

# BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR

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NEWS-JOURNAL OF THE TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION



WILLIAM HULL



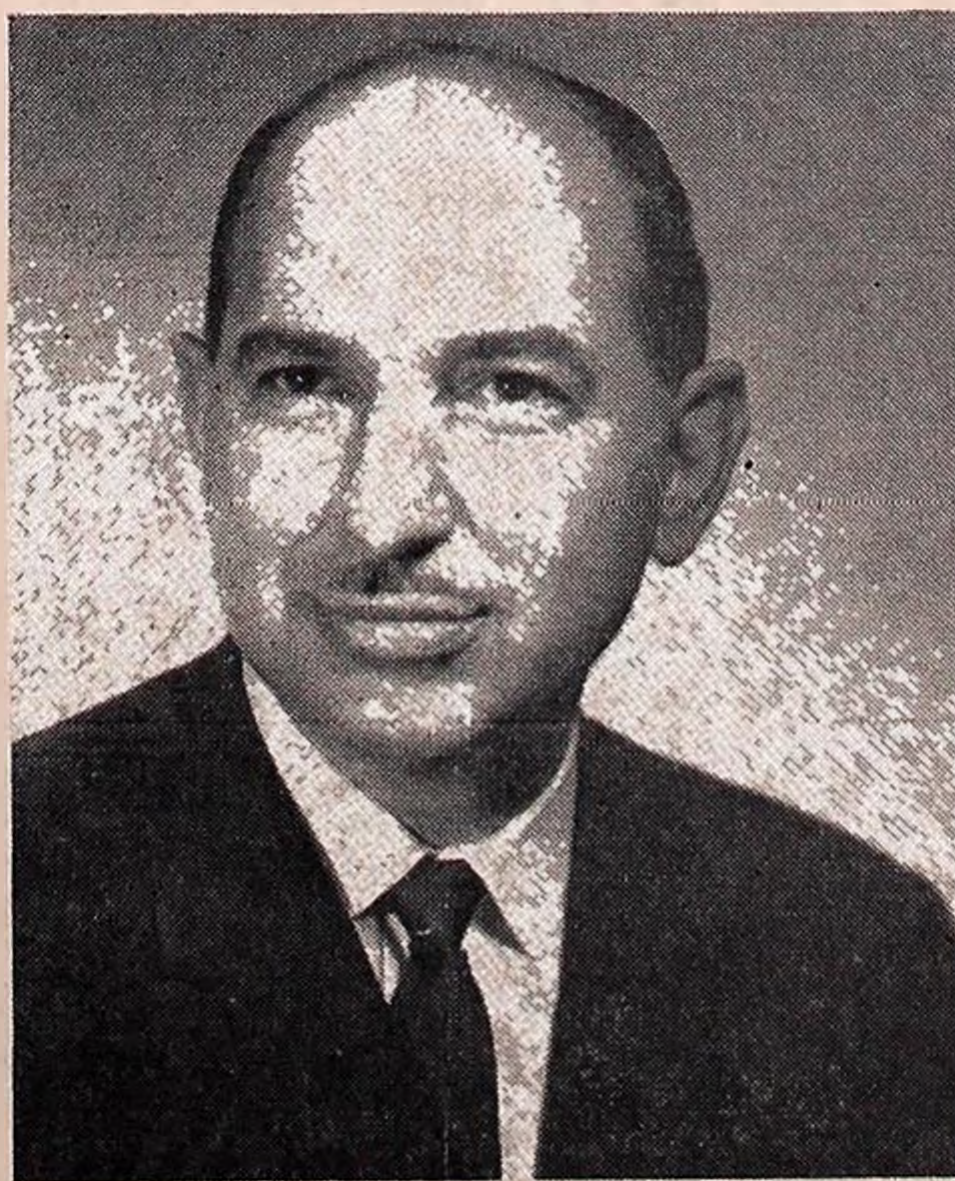
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BRUCE COYLE



TOM MADDEN



DAVID Q. BYRD

*Convention, WMU, Pastors' Conference Speakers*



# Evangelism Needs Men Of Conviction, Consecration, And Commitment

By Gerald Martin, Pastor,  
Poplar Avenue Baptist Church, Memphis

We need men who have a conviction about their conversion like Paul: "I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day." The revival of the mid-19th century in New England broke out when persons started speaking to individuals about the new birth. Missionary Charles Culpepper says the Shantung Revival broke out in North China when the born-again started asking the question of everyone they met, "Have you been born again?"



Martin

We need men who have the conviction of their call like Phillip. His call was to win souls to the Lord Jesus Christ. When led of the Holy Spirit to go to a city of Samaria, he was used of God in a city-wide revival. In the midst of that revival the angel of the Lord directed him toward the desert to witness to one man. He felt as much called to witness to the individual as he did to lead the city-wide revival. We need men whose call is so

deep it will be the first business of their lives.

We need men who are consecrated like John the Baptist and John the Apostle.

John the Baptist had as his introduction and conclusion the byword, "He must increase and I must decrease." This must be evident to all who view our lives, that Christ is increasing and we are decreasing.

John the Apostle was the disciple of love. Fear grips our human relationships but as John said, "Perfect love casteth out all fear."

We need men who are committed like Peter. They were accosted by the authorities and brought before the Council. They commanded the disciples "not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus." But Peter and John answered and said unto them, "Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard." (Acts 4:18-20)

Neither danger nor disappointment deterred their commitment to evangelism.

Brethren, when all of this is done, what you have is an instrument which can be used by the sovereign Hand of God.



## BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR

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ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE: Charles R. Ausmus, Chairman; Bill Bates, David Q. Byrd, George E. Capps, H. Eugene Cotey, A. Bruce Coyle, William E. Crook, Melvin G. Faulkner, R. Raymond Lloyd, Tom Madden, O. C. Nugent, Jr., James A. Nunnery, William Purdue, and Henry G. West.

## Pulpit To Pew

By Jim Griffith

There has been much news of late concerning the barring of the artificial sweetener cyclamate from diet foods and drinks.

I am content to let the Food and Drug Administration decide on the merits or dangers of cyclamate, but from the practical standpoint of everyday living it is apparent that the world may be afflicted with too much "artificial sweetness."

And no matter how you look at it, this is a "drug on the market."

Today there is a crying need for the real thing—the genuine article of Christian love, sweetness, and concern.

In our saccharin-sweet and sincerely-sour age, it has become too easy for our non-granulated generation to say, "If you don't like it, you can lump it."

But in the hearts of many, there remains the yearning for some old-fashioned high calorie Christian sweetness and love. The world is hungry for it.

## Interpretation

# Faithful Children

By Heschel H. Hobbs

"I rejoiced greatly that I found of thy children walking in truth."—II John 4.

Certainly "children" may refer to the members of a church or to actual children of a mother. It depends upon how one interprets "elect lady" in verse 1. The fact that John used *teknōn*, children, a tenderer word than *huiōn*, sons, suggests the latter. They were members of her own family.

If this be the accepted meaning then it is most beautiful. This woman's adult children had been in Ephesus. They came from a smaller to a greater city, one filled with temptations. Yet John had "found" them to be ordering their lives according to the truth of the Christian gospel and teachings. The word "found" is a perfect tense. John had completely found them to be true. And he was so overjoyed by it that he wrote their monther to commend them. Perhaps he had seen other children who had come to Ephesus and been swallowed up in its evil. Surely such a message gladdened the heart of this mother.

Which suggests a lesson for all parents. They have their children for such a short time. During that time they should so ground them in Christian moral conduct and truth that when they are plunged into life they will be able to make the proper decisions as to how they shall live. When parents are no longer at hand to say, "Do this" or "Do not do that," they will have moral and spiritual fortitude and judgment to enable them to choose the right paths.

What a joy John's letter must have been to this mother! Or to any parent to receive a letter from a pasor in a distant city elling him or her hat the careful eaching of the formative years is being followed by sons and daughters. No parental sacrifice is too great to produce so fine a result.

## FEATURING

	Page
Pulpit To Pew	2
EDITORIAL	4
Sunday School Lesson	14
Executive Secretary	15



# Open House, Dedication Set For New TBC Building, Brentwood

By David Keel

Formal Open House and Dedication of the new office building of the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention in Brentwood is scheduled for Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 12, the week of the annual meeting of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. There will not be a session of the convention Wednesday afternoon.

The time for the open house will be 2-4:30 p. m. with the dedication set for 3:30 p. m. in the chapel of the new building.

An open house was held on Sept. 28 during which time over 2000 persons viewed the new facilities.

On Nov. 12 Dr. Eugene Cotey, pastor, First church, Murfreesboro, and president of the Executive Board, will preside over the dedication service.

Following the invocation by Dr. John D. Freeman, senior minister, Belmont Heights church, Nashville, Robert L. Snead, minister of music, First church, Nashville, will sing.

"Greetings from Co-Laborers," will be brought by Dr. Franklin Paschall, pastor, First church, Nashville, representing the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, and Dr. J. M. Crowe, assistant executive secretary, Baptist Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Dr. W. Fred Kendall, executive secretary-treasurer, Tennessee Baptist Convention, will bring the message of gratitude, followed by the Prayer of Gratitude, led by

William F. Malone, chairman of the board of trustees, Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc.

Tom Madden, pastor, First church, Tullahoma, and president, Tennessee Baptist Convention, will bring the message of dedication, followed by George E. Capps, Jr., pastor, First church, Cookeville, and chairman of the building committee, who will offer the prayer of dedication.

## Harold Cole Is Nominated South Carolina Executive

COLUMBIA, S.C.—A. Harold Cole, assistant general secretary-treasurer of the South Carolina Baptist Convention, was nominated here for possible election as the convention's next executive secretary.



Cole

If he is elected to the post by the full convention when it meets in Charleston, S.C., Nov. 18-20, Cole would become the sixth general secretary of the convention, and would succeed Horace Hammett who retires Dec. 31.

