

WESTERN RECORDER

KENTUCKY BAPTIST NEWS JOURNAL

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Up & up

SBC totals climb higher and higher

Healthier growth than predicted in December characterized Southern Baptists' final 1981 statistical report. Totals exceeded December projections in all areas except mission expenditures.

Church Training, the one program projected to decline in 1981, showed a gain of more than 18,000 in the final figures.

Points of special significance in this year's report are that the number of SBC churches topped 36,000 for the first time; membership is nearly 13.8 million; total gifts passed \$2.75 billion; and Brotherhood enrolment went over the half-million level for the first time since 1964.

This is only the second time since 1963 that all five church programs have increased, with Sunday school leading the way by going over the 7.5 million mark for the first time since 1968. Baptisms was the only area to record a loss from the previous year, but they still exceed 400,000.

The number of Southern Baptist churches grew by 248, or 0.7 percent, bringing the total to 36,079. This continues a trend of accelerated growth in the convention over the past 11 years.

\$67 million growth slated by hospitals

Baptist Hospitals Inc. announced plans for a \$67 million capital expansion and improvement project to four acute care medical-surgical hospitals in Kentucky.

Renovation at Highlands Baptist Hospital includes refurbishment, replacement and installation plans. The hospital will replace elevators, radiographic and dietary refrigeration equipment. Plans call for installation of energy saving windows, piped in oxygen and bathrooms in areas lacking facilities.

Baptist Hospital East plans groundbreaking for an ambulatory care center this summer. Ancillary department areas including administrative support, education, admitting, central processing, dietary, physical therapy, radiology, nuclear medicine and respiratory therapy will be expanded. The hospital will construct an additional operating and recovery room.

Central Baptist Hospital plans two new additions and renovation of existing areas. Operating room suites will be replaced and 70 acute care beds for medical-surgical cases will be added.

Western Baptist Hospital will construct two floors to existing buildings for a 48-bed addition, create an outpatient surgery clinic and add two parking lots to accommodate a total of 220 cars.

Total membership in the convention rose 1.3 percent, or 182,772, to a new high of 13,789,580.

Baptisms this year, although dropping 5.6 percent from last year's total, still were 405,608, the 10th highest total in the 137-year history of the convention. The previous year's baptism total, 429,742, was the second highest ever recorded.

The convention's largest program, Sunday school, recorded a 1.3 percent, or 94,995, growth in enrolment for 1981, making a new total of 7,528,400.

The Church Training gain of one percent brings total enrolment to 1,814,179. The figure includes new church member training enrolment, which became a part of the program total this year. Final figures showed a gain of 18,560, the second consecutive

increase for the program.

Enrolment in Woman's Missionary Union grew last year by 1.3 percent, or 14,418, making the new total 1,114,461.

Brotherhood enrolment for 1981 increased 3.5 percent, or 17,234, bringing enrolment to 512,900.

1981 marked the 16th consecutive year of enrolment increase in church music. Total music enrolment is now 1,590,992, up 4.2 percent, or 63,595 from last year.

Total receipts for the Southern Baptist Convention were up by 12 percent, or almost \$300 million, to a new high of \$2,782,555,130. Last year's total was \$2.48 billion.

Southern Baptist expenditures for missions in 1981 increased by 9.9 percent, or almost \$40 million, bringing the new total to \$441,400,157.

Projected \$100 million + budget to be offered SBC, New Orleans

The first \$100 million-plus budget in the history of the Southern Baptist Convention has been approved by the SBC Executive Committee.

A \$106 million Cooperative Program allocation budget will be presented to messengers of the 1982 annual meeting in New Orleans, La. for final action.

The budget provides \$96,635,000 as the basic operating budget, \$3,365,000 for capital needs and \$6 million as a challenge phase.

This compares with a 1981-82 budget of \$93 million, of which \$83.4 million was the basic operating budget, \$3,000,600 was for capital needs and \$6,599,400 was the challenge phase.

Under the new proposal the Foreign Mission Board will receive \$47,839,300, a 17.06 percent increase over the 1981-82 allocation of \$40,866,000. The Home Mission Board will receive \$19 million,

a 16.83 percent increase over the \$16,263,000 last year. The Annuity Board will receive \$478,000, a 26.46 percent increase over the \$378,000 last year.

The six seminaries will receive \$20,520,600, a 13.26 percent increase over \$18,118,900 last year.

Other agencies would receive the following:

Southern Baptist Foundation, \$213,450; American Baptist Theological Seminary Commission, \$203,450; Brotherhood Commission, \$758,100; Christian Life Commission, \$562,800; Education Commission, \$378,400; Historical Commission, \$328,000; Radio & Television Commission, \$4,229,000; Stewardship Commission, \$344,500; and Public Affairs Committee, \$357,400.

SBC building vote at least 15 months off

Any decision on a new Southern Baptist Convention building is at least 15 months away, although half the agencies that would be housed in such a building told Executive Committee members they desperately need more space.

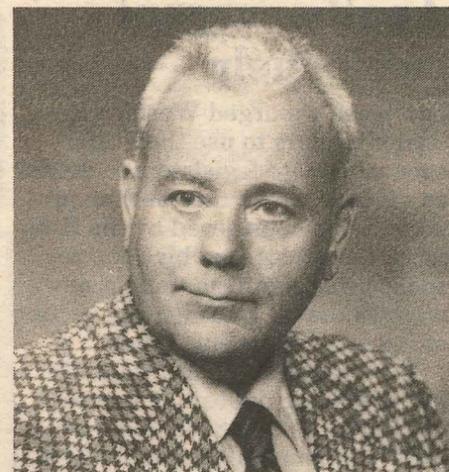
The SBC Executive Committee, in its February meeting, authorized its long range study committee to continue to develop a plan to provide adequate space for the agencies involved. The committee will report in September but it is anticipated no final action will be taken before the 1983 Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Pittsburgh.

Three organizations currently housed

in the SBC Building—the Christian Life Commission, Seminary External Education Division and Stewardship Commission—say they are woefully overcrowded.

Other organizations housed in the building—the Executive Committee, Southern Baptist Foundation, Education Commission and American Baptist Theological Seminary Commission—indicated they have no great space needs.

The Historical Commission, currently housed at the Baptist Sunday School Board, has asked to be an occupant in any new SBC building.



