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"SPEAKING THE TRUTH IN LOVE"

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***PAUL'S GATE**—Entrance to Rome by the Appian Way, through which Paul traveled.*

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Interpretation

CHRISTIAN GREATNESS

By Herschel H. Hobbs

"And there was also a strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest"—Luke 22:24.

This was not the first time that the twelve had wrangled over positions of prominence in the kingdom of God. Sadly it was not the last either. For the Lord's people still are ambitious in this regard.

This scene was in the upper room on the night before Jesus died. Standing in the shadow of the cross, symbol of unselfish love, the disciples were concerned as to which of them should have the place of first honor about the table. Comparative study of the Gospels shows that this occurred before the passover meal.

At Jewish meals the host had the central place about the table. On his right was the place of first honor. On his left was the position of second honor. Alternating respectively were the places of third, fourth, and succeeding places of honor.

Each of the twelve wanted to recline on Jesus' right, the place of highest honor. Thus there arose a "strife" among them. This word renders one meaning "love of strife, eagerness to contend." The point of contention was "with respect to which seems to be greatest."

Jesus used their crass attitude to teach a spiritual lesson. "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them, and the ones exercising authority [tyrants] are called benefactors" (v.25). The word rendered "benefactors" is **euergetai.** The title "Euergetes" was a popular one among ancient rulers.

Jesus emphatically denied that such a standard of greatness applied among Christians. "But ye shall not be so" (v.26) reads literally, "But ye not so." This is in direct contrast with the world's standard of greatness.

"But the greatest among you let him be as the youngest, and the one being the leader let him become as the one serving menially as a slave" (v.26).

Usually honor was paid to the oldest not to the youngest. John was probably the youngest member of the group. And he got the place of first honor (cf. Jn. 13:23). The one who aspired to the highest place of leadership should be willing to serve as the lowest slave. So greatness in the kingdom of God is guaged not by earthly pomp, glory, and authority. It is guaged by service rendered.

In verse 27 Jesus implied that as host He was really the greatest. "But I am among you as he that serveth." The word rendered "serveth" is **diakonos,** the term used of a slave who washed the dust from the feet of the guests. Jesus did this on that occasion (Jn. 13:4ff.). Rather than contending over position the disciples should have been washing feet.

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Pulpit To Pew

Jim Griffith

Lately, with all of the rain, sleet, and snow, I have had several people stop me and ask if I, as a minister, couldn't do something about the weather.

I have been quick to remind them that I am in "sales and promotion"—not management.

Like everyone else, all a preacher can do about the weather is talk about it.

And speaking of the weather, let me say that it has always been a source of constant amazement "how much worse the weather is right around the church than it is on the golf course, in a fishing boat, or out on the highway."

It is not stretching it too far to say that there are a number of persons who wake up on Sunday morning, look out of the window, and say: "It is too bad to go to church—so let's take a trip."

Devotional

FAITH

By Gaye L. McGlothlen, Pastor
Immanuel Baptist Church, Nashville

Perhaps you have seen the little acrostic built upon the five letters in the word "faith:"

F orsaking
A ll
I
T ake
H im

As you reflect upon the truth in this acrostic, your faith may become just a little more meaningful. Do you see these elements in it?

Dr. McGlothlen

There is a forsaking. Sin is prevalent in each life (Romans 3:23). Human experience confirms it. But God has something better for each person. Through faith, an individual believes something about God's Son, about sin, about the way of redemption, and about the joys of regeneration. Such a person soon realizes the power of the Holy Spirit to help him forsake the way of life that leads to destruction. Such a decision brings much joy.

There is a turning. The change coming into the life of the Christian is not primarily of his own doing. The motivation for the change comes from the Holy Spirit, his teacher and guide. A willingness to turn from a life of unrighteousness to a life of godliness results. Technically called repentance, this turning encourages the individual in Christian growth and character development.

There is a receiving. An individual Christian soon learns that he receives much more than he is called upon to give up. The New Testament speaks frequently of the fruits of the Spirit. Peace, joy, longsuffering, patience, kindness, and other traits are described as real achievements and real blessings.

Individuals thus changed possess eternal life. Technically and experientially this quality of living characterizes his remaining days in the earth. It reaches its finest fulfillment in the hereafter as he dwells forever in the presence of his Maker.

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PROBLEMS OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE
(One of a series)

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"Christian" As A Prefix

By T. B. Maston
Retired Professor of Christian Ethics
Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

MAR 13 1969

The word "Christian" is frequently used as an adjective as well as a noun. An adjective is used "to denote a quality of the thing . . . or to specify a thing as distinct from something else."

When "Christian" is used as an adjective or a prefix it denotes a quality or it specifies something distinctive about the noun to which it is attached. We may not be able to define exactly what is meant by the word "Christian," but we know that there is supposed to be a distinctive quality about anything or anyone that is labeled or called "Christian."

For example, a home, a community, a college, or even a church cannot justifiably be called "Christian" unless it maintains a quality that is distinctive.

Likewise an individual who is known as a "Christian" is supposed to live a life that is different from others. If he does not he has no right to claim the name "Christian." He is to live a life with a distinctive tone or quality in every relation he maintains and in every role he plays.

There is no place where it is more important for one to be a real Christian than in the home. We may be a husband or a wife, a parent or a child, but we should never forget that we are Christians and that should make a difference in our relations to one another.

The same is true outside the home. If we are Christians, the word "Christian" is to be a prefix for every relation and role of our lives.

We may be a banker, lawyer, doctor, farmer, teacher, preacher, social worker, or housewife, but if we are Christians the word "Christian" is to affect every relation we maintain. We may be an employer or an employee, but we are a "Christian" employer or employee. We may be a member of a civic group, a Chamber of Commerce, or a labor union, but "Christian" is to precede and define the quality of our relations in the organization or group.

Also as Christians we are citizens of our nation and of the world. But we are Christian citizens and that should make a difference.

We may be a white man or a black man, but if we are Christians that fact should change our outlook concerning our relations with one another. So it is with all cultural and ethnic groups.

It has been suggested that "Christian" attached to any relationship we maintain, any role we play is supposed to denote a distinctive quality. What are the distinctive qualities or marks of a Christian? The question can be answered in a summary way by saying that being a Christian means to be Christlike.

A Christian is a **Christ**-ian. A sincere Christian knows that he falls far short of being like Christ, but he does recognize that this is the ideal by which he should measure his life.

What kind of a life did Christ live when he walked among men? He went about doing good. He ministered to the needs of people. He comforted the sorrowing. He fed the hungry. He lifted the downtrodden. He had compassion on people. He was a blessing to all whose lives were touched by him.

This needs to be said over and over again. We will live the kind of life he lived only to the degree that we let the resurrected Christ live in us and express himself through us. This is what it really means to live the Christian life.

Pastor Briefing Set During Mission Weeks

A briefing conference for pastors will be held daily during this summer's Foreign Missions Conferences at Ridgecrest and Glorieta Baptist Assemblies.

The briefing, to take place during the morning conference period, will be led by Dr. Jesse C. Fletcher, director of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's new mission support division, and members of his staff.

Dates for the special weeks sponsored by the Foreign Mission Board are July 3-9 at Ridgecrest, N.C., and Aug. 14-20 at Glorieta, N.M.

Howell Named Pastor Of Washington Church

WASHINGTON—John E. Howell, pastor of Northside Drive Baptist church in Atlanta for three years, has been named pastor of the historic First Baptist church of Washington, D. C.

Howell will succeed Edward Hughes Pruden, who is retiring after 32 years at the church just a few blocks from the White House. The church, organized in 1802, includes many government leaders in its membership.

Howell's resignation from the Atlanta church is effective about April 1. Before going to the Atlanta church three years ago, he was pastor of First Baptist church, DeLand, Fla. (BP)

With the Seminaries

Southwestern Seminary Board Approves Budget, New Courses

FORT WORTH—The board of trustees for Southwestern Baptist Theological seminary here approved a record budget and two new courses, including one on the Negro church in America and another on curriculum theory and design.

An operating budget totalling $2,458,244 for the fiscal year, 1969-70, was approved by the board. The budget represents an increase of more than $100,000 over the present budget, and is the largest budget in the seminary's history.

The new course on Negro religion in America will emphasize the Christian perspective concerning slavery, the church and the Civil War, growth of Negro denominations, the rise of Negro cults, and the historic role of the Negro church, seminary officials said. It will be taught in the church history department by Leon McBeth.

The course on curriculum theory and design will analyze curriculum objectives, theories of learning in the curriculum plan of Southern Baptist curriculum materials, and will be taught by LeRoy Ford in the seminary's School of Religious Education.

In other action, the board granted tenure to Ford, and to Roy J. Fish, associate professor of evangelism. Ford is professor of programmed instruction and principles of religious education.

Seminary President Robert E. Naylor announced the appointment of J. N. Boo Heflin as an instructor in Old Testament, as a contract teacher. Heflin, a 1966 graduate of the seminary now working on his doctoral dissertation, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Heflin of Little Rock, Ark., and a graduate of Ouachita Baptist university, Arkadelphia, Ark.

Naylor also reported on progress of construction on the Walsh Medical Center and a new parking facility, and told the board the seminary has the largest enrollment this year since 1963-64, with a total of 2036 students.

Southwestern seminary is the largest of the six seminaries owned and operated by the Southern Baptist Convention. (BP)

EDITORIALS

Guest Editorial

NOW I PROTEST

In recent years we have heard and read a lot about protests. My reaction has been, Count me out on all this protest business. But I have changed my mind.

1. I protest the employment of teachers in tax-supported schools who advocate the precepts of Karl Marx, V. I. Lenin and Fidel Castro.

2. I object to a tax structure that takes up to 50 per cent of the income of some families through direct and indirect taxes and allows some millionaires to pay little or no income taxes.

3. I object to paying taxes for the support of people who are able to work but refuse to work.

4. I disapprove of our country giving financial assistance to other countries that support avowed enemies of the United States.

5. I protest efforts to secure more tax funds for church schools. While the Supreme Court denies religious exercises in public schools, it permits public funds to be used in schools that major on religion.

6. I assert that it is inconsistent for public educational systems to deny positive religious instruction while religion is taught negatively without restraint.

7. I disagree with the authorities who give encouragement to students who seek to stop all educational processes until they get their way about some grievances.

8. I object to the implication often made that moral and spiritual certainties are signs of inferior culture and schooling.

