

Baptist And Reflector

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News-Journal Of The Tennessee Baptist Convention

WMU Restructures Birmingham Staff

BIRMINGHAM—The Southern Baptist Women's Missionary Union (WMU) Executive Board has restructured the program design, editing and field services staff of its national office here.

Effective Feb. 5, the Promotion Division of WMU headquarters was renamed the Education Division, with June Whitlow continuing as director.

Alma Hunt, executive secretary of WMU, explained that the staff was reorganized to unify all aspects of work relating to age-level organizations. The four department supervisors will consult with the Education Division director to give continuity to overall program design and implementation.

The division's two former departments, editorial and field services, were cross-cut to place all personnel related to a given WMU age-level in an age-level department.

Adrianne Bonham, who directed the editorial service department, and Mary Hines, who directed the field services department were transferred to supervisory positions in the new structure.

The general administration department will deal with overall church WMU work.

Dr. S. E. Tull Dies, Pioneer Southern Baptist Preacher

Funeral services for Dr. Selsus E. Tull, 94, a pioneer preacher in the Southern Baptist Convention, were held Jan. 28 at Immanuel Baptist church, Pine Bluff, Ark. Burial was at Magnolia Cemetery, Magnolia, Miss.

A native of Livingston Parish, La., he was a graduate of Union university, Jackson and Southern Baptist Theological seminary, Louisville, Ky. He was given an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Union 12 years after graduation.

Dr. Tull was a pastor for more than 70 years and had written several books. He did valuable historical items for the Historical Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention. He had served as pastor of churches in Tennessee, Arkansas, Mississippi, Kentucky, Texas, Louisiana and Florida. He also taught two years in the Bible department of William Carey college, Hattiesburg, Miss.

Dr. Tull married the former Laura Louise Nicholson of Durant, Miss. in 1904 and she died in 1959.

His survivors include his wife, Mrs. Kathrina Dearing Tull, whom she married in 1961; a son, Paul F. Tull of Pine Bluff; two daughters, Mrs. R. L. McKnight, Memphis, and Mrs. J. W. Nowlin, DeLand, Fla.

Bobbie Sorrell was promoted to supervisor of this department, and Ethalee Hamric will be editor of general WMU materials.

The adult department, supervised by Adrianne Bonham, will coordinate work of Margaret Bruce, Baptist Women consultant; Rosanne Osborne, editor of Baptist Women materials; Aline Fuselier, Baptist Young Women (BYW) consultant; Laurella Owens, editor of BYW materials; and Doris Diaz, language missions consultant and editor of Spanish WMU materials.

The youth department will include

Evelyn Tully, Acteens consultant, and Oneta Gentry, editor of Acteens materials. The supervisor's slot for this department remains vacant at this time, WMU officials said.

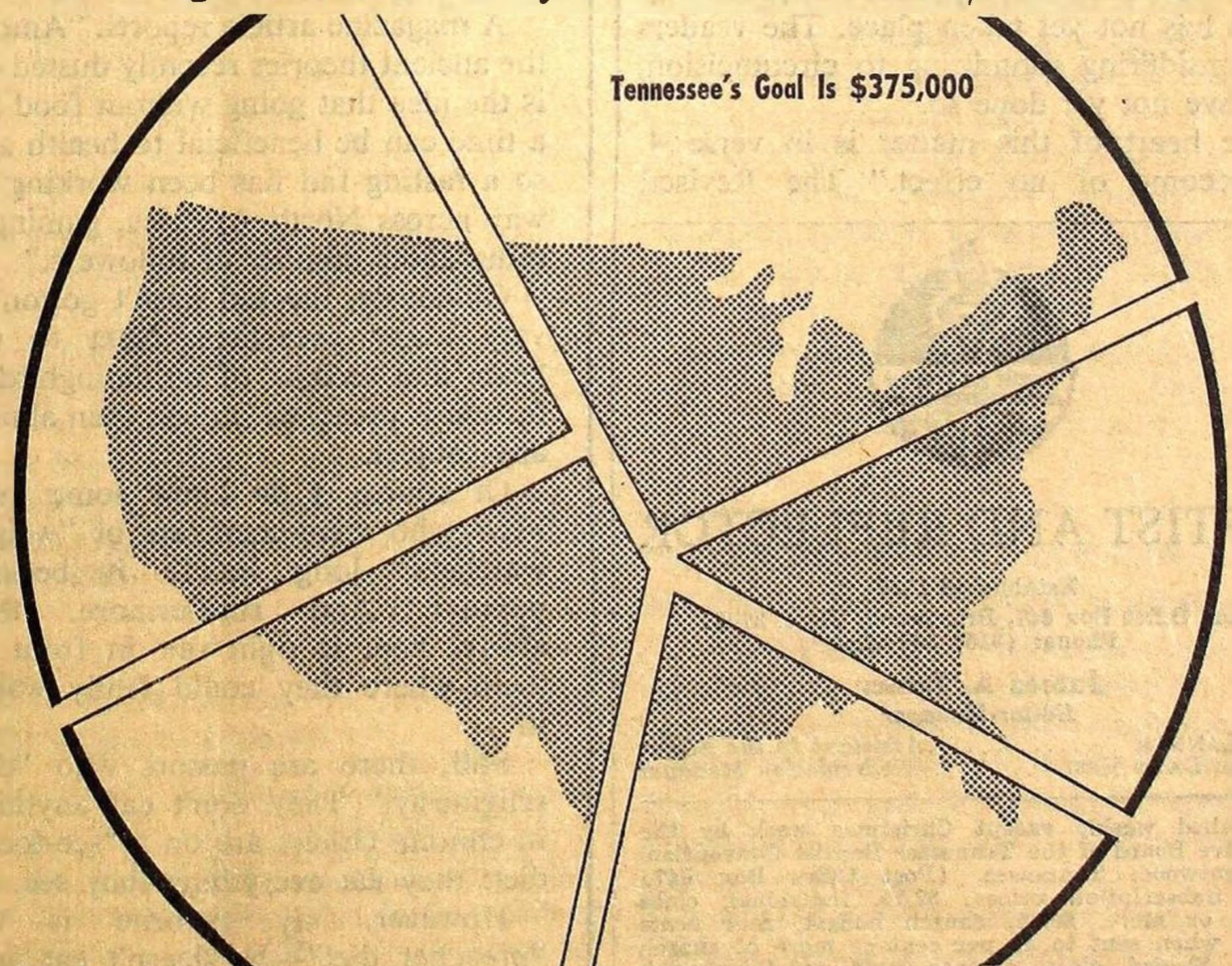
Mary Hines will be supervisor of the children and preschool department. Members of the department are Micky Martin, Girls in Action and Mission Friends consultant; Mrs. Jesse A. Tucker, editor of GA materials; and Mrs. Helen M. Allan, editor of Mission Friends materials.

Other phases of work at the Birmingham office, organized under the Business Division and the Administrative Division, were unaffected by the changes. (BP)

\$6,600,000

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions following the Week of Prayer for Home Missions, March 4-11

Tennessee's Goal Is \$375,000



The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board confronts a nation of diversity with diversified programs—evangelism, Christian social ministries, language work, military chaplaincy, special missions projects, church extensions, interfaith witness. The goal of \$6,600,000 is composed of allocations for all these approaches and others.

FALLING FROM GRACE

By Herschel H. Hobbs

"Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace."— Gal. 5:4.

Did Paul mean by these words that one can be saved by grace or be in grace, and then be lost or fall out of grace again? If so, it contradicts everything he has been saying in this epistle. For such implies that one can be saved by grace, and then through a lack of good works or by the doing of evil ones, be lost again. Paul's entire argument is that one is saved by grace apart from legal works. It follows, therefore, that works have no part in salvation or its loss. What, then, did Paul mean?

Keep in mind that he is warning his readers against being enslaved by law as a means of salvation. The primary issue was circumcision, but to submit to that entailed keeping all of the Mosaic law (vv. 1-3; cf. James 2:8-11). In such case "Christ shall profit you nothing at all." He is not in the business of saving by law, but by grace. To reject grace is to reject Christ. The "if" clause in verse 2 expresses a possibility which has not yet taken place. The readers are considering submitting to circumcision, but have not yet done so.

The heart of this matter is in verse 4. "Is become of no effect." The Revised



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SALVATION IS LIKE VOTING

By John P. S. Humphrey, evangelist
Clarksville

In recent days the great majority of us went to the polls to vote in the national and local elections. We all had one vote!

Being saved is like a vote, and being saved is determined by our one vote.

For you see, God has already voted for each of us to be saved and thus be able to go to Heaven. He said in John 3:16 that He loves the whole world and has already made provision for all of us to be saved and have everlasting life.

God also said in II Peter 3:9 that He "is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

However, the devil has voted for each of us to be lost and thus to go to hell. The Bible tells us in I Peter 5:8 that the devil is our adversary and is attempting to devour us. In John 8:44 the devil is described as our natural father and in Matthew 13:39 he is described as our enemy.

So, it is a tie vote! One vote for you to be saved and to go to Heaven, and one vote for you to be lost and to go to hell. Both God and the devil want us where they are, God because He loves us, and the devil because he hates us.

Thus it is a tie, and only your vote will break the tie! You must vote, and all will vote. Vote today for your soul in the way that God through Jesus Christ has voted for you. Take your stand with Christ, and you will be grateful throughout all of eternity.

grace, to travel the works way. One cannot travel both at the same time. For one cancels out the other.

Christ saves by grace. So to choose the other way is to mean that Christ is inoperative in that way. The Judaizers are still with us in those who teach salvation by works plus faith. Of interest is the fact that those who teach this way also teach that you can be saved and lost again. Those who teach salvation by grace through faith teach that once one is saved, he can never be lost again. The Bible teaches salvation by grace through faith (Acts 15:11). Which road will you travel? For you cannot travel both.

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BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR

Brings You News First

SBC Annuity Board Notes Record Year Of Service

DALLAS—After reaching record levels in several areas of its work, the Southern Baptist Convention Annuity Board here announced plans to widen the effect of its ministry of retirement and insurance protection for church-related vocational workers.

Record statistics in investment income, premium dues and payments, benefits paid out, and funds held in trust were disclosed at the annual meeting of the board's trustees.

Board President Darold H. Morgan of Dallas told trustees that, as significant as the achievements have been, the board must work unrelentingly to reach more SBC churches and agencies with retirement and insurance protection for their staff members.

