

BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR

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News-Journal Of The Tennessee Baptist Convention

Tennessee Women Set Goal of \$1,175,000 For Lottie Moon Offering In December



Tennessee Baptists will seek to raise \$1,175,000 as a part of the \$18 million goal of Southern Baptists for the 1972 Lottie Moon Christmas offering for foreign missions. The offering will provide approximately 46 per cent of the SBC Foreign Mission Board's 1973 budget.

Tennessee Woman's Missionary Union, led by Miss Mary Jane Nethery, executive-secretary, will direct the special emphasis in Tennessee churches.

According to Alma Hunt, executive secretary of the Woman's Missionary Union, Birmingham, "A week of concerted prayer has always accompanied the offering. December 3-10 hundreds of thousands of WMU members will meet daily to pray for specific needs expressed by the missionaries. Families will pray together following a special prayer guide their church WMU's will provide."

For the past two years, the offering goal has been exceeded. Last year's offering exceeded the previous year's by 9.9 per cent. It was the largest percentage and dollar increase in the history of the offering. The total was \$17,388,810. Tennessee Baptists

last year gave \$1,176,514.66 in comparison with \$1,095,578.10 given the preceding year.

The first \$12,500,000 of offering is already allocated to priority needs in the operating budget of the FMB. Further allocations will be made according to priority as offering exceeds the \$12,500,000 mark, Miss Hunt said.

The additional allocations for the 1971 Lottie Moon offering were as follows: Africa, \$760,000.00; Europe and the Middle East, \$640,000.00; Middle American and the Caribbean, \$360,000.00; South America, \$960,000.00; East Asia, \$760,000.00 and Southeast Asia, \$520,000.00.

Gifts will be used to aid 2526 foreign missionaries and the people in 75 countries. Southern Baptists gathered the first Christmas offering in 1888 at the suggestion of Lottie Moon, a missionary to China. Since that first attempt, the offering has become the source of almost half the financial support for SBC foreign missions.

Miss Hunt urged that Christians "pray not only for money, but also for additional personnel, and that missionaries will be blessed with creativity, skill, patience, and faith."

Committee On Boards Additions Are Listed

Not included in the earlier report in *Baptist And Reflector* (Oct. 12, 1972, page 15-16) were the names of the following men elected to fill vacancies by the convention upon the recommendation of the Committee on Boards.

Elected to a vacant position on the Executive Board, term expiring 1975, was Bill Delaney, Columbia. Under terms expiring 1974, Executive Board, Lee Morris was elected to take the place of Carroll Hubbard, Oak Ridge; and Herman Calhoun will fill the vacancy left by Ralph Norton, Chattanooga.

Under trustees of the Tennessee Baptist Foundation, Stephen Lamm, Memphis, was elected to a vacant position with a term expiring 1975.

Charles E. Gibbs Jr., Chattanooga, will fill the vacant position with the trustees of the Children's Homes, term expiring 1974.

Jack McEwen, Chattanooga, will fill the vacated position of Ralph Norton under trustees of Carson-Newman college, term expiring 1973. A new trustee for Union university will be John McRae, Memphis, taking the place of Dale Glover, Obion.

From the report of Committee on Committees Archie King, Murfreesboro, was elected to fill the vacancy of Eugene Cotey, under Committee on Arrangements. Bob Peek, Athens, was elected to fill the vacancy of William Cropper, Cleveland, under the Committee on Resolutions.

Two Women Are Ordained By Oak Ridge First Baptist

Mrs. R. C. (Annette) Kelly and Mrs. Granvil (Mary Agnes) Kyker were ordained as deacons in the First Baptist church of Oak Ridge recently. The two women, ordained Sept. 24 by action of a unanimous vote of the church membership, were preceded in ordination by Mrs. Betty Galloway, who was ordained last year, according to a church spokesman.

As far as is known, this is the only church in the state, affiliated with the Tennessee Baptist Convention, which has ordained women as deacons.

Activities and emphases will be held on a church-wide basis in Tennessee and will include Brotherhood, WMU, Sunday School, worship services, and prayer services.

The theme for the year is "Ask of me," with the scripture as Psalm 2:8 (RSV): "Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession."

The Weakness Of Works

By Herschel H. Hobbs

"Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Jesus Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified"—Galatians 2:16.

To understand this verse several words must be examined. In the Greek text "man" without the definite article may mean mankind. It includes all men, yet singles out each one. "Justified" means to be declared righteous before God. "Law" in each case is without the definite article, so it means law as a principle. It both includes the Mosaic law and any legal code of conduct which one may devise. "Faith of Jesus Christ" does not refer to the faith which Jesus had, but to faith (trust, commitment) which centers in Him. "We" refers to Jews as opposed to Gentiles.

In verse 15 Paul spoke of "Jews by nature." This means naturally born Jews who regarded all Gentiles as "sinners."

Paul said that even Christian Jews know that they are not saved by law. If any man knew this, Paul did. For he had been zealous for the Mosaic law to the extreme. But he had found no peace of soul in living by its demands. In Romans he develops this point more fully, showing that his failure to keep the law perfectly only reminded him of

his sin or missing God's mark of perfection (7:7-14).

"Even we" or Jews have believed in Jesus Christ for salvation (Acts 15:10-11). Which proved that circumcision and other works of law could not save.

Again in Romans 2:14-15 Paul shows that even Gentiles, who did not have Moses' law, had God's law written in their hearts. They had an innate knowledge of right and wrong. But like the Jews and the Mosaic law, they did not live up to their law. So that alone proved that one cannot be declared righteous before God by any code of law.

So that Paul concludes that "out of works of law cannot be justified any flesh," whether it be Jew or Gentile.

Which speaks to our hearts today. No man can be saved by living by any legal code. He is saved, not by what he does, but by what God in Christ has done for him. And that is the very essence of grace.



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James A. Lester
Editor-Manager

EURA LANNOM Assistant to the Editor
RICHARD DAVID KEEL Circulation Manager

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News-Journal of Tennessee Baptist Convention
W. FRED KENDALL, Executive Secretary-Treasurer

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Pulpit To Pew

By Jim Griffith

British surgeons recently removed two spoons, four coins, and several pieces of wire from the stomach of a 37-year-old Irishman.

Here is a man who has an appetite for the unusual.

But there is a lesson here for all who would profit by it: Be careful what you swallow!

In this day, when so many appetizing "dishes" are put before us, we ought to remember that we can swallow them, but they may be difficult to stomach.

For example, many are deceived into thinking that some of the "new winds of doctrine," now blowing across our land, are actual and factual—only to later discover that all it has given them is mental and spiritual indigestion.

What have you swallowed lately? Be careful what you swallow. Then, perhaps you won't have to experience the distress of the man in the well-known TV commercial who moans: "I can't believe I ate that whole thing!"

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Devotional

Lessons For The Tempted

I Cor. 10:12-13

By B. E. Rickman, Pastor

Lakeview Baptist Church, Old Hickory

The Apostle Paul reminds the Christians at Corinth of that terrible day when the Israelites sinned against God through the



Rickman

breaking of the first three commandments voiced in Ex. 20:3-5. He then speaks a warning which should be heeded by all who seek the Christian way. In this warning there are at least four lessons to be learned.

We see here that God permits us to be tempted, "God is faithful; He will not suffer you to be tempted above that you

are able." The implication is clear. Temptations will come our way. James tells us in his epistle (1:13) "Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God, for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man." God does not send forth the temptation, but only permits the temptation to enter our lives.

Why then, do we ask, does God call us to be tempted? Is it not a way of growth and development, a lesson in the learning of self-discipline? Is it not also a test which having been passed by the Christian serves as a testimony of faithfulness to Christ and victory over evil?

We learn from this scripture that we should be afraid of temptation. "Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall." Two forms of danger exist against which we need to caution ourselves, the danger of underestimating the power of temptation, for it is as a roaring lion (Peter 5:8), and the danger of overconfidence in our own ability to withstand. This is exemplified in the story of Simon Peter who assured Jesus that he would defend Him unto death. Peter's prideful boast forgotten, however, in less than twenty-four hours he denied Jesus even more vehemently than he had pledged his faithfulness, not once, but three times. (Matt. 26:31-35)

We are to avoid excusing ourselves, when we are tempted, with such weak excuses as "It is impossible to resist temptation because it is an outside source," or "We are just victims of our environment." Temptation becomes temptation when something rises within us which is merely awakened by an external force. The temptation is within us then and not without, as we are reminded by James (1:14) "Every man is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desire and enticed." The Bible tell us also, "There is no temptation taken you but such is common to man" (I Cor. 10:13). We cannot justify our surrendering to temptation through rationalizing that we are subjected to greater temptations than others.