The General Board of the convention voted to recommend Cole to the post, acting on a report from a five-man committee appointed last January when Hammett announced his intentions to retire. The nomination was made by Archie Ellis of Columbia, committee chairman.

There were no other nominations from the floor, and the General Board approved Cole's nomination in an apparently unanimous vote.

Since August of 1962, Cole has been assistant general secretary with primary responsibilities for stewardship promotion.

Previously, he was executive secretary of the Council of Christian Education for the North Carolina Baptist State Convention. Prior to that, he was director of the North Carolina Baptist student department. He served in the two North Carolina posts from 1957-62.

A native of South Carolina, Cole was director of the South Carolina Baptist student department from 1949-56, and was assistant pastor of a church in Greenwood, S.C.

## Baptist Leader's Son Charged In Deaths

CHICAGO—The 26-year-old son of a prominent Baptist clergyman, charged here with the murder of his mother and grandmother, was placed under psychiatric observation in Cook County Jail.

Police officers referred to the suspect, Frank H. Woyke, Jr., as a "Pretty sick boy." He was arrested Oct. 22 in a suburban Oak Parks hotel room after police responded to reports of screams.

The victims, Mrs. Christine Woyke, 58, of Silver Springs, Md., and her mother, Mrs. Anna Jacopian, about 80, of Strickford, Conn., were found lying in a blood splattered bathroom. They apparently had been beaten and kicked to death.

The suspect is the son of Dr. Frank H. Woyke, 64, associate secretary since 1968 of the Baptist World Alliance, Washington, D.C., and former secretary of the North American Baptist General Conference.

No motive for the murders has been determined. The suspect was found standing naked and murmuring, "God forgive me, I'm sorry, I'm sorry," when police entered the room occupied by the women. He had apparently slipped unnoticed out of the room which he was sharing with his father, several doors away. The father was not awakened during the murders. (RNS)

He was pastor of two Indiana churches while he attended Southern Baptist Theological seminary, Louisville, where he earned the bachelor of divinity degree. He is also a graduate of North Greenville Junior college and Furman university, both Baptist schools in South Carolina.

Furman, in Greenville, S.C., conferred upon him an honorary doctor of divinity degree in 1967.

If elected by the convention, he will assume office on Jan. 1, 1970. Hammett retires after eight years as general secretary on Dec. 31, 1969.

In every instance except one, the last four general secretary-treasurers have been named to the office after serving as assistant general secretary.

In other major action, the General Board voted to approve a \$4 million bond issue for Baptist College of Charleston, and voted to recommend a state-wide Cooperative Program budget goal of \$5.3 million for 1970, an increase of about \$250,000 over the 1969 budget.

The bond issue was approved in order to refinance an existing bond issue of about \$2½ million and pay off \$1 million in operating indebtedness at Baptist college of Charleston. (BP)

## Association Refuses Ouster Over Baptism

VERSAILLES, Ky.—The Elkhorn Baptist Association refused to consider motions to withdraw fellowship from churches practicing "alien immersion" and from one church in the association which has ordained women as deacons.

But the messengers to the association never actually voted on the motions to withdraw fellowship. Rather, they voted on a parliamentary point of order which permits the messengers to decide whether or not they even want to consider a matter.

The effort to withdraw fellowship from churches that accept as members, persons who have been baptized (immersed) by churches of other denominations and ordaining women as deacons was led by Ross L. Range, pastor of Ashland Avenue Baptist church, Lexington, Ky.

At least six churches would have been excluded if Range's motion to exclude churches practicing alien immersion had been approved. (BP)



## ***WHY NOT ATTEND?***

A special, last-minute appeal to Tennessee Baptists to pray for and attend the annual session of the Tennessee Baptist Convention is not out of order! The week of November 10 will be a busy and important week for us. Busy because of the many pre-convention and between sessions meetings, and important because of the very nature of an annual session of a Baptist body. This is the time and place where representative opinion is heard and decisions of importance to all are made. Baptists still are a democratic body, and the convention program provides ample time for us to be heard as individuals as well as groups.

In a day when motivation researchers have—or so they think—figured most of our acts out in advance for us, and in this same day when the public relations crews are out to do a grand slam selling job, it is still good to have, in a Baptist church, the opportunity of self-expression. And, don't misunderstand us. Out of a background of 20 years in public relations and communications comes a renewed appreciation for our Baptist spirit of independence.

Yet, it is this very independence which makes us, in reality, inter-dependent. We are what we are by the grace of God, and because of each other, in a real sense. Therefore, it is important to the advance of our ministries, and to our concept of how to operate these ministries that we come together in these convention sessions. They are important enough for laymen (men and women) to take time off from their work to attend. They are important enough for housewives to let the cleaning go another day or two to attend. We do what we want to do. So, this last-minute appeal. Make whatever extra effort is needed to attend the sessions of the convention.

Our prayer is that this coming week will be a landmark in the history of spiritual and physical growth among Tennessee Baptists. It can be if we really are concerned about the Lord's work.

## ***FOUNDATION***

The strong possibility of some type of Congressional action affecting activities of private foundations is evident. Efforts to eliminate some of the tax benefits for certain kinds of gifts have been under way for several years. Also there are proposals which probably would have the ultimate effect of doing away with at least some of the private foundations.

Tax benefits available to persons making contributions to religious and charitable organizations are relatively

favorable to the donor under present law. An avenue to give monies under a variety of plans which do not impose tax penalties upon the giver has made possible tremendous growth in foundation enterprises in recent years—including the Baptist foundations in the several state conventions and the Southern Baptist Convention.

During the past year our Tennessee Baptist Foundation has distributed to all causes \$199,331.35. This was the income from trust and endowment funds administered by the Foundation.

There seems to be little disagreement that some have used the avenues of private foundations to evade, or at least circumvent, the income tax laws.

However, for the most part foundations have provided a just and useful purpose without making tax dodgers out of participants. Every agency, institution and program in the Tennessee Baptist Convention has benefited from the Tennessee Baptist Foundation. We hope this will continue to be the case in the years ahead.

And, lest some provisions less favorable for giving through foundations be enacted, we encourage Baptists to counsel now with Foundation Executive Secretary Jonas L. Stewart concerning how they might best serve our Lord with their gifts through the Foundation.

## ***BUDGET MET, EXCEEDED***

It was a time for rejoicing last Friday. After several months of anxiety concerning the financial picture for the fiscal year, Tennessee Baptists did it again! They met and exceeded their Convention Cooperative Program budget. When the totals were in Friday afternoon (Oct. 31) \$5,451,090.80 had been given by the churches for the budget of \$5,445,000.00. This was \$6090.80 MORE THAN needed for our largest budget in history, and \$179,137.43 more than was given in 1968.

During the long, hot summer, it looked as if the record budget for fiscal 1968-69 would not be met. In fact, for a time it looked as if we might be several hundred thousand dollars under the required amount. However, the picture changed in late summer and during the fall months, and gifts from the churches increased, and on Friday, when the fiscal year ended, the goal had been attained and exceeded.

Our congratulations to Executive Secretary W. Fred Kendall, and to the entire Executive Board of the Convention for their leadership through this year which has been a good year for Tennessee Baptists in Our Lord's service.



# 95th Annual Session of Tennessee Baptist Convention Set for Nov. 11-13

By David Keel

The week of Nov. 10-13 will be a busy week for Tennessee Baptists as they convene in Nashville for the purpose of transacting business during the 95th annual session of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. Prior to the opening session of the convention at Woodmont church on Tuesday afternoon at 2 p.m. other special meetings will take place.

The Tennessee Baptist Pastors' Conference will begin Monday evening, Nov. 10, at 7 p.m. in Massey Auditorium on the campus of Belmont college, concluding Tuesday at noon.

For the first time since 1924 the Annual Meeting of Woman's Missionary Union, auxiliary to the Tennessee Baptist Convention, will be held prior to the general meeting of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. The WMU sessions will be held at Belmont Heights church, Nov. 10-11, beginning with a Monday afternoon session and closing Tuesday noon.

Tom Madden, pastor, First church, Tullahoma, and president of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, will preside over the sessions of the convention at Woodmont, assisted by Henry G. West, pastor, First church, Covington, first vice president, and Ray Jones, pastor, First church, Fountain City, second vice president.

Other officers of the convention involved in the proceedings are Wallace E. Anderson, Program Services manager, Tennessee Baptist Convention, recording secretary, and Gene Kerr, assistant to the executive secretary-treasurer, Tennessee Baptist Convention, statistical secretary.

## "Christ In Faith and Work"

Following the theme, "Christ In Faith and Work," the convention will begin at 2 p.m. Tuesday afternoon with worship in song. Frank G. Charton, secretary, Church Music Department, Tennessee Baptist Convention, is in charge of the music.

Other Tennessee Baptist Convention personnel and their department or agency reports are as follows: Evangelism, F. M. Dowell, 2:50 p.m. Tuesday; Stewardship, W. C. Summar, 3:05 p.m. Tuesday; Foundation (Agency), Jonas Stewart, 8:05 p.m. Tuesday; Baptist Children's Homes, Inc., (Institution), James M. Gregg, 11:05 a.m. Wednesday; Coordinated Promotion Planning, Church Training, Charles L. Norton, Sunday School, Wendell Price, Woman's Missionary Union, Miss Mary Jane Nethery, Music, Frank G. Charton, and Brotherhood, Roy J. Gilleland, Jr., will all be presented during a period Wednesday evening beginning at 7:25 p.m. to 8:25 p.m.

Others featured include: Program Services, Wallace E. Anderson, 9:20 a.m.

Thursday; **Baptist and Reflector** (Agency), James A. Lester, 11:10 a.m. Thursday; Camps, Glenn Jenkins, 3:05 p.m. Thursday; Student, Glenn Yarbrough, 7:20 p.m. Thursday; Missions, Leslie Baumgartner, 7:35 p.m. Thursday, and Protection Plans, Paul Phelps, 8:05 p.m. Thursday.