Funds held in trust for 38,900 participants in the board's retirement plans passed \$300 million for the first time last year, and now stand at \$336,439,081, Morgan said.

This surpasses last year's mark by about \$44 million. These funds are held in trust to pay out as benefits when participants retire from their places of service.

The Annuity Board invests these funds to increase retirement benefits it can provide. In 1972, according to Morgan, investment income reached a record \$22,295,543, an increase of over \$6 million from the year before.

Income Passes \$30 Million Level

Income from premiums and dues pushed past the \$30 million level for the first time last year, and amounted to \$31,172,754. This compares with approximately \$25 million the previous year.

Retirement and other protection benefits paid out last year topped \$10 million for the first time, reaching \$11,192,951, an increase of \$1.3 million dollars over the year before. This does not include insurance claims for life, health, and disability coverage, Morgan noted.

Some 638 annuitants were added to benefit rolls of the Annuity Board in 1972, also a record. That number included 387 by age retirement, 188 widows, and 63 claiming disability benefits.

Another record also was set, a record low in the number receiving relief payments. This number continued its slow decline over a period of years, dipping for the first time below 400.

The Annuity Board, in the only phase of its ministry maintained entirely by Cooperative Program funds, now provides relief funds to 398 persons—124 ministers and 274 widows of ministers.

Five years ago the board was providing relief aid to 501 persons. In 1972, according to Morgan, the board paid out \$171,581 in Cooperative Program funds provided for relief.

The Annuity Board president set a 10-year goal of reaching 90 per cent of all Southern Baptist churches with retirement and insurance plans.

Several months ago, a study showed about half the SBC churches had retirement protection with the Annuity Board for their pastors and other employees. Most of these were churches with under 200 members, the study showed.

Smaller Church Needs Cited

"The smaller SBC church remains the main area of need for Annuity Board programs," Morgan said.

Trustees voted to issue another "13th check" in December 1973 perhaps equal to 16.67 per cent of the annual benefit, which would be about two months' income beyond the 12 regular monthly payments.

The board has issued "13th check" benefits without interruption since 1967, although they are not guaranteed. Morgan said payment of a "12th check" continues to depend on good returns on funds invested.

Trustees were told the board is moving increasingly into stock market investments which have a higher rate of return than fixed-rate investments such as mortgages and bonds, but stocks also entail more risk.

This year the board will have about 45 per cent of its investments in stocks, a report indicated. "Somewhere a practical limit will be reached on investment in common stocks," the report said.

More than \$1.7 million was paid out last year in death claims on life insurance coverage. Hospital-medical claims on Blue Cross-Blue Shield amounted to about \$5½ million, the board's insurance services department said.

The insurance services department announced more than 9000 pastors and church staff members have transferred from Blue Cross-Blue Shield to new health benefit plan coverage with Aetna Life and Casualty Co.

Bruce McIver, Dallas pastor, was elected new chairman of the Annuity Board, succeeding Donald E. Bowles, Dallas insurance executive. (BP)

Solo-Ensemble Contest Held At Union This Week

More than 1000 young persons from throughout West Tennessee are expected to attend the annual Solo and Ensemble Contest at Union university this week, according to Gerald Welker, director of bands at Union and chairman of the contest.

The two-day event, sponsored by the West Tennessee School Band and Orchestra Association, is held to give young musicians the opportunity to compete and be evaluated by professional judges. The competition among the junior high and high school, and elementary students will be held in the Student Union building on the campus.

Judges will include music teachers in colleges in West Tennessee and surrounding states.

Baptists Urged To Support Bill Aiding Church College Students

RALEIGH, N.C.—Southern Baptists in North Carolina have been urged to support a bill now pending in the state legislature which would provide state scholarship funds to church-related and other private colleges.

The General Board of the North Carolina Baptist State Convention was told here by the Rev. Gene Waterson, president of the convention's Council on Higher Education, that the bill would not be in conflict with the principle of church and state.

He said there would be no conflict because the scholarships would be of no permanent aid to the schools, and were aimed at equalizing the cost of sending students to private rather than state schools.

The bill would aid Baptist parents who send "their children to Baptist colleges," Waterson said. (RNS)

Army Chaplains To Hold Pastoral Conference

WASHINGTON, D.C.—A Pastor's Conference for all Army post chaplains in the country will be held March 20-23 in St. Louis under the sponsorship of the Office of the Army Chief of Chaplains here.

Its purpose will be "to examine the leadership role of the post chaplain as pastor in terms of its theological, organizational, interpersonal and programmatic dynamics," according to a spokesman.

Post chaplains will be involved in a series of "interactive dialogues" with Chief of Chaplains (Major General) Gerhardt W. Hyatt, leading civilian clergy, laymen and each other on "topics which will assist them to perceive new possibilities in the management and development of installation religious programs for the modern Army." (RNS)

Scots Presbyterians, Methodists Begin Committee Talks On Possible Union

EDINBURGH—"Satisfactory progress" was officially reported after the first business session here of a joint committee, appointed by the national Church of Scotland (Presbyterian) and the Methodist church to prepare a basis and plan of union between the two churches.

The committee panels, appointed by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland and the Methodist Conference last year, had met briefly in December to prepare the direction of their formal conversations.

Their first business session here was held at the Church of Scotland offices. The joint conveners—the Rev. Peter Brodie of Alloa, for the Church of Scotland, and the Rev. H. Haddow Tennent of Glasgow for the Methodists, said satisfactory progress was achieved at the beginning of what was described as "a very considerable task." (RNS)

EDITORIALS

Records Show Year Of Growth

For 1972, Southern Baptists exceeded the 12-million mark in church membership, increasing over a quarter of a million (240,821) over the 1971 figures.

One of the most encouraging statistics in the report (see p. 12) was that the churches in fellowship with the Convention baptized 445,727, an all-time record for one year, and an increase of 36,066 over 1971. Of great significance also is the fact that Sunday School enrolment increased by 36,198 during the year, reversing a seven-year declining trend, and bringing Sunday School enrolment to 7,177,651. While the new trend is encouraging, we still have listed nearly five million church members not enroled in Sunday School.

Total receipts by churches exceeded the one billion dollar mark during the year; a total of \$1,071,512,302, for an increase of \$96,239,363.

All of these statistics are encouraging. They were based upon a total of 34,534 churches. Church Training declined by 62,410 from the 1971 figure, and Woman's Missionary Union declined by 11,945. These are not encouraging in that they reflect among other things difficulties which many churches are having in keeping attendance at the evening services, both in Church Training and evening worship.

We do make progress overall statistically. We hope sincerely that these statistical figures are projections of spiritual growth. We would like to think that this is true, but we are not convinced completely that such is the case!

Worthwhile Conference

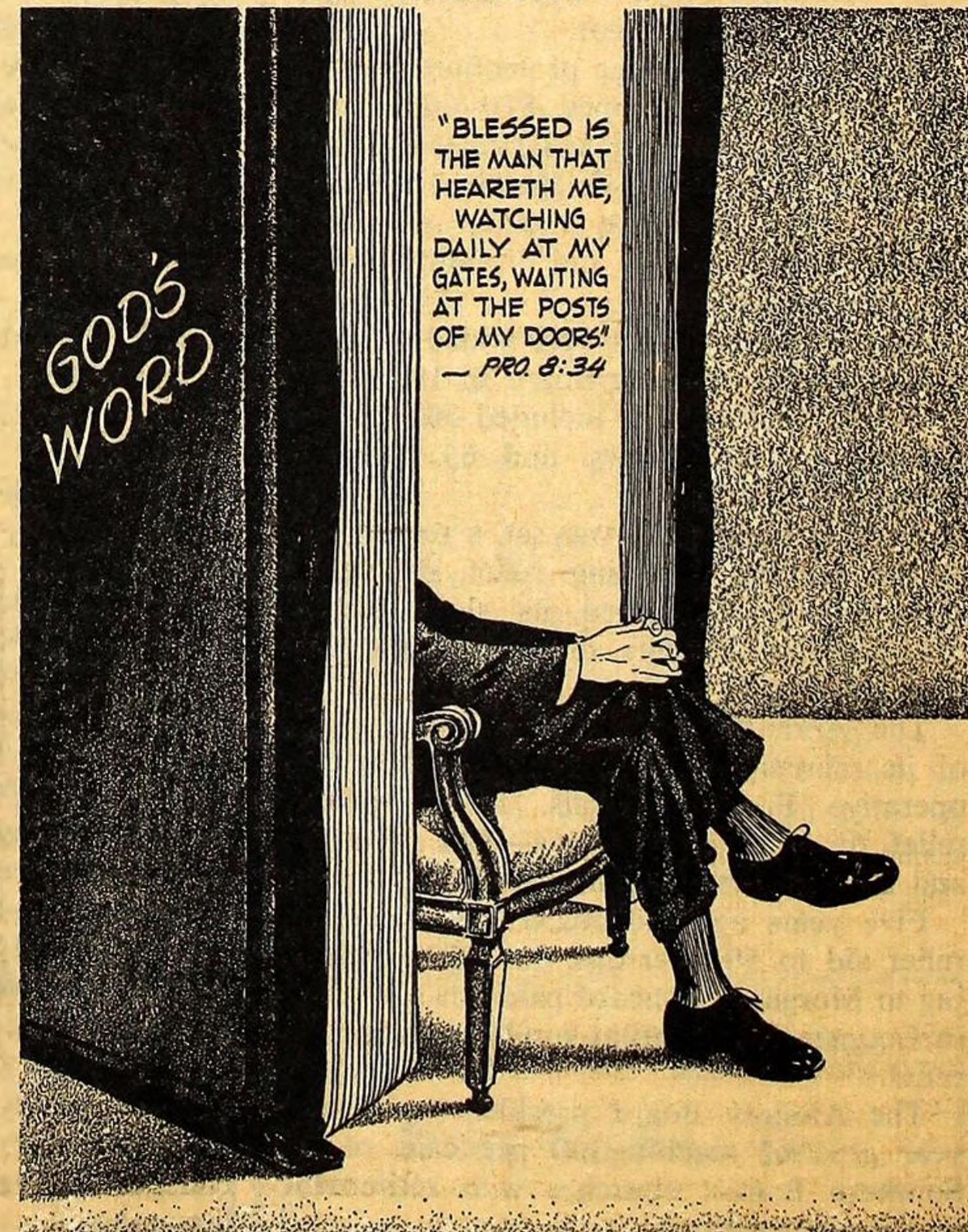
BILOXI, Miss.—Executive Secretaries and editors of state Baptist papers are in annual sessions here this week. These sessions have been most helpful as editors were presented a panoramic view of responsibilities in informing Baptists of the many heavy responsibilities which we face in leading people to Christ in a changing world. Further, we were provided broad overviews of the current trends and needs in the many areas of our cooperative work.