Scenes From Recent Convention



W. Fred Kendall, left, congratulates newly-elected convention president Fred Wood.



Pastors enjoying a moment of relaxation in the convention's exhibit area were, left to right: Bob Carroll, Bethlehem church, Springfield; Carl Scarlett, Southside church, Lebanon; Harry Nichols, Rocky Valley church, Lebanon; Nathan Hale, Shop Springs church, Lebanon; and Bob Carpenter, Lamar Heights church, Memphis.



Following a special tribute to Dr. Kendall during the convention's Wednesday evening session, a reception was held at First church. In the receiving line were, left to right: Courtney Wilson, outgoing TBC president; Mrs. Wilson; Mrs. W. Fred Kendall; and W. Fred Kendall, retiring executive secretary-treasurer, TBC.



Pat Kough, left, pastor, First church, Bemis, and Robert Campbell, pastor, First church, Rockwood, look over the convention program.



Ralph Norton, right, executive secretary-treasurer elect, Tennessee Baptist Convention, congratulations Fred M. Wood of Memphis upon his election as convention president.



Ralph Norton, right, executive secretary-treasurer elect, Tennessee Baptist Convention, discusses convention proceedings with president Courtney Wilson of Hendersonville.

EDITORIALS

Lottie Moon Season Of Prayer

Baptists throughout Tennessee will place especial emphasis upon our mission work on foreign fields as they join with Southern Baptists in the annual Lottie Moon Season of Prayer and special offering for foreign missions.

The first Christmas offering was made by Southern Baptists in 1888 by Lottie Moon, then a missionary to China. Termed "the most expensive Christmas present in the world . . ." the offering this year is expected to reach or exceed \$18,000,000. Of this amount, Tennessee Baptists will seek to raise \$1,175,000. The \$18 million figure will comprise about 46 per cent of the 1973 budget of the Foreign Mission Board.

In recent years, the season of prayer and special offering sponsored by Woman's Missionary Union has been, increasingly, a church-wide emphasis. This is good! We are indebted to the women in our churches over the years for holding before us the needs of mission causes, state, home and foreign. Had it not been for the prayerful and financial support of our women, the cause of missions would have been hindered.

Important as the \$18 million is to the cause of foreign missions, even more important is the season of prayer and the prayerful emphasis which is placed upon our work.

We are gratified that Tennessee Baptists in 1971 gave \$1,176,514.66. We believe that this year they will exceed the suggested goal; remembering all the while that this is an over and above offering. It was so designed and so intended in order that the regular financial program of the churches and the state and Southern Conventions might not be harmed.

Good News From Foundation

One of the most encouraging aspects of Tennessee Baptist life is the expanding ministry of the Tennessee Baptist Foundation. As of October 31, 1972, total assets of the Foundation at book value were \$5,965,182. The market value of assets of the Foundation are considerably higher, but because of market fluctuations they cannot be listed to the dollar.

This represents a considerable gain from the 1967 assets of \$3,856,851, as reported to the Convention—an increase of about one third! Additionally, there are six wills now in probate which will provide approximately \$150,000 in assets.

During the past fiscal year, total income distributed was \$306,979, an increase of \$36,857 over the previous year. Significant also is the fact that of the income distributed, \$71,977 was paid to the Cooperative Program, and \$1775 was paid for State Missions; an increase of \$15,543 to the Executive Board for these two objects.

The Tennessee Baptist Foundation is the one agency through which gifts, wills and trusts may be given which

will and do benefit every phase of our work. The significant gain for this past fiscal year bespeaks well for the growing interest upon the part of Tennessee Baptists in "living after death," and for the manner in which the ministries of the Foundation is presented.

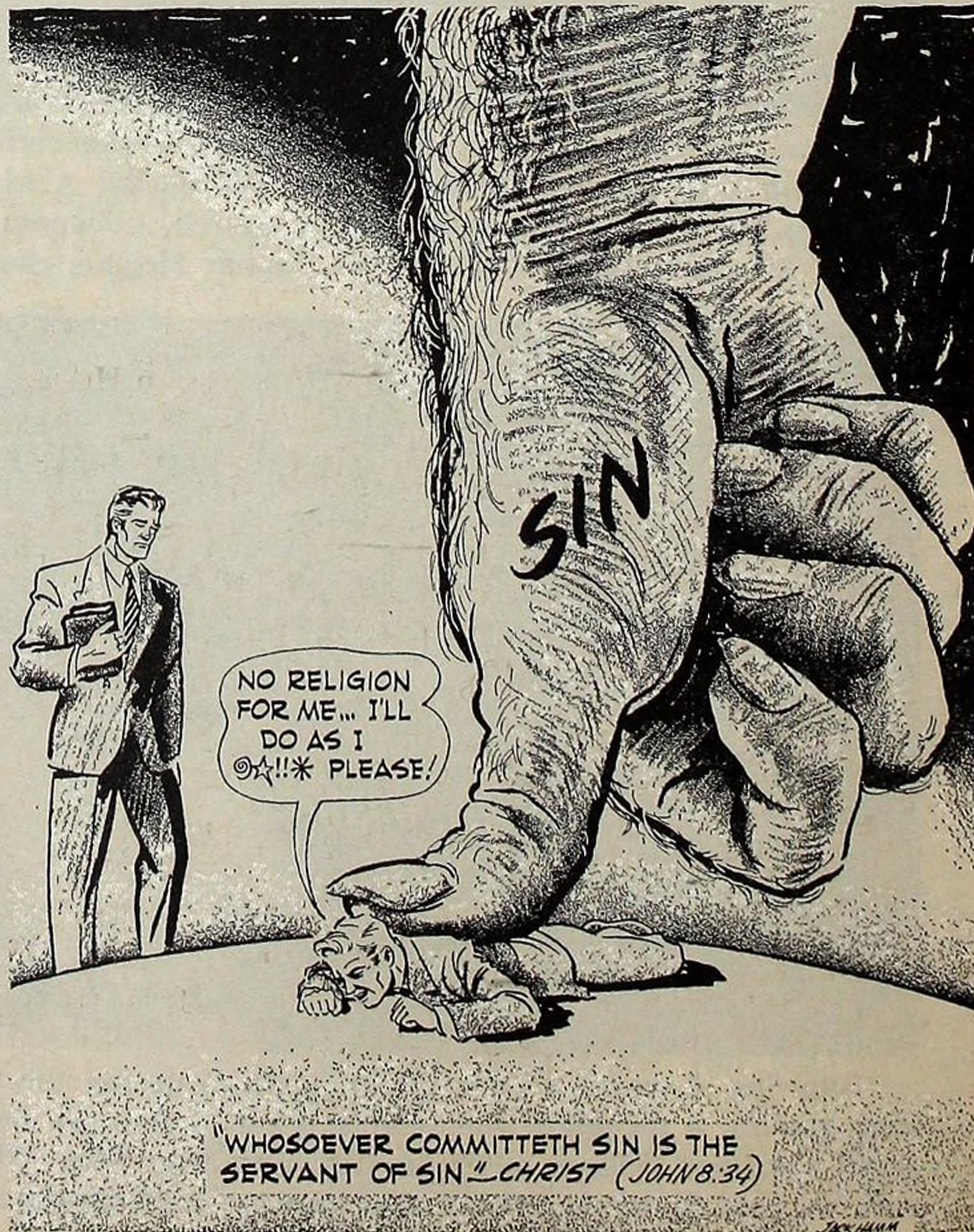
A Stuck Needle Is---

With no intention of engaging in any type of running diatribe, we simply take note of the fact that one independent publication, published quarterly, still is seeking to make what we hope is a dead issue come alive.

We reassert our belief that the Southern Baptist Convention, meeting in Philadelphia last June, made a right and proper decision with regard to the Broadman Commentary. We regret that a group of so-called conservatives still seeks to make of this an issue of divisiveness.

We believe that Southern Baptists, including its agencies and institutions, still are on the "main line" and in the main stream of historic Baptist theology and polity. We believe that we see evidences that the Lord is blessing us in our work. We believe further, that we shall not allow ourselves to have divided ranks on this or other issues. We have too much to lose in replaying the same record if the needle is stuck!

The Free Man





The Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of Baptist Hospital, Nashville, gathered recently following the annual meeting. Pictured above (left to right) include new officers: Charles E. Creagh, chairman, Nashville; Tom Madden, vice chairman, Tullahoma; Kenneth L. Ross, secretary, Nashville; G. Frank Cole Jr., Nashville; Dr. Russell Birmingham, Nashville; James H. Winters, Nashville; and Sam Ridley, Smyrna. Gene Kidd, hospital administrator, presented a plaque of service recognition to those trustees rotating off the board this year. These men included Lemuel B. Stevens and Stirton Oman, both of Nashville; and Claude Garrett, Goodlettsville.

