

Proposal could slow SBC increases

by James H. Cox, Associate Editor

The Kentucky Baptist Convention's executive board will recommend to the convention a departure from a previously adopted plan to send 40% of the state's Cooperative Program income to the Southern Baptist Convention by fiscal year 1991-92. While the change would not decrease contributions to SBC agencies and institutions, it could slow the rate by which increases are made toward achieving the 40% goal.

The recommendation of the 169-member board ties future SBC increases above 38.75%—a 1989-90 percentage previously adopted by the convention—to the giving pattern of nearly 2300 Kentucky Baptist congregations.

The proposed change will be presented to the convention in annual session Nov. 14-16 meeting at the Frankfort (Ky.) Civic Center.

Briefly stated, the recommendation reads: *The percentage distribution of Cooperative Program funds through the SBC for the budget years 1990-91 and thereafter, until the 40% level is attained, (will) be increased by the same number of percentage points as the increase in the total Cooperative Program as a percentage of total undesignated church receipts as reported by all KBC churches on Uniform Church Letters (UCL).*

If adopted, there will be a two-year lag between the UCL year and the budget year to accommodate the convention's budget cycle. The fiscal year begins Sept. 1 and ends Aug. 31.

Meeting at Cedarmore Baptist Assembly, near Bagdad, Ky., May 8-9, the executive board agreed that the percentage going to the SBC in any budget year will not decline except by its action.

The decision is an effort by the executive board to provide relief for its own programs of work. It was pointed out that—in light of significantly declining giving patterns by Kentucky Baptists—executive board programs have suffered while the convention-mandated goal of shifting from 35 to 40% of contributions to the SBC agencies and institutions has been pursued on schedule.



The KBC executive board met May 8-9 at Cedarmore Baptist Assembly and agreed to recommend a new plan to achieve a 60/40 KBC/SBC distribution of funds.

Photograph by Greg Hancock

"We've reached the place where we have no where else to expand and we need a little breathing room," said William W. Marshall, KBC executive secretary-treasurer. The matter was brought to the executive board as a recommendation of its business and finance committee.

Board members debated the issue thoroughly.

Speaking against it, a board member commented, "I don't see us having made the same kinds of sacrifices the Foreign Mission Board has made" (due to giving shortfalls).

A business and finance committee member answered, "To say to the churches that we will increase our percentage of giving to the SBC as you increase your gifts to the Cooperative Program should be a challenge to them to do it."

Yet another: "Our (executive board) programs had to bite the bullet more than our churches have. I don't think we need to feel negative or bad about it. We're doing the best we can and better than some."

Another board member declared that the action would send a message back to the churches that "we should keep more dollars at home" to build more buildings, etc., rather than sending them to Middletown. "It may be fiscally very sound," said he, "but spiritually, I question it."

Yet another summarized it: "You can't give what you ain't got. We need to give as we get and we need to go back to our churches (with a plea for more help)."

Still another rationalized: "If we don't strengthen churches in Kentucky then there will be fewer and fewer dollars going to missions outside Kentucky."

Finally, another member of the business and finance committee declared that "no stone was left unturned" in exploring options. While he said he didn't expect board members to "buy this outright" he suggested that it offered a "spiritual concept that is positive."

Although there were others waiting to address the issue, the question was called for at that juncture. All persons waiting had spoken at least once. The motion passed overwhelmingly.

The following morning the executive

board called for further study by its business and finance committee. A motion was adopted which asked the committee, if possible, to find a way to also tie the growth in the SBC percentage to growth in total Cooperative Program dollars. The study is to be completed by the May 1990 executive board meeting.

In other action, the executive board:

- Completed details of a \$19.1 million KBC operating budget for 1989-90, an increase of 3.7% over the current \$18.5 million figure.

- Agreed, due to fluctuating giving patterns, to delay finalizing projected dollar goals for 1990-91, to be recommended to the convention in November.

- OK'd, without opposition, a motion to ask the administrative committee to consider the feasibility of a program of ministry to retarded persons. The measure calls for providing trained consultants for group homes and adult day care centers where justified, plus a handbook for developing mentally retarded program in churches. Resource persons will be trained by KBC staff members.

- Raised weekly camp fees at the as-

semblies, effective June 1, 1990, as follows: Royal Ambassador and Girls in Action camps, from \$57 to \$60; youth camps, from \$68 to \$72 in Cedarmore's Boone Lodge and Jonathan Creek's air conditioned facility, and from \$60 to \$64 in basic quarters. A "week" consists of four nights' lodging plus 12 meals.

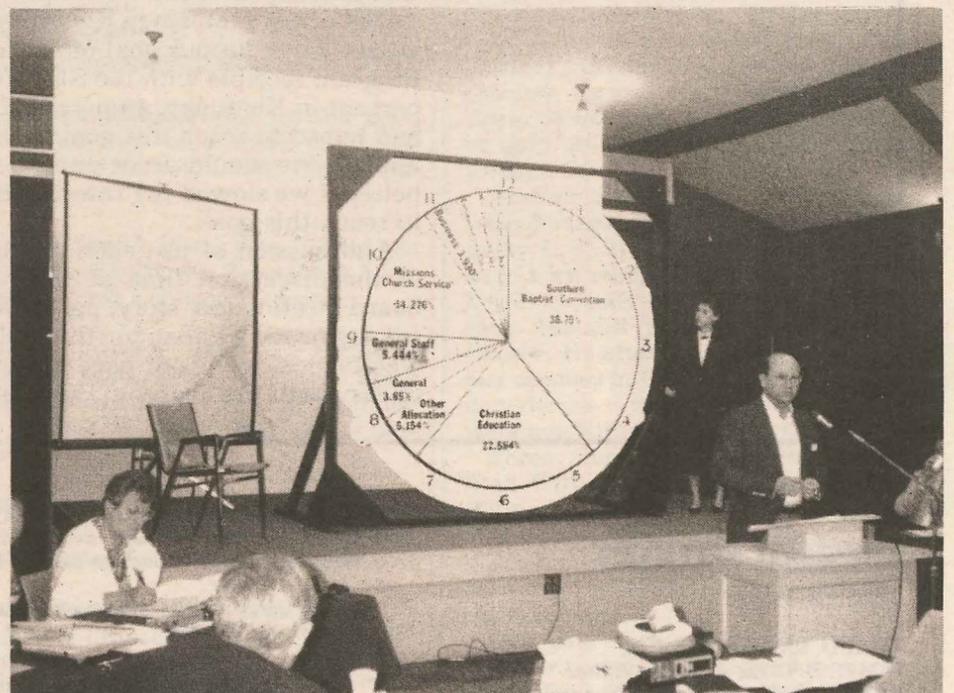
- Approved a resolution which will encourage greater attendance by executive board members at board meetings.

- Honored two recently retired executive board employees—Marshall Phillips, Cedarmore manager, and George Gray, Jonathan Creek Assembly manager—and recognized 10 others on their service anniversaries: Mikel Robinson, campus minister, Kentucky State University, 10 years; Ralph Hopkins, associate, Student Department, 15 years; Clay Mulford, campus minister, Western Kentucky University, 15 years; Bill Rogers, director, Minister-Church Support Division, 15 years; Edward Satterley, grounds and maintenance worker, Cedarmore, 15 years; G. Thomas Smoot, associate, Student Department, 15 years; Ella Mae Young, administrative secretary, Communications Division, 15 years; C. Vernon Cole, director, Office of Resource Development, 20 years; Shirley Haynes, office secretary, Accounting Services Department, 20 years; Samuel Satterley, foreman, Cedarmore, 25 years.

- Listened to a stirring challenge by executive secretary-treasurer William W. Marshall, whose comments are carried elsewhere in this issue of Western Recorder.

Said Marshall: "Never before have there been more opportunities to congregationalize and disciple than now. I believe if we do not seize it (the moment) it will pass us by . . . Unless Kentucky Baptists recommit to the vision and stop this downward trend in giving, God's timing will pass . . . What a day of opportunity and what a day of anguish!"

The next scheduled meeting of the KBC executive board is Nov. 13, the day before the convention meeting opens, at Frankfort.



Executive board members studied a pie-shaped chart showing where Kentucky Cooperative Program dollars go, addressed by KBC staffer C. Vernon Cole.

Photograph by Greg Hancock

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May 16, 1989

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sanford's perspectives

A good time at Buck Grove



Jack D. Sanford

Sunday, May 7, the Buck Grove Baptist Church at Ekron in Salem Association dedicated its newly renovated sanctuary, new educational space and new fellowship facilities.

Native Kentuckian Floyd Price, pastor of Buck Grove for the past six years, led the congregation in joyous thanksgiving to God for the miracle they have witnessed these past four years.

It was noted the congregation pitched in and literally built the buildings and renovated the sanctuary with their own hands. The cost of the project was about \$350,000 and to have paid for all they have would have cost at least three times that amount. The miracle is that when the last nail was driven and the last splash of paint applied, the church owed nothing on what one person described as "the best worship facilities in Meade County."

Several members of the congregation were honored for their contribution to the success of the program and the dinner on the grounds was a time when everyone felt the enthusiasm and good will of this 132-year-old church.