Mississippi Executive Secretary Douglas Hudgins and Editor Joe Odle were hosts to the two groups in session. Perhaps one of the most awesome parts of this trip was

a tour which provided a grim reminder of the impact of Hurricane Camille, which struck that area nearly four years ago. To this day, there remains piles of debris, vacant lots upon which stood pretentious homes in other years, and the awareness there that things still are not what they once were.

Of the many noteworthy observations and statements made, one my James L. Sullivan, executive secretary treasurer of the Sunday School Board, stands out. Citing philosophies of approaches to reaching and holding people, Sullivan pointed out the school of thought which compares the "bulldozer approach" with that of the "vacuum of suction approach." We were reminded again that in our Baptist life, to move forward as a bulldozer, seeking to push people ahead resulted in fragmentation. Whereas, if we create a suction, or evidence of need for something, and then draw people toward this need, then we have not fragmented, but have drawn together a people who must stay united and moving ahead; a good thought both at the denominational and local church level.

In Profitable Conference



30 New Home Missionaries Named To Join 2200 In U.S.

ATLANTA—Thirty new missionaries and missionary associates have been appointed to join the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board force of more than 2200 serving in the United States.

The 10 missionary and 20 missionary associate appointments were announced when the Home Mission Board's directors met here recently. Most of the missionaries were appointed jointly with state conventions and the board.

The Board's Division of Association Services appointed Joe and Lucy Turner to the Delaware Association in Maryland where he is superintendent of missions.

Also appointed by associational services were James and Ellen Abernathy, superintendent of missions in the Delaware Valley Association in the Pennsylvania-South Jersey Convention.

Turner, a native of North Carolina, was graduated from Limestone College, Gaffney, S.C., and New Orleans Baptist Theological seminary. A South Carolina native, Mrs. Turner attended both Limestone college and New Orleans seminary.

A native of Hiddenite, N.C., Abernathy was graduated from Catawba college, Salisbury, N.C., and Southern Baptist Theological seminary, Louisville. His wife is a native of Concord, N.C.

Oris and Donna Smith were appointed by the board's Christian social ministries department as directors of Christian social ministries for the Bowie Association in Texarkana, Tex. He is a graduate of Howard Payne college, Brownwood, Tex., and Southwestern Baptist Theological seminary, Fort Worth. His wife is a graduate of Lamar university, Beaumont, Tex.

Named as a pastoral missionary, John Tanner and his wife Pat serve in Kailua Kona, Hawaii, where he is pastor of Kona Baptist church. They are Texas natives and graduates of Baylor university, Waco, Tex. He also graduated from Southwestern seminary.

Bill and Pat Wideman, appointed pastoral missionaries by the board's church extension department, serve in La Mirada, Calif., where he is pastor of the La Mirada Baptist church. He was graduated from Tennessee Temple university, Chattanooga, and Southwestern seminary. Both are natives of Missouri.

Missionary associates appointed include Joe and Betty Jean Peterson, working in the First Baptist church of Yampa, Colo.; Fernando and Terry Downs who head a pilot project with College Park Station ministries in Little Rock, Ark., as director of church extension; Ed and Fay Onley, who direct Christian social ministries in the Capital Association of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma; and three student interns appointed by the Christian social ministries department, Carol McCall and James Alley, both serving in New Orleans, and Donald Williams in California.

The department of language missions, the largest single body of Home Mission Board missionaries, appointed six missionary associates to Texas: Mrs. Olive Troy, in Goliad; Natalia Camarillo in McAllen; Bernardo and Anita Maraga in Goldthwaite; and Isidro and Linda Druz in Brownsville.

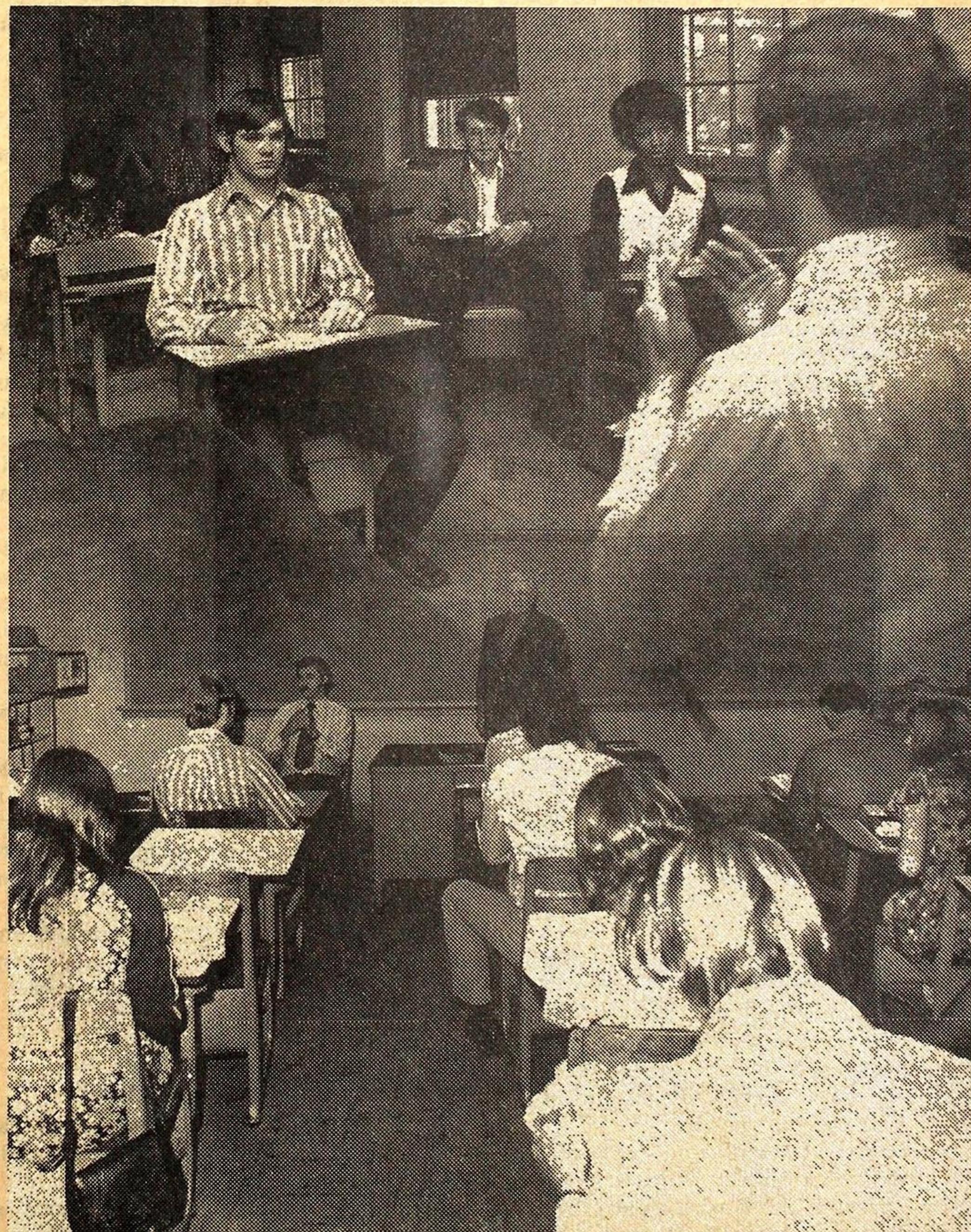
The language mission department also appointed five other missionary associates to work with Spanish-speaking people throughout the United States. They are Lupe and Janie Rando in Hollis, Okla., David and Francisca Anguiano in San

Chapman Given Fund Raising Promotion By SBC Stewardship

NASHVILLE—Fred M. Chapman has been promoted from assistant to associate director of endowment and capital giving service for the Southern Baptist Convention's Stewardship Commission here.

Chapman, the senior member of the commission's fund raising service staff, joined the commission two years ago after having served as pastor of churches in Alaska, Texas and Tennessee. (BP)

Diego, Calif.; and Robert Bell in Philadelphia, Penn. (BP)



Christian Education of the deaf became a reality at Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy, Seymour, answering the prayers of many parents and church leaders. Deaf students attend classes with hearing students and receive all classroom discussion and lectures through the signs of the interpreter, Tim Jones, sitting next to Charles Lemons, professor of Bible. The interpreter also employs other visual aids such as speech, fingerspelling, lip reading, reading, and writing to help the deaf students absorb information.

This emphasizes Christian Education Day for Baptist schools, colleges and seminaries observed February 18 in many Baptist churches in Tennessee and the Southern Baptist Convention.

Court Upholds Marijuana Convictions Of Cult Members In Tennessee

NASHVILLE—The Tennessee Supreme Court here upheld marijuana convictions of four communal cult members and ruled that the state's drug laws do not interfere with religious freedom.

Stephen Gaskin, 36, one of those convicted, said he would appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Gaskin, a former San Francisco College professor who led a band of 400 followers to a Tennessee rural commune in 1970, says marijuana is essential for attaining "spiritual consciousness" in his cult.

He says the issue involved is whether the law can prohibit growing and using marijuana in violation of the Constitution's freedom of religious clause.

The Tennessee Supreme Court, in an unanimous opinion of the five judges, cited cases of bigamy, snake handling and human sacrifice to support the position that government must at times regulate religious practices for the good of society.

Gaskin and three of his followers were arrested and later convicted by a lower court for growing marijuana on their farm near Hohenwald, 65 miles south of Nashville.

Two persons, including Gaskin, were sentenced by the lower court to prison terms of one to three years. Two others got one-year sentences.

Associate Justice George McCanless, who wrote the state supreme court decision,

Tax-Exempt Organizations Under Investigation In D.C.

A California legislator is examining religious organizations in Washington, D.C. which have a tax-free status but may not be used for religious purposes. The investigation may lead to the elimination from tax exemption of some church-owned property, according to Rep. Thomas M. Rees (D-Calif.).

The incoming chairman of the House District Committee's Fiscal Policy Subcommittee announced that the subcommittee will investigate all tax-exempt property in the District of Columbia, including the federal government's, in an attempt to reduce it as much as possible.