Floyd Chunn, 74, Pastor, Decorated Chaplain, Is Dead

Floyd H. Chunn, 74, former pastor in Tazewell, Townsend, Newport, and Hamilton County, died recently. He was a graduate of Carson-Newman college and Southern Baptist Theological seminary in Louisville. He was a substitute teacher for the Knoxville city schools and taught also at Carson-Newman and Harrison-Chilhowee academy. He served also as a pastor in Georgia and Indiana. He was a member of the Valley Grove church in Knoxville.

During the 1930's he worked in Claiborne, Blount, and Sevier counties for the Baptist Sunday School Board. He was the first chaplain from Knoxville to go overseas during World War II, and was awarded the bronze Star in 1944 when his unit landed in France.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Ita Loveday Chunn, of Rt. 29, Knoxville, 37920; a son, Floyd Jr., three daughters, and five brothers.

New Tape Duplicators Added By R-TV Commission

The Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission has converted to the Gauss Series 1200 Magnetic Tape Duplicators, according to an announcement from Paul M. Stevens, director of the Commission.

The ultra high-speed duplication system will record tapes at 32 times the original recording speed. Stevens explained that one of the Commission's 30-minute radio pro-

Centennial Is Observed By New Hope Baptist

The New Hope Baptist church, Judson Association, celebrated its centennial last month with all day services at the church. C. C. Pendergrass, a deacon, moderated the program. Leon Tidwell, song leader, directed the choir. John E. Tidwell is pastor of the church.

The church was organized Oct. 28, 1872 with 23 charter members. A portion of the new members came from the Oak Grove church in Williamson County, and part came from Knob Creek church in Maury County. They met at the Tidwell School in the fourth district of Hickman County. Rolin Hull served as moderator, and Levi J. Tidwell was the clerk. The church's first pastor was J. C. R. Williams.

In 1950 a new church house was built on Barren Fork of Lick Creek. The church meets on the fourth Sunday in each month.

Five former pastors were present for the services. They included: C. T. Davidson, oldest living pastor; Harley Tidwell, pastor at the Walnut Grove church, Dickson County; Thomas Sullivan, part-time associational missionary; Harley Buttrey, pastor at Parker's Creek church, Dickson County; and John Lampley, pastor at the Old New Hope church in Williamson County. Pendergrass gave a sketch of the church's history.

grams could now be duplicated in two minutes. As the world's largest producer of religious programs for the broadcasting industry, the Radio-TV Commission duplicates more than 3125 radio tapes weekly.

Centennial Being Marked By Alamo First Baptist

Members of the First Baptist church of Alamo began celebrating the church's 100th anniversary Nov. 29 and will continue the celebration services through Sunday, Dec. 3.

Seven of the church's former pastors will be featured speakers for the series of services at 7:30 each evening and 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on Sunday. Pastors scheduled to appear on the program include Morris Prince, Alamo; Floyd Cates, Bolivar; Robert Benson, Jackson; Paul Palmer, Royal Oak, Mich.; J. T. Poe, Texas; Lynn Claybrook, Memphis; and Robert Brown, Trenton.

The church was organized Nov. 22, 1872 as the Alamo Missionary Baptist church. The first pastor was George Thomas. The first home for the church members was a frame building purchased from the Christian congregation in 1875. It stood on the site of the present church building.

Lewis Sewell, professor at Union university, is now serving as interim pastor.

Union's Campaign Exceeds \$2,000,000

The Advancement Campaign of Union university, Jackson, the spearhead of a drive to raise \$8,000,000 to relocate the campus of the school on a 284-acre site in Northwest Jackson, has exceeded the \$2,000,000 mark, according to Eugene W. Baker, director of public relations. Robert E. Craig serves as president of the West Tennessee school.

Site development for the project will include civil engineering work and grading related to parking, the street system, walkways, landscaping, athletic fields, drainage and the installation of underground systems for utilities. Ceremonies to mark the inauguration of the site development were scheduled for Nov. 21.



Union president Robert E. Craig, right, receives a check in the amount of \$5000 for the school's new campus from Lewis D. Ferrell, pastor, Whitehaven church, Memphis, on behalf of the church, which gave the money, an amount over and above their pledge, in honor of their pastor.



Maurice Coleman, left, pastor, First church, Waverly, Richard Patton, center, pastor, First church, Portland, and Bill Bates, director of estate planning for Union university, Jackson, examine a copy of the "Baptist And Reflector" during the course of the convention.

Maryland Convention Raps Nixon, Governor For Parochial Stands

TEMPLE HILLS, Md.—The Baptist Convention of Maryland, meeting in this Maryland suburb of Washington, D. C., held one of its calmest sessions in years, adopting a record budget, electing a new president, and adopting two resolutions dealing with political and moral issues.

One resolution criticized both the Governor of Maryland and the President of the nation for continued efforts to provide tax funds for non-public funds.

Another urged Maryland Baptists and other Christians to boycott a statewide lottery approved Nov. 7 by voters in Maryland, rapping the lottery for its immoral implications on gambling.

Elected president was Lewis McKinney, pastor of Allen Memorial Baptist church, Salisbury, Md. The convention also honored its executive secretary, Roy D. Gresham, on his 15th anniversary as executive secretary.

A record budget of \$1.2 million was approved, with 40 per cent of the state goal going to Southern Baptist Convention causes. (BP)

Hawaii Baptists Vote Aid For Fiji Hurricane Victims

HONOLULU, Hawaii—In an unprecedented action, the Hawaii Baptist Convention voted to contribute \$5000 toward relief efforts among victims of Hurricane Bebe in the Fiji Islands which reportedly has left more than 100,000 persons homeless.

Mori Hiratani, pastor of First Baptist church in Pearl City, urged the convention to come to the aid of the Fiji Island hurricane victims, saying such an effort would fit into long range plans by Hawaii Bap-

UTL Reaches 182,000 Students In 341 Tennessee Schools

The United Tennessee League, an organization established to present the facts on alcohol and other narcotics, reached 182,000 students in 341 Tennessee schools during 1972, according to a recent report from Phil Padgett, executive secretary of the League. He stated that a total of 1037 lectures in classrooms, auditoriums, libraries, and cafeterias were given during the past year.

Twenty-eight youth retreats were held dealing with the four major problems of young people; and 24 teen-parent conferences were conducted. The staff spoke also to 129 church worship services, 220 other youth meetings, 160 adult groups, 71 denominational conferences, 58 civic clubs, and 12 radio and television programs in the state.

The League printed and distributed over two-and-one-half million pamphlets on alcohol and drug abuse. Padgett said that the UTL has just completed its most fruitful year in history.

tists to project their ministry throughout the Pacific islands.

In other actions, the convention adopted a Cooperative Program goal of \$110,000 as part of a \$317,869 budget for 1973, with 25 per cent of the state goal going to Southern Baptist world mission causes.

A layman was elected president of the convention—Allen Au, realtor and developer from Honolulu.

Messengers adopted a resolution expressing opposition to gambling in any form, and urging concerned citizens to work for the repeal of a new social gambling law which is to go into effect in 1973. (BP)

70 Music Ministers

Meet; Morris Elected

Over 70 ministers of music from throughout Tennessee gathered at Belmont college preceding the Tennessee Baptist Convention recently for the state Church Music Conference. Following rehearsals and business meetings, 65 of the music men in the Volunteer State Chorale sang before the convention Tuesday evening, Nov. 14.

During a business session held at the close of the conference, Bill Morris, minister of music at First church, Clarksville, was elected president of the group. He succeeds George McFadden, minister of music, First church, Humboldt, in the office. Other officers elected included the East Tennessee vice-president, Norman Chase, Central church, Chattanooga; and West Tennessee vice-president, Larry Flanagan, Brownsville church.

Phillip Landgrave, professor of church music at Southern Baptist Theological seminary, spoke to the conference on "Trends in Church Music"; and John N. Sims, chaplain at Baptist Medical Centers, Birmingham, Ala., spoke on "Not Voices Alone".

Frank Charton is state music secretary.

Three States Reject School Fund Plans

Voters in Maryland, Oregon, and Idaho turned down state proposals which would have aided parochial and private schools in the states. Maryland voters, by a 61,000 vote margin, indicated their disapproval of a state law which would have diverted an initial \$12 million annually to the schools under a complicated voucher plan. The Oregon voters, by a 61 to 39 per cent margin, rejected a proposal to weaken the state constitution's strict ban on tax aid for parochial schools. In Idaho, voters also defeated a proposal to change their state constitution to permit limited parochial school aid in the form of bus transportation.

In Maryland, a coalition of educational, religious, and civic groups, and the Maryland Committee for Public Education and Religious Liberty struggled against the state's Roman Catholic Church, the leading Maryland newspapers, political figures, and the state AFL-CIO to defeat the parochial measure.