Fields

Heart attack is fatal to Calvin D. Fields, B-hood director

Calvin Day Fields, state Brotherhood director for Kentucky Baptists since Jan. 16, died of a massive heart attack Feb. 25. His body was cremated following a memorial service Feb. 27 at Westport Road Baptist Church, Louisville, conducted by Fields' pastor, James B. Lewis.

Hospitalized in Richmond, Ky. by an earlier heart attack Feb. 19, Fields' condition worsened two days later as he suffered a cardiac arrest. He maintained consciousness throughout most of his hospital stay, however, and talked normally with family members the afternoon before he died.

Fields, 57, had been elected to succeed the retiring Forrest R. Sawyer by the KBC executive board last Nov. 9 at Elizabethtown. He had been Sawyer's associate since May 16, 1966.

A native of Marlowe Mining Camp near Whitesburg, Fields 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 Baptist Theological Seminary in 1952.

His pastorates included New Salem Baptist Church, Salem Association; Fleming Baptist Church, Pine Mountain Association; and First Baptist Church, Liberty, Casey County Association. He had been associational missionary in Salem Association (1955-57), Three Forks Association (1961-64) and local missionary at Oneida Baptist Church (1964-66).

Survivors include his wife, the former Marian Wigglesworth of Cynthiana, Ky.; sons, David and Randy, both of Middletown; daughters, Becky, Abilene, Tex., and Carol, San Francisco, Calif.; mother, Mrs. I. W. Fields, of Louisville; and brother, Edsel Fields, also of Louisville.

In lieu of flowers the family has suggested that donations may be sent to the business office at the Kentucky Baptist Building marked for Camp Rabro Scholarship Fund.

WESTERN RECORDER

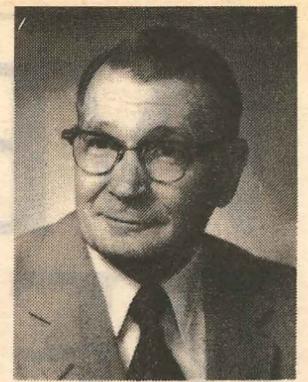
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Earnestly contend for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.
—Jude 3



C. R. Daley

DALEY OBSERVATIONS

Another urgent call for help

Last week we urged Western Recorder readers to use their influence with state legislators to defeat an off track horse race betting proposal being considered by the Kentucky General Assembly. The response was significant and it now appears the off track betting section of HB 143 will be eliminated.

Now comes another urgent call for mobilizing opposition to a second proposal which would adversely affect the moral climate in Kentucky. SB 293 would allow Sunday sales of mixed alcoholic drinks now prohibited in Kentucky.

SB 293, introduced by Senator Danny Meyer of Louisville, was filed only on Monday of last week but was reported out of committee with lightning speed and was passed by the full senate Thursday. It is obvious the strategy was to get the legislation passed before public opinion could be mustered against it. Veteran legislators could hardly recall another piece of legislation flying through in four days.

The proposal was designed at first to allow Sunday sales of mixed alcoholic drinks only in Louisville and Jefferson County but an amendment was added to allow such sales in cities like Owensboro, Ashland, Lexington, Covington, Frankfort, Newport, Bowling Green and Paducah.

There are several reasons we are unalterably opposed to Sunday sales of alcoholic drinks. The first is that all statistics show that the more available the alcohol, the higher the consumption, and the higher the consumption, the more drinking drivers there are on the roads. The lowest accident rate of any day of the week is on Sunday and the prohibition of liquor sales on Sunday is at least part of the reason. Any legislation which would put more drinking drivers on highways ought to be opposed.

There is also something patently unfair about the provision of SB 293. It would put the power to decide whether there would be Sunday sales of mixed drinks in the hands of only a few people in Jefferson County and a few more in the city of Louisville. Instead of letting the citizens decide in a referendum, decision would be in the hands of the county commissioners and the city aldermen. This is how the sponsors planned it because the majority of voters in the Louisville area would likely vote against mixed drink sales on Sunday. This

is the same strategy used to open stores on Sunday in Louisville.

Haste again is urgent. SB 293 will now be considered by the House of Representatives. It will likely be reported out of committee about the time you read these words and can be up for passage anytime after then. If the railroad strategy used in the senate is followed in the house, SB 293 could be on the governor's desk by the end of this week.

There's no time to write or to wait until the weekend to contact your representatives. Call this very day. The toll free number in Frankfort is 1-800-372-7181. Just request that your message be delivered to your representative.

A tribute to Calvin Fields

by James H. Cox

Calvin Fields was a man who loved every minute of life. He had an innate ability to discover something good in every one of God's creatures, and to bring it out where it could be beautifully magnified. In the seven years I knew him, in which we became devoted friends, I don't recall an instance in which I heard him tell an off color story or offer a cutting remark about anyone. When asked in 1975 if he aspired to succeed Forrest Sawyer as state Brotherhood director, his reply spoke volumes: "I was brought here to be Mr. Sawyer's associate," he answered. "As far as I know, that's the only thing the Lord has for me to do, and with that I'm content."

Were a popularity vote taken among the 70 or so personnel in the Baptist Building by the employees themselves, I would not have been surprised if Calvin Fields' name had appeared at the top of nearly everybody's list. His contagious smile, his booming laughter, his ability to recall names and important details about each person he met were traits that marked him as a caring individual. His characteristic western boots and hat were only symbols of the man; the real Calvin Fields was a humble servant of God, who knew only one way to live—as his maker inspired him.

Just one example of his steadfastness is typical. Several years ago I suggested a new restaurant for lunch. Having never been there before, neither of us realized—in addition to the main dining room—there was a bar off to one side.

Calvin never let me (or many others) forget I had carried him to a "night spot" for lunch! He felt so strongly about the evils of beverage alcohol, before all the Middletown food stores stocked it, he shopped only at those which didn't. It was typical of the man. He lived for his Lord in everything he did.

He was an active and faithful member of his church. Although he was frequently away on preaching assignments, when he was in town, Calvin Fields had to be awfully sick to miss a prayer meeting or a Sunday service.

He was devoted to Wiggie, his wife, and four grown children—Becky, Carol, David and Randy. While he was not wealthy in the material goods of this world, each one of these knew they had all of the confidence, aspirations and support a man could offer his family. It seemed to adequately fill that home with warmth and love.