Rees said that Washington has a disproportionately high number of tax-exempt organizations with the biggest holder of tax-exempt property being the federal government. "I'm looking into all charitable-type institutions and am not singling out churches," Rees said.

Approximately 54 per cent of the land area of the District is exempt from real estate taxes. Rees, who specialized in tax reform as a state legislator, said that the total assessed valuation of all religious property in Washington for the current fiscal year is \$654 million.

rejected the Gaskin argument that the First Amendment gave him the right to use marijuana in religious practices.

Such a claim is "without merit," said the justice. The court ruling also rejected Mr. Gaskin's allegation that the sentences were "cruel and unusual."

Justice McCanless noted that the sentences were much lighter than the maximum—one to five years in prison and a fine of up to \$5,000.

On the same day, a court in Lewis County dropped a charge of involuntary manslaughter against Gaskin.

That charge grew out of an alleged suffocation death of a young woman in March 1972 at the communal farm.

Methodists Name Two Women To Commission Office

NEW YORK—Two women have been chosen to fill a single post as executive secretary of the new United Methodist Commission on the Status and Role of Women.

They are Judith Leaming Elmer of Chicago and Nancy Grissom Self of Long Beach, Calif. Both are wives of clergymen.

The commission was authorized in April, 1972, by the denomination's legislating General Conference.

It has 43 members who are authorized to foster "an awareness of problems and issues related to status and role of women with special reference to full participation in the total life of the church at least commensurate with total membership."

Of 10.3 million United Methodists, some 54 per cent are women.

No headquarters has yet been selected for the commission office. When a site is chosen, Ms. Elmer and Ms. Self will work in the same place, according to Barbara Thompson of Silver Spring, Md., president of the commission.

The president stressed that "there is one executive secretary with a two-member team in the office, not two executive secretaries."

20th Century Fox Buys Rights To Johnny Cash's 'Gospel Road'

NEW YORK—Singer Johnny Cash has sold his musical film "The Gospel Road" to 20th Century Fox.

Based on the life of Jesus and filmed in Israel, the picture is expected to be released in March. It has been publicly screened at least once—in Nashville, where Mr. Cash makes his home.

Produced by the popular country and western singer and directed by Robert Elfstrom, who also portrays Jesus, the movie was written by Cash and Larry Murray.

Singer June Carter, who is Mr. Cash's wife, appears as Mary Magdalene. Cash sings several of the songs in "Gospel Road."

Study Committee On Boards Is Named For Convention

BRENTWOOD—The Tennessee Baptist Convention's Committee on Committees has appointed a Special Study Committee to consider the convention's system of Boards and Committees membership, according to Tom Madden, chairman of the committee.

The 1972 annual session of the convention requested the study which is to include a public hearing in East, Middle and West Tennessee.

Gaye McGlothlen, pastor, Immanuel Baptist Church, Nashville, was named chairman of the special study committee. Other members on the committee include Charles Ausmus, pastor, Lincoln Park Baptist church, Knoxville; W. A. Boston, pastor, Raleigh Baptist church, Memphis; George Capps, pastor, First Baptist, Cookeville; Mrs. M. K. Cobble, Andersonville; Bobby Jelks, Paris, and James Jennings, Woodbury.

Bible Nuggets

TOUCH OF COMPASSION

By T. B. Maston

Professor of Christian Ethics, Retired Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

And Jesus moved with compassion, put forth his hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will; be thou clean" (Mark 1:41, KJV).

The one Jesus touched was a leper. Lepers in those days were avoided. As they approached others they were to cry, "Unclean! Unclean!" Jesus never let anything except a lack of faith keep him from ministering to the needs of people. This was not only true of the leper and those with other physical ailments; it was also true of social and moral outcasts in general. Those who reached up to him for help felt his healing touch on their lives. This is true in our day. Whatever may be the disease or problem, Jesus will respond to those who cry for help.

The secret to the fact that Jesus touched the leper was his compassion. His compassion was not a mere sentimentality. It moved him to do something about it. He had compassion on the multitude and miraculously fed them (Matt. 15:32). He had compassion on two blind men and touched their eyes and healed them (Matt. 20:30-34). He had compassion on the widow of Nain and "touched the bier" and brought her dead son back to life (Luke 7: 11-15). How grateful we ought to be for the compassion of Christ and for his touch that accompanied it and was expressive of that compassion.

One test of our compassion for people is our willingness to reach out and touch those in need. We cannot be effective channels for the compassion of Christ unless we are willing to get involved in seeking to meet the needs of people. There is no substitute in human relations for the touch of the hand moved by a compassionate heart.

'Bible World' Planned As Florida Attraction

ORLANDO, Fla.—Bible World, a tourist attraction recreating the "sights and sounds" of the Holy Land, is scheduled to open in the Spring of 1974 near Walt Disney World on U.S. Highway 192.

The \$11-million attraction, to be developed by Preferred Land Corp., Atlanta, will feature a 207-room hotel and 50 billboard-sized oil paintings by artist Jackson Bailey depicting the life of Jesus.

Among the major attractions will be a "Passion Week Panorama," a light and sound presentation of the last days of Jesus, and a "Theatre of the Psalms," a musical show featuring songs for all faiths and ages.

Other highlights are a "Forum of the Book," a Bible quiz show with audience participation and the "Dome of Expectations," a six-story building with architecture featuring works of art from around the world.

Fred C. Tallant, president of Preferred Land Corp., said there will also be special pavilions, craft shops and restaurants within the walled city. The "Inn of the Travelers" hotel will form one wall of the city, with rear balconies overlooking street scenes from the recreated Jerusalem village.

Bible World will comprise 9 acres of a 29-acre tract, 3.5 miles west of Walt Disney World. When completed, the attraction will have 150-175 permanent employees who will be hired from the area labor force, Mr. Tallant said.

North Carolina Weighs Cut In Tax Exemptions

RALEIGH, N.C.—Legislation that would end the tax exemptions of several types of property that are now exempt have been introduced into the North Carolina legislature.

Provisions that would affect religious bodies state that tax exemptions would be given to buildings and land owned by such groups only if they are "wholly and exclusively used by (their) owner for religious purposes."

Exemptions would not be granted on property leased out for businesses by religious groups or used by religious groups for businesses such as service stations, motels, and restaurants at Summer retreats and conference centers.

State Sen. Wesley Webster (D.-Rockingham), one of the sponsors of the bills, said that many churches own property that is not used strictly for religious purposes, including some that is rented out for extra income.

No one knows how much of this property there is, he said, because none of it is now listed. (RNS)

He said that the attraction will depict life in the Holy Land—but "will not preach." One million guests are expected to visit Bible World in its first year. Preferred Land Corp., a five-year-old firm, has completed several industrial projects in Georgia and South Carolina. Bible World is its first venture in the attractions field.

Jewish Leader Asks Key 73: Halt Mission Efforts On Jews

NEW YORK—An Orthodox Jewish leader has asked the leaders of Key 73 to take action to stop all missionary efforts directed at Jews.

Harold M. Jacobs, president of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, said that Key 73 "has elicited a great measure of concern among American Jewry."

He said that insofar as it "is directed to the Christian community and creates greater religious values, ethical and moral sensitivities and concerns, it does not impinge upon the Jewish community."

But, Jacobs added, "notwithstanding the stated intentions of many leaders of Key 73, there has been a significantly increased effort to missionize among Jews and to encourage their defection from Judaism."

Senate Bill Offered To Meet Major Problem Of Million Children Who Run Away Each Year

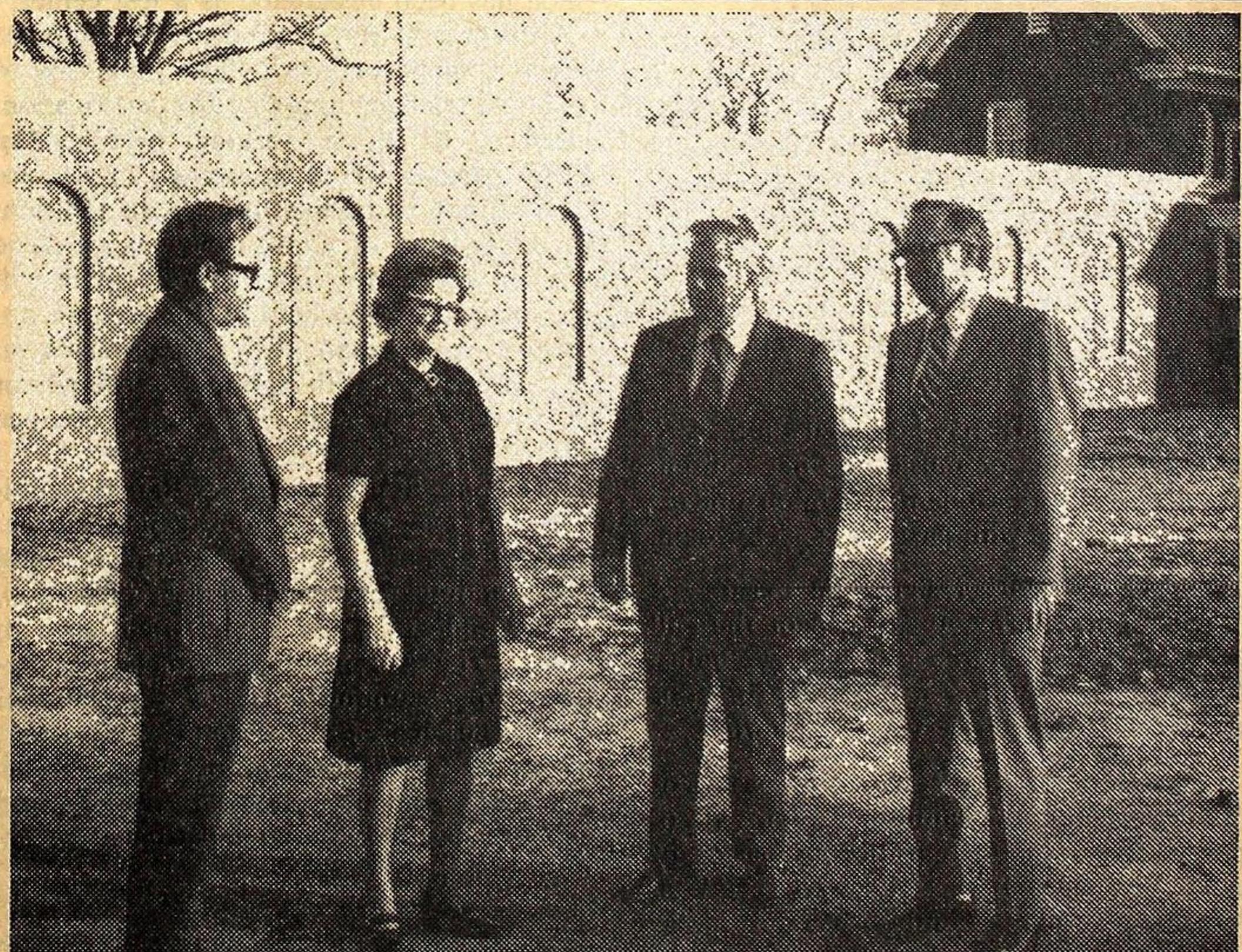
WASHINGTON, D.C.—A bill designed to strengthen interstate reporting and services for parents of runaway children—including agencies operated by religious groups—has been introduced in the Senate.