Mrs. Miller is Elected By Ministers' Wives

Wives of Tennessee pastors gathered in Nashville Nov. 15 during the Tennessee Baptist Convention for their annual luncheon and election of officers. Mrs. Franklin Paschall, Nashville, was in charge of the program.

Mrs. J. G. Miller, Memphis, was elected to the post of president to succeed Mrs. Robert Woody, Hendersonville. The other officers, also from Memphis, included vice-president, Mrs. Elmer Bailey, and secretary, Mrs. Jerry Glisson.

Jeremiah And His Times

By Wade E. Darby, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Jefferson City

Background Passages: II Chronicles 36; Jeremiah 1; 26.

Focal Passages: Jeremiah 1:4-10; 26:12-15.

Adult Topic: A Man for the Hour

Jeremiah.

Jeremiah was a son of Hilkiah, a priest of Anathoth. He was probably a priest like his father. About five years before the discovery of the Book of the Law (Deuteronomy), as the temple was being repaired during the time of Josiah's reforms, he was called to be a prophet. He functioned as a prophet for over forty years. His ministry was characterized by hurt, disappointment, and hostility. He served in a time of tension and stress.



Darby

Jeremiah's Day

The nation of Israel was divided into Israel and Judah after the death of Solomon shortly after 1000 B.C. In 722 B.C., Israel, the ten tribes of the north, fell to the Assyrians. Assyria remained strong and a world power for over one hundred years. In 614 B.C., Assyria was subdued by the combined armies of the Medes and the Chaldeans. Two years later, Nineveh, her capital fell.

Assyrian leaders fled to Haran and attempted to hold a government together. Seven years later, in 605 B.C., the Assyrians suffered a telling defeat at the battle of Carchemish. Egyptian forces led by Pharaoh-necho fought with the Assyrians against Babylon. The new and growing Babylonian power led a Chaldean dynasty, was taking her place as a world power. The struggles between the Egyptians, Assyrians and Chaldeans (along with lesser powers) created a time of conflict and chaos.

During the same one hundred years which saw the decline of Egypt, the rise and fall of Assyria, and the rise of Babylon, Jeremiah fulfilled his ministry. The moral and spiritual degeneracy of Judah added to her problems during these times. Judah had suffered from a lack of spiritual leadership.

Manasseh, Judah's thirteenth king, was one of the most pagan and most evil of all her kings. At the close of his fifty-one year reign in 643 B.C., Judah was left in a state of moral bankruptcy. Amon, his son who succeeded him, reigned for only two years before he was slain by his own servants. Those two years, however, were a continuation of the father's paganism.

Josiah, his son, succeeded Amon. He was eight years old at the time. He ruled for thirty-one years and is remembered for his

attempt at spiritual and moral reformation. Perhaps he had heard stories of his evil grandfather's effort to undo some of the harm he had done during the last of his reign.

Judah was an Assyrian vassal at the time and Manasseh rebelled. He was defeated and taken to Babylon. In captivity he repented of his wickedness. He was given his freedom after a time, and upon his return took the idols out of the house of the Lord, destroyed pagan altars, fortified Jerusalem, and commanded Judah to serve the Lord. Any good he might have done was erased by the following two year reign of his wicked son, Amon.

At any rate, when Josiah was sixteen, he began a search for God. When he was twenty, he led in a purge of paganism and a restoration of Judaism. Over three hundred years of paganism had taken its toll. A thirty-one year reign by a reformer accomplished little. The results were superficial at best. It was a revival of form and not of the spirit.

Jeremiah was probably born during the reign of Manasseh. He was called to be a prophet during the early days of Josiah's reform movement. He continued his ministry through the thirty-one year reign of Josiah, the three-month reign of Jehoahaz, the eleven-year reign of Jehoiakim, the three-month reign of Jehoiachin, and into the reign of Gedaliah. (The length of Gedaliah's reign is uncertain—probably from two to five years.)

Jeremiah lived in a time of uncertainty. The old was passing and the new had not fully come. Judah was caught in a power-play involving Egypt, Assyria, and the Babylonians. During these years Jeremiah pleads for a return to Yahweh and submission to Babylon. He warns against alliances with others. He was thrown in a cistern to die, beaten, imprisoned, charged with treason, and was generally despised.

Gedaliah, the Chaldean appointed governor of Judah, was assassinated. A group fled to Egypt for fear of Babylonian reprisal, forcing Jeremiah to go with them against his advice and will. There is a tradition that his fellow Jews stoned him to death in Egypt.

Jeremiah's Relation To His Day.

Jeremiah was a student of his day. He knew his time. He was politically informed. He knew and understood the leading powers and their struggles. He knew the principles by which life is governed. He understood that sin would weaken and destroy. He knew

Oliver Will Assume Position In Florida

Doyle Oliver, director of children's work, Sunday School Department, Tennessee Baptist Convention, has resigned, effective Dec. 31, to accept a position as minister to children at the First Baptist church of Tallahassee, Fla. According to the church's pastor, Robert McMillan, Oliver will deal with Vacation Bible School programs, pre-school and children's work in Sunday School and Training Union, and day care and kindergarten supervision.

Oliver came to the convention in 1970 and has served as children's director since January 1972. Before assuming the Tennessee position, he was minister of education at First Baptist church in Vero Beach, Florida.

Ed Willingham, SBC, ABC Leader, Dies

NEW YORK—Edward B. Willingham, a prominent Baptist leader in both the Southern and American Baptist Conventions, died at St. Luke's Hospital here Nov. 16.

Willingham, the son of the late R. J. Willingham who for 20 years was head of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, had served as general secretary of the American Baptist Foreign Missions Society from 1956-65.

Previously, he was pastor of National Memorial Baptist church, Washington, D.C. (BP)

the difference between religion and righteousness. He pleaded for a religion of the spirit as well as form. He knew God was at work on and in the human scene. He understood how the principles of righteousness and judgment would play out their roles in the world. He knew the direction in which history was moving.

He could see the decline of Assyria and Egypt. He could see the rise of Babylon. He knew that the hope of Judah was twofold: a spiritual alliance with Yahweh and a political alliance with Babylon.

Jeremiah was a voice to his day. He called for moral goodness and political wisdom. His advice was sound. He saw life from God's perspective. He shared the Divine concern for man.

Jeremiah was a symbol of hope in his day. When Jerusalem was besieged by Babylon and he was in prison, he bought land from his uncle at the going rate for land in settled times. (Jeremiah 32) He believed in the future. He insisted that Judah would be inhabited again. He saw the present realistically. He believed in the future faithfully.

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Tennessee News Briefs

In the Holston Valley Association, **Lonnie Wooten**, pastor of the Mount Pleasant church, reports that three men of the church have announced their call to the gospel ministry. They are **Leon Barrett**, **Gene Hammond**, and **Harold Henderson**.

Citizens in Jackson voted to maintain the Sunday Closing Laws in the election there recently.

The Indian Hills church, **Dallas Garland**, pastor, ordained **Roy High**, **William C. Brown**, **John Certain**, **Russell Porter**, and **Travis Porter** as deacons recently. The church is in the Bledsoe Association. **James Smith**, pastor of the New Hope church, preached the ordination sermon.

In the New Duck River Association, **Marvin Marshall**, pastor of the Charity church, reported that construction has begun on a new educational wing to the church. The annex will include educational rooms and a kitchen area.

LEADERSHIP CHANGES

Leon Mitchell is the new minister of recreation at First church, Memphis. **R. Paul Caudill**, pastor. Prior to assuming his new position, **Mitchell** was consultant for the Church Recreation Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville. He served also as recreation director at the Trinity church in Oklahoma City and at the First church of Winston Salem, N.C.

Ronnie Lemmons has resigned from the New Hope church, New Duck River Association, to accept the call as pastor of the Flat Creek chapel.

Bob Spears has accepted the call of First church, Carthage, to serve as minister of music and youth. **John Crawford** is pastor of the church. Also in the New Salem Association, First church, Gordonsville, pastor, **Orlie J. Wood**, has resigned to accept the call of the Eastwood church in Nashville.

The new pastor of the Bledsoe Creek church, Bledsoe Association, is **Ray Hearthcock**. He served in Texas before moving to Tennessee.

In the Bradley Association, the Charleston church has called **William Spencer** as pastor, and the Nuway church has called **W. H. Liner** as pastor. In the same association, **M. L. Arbuckle** is the new pastor at the Valley View church. **David Livingstone** is serving as interim pastor of First church, Cleveland. At the Four Point church, **Ira Bishop** resigned as pastor and **David Evans** was called to fill the position.

Frank Weaver is the new pastor of the Kingston Pike church, Loudon County association.

A new reading eye camera, equipped to provide a thorough analysis of a person's reading ability and comprehension, has been purchased by **Carson-Newman college**. With the camera, a student's eye movements are graphed and the grade level of the student is determined by comparing his graph with national norms.