## Coyle to Preach Sermon

Committee reports include: Credentials, Archie King, pastor, Southeast church, Murfreesboro, 2:20 p.m. Tuesday and in the same time slot and also at 9:40 Wednesday morning, Arrangements, by Vern Powers, pastor, Glendale church, Nashville; Audits, Irvin Hays, pastor, Bartlett church, Bartlett, Wednesday morning; Boards, Lloyd Barker, pastor, McLean church, Memphis, Wednesday morning; Committees, E. B. Bowen, pastor, First church, Bolivar, Wednesday morning; Journal, Jim Henry, pastor, Two Rivers church, Donelson, Wednesday morning; and Resolutions, Richard Lucas, pastor, Shelby Avenue church, Nashville, 2:55 p.m. Thursday.

Other events of the convention include: Convention, sermon by Bruce Coyle, pastor, First church, Rogersville, 3:30 p.m. Tuesday; a report on Camille, Tuesday evening; president's address Tuesday evening at 8:25 p.m. by Tom Madden; recognition of new pastors, educational directors and music directors Wednesday morning at 9:25 a.m. by Dr. W. Fred Kendall, executive secretary-treasurer, Tennessee Baptist Convention; report of Executive Board Wednesday morning at 9:40 a.m. by Eugene Cotey, board president, and pastor, First church, Murfreesboro; presentation of the budget following the Executive Board report, to be presented by Kendall; message by William E. Hull, professor, New Testament Interpretation, Southern Baptist Theological seminary, Louisville, Ky., 11:25 a.m. Wednesday.

## Newcomers' Breakfast

Also, a message by Dr. William M. Pinson, Jr., professor, Christian Ethics, Southwestern Baptist Theological seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, 8:45 p.m. Wednesday; Tennessee Baptist Historical Society, presented by Carl Daw, pastor, Third church, Murfreesboro, 10:05 a.m. Thursday; United Tennessee League, by Phil Padgett, executive secretary, 10:25 a.m. Thursday; adoption of the budget, Kendall, Thursday morning at 10:55 a.m.; message by Dr. John McGinnis, pastor, Bell Avenue church, Knoxville, 11:30 a.m. Thursday; Tennessee Baptist Schools, Herbert Gabhart, president, Belmont college, Nashville, 2:20 p.m. Thursday; message by Charles Roselle, secretary, Student Department, Baptist Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist

Convention, 3:40 p.m. Thursday; the closing message by Dr. Paul S. James, executive secretary-treasurer, Baptist Convention of New York.

The annual Newcomers' Breakfast will be held Wednesday morning at 7:30 a.m. at Woodmont.

Special features during this year's convention include formal open house and dedication of the new office of the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention in Brentwood on Wednesday afternoon and a "Certificate of Appreciation" will be presented to Dr. Kendall and Baptists of Tennessee for their part in supporting the total mission program of Southern Baptists through the Cooperative Program. The certificate, mounted on walnut, will be presented by Dr. James V. Lackey of the Stewardship Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Devotional periods will precede each convention session.

The Pastors' Conference, beginning at 7 p.m. Monday evening, Nov. 10, in Massey Auditorium, will conclude Tuesday at noon in Woodmont's auditorium. A patriotic feature is scheduled for Monday night, and will be directed by William E. Douglas, Assistant Adjutant General, Tennessee National Guard. Vern Powers, president, will preside over the conference sessions, assisted by Richard Smith, First church, Athens, vice president and Paul Clark, Calvary church, Jackson, secretary.

The theme of the WMU meeting will be "Christ Living In Me," which will be interpreted in a meditation opening each of the three sessions by Miss Miriam Robinson, teacher of speech at Belmont college, Nashville. A nursery is being provided for each session.

## Scottish Baptists Mark Centenary

**EDINBURGH**—Prominent Baptists from many parts of the world, headed by Baptist World Alliance President William Tolbert, took part in four days of celebrations here to mark the centenary of the Baptist Union of Scotland.

When the Union was formed in 1869 there were 51 congregations. Today there are 160 churches with 17,500 members.

Centenary celebrations began with the opening of the Union's annual assembly at which Dr. Tolbert, who is also Vice-President of Liberia, declared that Baptists, with their traditions of liberty, must challenge atheism and tyranny in any form, in any place where it was found. (RNS)



# God and Natural Phenomena

by T. B. Maston

Retired Professor of Christian Ethics  
Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

The following paragraph was in an article in the *Washington Post* concerning the destructiveness of hurricane Camille on the coast of Mississippi and the subsequent floods in Virginia:

What strikes me as ludicrous is the suggestion . . . that we pray for the survivors. If God has a personal hand in all this (which I do not think) why did he permit such death and terror and horror and heartache in the first place, and if he didn't have anything to do with it, what is the basis for the presumptuousness of prayer?

These are old and to some people disturbing questions. Many Christians from time to time have asked the same or similar questions.

The questions can be restated somewhat as follows: (1) How is God related to natural phenomena such as hurricanes and floods? (2) Why pray? As implied in the statement from the *Post* the two questions are very closely related.

Many are disturbed when natural catastrophes occur because they have a distorted conception concerning the relations of God to such catastrophes. It is unfortunate but much teaching and preaching has led some people to attribute every natural phenomenon to the direct if not miraculous working of the Lord. Many believe that God "sends" the hurricane and the flood.

But these and most other occurrences in the natural order can be explained through the operation of certain basic laws. We know, for example, that there is a "hurricane season", and that there is a general geographic area where most of the hurricanes that hit the United States start or are spawned.

What is true of hurricanes and floods is true of other natural phenomenon. Laws may be known or unknown that explain these phenomena, but in the natural order there is a cause for every effect.

It is true that God is the creator of the world and of the laws that govern that world. He sees fit, however, with rare exceptions to let the laws operate or function. This gives us a predictable universe in which to live, and most of us would rather live in such a universe.

Some people may contend that the preceding position makes God "an absentee landlord". This is definitely not true. Notice above the words "with rare exceptions". Man cannot dictate the way God works.

When he wants to, God can step into

the process and change the operation of his laws. What he has created he can control. When he does step in in some unusual way, which is a rarity, we can be sure that he has some high and holy purpose in mind. In other words, a lower law may be set aside for a higher law.

There is another sense in which God is not "an absentee landlord". We know by the kind of God revealed in the scriptures and particularly by the kind of life Jesus lived that God is concerned about people.

He reaches out in love to people, particularly people who suffer. This is one reason why we can and should pray for the survivors of a hurricane or a flood and for people in general who suffer regardless of cause.

The main thrust of our prayers for our own as well as for others should not be that God will build a wall of protection around them that will shield them from the physical and destructive forces of the world. Rather, the burden of our prayers should be that whatever comes with life that the peace that passes understanding and the grace of God that is sufficient may be ours and theirs.

## World Missions Conference Open To Youth, Godfrey Says

**MEMPHIS**—Youth and youth groups will be welcome at the 1970 World Missions Conference at Glorieta Baptist Assembly next summer, since new rules concerning youth attendance at the assemblies do not apply to that conference, a Baptist leader said here.

Norman Godfrey, assistant to the executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission, made the statement, commenting on new rules just announced by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, concerning youth assembly attendance.

A few days earlier, the Sunday School Board had announced a change in the conditions for attendance by youth groups, saying that most of the conferences are designed and planned for adult church leaders, not youth.

The rules stated that every youth under 18 must be accompanied by his parents in order to attend all conferences except the youth leadership, church recreation, foreign and home mission, and Bible conference (BP)

## First TBC Organization Try Held At Mill Creek, Nashville

Mill Creek Baptist church, near Nashville, is known historically as the site of the first effort to organize a state Baptist convention in Tennessee. This meeting took place in October, 1833 with Mill Creek pastor James Whitsitt presiding. At this meeting a constitution was adopted and an executive committee of thirty members, ten from each grand division (east, middle and west) was appointed.

This early attempt at organization was met with opposition from Primitive Baptists, Gospel Mission Baptists, and the Disciples of Christ. Their main point of discontent was the use of the name "convention." In 1842 the convention met again at Mill Creek and changed its name to General Association of Baptists of Tennessee.

From 1842 to 1874 there existed three sectional state conventions: The Middle Tennessee Association of Baptists; the East Tennessee General Association of Baptists; and the West Tennessee General Association of Baptists which, in 1849, became the Baptist General Association of Middle Tennessee and North Alabama. Later the Baptists of North Alabama organized their own convention known as the Baptist General Association of North Alabama.

On April 10, 1874 the present state convention of Tennessee Baptists was organized at Murfreesboro. The first president of the newly-organized Tennessee Baptist Convention was W. P. Bond and the first secretary was W. T. Russell.

The primary interests of the newly united convention was missions with the principal objective the promotion of Christian education. A constitution was adopted which included nine articles. The Constitution has been revised several times and now has eight articles with five by-laws.

At the organizational meeting in 1874 an executive committee was appointed and charged with the responsibility of attending to all the convention's business between sessions. In 1876 the name of the executive committee was changed to Executive Board, in 1877 to the State Mission Board, and in 1919 to the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. The Executive Board is presently made up of 75 members, 25 from the three grand divisions of the state and operates through standing committees, each committee assigned specific areas of work covering the complete range of the programs of work of the convention.

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**WANTED: Full Time Church Secretary, Judson Memorial Baptist Church, Nashville, Tennessee. Contact Mr. Kennedy, Phone 244-2600 Between 9 A.M. and 6 P.M.**

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# Baptist Brief Argues For Church Tax Exemptions

WASHINGTON—"Religious liberty requires that real property owned by religious organizations and used in the main for religious purposes be exempt from taxation," according to a brief filed with the U. S. Supreme Court by the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs here.

The brief by the Baptist agency is one of several filed with the Supreme Court in a case that challenges tax exemption for property owned by religious organizations and which is used exclusively for religious purposes.