What is amazing about this entire venture, and

should serve as a model for all Kentucky Baptists, is that Buck Grove Baptist Church did not slow down its commitments to missions and evangelism during the building effort. In fact, the church not only built its buildings without debt but they also increased baptisms, increased attendance, increased the budget and gave a record Lottie Moon and Annie Armstrong offering in the process. During the service Sunday morning, Price asked all those who had joined the church since the beginning of the building effort to stand. At least 30 percent of those in attendance stood to indicate they had become part of the church during the time of construction (*this is the editor's ministerial estimate; pastor Price may have a more accurate figure. At any rate, a lot of people stood to say they had recently joined the church and it was impressive.*)

We salute the Buck Grove Baptist Church, Pastor Floyd Price and all the good people who gave of themselves that the work of the Lord could be done in such good fashion and for allowing us to share in a wonderful day of praise and thanksgiving.

What is ahead for Kentucky Baptists?

The May meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention executive board was held last week and some disturbing questions linger.

One of those questions is what will we be able to do in Kentucky if the present trend of support for Cooperative Program ministries does not change for the better? The cold facts are that no new program money is available, nor has there been any for the past year or so. Without increased Cooperative Program funds the KBC will be crippled and unable to do even a maintenance job in its work across the state.

Another question which disturbs many of our leaders is why have we seen Cooperative Program giving increases fail to maintain even a cost of living scale? For the past two years the rise in Cooperative Program giving has not kept pace with even the most modest cost of living index. Are economic conditions in Kentucky so poor that our people just do not have money to invest in God's work? Is the work of the KBC so unappealing that the churches believe their funds can be spent better some place else? Does the decline in giving indicate a division of purpose among us that is reflected in where we put our priorities?

Part of our problem in Kentucky is that in 1981, we set an ambitious goal of sharing Cooperative Program receipts with the SBC to the point of 60 percent in Kentucky, 40 percent for the SBC. We had hoped to reach this goal by 1990, but it now appears we would serve ourselves and the SBC better if we slowed the rate at which we attempt to reach this goal.

A discussion of just such a plan took up most of the discussion time at the recent executive board meeting (see story, pg. 1). Not a single person suggested we abandon the goal, and even those who favor slowing our pace toward the goal were uneasy with the decision. But it appears we have

no real alternative other than cutting back Kentucky ministries, eliminating Kentucky staff and cutting into what we are trying to do in our own state.

The proposal adopted by the board for recommendation to the KBC in Frankfort this fall has some positive aspects which should be known by all of us. They include, (1) protection of the integrity of the convention action in 1981 which set the 60/40 goal; (2) does not lower the present percentage of Cooperative Program funds from Kentucky which are sent to the SBC; (3) it demonstrates a commitment to reach the 40 percent goal as soon as possible; (4) it places responsibility for further SBC percentage growth upon the churches growth in giving through the Cooperative Program; and (5) it reduces the already burdensome and debilitating stress upon Kentucky Baptist Convention mission causes.

It is the simple fact we always face: if the churches do not increase their giving, the KBC cannot increase its giving to the SBC.

For the past two years, at least, we have decided we do not want our gifts to be used to expand the mission programs of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. As a result the KBC has done what the churches wanted—not increased its programs and ministries.

We must stop this trend and return to the practice of sharing generously with the world so that through our combined, cooperative efforts people everywhere will be able to hear of the love of God in Christ.

Let us determine that our direction will be upward and forward and put muscle into our determination by increasing our giving to the larger Baptist family represented by the KBC and the SBC. This is the Baptist way and we pray our Kentucky churches will respond favorably.

western recorder

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JACK D. SANFORD, Editor
JAMES H. COX, Associate Editor
RAY L. HAYES, Business Manager
C. R. DALEY, Editor Emeritus

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mountains to the mississippi

personnel

Tommy Franklin is new pastor of Pinckneyville Baptist Church, Ohio River Association.

Marion Stice is associate minister of children at Cove Baptist Church, Long Run Association. She is a graduate of Boyce Bible School. Roger Hodge is pastor.

First Baptist Church, Owenton, Owen County Association, called **R. Steven Rudy** as minister of music and **Jim Harper** as associate pastor and minister of youth. Thomas Tackett is pastor.

Burnside First Baptist Church, Pulaski Association, called **Jeff Whitis** as minister of youth. Jewell Hail Jr. is pastor.

Jones Creek Baptist Church, Upper Cumberland Association, recalled **Gerald Jones** as pastor.

Vicco Baptist Church, Three Forks Association, called **Roger Sexton** as pastor.

Gabriel Collett resigned the pastorate of Corinth Baptist Church, Laurel River Association, to go to Cynthiana First Church.

Larry Kidwell is new pastor of Old Yellow Creek Baptist Church, Bell Association.



Tom Melzoni

Tom Melzoni has accepted the pastorate of Ninth & O Baptist Church, Louisville, Long Run Association. Melzoni was pastor of Central Baptist Church, Oak Ridge, Tenn. The Harlan, Ky. native's ministry has spanned churches in Tennessee, southeast Kentucky, southwest Virginia and western North Carolina by means of "Central Point," a radio and television ministry of Central Baptist Church.

Melzoni has worked as assistant pastor to W. A. Criswell at First Baptist Church, Dallas, and in similar capacities at First Baptist, Wichita Falls, Tex.; Dauphin Way Baptist Church, Mobile, Ala.; Far Hills Baptist Church, Dayton, Oh.; and Miami Shores Baptist Church, Dayton.

Earl Ellegood is new pastor of West Broadway Baptist Church, Graves County Association.

David Ferguson is new pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Ohio County Association.

Mike Rust is the new pastor of Zion Baptist Church, Ohio County Association.

James Oates is new pastor at Dycusburg Baptist Church, Ohio River Association.

Cane Valley Baptist Church, Russell Creek Association, called and ordained **John Chowning** as pastor. He is a bivocational minister working with Mayes, Suddeth and Etheredge Inc. Engineer Consultants. He and his wife Cathy have four children, three of whom are triplets.

James Conrad, pastor of Shively Baptist Church, Long Run Association, resigned.

Troy Richards resigned as youth director of Fairview Baptist Church, Ohio County Association. Pastor is Robert Grass.

Turkey Creek Baptist Church, North Concord Association, pastor **Dennis Hammons** resigned to go to Virginia.

Ben Steele will retire May 31 as pastor of Owingsville Baptist Church, Bracken Association.

Ted Nicholson resigned as pastor of First Baptist Church, Windsor, Russell County Association. **Henry Parrott** is new pastor.

Eddie Price resigned as pastor of Rolling Hills Mission, Sulphur Fork Association.

Jim Powell resigned as pastor of Sugar Creek Baptist Church, Caldwell-Lyon Association. He has accepted the pastorate of Crescent Springs Baptist Church, Northern Kentucky Association.

Stewart Dawson resigned as minister of music, Evarts Baptist Church, Upper Cumberland Association, Apr. 30. He accepted a call to Fairview Baptist Church, Waynesburg, as minister of youth and children. Roy Faulkner is pastor of Evarts.

congregations

Three young ladies from **Spears Mill Baptist Church, Elkhorn Association**, competed in the state speaker's contest at Cedarmore Baptist Assembly. Heather Jackson, Kristy Robinson and Amy Young each competed and each won church and associational titles. Spears Mill is one of 67 churches in the association.

Spears Mill also paid off its debt obligation Mar. 31 in half the time of the mortgage. It is also considering a day care facility for its educational facilities as an outreach to the community.

Cuba Baptist Church, Graves County Association, celebrated its 130th anniversary Mar. 26. Services included former pastor Stephen Cobb. Pastor of Cuba church is Monte Hodges.

The Baptist Men of **Sacramento Baptist Church**, Daviess-McLean Association, gave a sign to their community. The sign welcomes people into the town and a statement concerning the fellowship and worship of the church. Director of Baptist Men is Barry Ellis and pastor is Randall Stallings Sr.

Briensburg Baptist Church, Blood River Association, started a mission at Cambridge Shores. Eugene Powell will be pastor. C. C. Brasher is pastor of Briensburg.



Orville and Louise Hickey

Grays Baptist Church, Lynn Camp Association, honored its pastor, Orville D. Hickey, and his wife Louise for 12 years as pastor Apr. 2.

The Hickeys are natives of Daviess County and have been married 50 years. He is a graduate of Clear Creek Bible College and Cumberland College. During his pastorate, Grays church has given \$226,773 to missions and had 180 additions.

Parkway Baptist Church, Elkhorn Association, will honor its pastor, John Wallace, and his wife Mary on their 40th anniversary May 21.

Cloverport Baptist Church, Breckenridge Association, will celebrate its homecoming June 4, in honor of its pastor, Truman Johnson, who is retiring after 21 years at Cloverport.

A potluck meal will follow the morning services with a gospel singing scheduled at 2 p.m. A "Wishing Well" will be set up for a love offering toward their retirement.

Slaughters Baptist Church, Little Bethel Association, is celebrating its 100th anniversary. Plans include a four-day centennial celebration beginning May 18. Other events: Slaughters' Quartet, a dress up contest, picnic and former ministers and friends participating in the celebration. Alan Todd is pastor.

ordinations

John Iller, Ralph Porter and Ed Tines were ordained as deacons by Green River Baptist Church, Ohio County Association.

Patrick David Wren was licensed at Waco Baptist Church, Bates Creek Association. Fred Livingood is pastor.

Salem Baptist Church, Christian County Association, ordained **Steve Austin, Jared Cherry and Phil Faulkner** as deacons. William C. Warmath is pastor.

Alice Biskey Steele was ordained by Deer Park Baptist Church, Long Run Association. Jim England is pastor.

David Wimpy and Jim Bailey were ordained as deacons Apr. 2 by Casky Baptist Church, Christian County Association. Pastor is Greg Burton.