Uton Fleming was ordained as a deacon at the First Baptist church of Lawrenceburg recently. **Paul Tabor** is pastor of the church.

REVIVAL RESULTS

The Wolf Creek church, Spring City, has completed revival services with **Earl Taylor** serving as evangelist. The church reported eight additions on profession of faith, 38 rededications, and one commitment to full-time Christian service. **Harlan B. Williams** is the pastor.

First church, Rockwood, held revival services with **John Adams**, Springfield church, as evangelist. **Bob Brian**, minister of music at First church, led the singing. **Robert W. Campbell** is pastor. There were seven professions of faith, four additions by letter; and one for full time Christian service. Ten rededications were reported also.

J. William Harbin, pastor of the First Baptist church in Maryville, led revival services at First church, Rogersville recently. The results included five additions by baptism, six by letter, and 14 other decisions. **James Hageman** served as music director. **James L. Austin** is the pastor.

Sixty-four professions of faith were recorded in a revival held at the Rugby Hills church in Memphis last month. The services were led by **Jerry Spencer** and a revival team. **Tommy Tutor** is pastor of the church.

There were 20 professions of faith and numerous other decisions in a revival which was held at the Calvary church in Erwin this month. **Henry Linginfelter**, Alcoa, was the preacher, and **Dick Barrett**, Bremen, Ga., led the singing. **David Gregg** is pastor.

In the Holston Valley association, **Dennis Price** resigned last month as pastor of the Fishers Creek church to accept the call of Howes chapel. He had been at the Fishers Creek church for three years. In the same association, Surgoinsville's pastor, **C. W. Jones**, has resigned to accept the Antioch church in Johnson City.

The Woodland church in Jackson has called **David Burton**, **Howard Fuller**, and **Allen Reed** to join the staff of the church. **Burton**, a sophomore at Union university will serve as the assistant to the pastor. **Fuller**, a senior at Union, is the new youth director, and **Reed** will be organist and music director. He is an instructor of Organ at Union. **Jerald E. Smith** became pastor of the church last summer.

MISSIONARY NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Jack D. Hancox, missionaries on leave from the Leeward Islands, may now be addressed at the Falmouth Baptist church, 302 Colonial Ave., Fredericksburg, Va. 22401. Both natives of Tennessee, he is from Maryville, and she is the former Doris White of Columbia. When they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1959, he was pastor of First church, Dayton.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert T. Golmon, missionaries to Malaysia, are the parents of a third child, Erica Angelyn, born Oct. 2. Golmon is a native of Mississippi, and Mrs. Golmon is the former Angelyn Deaton of Jackson, Tenn. When they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1971, he was minister of music at Ridgewood church, Louisville, Ky.

'M Night' Is Planned Across State This Week

Baptist churches throughout Tennessee will be conducting "M Night" rallies and programs this week in an effort to motivate church members in sharing fellowship, inspiration, and information.

The theme for 1973-74 will be "Sharing Christ Through His Word," and the theme "Train to Share His Word" will be used throughout this week, according to Charles Norton, state Church Training secretary.

Suggested features for the programs include a study of Doctrinal Emphasis Week, Upgrading the Church Training Program, Weekend Church Training Revivals, etc.

Packets containing complete information on "M Night" and its programs were sent to associational missionaries, Norton said.



Two former presidents of the Southern Baptist Convention addressed the 125th annual meeting of the Louisiana Baptist Convention held recently in New Orleans. **Franklin Paschall** (right), pastor of First Baptist Church, Nashville, delivered an address on Christian Education and **J. D. Grey** (left), pastor of First Baptist Church, New Orleans, host Congregation for the annual meeting, spoke on Tuesday evening. The two ex-presidents were caught in a candid pose in front of the pulpit of the host church.

Other State Conventions

California Baptists Leave Baptism Question Unresolved

SANTA MARIA, Calif.—California Southern Baptists meeting here stumbled on attempts to clarify the meaning of "alien immersion" after defeating three proposed amendments to the convention dealing with the proper method of baptism.

The thorny question of whether to seat as messengers those representing churches which accept the baptism by immersion of other denominations was not resolved, however.

The issue, which has troubled the convention for four years, was carried over until next year when proposed constitutional amendments introduced this year seeking to clarify the question will not reach a vote until 1973.

This year, the convention adopted a motion that "the credentials committee formulate a plan . . . for receiving challenges regarding the seating of messengers, and publish that plan in the "California Southern Baptist," the state Baptist paper.

The action leaves unchanged the current constitution which states that the convention shall not seat messengers from any church that practices "alien immersion" or "what is commonly called open communion."

Another defeated amendment, offered by W. B. Timberlake of First Southern Baptist Church, Lompoc, Calif., would have amended the constitution to recognize messengers from Baptist churches which have named as messengers only persons who have been baptized by a Baptist church.

The third amendment, also defeated, would have restricted seating of messengers only to those who have been immersed. It was offered by Harley Murray, pastor of Western Avenue Southern Baptist Church, Anaheim, Calif.

In other business actions, the convention approved a \$2.9 million budget for 1973, including a \$1.5 million state Cooperative Program goal.

The convention re-elected J. Thurmond George, pastor of Foxworthy Baptist Church in San Jose, Calif., to a second term as president, and paid tribute to Floyd Looney, western field representative for the Southern Baptist Annuity Board who will retire Dec. 31 after 30 years of Baptist work in California. He was the first editor of the "California Southern Baptist." (BP)

Georgia Baptists Celebrate 150th Anniversary Session

SAVANNAH, Ga.—Georgia Baptists celebrated their 150th anniversary here in an annual meeting filled with historic pageantry and almost completely void of controversy.

Leaders said it was "one of the most inspirational and harmonious" annual meetings in recent years.

Major action of the convention was approval of the merger of Mercer university in Macon, Ga., and Atlanta Baptist College, which opened in Atlanta in 1966.

Mercer, founded in 1833, has about 2000 students on its campus in Macon, and another 300 in its School of Pharmacy. Atlanta Baptist College, which will become a branch of Mercer, has about 400 students and has struggled with financial difficulties since it opened.

The convention also approved a record 1973 budget of \$6.7 million, an increase of five per cent over last year's budget. After deduction of shared promotion and administrative costs, the budget will be divided equally between Georgia and Southern Baptist Convention causes.

Resolutions supported the principle of tax exemptions for church contributions; opposed use of tax funds for church-owned and operated institutions; and urged government officials at all levels to refrain from taxing properties owned by churches and used for church purposes.

Major attention was given to celebration of the convention's sesquicentennial birthday with several dramas, pageants and other program features.

Elected president was John T. Tippet Jr., pastor of Calvary Temple Baptist Church, Savannah. (BP)

Lewis Bratcher Dies

Lewis Bratcher of Brunswick, Maine, and former pastor of First church, Kingston, died on Nov. 16 of an apparent heart attack while visiting friends in Cocoa, Fla. Funeral services were held at Highland Funeral home in Louisville, Ky. with burial also in Louisville.

A native of Ky., he served as pastor of First church, Oneida, before going to Kingston and was a graduate of Georgetown college (Ky.) and Southern Baptist Theological seminary in Louisville. He had also served as a member of the executive board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. In Maine he had served as a pioneer missionary with the

Lawson Cook, Retired SBC Brotherhood Leader, Dies

MEMPHIS—Lawson H. Cook, retired executive of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission here for 15 years, died Nov. 20 after a three-month illness. He was 87.

Cooke was executive secretary of the nation-wide organization of Baptist laymen from 1936-51.

A former banker from Richmond, Cooke was the first general secretary of the Virginia state Chamber of Commerce.

Glendon McCullough, current executive director of the Brotherhood Commission, described him as a man who was "small in stature but took giant steps."

When Cook took over reins of the commission, there were only 250 churches with 10,000 laymen enrolled in Brotherhood. When he retired in 1951, there were 6,000 churches with Brotherhood groups and a total enrolment of 185,000 men.

Also in 1936, the Brotherhood Commission occupied one room containing a desk, two chairs and a rented typewriter in a downtown office building.

Today, there are nearly 500,000 men and boys enrolled in Brotherhood programs in about 14,000 SBC churches. The commission operates on a budget of more than \$1 million, publishing seven magazines and keeping 10 consultants on the field in addition to the staff working in a \$600,000 office building here.

Funeral services were scheduled Nov. 22 at First Baptist Church, Memphis. Survivors include a daughter, Mrs. Thomas B. Bussey of Fort Worth; a brother, Charles Porter Cooke of Richmond; and two grandsons. (BP)

Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Bratcher is survived by his widow; one son, Maylen, Alaska; one daughter, Mrs. W. J. Whitaker, Louisville; and two brothers, Robert and Ed, both of New York.