The case (Frederick Walz vs. Tax Commission of the City of New York) is scheduled for argument before the nation's highest court in the near future. A decision is expected in the late winter or spring of 1970.

## Upheld By Two Courts

The case arose in the Tax Commission of the City of New York in 1967 when Walz challenged the New York law allowing real estate tax exemption to religious organizations. After the commission denied his claim, he appealed to the special term of the Supreme Court of New York and later to the appellate division. Both courts upheld the tax commission.

The Baptist Joint Committee, directed by C. Emanuel Carlson, entered the case as a "friend of the court" after it approved a "policy statement" defending tax exemption of certain church properties as a matter of religious liberty.

Walz claims the tax exemption for church real estate forces an involuntary payment by non-members. He contends that such payments are in effect a confiscation of property without due process of law.

The Baptist brief pointed out that the Walz position fails to recognize the scope of religious liberty.

While Walz professes to be a religious person, a Christian, he rejects membership in religious organizations as "hostile."

Carlson declared in his brief that Walz's "understanding of religious freedom does not include provision for free churches and other religious groups." Freedom for the corporate expression of religion would be in danger, Carlson continued, if the Walz view prevails in the decision of the Supreme Court.

## Carlson States His Position

1. "The exemption from taxation by state and local government of real property owned by religious organizations and used for religious purposes is not prohibited by the federal constitution.

2. "Constitutionally guaranteed religious liberty presupposes the free conscience and the free church. This requires, by right, the freedom from taxation of property used for religious purposes.

3. "The constitutional prohibition of 'an

establishment' of religious means that 'neither federal nor state government agencies can operate churches, and if such governmental agencies attempt to turn churches into a source of revenue for state purposes those attempts constitute restraints on the free exercise of religion.'"

The Baptist brief also made a distinction between exemption of property used for religious purposes and exemptions for other properties as recognition for services rendered for the public good.

If the idea of a quid pro quo (something for something) is used with reference to worship or religious education "it tends toward a contractual relationship which invites terms and conditions which can readily be misunderstood and misused by church and state alike," Carlson said.

Therefore, he concluded that "tax exemptions of real property of religious organizations most appropriately rests on the principle of religious liberty."

Carlson challenged the theory that churches are becoming so wealthy that they should be taxed. "We have heard and read of 'research' which claims to indicate a vast wealth on the part of religious organizations, but we have not found well validated factual reports," he told the court.

"The real property used for religious purposes, however, is only a small and indeterminate part of that estimated wealth," he said. This means, he continued, that tax exemption for real property used for religious purposes is "so unsubstantial that it is not sufficient cause for action."

Carlson also said that payment by churches for services rendered to their property by government must not be confused with taxation "directly or indirectly through forced payments for public purposes."

The conclusion reached by the Baptist brief was that the decision by the Court of Appeals of the State of New York to allow tax exemption on property used for religious purposes "should be affirmed." (BP)

## Fincher New President Of College Council

JEFFERSON CITY—Dr. John A. Fincher, president of Carson-Newman college of Jefferson City, Tennessee, was recently elected president of The Mid-Appalachia College Council.

The Council is a consortium of twelve private co-educational liberal arts colleges located in the tri-state area of Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia. It was created and incorporated in late 1965 for the purpose of advancing educational excellence through inter-institutional cooperation, with special attention upon the peculiar needs of this mountain region.

## ANNUITY BOARD

### HBP Enrolment Open Through November 30

Southern Baptist pastors, church staff members, and denominational employees have until November 30, 1969 to apply for membership in the Health Benefit Plan administered by the Southern Baptist Annuity Board.

According to Ransome W. Swords, director of Insurance Services, those entering during the current enrolment period will have coverage beginning January 1, 1970.

More than 17,000 Southern Baptists are currently enrolled in the Health Benefit Plan which provides a convention-wide insurance program offering hospital-surgical-major medical benefits. It is open to all salaried employees with the exception of hospital personnel.

Members of the Health Benefit Plan may continue their coverage after retirement provided they have participated for five years. The continuation of such coverage provides the same rates and benefits enjoyed by the active group.

The Health Benefit Plan is underwritten by Blue Cross-Blue Shield of Texas.

### Shelby Baptists Oppose Liquor By The Drink

MEMPHIS—The Shelby County Baptist Association has gone on record in opposition to liquor by the drink for Memphis and Shelby County. The resolution, approved unanimously by the group in session last week, urged all members of Baptist churches in the city and county to vote against the proposal in a referendum scheduled for Nov. 25.

The referendum, promoted by the Chamber of Commerce, would allow any restaurant with 19 tables and 75 chairs to serve liquor by the drink. Dr. William Dodson, Jr., pastor of the Lamar Heights Baptist church is head of the VOLS, an organization formed to fight the proposal.

In other resolutions, the Association commended President Richard M. Nixon for having religious services at the White House, and went on record asking that churches in the association "clearly and openly claim the Bible as their guide in faith and practice, and to resist all efforts to deny it or dilute it." The resolution continued, "Be it further resolved, that in the spirit of our convention president, Dr. W. A. Criswell, those people in our churches who cannot conscientiously accept this basic principle be invited to seek religious affiliation elsewhere."



# Tennessee News Briefs

Union Hill church, Goodlettsville, reports 11 by baptism and two additions by letter during their recent revival. **Bob Mowery**, pastor, Park Avenue church, Nashville, was the evangelist. **Hugh Widick** is pastor.

East Chattanooga church recently ordained **James Holder, Jr.**, **Don Richardson**, **J. Karl Smith**, and **Curtis Waller** as deacons.

Eastland Heights church, Springfield, reports nine professions of faith, 12 additions by letter, and 61 rededications and other full-time commitments during their recent revival. **Dr. C. Y. Dossey**, former associate secretary of the Evangelism Department, Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, now residing in Dallas, Texas, was the evangelist. The church recently ordained **Billy Moreland** and **Deaderick (Buck) Redfern** as deacons. **Jack H. Goodwin** is pastor.

Newly-elected officers of Chilhowee association are: **Dillard Hagan**, pastor, Forest Hill church, moderator; **Earl Taylor**, pastor, Bethel church, vice moderator; **George Gilbert**, pastor, Central Alcoa church, clerk; **Mrs. Horace L. Gennoe**, assistant clerk and financial secretary; and **Thomas A. Sawyer**, treasurer. At the Thursday evening session the **Horace L. Gennoes**, superintendent of missions of the association and his wife, were honored by a reception. **L. B. Vandergriff**, chairman of the Appreciation Committee, presented them with a trip to the Holy Land on behalf of the association.

Gladeville church, Gladeville, recently held Open House for their new parsonage. The home contains approximately 1950 sq. ft. of living space with a living-dining room combination, foyer, four bed rooms, two baths, and den-kitchen combination. It has a fireplace in the den and central heating and air-conditioning throughout. A utility room and garage are included in the basement. The home, property, including landscaping is valued at \$24,800. **Robert D. Agee** is pastor.

White Oak church, Chattanooga, recently ordained **Roy Ashley** and **Claude Wicker** as deacons. **Ray E. Fowler** is pastor.

Galilee church, Knoxville, has called **John M. Smith** as pastor. He formerly served as pastor of Antioch church, Athens for six years. **Mrs. Smith** is the former **Bernice Bivens** and they have three children: **Janice**, **Sandy**, and **Don**.

Newly-elected officers of Concord association are: **Eual Urser**, moderator; **Finis Fuller**, assistant moderator; **W. C. Carlton**, clerk; and **Mrs. Lynn Bevins**, treasurer. **Thomas E. Bryant, Jr.** is superintendent of missions.

Evangelist, missionary to Argentina, and chalk artist **Phil Saint** will be with Central church, Johnson City on Nov. 26 for a special community service. **Saint** is a brother of **Nate Saint**, missionary killed by the Auka Indians some years ago.

Ground-breaking services were held recently for the new Nashville Baptist associational office building, to be located at the southwest corner of Main and Fifth Streets. **Courtney Wilson**, pastor of First church, Hendersonville, and assistant moderator of the association, brought the message. Another feature of the program was the presentation of a Nashville Plus plaque by the Nashville Chamber of Commerce.

**Raymond Sanderson**, pastor, First church, Rockwood, has resigned to become pastor of Hickory Grove church, Charlotte, N.C.

## Miami Baptist Association Admits Negro Congregation

**MIAMI, Fla.**—The Miami Baptist Association, 72 years after it was organized, has admitted an all Negro church. The association voted unanimously to seat messengers from the Glendale Baptist church of Richmond Heights.

"This will help the relationship of black and white as a whole," said Joseph Coates, pastor of the church. "It will point out that we can work together as brothers."

The 200 member church began using Southern Baptist literature and training materials two years ago. The pastor said the church hopes to build new quarters at a new site in about four months. (BP)



Formal dedication services were held recently for the new sanctuary of Skyline Heights church, Johnson City. Speakers for the occasion included Paul Hall, superintendent of missions, Holston association. **R. M. Cassity** is pastor.

## BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR Day Observed in Gibson Association

**BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR** Day was observed Sunday, Nov. 2, in Gibson County association, Lyman B. McDonald, superintendent of missions.

Promoted on the cover page of the associational newsletter "The Vision," churches were encouraged to "Make every Sunday **BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR** Day in your church—you'll be glad you did!"

The article went on to say, "Not only is it full of news relating to Tennessee Baptists but has a national scope of news as well."

## Descendant of Kauai King Named Bishop of Hawaii

**HONOLULU**—A descendant of the last king of Kauai was elected here as the first bishop of the recently independent Episcopal Diocese of Hawaii.

The Rev. Edwin Lani Hanchett was chosen on the first ballot at the first convention of the diocese, a missionary district until it was established at a Special Convention of the Episcopal Church in September. (RNS)

## Special meetings in conjunction with the Tennessee Baptist Convention

### Alumni Meetings

Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist academy—Dinner, Tuesday, Nov. 11, 5:00 p.m., B&W Cafeteria, Green Hills.

