. Graham of Bowling Green. He received the DMD degree from the University of Louisville and also attended Western Kentucky University and Southern Seminary. He was a dentist in the Air Force.

She is the former Melody Bridges of Huntsville, Ala.

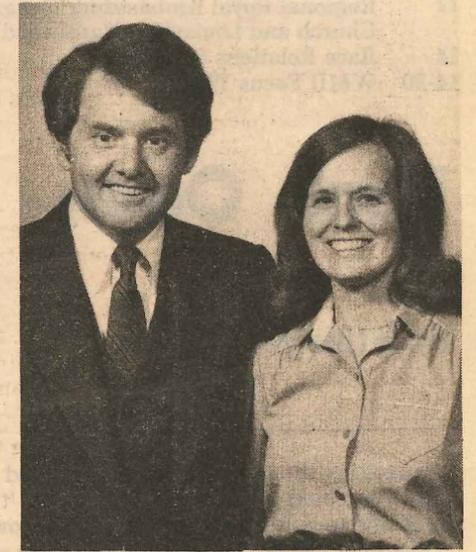
Carolyn Phillips will be a nurse in Mexico. Currently she attends Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex. Her parents are Robert and Mrs. Phillips of Verona.



Carlton and Cornelia Walker



Doug and Debra Williams



Jeffrey and Catherine Pound



David and Melody Graham



Miss Carolyn Phillips

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KBC Activities

Planning ahead

JANUARY

- 4-8 January Bible Study Week
10 Witness Commitment Day

Looking Ahead

- 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

FEBRUARY

- 1 Area Evangelism Conference. Mayfield, High Point Baptist Church
1-3 "Preaching" Seminar. Lexington, Rosemont Baptist Church
2 Area Evangelism Conference. Hopkinsville, Hillcrest Baptist Church
7 Baptist World Alliance Day
8 Regional Royal Ambassador Congress. Allen (Ky.) Baptist Church and Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly
8 Area Evangelism Conference. Somerset, Pleasant Hill Baptist Church
9 Regional Royal Ambassador Congress. London, Corinth Baptist Church and Owensboro, Third Baptist Church
9 Area Evangelism Conference. Allen (Ky.) Baptist Church
11 Regional Royal Ambassador Congress. Somerset, Pleasant Hill Baptist Church and Glasgow, Calvary Baptist Church
11 Area Evangelism Conference. Maysville, Central Baptist Church
12 Regional Royal Ambassador Congress. Georgetown (Ky.) Baptist Church and Louisville, Hazelwood Baptist Church
14 Race Relations Sunday
14-20 WMU Focus Week

Frank Owen



Do it this year

I was telling the lady whose husband had never made any religious profession that I hoped we could get him to the services. "Well," said she, "it isn't often that he feels able to get out any more, he has slowed down a whole lot lately."

The man has no apparent relationship with God. He has no appetite for worship. While he was able to get about—before he "slowed down"—he sought other things. When spoken to about his religious responsibility he always put it off. Tomorrow! Some other time!

The truth is he is probably now on the path of decline in health and vigor that is ultimately going to take him out of this world. He isn't apt to again experience the emotional stimulus that is usually necessary to prompt action on one's religious responsibility. It is hard to do the unusual when one is old—after one has "slowed down."

A relationship with God that is of sufficient strength to do much for us when we need it most must be built through the years. This means the relationship must be begun while one's wits are sharp and his receptive powers alert. These are the years of opportunity for the building—possibly one's only opportunity.

Now and then people call me to death-beds in the hope that I can lead the dying to find God before it is too late. This is usually a most impossible time. The suffering (or perhaps dull) patient has very little of his normal powers of reception and response. Then too, if I approach the subject of preparing to die the patient is upset—maybe even fatally. The doctors and nurses don't like this and I don't blame them.

I tell you, if you have felt the call of God to religious responsibility—ACT NOW. It is usually too late after you have "slowed down."

"Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them." (Ecclesiastes 12:1)

Sunday School Lessons



JANUARY 10, 1982

H. C. Chiles

JESUS AS SERVANT

International Series

Christ rightfully expects every Christian to emulate the example of his Lord in ministering to the various needs of people—physical, mental, social and spiritual. **Luke 22:24-27** It seems the desire for greatness is inherent in practically every human spirit. There was strife among the disciples as to which of them should have the place of preeminence in the kingdom of their Lord. He was grieved deeply by their selfishness, jealousy and quarreling. At the very time Christ was proving his love for others, the disciples were demonstrating their unlikeness to him by their disagreement over which of them should be the greatest. Christ did not say it was wrong to wish to be great, but he made it clear that the truly great are those who do what God wants them to do, when and where and how God wants it done. Just when the disciples should have been displaying unselfish love for one another, Christ taught them that in his kingdom ambition must always be for service and never for dominion. In the kingdoms of this world greatness consisted of lording it over others. Many measured greatness by the number of slaves or servants a man owned and dominated, but Christ taught that greatness is determined by the number of people one can serve. True greatness is achieved through unselfish and loving service for Christ and others.