Northside Baptist Church, Boones Creek Association, ordained **Curtis M. Green** as deacon. Pastor is Philip Ronk.



Bill D. Whittaker
President
Clear Creek Baptist Bible College
Pineville, KY 40977

clear creek chronicle

Ashland friends

Many Clear Creek friends live in the Ashland area. On May 11 over 50 of them gathered at First Baptist for an "Evening with Clear Creek" dinner. They received an update on their school and heard students sing and tell about campus life. Host pastor Bill Messer demonstrates the encouraging support every convention ministry desires from a local pastor. Messer has a unique connection with Clear Creek. He was born at Turkey Creek near Pineville. Pastor H. C. Chiles and First Baptist, Barbourville, started the Turkey Creek Mission and secured campus building and ground supervisor Herman Moore as pastor. Moore walked through mud to visit the Messer home at the head of the hollow and Bill was converted. He was among the last high school students to attend Clear Creek's summer sessions.

During Messer's Ashland years the church has heard a consistently good word about Clear Creek. Members Chesley and Opal Lycan for many years contributed to student aid. Lycan died in 1986 and Mrs. Lycan now lives with her daughter in New York. With a \$20,000 gift she established the Chesley A. and Opal P. Lycan Scholarship Fund. This Kentucky Baptist Foundation trust will generate income for student scholarships. "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver" (Prov. 25:11).

Another Ashland friend is former business manager Herb Turpin. He worked under L. C. Kelly and twin daughters were born while at Clear Creek. A. N. Lester recently retired for the second time. His last pastorate was Pollard Church. He attended Clear Creek summer sessions in 1944 and recalls campus experiences when accommodations were much rougher than now.

Three alumni led Ashland church: Stan Williams, Cannonsburg; Thomas Williams, Summit; Wayne Keener, Wildwood. Ruth Ann Foster, '78 graduate, is from Catlettsburg and will soon receive her PhD from Southwestern Seminary.

One Ashland church member told me, "All our pastors have been Clear Creek graduates and every one of them have done an excellent job. I really love the school and appreciate what you are doing." Clear Creek appreciates our Ashland friends.

THANK YOU!

for the Sunday School Charity Fund Offering of May 14th!

Here are two of the many letters we have received:

Dear Sir:

Enclosed you will find our check for \$100.00 for the Sunday School Charity Fund.

Back in March of 1966, my Mother-in-law was admitted to Baptist Hospital Highlands with a ruptured gall bladder. She was operated on twice in 10 days. Upon her dismissal 21 days later, her bill was marked "Paid-in-full" by the Sunday School Charity Fund. We were unable to pay anything at the time, but we have never forgotten this act of kindness and have tried to give some through our church on different Mother's Days to show our appreciation. She lived 16 additional years because of your dedicated staff.

This Mother's Day, May 11th, Mom would have been 100 years old and we wanted to give a dollar for each year. She was a dedicated and faithful member of her church.

My Mother passed away this year and this is a portion of the estate. I hope this will help someone else in need.

In Christian love.

Dear Sir:

We are interested in the Sunday School Charity Fund. If there is any printed materials, envelopes we haven't seen them. Please send us some.

I am in an Adult Ladies Sunday School Class and my husband is Senior Adult Men's Teacher. I am also W.M.U. Director.

I am sending a check for Sunday School Charity Fund in memory of our deceased Mothers. We hope this will help someone else.

It is not too late!

You can give to the Sunday School Charity Fund all year long. Make your check payable to: **Baptist Hospitals Foundation** designated to the Sunday School Charity Fund and mail it to one of the hospitals listed below. We appreciate your willingness to give to God's healing ministry.

Baptist Hospitals, Inc.

Central Baptist Hospital
1740 South Limestone Street
Lexington, Kentucky 40503
(606) 275-6100

Western Baptist Hospital
2510 Kentucky Street
Paducah, Kentucky 42003-3200
(502) 575-2100

Louisville Baptist Hospitals
4000 Kresge Way
Louisville, Kentucky 40207
(502) 897-8100

Baptist Regional Medical Center
1 Trillium Way
Corbin, Kentucky 40701
(606) 528-1212

Baptist Hospitals Foundation, Inc.

4007 Kresge Way, Louisville, Kentucky 40207, (502) 896-5003

Opportunity and anguish

by William W. Marshall
Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Kentucky Baptist Convention

At the request of the executive board and the editor of *Western Recorder*, I am sharing with *Western Recorder* readers the report I presented to the executive board on May 8 at Cedarsmore. Thus my column this week consists of that report.

One morning last week as I stood before the mirror, adding a final splash of shaving lotion to my face, the portrait I saw there was markedly different from the one of the 23-year-old Marine which hangs on the hallway wall among generations of other Marshalls and Gardners. Time moves on.

Not long ago, following a sermon I had preached in a particular church, a dear lady cocked her glasses and said to me, "You're not as young as your picture in the *Western Recorder*, but I like your column." She was telling it like it is! Time moves on.

The May meeting of the executive board is another reminder to me **that time moves on**. For each such meeting marks another year of service among some of God's most wonderful people—Kentucky Baptists.

As I begin my seventh year of ministry as executive secretary, please know that along with the stresses and strains there are great joys and special moments of confirmation in this task to which Kentucky Baptists have called us. Alice and I look forward to a continuation of service together with you on mission.

It is about our mission together that I wish to address you this morning. When this board elected me in December 1982, the search committee had made it clear they expected their new executive secretary to provide leadership in all the areas defined by the job description, and most especially in the area of mission involvement.

I have attempted to live and lead under that mandate. I have found strength in the affirmation I have received from this board and even greater strength in the affirmation you have given to those who work with me. They deserve that affirmation. They are a great team!

However, my purpose this day is neither to seek affirmation for myself nor for our team. Rather, I come this day to share with you a burden. I hope you will hear me out.

During the past five months I have seen, more than ever before, a field that is white unto harvest . . . a world that needs all the help and love it can get . . . a world that needs the message of Christ both in word and in deed. Surely there has never been in the life of Kentucky Baptists a more opportune moment. Never have there been so many opportunities to evangelize, congregationalize and disciple. And yet, if we are not careful to seize this opportunity, it will pass us by just as surely as our youth passes us by.

What has happened during these past five months? I can best describe it as "A Litty of Opportunity and Anguish."

During Thanksgiving a team of us spent nine days in Espirito Santo, Brazil, laying the groundwork for a new partnership. Scores of Kentucky Baptists have already indicated they will go and associations are making plans to participate. Brazilian leadership has extended to us an enthusiastic welcome to come and help them in their efforts to reach Brazil for Christ. What an oppor-

tunity to participate in one of the most gospel-responsive fields in the world.

However just last week I talked at length with R. Keith Parks who had just returned from Vietnam with some exciting news about the possibility of reentering that country. I asked him how things were with the "largest non-Catholic missionary agency in the world." I was already aware that Foreign Mission Board field budgets had been cut earlier by 12 percent. He had told me in Nashville last February that there would be no salary increases for staff again this year. He said that if the Lottie Moon Offering had not been looking so good thus far, they would likely face even more drastic cuts because the Cooperative Program funds simply weren't coming in as hoped.

There you have it . . . opportunity and anguish, side by side.

For well over a year our staff has been working closely with Tal Bonham and his staff in planning a renewal of our partnership with Ohio, targeting their most strategic needs, rather than a shotgun approach. One of our hopes was that the Home Mission Board would be able to provide partial funding for a person in Ohio to be set aside specifically for the coordination of their side of the partnership. What a significant difference this would make! But Cooperative Program funds in Ohio are simply not strong enough to provide their portion and they will need to designate already busy and overworked staff to assist in the coordination. **Opportunity and anguish.**

In March and then again in April a group of us visited most of the churches and many new church sites in the Utah-Idaho Convention. While their lost do not number in the many millions as in Ohio, the more than a million unreached are widely and remotely scattered in the vast area. Mormonism will test our will and our seriousness about the gospel. What an opportunity for Kentucky Baptists. Yet already letters are being sent from the HMB which reflect cutbacks in their operating budgets. There is a temporary freeze on filling vacant positions and some significant summer programs have already been cut after plans had been set and registrants signed up.

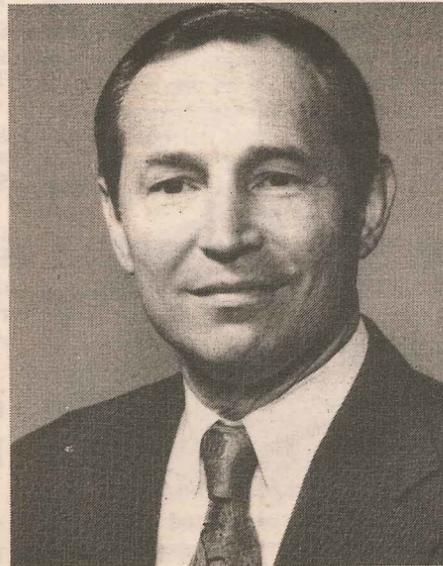
The Utah-Idaho Convention, with a marvelous opportunity to start new work, doesn't even have enough money to support needed new church starter strategists. You may be surprised to know that 92 percent of the Utah-Idaho Convention's budget comes from the HMB. With the Annie Armstrong Offering and the Cooperative Program both lagging behind expectations, Utah-Idaho will be significantly affected. **Opportunity and anguish.**

During the last week of April, my wife and I spent two days with Ross and Ruth Figart, surveying some of our new work in the eastern Kentucky area. Work after work we visited, listening to some of the most exciting stories you could ever read this side of the book of Acts, sensing the hand of God at work in the places and persons we visited.