Our two families developed a camaraderie which each one of us cherished, too. He went out of his way to be generous and hospitable to my family, and we enjoyed doing many things together. I heard him frequently say, "This fellowship we have means a great deal to me." I felt the same. My seven-year-old daughter idolized Calvin Fields; the hugs, the kisses and the ice cream cones from him were proof enough the feeling was mutual.

Today there are also tens of thousands of boys, young men and middle aged men whom Calvin Fields had a direct influence upon across Kentucky and around the world in three decades at Camp Rabro each summer. As my son returned home to share his own experiences, again and again I thanked God for the impact of Calvin Fields.

No one on this earth will know the good he did in this life. But God must have rejoiced over each soul he won to the Lord. Surely the creator is saying even now, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant . . . enter thou into the joy of thy lord" (Matt. 25:21). And each one of us is richer because Calvin Fields dwelled among us for awhile.

Guest Editorial

A pastor views the evangelism meet

by Gregory L. Hancock, Stanford

A diner, waiting to be seated in a crowded Elizabethtown restaurant, commented, "The Baptists are holding

another meeting," and those in his party merely nodded assent. Baptist meetings are not uncommon in E'town.

But this meeting, this important assembly, is different. The overwhelming number of participants represent not rank and file church members, but an esoteric body from among those members. By and large, this meeting consists of pastors.

As a pastor I am awed by the vast numbers attending each evangelism conference. For two days, men whose schedules are inordinately packed, men who can barely afford time with their families, men who bear burdens for literally dozens of families and individuals that make up their own congregations, drop everything—or at least all they can drop—in order to be on hand when Jay Brown calls the assembly to order.

Why? The answer is both simple and complex. Pastors simply have a need to worship. In most Sunday and Wednesday congregational settings, the pastor is a worship leader, not a worshiper.

On a more complicated front the pastor, in taking on the burdens of his people, often finds his own burdens impacted, confused, distorted. He needs to hear a sermon instead of preach one. He needs to come under conviction and be moved to respond, to recommit, to rededicate.

A pastor needs to sit down among a congregation of his peers and hear God's Word verbalized for his special benefit. And he needs to have the opportunity to confess his own sins.

There is something incomparably intimate about bowing to pray in the presence of others who know the unique concerns of a minister because they, themselves, are ministers. And there is more than a touch of heaven in not being able to hear one's own voice lifted in song for the thunderous praise of other voices lifted all around.

Even more than inspiration, the evangelism conference is instruction. Hardly a pastor in the house doesn't take notes on every sermon. Those notes relate to insights into long pondered scriptures or social issues or personal yearnings. More than a few of them will find their way into subsequent sermons. And the pastor will be a better preacher because he has combined his own struggles with the struggles of others and learned something that none of them, independently, knew.

The state evangelism conference is a road map for the pastor. It helps him get back on track when the business of ministry threatens to distract him. It recharges his motivational banks to the end he is better able to both prepare others and witness, himself.

Thanks, Jay Brown, for giving us this resource. Thanks Baptist churches, for giving your pastors—me included—the privilege of enjoying the event. And thanks fellow pastors. Your camaraderie in a common worship experience makes us all better evangelists.

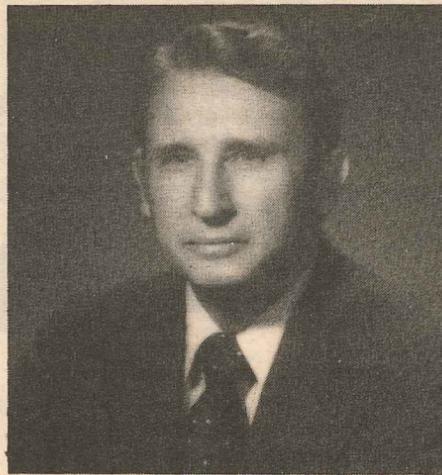
BAPTIST NEWS IN BRIEF

Charles F. Treadway [at right] pioneer in Southern Baptist vacation Bible school and deacon ministry training, died Feb. 23 following a two-year battle with cancer.

Treadway, 67, retired in 1980 from the Church Administration Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville.

Before moving to Nashville in 1952 Treadway was a pastor in his native Mississippi. While working at the Sunday School Board he was interim pastor in 28 churches.

He is survived by his wife, Ruby; two sons, Richard, of Nashville, and Jimmy, of Birmingham, Ala.; two brothers, a sister, and five grandchildren.



Reagan on his knees. President Reagan attended church services Sunday, Feb. 21, only the fourth time since assuming the presidency 13 months ago.

Accompanied by his wife, the President attended a special service at historic Christ Church in Alexandria, Va., commemorating the 250th birthday of George Washington.

In spite of infrequent church attendance Reagan continues to receive vocal support from many conservative religious leaders, most conspicuously from electronic evangelists such as Jerry Falwell, who actively supported Reagan in the 1980 campaign.

Christ Church is an Episcopal parish attended by the first President.

Disagrees with creationism editorial
I read your paper and enjoy most of the articles printed. But I must say all is not well with some writings. I disagreed with your article on the 10 commandments months back and I disagree with your opinion on creationism now. Although I am a Baptist my life is not governed by Baptist opinions which seem so logical to you. As a born again Christian and active member of a Southern Baptist church I put my trust in the truth of God's Word. For we battle daily "against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."

I believe Paul said it best when in Philippians: "not withstanding, in everything, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is preached." I believe that covers our schools, our courts, science and—yes—our churches and homes. It's easier to fight a war at your terms, home and church. But is this where it stops or where it begins?

Gary W. Flynn, Louisville

the first step in nuclear arms reduction which President Brezhnev will undoubtedly welcome as a negotiable way to achieve the reduction. Chalk me up with the Baptist Peacemakers.

Homer Wm. Smith, Louisville

1318 decisions—what a blessing!
It was my privilege to take part in a three weeks preaching mission to Nigeria Dec. 26-Jan. 16. Five of us from South District and Mercer County Associations took part. Beside myself others were: Wayne Lester, pastor of Hyattsville Baptist Church; Odell Leigh, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, Danville; Mike James, minister of education and youth, First Baptist Church, Danville; and Larry Koch, pastor of Salvisa Baptist Church.