John 13:1-7 Desirous of strengthening his disciples for the events about to take place, as the shadow of the cross was falling across his path, Christ chose to assemble the disciples in an upper room in Jerusalem for a period of fellowship and a last meal together before he left them.

On their way to that upper room the disciples engaged in a dispute as to "which of them should be that accounted the greatest" in the kingdom. Full of jealousy, anger and resentment, the disciples entered the room and seated themselves like a group of sulky boys. Christ was grieved deeply by their longing for self-glorification, which was such a contrast from his spirit of self-abnegation.

In that country where loose sandals were worn, and where the feet would become very dusty and dirty, it was customary for the servants to remove the sandals and to wash the feet of their masters and of the guests who entered their homes. The disciples did not have a slave to render this menial service for them, and on this particular occasion neither of them would condescend to wash the feet of the others. Thoughts of preeminence rather than servitude occupied their minds. Since it was apparent that neither of them would render that needed service for the others, Christ began to wash the feet of the disciples. Thus Christ dramatized his sermon right before their eyes, and in a way which they never forgot. They understood that if Christ could take a servant's place, they could and should exercise humility in their treatment of one another.

John 13:12-15 When Jesus resumed his place at the table, he gave the disciples an explanation of the event which had just taken place. He impressed upon them the importance and value of self-denying service. In the light of what he had done for them, they were under obligation to render loving service to one another. He taught them that a servant is not greater than his Lord and the one sent is not greater than the sender. To follow Christ means a life of Christian service and helpfulness. The real test of greatness is the ability and willingness to stoop and to serve.

HOW GOD LEADS HIS PEOPLE

Life and Work Series

To God's children who are willing to receive and to follow his leadership, the Holy Spirit reveals spiritual realities and provides guidance into correct pathways.

1 Corinthians 2:1-7 From Athens, the city of culture, philosophy, politics and spiritual ignorance, Paul went to Corinth, the city of commerce, architecture, wealth, luxury, wickedness and notorious immorality. There he did a monumental work for the Lord. Putting aside the merely human, in dependence on the Holy Spirit, Paul preached Christ and him crucified, and tried to persuade people to turn from their sins, to believe on Christ, to confess him as savior and to enthrone him as their Lord. Paul did not rely on human wisdom or eloquence, but on the power of the Holy Spirit.

In verses six and seven we have a comparison between the wisdom of the world and the wisdom of God. The former is the highest reach of man's searchings and findings apart from any divine revelation. The latter is something that is hidden from the Christless, but revealed to believers by the Holy Spirit. The foundation of saving faith is not human reason, but the power of God bringing the truth to bear upon the heart.

1 Corinthians 2:10-16 Real life begins with the birth from above or regeneration, and is sustained, matured and perfected by divine wisdom and power. God is greatly concerned about the development and fulfillment of the human personality under his supervision. The wisdom which is so desirable is bestowed by the Holy Spirit to those believers who are willing to receive it. The Holy Spirit, the revealer and teacher of the things of God, reaches into the distant past and tells us about the purposes of God. He describes the days and events when the savior was on earth in the flesh. He reaches into the future and tells us about the things to come.

The Holy Spirit knows the thoughts, plans and purposes of God, and makes them known to us as we study and meditate on the teachings of the Bible with a view to our living in accordance with it. What a joy and blessing it is to comprehend the wonderful truths which God wants to convey to all who are linked with him through Christ! The Holy Spirit makes known to us what we could not otherwise know and appreciate.

Instead of undermining or threatening faith, true scientific knowledge actually helps us to have a better understanding of the amazing and abounding goodness of God in providing numerous resources for our well being. As God's children, we are grateful for all the benefits that science has brought to our generation, and we are even more appreciative of the divine wisdom of which we have been the recipients. Upon the commitment of the will to Christ, the wisdom of God is received, understood and appreciated.

Baptist Forum

Extremely unhappy with board action

I grew up in a Baptist home and have been a member of a Baptist church for 35 years. I have spent 25 of those years as either a pastor or a full time evangelist. I have always promoted the Cooperative Program and all special offerings for the various organizations. I appreciate the programs of our state, home and foreign mission organizations. I am very mission minded and have worked side by side on the field with our foreign missionaries in Guatemala on three different occasions.