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Report Of The Centennial Committee

By Tom Madden, Chairman

In 1974 the 100th anniversary of the organization of the Tennessee Baptist Convention will be celebrated. Tennessee Baptists are challenged to make the centennial year one of thanksgiving to God for His blessings upon the convention, renewed commitment to Christ, and extraordinary achievement in all areas of Christian witness and service.

The convention will meet in Murfreesboro where it was organized in 1874. We are already receiving the full cooperation of our churches in Murfreesboro, the Murfreesboro community and Middle Tennessee State University.

A part of the time will be spent in looking back and seeing the goodness of God upon us and how He has moved with us and through Tennessee Baptists. Dr. Kendall is writing the history of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, Mrs. Ollin J. Owens is working on preparation of a pageant. Mrs. Owens is the one who prepared the "Saints

of Clay" for the sesquicentennial of the South Carolina convention.

Quint Pugh has committed himself to begin each session of the convention with a characterization of some great personality of Tennessee Baptists during the first 100 years. A contract has been made with the Sunday School Board to prepare a 30-minute film depicting the Tennessee Baptist Convention as it exists today. This will also be previewed at the centennial.

A three-act skit is being prepared also for our churches and associations. This can be presented in totality, or it can be presented by each one of the three acts.

Worthy spiritual goals have been adopted by each organization of our Tennessee Baptist Convention.

The Centennial Committee would like to make some challenging suggestions. They are:

1. That all Tennessee Baptists, churches, associations, convention agencies and institutions be reminded that 1974 is the 100th year of the Tennessee Baptist Convention and that they be urged to begin preparation now for a worthy observance of that event.
2. That all churches and association follow the example of the organizations of the Tennessee Baptist Convention and set achievement goals for the anniversary year. It has been suggested that each particular church adopt as a goal a 1% increase for each facet of church life for each decade of Tennessee Baptists or a total 10% increase.
3. That churches and associations hold appropriate services in celebration for the centennial in which the ministries of the

Leaders Presented Work of Bible Society

NEW YORK—Nineteen Southern Baptist state executive secretaries visited the American Bible Society here for "A Day at Bible House" recently, receiving a first-hand view of the society's program and operations to which Southern Baptists contribute.

Last year, Southern Baptist churches contributed \$240,249 to the American Bible Society, the largest amount from any of the 70 denominations and agencies that support the society's work.


The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, the Baptist leaders were told, has for five years made annual grants totalling \$14,000 annually to four African translation projects.

Currently, two Southern Baptists serve as honorary vice presidents of the American Bible Society—E. Smythe Gambrell, an Atlanta attorney, and W. Maxey Jarman, a business executive from Nashville, Tenn.

Two other Southern Baptists are members of the ABS Board of Managers—Porter Routh, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention; and James L. Pleitz, pastor of First Baptist church, Pensacola, Fla. (BP)

Tennessee Baptist Convention be educationally and inspirationally presented.

Finally, we appeal to all Tennessee Baptists to use the centennial year of the convention as a time for thanksgiving to God for His blessings, for celebrating the achievements and progress of Baptists, and also as a time for renewal commitment to Christ for the significant achievements of the first 100 years, and for preparations for more effective and more extended service through the years ahead.





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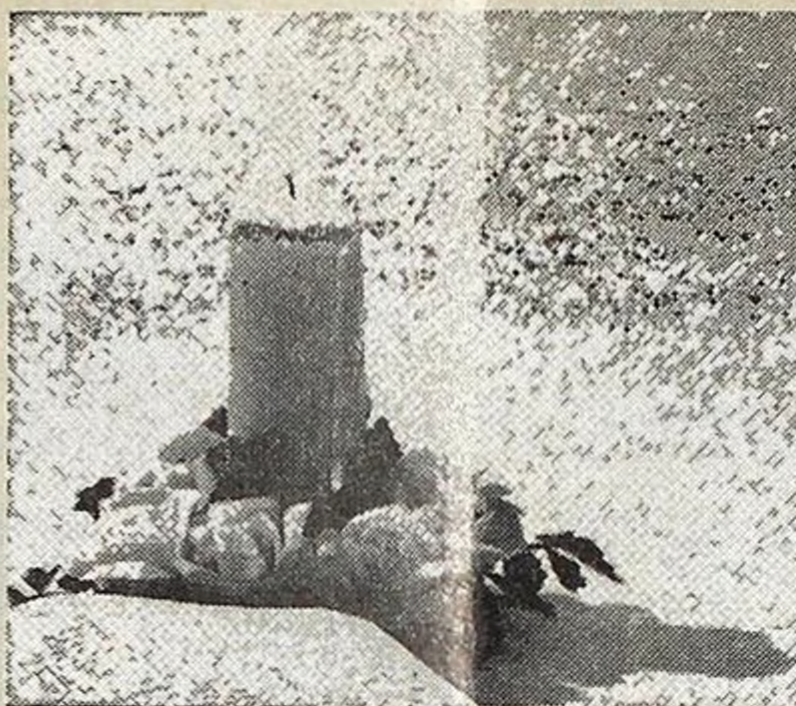
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Auburntown Church Has Sesquicentennial

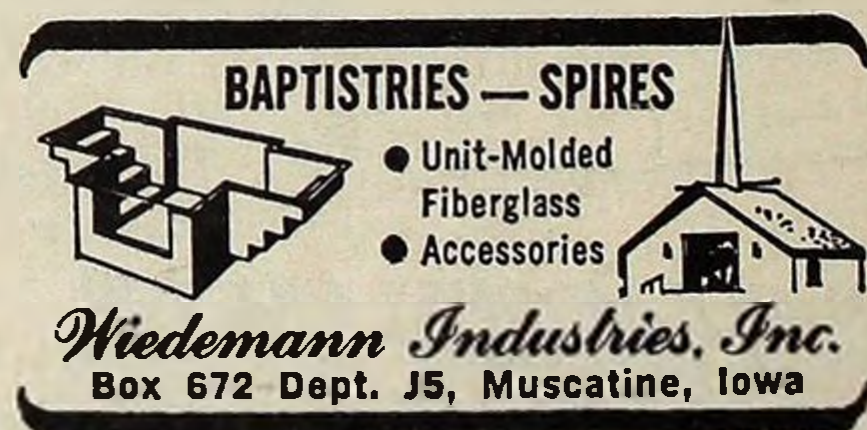
The Auburn church, Auburntown, Salem Association, celebrated its sesquicentennial with home-coming services recently, according to Pastor J. Edward Mayfield.

The church was organized in 1822 by John Fite, former soldier in the Revolutionary War. With 94 charter members, Fite served as the church's pastor for eight years. It was founded at "Old Auburn" on Sanders Fork Creek and was known as "Poplar Stand." In 1869 the name was changed from Poplar Stand to the Auburn Baptist church.

In 1822 the church joined the Concord Association at West Station Camp, Sumner County. It joined also the Salem Association at Cedar Creek, Wilson County, but in 1842 returned to Concord and remained there until 1873 when, again, the church returned to the Salem Association.

At the close of the first 50 years of the church's history, there were 150 members, and the church had been served by 15 pastors. Floyd T. Carroll served the church as pastor from 1937-40, and it was at this time that preaching services went from one Sunday a month to full time.

In August 1959 work was begun on the new brick sanctuary. It was completed the following year with dedicatory services held June 5, 1960. The value of the church property is presently \$100,000, and there are 334 members.



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Hymn Writing Contest Continues To October, 1973

Baptists from across Tennessee are invited to participate in a hymn writing contest for use in programs throughout Tennessee Baptists' Centennial Year Celebration in 1974, according to an announcement from the Centennial Music Committee in Brentwood.

Competition is open until Sept. 1, 1973. The text of the hymn should reflect praise and thanksgiving for our heritage and prayer for God's guidance for today and the future, the committee related. Cash awards will be given at the 1973 State Convention for first, second, and third places.

Manuscripts should be typewritten and should be submitted with a pen name in the upper right hand corner. An attached envelope should contain the author's pen name together with the full name and address. The hymn text must not have been published, publicly performed, or copyrighted.

Consultants' Seminar Is Attended By 76 Leaders

Seventy six persons representing 21 associations in Tennessee registered for the recent state Sunday School Department Consultants' Seminar in Brentwood.

Led by Wendell Price, State Sunday School secretary, the seminar featured Ernest Loessner, Southern Baptist Theological seminary, leading conference topics. In-depth discussions on "Who Are We?", "Why Are We Here?", "What Are We Doing?", "How Shall We Do It?", and "Where Do We Go From Here?" were directed by Loessner.

Conference attendants will assist the Sunday School Department during 1973 in projects in churches, associations, and regions throughout the state, according to Price.



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180 Baptists, Jews Meet To Promote Understanding

NEW YORK—In a continuing effort to understand each other better, 180 Christians and Jews met here in the first Jewish-Baptist "conversations" on the Northeast Coast.