The measure, submitted by Sen. Birch Bayh (D-Ind.) and co-sponsored by Sen. Marlow W. Cook (R-Ky.), also would provide for research on the size of the runaway youth population and for the establishment, maintenance and operation of temporary housing and counseling services for transient youth.

Similar legislation introduced in the last session of Congress by Mr. Bayh and 20 co-sponsors was passed by the Senate last year, but the 92nd Congress ended before the House of Representatives could complete action.

In his Senate floor remarks on reintroducing the bill, Bayh said as many as 1 million children are currently running away from home each year, but "neither the federal government nor the states have made a serious attempt" to do anything about it.

The measure would authorize appropriations of \$10 million for each of three years, and churches and other religious groups working with runaway children would be eligible for financial assistance, according to an aide of Sen. Bayh. (RNS)



James E. Humphreys Jr., far right, pastor of the Forest Hill church, Shelby Association is shown in front of the church's new educational annex completed recently. It provides classroom space for all ages pre-school through youth and includes kitchen and dining space. Measuring 80 ft. by 50 ft., the first floor is part of a planned two-story unit. With Humphreys are left to right: Roy Jennings, chairman, stewardship committee; Mrs. John Tindall, chairman, special gifts committee; and W. R. Peterson, chairman, building committee.

Tennessee News Briefs

Inglewood church in Nashville voted to license **Mike Escue** to the gospel ministry. He plans to enter seminary in preparation to preach. **James D. Hopkins** is pastor.

LEADERSHIP CHANGES

Robert L. Lovette has been called as pastor of New Providence church, Loudon County Association. He served formerly as pastor of North Clinton church, Clinton.

Garry Hardin is the new pastor of Broadway church in Martin. Broadway church is less than two months old, and has 70 members. Members have purchased a grocery store building which is being remodeled, and upon completion, will accommodate over 200 in Sunday School and worship services. **Hardin** is the former pastor of Maranatha church in Weakley County Association.

Don McElroy and **Don Barfield** have joined the staff of the Central church in Chattanooga and will serve as minister of youth and activities and educational director, respectively. **McElroy** came to Central from the Locust Grove church in Smyrna, Ga. He is a graduate of Belmont college and Southern Baptist Theological seminary. **Barfield** is a graduate of Tennessee Temple school and New Orleans Baptist Theological seminary. **Bill Hartley** is pastor of the church.

John Carpenter has been called as associate pastor of First Baptist church of Maryville. He is a graduate of Mars Hill college, and Southern Baptist Theological seminary. The pastor is **J. William Harbin**.

Hillcrest church, Nashville, called **Marvin Glass** as pastor. He was formerly pastor of the Hulen church in Erwin. Hillcrest has also licensed **Don Cothron** to the gospel ministry.

Richard Howard has accepted the call to serve as minister of music at First church, Troy. Presently a student at Union university, he will serve with pastor **T. C. Thurman**.

Charles D. Earl resigned as pastor of First church, Bluff City, to accept the call of Lyons Creek church, Strawberry Plains. He served the Bluff City church for four years. **Ed Glover** is serving as interim.

Charles Barrett has resigned as pastor of Birchwood church, Hamilton County Association, to accept the position as pastor of Alder Branch church, Sevier Association. Calvary church, Hamilton County, has called **Wayne Coker** as minister of education. **Roger Hobbs** is pastor. **Robert S. Tucker** has resigned as pastor of Eastdale church; and Morris Hill church has called **Royce Powell** as pastor. **James L. Gouge Jr.** was called as minister of music for Oakwood church. He is a graduate of Carson-Newman college. **L. L. Hall** is pastor.

West Shiloh church in Stantonville licensed **Rickey Sowell** to preach recently. **Wesley Pitts** is pastor.

The National Council of Mortar Board, a national honorary society for senior women, will send a representative of the council to visit the Carson-Newman college campus, according to **John Fincher**, president. **Fincher** said that the vote of the council came as a result of material submitted by the Panathenees Honor Society of Carson-Newman, and that the visit is one of the initial steps in the petitioning of a group for affiliation with the Mortar Board.

Two Tennesseans were named as winners in the 1972 Creative Arts Competition, sponsored by the Baptist Sunday School Board. **Tinah Kisman**, Concord, received honorable mention in senior graphics division; and **Janet Tharpe**, Oak Ridge, placed second in senior fiction division. "Event" magazine will feature the award winning entries in the October 1973 issue.

Carson-Newman College To Serve As Test Center For Teachers

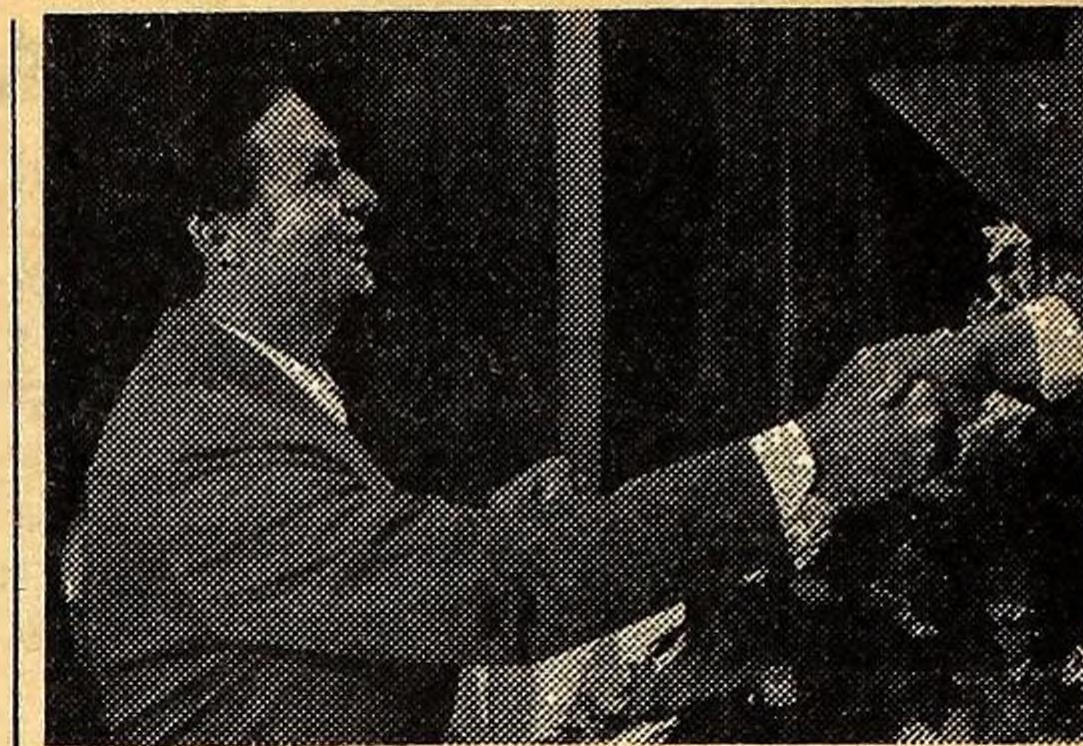
JEFFERSON CITY—The National Teacher Examinations will be administered on April 7, 1973 at Carson-Newman college which has been designated as a test center.

According to Ray Koonce, C-N Guidance Director, many college seniors preparing to teach and teachers applying for certification, licensure, or those seeking positions in school systems which encourage or require the NTE will be taking the tests. In addition, the designation of Carson-Newman college as a test center for these examinations will give prospective teachers in this area an opportunity to compare their performance on the examinations with candidates throughout the country who take the tests, Koonce said.

Last year approximately 120,000 candidates took the examinations which are designed to assess cognitive knowledge and understanding in professional education, general education and subject-field specialization. The examinations, which are prepared and administered by Educational Testing Service of Princeton, New Jersey, are limited to assessment of those aspects of teacher education that are validly and reliably measured by well constructed paper-and-pencil tests.

Bill Scudder is the new minister of education at Eastland church in Nashville. **J. L. Ford** is the pastor.

In the Holston Association, **Herman Norton** is the new pastor at Reservoir Road. He was ordained by East Cumberland Ave. church in Middlesboro, Ky., and has served as pastor in Kentucky and Tennessee.



David Q. Byrd, pastor of the West Jackson church in Jackson, was presented a service award recently for his term of seven years as a trustee of the Southern Baptist Convention Annuity Board. Chairman **Donald E. Bowles** made the presentation in Dallas. **Byrd** has rotated off the Board.

Mrs. Ida Franks Baker Dies, Mother Of Norman O. Baker

Mrs. Ida Franks Baker, mother of **Norman O. Baker**, pastor of First church, South Pittsburg, died recently. She was a member of the Eastside church in Camden.

She is survived by three other sons: Reverend **Clayton Baker**, Pensacola, Fla.; Reverend **Clark Baker**, Decatur, Ga.; and Dr. **Grady Baker**, Huntsville, Ala. She also had three daughters.

Funeral services were conducted in Camden.

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Southern Baptist Aid To Managua Will Provide Worship Facilities

RICHMOND—Although Managua's seven Baptist churches all suffered destruction or serious damage in the Dec. 23 earthquake, their congregations, alive and well, continue to meet under lean-tos and shade trees.

With the rainy season due to begin May 1, this solution will not be adequate for long, Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board officials were told here.