I have the privilege of pastoring a church that is very mission minded. Even though our church is small compared to many we will give over \$14,000 to missions this next year.

Having said all of this I must say I find it very hard to explain to my church the recent action by the executive board in purchasing luxury automobiles totaling over one quarter of a million dollars for the executives to travel in. Even though the money came from an overage accumulated by our various departments, I still find it hard to accept this when so many needs are prevalent in our state, across the nation and around the world. Even if the automobiles were necessary why not purchase cars that are serviceable for a lot less money?

Also, Western Recorder reported that the vote was unanimous among those voting. I have been told that only about half of those board members present voted. What about the others? Were they for the recommendation or against it? If they were against it, why did they not vote against it?

Our church voted in regular business meeting to send this letter. We want everyone to know that we are very unhappy and disappointed with this action.

L. C. Gray, Pastor
Parrish Avenue Baptist Church
Owensboro

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As this is the first letter I have written

pad-a-pew

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to you as editor I wish to first compliment you on what I believe to be one of the best state papers. I regularly read 4-5 state papers and you consistently lead out in both your reporting and in your editorials. Please keep up the good work.

Unfortunately, what has prompted my letter is dissatisfaction with your reporting of the decision by the executive board to purchase automobiles for the use of state employees. I feel that rather than report the facts you have distorted the real issue, namely, are we as Kentucky Baptists going to assume our proper share of expenses that these persons have in carrying out their work?

As the son of a state employe in another state I know first-hand the amount of driving these men do. For years they have subsidized the state convention with funds out of their own pocket. The only advantage was that they were able to write these off their income tax, but with the current salaries there was usually not that much tax to pay in the first place. Now the executive board has taken steps to assume responsibility for expenses that are ours as Kentucky Baptists and not make these persons bear them any longer.

If there is an issue with regard to the amount of money spent on mission efforts, I believe it should reside with our churches who refuse to increase the percentage which they give to the Cooperative Program and not with this decision. We as Kentucky Baptists should be proud to bear the expenses which are rightfully ours and not make our state employes bear them solely.

Robert U. Ferguson Jr., Ghent

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Disheartened, upset by board action

As usual the coverage given to the December board meeting was excellent and, while it does not give a word for word recounting, it does give enough to cause thoughtful consideration of the action taken. Some of us are aware that various funds do accumulate over a period of time which are to be administered wisely by the board, and, no matter how those funds are channeled, eventually it will not please everyone. However, in the light of the hue and cry in recent years concerning Bold Mission Thrust, such use of funds should make a direct contribution to the spread of the gospel of Christ; namely, that found in Matt. 28:19-20 and Matt. 25:31-45. To designate the major portion of this mission reserve fund to be used for staff benefits is not, in my opinion, a proper way to assure our people that we are going to fulfill the obligation of mission challenge. It looks more like a "pork-barrel" than a mission support fund.

I believe the fact that I had sat that day on the board of trustees' meeting for Campbellsville College caused my emotions to be stirred more. We were confronted with rising costs, faculty salaries not in line with other institutions, replacement of worn-out facilities or renovating existing ones—almost impossible to achieve—and faced with a serious loss of student loan and grant money in the next 18 months, which provides a major portion of income—it

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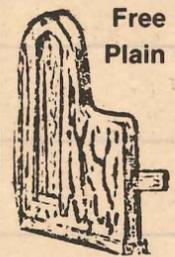
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is no wonder that a pittance of \$88,000 to be divided among the Kentucky Baptists' schools was upsetting.

It must be said that in these days of high interest on savings, good management is not involved in this accumulation of funds not needed, though asked for. The real managers are the countless churches who, in order to meet the demands of increases in Cooperative Program requests, have kept their doors open and are preaching the gospel where they are. I just pray that before such action is taken again other input can be given that will put things in their proper perspective.

As to the purchase of 21 automobiles for a total of 25, some of my people said they didn't know we had that many people who needed such transportation. Another friend, a dealer in such automobiles, asked "Who got the bid for such a large fleet?" For such a large purchase at this time in the depressed automobile industry, many concessions would be made to get this size order. The numbers indicate that such concessions have not been made. I pray I am wrong and apologize beforehand, if I am proven so.

George A. Price, Greensburg

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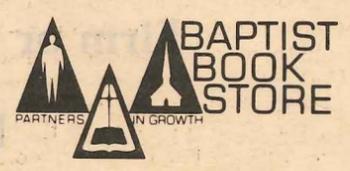
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