The meeting, sponsored by the New York Baptist Association and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, was the start of a similar effort to bring together Jewish and Christian lay people on local levels, said Rabbi Bruce Cole.

Southern Baptist home missionary Glenn Igleheart said that although members of the Jewish faith have participated in dialogue and similar conferences with other Christian groups, including Baptists, the New York conversation marked the first time that black Baptists were included in the group.

"It was remarkable," Igleheart said. "In a night of driving rain, 180 people came to the meeting. Only 55 of these were Baptists, so this enabled us to understand a little of the minority status of the Jewish people in many communities." (BP)

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When Temptation Strikes

By W. R. White
Baylor University, Waco, Texas

Basic Passage: Genesis 39:1-20

Focal Passages: Genesis 39:1-4, 7-9, 11-12, 16-18, 20

All basic temptations have existed since the appearance of man. Satan insinuated himself into the paradise of Eden with his subtle temptations.



White

To the relatively innocent and unsoiled temptation is an effort to turn that which, under normal conditions, is legitimate and right into that which is evil. Sin is the perversion of the good into that which is evil.

Sin is the perversion of appetite and thirst into excessive and abnormal satisfaction.

It is the desire for knowledge as an instrument of pride. It is the perversion of power into selfish domination and selfish exploitation.

It is the perversion of sex into lustful indulgence. There are many other temptations to other kinds of perversions but these are some of the basic temptations. We grow weaker as we yield to temptation. By resisting temptation we grow stronger and increase in self-respect.

Success Is Impressive Gen. 39:1-2

Potiphar, captain of Pharaoh's guard, purchased Joseph. For a while the situation developed most prosperously. Joseph grew in favor with his master. He saw that Joseph had received much grace from the Lord.

He made Joseph overseer of his household. In fact he put all of his affairs in Joseph's hands as Joseph impressed him greatly.

More people admire those who do things cheerfully and well. Skill and effectiveness are impressive.

Success Entails Temptations

Gen. 39:7-9, 11-12

People who succeed unusually well invite temptation. They may be innocent of this but it is inevitably the case. Often they cannot take success humbly and gracefully. They lose their poise and perspective.

Joseph could succeed without losing his head. He kept his balance. However, his success caused others to tempt him.

Potiphar's wife set her eyes and heart upon Joseph. She sought to seduce him. He insisted that he could not betray his master or commit such a great wickedness before God.

She would not give up. She found him alone in the house and this time she was far

more aggressive. She seized his garment and tempted him to commit evil with her. He tore away from her and ran but she held so tightly to his garment that when he ran she kept his garment in her hand.

Spurned Overtures Provoked Wrath Gen. 39:16-18

Potiphar's wife held Joseph's garment until her husband returned and she showed it to him. She invented a lie which was a complete fabrication, yet with Joseph's garment in her hand she made it sound very plausible. Her spurned overtures made her furious and she sought to destroy him. For a time she put him under a dark shadow.

The Innocent Sometimes Do Suffer Gen. 39:20

Joseph was believed to be guilty and was thrown into prison. He suffered because he resisted temptation but he retained a clear conscience. His reputation was temporarily ruined but his character was untarnished. Yet for a while he suffered great humiliation. He must have gone through great embarrassment and chagrin for a time.

Joseph's heroic resistance to a powerful temptation is so significant. A popular young man now in slavery tempted by a prominent woman in a very secretive situation and not yielding to her will continue to inspire youth for ages to come and it has through the ages past.

Northern Plains Opposes Tax Exemption Withdrawal

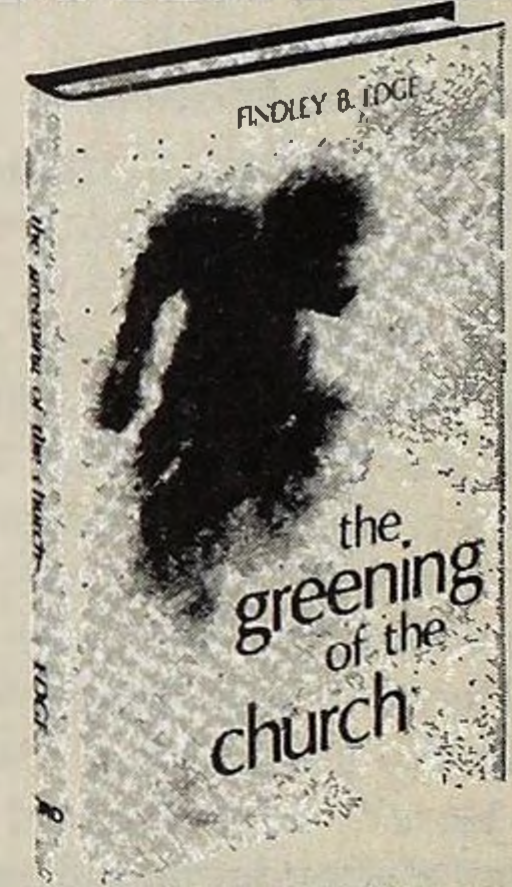
CASPER, Wyo.—The Northern Plains Baptist Convention, in a harmonious session here, adopted a resolution opposing any effort by Congress to take away tax exemptions for gifts to charitable institutions or church parsonages, or church-owned property used for the propagation of the gospel.

The resolution urged Baptists and concerned citizens to conduct a letter-writing campaign in opposition to such proposals. It did not mention by name, but obviously referred to a tax policy review bill proposed by Sen. Mike Mansfield and Sen. Wilbur Mills.

In major business, the convention adopted a budget of \$341,832, with 13 per cent of the state goal allocated to Southern Baptist world mission causes.

Ralph Ehren, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Rapid City, S.C., was re-elected president (BP)

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From the Executive Secretary

By W. Fred Kendall

How does one express the deep feeling in his heart when he has been the recipient of so many blessings he can hardly take it all in? That is the position I find myself in after the wonderful service on Wednesday night at the Convention last week. Three synonyms stand out in our English language which make the attempt. Thanksgiving, gratitude, appreciation are all attempts to express what we feel as a family today.



Kendall

Several staff members, committee members of the Executive Board, the staff of the First Baptist church, which is my home church and so many others were enlisted to make this the most memorable night in a long life of many great experiences. I want to express my deepest and most sincere gratitude for the service which was so well planned and so well executed. I do not feel that I deserved such a tribute but it does mark what my aims and ambitions have been through the years.

Retirement is always a period of great adjustment. One has reached a climax of the most productive years of life and faces a slowing down and a decreasing contribution of his life to the causes he has most loved. It requires some psychological adjustment to assume a new role and to face in new directions. But there are great compensations. If one has good health he can still use his experience and abilities in new directions and make new contributions in other fields and in other ways.

The complex world and the social order in which we work today takes a toll of one's energy and strength. When one reaches retirement age he needs to seek a more leisurely pace. He needs to be able to choose what he wants to do with his time and how much he wants to undertake. In this way he can enjoy more of the things he has not had the time to do during his busiest years and can also conserve energy and strength which will probably add years to his life.

I have so many interests, and will be writing a history of the Tennessee Baptist Convention which will take all of my time through 1974—our centennial year when the history is to be finished. This is a challenging task. I have already done a lot of preliminary research and it has opened so many interesting streams of history that I can hardly wait to give my full time to it.

Again, I want to express my gratitude to all Tennessee Baptists for the great service of recognition and for the many personal words and letters which have expressed

Historically:

From the files

50 YEARS AGO

A Christmas campaign was launched in an effort to raise \$20,000 to complete construction of the Orphan's Home Administration Building. A suggestion was made that each church member in the state give 20 cents which would be enough money to complete the work.

The BYPU members across the nation and Tennessee were planning for the 32nd anniversary convention of their organization. It was to be held in Tremont Temple, Boston. "The Attractive Christ" was chosen as the theme for the convention.

20 YEARS AGO

Members of the Mt. Carmel church in Cleveland brought in a harvest of three acres of cotton and raised \$874.53 for church causes. The small congregation prepared the ground, cultivated the crop, and picked the cotton as a group project.

Chief Ed Reeves, Memphis Police Department, and a member of the Union Avenue church in Memphis, was given special recognition by his church and Sunday School class for his Christian character and loyalty to his church. He was presented with an inscribed framed copy of the Ten Commandments.