We preached in simultaneous revivals in Yola and Gombe associations where missionaries Wiley and Geneva Faw and journeyman Rod Boatwright work in northeast Nigeria. Personnel involved were 10 Nigerian interpreters, six career missionaries, eight missionary journeymen, two MK's, six visitors from America (Rod Boatwright's father, Charles, also went) and two exchange students. There were 15 churches and preaching stations the first week and 20 churches and preaching stations the second. Results of the services showed 730 people saved and 588 rededications.

We preached in both established church buildings and in outdoor services in bush villages. We found the Nigerian people very friendly and receptive to the gospel. We were impressed with the dedication of the pastors and church leaders, and the opportunities for church growth. The Nigerian Baptist Convention and our Baptist Mission in Nigeria have a good working relationship. The cry for missionary help is still great as they see the need for advising, training, education, etc. Yet the number of Southern Baptist missionaries has decreased in Nigeria in recent years. There is great freedom for preaching and witnessing there.

Language seems to be the greatest obstacle to the gospel. Though English is the official language, and Hausa, Yoruba and Ibo the main tribal languages, there are 250 different languages spoken in the country. In Gombe there are Yoruba, Hausa and English-speaking churches where we preached. In the church at Yola where I preached there were English, Hausa and Yoruba-speaking attenders.

I am pleased volunteer mission efforts are increasing, both on the part of preachers and laymen. We all know if Bold Mission Thrust is to be a success both career and volunteer efforts must increase. My church paid all my expenses and dedication to missions on the part of my church and myself have been strengthened through my experience. I would urge other churches and individuals to become involved in similar efforts. You will be greatly blessed.

William G. Humphrey, Lancaster

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BAPTIST FORUM

I'll vote for peace

Hollanditis, the peace movement started in the mid 70's in Holland, has now spread to include all Europe. It erupted originally in the Protestant churches which we thought were dead. Now Catholics and the Pope have joined it. Peace must be maintained until the nuclear arsenals are voluntarily destroyed.

Science already knew two heinous sins before nuclear history began. First was proclamation of the proposition all matter and life began billions of unmeaningful years ago by blind chance. Second was that man is merely a mechanical object devoid of subjective reality. These were the sins that engulfed the natural world.

Sin has now covered the physical world by discovery of the interchange of mass and energy which Einstein's work made possible. Were his last years at Princeton immersed by the wrath of God in his soul?

Oppenheimer was so convicted when he said (physical) science now knows sin. Science is now so overwhelmed by sin no possible redemption is possible. Science as we have known it is doomed.

I was 600 miles away when Baptist President Truman mercilessly dropped the nuclear bombs on two defenseless municipalities. That produced unmatched horrifying terror that lingered 20 years in its cancer victims resulting in a living death.

President Reagan is now proposing

Cumberland College Student....



Valerie Gayle Curry

Enthusiasm radiates from Cumberland College nursing student Valerie Gayle Curry as she talks of completing her nursing degree and returning to her mountain home in Knott County Kentucky to minister to the health needs of her mountain people in a county without even one hospital.

Valerie says, "There are only two small clinics in Knott County and the people need improved health care facilities. I want to do all that I can to help them. I know that God will help me."

God plays a large part in Valerie's life. A newly professed Christian, she is active in the Williamsburg Main Street Baptist Church Choir and church youth activities. Although the exacting nursing program allows little time for extra-curricular activities, she finds time to do work as a member of the Baptist Student Union's revival teams, vespers, and the Baptist Young Women.

"Val" came to Cumberland College because of the excellent reputation of its nursing program. Yet, she found more. "I have been made to feel welcome here. Everyone, students and faculty, care for me as a person. Cumberland just feels like home."

Val plans to someday complete a Bachelor of Science in nursing so she will be even more qualified to minister to others. She brims with love and concern for these very special mountain people. We are proud that she is preparing herself to help meet the health needs of the area.

We are looking for others like her.

President Taylor,
Please send me more information about how I can help other students like Valerie.

Name: _____

Address: _____

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



Harper Shannon



Frank Pollard

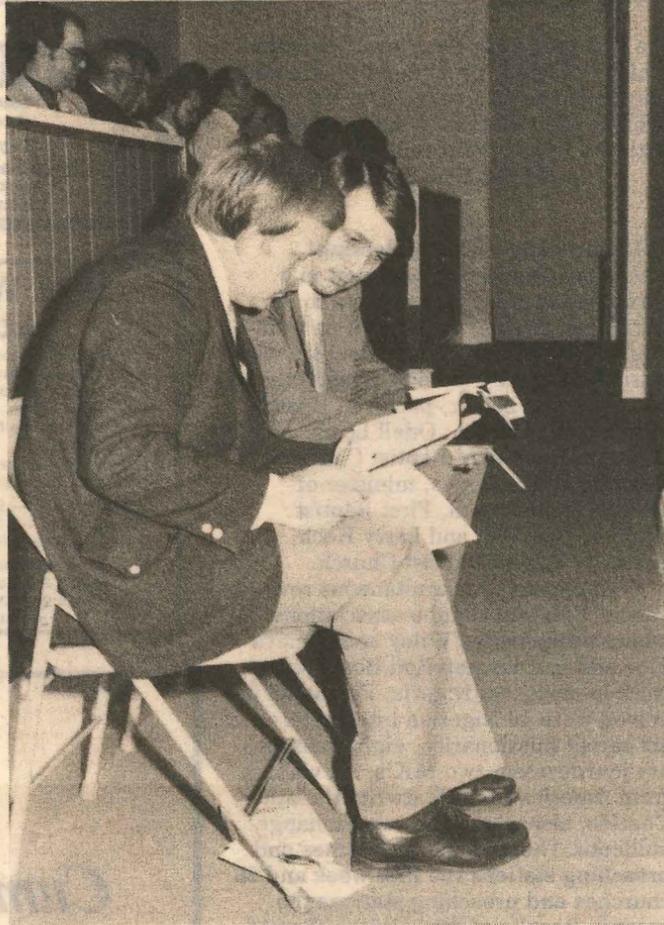


Harry Hunter



Claude Rhea

Diane St. Pierre brought inspirational music specials at the Kentucky Baptist state evangelism conference. She is a Louisville resident who has performed in opera and musical comedy in theaters of the southeast United States. Miss St. Pierre was saved at the EXPLO '72 in Dallas and has been singing in many churches as her witness.