Southern Baptist Theological seminary—Luncheon, Wednesday, Nov. 12, noon, Woodmont Baptist church.

Belmont college—Luncheon, Wednesday, Nov. 12, 12:30 p.m., College dining room.

Carson-Newman college—Dinner, Wednesday, Nov. 12, 5:00 p.m., B&W Cafeteria, Green Hills.

New Orleans Baptist Theological seminary—Wednesday, Nov. 12, 5:00 p.m., Belle Meade Buffet.

Southwestern Baptist Theological seminary—Dinner, Wednesday, Nov. 12, 5:00 p.m., Belmont college cafeteria.

Union university—Luncheon, Thursday, Nov. 13, 12:15 p.m., Woodmont Christian church.

### Other Meetings

Breakfast for new pastors, educational directors, music directors and other like staff members—Wednesday, Nov. 12, 7:30 a.m., small dining room, Woodmont Baptist church.

Pastors' Wives Luncheon, Wednesday, Nov. 12, 12:00 noon, Small Dining Room, Woodmont Baptist church.



# Garrett Proposes Rewriting History of Christian Doctrine

**LOUISVILLE**—A leading Southern Baptist theologian has called for the rewriting of the history of Christian doctrine by a panel of distinguished scholars drawn from a wide variety of denominational, cultural and geographic backgrounds.

James Leo Garrett, professor of Christian theology at Southern Baptist Theological seminary here and current chairman of a Baptist World Alliance Study Commission on Cooperative Christianity, made the appeal during a faculty address at the seminary.

Garrett said the revised history of Christian doctrine would put more adequate resources at the disposal of Christian leaders facing contemporary revolutionary problems.

Since the end of the 18th century, various histories of Christian doctrine have been frequently written, Garrett said. Whether any of these can suffice for today's increasingly ecumenical Christianity in a secular and pluralistic world culture is indeed open to serious question, he said.

## Cites Current Trends

He cited current trends which call for such a comprehensive study, including the modern tendency to regard Christianity as essentially action; the current preference for paperbacks and articles free from the presses instead of Christian teachings from preceding centuries; the rising demand for a "secular Christianity" and a new consolidated world religion; and the popularity of such novel theological movements as the "Death of God" theory.

Urging an interdisciplinary approach to writing such a history, Garrett said it ought to be closely related to such other disciplines as the history of Biblical interpretation, Christian apologetics, Christian ethics, and relationship with other world religions.

Though he did not name persons he felt should do the study, Garrett advocated an intercontinental writing team of carefully chosen scholars representing diverse theological, national and denominational viewpoints.

## Multi Volume Series

He further proposed that this comprehensive history of Christian doctrine be pursued to the publication of a multi-volume series, of use to Christian leaders in many countries and traditions.

The committee approach to the writing of such a work is valuable not only because

it gathers together many specialized skills, Garrett said, but it involves an investment of time which would hardly be possible for one human being.

A native of Texas where he was pastor of several churches, Garrett is a graduate of Harvard university, and holds both the doctor of philosophy and doctor of theology degrees. His doctoral dissertation at Harvard dealt with Protestant-Catholic relationships. He has done post-doctoral study at Oxford university.

The seminary professor was one of four Southern Baptists to attend Vatican Council II as a guest of the Roman Catholic Church's Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity. He was at the Council during the fourth session in 1965. (BP)

## First Church, Woodland Mills Observes 100th Anniversary

First church, Woodland Mills, is celebrating its centennial Anniversary, according to pastor Garry Hardin. Organized in 1869, the church began as a group of some 30 members from the Poplar Grove Baptist church, near State Line, Ky., established the first Baptist church in Woodland Mills.



The church has come from meeting in a small, one-room building with center columns supporting the roof to present facilities valued at over \$125,000.

Centennial events began on Nov. 2 with special Sunday School services during which time Paul Isbell, pastor, Hornbeak church, Hornbeak, spoke, followed in the morning worship service by former pastor Harry Harp, now pastor of South Wayne Baptist church, Westland, Michigan. At 6:30 p.m. another former pastor, W. A. Farmer, pastor, Elm Grove Baptist church, Murray, Ky., spoke during an "Old Fashion" worship service.

During Mid-week prayer services of Nov.

## Billie Pate Named New Youth Magazine Editor

**NASHVILLE**—Billie Pate, director of field services for the Woman's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention, Birmingham, has been named editor of youth materials in the Sunday School department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, effective Nov. 10.

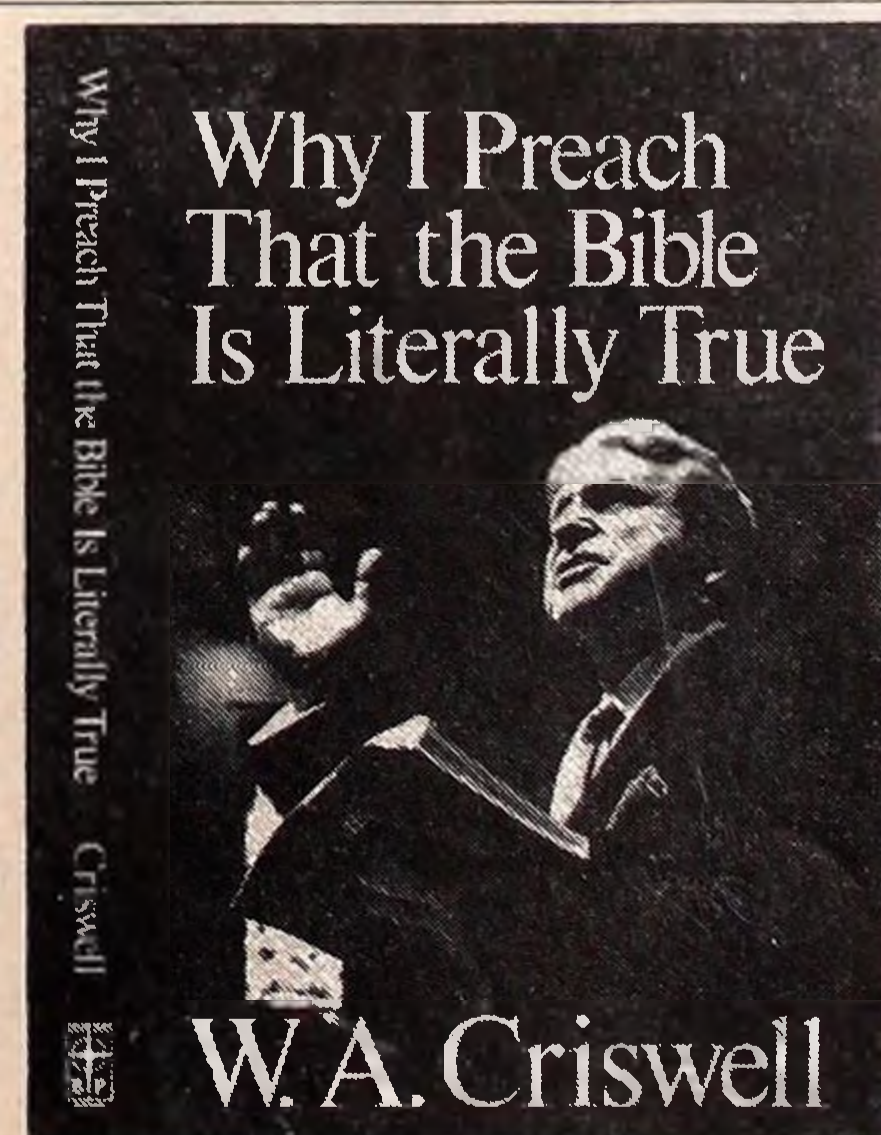
Miss Pate's areas of responsibility will include the editing of Event, a new leisure magazine for youth, and editing of Youth Leadership, a quarterly magazine for Sunday School youth workers.

A native Tennessean, Miss Pate is a graduate of Carson-Newman college, Jefferson City, Tenn., and received a master of religious education degree from the Carver School of Missions of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

She is the author of Bonanza South, a home missions study book. (BP)

5, Dr. W. Fred Kendall, executive secretary-treasurer, Tennessee Baptist Convention, spoke. On Sunday, Nov. 9, another day of special Sunday School services will be held with former pastors Morris Prince, now retired, speaking, followed by Elven Hensley, of Wardell, Mo., speaking at the morning worship service.

An open house at the church and parsonage will be held from 2-4 p.m. Nov. 9 with a centennial dinner being served at 5 p.m. in the evening. During the evening service other former pastors J. T. Drace, pastor, Calvary church, Brownsville, and Noel Edwards, pastor, First church, Bruce-ton, will speak.



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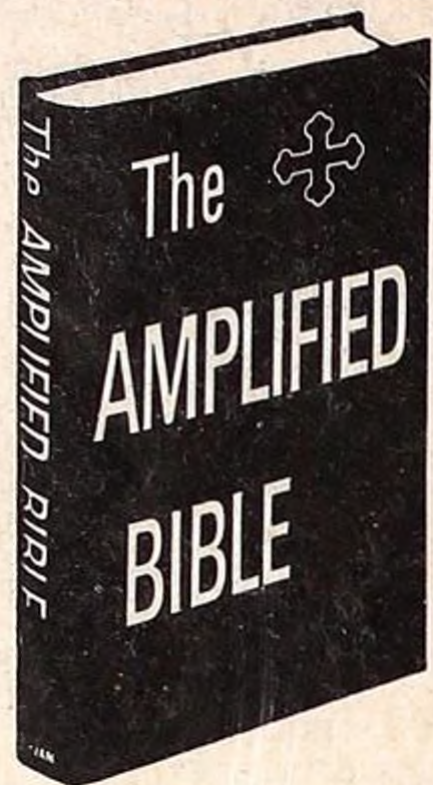
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# Associations Seat Two Arkansas Churches Ousted Over Doctrine

By Erwin L. McDonald

**LITTLE ROCK, Ark.**—Messengers from two of the four churches excluded from the Arkansas Baptist State Convention in its annual convention last year on the basis of "irregularities" in the observance of the Lord's Supper were seated by their respective associations in Arkansas.