My friends, God is indeed at work in a mighty way through Mission Kentucky. God is blessing these efforts.

Surely one of the most obvious reasons for the increase in baptisms this year is because of the new work. And at this meeting you will hear the good news that 271 new starts have begun since Mission Kentucky started. The goal of 400 is very reachable.

We visited places where the Lord had



William W. Marshall

laid it on the heart of a pastor, a director of missions, a church, an association to begin a new work, and scores more places where a new work is needed. **This is an opportunity like no other in our history.**

And yet there is a limit to the resources we have to support this work. During the past several years we set aside some significant financial resources for this effort. Thank God we did! For we could not today do what we are doing. There are not adequate Cooperative Program funds with which to do it, and when present funds are spent, where shall we find the funds to continue what God has so strategically called us to do?

We know the tremendous opportunity of new work in Kentucky and feel the anguish of knowing those funds will one day run out unless Kentucky Baptists recommit to the vision and stop this continuing downward trend in Cooperative Program giving.

Just last week I received a letter from Roy Honeycutt telling me he had just received word from the HMB that funds which had been previously provided the seminary to assist black students would no longer be available. Honeycutt asked if there were some way we could pick up those funds. I have not yet had time to respond. But as you will hear today in the budget presentation, our executive board program funds could not be increased last year nor can they be this year.

I was privileged two Saturdays ago to participate in the inauguration of Kenneth Winters our new president of Campbellsville College. I heard him as he so warmly presented his inaugural address. He is aware of the significant impact the college has made in the life of Kentucky Baptists. Along with the others there, I found myself wanting to cheer him on to take the college to higher heights than ever before. But I also knew the financial challenge which lies before him.

While Berea has its \$210 million endowment and Centre more than \$40 million, I knew that our dear Campbellsville has less than \$5 million permanent endowment. I rejoiced that Kentucky Baptists would contribute nearly \$800,000 of Cooperative Program funds to the college this year. I also knew that it would be around 17 percent of their operating budget. I anguish that it could not be more . . . just as I anguish that there is not more available for the children's homes, Oneida, Clear Creek, Western Recorder, Georgetown College

and Cumberland College.

Do not miss the thrust of what I am trying to say. **I am not suggesting that if we had all the money we needed all would be well.** For I truly believe God is far more interested in our spiritual growth than in our comfort.

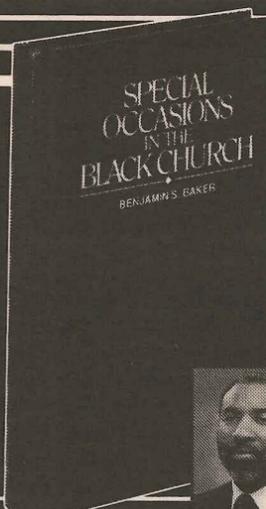
However I am saying I do not believe Southern Baptists and Kentucky Baptists are giving it our best shot in the mission our Lord has called us to do. I do not believe our part of the mission is bigger or more difficult with God's help than we can handle.

In my opinion we have wandered away from the Father and gone a whoring in the far country.

The symptoms are abundant, and they range from the war we are carrying on right in the living room of our Father's house to the lust for comfort and security which rots the very fabric of our commitment to be servants of the Lord Jesus Christ.

What we do on the mission of the executive board must exemplify the spirit and intention of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is inevitable that we will do that imperfectly. But, under God, we must do it. I pledge to you this day a renewal of my own commitment to honor the name of Christ in what we do with the resources provided by the churches of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

What a day of opportunity! What anguish to realize we may fail to take advantage of it!





Special Occasions in the Black Church is a resource of celebration services to help you in ministry on special days. This manual gives you a biblical base for the service, Scripture, service arrangements, ministry methods, and additional helps in making the service a meaningful, worship experience. Included are ideas for installations, ordinations, anniversaries, and special days like Martin Luther King's birthday.

Its size, appearance, and contents make it useful in the pulpit, for college and seminary students, school teachers, and community leaders.
Hardback, \$10.95

Benjamin S. Baker is pastor of Antioch Missionary Baptist Church of Christ, Houston, Texas. Formerly, he served at Main Street Baptist Church, Lexington, Kentucky. Baker is the author of *Shepherding the Sheep* (Broadman).

At your Baptist Book Store
BROADMAN

baptist news in brief



Buck Grove Baptist Church, Salem Association, dedicated its renovated sanctuary, new education space and new fellowship hall. (See Sanford's Perspectives, page 2)

BPRA elects Wilkinson president

Baptist Public Relations Association elected as president David Wilkinson, vice president for seminary relations of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, during its annual workshop this spring in Dallas.

Other new officers are awards chairman and immediate past president, Anita Bowden, director of Print Department, Foreign Mission Board; program vice president, Leonard E. Hill, manag-

ing editor, The Baptist Program; membership vice president, Robert O'Brien, overseas correspondent manager, Foreign Mission Board; newsletter editor, Mark Wingfield, assistant director of news and information, Home Mission Board; secretary, Pam Parry, associate editor, Baptist True Union; and treasurer, Mark Wyatt, director of public relations, California Southern Baptist Convention. (BP)

CP gifts increase in Kentucky

A look at the history of Cooperative Program giving in Kentucky since the program was adopted in 1925 in Memphis, Tenn. reveals some enlightening facts.

In the initial year, Kentucky Baptists gave \$571,690, but during the depression, gifts reached an all-time low of \$181,656 in 1931.

Since then gifts have shown a steady, if sometimes slow, increase. While it took 23 years to produce the first million dollar year in 1948, Kentucky Baptists reached the two million dollar mark just nine years later. The increase continued

until in 1981 gifts totaled over \$10 million dollars above the previous year.

Kentucky Cooperative Program gifts continue to grow today. In 1988 giving exceeded the \$16 million mark. In 63 years, the accumulated total has exceeded \$235 million.

The goal for 1989 is \$17,035,855. As of Apr. 30, 64 years of accumulated giving had reached over \$246 million toward the goal of \$250. In those 64 years Kentucky Baptists have given an average of almost \$4 million annually.

Owensboro Baptist Book Store honored

The staff of the Owensboro (Ky.) Baptist Book Store received three performance awards in early May during the national chain's annual conference at Ridgecrest (N. C.) Baptist Conference Center.

The store received first place for best overall performance among stores of comparable size having local sales only and a second place award for improved overall operating performance among all stores. The store also took the top annual award for best overall performance among all stores and mail order centers.

Kathy Matthews is manager of the Owensboro store, which is owned and operated by the Sunday School Board.

Together . . . through the COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

September-April

	Month	YTD 8 mon.
April 89	1,098,591	10,647,745
April 88	1,339,537	10,791,574
\$ Chg.	(240,946)	(143,829)
% Chg.	-18.0	-1.3
Budget	1,419,655	11,357,237
\$(under)/over	(321,064)	(709,492)
%(under)/over	-22.6	-6.2

Year	\$ Over/-Under Budget to Date	% Increase/-Decrease Over Prev Year
88-89	(709,492)	-1.3
87-88	(128,846)	1.2
86-87	258,272	7.9
85-86	(524,569)	7.6
84-85	(452,521)	7.3
83-84	(444,356)	1.4
82-83	507,111	10.6



Your Special Invitation to Participate In Partnership Missions In Espirito Santo, Brazil 1989 Partnership Projects



PROJECT #	TYPE	NEEDS	DATES
89800	Evangelism Teams	5 teams 4 per team	D: August 31, 1989 R: September 13, 1989
89801	Evangelism Teams	5 teams 4 per team	D: September 14, 1989 R: September 27, 1989
89802	Evangelism Teams	5 teams 4 per team	D: October 5, 1989 R: October 18, 1989
89803	Evangelism Teams	5 teams 4 per team	D: October 19, 1989 R: November 1, 1989
89804	Evangelism Teams	5 teams 4 per team	D: November 16, 1989 R: November 29, 1989
89805	Leadership Teams	3 - 5 teams 2 per team	D: November 30, 1989 R: December 13, 1989

D = Depart; R = Return

- * 110 team members are needed for 1989
- * Four persons per team:
Preacher, Singer, 2 Laywitness persons
- * 100 persons in 50 churches for evangelistic crusades

Contact:
Calvin Wilkins, Partnership Coordinator
Kentucky/Brazil Partnership
P.O. Box 43433
Middletown, KY 40243-0433
(502)245-4101 ext. 314 or 339

Baptists Committed speak to SBC issues

Centrist Baptists spelled out their positions on issues confronting the Southern Baptist Convention during a national symposium in Nashville May 2-3.

About 150 participants heard presentations from two denominational executives, a layman and four pastors in the "Here We Stand" conference sponsored by Baptists Committed to the Southern Baptist Convention, an organization of "centrist" Baptists formed in late 1988.

Topics concerned scripture, the priesthood of the believer, local-church autonomy, separation of church and state and the current state of the 14.7-million-member denomination.

Participants also heard presentations from the pastor expected to be their standard bearer in the 1989 annual meeting of the SBC, June 13-15 in Las Vegas, Nev. Daniel Vestal, 44, pastor of Dunwoody Baptist Church in suburban Atlanta, made a formal presentation and held two question and answer sessions.