Roy Lewis Lillpop [l] and Michael D. Miller [r], both of Poplar Level Baptist Church in Louisville, studied the Bible together during the "old time religion" preaching in Elizabethtown for the evangelism conference. Pastors were charged that sin is doubting the Word of God and were led to a commitment for personal soul winning.

HB 143 draws pastors' ire

by Rick Reynolds, Staff Writer

With a unanimous voice evangelism conference participants registered opposition to House Bill 143 for off track parimutuel gambling.

Don Embry, associate pastor of Bellview Baptist Church, Paducah, presented information to the conference about legislative plans for off track betting facilities in Paducah. Kenneth Brown, Baptist Tabernacle Church, Paducah, called for the assembly to support the resolution that termed off track betting as "sociologically degrading and repugnant, economically devastating and reversing and morally disgracing and repulsive."

Six facilities around the state are planned as part of House Bill 143 which seeks control of off track betting by making it legal.

"You can say we'll get rid of bookies but it's just not true," said Embry. "I used to run a church bus route in Louisville and saw children go hungry because parents were addicted to gambling. It's heartbreaking to see kids get on the bus and not have shoes or a coat because parents are drinking and betting."

Embry is spokesman for the West Union Association which has voted to oppose the off track gambling and plans for a betting site in Paducah. He said, "A city that is decent where basically people are God fearing can be turned around and become a place where sin abounds."

That old time religion: they preached it at E'town

by David Smith, Staff Writer

About 1500 Kentucky Baptists gathered at Elizabethtown's Severns Valley Baptist Church last week for the 1982 state evangelism conference, according to KBC evangelism director Jay Brown. "Witness to the World" was theme of the two-day event.

Conference speakers included Roy Fish, professor of evangelism at Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex.; Frank Pollard, pastor of First Baptist Church, San Antonio, Tex.; Harper Shannon, pastor of Huffman Baptist Church, Birmingham, Ala.; and Fred E. White, director of the Direct Evangelism Division of the Home Mission Board, Atlanta, Ga.

Claude Rhea, president of Palm Beach Atlantic College, West Palm Beach, Fla., led music throughout the conference.

Ken Brown, pastor of Tabernacle Baptist Church, Paducah, broke tradition by presenting a resolution concerning off track betting during the Monday night session.

Fish, who suffered an attack of appendicitis Monday night and was

unable to return, spoke on the universality of sin.

"That there is something wrong in the world few would disagree. When we inquire as to what is wrong differences appear." He said the philosopher and psychologist offer answers but their responses are inadequate to explain cruelties such as child abuse and the holocaust.

The cause of such tragedies is "sin of course," he maintained. Drawing his text from Gen. 3 he preached sin is doubting the Word of God.

"Satan was the first to question the divine truthfulness of the Word of God" as "he convinced Adam and Eve that God was the 'cosmic kill joy'." He led them to "put their own desires before God's."

He concluded the cure for this tragedy is grace through Christ.

Speaking on a theme similar to Fish's, Shannon said, "This subject of sin is broad enough for all of us."

"God reveals himself in creation and in conscience and man shall be judged by what's in his heart. Jew, Gentile, red, yellow, black and white—every man shall be judged.

"Sin contains its own seed of self destruction because God will give man up to his sin. Sin caused a breach between God and man and it will consume man. When we persist in choosing sin we become like the sin we choose." Those who continue in sin will reap their desserts "here and now," he insisted.

"Sin brings separation not only in the 'here and now' but also in the hereafter. The wages of sin are death, spiritual death, eternal death.

Frank Pollard, host of The Baptist Hour and At Home with the Bible, emphasized the need for churches and personal evangelism. "There is no such thing as the electronic church. Oral Roberts will never preach anybody's funeral over the radio."

Citing Rom. 1 he said, "As Christians we must commit ourselves to sharing with all the people we can the good news of Christ. We ought to continually return to the cross and say, 'It took that to save me'."

"We are debtors," he said. "We owe the gospel to everyone."

Pollard told the story of a young man who constantly prayed that the Lord

would lead his sister, who was very interested in foreign missions, into missions. Finally he was called into missions. "We have too many people who are saying, 'Here I am, send my sister'," he warned.

Franklin Owen, executive secretary-treasurer of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, told the congregation, "To know what a man prays for is to know about his soul."

He warned against praying for things and not listening. "Maybe if we listened we could hear God."

Owen also stressed the importance of Christian love. "We can go on without money, we can go on without churches, but we can't go on without the bond of Christian love." He preached "determined Christ-like love" is essential to Christian fellowship.

"Our fellowship will not be broken up one by one but will survive even what man calls death."

Special music for the conference was provided by Diane St. Pierre, Louisville; Kentucky Baptist Chorale; Forever His, a group from Stitton; and Johanna (Smith) and Rebecca (Richey) from Madisonville.

MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

CONGREGATIONS

Hanson honored for service
Hartford Baptist Church used Feb. 7 to honor pastor and Mrs. Wesley O. Hanson on the occasion of 25 years of service. Members expressed their appreciation for the couple with appropriate gifts including a love offering of \$1700. A. B. Colvin delivered a message titled "The Peerless Pastor."

Experienced family starts ministry
"Live Longer and Like It" (LLL) is the name of a new ministry operating at First Baptist Church, Franklin, Simpson Association.

The Triple L ministry is designed for retired members of the church. Its purpose is to provide opportunities for re-

tires to get together to minister with each other.

Pastor David Crocker said, "This name says what the persons involved in the ministry want to say. They are not ready to be shelved or put out to pasture. They are active and have a lot to contribute. They enjoy doing things together and helping meet persons' needs."

PERSONNEL

Copass leaves Paducah for Nebraska



C. Wyman Copass resigned the pastorate of Reidland Baptist Church, Paducah, West Union Association, Feb. 7 to accept a call to First Baptist Church, Bellvue, Neb.

Copass has been pastor at Reidland Baptist Church for nine years. His ministry was marked by the building of a 25,000 square foot family life center. There has been a total of 750 additions to the church during his nine-year pastorate. Total financial receipts have



Allen Winchester [l], physician at Whitley City, discussed the overseas ministry with Bill Marshall during a recent visit to the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. Winchester and nine other members of the executive board of the Baptist Medical/Dental Fellowship visited the board to discuss ways the fellowship could help the board with its overseas medical ministries. Winchester is chairman of the fellowship's service committee and Marshall is vice president for human resources of the FMB.