9. I disapprove of the false claims that are made by radio and television concerning smoking and drinking.

10. I protest the protester who (under the pretext of protesting) resorts to abusive language, destruction of property, theft, and injury to innocent people. I protest all protesters who protest merely for the sake of protesting. Some people have found it easier to protest than work; easier to protest than attend classes. (W. Ross Edwards, *Word and Way,* Missouri)

EMPHASIS ON YOUTH

The recent youth conference on evangelism held in Nashville has something to say to Tennessee and Southern Baptists, we believe.

The conference, sponsored by the Department of Evangelism, was designed to serve as a "kick-off" for the Crusade of the Americas in the state.

The program was packed with much meat and little milk. No one knew what to expect. Optimists had forecast a possible 2000 in attendance, and this was mere guess work. Lo and behold—the youth conference on evangelism turned out to be the "sleeper" of the year.

An estimated 6500 to 7000 young people from every corner of the state filled to capacity all available space at Belmont Heights Baptist church and the facilities at Belmont college.

We believe this is a rather clear-cut indication that young people—given a challenge—will rise to the occasion, meet the challenge, and provide leadership to the adults in a unique manner.

Our appreciation to Evangelism Secretary Dowell, his program personnel, and all who cared enough to become involved in an experiment which became a glorious challenge to Tennessee Baptists to move out in the Crusade of the Americas.

NOW IS THE HOUR

After five years of talking, planning, and, we hope, much praying, the hour for the beginning of the Crusade of the Americas in Tennessee is upon us.

Beginning this week in West Tennessee, and then moving across the state during March and April, this evangelistic effort—billed as the largest mass evangelism campaign ever planned—moves from the planning stage to the actual services.

At the risk of sounding more worldly than otherwise, we would point out that perhaps as at no other time, the reputation of Southern Baptists as a Bible-believing, evangelism-centered group of people concerned for the lost is clearly on the line.

We have talked ourselves almost blue in the face concerning what we plan and hope to accomplish.

We have prayed, and we hope earnestly, for the power and leadership of the Holy Spirit in this concentrated effort. If the power of the Holy Spirit is in evidence—and we believe and pray that He will be evident—and if our cause is right—and we believe it to be—then we pray as never before that God will bless us and use us effectively in this Crusade of the Americas.

Irby Fills New Deanship In Religious Affairs At Union

Dr. David Irby of Jackson, a member of the Union university staff since 1964, will fill a new deanship post at the university beginning June 1, 1969.

Dr. Irby was elected Dean of Religious Affairs during Thursday's meeting of the Board of Trustees. The administrative position was created last June by the Board, and at the time of the announcement Union University President Robert E. Craig said the new post would be a pilot plan to give spiritual activities on the campus a greater role.

The post was established with a grant from the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention and the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

In announcing the appointment of Dr. Irby, President Craig said, "the person elected to fill the position will have a great

Dr. Irby

deal of authority and responsibility in the administrative function of the college."

President Craig also said that a large responsibility of the office will be directing the in-service training program for religious vocational students. "We expect Dr. Irby to work especially with the ministerial students in helping them obtain pastorates, and we plan to have some of them serve internships with outstanding religious leaders, pastors, and educational directors."

The job description released by the president's office lists other responsibilities as supervision of religious activities; the Baptist Student Union; the Ministerial Association; and the youth revival teams—organizations that have previously been guided by the director of the BSU. Irby will also serve as a liaison person between the institution and Baptist churches, filling requests for pulpit supply and representing the college in yearly associational meetings. He will direct the summer Pastor's Conference.

Irby is a native of Wayne County, Mississippi, a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi and the New Orleans Baptist Theological seminary where he was awarded the Th.D. degree in 1963.

He taught for the New Augusta, Mississippi school system, and was principal of the Rock Hill School in Forrest County, Mississippi prior to accepting a teaching fellowship at the New Orleans Seminary. From 1964 to 1967 he directed the Union University Extension Center at the Memphis State campus, and in the fall of 1967 came to Jackson as Dean of Students at Union. He is a past president of the Greater Memphis Baptist Pastors Conference, served as chairman of the College Planning Committee of the Shelby County Baptist Association, and has held pastorates in West Tennessee, Mississippi and Louisiana.

Irby and his wife, the former Marilyn Woodham of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, live at 83 Gasser Road in Jackson. They have three children, Debra, 16, a student at Jackson High School, Davida, 11, a student at Highland Park Elementary School, and Dara, 5, a student at West Jackson Baptist Kindergarten.

Education

Schools must teach humanitarian skills aimed at:

—Understanding oneself and his fellowmen

—Developing meaningful compassion

—Cultivating effective relationships with all peoples

—Stimulating mental health.

This is the message contained in **Life Skills and Society,** the 1969 yearbook of one department of the National Education Association.

"There must be more to education than the mere acquisition of skills which allow one to be gainfully employed." The fundamental life skills are of another order.

To generate such skills, the curriculum must tackle the real problems of the current social scene and wrestle with the difficulties created by a rapidly changing society.

Skill attainment may involve attitudes, emotions, information, thought, or manual dexterity; but the heart of the process is "invariably a matter of **human behavior.** The measure of a school's success in developing skillful humans lies in their **daily behavior** rather than in their scores on a test."

February SBC Missions Gifts Jump 12 Per Cent

NASHVILLE—A 12.26 per cent increase in Southern Baptist Convention Cooperative Program missions gifts during the month of February has offset a 16 per cent decrease during the month of December, a monthly SBC financial report indicated here.

The 12 per cent increase for February, coupled with 9.9 per cent increase during the month of January, offset the 16 per cent December decrease to put the convention 1.92 per cent ahead of contributions for the same three month period during 1967-68.

John H. Williams, financial planning secretary for the SBC Executive Committee which prepared the report, called the giving trends "encouraging."

Total contributions through the Cooperative Program, which supports the mission efforts of 19 different SBC agencies, for 1969 (January and February combined) was reported at $4,981,690, an increase of $497,462, or an average of 11.09 per cent for the year over gifts for the same two months of 1968.

Designated contributions to specific SBC mission causes during 1969 reached $11,095,936, up more than a million dollars over the 1968 figures, and up 10.48 per cent. The $11 million figure includes a total of $10½ million given to the Lottie Moon Offering for Foreign Missions.

The combined total missions gifts through the Cooperative Program and designated contributions reached $16,077,626 for the first two months of the year, an increase of $1½ million or 10.67 per cent.

Williams said that he and Porter Routh, executive secretary of the SBC Executive Committee, still had not been able to determine exactly why there was a 16 per cent decrease during the month of December, but they were greatly encouraged by the increased giving during January and February which has offset the December decrease.

Of the $16 million in total gifts for the year to date, more than $13.6 million has gone to the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, most of it through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

The amounts reflected in the monthly financial report from the SBC Executive Committee include only funds given to support nation-wide Southern Baptist mission efforts, and do not reflect gifts to local and state Baptist missions. (BP)

State Court Rules Cross May Stand On City's Property

EUGENE, Ore.—A 51-foot concrete cross on public property overlooking the city will be the subject of a U.S. Supreme Court review, a Unitarian minister vowed here.

The Rev. Carl Nelson pledged to take the matter to the nation's highest court after the Oregon Supreme Court, in a 4-3 ruling, held that the cross did not violate church-state separation principles. (RNS)

Baptist Religion Professors Deplore Criswell Book Publicity

ATLANTA—A resolution adopted by the Association of Baptist Professors of Religion meeting here deplored and protested "the nature of promotion and publicity" given to the book, Why I Preach That the Bible Is Literally True by W. A. Criswell of Dallas.

The Baptist religion professors said the advertising campaign "clearly suggests that the position espoused in this book is the official position of the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention", which published the book through Broadman Press.

The author is also the current president of the Southern Baptist Convention and the pastor of the largest church in the denomination, the 15,000-member First Baptist church of Dallas.

The resolution adopted by the 64 Baptist religion professors here said the group recognizes "the responsibility of Broadman Press to publish materials reflecting a variety of interpretations of the Bible," but it none-the-less deplored the publicity campaign on the book advocating literal interpretation of the Bible.

A footnote at the end of the resolution said that copies had been sent to James L. Sullivan, executive secretary of the Sunday School Board, and to William J. Fallis, manager of the Broadman Books department of the board.

Sullivan, when contacted about the resolution, had only one comment: "It is interesting that copies of this resolution have been received by the press, but that no communication from the association has yet reached my office." He had no further comment.

The resolution also stated that the Baptist religion professors are committed to the vocation of bringing young people to a knowledge of the Scriptures, and that this requires "the honest and conscientious utilization of the historical-critical method of Biblical study."

It added that any action "by a denominational agency which gives or appears to give denominational sanction to a denial of the historical-critical approach inevitably undermines the work of Biblical teachers and alienates students from both the denomination and the Bible itself."

A second resolution called for the cessation of "harassment, biblicism and witch hunting," at Southern Baptist seminaries.

Once again, in recent weeks, events in a Southern Baptist seminary raise, for all concerned persons, a spectre of harassment, biblicism and witch hunting," the group said.

"The Association of Baptist Professors of Religion notes with strenuous objection the prevailing conditions and we insist that our seminaries must provide the dimension of freedom that is prerequisite to a search for truth," the resolution said.

The resolution added that during the past 11 years, more than a score of seminary professors have "encountered the stifling effects of a restrictive atmosphere and have, under varied circumstances, departed from our theological faculties.

"We, as colleagues in the teaching of religion, say 'This must cease,' " the Baptist religion professors declared.

No particular seminary was singled out in the resolution, but a footnote said copies were sent to the presidents of the six SBC-owned seminaries, and to members of the board of trustees for New Orleans Baptist Theological seminary. (BP)

Housewife Campaigns Against 'Atheism in Space'

LANSING, Mich.—A housewife and radio Bible commentator brought her campaign to battle "atheism in outer space" to the Michigan Legislature—backed by nearly 500,000 petition signatures.

Mrs. Loretta Lee Fry of Taylor, Mich., who supports the right of astronauts to read Biblical passages to Americans from outer space—and who condemns opposition holding it to be a violation of church-state separations—before the Michigan legislature. She brought with her petitions supporting her position signed by more than 460,000 people.

Sen. Lorraine Beebe asked Mrs. Fry to appear at the State Capitol here to tell her story of her campaign against Mrs. Madalyn Murray O'Hair, avowed atheist who seeks to bar religious activity by astronauts while reporting on space flights to the people.

Mrs. Fry conducts a weekday radio program, "Bible Phone Opinion," over Detroit's WBFG-FM.