W. Winfred Moore, chairman of Baptists Committed and pastor of First Baptist Church, Amarillo, Tex., told participants he was glad such an organization as Baptists Committed exists but noted reluctance for the fight by quoting war correspondent Ernie Pyle who wrote, "There is no sense in this struggle, but there is no choice but to struggle."

The keynote address "Here We Stand" was delivered by Nashville pastor Bill Sherman of Woodmont Baptist Church. The symposium, he said, was intended to "reinterpret what it has always meant to be all Baptist, what we believe and how we go about the sacred work of the church." (BP)

SBC budget continues roller coaster ride

The Southern Baptist Convention's combined ministry budget continued its roller coaster ride in April.

The SBC Cooperative Program received \$13,293,877 in April, a gain of 33.2 percent over April 1988, reported Harold C. Bennett, president and treasurer of the convention's Executive

Registration set for SBC Las Vegas convention

About 18,500 messengers will register for the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 13-15, in Las Vegas, Nev., according to projections by SBC registration secretary Lee Porter.

Porter, of Nashville, said: "I anticipate about 18,000 to 18,500 messengers will register. I cannot conceive registration will go over 20,000, but would not be surprised if it drops to near 15,000."

He bases his projections on the "long distance to Las Vegas" from many of the centers of Southern Baptist population, including Southern and East Coast states that normally have high attendance at annual meetings.

Porter, who has the responsibility to register and oversee balloting and vote counting at the annual meeting, said registration will open in meeting rooms 1-4 of the Las Vegas Convention Center at 4 p.m. Sunday, June 11, and continue until about 10 p.m.

During the remainder of the week, registration will open at 8 a.m. and close about 10 p.m., except on the last day of the annual meeting, when it will close when demand ceases.

"The best time to register will be a couple of hours after opening," he said. "I urge messengers not to stand in line prior to the opening time. If they will come a bit later, they can easily register in five minutes." (BP)

Committee.

"For the first time this year, I am going to venture a projection of Cooperative Program receipts," Bennett said. "It is an optimistic forecast. If the trend continues—which I expect—I believe we will receive approximately \$140 million. This would mean that we would reach the basic budget goal of \$137.61 million and have more than \$2 million for capital needs. I would be greatly pleased.

The April receipts were the third-best monthly total in the Cooperative Program's 64-year history. They were almost \$4 million more than March receipts, which were among the worst in the past five years.

Since the current fiscal year began last October, Cooperative Program monthly totals have dropped below totals for the same months the previous year four out of seven times. However this fiscal year's budget boasts two of the three best single-month totals, and January-February was the best two-month combination ever.

April's income brought year-to-date receipts to \$81,361,763, Bennett said. That represents a gain of more than \$3.3 million over the same period last year, an increase of 4.25 percent. (BP)

Presidential candidate pledges to share power, emphasizes evangelism

If Southern Baptists elect Daniel Vestal as their president, his attitude will be winner-share-all rather than winner-take-all, he told a group of denominational "centrists."

Vestal is pastor of Dunwoody Baptist Church in suburban Atlanta and an announced candidate for the Southern Baptist Convention presidency. He will face SBC president Jerry Vines, pastor of First Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Fla., and eligible for another one-year term, when the SBC meets in Las Vegas, Nev., June 13-15.

Vestal spoke three times to a symposium sponsored by Baptists Committed to the SBC May 1-2 in Nashville.

"My appointments would be from a different perspective. I would include all Southern Baptists—even the present leadership—because I'm a centrist," Vestal said.

Vestal also pledged, if elected, to seek a limitation on presidential powers. The 10-year SBC theological/political controversy has swirled around those powers, since the president initiates a chain of events that lead to the appointment of trustees for 24 entities related to the convention.

Vestal promised to emphasize Southern Baptist missions and evangelism. "I am committed to the missions task of the church—to claim the kingdom and lead people to submit to the lordship of Jesus Christ," he said. "If it is the Lord's will that I be elected, we as Southern Baptists need to redefine and refocus on the future." (BP)

Southern Seminary chooses alumni of year

Five graduates of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, have been selected as Alumni of the Year.

Four Southern Baptist alumni—Moriyoshi Hiratani, R. Gene Puckett, Carl F. Whirley and Joe Priest Williams—will be honored at the seminary's annual alumni and friends reunion June 14 during the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in Las Vegas, Nev. An American Baptist alumnus, the late Jitsuo Morikawa, will be recognized posthumously at the seminary's alumni luncheon June 21 during the biennial meeting of the American Baptist Churches, USA, in Milwaukee, Wis.

Hiratani has served as pastor of First Baptist Church, Pearl City, Hawaii, 31 years. He was president of the Hawaii Baptist Convention, 1958-59 and 1968-69. He received a MDiv degree from Southern in 1954.

Puckett has been editor of the Biblical Recorder, news journal for North Carolina Baptists, since 1982. He also has been editor of the Maryland Baptist news journal, executive director of Americans United for the Separation of Church and State, and pastor of Baptist churches in Kentucky, Ohio and Florida. He earned a BDiv degree from Southern in 1957.

Whirley retired from the Foreign Mission Board in 1980 after 33 years of service in Nigeria. After leaving the mission field, he taught at Samford University in Birmingham, Ala., 1980-1987. He received a ThM degree from Southern in 1946 and a ThD degree in 1957.

Williams retired last year after 27 years as pastor of Baptist Tabernacle, Louisville. He has been pastor of three other Kentucky churches and director of the Baptist Student Union at Murray (Ky.) State University. He earned a BDiv degree from Southern in 1948 and a ThM degree in 1952.

Morikawa served with National Ministries for the American Baptist Churches 20 years, first as director of evangelism and later as secretary of the office of planning and organizational development. Morikawa, who retired from National Ministries in 1976, was vice president of the American Baptist Churches, 1984-85. He received a ThM degree from Southern in 1940. (BP)

—classified ads—

WANTED: The Search Committee of the Highland Hill Baptist Church, Ft. Thomas, Ky., is accepting resumes for a Minister of Education/Youth. Requested deadline for resumes is May 22, 1989. All resumes will be kept in confidence. Send to: Search Committee, Highland Hills Baptist Church, 638 Highland Ave., Ft. Thomas, Ky. 41075.

WANTED: Georgetown College is accepting applications for the position of Sports News Director. This is a part time position requiring journalism skills and a knowledge of athletics. Experience in public relations is helpful, but not necessary. The Sports News Director works out of the Public Relations Office with the primary responsibility of promoting the college's athletic interests. Interested individuals should send a resume and samples of work to Mr. Marc C. Whitt, Dir. of PR, Georgetown College, 400 E. College. Georgetown, Ky. 40324. Deadline for receiving applications is May 26, 1989. The position is available June 12. Georgetown College is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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June 2-3

Team divisions:

Men's Class A

Men's Class B

Ladies Division

Contact: Roger McCurry, Minister of Activities
Severns Valley Baptist Church, (502) 765-7822

Kentuckians celebrate 25 years in New England

by Joyce S. Martin
Assistant Editor
The New England Baptist

They arrived in New England between back-to-back snow storms. "We hadn't seen enough snow in our native Kentucky, so we moved to where winter is really winter," he quips.

They packed up their belongings and their one-year-old son and traveled north with an open-ended commitment to follow God's plan for their lives. "We didn't know what God had in store for us; we just knew we were willing to stay in New England as long as he wanted us to stay," both say.



Merwyn Borders



Mrs. Merwyn Borders

"Today Vermonters will drive miles to an evangelical church, an unheard of thing in earlier years."

How long? Twenty five winters have come and gone since Linda and Merwyn Borders made that move north. Linda, a Grant County native, and Merwyn, an Elkton native, have seen more than their share of snow. And they have experienced many a test of that open-ended commitment to ministry. But in New England the Borderses found the spot where God wanted them to invest a lifetime. This year they celebrate a quarter century as Southern Baptist home missionaries in New England.

The Borderses spent their first six and one-half years in New England pastoring in Massachusetts. They moved further north—to Vermont.

Talk to the Borderses and you soon discover a deep love and appreciation for New England and New Englanders. "We've never found the stereotypical cold, reserved New Englander," says Borders. "When Christ is present, cultural differences don't matter."

Talk to Borders and you will discover how completely he has immersed himself in local history and culture. In fact, some Vermonters say the Borders are more truly Vermonters than some who were born there!

But most importantly, talk to the Borders and you will hear of lives changed by the power of God, churches planted and the growth of Southern Baptist work in the six New England states.

Granted, ministry in New England

has not been easy but it has been rewarding.

The Borderses have stayed in New England long enough to see the peaking out of lack of interest in evangelism and a real turnaround. Today, in an area of the country often called "the graveyard of evangelism," the Borders see the beginning of a spiritual awakening. "Today Vermonters will drive miles to an evangelical church, an unheard of thing in earlier years," they say. Perhaps someday soon most of the picturesque church buildings now used for purposes other than worship will once again house thriving congregations. "A land of many church buildings but few congregations," is how Borders often describes New England.

They have stayed long enough to see significant growth in the number of Southern Baptist congregations. When the Borders moved to New England in

1964 there were 13 small Southern Baptist congregations. Today 164 congregations make up the Baptist Convention of New England, serving the six New England states. When the Borders moved to Vermont in 1970 there was one Southern Baptist church in Vermont. Today Vermont has 19 Southern Baptist congregations. The Borderses personally helped plan 10 of the 19.

They have stayed long enough to learn to measure success through "the little things, to not buy in to instant gratification, to recognize the hand of God working over the long haul," they say. They have learned "to sow much, to sometimes reap but to trust God in his time give the increase."