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KNOXVILLE, TN WORLD'S FAIR RENTALS. New 2-BR townhouse apartments, kitchen facilities. Sleep 6. 20 minute drive to Fair. **WOOLF AGENCY**, Maryville, TN 37801. 615/984-3311.

WANTED: Addresses of New Mexico State University Baptist Student Union Alumni from 1932-1981. The NMSU-BSU is planning a 50th Anniversary Reunion for August 1982 and needs the names and addresses of its widely scattered, five decades of alumni. If you are, or know of, an alumnus of this BSU please contact: Phyllis Marshall, Assistant Director, Baptist Student Union, P.O. Box 3555, Las Cruces, NM 88003. A prompt response would be most helpful. 3-17-00

TOUR ISRAEL AND THE HOLY LAND, lowest rates, two weeks for \$1,299. (1970 prices) Details call Gil Alchadeff 502-459-0660 days, 502-423-1322 evenings. 3-10-00

PRIVATE FRENCH LESSON? Learn French without toil. Newly developed methods directly from France that simplify language study and enable anyone to learn French as a living language quickly and easily. Privately tutored low cost classes will begin in the first week of March. Classes available for beginners to advanced students include: • Everyday Conversation • French Composition • French for Travelers (includes helpful travel hints) • Beginning to Advanced Grammar. Special discount for prospective Missionaries to any French speaking country available. For more information and registration contact Philippe Mompont at (502) 897-4649. 03-3-01

DEATHS

Larkin, chairman of deacons, dies
Charles B. Larkin, 69, chairman of deacons at First Baptist Church, Madisonville, Little Bethel Association, died after 54 years as a member of the church.

Larkin was Sunday school director, Church Training director and chairman of the deacons.

H. Garrison Coltharp, pastor, and Harold J. Purdy, former pastor who had conducted the wedding service for Larkin and his wife Thelma 40 years ago, officiated the funeral service.

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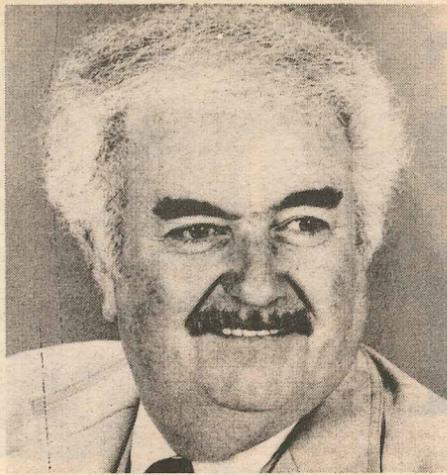
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Good morning, Captain. Bob Keeshan [at left], better known as TV's "Captain Kangaroo," speaks on the responsible use of television by families at the "Strengthening Families" seminar of the SBC Christian Life Commission Mar. 22-24 in Atlanta, Ga. Keeshan is one of 18 program personalities.

Jimmy Cox, 16, [at right] considers potential sermon topics with his pastor, Mickey Blackwell, at Monument Heights Baptist Church, Richmond, Va. Jimmy will be the church's pastor during Southern Baptists' traditional observance of Youth Week Mar. 14-21. This year's theme is "A Journey into Discipleship."



Sky king. For eight years Southern Seminary has flown messengers to Southern Baptist Convention meetings. This year they will take off from two Kentucky cities for June 13-18 in New Orleans, La.

Package prices include air fare, limo, baggage handling tips, five nights' double or twin accommodations at the Marriott Hotel and a ticket to the seminary luncheon. Fares are \$477 from Lexington; \$464 from Louisville.

A post-convention junket to Mexico City June 18-23 at \$739 per person extra is also available.

A \$50 per passenger deposit may be sent now to Airlift, SBTS, Louisville, KY 40280.

Life and Work Series UNITY IN DIVERSITY

1 Corinthians 12:14-27 Using the human body with its various members as an analogy to the church, Paul dealt with the relationship of each member to the other. In both the human body and the church each member has its own particular function necessary to the best interest of all other members. A church member as a healthy cell in the body must give Christ his rightful place, be a diligent student of the Word, be faithful in daily prayer, worship regularly in the Lord's house, be a good steward and witness personally to the unsaved.

The members of the human body are all fashioned by God in their present form and are set in their places according to his perfect will. Even though the members of the human body are numerous, they compose and belong to one body only.

The different members of the human body cooperate beautifully in performing their respective functions for which they are naturally fitted. Just as a physical body is healthy and efficient when each of its parts functions properly, so members of the church should respect each other and work with one another. It is certainly unwise and sinful for a member of a church to yield to conceit, pride, jealousy, envy or covetousness. In a church some members have greater talents and more opportunities for service than others, but all of them are one in Christ and are closely related to each other.

God has placed each of us in the church in the particular capacity which he has deemed best. Each of us has his divinely-appointed task. Each of us has the very talent which is needed for the performance of his particular duties. All of us are interrelated and dependent on the others. We can be mutually helpful and should do so. Let us avail ourselves of every means and opportunity for Christian growth and development. Let us also render the best service we can for our Lord. Let us be faithful in ministering to the needs of others as long as we can effectively do so. Let us

forget self-interest and personal glory. Let us strive with a true love and genuine concern for those who encounter difficulties, misfortunes, suffering and sorrows and then rejoice with them in their victories, blessings and usefulness.

International Series CHRIST'S MIRACULOUS POWER

Christ's power over demons—Mark 1:21-27 These verses portray a typical day in the ministry of Christ. Immediately after calling Simon, Andrew, James and John, our Lord and his disciples entered the synagogue at Capernaum. As was the custom after the reading of the scriptures, the presiding officer invited anyone to address the people. Christ began then to teach those present concerning the kingdom of God. His teaching was original, direct, novel and fresh. He spoke with earnestness, conviction, wisdom, authority and finality. He taught the word, told the people it meant exactly what it said and then challenged them to believe and obey it. This method of teaching has never been surpassed.