The attractive mother of three will turn over the petitions to the National Aeronautics and Space Agency. They uphold the Apollo 8 astronauts who read from the Bible on Christmas Eve as their vehicle orbited the Moon. (RNS)

Clergy Shortage Ebbs

HELSINKI—A crisis over clergy shortage is lessening in the Lutheran Church of Finland, the State Church announced here.

A total of 70 parish vacancies in January, 1967, has been reduced to 17. The church has 1200 pastors.

Enrollment at the University of Helsinki Faculty of Theology was also reported on the increase. Currently there are 90 male and 71 female students. (RNS)

LETTER

February 20, 1969

To the Editor:

I have been asked by Broadman Press to write a book on a subject of growing concern—the drinking and drunken driver. To my knowledge, a book has not been written on this problem. The title will be "Whisky at the Wheel." Publication date is January 1, 1970.

Leaders at the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville where the book will be printed feel that the liquor industry is most vulnerable at this point. The National Safety Council and the U. S. Department of Transportation support this conclusion with the gruesome statistic that at least half of all highway fatalities (55,000 in 1968) are alcohol-related. Some states believe that this figure is too conservative.

In the hope that this book will be as strong and convincing as possible, I would appreciate you and your readers sending me material, information, clippings, etc., that might be appropriate for such a book. Especially would I like accounts of personal experiences that your readers have had. Names could be included or withheld, depending on the readers' preference.

I am particularly anxious to know what is being done in your state to reduce this terrible loss of human life. It may be that your state has used some unusual approach very effectively. If so, I certainly would like to get details.

I will be indebted to you if you will give your readers an opportunity to become a part of this project. I am hopeful they will respond in a manner that will give the book more impact. The challenge is to shock drinkers and nondrinkers alike out of their apathy toward this national problem. Mail will reach me at the address below. Thank you so much for your help.

Marse Grant, Editor
Biblical Recorder
P. O. Box 9325
Raleigh, N. C. 27603

HAPPY TIMES HERE AGAIN—These boys have camping in mind, as will the readers of the April, May, June issue of *Ambassador Leader*, which has a special insert on camping. The magazine, for leaders and officers of Royal Ambassadors, highlights this important activity for Southern Baptist boys in the eight-page supplement. *Ambassador Leader* is published by the Brotherhood Commission, SBC.

Challenging Financial Drive Needed, SBC Leader Declares

JACKSON, Miss.—The first vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention, Owen Cooper of Yazoo City, Miss., told executive secretaries of state Baptist foundations here that Southern Baptists need a great, concerted financial effort.

"The greatest evil in our country today is not alcoholism, stealing, immorality or lawlessness," said Cooper, "but it is that of covetousness, greed and secularism."

Cooper, president of the Mississippi and Coastal Chemical Corp., in Yazoo City, Miss., said he felt that a great financial campaign, similar to the $75 million campaign of the 1920's, would "give Southern Baptists a challenge, a unity, a cohesiveness of action and an involvement of laymen that is sorely needed at this time."

"God has an answer for each problem, a plan for each program, a solution for each difficulty," Cooper said. "The answer to our financial problem is found in his book—the answer is tithing."

The president of the State Baptist Foundation Executives, Thomas W. Nelson of Jefferson City, Mo., said that total assets of all state Baptist foundations and the Southern Baptist Foundation total more than $140 million.

Saying that Baptists are now entering an era of great potential, Nelson, the executive secretary of the Missouri Baptist Foundation, said, "I doubt if any task in Baptist life is more promising for enduring contributions to our work."

Another speaker, Merrill D. Moore of the Southern Baptist Stewardship Commission in Nashville, echoed Nelson's statements, saying that the foundation executives lend a great service by helping Christians to find an element of immorality for their hard-won resources.

Elected president of the organization was Gus Johnson, executive secretary of the Florida Baptist Foundation in Jacksonville, Fla. Other officers are Glenn E. Crotts, executive director of the Arizona Baptist Foundation, Phoenix, as vice president; and Vernon Yearby, executive secretary of the Alabama Baptist Foundation, Montgomery, as secretary-treasurer.

The group voted to meet next in Austin, Tex., March 10-12, 1970; and in Atlanta, Ga., April 6-8, 1971.

Johnson Named to Bible Committee

NEW YORK—Wallace E. Johnson of Memphis, Tenn., president of the Holiday Inns of America, Inc., has been elected to the new post of chairman of the board of the Laymen's National Bible Committee.

The board of directors, at its annual meeting, also officially approved changing the organization's name by inserting the word "Bible" in Laymen's National Committee.

Texas Baptist Education Group Rejects Carden Report Proposals

DALLAS—The Christian Education Commission for Texas Baptists has adopted recommendations which reject the specific, controversial proposals of the Carden Report on the state's Baptist colleges. The recommendations, however, take into account the report's depth analysis of certain weaknesses in Texas Baptist education.

In a special meeting here, the Education Commission adopted recommendations from its 12-man study committee that (1) Howard Payne and Wayland colleges continue to operate, (2) East Texas Baptist college continue as a four-year school, (3) Mary Hardin-Baylor college continue as a separate institution, (4) Hardin-Simmons university continue its present program as a liberal arts college but not expand its graduate work and (5) that the University of Corpus Christi continue to seek solutions to its financial and educational problems.

William R. Carden had recommended, after a year's study, that Howard Payne college and Wayland college be sold to local tax districts, that East Texas Baptist college be reduced to Junior College status, Mary Hardin-Baylor operate under the Baylor university board of trustees, Hardin-Simmons drop its graduate program and the University of Corpus Christi be granted independent status.

However, the committee of 12's recommendations did not hang a blanket "business as usual" sign on the affected institutions. They incorporated suggestions—based on Carden's analysis—on how the institutions could improve their situation and strengthened machinery for the committee and the Education Commission to follow up on what is being done. (BP)

Heart Disease Increases Lead As Minister Killer

DALLAS—Heart disease increased its lead in 1968 as the number one killer of Southern Baptist ministers and denominational employes. Cancer held onto second place but showed a seven per cent decline.

Statistics released by the Southern Baptist Annuity Board here reveal that heart diseases claimed the lives of 65 per cent of members in the Southern Baptist Protection Program who died in 1968—an eight per cent increase over the 1967 figure.

Eighteen per cent of the deaths were caused by cancer.

Heart disease has been the primary killer of Protection Program members since 1959, the year the SBC Annuity Board started recording such statistics.

Auto accidents and pneumonia each killed seven per cent last year, while five per cent was attributed to suicide and four per cent each to arteriosclerosis and emphysema.

Other diseases claiming lives included gastric hemorrhage, brain tumor, uremia, renal failure and multiple sclerosis.

Heart disease also continued as the chief cause of disability. Forty-three per cent of the persons who were forced to give up their full-time ministry because of disability had heart trouble. This represents a one per cent increase over 1967.

Other causes of disability were: cancer, eight per cent; mental disorder, arthritis and diabetes, six per cent each; emphysema, four per cent; and three per cent each for tuberculosis, loss of voice, loss of hearing, chronic renal failure, accident, spinal disorder, Parkinson's disease, brain disorder and multiple sclerosis. (BP)

'Bible Week' Originator Dies

GORHAM, Me.—Kenneth G. Olsen, the Lutheran layman credited with first suggesting a National Bible Week, died here in mid-February. (RNS)

Convocations to Weigh '39 Articles' Debate

LONDON—Proposed changes in the formula for subscribing and assenting to the 39 Articles, which embrace the doctrine of the Church of England, are to go before the Convocations of Canterbury and York following a debate here in which the Articles were called the Church's "skeleton in the cupboard."

The term was used by T. S. Horan of St. Albans during a debate before the Church Assembly. He also said some of the Articles, which were formulated in 1571, were incomprehensible, some were unacceptable, and some were couched in impossible language. Together, he said, they displayed "un-Christian, puritanical arrogance." (RNS)

Tennessee News Briefs

Grady Randolph, former Nashville pastor, has been named executive secretary of Kentucky Baptist Foundation. He formerly served as superintendent of missions for Elkhorn Baptist association in Kentucky. Ordained in 1948 into the gospel ministry by Woodmont church, Nashville, he served Woodmont as associate pastor and Glenwood church, Nashville, as pastor.

Dr. Charles Treadway of the Baptist Sunday School Board has been called as interim pastor of Brentwood Baptist mission, sponsored by Woodmont church, Nashville. First officers and teachers' meeting saw 100 of 156 members in attendance. Constitution as a church is set for April 13.

H. Eugene Crawford, former pastor of First church, Franklin, is now community consultant on aging for Tennessee State Commission on Aging.

First church, Smyrna, has called **Dr. Herbert C. Gabhart,** president of Belmont college, Nashville, as interim pastor.

Mrs. Clarence Eades, member of Temple church, Johnson City, is the new office secretary, clerk and assistant treasurer of Holston association.

First church, Kingsport, has ordained **Leonard Ball, Joe Davidson, Jerry Hubbard** and **Bill Wheeler** as deacons. **William J. Purdue** is pastor.

Gilbert Bailey, minister of music and education at Glenwood church, Holston association, has accepted a similar position with Mountain Grove Baptist church, Granite Falls, N. C.

Terry Kent Begley, son of **pastor and Mrs. Gerald Begley,** West View church, Holston association, has been awarded the Outstanding Senior Student Award in the Chemical and Metallurgical Engineering Department at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Bloomingdale church, Holston association, has ordained **Kenneth Bacon** as a deacon. **Joe Byrd** is pastor.

Wayne Bowery, pastor, Cedar Grove church, Lebanon, Va., has been ordained to the gospel ministry by Beulah church, Holston association.

Charles Douglas Earl, native of Knoxville, has been called as pastor of First church, Bluff City. A graduate of Belmont college, Nashville, he is presently serving on the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, and comes to Bluff City from First church, New Tazewell, where he served as pastor for five years.

First church, Greeneville, has called **Raymond Langlois,** native of Nashville, as pastor. A graduate of Belmont college, Nashville and Southern Baptist Theological seminary, Louisville, Ky., he has served as pastor in Tennessee and Ohio, where he was superintendent of missions of Greater Cleveland, and comes to Greeneville from Columbus, where he was State director of Training Union and Baptist Student Union. **Mrs. Langlois** is the former **Carolyn Snell,** of Nashville. They have two sons, **Mark** and **Joel.**

Elmer Sellers, pastor, Southside church, Holston association, has been called as pastor of Shady Grove church, Thaxton, Va.

Cedar Hills Baptist church, Jacksonville, Fla., has called **Bobby Joe Tipton,** member of Clark Street church, Johnson City, as minister of music and youth.

Anna Hicks, only surviving charter member of Oak Hill church, Holston association, died recently.