Twenty-five years in New England have taught the Borderses another important lesson. They have learned the value of missions support system of Southern Baptists. They appreciate their Kentucky heritage and work hard to keep those ties strong. Borders has spoken in 10 Kentucky World Missions conferences. He and Mrs. Borders were the first missionaries in residence at Georgetown College in 1982. Their children are being educated in Kentucky Baptist institutions. Son Kevin is a third-year student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and daughter Paula—whom the Borderses call "our little Yankee"—is a senior at Georgetown College.

"Without our friends in Kentucky and in the denomination holding the ropes in prayer and financial support, we could not have spent a quarter of a century in New England," Mrs. Borders says.

In this their 25th year the Borders say "Thank you Kentucky Baptists."

The battle against state lottery is over—or is it?

by Mary Royals Driskill
Staff Writer

"All we can do is help the wounded. The war is on," said Frank Dorris, director of Missions, Warren Association. For some Kentucky Baptists, the lottery war continues.

"It seemed abstract and harmless. Now everywhere people go they encounter lottery tickets. I'm not sure what we did connected then. Now it does."

Several associations in Kentucky have passed resolutions in support of businesses who choose not to sell lottery tickets and many indicated they may take similar actions later this month. Warren Association is one that has taken action.

"We're just not patronizing businesses selling lottery tickets," said Dorris. "We owe them (the businesses) our sup-

port. We still have an active anti lottery group."

The Kentucky Baptist anti lottery group, working with Citizens Against State Lottery, raised \$223,566.40 to fight the lottery battle and spent \$225,083.09 between May 1988 and January 1989. Was it worth the cost?

"There was a heavy effort," affirmed Jim Holliday, Long Run Association, treasurer of CASL. "I think it probably made people think about the issue and became aware of what was coming."

CASL worked through state legislative channels against passing the lottery, forming a statewide campaign effort. They raised money for radio spots, billboards, ads in papers, direct mail efforts and telephoning voters. Some would say the effort had little effect.

"I still don't think most people realized what was going to be involved," stated Holliday. He believes the current efforts by associations to support businesses not selling lottery tickets reflect these early attempts to defeat the bill.

"What we talked about in the campaign has really happened," cautioned Holliday. "It seemed abstract and harmless (at first). Now everywhere people go they encounter lottery tickets."

Holliday wished it could have gotten "to the gut level" before the lottery passed. "I'm not sure what we did really connected (then). Now it does."

At least 32 states and the District of Columbia have state lotteries, according

to Larry Braidfoot, associate director, SBC, Christian Life Association, Nashville. He affirmed associational efforts. Since the lottery is a reality, "that's as good as you can do on the local level," noted Braidfoot. He also advised states opposed to the lottery to gain legislation allotting a percentage of lottery receipts to go for helping victims of the lottery.

According to an article in the Courier-Journal May 6, there may be many victims. It reported that only two weeks into the lottery more than half the adults in the state had bought at least one ticket. Six in 10 said they planned to. Officials said players in the lottery have spent a total of \$63.4 million on tickets through May 1 which works out to about \$16.82 for every person in the state.

Associational members were quick to point out problems the lottery poses for some. People employed by businesses selling lottery tickets may be in danger of losing their jobs if they refuse to sell tickets. Business owners may be tempted by visions of high profit sales as well. Despite these considerations, the battle against the lottery continues.

Caldwell-Lyon Association gave public thanks to merchants not selling tickets. They placed ads in Caldwell and Lyon County papers thanking local businesses for providing places to shop for those opposed to the lottery.

Thus far, the current anti lottery efforts focus on positive approaches to boycotting and help for the victims.

"We fought the lottery about as hard as anybody in the state," stressed Dorris, of Warren Association. "We're not being nasty, we're simply saying that's a right you have."

Dorris is concerned about the impact the lottery poses on local church benevolence funds. He feels demands for aid by churches has increased.

"We fought the lottery about as hard as anybody in the state. The state passed it and it's a reality now. So we help the wounded."

"They're (the churches) running out of money early," noted Dorris. "Everything the anti lottery force talked about is coming up." He believes the battle now lies in finding the victims of the lottery—and in finding ways the church can minister to them.

"The state passed it and it's a reality now," said Dorris. "So we help the wounded."

UNTIL JESUS COMES

*He which hath begun a good work in you
will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.*

Philippians 1:6

For more than 16 decades your state Baptist news journal, Western Recorder, has been the principal means of transmitting news of interest among Kentucky Baptists. It continues a proud tradition today, telling Baptists the facts—accurately, honestly, rapidly.

But escalating postal, paper and printing costs threaten that freedom in contemporary times. These culprits are demanding more and more dollars which otherwise would be available to missions causes. In a recent year Western Recorder had to rely on the Cooperative Program for nearly \$2 of every \$5 it spent.

There is a way to reverse the trend, however—through endowment. Gifts to the Kentucky Baptist Foundation in Western Recorder's name will help the paper hold the line on rampant inflation.

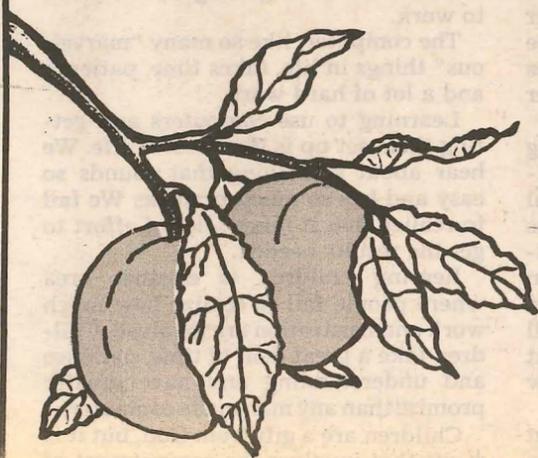
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Barkley Moore
President
Oneida Baptist Institute
Oneida, KY 40972

oneida journal

Spanning continents

Several years ago the youngest son of Oneida's founder was in the last helicopter to lift off the roof of the American Embassy in Saigon as Vietnam fell to the communists. He was thousands of miles and more than 40 years away from his Oneida childhood. A graduate of Princeton, a career diplomat, he has been in the "thick of it" in many lands.

Oneida people are scattered all over the world. They serve as missionaries, in the armed forces, in the diplomatic service of the U. S. and other countries for some of our foreign graduates so serve their native lands. Some work in international trade.

I often remember my six years of work among the Turkoman tribesmen of northeastern Iran. They were full and exciting years. I lived through an earthquake, a cholera epidemic, and was accosted by a knife wielding Moslem fanatic one noon time as I left one of the schools where I taught. The Lord spared me without serious injury or illness.

I truly felt I had lived a lifetime as I returned to America at Christmastime 1970. I have considered every single day of the past 18 years to be extra, each a special gift in which to live and to serve.

Two members of our 1957 graduating class became career diplomats. I have recently enjoyed reading and rereading a long typewritten letter from one of them, David Windle. I have not seen him for 31 years but the memory of our school days together at Oneida are as vivid as yesterday.

David's grandfather and uncle were

among Oneida's earliest students. He grew up hearing tales of Old Kentucky and came from Virginia to get an Oneida education. We both lived in old Carnahan Hall and David was a dyed-in-the-wool Confederate. He talked of Civil War battles constantly. One morning the school awakened to find the Stars and Bars waving proudly from the school's flagpole. It did not take much imagination to find the guilty culprit.

David met and married his wife in New Delhi in 1963. Her father was the assistant naval attache there. They have a daughter and son, both nearly grown.

The Windles have lived and served in India, Moscow, the Congo, Greece, Hong Kong, Tunisia, London and now back in India. He has also had several tours of service in Washington, the last time in the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. David has had to have major back surgery several times.

David closes his long and welcome letter by writing: "I am extremely pleased with the progress made at Oneida with God's helping hand. I think of the old school often.

"I remember too fondly the old ways, the small store downtown, the floods, Marvin Hall, and most of all 'to thine own self be true.'"

"Without sounding too maudlin and not wishing to insinuate in any way that age is catching up with me, I read somewhere several years ago that 'I live with my memories and not with my dreams.' That is very appropriate I believe. Someday, the Lord willing, I will travel back to Oneida.

"In sum, watch out 'old man' for you may wake up someday to find the 'Stars and Bars' flying once again from the flagpole and the Virginian on your doorstep. I must close and return to work. God bless you, take care, your brother in Christ, Dave."

Yes, there is that bond of memory, of affection that can span continents and time itself. I remember three other boys of the '57 class, lives lived and many years now in eternity. First to go was Monroe, with whom I used to string barbedwire fence on the school's farm. He was tragically murdered. Then Shelby, his life cut short by cancer, whom I visited a week before he died so bravely. Then Stan who came for homecoming, to share in the dedication of the Melvin Davidson Chapel, and died several weeks later. Though dead, they yet speak.

Reprinted from *Western Recorder*, May 14, 1985.



H. C. Chiles
Clear Creek Baptist Bible College
Pineville, KY 40977

sunday school lessons

LESSONS FOR MAY 21, 1989

Life and work series

God calls for response

Josh. 24:2-5 After summarizing God's dealing with his people, Joshua reminded them of their unjustifiable murmurings, reluctant service and frequent revolts. Knowing that the people were pretending to serve God and at the same time were secretly worshiping idols and thereby were incurring the displeasure of God, Joshua urged them to abandon all of the false gods and to be wholehearted in their allegiance to the true and living God. The only safety, said he, lay in the abstaining from heathen practices and in their being loyal to God.