A demon-possessed man was in the synagogue that day. The presence of the Lord Jesus disturbed the unclean spirit in the man and made him vocal. Despising his flattery and refusing to accept a testimony from him, Christ commanded the evil spirit to hold his peace and come out of the man. The demon threw the man into convulsions and laid him prostrate on the floor. Much against the demon's will as his loud cry indicated, the demon came out of the man.

Christ's power over disease—Mark 1:40-45 As Christ went through Galilee a leper approached him in intense earnestness, knelt before him and acknowledged he believed Christ had the power to heal him. The man was not sure about Christ's willingness to heal him, nevertheless he cast himself upon the mercy of the Lord. The leper's coming to Christ was not in vain. How tenderly Christ dealt with him! Filled with compassion toward the leper, Christ extended his hand and touched him. In all probability, this was the first time since he had become a leper that the hand of a sympathetic person had actually touched him. Christ said to him: "I will; be thou clean." Immediately the leper felt the cleansing power of Christ going through his being and he was thoroughly healed of his leprosy.

Christ commanded the man who had been cleansed to show himself to the priest who alone could pronounce him cured and permit him to return to his home. By meeting the Mosaic requirements he would obtain legal restoration to society. Christ charged this man not to announce that a miracle had been performed on him thereby exciting the curiosity of the people and obscuring the spiritual work of the great physician. He did not want to be advertised as a mere wonder-worker.

FRANK OWEN

Executive Secretary-Treasurer, KBC
Box 43433, Middletown, KY 40243



THREE OLD CROAKERS

Every minister has to be prepared to receive negative criticism for the decisions he makes, the actions he takes, the things he emphasizes, the things he says and sometimes just for being what he is. The minister holds a rather public office and presides over a democracy. People have the right to their opinions and to give negative criticism, even when they are wrong, which they often are, simply because they don't know all the inside facts the minister has had to deal with in the situation. Some people are even of the nature to need "a whipping boy." Public officials: the President, Governor, Mayor, School Teacher and Minister all make good targets for this kind of people.

Whether or not the criticism is justified it behooves the minister to give some measure of heed, allowing for the fact that after all, critical people are sometimes right and the minister sometimes wrong. On the other hand, he should not pay too much heed to negative criticism. He should weigh its source and its quantity. Sometimes only a few people can make an awful lot of

negative noise.

I am reminded of the farmer who asked a hotel manager if their restaurant served frog legs. Getting an affirmative answer he offered for sale a carload of frogs.

"Good heavens" said the hotel manager, "we have no use for that many. We might buy a couple dozen pairs."

About a week later the farmer showed up with three pairs of frog legs. The hotel manager said, "I thought you were going to bring 24 pairs. In fact you said you had a carload."

The farmer explained there had been a pond behind his house and the frogs carried on so loudly at night he couldn't sleep. He determined to drain the pond and harvest the frogs, confident that there would be at least a carload.

"There weren't but three old croakers," said the farmer.

Brother pastor, take negative criticism seriously but not too seriously. The attitude of critics and the volume of criticism are not always accurate measures of the number of voices.

KBC ACTIVITIES

MARCH

- 5-6 State Library Retreat. Middletown, Kentucky Baptist Building
- 6 State Handbell Festival. Elizabethtown, Severns Valley Baptist Church
- 7-14 Week of Prayer for Home Missions and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
- 12 Adult/Youth Regional Church Music Festival. Bellevue, First Baptist Church
- 12-13 Youth Missions Retreat. Cedarmore
- 13 Children's Regional Church Music Festival. Bellevue, First Baptist Church
- 14 Home Missions Day in Sunday School
- 14-21 Youth Week in Churches
- 15-17 Senior Adult Leadership Workshop. Middletown, Kentucky Baptist Building

- 15-19 Masterlife Leader Workshop. Owensboro, Third Street Baptist Church
- 19 Adult/Youth Regional Church Music Festival. Lexington, Porter Memorial Baptist Church
- 20 Children's Regional Church Music Festival. Lexington, Porter Memorial Baptist Church
- 22 Area Vacation Bible School Clinic for Associational VBS team. Benton, First Missionary Baptist Church and Madisonville, First Baptist Church
- 23 Area Vacation Bible School Clinic for Associational VBS team. Bowling Green, First Baptist Church
- 26 All Ages Regional Church Music Festival. Somerset, Beacon Hill Baptist Church
- 26-27 Youth Bible Drill and Speakers' Tournament. Cedarmore
- 26-28 National BSU Retreat

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS

MAR. 7, 1982



H. C. Chiles

Managing editors. In the photo, Edgar R. Cooper [r], editor of *Florida Baptist Witness*, was elected president of the Southern Baptist Press Association at the group's annual meeting Feb. 16-18 in Las Vegas, Nev. Robert J. Hastings [l], editor of the *Illinois Baptist* and a former Kentuckian, was named president-elect. Lynn P. Clayton [c], editor of *Louisiana's Baptist Message*, was elected secretary-treasurer.

The annual meeting of the state editors was held in conjunction with the annual session of the Southern Baptist Association of State Convention Executive Directors. Cecil A. Ray of North Carolina was elected to head that body for 1982-83.



Rough draft. CSBCO, Committee for Southern Baptist Conscientious Objection, has urged Southern Baptist young men concerned about the issue of non-registration for possible military service to write CSBCO immediately.

It is prepared to supply materials explaining the legal rights and options of nonregistrants. For legal reasons, those writing should not state whether they have registered for the draft or not.

CSBCO is not a committee of the Southern Baptist Convention but a ministry of Metro Baptist Church, a Southern Baptist congregation in New York City. It is located at 548 Broadway, #4-H, New York, NY 10012.

HOMES FOR CHILDREN

Eldred M. Taylor, Executive Director
10801 Shelbyville Road, Middletown, KY 40243



"ORPHANS HOMES?"

Did I hear someone talking about our Kentucky Baptist Orphans' Homes? Yes, believe it or not, quite often they are called orphanages. Do you ask, "Isn't that what they are? Don't we care for orphans?"

Yes, we care for orphans when they can be found. No, Kentucky Baptists do not have Orphans' Homes but we do have Homes For Children. These are homes for children who have needs as real as any orphan but most of whom are not orphans.

What happened to the Orphans' Homes? Let me ask you, what happened to the old Rayo or Aladdin kerosene reading lamp, and what happened to the horsedrawn buggy? Times have changed and these have been replaced by the electric light and the automobile.