Seated without questioning were messengers from Lake Village Baptist church to the Delta Baptist Association in the southeast corner of Arkansas; and those from University Baptist church, Little Rock, to the Pulaski County Baptist Association.

Merle Johnson, formerly pastor of First Baptist church, Malvern—one of the churches excluded—and now pastor of University Baptist church, had met personally with the credentials committee of the Pulaski County Baptist Association prior to the meeting.

Johnson, in a letter in behalf of the church to the committee and to the association, wrote: "we wish to continue in fellowship with the churches of the Pulaski County Baptist Association, and we believe that according to your constitution, we are now a 'regular' Baptist church."

**Johnson said in the letter that the church has repudiated a previous practice of "open membership," under which members were received regardless of the mode of their baptism, or of their doctrinal positions.**

The letter stated further that the University church, in action last April, had voted to adopt as guidelines the Statement of Baptist Faith and Message of the Southern Baptist Convention as approved in 1963, and the Abstract of Principles of the Southern Baptist Theological seminary, Louisville.

The association authorized its moderator to appoint a special committee to study its constitution with special attention to what constitutes a "regular" Baptist church, particularly with regards to the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper.

In another related action, however, Central Baptist Association adjoining to the Pulaski County Association, voted not to seat messengers from First Baptist church, Malvern, Ark., because of the church's policy of admitting professing Christians to join with them in observing the Lord's Supper regardless of denominational affiliation.

Morris Smith, pastor of the Malvern church, said that the association's action had "created no problems for our church." He said the church was well-satisfied with its position, and the church had since voted to discontinue sending gifts to the association.

**In the Washington-Madison Baptist Association in northwest Arkansas, a proposal to consider seating messengers from University Baptist church, Fayetteville, Ark., separately from all other churches was defeated.**

The association rejected, by a three-to-one margin, a motion made by Springdale Pastor Raymond Reed, who argued that the church messengers be voted on separately because the church has received members whose baptism by immersion was administered by non-Baptist churches, and because the constitution provides that the association can refuse to seat messengers from a church that has "become heretical in teaching and practice."

H. D. McCarty, pastor of the University Baptist church, said in a telephone interview that the church has received "six or seven" members in the last four years who had been baptized by immersion on their profession of faith in Christ, and on the authority of churches other than Baptist.

McCarty said his church followed the New Testament in its emphasis on believer's baptism, with immersion as the mode, and that they found no authority in the Bible that baptism is to be done only by Baptist churches.

Concerning the Lord's Supper, McCarty said he believed his church was in accord with the teachings of the New Testament in welcoming to the Lord's table professing Christians who belong to churches, regardless of denomination.

The fourth church excluded over the baptism issue by the state convention last fall, First Baptist church of Russellville, Ark., continued outside the fellowship of the Dardanelle-Russellville Baptist Association, from which it was excluded several years ago on charges of practicing open communion and alien immersion. The church sent no messengers to the association this year. (BP)

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## Criswell Blasts Vietnam Moratorium Participants

**DALLAS**—The president of the Southern Baptist Convention, W. A. Criswell, blasted participants in the Vietnam Moratorium Day demonstrations (Oct. 15) during a Sunday morning sermon at the First Baptist church here where he is pastor.

"It's an insult," Criswell cried in his sermon. He decried demonstrations "our own men are bathing the soil of Vietnam in their own blood . . . and our men over there in Paris at the peace conferences . . . trying to negotiate some kind of cessation to these hostilities."

Criswell likened the demonstrators to those seen and heard in Russia, Czechoslovakia, and East Germany.

He quoted the North Vietnamese premier who addressed the moratorium day participants as "Dear American Friend: our heroic comrades in arms . . . ."

The outspoken pastor and president of the 11 million-member convention quoted a young American Seabee serving in Vietnam who warned Americans they will be sorry later if there is ever a battle on American soil.

Criswell pleaded, "Somewhere, sometime there has to be a line drawn. The Communist aggressor can go just so far and no further. Where are you going to draw that line? Are you going to draw it in Thailand and South Vietnam? Or are you going to pull back and draw it in the Philippines . . . at Hawaii . . . at the western coast of California . . . at the western line of Texas, or are you going to pull back still further and draw it at the Mississippi River? Where are you going to stand? Somewhere—sometime—America has to stand!"

At that point, Criswell's impassioned remarks prompted an outburst of applause among the members of the church attending. As the applause subsided, Criswell continued:

"This is the most critical hour in Amer-

ican history . . . we are witnessing the dissolving, the dissolution of all those principles that come out of the blessed mind of God and out of his holy book."

In closing Criswell said, "If America becomes like that, anybody can sweep us

away . . . destroy us . . . come into our country, infiltrate us, leave us in shreds! That's why we need to preach and teach the word and the will of God. You cannot stand without the Lord. If you don't stand for something you'll fall for anything."(BP)

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## New York Baptists Face Dense Population Area

**SYRACUSE, N.Y.**—Southern Baptists in New York state and surrounding area face a challenge.

Starting in January, the Baptist Convention of New York becomes the smallest and youngest state-level convention in the Southern Baptist Convention. Yet it will be attempting to reach the nation's largest concentration of people.

A recent study by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board survey and special studies department indicates that some 23.8 million people live within the boundaries of the new convention.

The convention includes all of New York state and the northern half of New Jersey, an area projected by this study to gain almost six million more people by 1985.

Five districts comprise the convention, the least populous of which is the Albany (N.Y.) District with 1.5 million people. The New York City District, with 12 million, is the largest.

Some 800,000 students and a diverse group of cultures are included in the convention. The Puerto Rican population is over one million in New York alone. Chinese and Indian are the next largest non-white groups.

According to the study, the entire region is predominately Roman Catholic, especially in the densely populated urban areas. In certain rural sections, Protestants are a majority.

Roman Catholic membership in percentage of population has grown rapidly during the past century, while Protestant membership has declined, the study revealed.

Methodist and Presbyterian denomina-



Mrs. L. H. Polk, First Baptist church, Old Hickory, general chairman; Mrs. Ben Marquis, Belmont Heights (center), and Mrs. E. P. Knott (right), Donelson First, are leaders in the local arrangements for the annual meeting of the Tennessee Baptist Convention Woman's Missionary Union convention to be held at Belmont Heights Baptist church on November 10 and 11.

tions, however, have been increasing slightly as American Baptist and Episcopal denominations were shrinking in number.

Southern Baptists had 57 organized churches in 1968 in this region, with a total membership of 9,040 and a resident membership of 7,217. The convention was constituted in September, however, with 70 churches, 27 chapels and 10,139 members. (BP)



Seven retiring Southern Baptist missionaries, representing 215 accumulated years of service, receive congratulations from Dr. Baker J. Cauthen (right), executive secretary of the Foreign Mission Board, during a luncheon which closed the annual meeting of the Board in Richmond, Va., Oct. 13-15. The missionaries, who hold scrolls of honor and wear flowers and service pins given them by the Board, are (left to right) Miss Vada Waldron, who served in Argentina; Miss Auris Pender, China, Hong Kong, Hawaii, and Singapore; Rev. and Mrs. Wesley M. Lawton, Jr., China, Philippines, Hawaii, Hong Kong, and Taiwan; Miss Onis Vineyard, northern Brazil; and Rev. and Mrs. Robert L. Carlisle, Jr., Uruguay.



# Theme, "Living the Christlife" Picked For 1970 SBC Sessions

**DENVER**—"Living the Christlife" will be the theme for the Southern Baptist Convention when it meets here for its 125th anniversary sessions, June 1-4, 1970.

The general theme and themes for each of the seven different sessions of the convention were selected by the convention's committee on order of business, headed by Robert S. Scales, pastor of Trinity Baptist church, Oklahoma City.

Scales said that the convention will open with a special dramatic production in observance of the denomination's 125th anniversary. The opening Monday night session will also include an address by SBC President W. A. Criswell of Dallas.

Theme for the opening session will be, "The Christlife—A Blessed Heritage."

Though the convention starts on Monday

rather than Tuesday night as in the past, there will be a total of only seven sessions, compared to the usual nine sessions of most other conventions, Scales said.

The other six sessions will carry out the theme, "The Christlife," and will cover (in order, Tuesday morning through Thursday morning), "A Blessed Responsibility."

Each of the other six sessions will use the theme, "The Christlife, A Blessed Responsibility," "... Service," "... Fellowship," "... Ministry," "... Witness," and "... A Blessed Challenge." (Listed in order, Tuesday morning through Thursday morning.)

Other members of the committee which picked the themes are: J. Norris Palmer, pastor, Baton Rouge, La.; Horace Chapman, pastor, Saint Marys, Ga.; J. William Angell, college professor, Winston-Salem, N.C.; Robert L. Mills college president, Georgetown, Ky.; and Frank Hooper, federal judge, Atlanta, Ga. (BP)

## Sunday School

### Bible Survey Series Is Being Released

The new Bible Survey series, published by Broadman Press, are now available in two volumes in an attractive new study course format. The remainder of the eight-volume series will appear at three-month intervals until the final volume is released March 1, 1971.