Josh. 24:13-15 Announcing his decision, Joshua said, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." We admire Joshua greatly for his strong convictions and his faithful devotion to God. Nobody can effectively get others to be devoted to God unless he sets them an example.

In response to the example of Joshua and his urgent appeal, the Israelites promptly acknowledged God's grace in bringing them out of Egypt, preserving them through the wilderness and bringing them safely through the promised land.

As we think of all that God has done

for us, gratitude should compel us to commit ourselves wholeheartedly and unreservedly to him and to his service and then to spend the rest of our lives in doing his will.

International series

Called to new life

Eph. 4:22-32 Each believer whom Christ has saved has experienced a visible and permanent change. Having been brought into the right relationship with God, he is obligated to put off the ways and habits of his former life.

It is the duty of each Christian to

1. Put away lying (verse 25). There is not any place for a spoken or acted falsehood in the life of any Christian.

2. Put away anger (verse 26). A Christian must refrain from allowing anger to smoulder in him.

3. Put away stealing (verse 28). If one has previously indulged in this sin, he must quit it entirely.

4. Put away corrupt speech (verse 29). A Christian is to refrain from vulgarity, profanity and foul language of every sort.

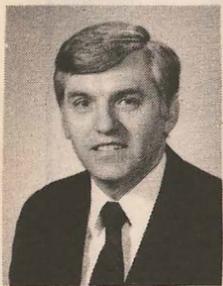
5. Put away all that grieves the Holy Spirit (verse 30). The Holy Spirit is grieved deeply when Christians ignore him or neglect their spiritual duties.

6. Put away all unkindness (verses 31-32). One cannot harm another with unkind words or actions without injuring himself and displeasing the Lord.

Eph. 5:1-4 As God has forgiven the sins of those who are Christians and brought them into right relationship with him, they should care enough for others to help them cope with their problems and encourage them to overcome their besetting sins through the enabling strength of the Lord.

Eph. 5:18-20 The fulness of the Spirit is the possession and control of the human spirit by the Holy Spirit. When the Holy Spirit is in possession and control of the soul the delights, discernments and decisions of the Christian conform to the will of God.

This verb "be filled" is in the present tense and indicates that the Christians can experience this blessing now. It is just as imperative for the Christian to "be filled with the Spirit" as it is that he not get drunk. We, as God's children, are obligated to obey this command and there is the enablement for us to be filled. We can become Spirit-filled Christians by wanting to be, by renouncing our sins, by praying to be filled and by obeying the divine command.



Curtis C. Mooney
Executive Director
10801 Shelbyville Road
Middletown, KY 40243

Living with computers

My daughter has a computer class every Thursday in kindergarten. She and her generation will never know the frustration many of us have in learning to use the computer.

Eldred Taylor, our former director, is also into computers. Since retirement he has bought a computer and is a member of the Silver Fox Computer Club here in Louisville. He has found many uses for it in his work at Boyce and in other ways.

All of that said, there is also nothing more frustrating than installing computers and going through the initial learning process. We are in the process of adding new terminals and some additional software to gather information on the children who are referred to us and to help us evaluate our programs. It all sounded so easy when we talked about adding equipment and learning a new system, but it is not.

We have been weeks getting the right software and getting all the pieces to "talk" to one another. We are not alone

in this frustration. Recently I called Willis Henson of the Lone Oak Baptist Church near Paducah and a member of our board. I caught him on the day they were changing a computer system and we both commiserated about the frustrations involved in getting the computer to work.

The computer, like so many "marvelous" things in life, takes time, patience and a lot of hard work.

Learning to use computers and getting them set up is like most of life. We hear about something that sounds so easy and has so much promise. We fail to realize that it takes a lot of effort to get the results needed.

Rearing children is another area where people fail to realize how much work and frustration are involved. Children take a great deal of time, patience and understanding and have greater promise than any man made computer.

Children are a gift from God, but it is a gift that involves the commitment of a lifetime by the parents.

homes for children

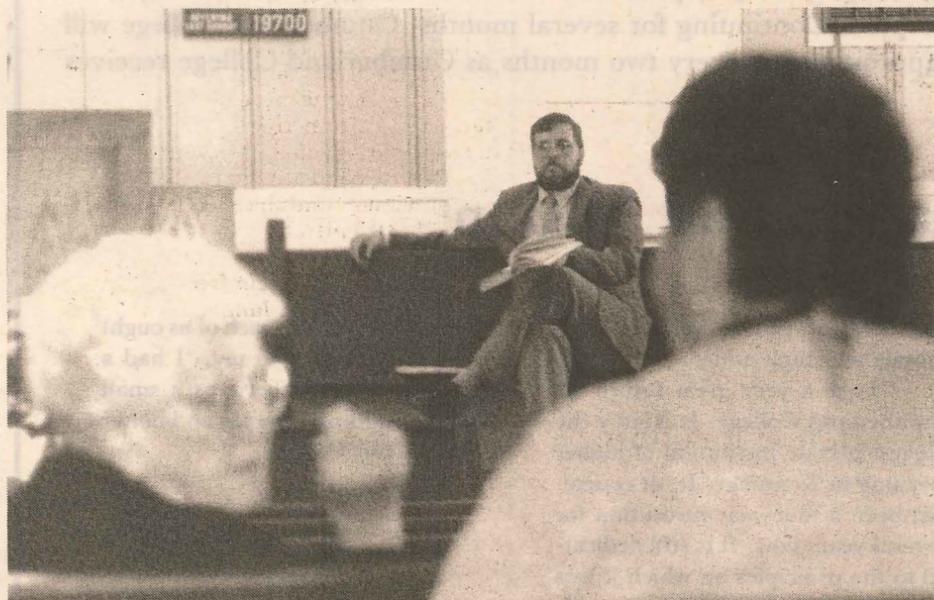
Virtually everyone in the work world is becoming computer literate. I began using one at work a number of years ago and have had one at home since I began graduate school. I cannot imagine writing papers without a word processor.

Rural church puts its brand on young pastors

by Scott Collins

Highway 22 winds its way across central Texas, cutting through fields of spring bluebonnets, leading to the tiny hamlet of Brandon, 65 miles southeast of Ft. Worth.

From late March through April, the pastures in this part of rural Texas come to life with fresh flowers and budding trees. But for more than 75 years members of Brandon Baptist Church have seen blossoms of another kind.



Holmes waits for a Sunday morning worship service to begin as Brandon Baptist Church members share the latest community news.

During that time more than 40 students from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary have been pastors of the church. Like the majority of Southern Baptist congregations, the church is small, averaging around 25 in Sunday school.

"We like to have those young men," said Avon Frazier, 50-year member of the church. "It's kind of like a first grade student. If you get a good start, you'll do all right."

"I just think about the part they've

had in my life and the part I've had in theirs," said Frazier. "They just bud out while they're here."

Through the years those students have blossomed into an array of Baptist leaders. The list includes C. Y. Dossey, former director of evangelism, Home Mission Board; Kearnie Keegan, former secretary for student work, Sunday School Board; Woodson Armes, education director, Baptist General Convention of Texas; Boyd Hunt, retired distinguished professor of theology, Southwestern; Bill Moyers, public broadcasting producer; and Dan Kent, professor of Old Testament, Southwestern. Moyers, Hunt and Armes are distinguished alumni of Southwestern.

For most of the student pastors, Brandon has been the first stop in the ministry. "We've had young men come who've never been in the pulpit," Frazier said.

But members of the church have watched patiently while the students develop, partly from seminary classes and partly from the church.

The benefits "work both ways," said Myra Finch, member of the church 66 years. "Bill Moyers practically pushed me into teaching Sunday school."

Having student pastors has given the church "a bird's eye view of what's going on" at the seminary, Frazier said. And church members like what they see. "We know the seminary is ok because we've seen the students," said Frazier.

And even though the students aren't perfect pastors, church members understand. "I admire seminary students,"

said Frazier. "I really do."

Church members have seen students ride buses and trains and borrow cars to get to the church. Moyers didn't have a car when he started at the church. "They come with nothing, but they learn to compensate," Frazier said.

The church's current student pastor, Howard Holmes, knows all about pressure. Holmes retired from the Air Force after 20 years and enrolled at Southwestern. This spring he is taking 13 hours of classes and working from 2-10 p.m. five days a week in addition to his church work.

Still Holmes is committed to being a good pastor. He has emphasized discipleship during his three years at the church. And Holmes says church members keep him on his toes.

"They're Bible scholars," Holmes said, which is a result of having seminary students as pastors. "You don't just come down here and give them three points and a poem. You have to give them some meaty sermons."

For that Holmes relies on material he learns from his professors. "I've noticed that my sermons tend to go along with what I've been learning in class that week," he said.

Whatever the sermon, church members say they continue to learn from the variety of pastors. And they continue to help the students grow.

"We just think we are so fortunate to have these young men come and preach to us," said Frazier. "We can see the fruits of their labors."

Billy Graham studying evangelism at SWBTS?

by Chip Alford

Want to catch a glimpse of evangelist Billy Graham? The best place to look might be Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex.

That's right! Billy Graham is taking time out from his busy schedule of crusades, Bible conferences and seminars to pursue a master of divinity degree at Southwestern Seminary.

Ok, so it's not the Billy Graham, the famous evangelist who has traveled the world, preached to millions and written dozens of Christian books. But it is Billy Graham, and this Texas native has a successful ministry in his own right.