First church, Livingston, has called **Emory Register** as pastor.

A. Lacy Price, 77, member of First church, Jackson, died recently. He was vice-president and advertising manager of the Jackson Sun.

Ward Named Education Head

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah—Effective March 1, Guy Ward of Salt Lake City will become secretary of the education department of the Utah-Idaho Southern Baptist Convention.

Ward is currently pastor of the First Southern Baptist church of Salt Lake City, and is a native of Simpson, Okla.

He was pastor of several churches in Oklahoma and was superintendent of missions in the South Canadian Baptist Association before coming to the Salt Lake City church in 1965. (BP)

Property Cases to States

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The U. S. Supreme Court has sent back for review two cases involving church property in Ohio and Maryland, asking the state courts to reconsider their decisions in light of the court's ruling in January in which it warned against civil courts intervening in church doctrinal disputes.

The Ohio case involves the Serbian Orthodox congregation of St. Demetrius in Akron. There the 9th Judicial District Court rules that the mother Church, the Serbian Orthodox church of Yugoslavia, may depose and change bishops of the Diocese of the U. S. and Canada without prior consultation with members of the diocese. (RNS)

Bennett Named Consultant

NASHVILLE—Walter Bennett has been named consultant in church administration for the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention here.

Bennett came to the board's church administration department from Tabernacle Baptist church, Decatur, Ill., where he has served as pastor since 1963.

Texas Board Approves Dental School Release

DALLAS—The Executive Board of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, without debate or opposition, has recommended independent status for the Dallas-based Baylor College of Dentistry.

Reorganization of the college under an independent board of trustees will allow acceptance of federal or state aid.

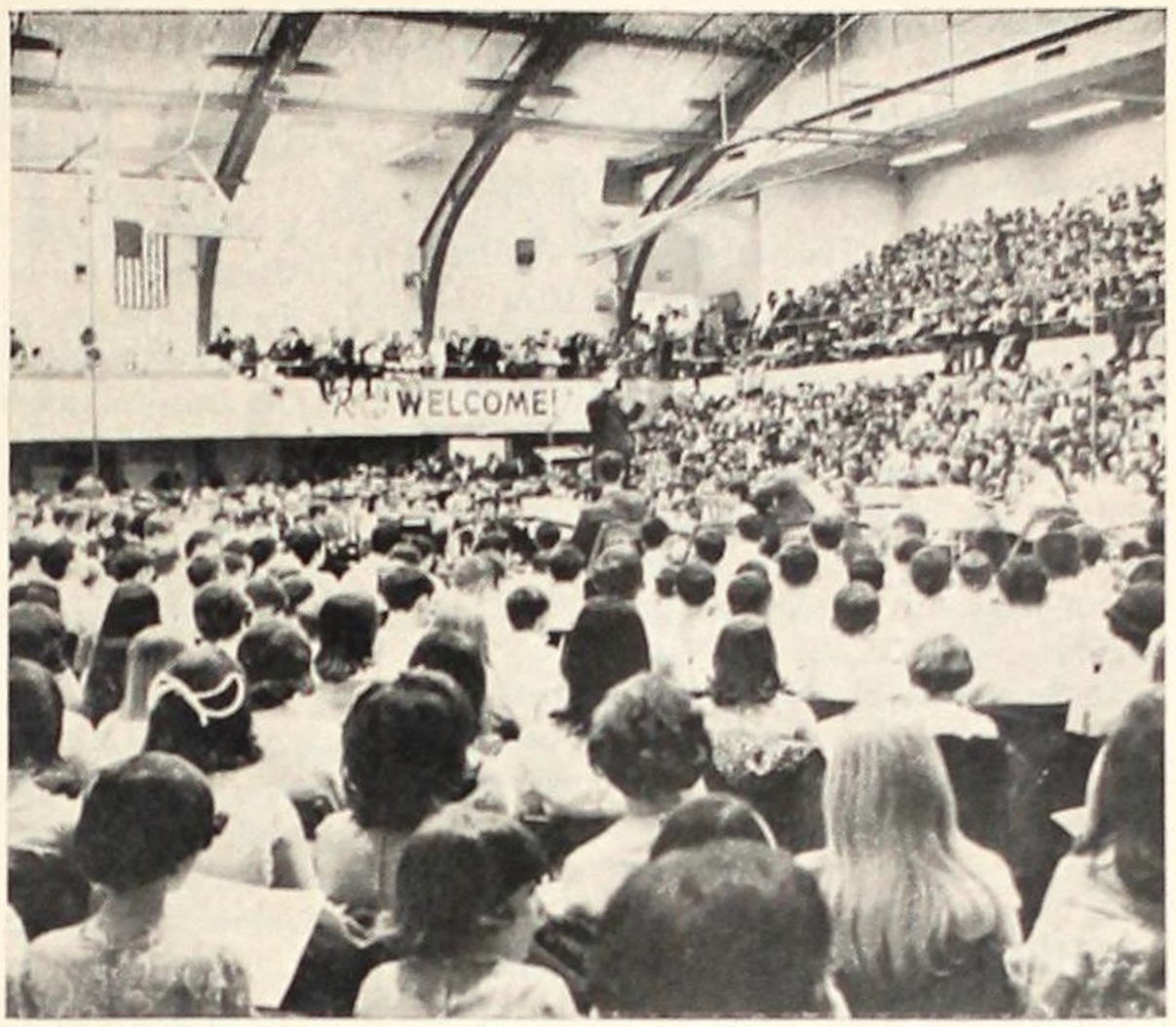
Final approval of the recommendation will be sought at the Texas convention's annual session in San Antonio, Nov. 4-6.

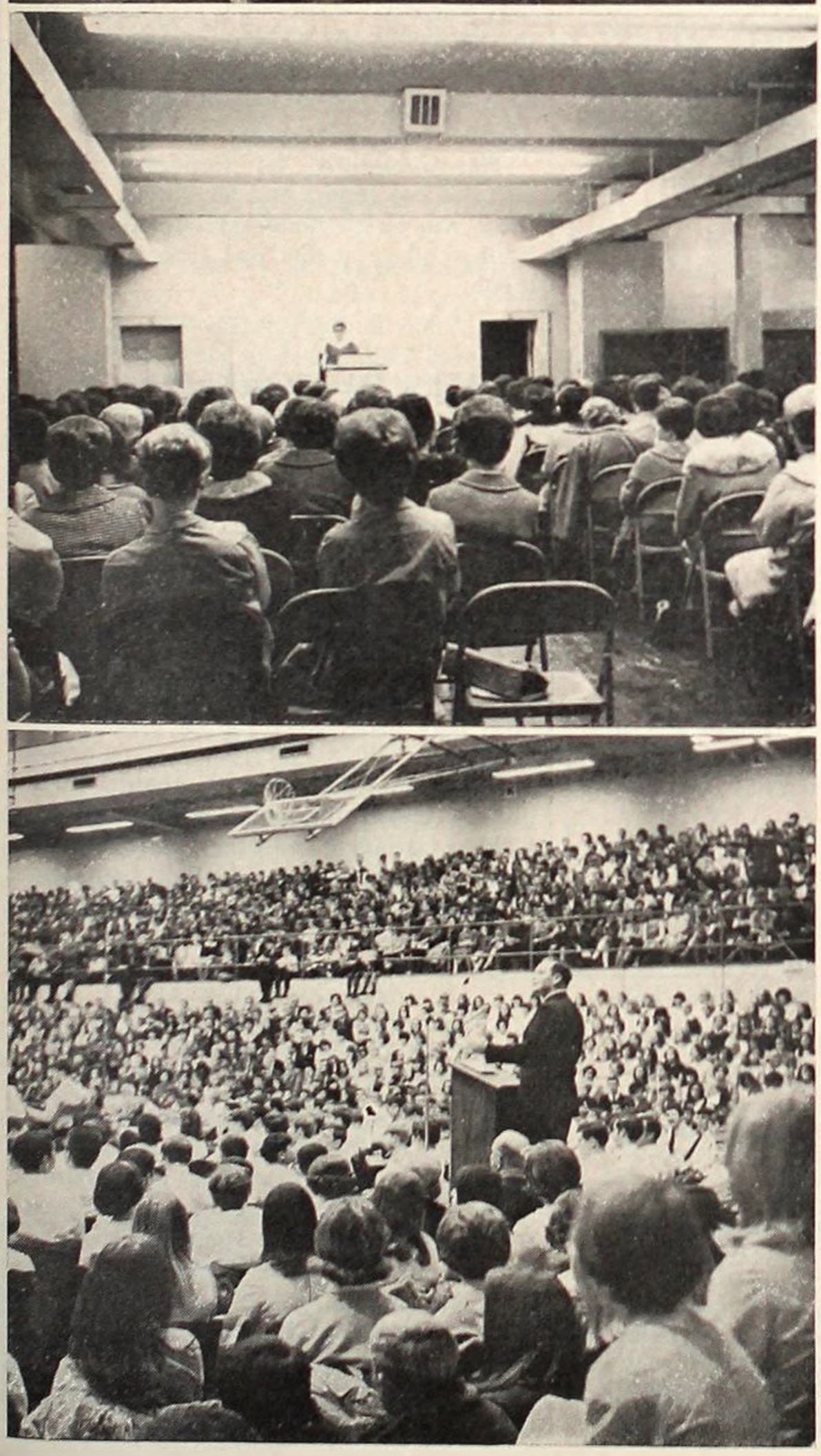
Under the terms of the Executive Board motion, the school will be allowed to retain the Baylor name. (BP)