Special contributions from Southern Baptists and monies appropriated by the Foreign Mission Board will make possible the construction of wooden structures as temporary worship facilities for Nicaraguan Baptists.

Shelter is urgently needed, said Norman Godfrey, executive assistant for the SBC's Brotherhood Commission. Godfrey is one of the three men sent to Managua by the Foreign Mission Board to survey damage and consult with the city's pastors and church leaders to determine Baptists' most pressing needs.

The buildings are to be modified from a basic design to meet individual church's needs. Some of the zinc-roofed structures will be reinforced with steel beams, and will be suitable for later conversion to education or recreation facilities.

Robert E. Dixon, executive secretary of Texas Baptist Men, is mobilizing work

crews—men who can spend one to two weeks in Managua. Each will bear his own transportation and living expenses and carry his own basic tools. Tent housing will be provided. Dixon reported that the first crew of six will be ready for departure by March 12.

Some local labor will be recruited, possibly church members. Leslie G. Keyes, SBC missionary to Honduras who has had construction experience, will supervise the work.

As of Feb. 7, \$9434 in funds designated for relief in Managua had been received by the Foreign Mission Board. Construction materials will cost \$10,500, according to W. Eugene Grubbs, the board's consultant on laymen overseas and one of the survey team.

Godfrey and Grubbs were accompanied by Adolfo Robledo of the Baptist Spanish Publishing House, a former pastor of Managua's First Baptist church.

Baptist work in Managua is affiliated with American Baptist churches. (BP)

Bible Essay Contest Being Held At Union University

A special Bible essay contest is being held at Union University in conjunction with the Second Annual Spring Bible Conference to be held at the Baptist college March 5-7.

Cash prizes in the amount of \$100, \$50, and \$25 will be awarded the three winning essays submitted by Union students, according to Dr. Lewis Sewell, dean of religious affairs, and coordinator for the Conference contest.

Theme for the contest is "How the Bible Assures Us Christ is Above All." Essays will be between one and two thousand words and content, style and grammar will be the basis for judging.

"The selected subject for the essays correlates with the theme of our Spring Bible Conference which is 'Christ Above All,'" said Dr. Sewell.

Climax of the contest and the Conference will be at the final service on Wednesday evening March 7, when the awards will be presented. At the service, Dr. Robert G. Lee, pastor emeritus, Bellevue Baptist church, Memphis, will deliver the Conference sermon entitled "Christ Above All."

Herbert C. Gabhart

BELMONT COLLEGE

Nashville, Tennessee 37203

February 20, 1973

Dear Tennessee Baptist Friend:

Since the tragic fire on December 30th, which destroyed Blanton Hall, many of you have come forward with encouragement and support. Thank you so very much. We will not look back nor look down, but only ahead.

Sunday, February 18th, was Belmont College Day in the churches of Middle Tennessee. Many churches were not able to observe that day and have set aside a Sunday later on in the year. If churches and individuals would like to have special offering envelopes, the College will be glad to provide any number needed upon request. Please address all requests to the Development Office, Belmont College, Nashville, Tennessee 37203. These envelopes have been made possible through the courtesy of Curley Printing Company, printer of the **Baptist And Reflector**.

Again, I want to say "thank you" to those individuals and churches who have responded, and express gratitude in advance to those who are going to observe a later date. Belmont College can bring beauty out of ashes with the help of her constituents.

If your church did not observe February 18th, may we hear from you as to the date you have set for Belmont College?

Sincerely yours,

Herbert C. Gabhart

Herbert C. Gabhart
President

HCG/eh

BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR
Brings You News First

New Town Conference Studies New Ministry

By Tim Nicholas

COLUMBIA, Md.—Although it is not Utopia, Columbia—located halfway between Baltimore and Washington, D.C.—has become a model for the 100-plus planned cities which are now on the drawing board, or under construction, across the country.

These new towns are supposed to be self-supportive, not leaning on the economy of adjacent towns. Ideally, people live, work, learn, and worship all in the new town. But worship is one facet of the plan left out by most developers.

For that reason, 50 Southern Baptist denominational leaders and pastors with varied levels of interest in planned cities met here to investigate strategies for congregational development in other new towns.

Warren Rust, metropolitan missions director for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, and organizer of the New Town Conference, said: "To put church development in the new town scene is really a problem to mission designers and mission leaders."

"You can't force it or promote it or manipulate it, but we still have a commission," Rust said. "We have a task to be witnesses of God. Whatever that means in terms of forms is what we need to struggle with."

Columbia is the headquarters of James Hamblen, recently appointed by the SBC Home Mission Board and the Maryland Baptist Convention as new town consultant, providing data concerning relationships, alternatives, and potentials for ministry for Southern Baptist involvement in new towns.

As part of this role, Hamblen will serve as the Southern Baptist Convention representative on the Joint Strategies and Action Committee, and interreligious coalition of new town planners. His work will also include being superintendent of missions for Howard County where Columbia is located.

There is an architectural review program (including tree preservation procedures,) a covenant on the land, package recreation program, interfaith centers, a model school program, and community health care program.

The current cost of industrial land (including church sites) is \$55,000 for membership, costs \$10,000 per acre.

"CRFC is just a holding corporation—no religious guidelines—it's a bricks and mortar landlord," said Hamblen. "They build a facility and lease it to several congregations. They take care of maintenance, insurance, and furnishings."

CRFC was formed by the Columbia Cooperative Ministry which is a Protestant ecumenical venture made up of 13 mainline Protestant denominations and nine local congregations, created to "develop a total ministry to a total community."

The planning team which will tell the CRFC what to build and how, is the Columbia Interfaith Planning Council (CIPC), made up of seven members of the Columbia Cooperative Ministry, seven Roman Catholics, and potentially seven associates (four now including Southern Baptists).

Hamblen, among other things, has been pastor of the Southern Baptist congregation which meets in a Lutheran Church. He began his work in Columbia in 1970, also serves on the Board of Governors of the Urban Life Center, an interdisciplinary group called together by developer Rouse to discuss the total aspects of community development.

"The new towns pare away all your peripheral values—they strip you bare where you have to go back and ask, 'now what is the real mission of the church?'" (BP)

Non-Public School Aid Issued In Pennsylvania

HARRISBURG, Pa.—Gov. Milton Shapp announced here that \$7,500,000 has been paid to education units to aid children attending non-public schools in Pennsylvania.

The payments, which were authorized under a law adopted last July, went to public education "intermediate" units, which will then purchase equipment for loan to non-public schools. They will also provide aid to guidance counselors and other specialized personnel working in non-public schools.

Of the \$7.5 million total, \$6 million is being used for purchase of audio-visual equipment, and \$1.5 million is aiding non-public schools to pay the salaries of pupil-service personnel.

Gov. Shapp said the payment was the second of four that will eventually total \$26.2 million. The first was distributed in December. (RNS)

LCA Benevolence Giving Rose 2.63% In 1972

NEW YORK—Benevolence receipts for the Lutheran Church in America reached \$22,167,268 in 1972, an increase of 2.63 per cent over 1971.

According to L. Milton Woods, treasurer of the 3,190,000-member denomination, the percentage increase was the greatest since 1966, and contrasted with 1971's receipts of \$2,599,728, which represented a one per cent decline from the previous year.

The increase for 1972 rises to 3.97 per cent when the benevolence total is combined with designated advance gifts of \$451,470, Mr. Woods said.

William P. Cedfeldt, director of the Department of Resource Development in the LCA Office for Administration and Finance, reported that "a strong surge in apportionment received in December and a large increase in the designated advance gifts in the final weeks of the year were credited with the gratifying upturn."

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SBC Mature Enough To Avoid Catastrophe, Cooper Claims

DALLAS—The president of the Southern Baptist Convention said here he believes the convention has "reached the maturity to face our problems without having a minor catastrophe."

This maturity, according to Owen Cooper of Yazoo City, Miss., will enable Southern Baptists "to devote our time to going out and making Christians."

Speaking to trustees of the SBC Annuity Board at their annual meeting, Cooper, a layman, said the denomination had spent "time and energy on matters that have little to do with the average layman and his life."

President of two chemical companies, Cooper said Southern Baptists have failed to provide sufficient challenge for laymen who are saying, "We want to get involved meaningfully."

Noting the second most important story in Southern Baptist life in 1972 concerned lay involvement in denominational work, Cooper continued, "it's up to Southern Baptist leadership to provide challenges for these laymen."

Cooper referred also to the three-week visit to India he and 16 other Southern Baptists had just made. He said they found India ripe for the Christian gospel.

India Responding to the Gospel

"Hundreds of people in India could become evangelists for us if they could just get a modest amount like \$25 a month," the SBC president declared.

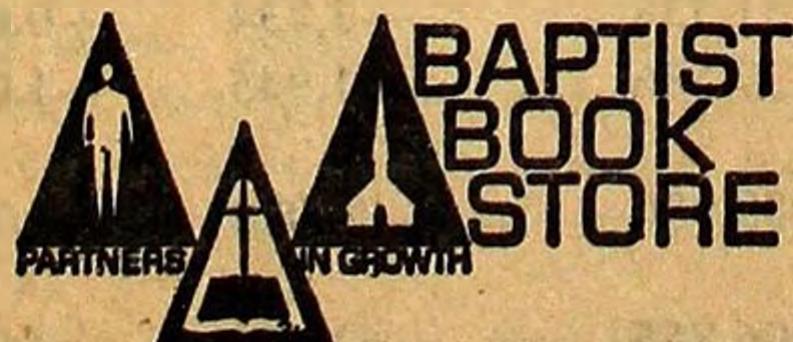
"In 10 years' time, I think God is going to make it possible for us to have 1000 of these evangelists," Cooper added.

He said it may become impossible to send foreign missionaries and foreign capital to India for Christian evangelism. "A law is being considered," Cooper observed.

REVIVAL RESULTS

Hermitage Hills church, Hermitage, reported 33 professions of faith and 100 rededications during its recent revival. Jack Custer served as the evangelist. George Beever is the pastor.

Broadway church in Memphis reports 85 professions of faith, five additions by letter, and 50 rededications in a recent revival with evangelist Rick Ingle, Denton, Tex. The church's pastor, J. G. Miller, died in December. He had served the church for over 20 years. John Prothro is minister of education and youth.



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"that would prohibit foreign money coming in to proselytize."

However, the people of India "are responding to the gospel" although the country of 550 million is 82 per cent Hindu, 10 per cent Moslem, and only two per cent Christian. The balance of the people are divided into even smaller religious groups.