Yes, times have changed! Fewer mothers die in childbirth, and the life expectancy of parents is longer. There are few orphans today compared to days gone by. However, there is a very real need to minister to children who are hurting because of circumstances

other than the death of parents.

These hurting children need a home and adults around them who, as Christian models, can function as substitute parents for a time.

The children who need us today come from broken homes and circumstances which they cannot handle without help. They are dependent/neglected and often even abused children. With home and family situations that are broken these children have no foundations or anchors to help stabilize and mature them. They have little help to give them moral standards and strength against the temptations that bombard youth today.

Admittedly it is not easy to help teenagers who have been emotionally and morally scarred—or teenagers who are angry, feel unloved and therefore have trouble trusting adults. But Jesus set the example when he reached out to Mary Magdalene, the woman taken in adultery and others who had been dealt a hard blow. Your Baptist Homes For Children are meeting the challenge of Jesus to minister to the scattered, hurting and often forgotten youth.

CLEAR CREEK COMMENTS

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



"WE DEPEND ON YOU"

Not long ago someone asked me where we secure the funds to operate our school. The first answer that came to my mind was, "We depend on you!" And that is exactly right. Our support comes from individuals who know of the work of Clear Creek Baptist School and want to help.

Most of the contributions to the school come from persons like you; few gifts are what we would consider large. I personally feel this is the way it should be and thank God daily for those faithful supporters who through the years have made possible this Bible school in the mountains of Kentucky.

Clear Creek School may be considered off the beaten path by many but we leave few stones unturned in our efforts to take our message to the world and to bring interested persons to our campus. In fact, during the World Fair to be held in Knoxville, Tenn. May through October this year, we are inviting visitors to come to our campus. We can even provide limited, low-cost housing for some.

Occasionally visitors to our campus remark about the intensity of our students. They are genuinely interested in their class work; absences are minimal and tests are rarely missed. That is something often not found at other institutions.

You may be asking, "If Clear Creek School depends on me, how can I help?" You can help in a number of ways. Let me list a few:

You can help by telling others about us. Prospective students often come at the suggestion of someone like you. Visitors to the campus frequently are here because someone told them about us and support of the program is sometimes at the urging of a friend.

You can help by writing for more information to share in church services. We can provide a speaker, if you wish. We can send a film, slide presentation or printed materials that tell the story of our work here.

You can help by including us in your financial planning through regular contributions, inclusion in wills and by making other gifts of food and clothing.

ONEIDA JOURNAL

Barkley Moore, President
Oneida Baptist Institute, Oneida, KY 40972

FROM THE AMAZON TO ONEIDA



Ethel was born on a boat in the middle of Brazil's Amazon River. She was born without any medical assistance except that of her maternal grandmother and her father, Eduardo Lessa.

So came into the world one of the most vivacious senior girls we have at Oneida. When Ethel came to us she spoke only her native Portuguese. Today she also speaks charming Kentucky mountain English, and has picked up Spanish as well in our Spanish class. (We also teach French.) Even when Ethel could not speak English she made friends. A smile, like love, needs no interpreter. It is understood in every language under the sun.

Her father, Rev. Eduardo Lessa, is well remembered and loved by hundreds of Georgetown and Southern Seminary alumni, as he attended those schools 1948-52. For 30 years he has now preached the gospel of our Lord

Jesus Christ in the jungles of the Lower Amazon River. The Parintins Baptist Church and School, serving grades 1-12, are on a large island in the great Amazon River. Bro. Lessa is pastor, president, teacher, a jack-of-all-trades.

Ethel is the only daughter and middle child. After graduation here she will go to Memphis to receive training as a registered nurse. She will then return to Brazil for training as a medical doctor. She will rejoin her father and mother "to continue this work that our Lord put in our hearts and in our hands to do for Him."

Ethel's father visited Oneida at the 1971 Oneida graduation. A schoolmate, David Jackson, was then serving as Oneida's president. (As a boy growing up at Oneida I saw Mr. Jackson's slides many times of his trip down the Amazon and was inspired by his moving account of the life and the work of

Eduardo Lessa.) Ten years later we accepted Ethel on a full scholarship. Through foreign students from 12 nations presently enrolled at Oneida we are also involved in foreign missions as well as home missions, with students from 20 states and state missions with students from every part of Kentucky.

One of our 1951 graduates, Mrs. Jacqueline Gurnette Shelton of Lexington, has provided a home for Ethel to visit on our school "breaks." Jacky and her children have visited the Lessa family in the Amazon and have supported their work for many years. What a small world we are! How wonderful it is to be in the will of God and allow him to use us for his purposes. Look at all these with Oneida "ties" and how their paths have crossed in the Amazon.

In Ethel's words she can "make music with everything that makes sounds." Every night she plays the

guitar for the prayer-and-praise service of our students in the Oneida Baptist Church. This service has been held nightly for nearly one year in addition to the daily morning chapel attended by all students and teachers. Very active in Oneida's Baptist student union, Ethel has been appointed to do summer mission work in southeastern U. S. under the auspices of the state BSU.

The Lessas have written: "We don't know how to express our gratitude for what you are doing for Ethel. We know God has some special plan for her life here in the Amazon Valley. She is very happy and thinks that Oneida is the best place in this world. We want you to have Ethel Lee as your daughter too, and hope you'll be able to come visit us when Dr. James Hatley, pastor, Second Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., comes to dedicate a building for blind children."

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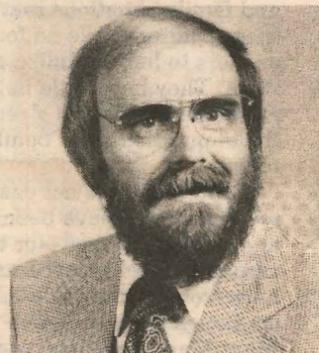
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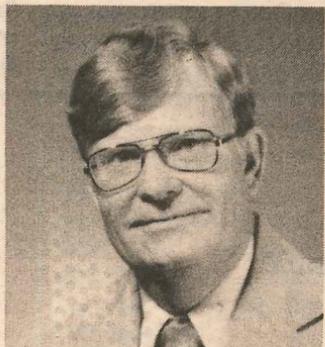
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