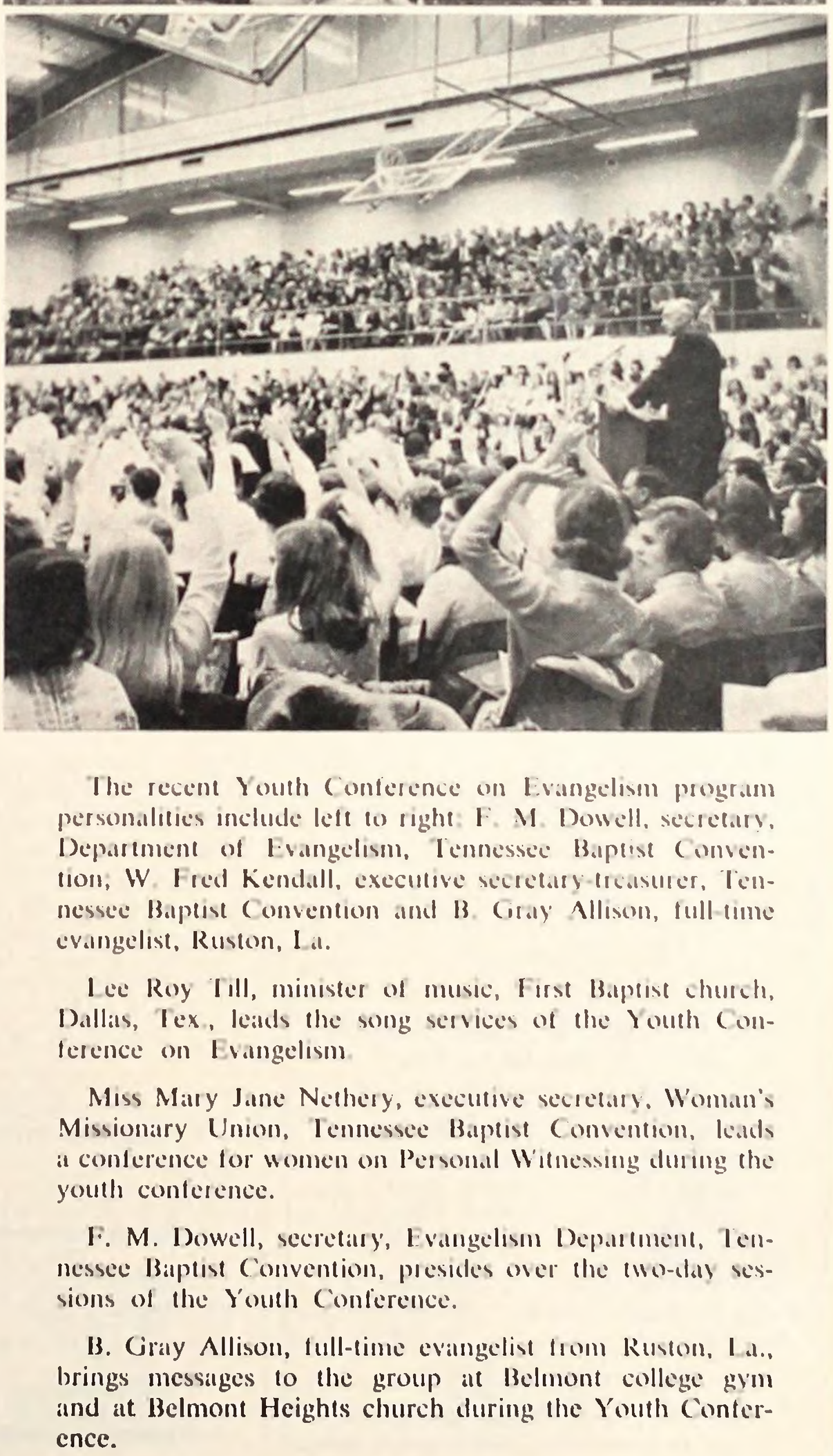
Wilson Government Opposes 'New Day' for Christmas

LONDON—Christmas Day will continue to be observed on Dec. 25 as long as the Wilson government is in power.

This was made clear in the House of Commons when Home Secretary James Callaghan rejected a motion introduced by six Conservative (Opposition party) members calling for Christmas Day to be permanently fixed on the Sunday nearest to Dec. 25. (RNS)







The recent Youth Conference on Evangelism program personalities include left to right: F. M. Dowell, secretary, Department of Evangelism, Tennessee Baptist Convention; W. Fred Kendall, executive secretary-treasurer, Tennessee Baptist Convention and B. Gray Allison, full-time evangelist, Ruston, La.

Lee Roy Till, minister of music, First Baptist church, Dallas, Tex., leads the song services of the Youth Conference on Evangelism.

Miss Mary Jane Nethery, executive secretary, Woman's Missionary Union, Tennessee Baptist Convention, leads a conference for women on Personal Witnessing during the youth conference.

F. M. Dowell, secretary, Evangelism Department, Tennessee Baptist Convention, presides over the two-day sessions of the Youth Conference.

B. Gray Allison, full-time evangelist from Ruston, La., brings messages to the group at Belmont college gym and at Belmont Heights church during the Youth Conference.

HILDREN'S HOMES

ENDOWMENT

By James M. Gregg, Executive Director

One of my great concerns which is shared y our Board is that continued efforts be ıade to increase the Endowment Fund of ıe Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes. 'he interest earned by this Fund, invested y the Tennessee Baptist Foundation, is sed by the Children's Homes in its work 'ith boys and girls in need. It is most rgent that this Endowment Fund be en- arged.

There are many Tennessee Baptists who ould help in this area through bequests, ills or memorial gifts.

SEMINARIANS CHALLENGED

LOUISVILLE—More than 1000 students were challenged here to stand boldly on their Christian commitment while embracing the culture of the times, confident that this is God's way of communicating redemption through events.

The challenge was issued during the Student Missions Conference at Southern Baptist Theological seminary here by John Killinger of Vanderbilt university, Nashville.

Young people who do not tense-up in the situation, but who "will hold both to God and culture," can bring about a reconciliation between contemporary man and His creator through Jesus Christ, Killinger said. (BP)

Medal For "MasterControl"

FORT WORTH—The Southern Baptist Radio-Television Commission here has won a George Washington Honor Medal from the Freedom's Foundation for production of a 1968 Independence Day Special on the radio program "MasterControl"*.

Broadcast between June 28 and July 4, the "MasterControl"* program commemorating the 192nd anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, was carried on 520 radio stations. (BP)

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Union Trustees Name Campus Architect; Adopt Budget Of $1,700,000; Raise Salaries

A Nashville-based firm has been selected by the Union University Board of Trustees to do the master plan for the university's new campus north of Jackson.

The trustees, meeting in semi-annual session on the campus voted to award the contract to Earl Swensson, Architects, Inc., Nashville. The planning firm will coordinate the project for Union, including a study of the existing campus and a master plan for the new site.

Earl Swensson, head of the firm which has 17 members and five registered architects, is an honor graduate in building design of V.P.I. where he received the bachelor's and master's degrees.

Union's President, Dr. Robert E. Craig, was enthusiastic about the employment of the campus planners. "We are fortunate to find a Tennessee-based firm with the educational planning experience of Mr. Swensson," he said. Dr. Craig also said that the new campus planning committee of the board, which made the recommendation on the firm, had considered more than 40 architectural firms across the country.

A yearly operational budget of more than $1,700,000 was adopted for the college. President Craig emphasized that the operational budget did not include capital projects funds nor any of the new campus planning and construction.

Largest increases in the budget were in the areas of instructional salaries and expenditures for the library. Salaries were raised from five to seven per cent, and the budget for the library was increased by more than twenty-five per cent.

Union trustees released last November a $10,400,000 tentative financial plan for the initial development of the new property. The income estimate listed funds on hand from wills, estates, past campaigns; projected funds from the sale of the present campus, a campaign which has been authorized by the Tennessee Baptist Convention, and the development of the land.

President Craig told the trustees that the sale of the present property should be completed before any buildings are erected on the new site. According to the president, the trustees have turned down several bids for portions of the existing campus. "Before accepting any bids for parts of our property, we would have to be able to see the total picture," Dr. Craig said.

Dr. David Irby of Jackson was named to fill the new Dean of Religious Activities post. Irby has been connected with Union since 1964 and has been serving as Dean of Students for the past two years.

Acting Academic Dean G. Wayne Brown was named Academic Dean, and Marvin D. Kilman of Riverside, Calif. was elected as a professor in the Department of Education. Kilman is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist university, California State college, and the University of Southern California where he has completed all research and is now writing the final copy of his dissertation for the doctorate in education. He has had some 13 years of teaching experience, nine at the college level.

The Committee on Honorary Degrees also made a report and Dr. Craig said that there will be no honorary degrees awarded by the college at the June 1969 Commencement.

VOTERS IN MONTANA TO VOTE ON BINGO

HELENA, Mont.—Montana's voters will decide whether churches and other nonprofit organizations should be allowed to raise revenue with bingo and other games of chance.

A constitutional amendment—one requiring the approval of voters in a statewide referendum—was endorsed by the Montana Senate by a vote of 46-9.

Bingo and other games of chance are forbidden under the state constitution, but Roman Catholics and others have called an amendment which would allow such games when the proceeds go to charitable and educational uses. (RNS)

Church Council Asks Study

BOSTON—The Massachusetts Council of Churches, made up of 12 Protestant denominations, has asked the Legislature to study the possible effects of public funding of sectarian schools. Main reason, for a study, according to Dr. James Nash, Council legislative liaison officer, is "to prevent precipitous action on the part of the Legislature in this relatively unexplored area without knowledge of the consequences." (RNS)

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Baptist School Paper's Endorsement Of Liberal Liquor Law Assailed

ARKADELPHIA, Ark.—An editorial supporting proposed "mixed drink" legislation in the Ouachita Baptist university student newspaper, *The Signal*, has brought demands from several associations and churches that the editorial be retracted and that the author make a public apology.

The editorial written by Bob Stover, editor, said Arkansas liquor laws were "confusing, ineffective and just plain detrimental to the law enforcement and taxation process."

The editorial concluded: "This is not in any way meant to condone the consumption of liquor."

Stover said the Ashley County Baptist association formally adopted a statement asking that he make a public apology for the editorial. "A lot of other people are giving Dr. Phelps (Dr. Ralph A. Phelps, president of the university) a lot of flak about it," he said, adding that "the school administration has backed us to the hilt."

Stover said a Baptist congregation at Stamps had threatened to withdraw its cooperative funds to the university if the editorial were not withdrawn.

The Rev. Harold White of Pine Bluff, superintendent of missions for the Harmony Baptist association, wrote a letter to Mr. Stover that was published in *The Signal*. Mr. White accused "the secular press" of slanting articles about the incident so that it appeared as if the OBU administration favored liquor-by-the-drink legislation.

"I think you would do our school, the Baptists of Arkansas and the cause of Christ a real favor if you would run a retraction on your statement," Mr. White wrote. "I would encourage you to do so."

White said he was "shocked and amazed" by the editorial. "We would defend your right to speak what you think, but at the same time remind you that with every privilege you enjoy there is also a responsibility to be borne," he wrote.

The Pine Bluff mission superintendent also wrote that "it seems to me that the editor of the school paper on the campus of a denominational school, a school dedicated to Christian higher education, would be possessed by convictions that would compel him to take a stand against any measure designed to increase the problem of alcoholism. That is exactly what the mixed drink legislation is designed to do, and I am opposed to it."