The touring Southern Baptists found India "in the throes of one of the worst drouths of the century," according to Cooper. He said there is a possibility that 500,000 may starve to death.

In some 300,000 villages in India, he said, the name of Christ has never been spoken. "There are as many non-Christians in India as in nearly all the other countries in which we (Southern Baptists) have mission work."

Referring to the work of the Annuity Board which offers retirement and insurance plans for pastors and church and denominational workers, Cooper said the agency provides "the most cohesive influence in the Southern Baptist Convention." (BP)

Church Training

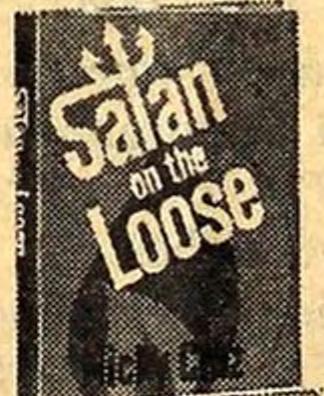
The Cassette Tape Program of Promotion

By Charles Norton, Secretary

Beginning in March the Church Training Department will send to each superintendent of missions and associational Church Training director a cassette tape telling about some of the coming events in our department. The first tape will be ready somewhere around March 15. Your superintendent of missions will be happy for you to borrow this tape and use it in one of your assembly programs or group meetings. Not only will you hear of the coming events of our department here in Tennessee but also of the Church Training Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board.

This first tape will promote Ridgecrest and Glorieta on one side and the Tennessee Honor Church Program on the other side. This is a new media for getting the word to the people in Tennessee. Please contact your superintendent of missions or associational Church Training director if you care to use one of the tapes.

Vital new books

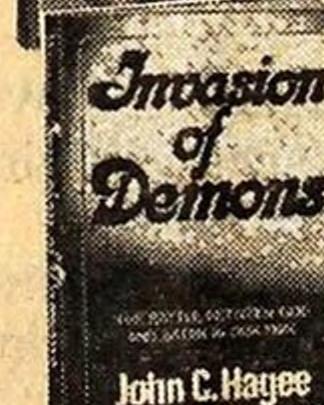


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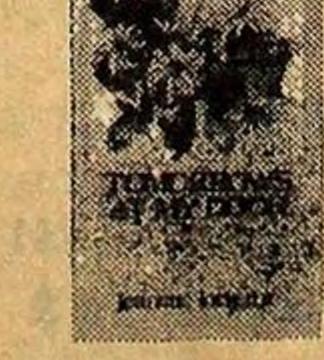


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SBC Tops 12 Million Members; Sets Baptism, Giving Record

NASHVILLE—Southern Baptists in 1972 passed the 12 million mark in membership, set a record number of baptisms, and reached the billion dollar mark in total receipts.

The record year of growth was reflected in annual statistical tabulations compiled by the research services department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, and reported to the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee meeting here.

Rev. Carl H. Christopher Dies, Father Of Three Baptist Ministers

Rev. Carl H. Christopher, 79, father of three Baptist ministers died Feb. 7 at the home of his son, Frank Christopher, in Sparta. Services were held at East Jacksboro church, Jacksboro, Feb. 9 with J. C. Parrish officiating.

He had served as pastor of churches in Anderson and Campbell counties for more than 50 years.

In addition to Frank, he is survived by Troy Christopher, pastor of First church, Norris, Charles Christopher, Crossville, Joel Christopher, Flint, Mich.; daughters, Mrs. Harvey Robbins, Belmont, N. C., Mrs. Fred Bullman, Caryville, Mrs. Elmer Bullman, Dayton, Ohio, Mrs. Ruth Jones, LaFollette, and Miss Joe Ann Christopher, Kettle Island, Ky.

Charles L. Sipe Dies

Charles L. Sipe, 59, husband of Mrs. Dorothy Sipe, stenographer in the Brotherhood office of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, died suddenly Feb. 16. He suffered a heart attack while at work at the Commerce Union Bank.

Services were held Feb. 18 with Vern Powers, director, Protection Plans, Tennessee Baptist Convention, officiating.

A native of Campbell County, he was the son of the late Ernest and Ella Murray Sipe, and moved with them to Nashville when a small boy.

Sipe was a charter member of Glendale church, Nashville, and served many years as a deacon.

Also surviving are a daughter, Mrs. John Carpenter, Nashville; three sisters, Mrs. Roy Waldrop, Nashville, Mrs. Elmer Fentress, Orlando, Fla., and Mrs. Don Warner, Lakeland, Fla.; a brother, William E. Sipe, Goodlettsville; and three granddaughters.

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BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR

Church membership for the nation's largest evangelical body increased nearly a quarter of a million persons (240,821) over 1971 membership. The 1972 total membership was reported at 12,067,284.

The record number of baptisms (conversions) was 445,725, an increase of 36,066. It was the second year in a row the number of baptisms had increased. The new record exceeded by more than 16,000 the previous record for baptisms in one year, 429,063 in 1959.

In church organizations, Sunday School, church music and Brotherhood enrolments increased during 1972; while decreases were reported in Training Union and Women's Missionary Union enrolments.

Statistics were based on a total of 34,534 churches cooperating with the Southern Baptist Convention. The number of churches increased by 93 from the 1971 report.

Sunday School enrolment totaled 7,177,651, an increase of 36,198 for the year. This signaled a turnaround for the organization, the first increase in seven years.

Church Music enrolment continued to increase with 84,024 added during 1972 to bring the total to 1,173,004.

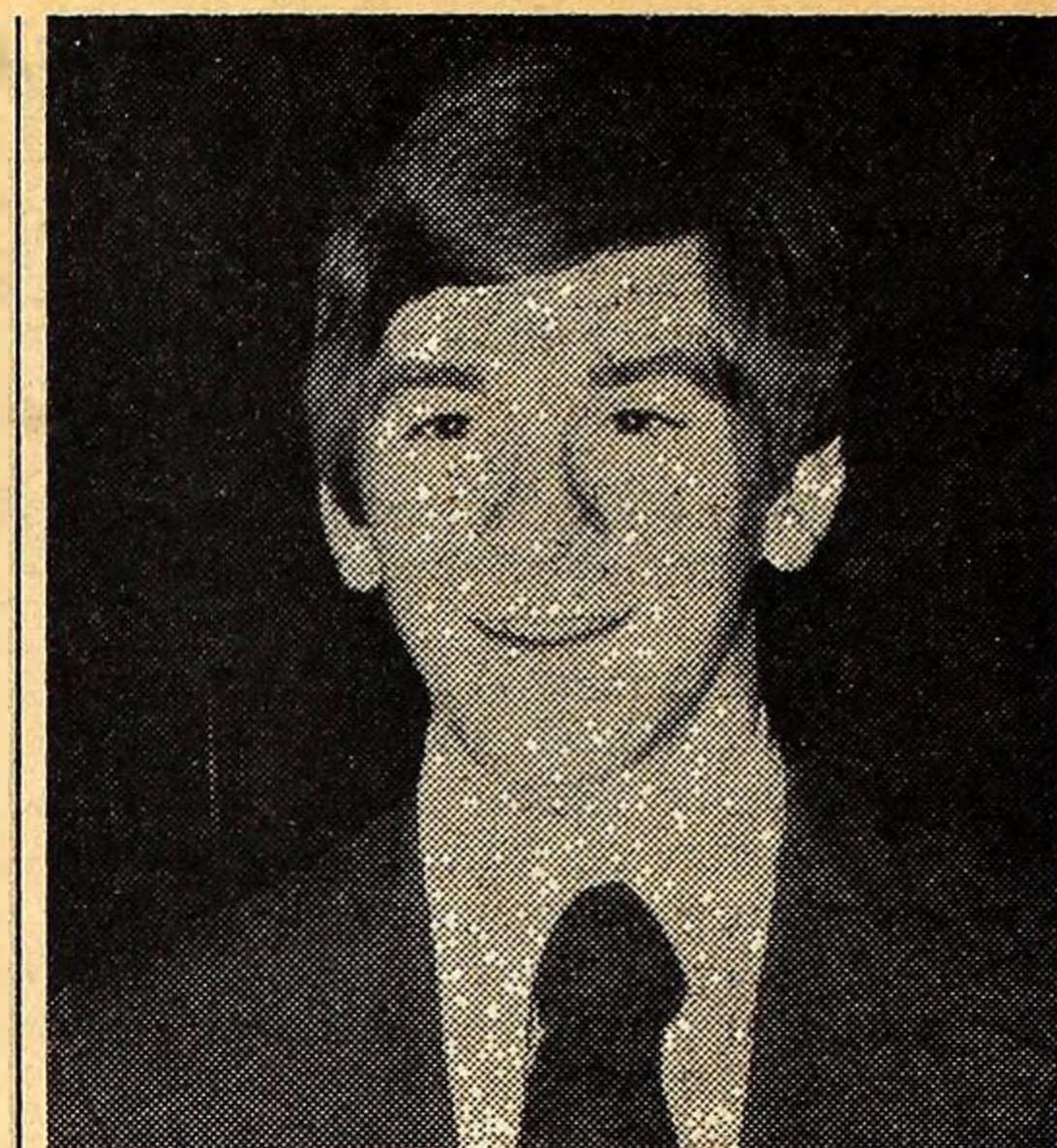
The Brotherhood (men's and boys' organizations) had an enrolment of 454,272, an increase of 2734, instead of a decrease as projected in December.

Training Union enrolment totaled 2,044,445, dropping by 62,410 from the 1971 figure.

Enrolment reported for Women's Missionary Union (women and girls) decreased 11,945 to total of 1,125,641.

Giving by Southern Baptists continued to increase. Total receipts reached \$1,071,512,302, passing the billion dollar mark for the first time, an increase of \$96,239,363.

Contributions to missions increased \$14,226,635 for a total of \$174,772,885. (BP)



Mark Howard, a Union university ministerial student, completed recently the Worship Ambassador Service Aide Award as a part of the Royal Ambassador program. Howard received a \$400 scholarship as a result of the 150 hours of service. He was licensed to preach by the Highland Heights church in Memphis in 1972 and represented Tennessee in the Sword Drill at Ridgecrest in the summer of 1969. He leads in revival work on week-ends and directs music for the children's church at the West Jackson church.

Adventists Will Evaluate Inner City Programs

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Inner city programs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church will be evaluated at a three-day conference at the denomination's world headquarters here Feb. 20-22.