10 YEARS AGO

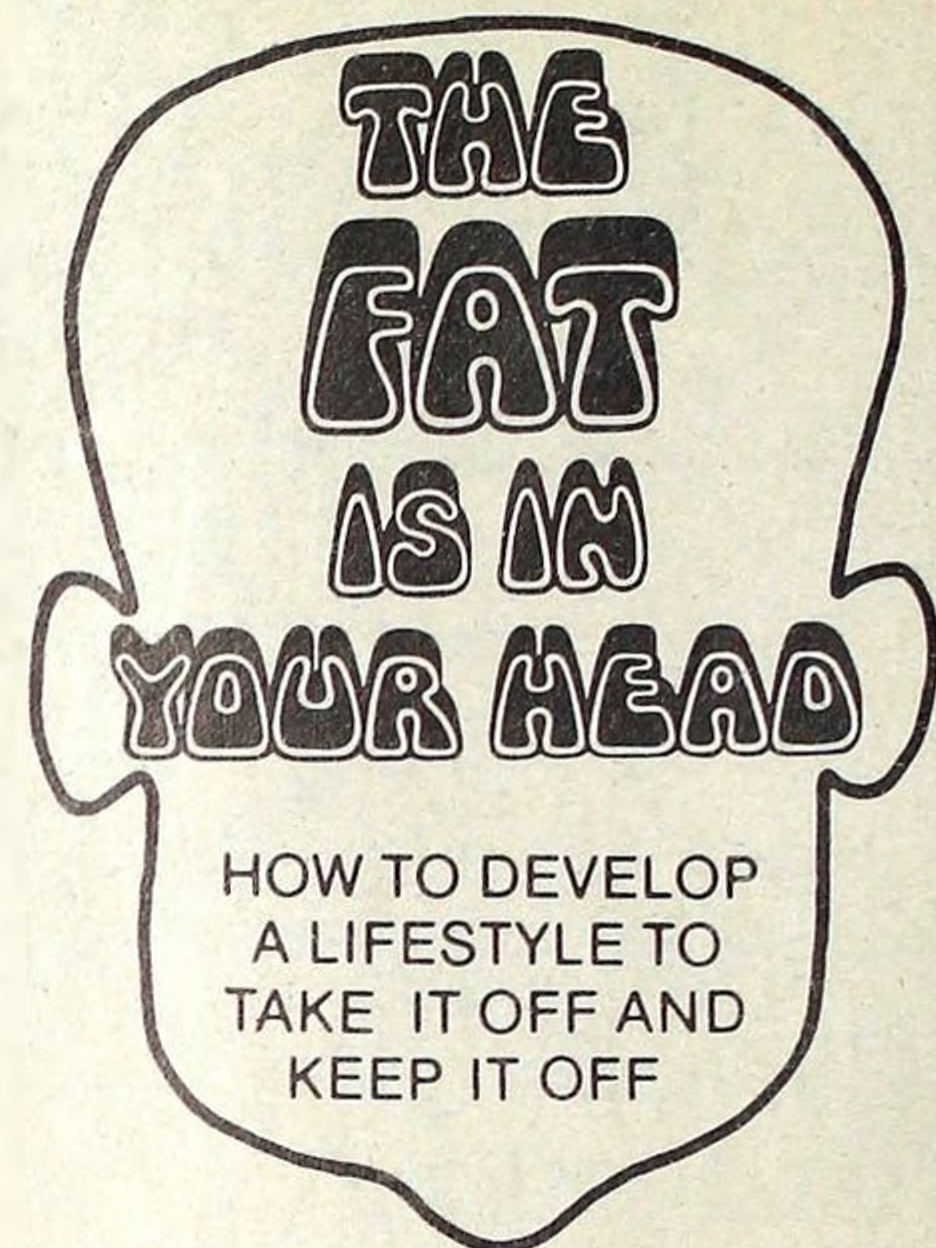
The Woman's Missionary Union of First church, Bells, with 66 members had 100 per cent subscribing to the magazine, "Royal Service." Mrs. A. S. Andrews was the president that year.

For the convention year November 1, 1961 through October 31, 1962, Baptist churches in Tennessee gave \$3,639,321.97 through the Cooperative Program; \$1,094,521.94 designated and reported. Both figures were an increase over the year before.

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East Ridge church, Chattanooga, broke ground for a new 1200-seat sanctuary recently. Participating in the special services were, left to right: C. Henry Preston, pastor; Bill Kiker, contractor; Jum Summers, music director; Mac Pendley, co-chairman of bond program; H. O. (Pere) Gilreath, chairman of bond program; Bill Powell, chairman, building finance; Eugene Borden, general chairman of building program; Earl Smith, architect; and R. E. Medearis, educational director. The new facility will cost approximately \$535,700.

Kentucky Baptists Approve Pastor-Church Relations Effort

LOUISVILLE—The Kentucky Baptist Convention during its 135th annual session here, instructed its Executive Board to implement a new “minister-church relations” service.

The action came after the Executive Board had earlier deferred action on a similar proposal to give time for additional study.

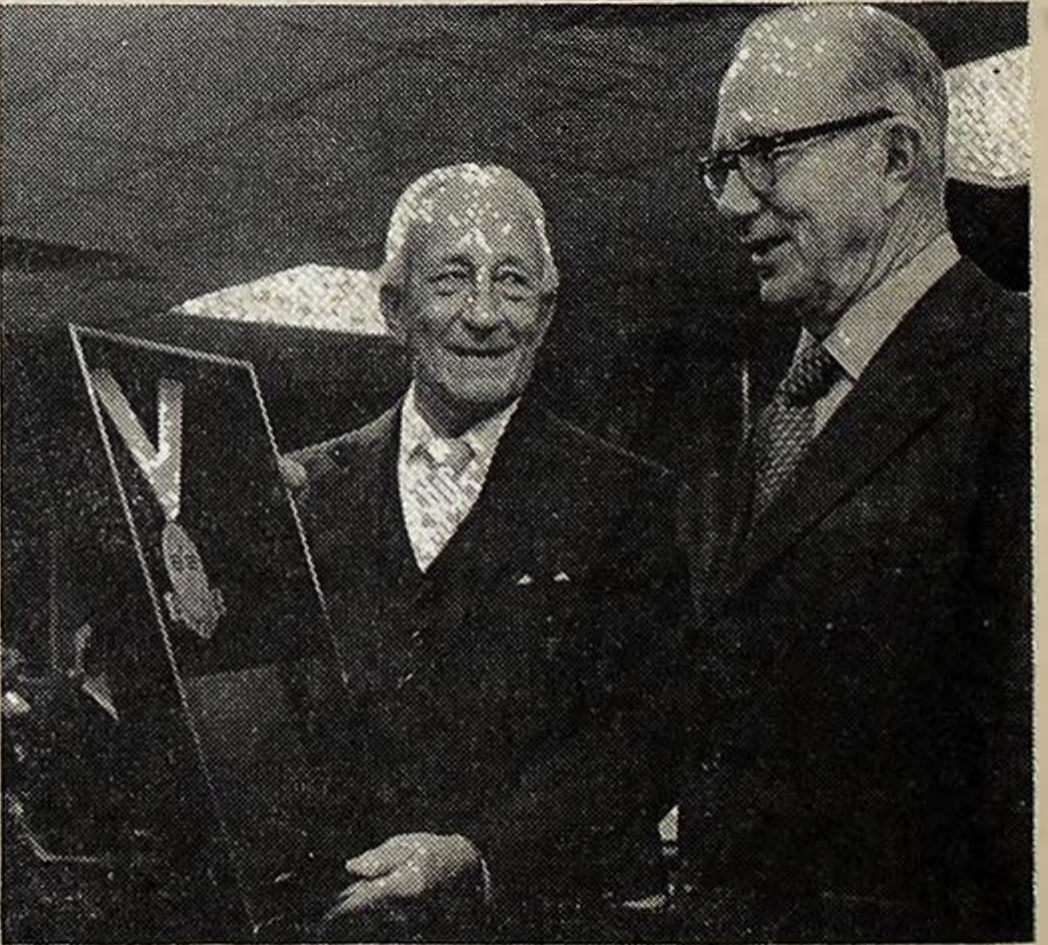
In other major actions, the messengers adopted a record \$4.5 million budget, honored former executive secretary-treasurer Harold G. Sanders, received reports indicating increases in baptisms and Sunday School enrolments, and elected a new president.

The minister-church relations proposal was introduced by James Taulman, pastor of First Baptist church, Fort Mitchell, Ky.

There was minor debate over the allocation of any funds which might be received over the 1973-74 budget of \$4.5 million. The messengers amended the budget to specify that 31.5 per cent to go to the Southern Baptist Convention Cooperative Program, rather than all the average going to capital needs in Kentucky as recommended by the Executive Board.

The \$4.5 million budget also allocates 31.5 per cent to world mission causes through the SBC Cooperative program.

Elected president of the convention was T. L. McSwain, pastor of First Baptist church, Richmond, Ky. (BP)



Lem B. Stevens, left, presents a 25 year Silver Appreciation award to W. Fred Kendall upon his retirement as executive secretary-treasurer of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. The award was presented at the Baptist Hospital Board of Trustees meeting Nov. 10. Stevens is retiring as chairman of the Board.

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