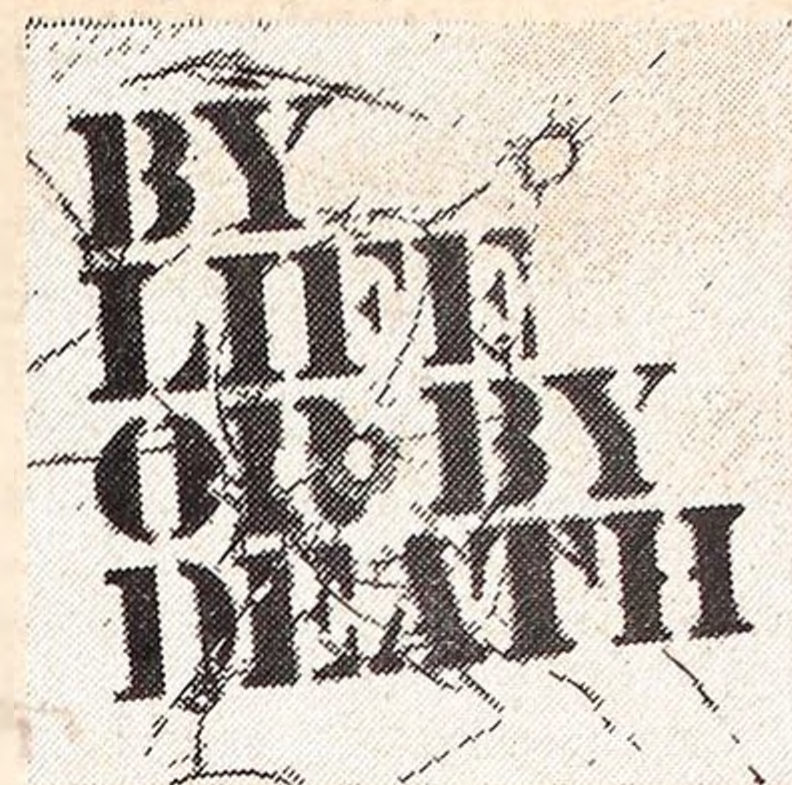
**An Introduction to the Bible**, by L. D. Johnson, released in April, is designed to give the student an overview of the Bible and to set the tone for the entire series.

**How to Study the Bible**, by Olin T. Binkley is a first of its kind in study course format. Here in five brief chapters are the guidelines that are needed for effective Bible study.

In October, the first of the Old Testament volumes will appear. **A Nation in the Making**, by Page H. Kelley, provides a clear and reverent survey of the Pentateuch.

Other books and their release dates are as follows: **Israel's Period of Progress**, Ralph L. Smith, Feb. 1, 1970; **The Centuries of Decline**, B. A. Sizemore, Jr., May 1, 1970; **The Life and Ministry of our Lord**, Ray F. Robbins, Aug. 1, 1970; **The Growth of the Early Church**, W. A. Carleton, Nov. 1, 1970; and **Messages from First-century Christians**, William B. Coble, March 1, 1971.

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## LBJ Attends Church's 125th Anniversary Celebration

**MINDEN, La.**—Former President Lyndon Baines Johnson and his wife attended the 125th anniversary celebration of First Baptist church here, paying tribute along with about 1100 others to the man who organized the church in 1845.

The former president, however, was the only person present who could claim the church's founder as his great grandfather.

The church was organized in 1845 by George Washington Baines, who was the pastor for five years before moving to Texas where he became an outstanding pastor, the founder of *The Texas Baptist* (now the *Baptist Standard*), and president of Baylor university, Waco, Texas.

Most of the church's 125th anniversary celebration was a tribute to Baines. The pastor of the church, Ronald Prince, preached as if he were Baines returning to the church in 1969 to see the church as it had grown from four members in 1845 to 2700 today.

Prince pointed to a silver antique communion plate used by the church during Baine's pastorate, expressing amazement that this one plate was enough for the few members in the church's early days, and so inadequate to hold enough communion bread for the church's total membership today. (BP)

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# MAN BEFORE A HOLY GOD

**Basic Passages:** Leviticus 20:7-8,26; 22:31-33; Isaiah 6:1-5; Psalm 99

**Focal Passages:** Leviticus 22:31-33; Isaiah 6:1-5; Psalm 99:1-5

Wherever men take their faith seriously they are greatly influenced by their concept of deity. It does something to their character and life.

Israel's concept of God made them distinct among the people of the earth in early times. Even in spite of their vacillation and apostasies of the majority, there was a hard core of remarkably virile people with superior character.

The Greeks were a relatively tiny people but have greatly influenced the culture of the world. The home base of the Roman Empire was not so large but law and government of various countries have felt their impact through the ages. The Jews were less numerous than the other two but have deeply influenced the religious concepts of mankind.

The idea of a holy God is a high concept. It means that God is above, separate, and apart from sin and all human imperfections. His flawless goodness evokes reverence, awe, and adoring worship. It makes man feel very unworthy leading him to yearn to be a clean, good man.

## **GOD'S HOLINESS EFFECTIVE** **Leviticus 22:31-33**

The idea of spiritual and moral holiness was portrayed in the ceremonial system of Israel. It pointed to God's purity and holiness as well as His redemptive mercy.

Obedience to God is a proper response to holiness. Rebellion and immorality profane the name of our holy God. That is, they treat His hallowed name with contempt and disrespect. They downgrade His lofty transcendence in the eyes of man.

Whenever man adoringly reacts to God's holiness he moves up in concept and conduct. Pagan deities not only inspired immorality but, in the main, were thought to enthusiastically approve certain forms. The holiness of the true God blazes out against all forms of evil and orgies of sin.

## **CONFRONTING GOD'S HOLINESS** **Isaiah 6:1-5**

Isaiah must have been very grieved over the death of Uzziah. In a pensive mood his thoughts must have turned to the Lord. As he looked up he was given a remarkable vision of the royal court of glory. From the empty throne of an earthly king he turned to see the high and exalted throne of the King of Kings.

The most impressive glory of that ineffable scene was the holiness of God acclaimed by the cherubim. It made Isaiah

feel a poignant sense of guilt and utter unworthiness. He saw not only himself but his people full of faults in the light of the impeccable holiness of God.

Evidently Isaiah was one of the best men in the land. Yet when confronted with the searching white light of God's holiness he saw and felt himself undone.

All of us need a similar exposure occasionally. The profound vision of Isaiah was a remarkable phenomenon for that ancient day or any day. The lofty concept of God revealed has greatly impressed the spiritually minded through the ages. We can have a moving sense of the glorious holiness of God as we read the Word of God and meditate as the Holy Spirit illumines the revealed truth.

## **GOD'S MAJESTIC HOLINESS EVOKES PRAISE** **Psalm 99:1-5**

The holy God reigns over all. The earth should be deeply moved at the thought. God's mighty strength is terrible in its opposition to evil and rebellion. However, it is powerful in the promotion of justice and equity. It is mighty in establishing righteousness. Injustice, oppression, and sin cause His holiness to react dynamically.

All of this should evoke praise and thanksgiving. Deep adoration and profound gratitude should ensue.

God's holiness not only moved Isaiah to a deep sense of repentance but caused him to cry for divine cleansing. In the midst of all this there came a call for volunteers to go out for the Lord. Isaiah responded immediately with full commitment.

Our God of majestic holiness is on the side of righteousness. We should not only adore Him but join Him in establishing His ways in the earth. He has made a niche for us in His great scheme of things. In spite of Isaiah's sense of utter unworthiness Jehovah wanted him and had a place for him. Our sense of complete disqualification should not deter us from responding when He calls. Jehovah has provided in Christ the cleansing and enabling we need.

Education in the final analysis is only an acknowledgment that each generation stands on the shoulders of the preceding generation and is heir of all the truth, all the values, and all the discoveries that belong to the past. We cannot turn the clock back by renouncing the intellectual quest. We must rather renew our educational system by finding for it a firmer foundation.

—Culbert Rutenber

## **Oklahoma Heart Transplant Patient, New Christian, Dies**

by Bob Matthews

**TULSA, Okla.**—Dwane Shannon Marlow lived on borrowed time for four months, but the time he borrowed was long enough to gain eternal life.

Prior to receiving a heart transplant last June, Marlow, 52, had not been receptive to the gospel, according to Bartley Rogers, pastor of Suncrest Baptist church here.

But the first Sunday that Marlow was home from Houston where he received the heart transplant, Marlow and his wife made professions of faith in Christ at the Tulsa church.

"After his conversion and baptism, Dwane was a new man, and was as active in our church as he could be under the circumstances," the pastor said.

"He attended Sunday morning services when he would get so weak that other men had to help him back to his car," said Rogers. "He was a happy Christian and had a fine attitude."

The pastor added that the man with a new heart often wanted to tell the members of his church the full story of his conversion experience, but was too emotional to relate it. He died before he could do so.

One of his dreams was to set up an organ bank in Oklahoma for persons needing any kind of transplant, Rogers added. There is no such organ bank now in Oklahoma, and Houston is reportedly the only place in the nation a person can register to donate an organ.

Marlow never met the man who gave him his new heart, and didn't even know his name. The donor reportedly was a university student who died in a fall. Marlow often wondered if he were a Christian. (BP)

## **HIGH RISE BUILDING SITES MAY ELUDE KOREA BAPTISTS**

If Baptists in Korea can indicate to Seoul city officials their ability to construct "acceptable church buildings right away," they can obtain strategic building sites near high rise apartments currently being erected in the capital city, reports Rev. Don C. Jones, Southern Baptist missionary. Each "acceptable" church building would cost about \$10,000.

Jones, director of the department of publications and church administration for the Korea Mission (organization of Southern Baptist missionaries), learned from the Seoul bureau of statistics that the city's population is growing at a rate of 30,000 per month and will probably top 5,000,000 this year. High rise apartments are being built throughout the city to house the multitudes.



# From the Executive Secretary

By W. Fred Kendall



Kendall

Next week we shall assemble for the annual meeting of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. This year we will meet with the Woodmont Baptist Church in Nashville. I believe that this is the first time that the Convention has met at this church. Woodmont has splendid facilities and good parking space. Dr. Bill Sherman and that congregation will prove most gracious hosts, and we anticipate a fine spirit of fellow-

ship.

One of the things that has concerned me during the years has been the large number of churches which do not send messengers to the Convention. In our Baptist democracy every church ought to make an effort to send at least one messenger. The limit is ten messengers but few churches send the full number, and some years only a few more than six hundred of the nearly 2700 churches are represented by messengers.