Calvary Baptist church at Hope sent a letter signed by 65 members to Dr. Phelps, asking that the editorial be publicly retracted. (RNS)

Vatican Envoy Scored

TORONTO, Ont.—The Canadian Baptist, official journal of the Baptist Convention of Ontario and Quebec and of the Baptist Union of Western Canada, warned here that Canadian appointment of an envoy to the Vatican would constitute a "backward step." (RNS)

Teachers' Problems Noted

GLEN ELLYN, Ill.—Almost two out of three Sunday School teachers reported that not one pupil in their classes was converted as a direct result of their teaching, a survey by the Scripture Press Foundation and National Sunday School Association indicated.

Questionnaires were passed out to approximately 9000 Sunday School teachers who registered at the national Sunday School convention in Anaheim, Calif., last Fall. The survey results were based upon 962 returned forms. (RNS)

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Revival Said Progressing Among Space Scientists

MERRITT ISLAND, Fla.—While Apollo 8 and Apollo 9 astronauts were hurled into orbit from nearby Cape Kennedy, a spiritual revival has been in progress among a great host of the scientists, engineers and technicians who plan to put the first man on the moon.

This is the observation of Adrian Rogers, pastor of the First Baptist church of Merritt Island, which has been the center of much of this spiritual activity, he added.

A significant number of highly-paid space center workers have resigned their positions to enrol in theological study or take positions in Christian work and service, Rogers said.

At present 13 of these men are already serving as pastors, ministers of music, or in similar church-related positions, he added.

Rogers said that the most significant mark of the spiritual revival in the church is the number, 71 in all, who have made commitments to full-time Christian service.

The pastor said that evangelism is the heart-beat of the church's entire program. Each of the 36 deacons is an active soul-winner, and serves as spiritual ministers to the congregation. Business details are administered by church committees, not the deacons.

Rogers also emphasized that the intelligent and highly-trained people of the space center still respond to the authoritative preaching of the Bible, stating that "Bible-centered teaching and preaching joined with Spirit-filled laymen can bring revival anywhere."

Winders Elected President Of State Student Directors

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—Ralph Winders, secretary of student work for the Mississippi Baptist convention, was elected president of the Southern Baptist State Student Directors' association in its annual meeting here.

Winders succeeds W. F. Howard, director of the division of student work for the Baptist General convention of Texas in Dallas.

New secretary of the group is John Appleton, student secretary for the Alabama Baptist convention. (BP)

Legislature Studies Horse, Dog Racing Under Pari-Mutuel Betting System

EDITOR'S NOTE: In order that Tennessee Baptists might be aware of matters of moral and civic interest in the Legislature, the **Baptist And Reflector** is presenting a summary each week of pending legislation which should be of interest to our readers. This is the first in a series.

A controversial bill to legalize horse and dog racing under a pari-mutuel betting system is pending in the Tennessee House of Representatives.

Sponsored by Rep. Jack Comer, Republican, and Rep. Robert Booker, Democrat, both of Knoxville, the 55-page measure would produce several millions of dollars of new revenue annually which would be allocated exclusively for educational purposes, Comer said.

The preamble to the bill, which has not cleared the committee hurdle to be placed before the House for a vote, states:

"It is held by the legislature that the controlled operation of horse, dog and harness racing, along with the establishment of associated pari-mutuel wagering pools at various race tracks in the state is a bona fide business found to be in the best interest of the citizens of the state and that taxes derived therefrom shall constitute an integral and important part of the tax structures of the state and counties."

The proposed act, which would create a state racing commission composed of members from all three of the state's grand divisions, would permit the lawful establishment of race tracks.

Declaring that "congressional investigations have determined that organized crime takes over gambling operations in areas where state and local governments refuse to enact laws to control the wagering of citizens," the bill would be subject to local option referendums in each county where pari-mutuel betting is proposed.

The bill's introduction stirred controversy in the legislative halls and in some sections of the state.

Only the House bill has been introduced. Before it could be enacted into law, it would have to be passed on third reading in the House and on three readings (two of them automatic) by the Senate. But it also must clear committees before it can be placed on the floor for a final vote.

Comer also has introduced a series of other measures to authorize private clubs, churches, schools, labor unions, veterans' organizations and fraternal benefit societies to conduct lotteries and gaming affairs.

Another Comer bill would permit organizations which are exempt from the federal income tax to sell mixed drinks and set-ups without paying a privilege tax.

Other legislation proposed by the Knox County legislator would exempt private clubs and veterans, labor and fraternal benefit organization members and guests from criminal penalties from the law prohibiting the sale of intoxicating beverages; provide that any activity taxed by state or local government as a privilege—such as fortune telling and selling mixed drinks—is presumed legal.

Comer also has introduced measures to reduce from 15 per cent to 10 per cent the state-local taxes on mixed drinks and an amendment to the law governing professional gambling to relax the rules controlling the operation of private clubs where slot machines and other gaming devices are used.

Other bills also pending in the assembly, which will continue through May 9, include:

—A measure by Sen. Fred Berry, Knoxville Republican, and Rep. Ralph Adcock, Knoxville Republican, to outlaw the ownership, operation, sale, delivery, manufacture or repair of gaming devices known as "Bingos" or "In Line Games." Penalties for violations would be set at $5000 fine and/or two years' imprisonment.

—A bill by Rep. William Lawson, Memphis Republican, to declare the act of willful lewd public exposure a misdemeanor.

—Another measure by Lawson and others to declare the act of harassing or annoying others by telephone a misdemeanor.

Also introduced was a Senate joint resolution memorializing Congress to exercise its power under the Constitution to limit the appellate jurisdiction of the U.S. Supreme Court in reviewing decisions by state courts involving pornographic or obscene materials.

The House of Representatives passed and sent to the Senate a measure to increase the penalties for prostitution convictions.

Pending before the lawmakers is a complicated measure by Rep. Charles Howell III, Nashville Republican, and others to prescribe minimum standards of ethical conduct for legislators and other public officials of the state, cities and counties.

Hingson, Lopes, Mims, Dehoney Set As Laymen's Meet Speakers

NASHVILLE—Four major speakers have been enlisted for the Baptist Men's Congress on Evangelism and Lay Involvement slated here during the Independence Day weekend, July 3-5.

The four speakers were enlisted by Owen Cooper of Yazoo City, Miss., president of the Pan American Union of Baptist Men which is sponsoring the congress. in connection with the men's department of the Baptist World Alliance.

A major address will be delivered by Dr. Robert Hingson, director of the Brother's Brother Foundation in Pittsburgh, Pa. Hingson, a Baptist, is widely known for his efforts to immunize disease-ridden countries with the "Peace Gun" he developed to inoculate patients without the use of a needle and syringe.

Two officials of the Crusade of the Americas, 1969 evangelistic effort involving Baptists in North, South and Central America, will also be major speakers. They are:

Rubens Lopes, pastor of the Vila Marina Baptist church in Sao Paulo, Brazil, and president of the Central Coordinating Committee of the hemisphere-wide Crusade of the Americas; and

Wayne Dehoney, pastor of Walnut Street Baptist church in Louisville, Ky., and coordinator for the Crusade of Americas in the United States and Canada.

The fourth major speaker so far is Lambert C. Mims, mayor of the city of Mobile, Ala., Cooper said.

Idea for the meeting on involving laymen in evangelism during the Fourth of July weekend in North America came out of the Pan American Baptist Laymen's Evangelism Congress held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, last July. Cooper was elected president of the organization and chairman of a committee to plan the 1969 meeting then. (BP)

CHURCH, CHARITY GIVING DROPS

OTTAWA, Ont.—Canadians gave $525 million in church and charitable donations last year—about $25 per capita. The total dropped $45 million from 1967.

The 1968 breakdown was: 47 cents to religion, 18 to education, 18 to hospital and health, 6 to welfare, 4 to civic and cultural, and 7 miscellaneous. (RNS)

Nixon Confirms Rumor Of Possible Vatican Envoy

WASHINGTON—President Richard M. Nixon told the nation at a news conference that an envoy to the Vatican as a permanent representative is under study by the State Department and by himself.

"What is important," the President said, "is that the United States have with the Vatican close consultation on foreign policy matters in which the Vatican has a very great interest and very great influence."

This, supposedly, was a reference to the Vatican's interest in world peace and in Vietnam and the Mid-East in particular.

For several weeks prior to President Nixon's visit to Europe rumors were spread that he was considering the appointment of a personal envoy or other representative to the Vatican. Although the White House refused comment on the rumors, they were reportedly confirmed by sources at Vatican City.

The President made a special trip to Rome to visit with Pope Paul VI at the conclusion of his eight days of talks with world leaders on the continent.

SBC Opposition Notes

During an hour-long nationally televised press conference in the White House, the President was asked and responded to a question on the rumor of his appointment of an envoy to the Vatican. Here is the question and the President's answer:

Question: "Is it true, Mr. President, in your talks with Pope Paul at the Vatican there is any possibility that the United States might send an envoy to the Vatican as permanent representative?"

The President: "The possibility has been considered by the State Department and by me, because we have been concerned that we should have the very closest consultation and discussion with the Vatican. I found, for example, my conversations with Pope Paul extremely helpful. It was far ranging, and I received information and also counsel that I considered to be very important. I want that line of communication kept open.

"Whether we can have it kept open based on the present facilities that are available, I have not yet determined. The matter is still under study. But what is important is that the United States have with the Vatican close consultation on foreign policy matters in which the Vatican has a very great interest and very great influence."

Two weeks earlier, the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention in session at Nashville, approved a statement to the President of the United States in response to the rumors about the possibility of U. S. representation to the Vatican.

This statement was communicated to the White House by C. Emanuel Carlson, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, prior to the President's departure to Europe.

No Official Response

There has been no official response, however, from the White House to the statement from the SBC Executive Committee.

The Southern Baptist communication to President Nixon was based in part on his announced goal to unite a nation that has been fractured by severe divisions and conflicts in recent years. It expressed the view that the establishment of diplomatic relations with the Vatican would "seriously erode civic and religious goodwill in this country."

Southern Baptists appealed to President Nixon for the "preservation and strengthening of the American tradition of free churches in a free society." They urged that no church be "used" even for worthy purposes of foreign policy, nor for the domestic policies of state.

The SBC Executive Committee pointed out to President Nixon that "there is a growing mutual spirit of respect and goodwill among the various religious bodies in the United States today." It further said that "American representation to the Vatican would not aid our progress away from rivalry and fear."

A number of views have been advanced as to why President Nixon would consider representation to the Vatican. The prime reason being advanced is that he must believe that this arrangement could hasten the end of the Vietnam war and could contribute to stability in the Mid-East.