Wrather Merle Graham, 35, was born in Ft. Worth. His parents had promised to name him in honor of his two grandfathers. But because of his small size, the names just didn't seem to fit. So his parents took the first letters of his two names (WM) which stand for William and shortened that to "Billy."

"It was just a coincidence though. I wasn't named after Billy Graham the evangelist," said Graham, who happily shares his name with one of the world's greatest Christian leaders.

Having the same name as a famous person has been humorous at times, Graham said, but it has also provided opportunities in his own ministry.

"In personal evangelism you're always looking for a catch word—something to open up an opportunity to communicate the gospel," he explained. "Well when I sit down on a plane and say to a fellow passenger, 'Hello I'm Billy Graham,' you'd better believe that opens up an opportunity."

Born with muscular dystrophy, Graham is confined to a wheelchair and

is legally blind. But that hasn't prevented him from being actively involved in ministry.

Although he made a profession of faith at age eight and dedicated his life to the ministry at 17, Graham said he never really accepted Christ until he was 25. "I finally understood that salvation was a gift; it wasn't anything we deserved or could earn. It was something God wanted to give to those who repented of their sin and received him by faith," he said.

Admitting that he had begun an evangelistic ministry before accepting Christ was a difficult task for Graham. "I had already experienced so many accolades from the religious community that I was embarrassed to let anybody know that I didn't have what I was offering everyone else," he said. "And I discovered very rapidly that when people who are physically handicapped begin to do normal Christian activities, the Christian community has a tendency to elevate them very quickly."

Graham accepted Christ at a revival meeting at his home church, First Baptist Church, Euless, Tex. "That night is the first time in my life I really felt free," he said. "I was freed from the shackles of religious tradition. I was free to be the man God called me to be."

Today Graham and his wife Kathy keep busy with their own ministry—Logia Evangelistic Association, named after the Greek word for the sayings of Christ. They travel across the United States conducting revival meetings, Bible conferences, youth crusades and other seminars.

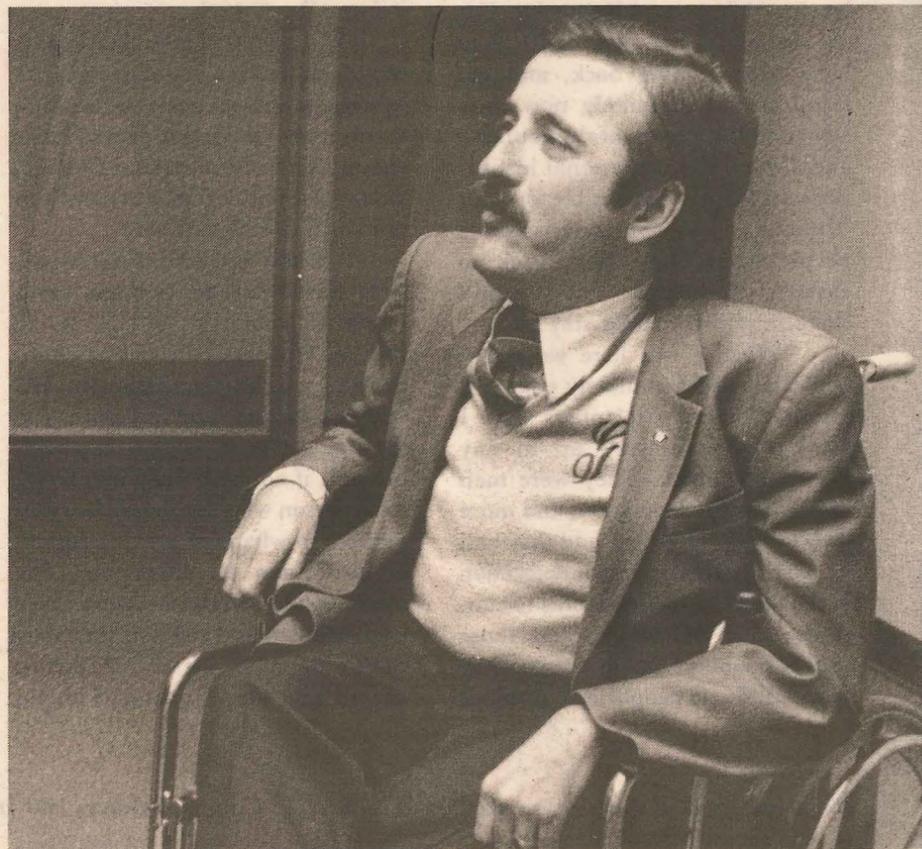
"The greatest emphasis of our ministry is to help the body of Christ to see

its potential and its responsibility to God to participate in the ministry of evangelism," he said.

In his "spare time" Graham also does some clinical teaching for Evangelism Explosion, teaches a singles Sunday school class at First Baptist, Euless, and takes about two classes per semester at Southwestern Seminary. He is also vice

president of the newly-formed Vocational Evangelists Club at the seminary.

"God has chosen in his providence and sovereignty to limit my physical abilities but one thing he has given me is a mind," Graham said, explaining his decision to enter seminary. "I think it's my responsibility to develop it to its fullest potential."



Wrather Merle Graham

Cumberland College

Centennial Celebration

“A Bright Shining City Set On A Hill”



Cumberland College in Williamsburg opened its doors on January 7, 1889. In January of 1988 Cumberland College began a year long Centennial Celebration in honor of its 100 years of Christian educational service to its students.

As a part of this celebration, Cumberland College's president Jim Taylor has compiled and written a history of the College, "A Bright Shining City Set On A Hill" from which the stories below are excerpted. Continuing for several months, Cumberland College will feature brief stories taken from the history. These stories will appear approximately every two months as Cumberland College receives its allotted space in the *Western Recorder's* Back Page Cycle.

Serving with Dedication and Vision

BERT T. COMBS

Bert T. Combs, former Governor of Kentucky, was graduated from Cumberland College in 1930. Here are some of his thoughts as expressed in an interview in 1980, when he was recognized as an outstanding alumnus at Homecoming.

"I think Cumberland has done an outstanding job in making it possible for the youth of this region to obtain a college education. Of course, when I was here it was a two-year college, but with what I got at Cumberland that enabled me to go to another institution and also taught me that education was important; that without knowledge you cannot compete. It's just that simple, and I think a practical example is that from the early 30's until the middle 60's, it may be the early 70's, the youth of this region, and that means the leaders, the potential leaders, were leaving this part of Kentucky. For the last ten years, since 1970, they have been coming back, and the trend is very definitely now in a return to this region of the country, and I think the educational institutions are largely responsible for that. Without educational facilities these people would not come back to eastern Kentucky. They would leave, and they would stay.

"When I was here we had a dedicated and fortunately educated group of faculty members that I think would measure up to any faculty anywhere. They were men and women of dedication, and more importantly, of vision, and they had the ability to transmit that dedication and a desire in their students to continue their education. And those faculty members had this philosophy in mind: Some people look at things

as they are and say so what, and others dream of what might be and say, why not. And those ladies and gentlemen dreamed of what might be and were not ashamed of it, and they said, why not. They were idealists. Ideas, of course, are like stars. You don't reach them with your hands, but they knew that although they couldn't reach the stars, like a sailor in the ocean if they set their course on those stars and dedicated themselves with their vision and their energy, they would reach the proper destination.

"When I was here I fired the furnace in Felix Hall. Dr. Creech was a bachelor and he lived in that Hall, first door on the right when you went in. We didn't need any thermometer; he was the thermometer. He was a good thermometer, and if I let that heat vary five degrees, up or down, I immediately heard about it from Dr. Creech.

"To me Cumberland College is unique in that if a young person has average ability to learn, a desire to learn, and is willing to work, he or she can go to Cumberland College, at least I found it that way, and I'm certain it is still that way.

"In addition to making it possible for hundreds, perhaps thousands of young people to go to college, students received at Cumberland a solid foundation in art, sciences, history, and literature, and the kind of training that is so important, if not absolutely necessary, for a person who is going to be competitive in whatever area, industry, or profession he takes up. The teachers here taught the importance of patriotism and religion, but they didn't do it to the extent that it caused reaction. Students, I think,

were encouraged to practice high morals and high ethics.

"I see a very great future for Cumberland College. It is now the biggest private institution of higher learning in Kentucky. It, of course, has been a four-year institution for several years now. It is still dedicated to the principles on which it was founded, but it has kept up with changes in the world. It has increased greatly, of course, in its enrollment. They have a very imaginative, a very capable, a very progressive president, President Taylor. They have an excellent supporting staff, and I have kept up with it enough to know that they still have a faculty of dedication and vision, many of whom, in particular, have the ability to instill in young people the feeling that the pursuit of knowledge is important in itself, is an end in itself for that matter. And so I see with that combination and with the dedication and the desire to continue to educate many young people of Appalachia on the same basis that the College has followed since its founding, I believe Cumberland College will perform a great role in the future, not only for students of Appalachia, but across Kentucky and across this country.

"Cumberland has a dedicated, imaginative, capable President, a fine supporting staff, and perhaps more importantly, a faculty dedicated to instilling in young people a desire to learn and to become good citizens. But we still have a lot of work to do. I know Cumberland College, although successful, has problems and will always have problems because that's part of life, but the problems today ought to be the progress of tomorrow, and from

tomorrow's progress each of us ought to be in a position to say, 'I had a part, even though perhaps a small part, in building a bigger and better Cumberland College.' "



BERT T. COMBS