The State Conventions were created as the second unit of our Baptist denominational structure. Associations were formed first because they bring the churches together in the local area nearest to the churches. The State Convention is the second step outward in carrying out the Great Commission. In the United States the state boundaries formed a good line of division for setting up a workable unit which could work with the associations and the churches in an area closer to home.

During the years the annual meeting of the State Convention has been a time for reporting on the progress of the work during the past year and for reviewing the work and taking note of failures and weaknesses as well as successes. It has been a time to review policies and to set up new policies and to outline the work for the years and months ahead. It has become a time to survey the whole spiritual life of the nation and the world and to survey the most urgent needs. It is a time to challenge the churches to make every effort to fulfill the purposes and plans of Christ for the times. It is a time to create enlarged vision and increased faith to undertake the work which needs to be done.

Fellowship is another great characteristic of the annual meeting of the State Convention. Old friends meet and messengers make many new friends. Those who have moved into the state are introduced to the new areas of work and to new friends. It is through worship and prayer

On Matters of

## Family Living

By Dr. B. David Edens,  
Director, Marriage and  
Family Program  
Stephens College  
Columbia, Missouri 65201



### EVERY CHILD HAS THE RIGHT TO FAIL—AT SOMETHING

"Every child has a right to succeed, and yet he also has the right to fail," William Casey, assistant superintendent of schools said. The assumption that a youngster should be good at everything he tries is as unrealistic as it is widespread.

Expecting a child to be successful in every school subject is a regression to the outmoded concept of the "perfectly rounded" person, the educator indicated. What is needed, he pointed out, is more concern for individuality, more effort to identify a child's innate gifts, strengths and interests and help him use them.

Guidance counselors, as "child developers" rather than teachers, are especially well equipped to discover each youngster's uniqueness, he noted. The counselor's ever-growing knowledge of the child should be used in a coordinated effort with the rest of the school system "through all the school years of the child" to insure truly individual development.

### PORTUGUESE BAPTISTS OPEN FIRST SEMINARY

The new theological seminary of the Portuguese Baptist Convention opened its first session with a student body of eight and a faculty of four, including two Southern Baptist missionaries. The seminary uses two floors in the new Baptist church building in Queluz, just outside the capital of Lisbon.

The seminary joins 16 others that are sponsored by the European Baptist Federation, and the eight students join about 200 preparing for ministries among 1¼ million Baptists in Europe.

and through the discussion of issues and the facing of common problems that unity is achieved within the framework of democracy. The living Christ becomes the Person around whom the people are united. Through the leadership of the Holy Spirit and under the Lordship of Christ the churches move forward through the ages in carrying out His will. Join us in prayer for a great Convention next week.

## Historically

### From the files

#### 50 YEARS AGO

Individual gifts to the Southern Baptist Convention \$75,000,000 campaign are worthy of note. Three men have given \$200,000 each, one has given \$150,000, another \$100,000, still another \$50,000, several have given \$25,000 each, and one man left \$1,000,000 in his will which is earmarked for the campaign. The Methodists in their Centenary movement record \$75,000 as their largest single gift.

#### 20 YEARS AGO

Construction has been completed on the new colonial-style sanctuary of First church, Gallatin. The new building is 60 by 104 feet with a seating capacity of over 900. The total cost of the building was \$117,000. Pews for the sanctuary were donated by individuals, many of them given as memorials. Pews from the old building, which was razed, were placed in the new balcony. Clyde C. Bryan is pastor.

#### 10 YEARS AGO

J. Marse Grant, of Thomasville, N. C., editor of *Charity and Children* at the Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina for the past 10 years, has been elected editor of the *Biblical Recorder*, the state Baptist paper of North Carolina. Grant succeeds Dr. L. L. Carpenter, who retires Dec. 31 after 17 years as editor.

### Parade Is Rescheduled To Avoid Knox "M" Night

KNOXVILLE—When the 1969 Christmas parade here appeared on a collision course with Mobilization night, sponsored by the Knox County Baptist Association, the Christmas parade wound up being rescheduled, which may be something of a switch in the trend.

Citing as the reason for switching the parade date, Jerry Julian, chairman of the Greater Knoxville Christmas Parade Committee, said "with the combination of this event and the parade, the traffic problem would be almost insurmountable."

Julian also indicated that with an involvement of some 6000 to 7000 persons in "M" night, there would be conflicts in personal schedules.

The parade was reset for Thursday, Dec. 4, for this year only. Churches in the association will observe "M" night on Monday, Dec. 1.



# Can Our Baptist Colleges Survive?

By Jonas L. Stewart  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Christian education gave birth to the Tennessee Baptist Convention. This was the major purpose of the original organized efforts of our founding fathers as a convention. Where Christian education has been maintained a strong witness has prevailed. In those areas where our Baptist colleges have not supplied leadership our Baptist strength has been weak. The western and eastern parts of our state are predominately Baptist. It is significant that our oldest colleges are in these areas. Belmont College is now making a strong impact on the mid-state area.

It does not seem unreasonable to surmise that as goes Christian education as conceived by the Tennessee Baptist Convention so goes the strength of our Baptist witness. Our Christian colleges are being challenged today as never before. State institutions can ask and receive of the legislature hundreds of millions of dollars to provide tuition-free education. Our Baptist schools have no such source of funds. Our churches cannot supply enough of their assets for all our needs and still take care of their own needs. Is there no answer? Must our colleges die and let our witness for Christ subside?

There is an answer. Previous leadership foresaw the needs that would face us and made provisions. The Tennessee Baptist Foundation holds the key to the future of our schools. Christian stewards can provide for a trust fund in their wills, naming the Foundation as trustee, designating that the income is to be paid annually and forever to the college of the testator's

choice. God has given our people real estate, stocks, bonds, cash and other assets that they won't need after their death. A Christian can make his testimony live forever by leaving these assets or portions thereof for such a trust fund. Every Christian should have a will. It cannot be called a Christian will unless a Christian cause is a part of it. If every Baptist who lives today would leave a reasonable trust for this purpose we would soon be providing millions of dollars annually for these schools.

If you just want to write a will, see your lawyer. If you want yours to be a Christian will, request information or a conference by writing Tennessee Baptist Foundation, Dr. Jonas L. Stewart, Executive Secretary, P.O. Box 647, Brentwood, Tennessee, Phone 833-4220.

## Phelps Joins Mercer As Development VP

MACON, Ga.—Ralph A. Phelps, Jr., former president of Ouachita Baptist university in Arkadelphia, Ark., has been named vice president for development at Mercer university, President Rufus C. Harris has announced.

Phelps, 48, presently is vice president and trust officer of Worthen Bank and Trust Company in Little Rock, Ark.

During his 16-year presidency of Ouachita, the student body tripled, a graduate school was added, assets increased from \$1.8 to \$8.4 million and 22 buildings were constructed.

Harris said of the appointment, "Mercer is fortunate to secure the services of a person of Dr. Phelps' stature. He has distinguished himself in the field of education.

"Mercer long has felt the need of someone to specialize in the area of endowment building, fund raising and new development. We have not filled this position because, until now, we have not found precisely the right person for the post," Harris said.

The Mercer position will mark Phelps' return to Georgia. In 1967, he took six months' leave of absence from Ouachita to become regional director of the Office of Economic Opportunity's Southeast Regional Office in Atlanta.

Before becoming president of Ouachita in 1953, Phelps was associate professor of Christian ethics at Southwestern Baptist Theological seminary, Fort Worth, where he earned the master and doctor of theology degrees. A native of Texas, he previously was pastor of three churches in Texas. (BP)



The new Baptist Center, in Taejon, Korea, was dedicated September 24. The four-story facility includes a servicemen's center, a Baptist Book Store, the office of the treasurer for the Korea Mission (organization of Southern Baptist missionaries), a general meeting room that seats 125, kitchen, and conference room. English-language worship services and meetings of the Taejon International Women's Club are held in the center, and Christian movies, weekday English classes, and a home economics class are planned.

## Indonesia Seminary President Is Resigning

Dr. Buford L. Nichols, of Waco, Texas, Southern Baptist missionary, is resigning as president of the Baptist Theological Seminary of Indonesia, in Semarang, Dec. 30. He will continue his teaching responsibilities, however, during the second semester. (Dr. G. W. Schweer, also a missionary, will serve as president-elect, beginning January 1.) Appointed a missionary in 1936, Dr. Nichols served in China about 15 years, except for interruptions caused by World War II. In 1952 he helped begin Baptist work in Indonesia and two years later he helped found the seminary in Semarang.

## Kansas Convention Launches \$500,000 Drive Within State

WICHITA, Kan.—Following a "summit meeting" of top Southern Baptist leaders, the Kansas Convention of Southern Baptists has launched an immediate crash fund campaign to raise \$500,000 by January of 1970 within the convention as the first major step toward funding its \$1.6 million indebtedness.

Lester Arvin, state senator who serves as chairman of the convention's five-member board of managers, said that once the fund campaign within Kansas and Nebraska is successful, plans will be announced detailing sources for the remainder of the goal.

"If we are successful, and we are sure we will be," said Arvin, "we are convinced we will have other aid from other Southern Baptists and other Baptist state conventions." (BP)

## BRIEF SAYS CHURCHES HOLD 1.5% OF NEW YORK PROPERTY

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Property used for religious purposes has the highest valuation—\$698,339,020—of any non-governmental classification in New York City, according to a brief filed with the U.S. Supreme Court here.

However, the total is only 1.5 per cent of the total, only slightly higher than valuations on educational institutions and is only a fraction of the total value of municipal, state and federal property within the city limits.

And churches hold only 4.5% of the tax-exempt property.

The figures, based on a 1967 study of tax exemption in the nation's largest city, were contained in a friend-of-the-court brief submitted by the Episcopal Diocese of New York and the Church of the Holy Apostles. (RNS)