Guide of "Ecumenism"

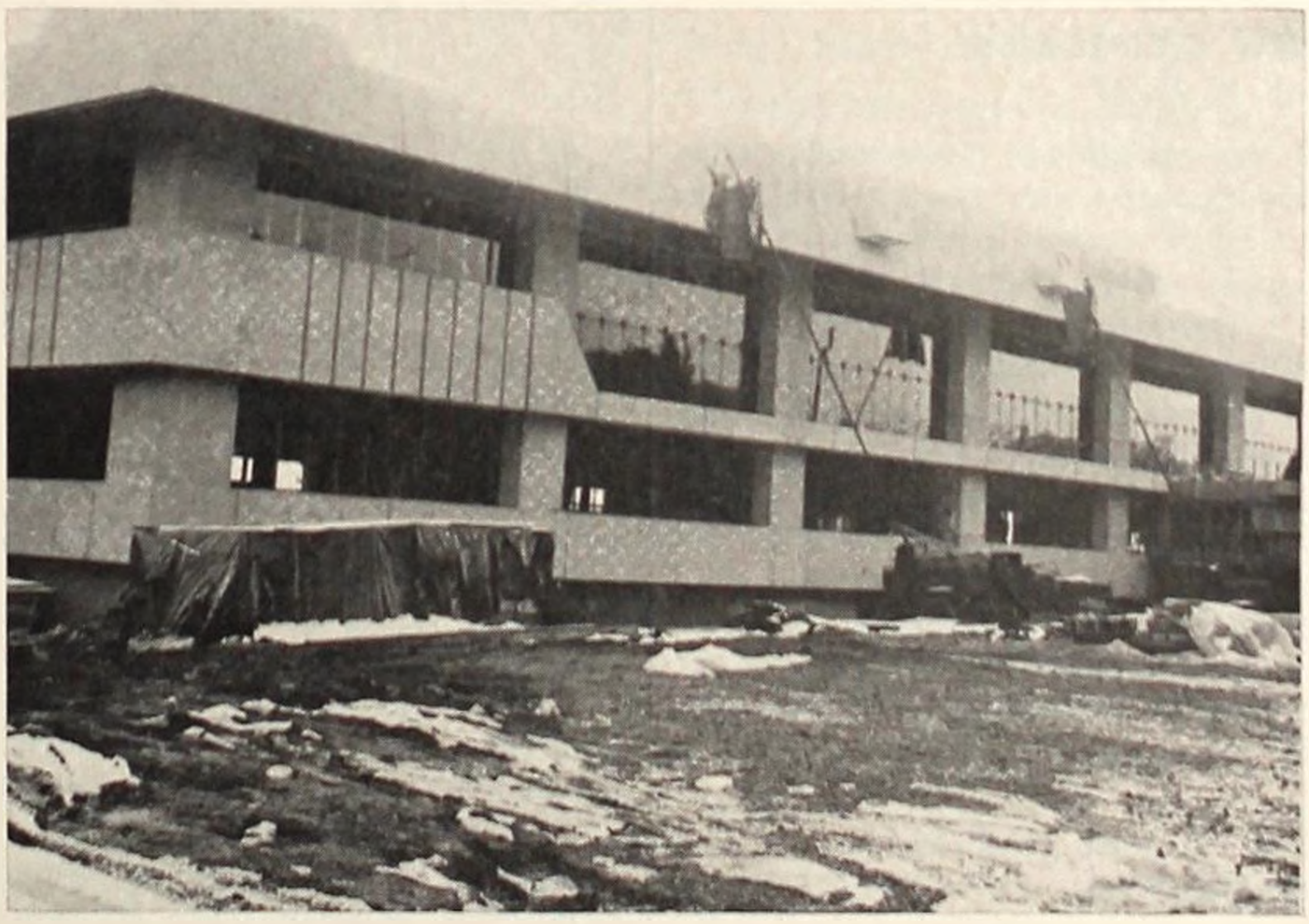
One Washington correspondent has written that the President "could represent the designation of a Vatican envoy as another example of ecumenism and get away with it despite whatever storm might be stirred by aroused Protestants." This might be true, the correspondent wrote, in view of the intense evangelical tone of the Inauguration and the close association of the White House with Norman Vincent Peale and Evangelist Billy Graham.

Yet another reason has been advanced. It goes like this. The President is running for re-election in 1972. He feels that he has already lost what support he had in the South and that he must find ways to build support in the large cities. Catholics are strong in these centers and he might win their support by establishing close ties with the Vatican.

The old arguments for U. S. representation at the Vatican were along two lines: (1) it would be to a state rather than to a religion, and (2) it would open new sources of information and influence to American government.

To these old arguments a new one has been added: that progress in ecumenism has made such a relationship acceptable and even desirable. This is an argument that most Protestants and many Catholics would deny.

President Nixon said that he had not yet decided whether existing channels of communication between the U. S. and the Vatican are adequate. This means that he is still keeping his options open and that his decisions may yet depend on public reaction in the United States. (BP)



Construction of the new office building of the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, located in Brentwood, progresses. Approximately 2802.50 cu. ft. of concrete has been poured and tentative occupancy date is the last of July or the first of August.

Sunday School Lesson for March 16, 1969—By W. R. White
Life and Work Series

GIVING: A Means For Missions

Basic Passages: Philippians 4:14-19; Romans 15:25-27; 10:14-15; 2 Corinthians 9:6-15
Focal Passages: Romans 15:25-27; 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Giving wisely for the right motive in the right spirit is a great Christian virtue. Giving is a natural practice of a loyal disciple of Christ.

Christianity was launched by the greatest of all gifts, the gift of God's love, our blessed Lord Jesus Christ. Here we have the great example for all giving. Like the sun, God is continually giving out. Yet, unlike the sun God's giving is voluntary and will never exhaust or even diminish Him.

The generosity of the Christian faith has changed the habits of much of the world. Great charities, benevolent institutions, and sharing with underprivileged people by the privileged is a by-product of the Christian faith. This example has impressed pagans and savages who have come within the radius of the Christian influence.

In early Christian experience desperate situations developed. The severe persecutions and Christian love produced spontaneous incidents when those who had possessions sold all and shared with their less fortunate brethren. They had all things in common. This did not develop into a system. However, sharing on the part of those who had material blessings with those who had previously shared spiritual blessings with them, continued. It was beautiful reciprocity.

THE NEW RECIPROCITY
Romans 15:25-27

Paul was on his way to Jerusalem with aid for the needy saints among the disciples there. He had received generous gifts from the Gentile converts in Macedonia and Achaia. They were happy to make their contributions for this noble purpose.

Paul observed that these Gentiles had shared the good news that came from Jerusalem. It had blessed them beyond measure. Now those who had received the gospel first and had shared it with their Gentile brethren were in distress. Therefore the benefactors were under obligation to share their material goods with their spiritual beneficiaries.

THE LAW OF THE HARVEST
2 Corinthians 9:2

We are well aware that what a man sows that will he reap. It is true that in proportion as we sow we will reap in similar proportion. If we sow sparingly, we will reap sparingly. But if we sow bountifully, we will reap bountifully.

Generosity begets generosity. This is not automatically true. It must be well placed and for high motives. We must scatter our bread on many waters as God directs. To live lavishly and give lavishly for others to bless them and honor God will assure lovely returns.

Generosity is a relative term. It depends on what and how much we have. Often small gifts are more generous than large gifts. A generous proportion of what we have is what God expects.

YOU CANNOT OUTGIVE GOD
2 Corinthians 9:7-15

God loves a cheerful giver. He compensates us in many ways. If we honor His plan and His Son, God will bless us in a material way.

He will bless us in several other distinct ways. Free generosity enriches the giver. He will grow in grace and in spirit. God will raise up those who will pray for us. He will produce those who praise Him for us. He will build up a large store of goodwill for us. In fact the Lord will devise plans to surpass our generosity.

The face of things is changing all over the earth. The missionary spirit is so rewarding and reciprocal. The gospel was given first to the people in Palestine. From there it spread in all directions. Now the gospel is being sent back to that land where it has nearly disappeared.

The gospel moved westward more than any other direction. Here it has had its greatest response. Here it has flourished most. Yet in the lands of its early beginnings in Northern Africa and Eastern Europe, it has been languishing. Now great mission movements are focused on lost ground as well as on virgin territory.

The beneficiaries of missions may have to replant Christianity everywhere it once flourished. More than any other faith it is doing that very thing. This one hope of its recovery, reappearance, and ultimate replenishing, God is keeping alive true witnesses somewhere that they may share it again everywhere.

God will compensate us who continue to share, with sufficient funds for our needs and with adequate funds to keep the gospel going until the good hour when the Day of the Lord shall come.

It is wonderful to be in a going business with the Lord. There is nothing like it in the whole earth. This should fire our hearts and loosen our purse strings.

Between 1800-2000 Churches To Participate In Crusade

More than 20,000,000 Baptists in over 100,000 churches in 42 Baptist conventions in 28 countries in the Western Hemisphere, from the tip of South America to the Arctic Circle are now in the year of Proclamation and Witnessing for the Crusade of the Americas.

Southern Baptists were presented the challenge of the Crusade in 1965 at the Southern Baptist Convention in Dallas, Texas, by Rubenz Lopez, pastor, First Baptist church, Sao Paulo, Brazil and president of the Brazilian Baptist Convention.

Following this challenge acceptance, 1967 became the year of planning, 1968 the year of preparation and 1969 is upon us, the year of proclamation and witnessing through Crusade revivals.

In Tennessee the dates for the Crusade revivals are March 16-30 for churches in west Tenn. and April 6-20 for churches from Nashville East.

According to F. M. Dowell, secretary, Evangelism Department, Tennessee Baptist Convention, between 1800-2000 Baptist churches in the state are participating in the Crusade.

The purposes of the Crusade are: the deepening of the spiritual life within the churches, home and individual Christians; the evangelizing of the American continents and the establishing of true moral and spiritual bases for the betterment of mankind's economic, social, and physical welfare.

"The Crusade of the Americas is the greatest united evangelistic effort in the history of Christianity", said Dowell.

Mission Psychiatrist Dr. Ben Parker, Dies

Dr. Benjamin Parker, a New Orleans psychiatrist who has worked with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in examining missionary candidates and helping missionaries for the past 15 years, died Feb. 24.

Dr. Franklin T. Fowler, medical consultant for the Board, says: "Through the years Dr. Parker has had a very keen understanding of our missionary problems and has been of great help in evaluating the candidates for appointment.

Texas Development Workers

DALLAS—The Texas Baptist Development Officers Association has been formed from development personnel in the ranks of the Texas Baptist Public Relations Association.

The action came at the three-day annual meeting of the Texas Baptist Public Relations Association at the Hilton Inn here. (BP)

Historically

From the Files

50 YEARS AGO

The first church in the Tennessee Baptist Convention to place the **Baptist And Reflector** in its budget, sending the paper into every church home, was First church, Lawrenceburg. Then followed the First churches of McKenzie, Loretto and Humboldt.

20 YEARS AGO

Dr. Harley Fite, president of Carson-Newman college, Jefferson City, in a called meeting of the school's Board of Trustees, outlined pressing needs: at least $2000 per student in endowment; additional dormitory space, as some 200 students have been turned away for lack of space; a student center, which would be a part of the proposed Baker Memorial cafeteria-Home Economics building; a new chapel or enlargement of present auditorium to accommodate 1200 people and a field house to supplement present gymnasium. The trustees voted unanimously to begin a campaign in the immediate future.

10 YEARS AGO

The average rate of return on investments made by the Southern Baptist Foundation exceeded five percent, the first time in Foundation history it topped this figure. J. W. Storer, executive secretary, said there was an average rate of return of 5.05 percent on the $1,500,000 general investment fund. An even higher 5.09 percent return was posted on the $150,000 annuity fund. The Foundation has a total trust fund corpus of $3,363,000.

Vatican Envoy Decried

OTTAWA, Ont.—Canada's New Democratic Party (Socialist) leader, the Rev. T. C. Douglas, returned to the House of Commons here after winning a British Columbia by-election and promptly scored the Liberal government over its plans to recognize the Vatican with an exchange of envoys.

He told reporters that a glance at the controversy in Northern Ireland was enough to see how divisive a religious issue could be. (RNS)

From the Executive Secretary

By W. Fred Kendall

The prophet Habakkuk said, "Woe to him that buildeth a town with blood, and stablisheth a city by iniquity." (2:12) Think about what he has said in this sentence. Upon what kind of a foundation can man build a successful social order? How is he to finance it? Does the end justify the means?

Dr. Kendall

Everywhere the Bible condemns the attempt to make sin right by using it to serve good ends. Evil men can actually persuade themselves that black is white and that evil is good. The word charity is often dragged into the worst associations in order to whitewash sin. Proceeds from some evil and corrupt practice are given to charity for one day or for one performance.

Every time the state legislature meets proposals are made which promise to lift the tax burden. Often it is for education or some other worthy cause within the state's budget. During the last legislature it was liquor-by-the-drink. Promises were made that this would bring so many conventions to Nashville, it would bring new business, and it would bring in so much tax money that no new taxes would be needed. The county unit vote in local options was also changed so that cities could vote separately and the rural voters were disfranchised. This also carried great promises of breaking up bootlegging and greatly reducing crime but above all it would bring in great tax income.

Since that time we have had the adding of the $15.00 automobile tax and one half cent sales tax. Now we are told that both the city and the state must have millions more in taxes. What is the solution? Parimutuel betting on horse races is the great new promise. Even the city metropolitan council has endorsed it.

Will the citizens of this state fall again for these empty promises to promote the legalized gambling into our state? Where has gambling ever solved the tax problem? Why didn't the state lottery in New York solve their educational costs? Why hasn't it solved the tax problems in Kentucky?

Gambling is one of the great social evils of our time. It is rich and powerfully entrenched in the underworld. It attracts all kinds of related evils. So many get in debt gambling and then become involved in embezzlement. Others turn to robbery or stealing. Gambling is a great contributing cause to so much poverty.

Will this generation listen to the voice of the great Old Testament Prophet? "Woe to him that buildeth a town with blood, and stablisheth a city by iniquity." History has proved this warning over and over again. Will we learn from history?

N.C. House Backs Interest Hike To Spur Church Loans

RALEIGH, N. C.—North Carolina's House of Representatives passed and sent to the Senate a bill which would allow congregations to pay up to 7 per cent interest on loans to build church facilities.

Rep R. D. McMillan, Jr., sponsor, told the House that many churches have been unable to borrow money under the present 6 per cent interest ceiling for the construction of churches, Sunday school buildings and parsonages. Some of them, however, had been offered loans at 7 per cent.

He said a number of church agencies including the Baptist State Convention, had asked for enactment of such legislation. (RNS)

Ohio State Honors 'Night Call' Program

COLUMBUS, Ohio—"Night Call," the national church-sponsored phone-in radio program, has received a special award for experimental programming for adults from Ohio State university.

Called an Ohio State Award, the citation was the second major accolade given to the unique broadcast venture in 1969. Earlier, *Variety* magazine gave "Night Call" top recognition.

The program was launched less than a year ago by the Television, Radio and Film Commission (TRAFCO) of the United Methodist Church. Currently heard on 90 AM and FM radio stations, "Night Call" encourages dialogue on issues and problems of national significance. (RNS)

Clergy Supply Gains

PHILADELPHIA—Contrary to popular belief, there is not a growing crisis in the supply of new professional clergy, at least not in the United Presbyterian Church.

But the Rev. William H. Henderson, head of the United Presbyterian Board of Christian Education's Division of Vocation, warned of an impending financial crisis in the ability to pay the ministers, and urged local churches to become more open to new ideas from their clergy.

In a report on the state of clergy supply and demand within his denomination, Henderson said that over the period 1959-1967, supply exceeded demand by 559 clergymen. (RNS)

Church Building: Dollar Cost Unchanged But Inflation Cuts 'Value' Drastically

WASHINGTON, D.C.—For five of the last six years, church-related construction in the U.S. has passed the billion-dollar mark, but notwithstanding this high plateau, construction trends are in a marked three-year tailspin in actual value.

This is indicated by figures released recently by the U.S. Department of Commerce.

The department projects that in 1969 church construction again will top the $1 billion mark, but the slide in actual value of new construction will continue.

The seeming disparity results when current costs are compared to a dollar of earlier years (Commerce uses the 1957-59 dollar for its norm). Using the formula, 1968's total of $1,045,000,000 in new construction translates to a mere $734 million in the '57-'59 currency.

On these terms, then, the actual value factor places last year on a par with the late 1950s.

Even though the figures have hovered above or near the magic billion-dollar figure since the beginning of the decade, in terms of current dollars the spiraling cost of construction has eroded the significance of the record.

The Department of Commerce Composite Index shows a reading of 131 for 1968. This means that construction which cost $1000 in 1957-59 last year cost $1310.

This also means that for 1968 to have reached the billion-dollar mark in terms of the "constant" dollar set for '57-'59, total construction would have had to be $1.31 billion. Thus, without this understanding of the trend, current figures would be grossly misleading.

In terms of the "constant" dollar, then, only one year, 1965, topped the magic number, at $1.001 billion. In terms of that year's dollar—not the "constant" dollar—the record showed an all-time high of $1.207 billion.

The following year, 1966, the actual value plummeted to $915 million, followed by 1967's $821 million. Thus, with 1968 standing at only $734 million in terms of '57-'59 dollars, last year's building is off fully $267 million from the peak reached only three years earlier.

The Department of Commerce suggested that part of this might be due to a corresponding slack in building in the suburbs, where most of the new church construction starts are made. It noted that the pattern for churches in such areas indicates church buildings go up three to five years after a subdivision is established.

The department commented: "In religious building construction, as in all other types, the adverse effects of cost increases are being felt. When money is relatively tight and tax rates high, the religious building category may be expected to experience financing difficulties."

Many denominational leaders also are complaining of other factors in the slowdown. Dissension over aggressive social and political policies reportedly has disenchanted many parishioners, who either are holding back in giving or else diverting funds to foreign missions or other programs less controversial.

This is particularly noticeable among Episcopalians. Ten of 87 dioceses in the U.S. failed to meet their share of the overall denominational budget last year and Church leaders for the second year in a row had to draw from a reserve fund to make ends meet. They also lowered the budget for the coming year.

United Presbyterians gave $1.3 million less for the general mission of their Church last year than in the previous year. Southern Baptists said new building ventures dropped $25 million for them during 1968.

Some denominations have imposed moratoria on building in varying degrees so welfare programs won't suffer. In Washington, for instance, a minor revolt is going on against Patrick Cardinal O'Boyle because of such a request imposed on the archdiocese last year.

Although the surtax is yet to be collected, anticipation of it probably has cut into some people's giving. Although there has been generally higher pay, inflation and rising taxes also have reduced the giving of many families. (RNS)

LAUGHS

A Jewish boy who attended Notre Dame returned home for vacation and ran into the friendly neighborhood rabbi. They talked for a while and the rabbi asked: "They aren't trying to Catholicize you at Notre Dame, are they?" "No, father," said the student.

* * *

The only exercise some people get is jumping to conclusions, running down their friends, side-stepping responsibility, dodging issues, passing the buck, and pushing their luck.

* * *

Patient: "Doctor, I'd like something to make me smarter."

Doctor: "Take these pills and come back to see me next week."

Patient (next week): "Doc, I don't think I'm any smarter."

Doctor: "Take these pills and come back to see me next week."

Patient (next week): "Doc, I don't think I've gotten any smarter yet. Are you sure these pills aren't candy?"

Doctor: "Now you're getting smarter."

Bankrupt New Orleans Baptist Church Raises $77,000 In Survival Offering

NEW ORLEANS—The financially-troubled Mid-City Baptist church here has announced that it has raised more than $77,000 in an effort to pay its debts.

The money was pledged and paid at a special Sunday morning "Hope Survival Offering."

The offering was taken at the close of a revival meeting led by Evangelist E. J. Daniels of Orlando, Fla., who preached on the subject, "The Sin of Robbing God and Not Supporting His Church With Tithes and Offerings."

The 4700-member church, largest Southern Baptist congregation in New Orleans, is in bankruptcy following action taken by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in November of 1967 charging the church and the Trinity Church Bonds firm with the sale of fraudulent bonds.

Interest on the sinking fund payments for the bonds reportedly amounts to nearly $1000 per day.

The trustee in bankruptcy has given the church until June 30 to raise more than $125,000 over and above its regular offerings.

The pastor of the church, J. Paul Driscoll, said following the revival in which $77,000 was raised that he felt victory would be assured.

Driscoll said that an estimated 98 per cent of those present pledged to tithe. Daniels, the evangelist, predicted that the offerings of the church might increase at least 25 per cent, basing his estimate on results at other churches where he has conducted similar services.

Many of the people withdrew their savings and donated the money to the church, and the pastor gave his home in the offering, Daniels said. (BP)