Dr. W. W. Fordham, coordinator of the Church's inner-city development program, said the conference would enable the church to better assess its present inner city activities, including day-care centers for children of working parents, tutoring, adult education classes, clinics, welfare centers, and special health classes, and to lay plans for future directions. (RNS)

Summary of 1972 Southern Baptist Convention Statistics

	1972	1971	Numerical Change	Per Cent Change
Churches	34,534	34,441	+93	+0.3
Baptisms	445,725	409,659	+36,066	+8.8
Church membership	12,067,284	11,826,463	+240,821	+2.0
Ongoing Sunday School Enrolment	7,177,651	7,141,453	+36,198	+0.5
Ongoing Brotherhood Enrolment	454,272	451,538	+2,734	+0.6
Ongoing WMU Enrollment	1,125,641	1,137,586	-11,945	-1.0
Ongoing Church Music Enrolment	1,173,004	1,088,980	+84,024	+7.7
Ongoing Training Union Enrolment	2,044,445	2,106,855	-62,410	-3.0
Total Receipts	\$1,071,512,302	\$975,272,939	+\$96,239,363	+9.9
Total mission gifts	\$ 174,772,885	\$160,546,250	+\$14,226,635	+8.9

The Promise Of A Better Day

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

BACKGROUND PASSAGES: Zechariah 8; 13; 14:9

FOCAL PASSAGES: Zechariah 8:1-8, 11-13

The hard conditions which faced the exiles when they returned to Jerusalem and the need to kindle spirit and enthusiasm for the rebuilding of the Temple is the back-drop against which we must view the ministry of Zechariah. Zechariah, along with Haggai, urged that the temple be rebuilt immediately.

Restoration of Jerusalem Promised

At least three obvious facts convinced Zechariah that the city would be restored. First, he believed that it was the will of God. He pictured God as saying, "I am returned unto Zion, and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem . . ." (Zech. 8:3) ". . . I will save my people from the east country (Babylon), and from the west country (Egypt); and I will bring them, and they shall dwell in the midst of Jerusalem . . ." (Zech. 8:7-8)

Second, Zechariah saw in Zerubbabel, the Persian appointed king, and in Joshua, the high priest, evidence that the instruments God would use to rebuild Jewish society were already in Jerusalem. Their very presence was assurance to Zechariah that the messianic age was about to dawn.

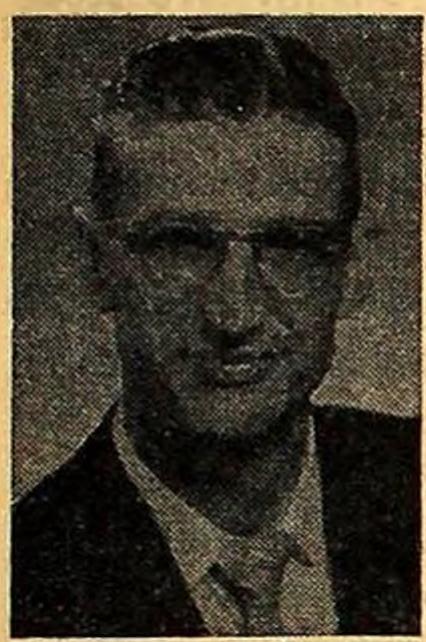
Third, the fact of the return was a miracle of redemption to Zechariah. He shared the conviction of the author of Ezra that it was the Lord who "stirred up the spirit of Cyrus King of Persia" and laid it upon his heart to let the Hebrew exiles return and to aid them in rebuilding Jerusalem and especially the temple. (Ezra 1:1)

Zechariah was convinced that the time for rebuilding was right and that the people should throw themselves into the task with vision and hope. The future looked bright! Better days were just ahead!

The Shape Of Things To Come

The Hebrews nourished a Messianic hope. They were convinced that a descendant of David would arrive and restore the nation to her former greatness. It is possible that Zechariah thought Zerubbabel might be that leader. This would account for his hopeful expectancy that was not completely fulfilled.

The Christian church sees Jesus as that Messiah and views all believers as the true sons of Abraham. The Kingdom of God is interpreted as a spiritual Kingdom where



Darby

Jesus is Lord and not in terms of a nation, a race, or a city. Paul teaches in Galatians that it is by faith and not race that one becomes a descendant of Abraham.

Some elements of modern Judaism still foster a messianic hope. A few days ago I invited a Jew in our community to speak to my college class about the Jewish faith. He reminded us that modern Judaism is basically composed of three groups: Orthodox Judaism, Conservative Judaism, and Reformed Judaism. He was of the Reformed group. He told us that the other two groups still held the messianic hope. They do not recognize Jesus as the Messiah, but they hope and long for the day when the Messiah will come. When asked by a student what they expected the Messiah to do when he did come, he replied, "Oh, peace, prosperity, the good life, an exalted position for Judaism and Jerusalem." This was, in essence the longing of Zechariah and he believed that the "messianic age" was just ahead.

The Essence Of The Good Life

What did Zechariah expect from the good day which was just ahead? First, he saw it as a day of God's presence. Jerusalem was called God's dwelling place. (Zech. 8:3) Second, the better time which was just ahead would be characterized by a stable society. Jerusalem would be filled with people again. Old men and women would live in the city and boys and girls would play in the streets. Life would be safe and filled with fellowship. Third, Zechariah saw the good day as a time of prosperity. ". . . the seed shall be prosperous; the vine shall give her fruit, and the ground shall give her increase . . ." (Zech. 8:12) Fourth, he saw the better future as a time of justice. To fully share this time of hope Zechariah insisted that men must speak the truth, execute judgment, and not even imagine evil against another. (Zech. 8:16-17) Fifth, Zechariah, as a loyal Hebrew, saw the messianic day as a time when the Jews would be the envy of the world and their presence would be sought. (Zech. 8:22-23)

Zechariah saw a stable society, peace, prosperity, and justice as the ingredients of the good life. He saw those things, however, as blessings from God and dependent upon God's presence and favor. He pictured God as eager to give these ingredients to man, but to share them man must first live righteously and for the Lord. Zechariah could not imagine the "good life" apart from God's presence and blessing.

Letter

February 5, 1973

Mr. James A. Lester, Editor
Baptist and Reflector
P. O. Box 647
Brentwood, Tennessee 37027

Dear Jim:

To you and all the good Baptists in Tennessee, let me say, "thank you!" We are so dependent upon your spiritual and financial support.

We rejoice to note that your gifts through the Cooperative Program to the Home Mission Board for the nine-month period, January 1 through September 30, totaled \$286,567.41 in 1972. This money continues to provide the firm foundation for our ongoing mission work.

Everyone is excited about our record Annie Armstrong Easter Offering last year. It was a 13.3 per cent increase, and your state provided \$390,951.15 of the total \$6,059,703.

While recognizing these monetary blessings, we still believe that our soundest support comes in spiritual gifts. Please continue to urge your people to pray for their Home Mission Board.

We have a common tie with each state convention . . . for we are joined in a common task in a common territory. May God continue to bless you, your staff, and your churches as together we are "crossing barriers with the Gospel."

Cordially and appreciatively yours,
Arthur B. Rutledge,
Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Home Mission Board, Atlanta, Ga.

Boston Broadcaster Receives Award

A Boston broadcaster, Donald Trageser of WEEI, has won the 1973 Abe Lincoln Award.

The award is given annually by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission in Fort Worth to a broadcaster who has made a paramount contribution, both as a private citizen and as a professional newsman, to the quality of life in America.

The Baptist Radio and Television Commission is the world's largest producer of religious programming for public service broadcasting.

Trageser, who is vice president, CBS Radio Division and general manager, WEEI, received the award Thursday, Feb. 8, at the fourth national Abe Lincoln Awards ceremonies in Fort Worth.

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A Christian View Of Marriage

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

Basic Passage: 1 Corinthians 7

Focal Passages: 1 Corinthians 7:1-4, 10-16

We must take the whole New Testament message to get a proper view of marriage from the Christian standpoint. There are some very unique, local situations and personal problems particularly in the pagan world.

The consensus of teaching gives us a very high concept of marriage and the home. If God guides and true law exists, the most wholesome home life will prevail.

There is no such thing as happy, elevating, stable conditions in home life without purity and loyalty. The exhibition of active experiences and increasing love is imperative. Humble unselfishness and mutual respect must obtain. So often sweet reasonableness must be manifested. Noble ideals and activities must engage all members of the family. Christ must be the center and Lord of each home. The inviolate sanctity and rights of each individual must be honored.

Single Life Sometimes Preferable

1 Cor. 7:1-2

Some of the sweetest and most beautiful characters we have ever known were people who chose never to marry. This is the exception. There are various reasons for remaining unmarried. Those people to whom we have referred had reasons that satisfied their consciences.

Paul's letter to the Corinthians is perhaps one of those referred to by Peter as hard to understand but this was such an abnormal situation. When Paul suggests not marrying he was perhaps referring to those like himself engaged in full time witnessing. The situation was so urgent, the time so precious, the pagan environment so sensitive and the new Christian movement was on trial.



Marital Mutuality Sacred

1 Cor. 7:3-4

The sacred obligation of husband and wife as to full sex life is enjoined. Complete continence outside of marriage is the Christian imperative but a normal sex life inside of marriage is a Christian view as taught in the New Testament.

The whole of life in the marital relationship is to be on a mutual basis. The functions may differ in some aspects for husband and wife but the principle of mutuality is to be prevalent. There must be mutual love, mutual respect and mutual loyalty.

A Permanent Bond

1 Cor. 7:10-11

A couple should not even think of going into a trial marriage. They should be certain in their own minds that their affinity for each other is far more than sexual attraction. It should be real love. This should be confirmed by much self-examination and sincere praying for divine guidance.

The marriage once consummated, daily cultivation of their love for each other should take place. Besides this, a high service of honor in observing the marriage vows should prevail. Going more than the second mile to reconcile differences will greatly help to save the home.

Children, whether your own or by adoption, should be considered seriously. Every time they are the tragic victims of a broken home. They are the innocent victims of parents' mistakes.

Guidelines On Mixed Marriages

1 Cor. 7:12-16

This scripture refers to the problem created when the husband and wife are both unbelievers and one becomes a believer. What then? In fact Paul is writing to people who married when both were pagans or heathens and then one embraced the Christian faith. They should save the home if the unbeliever wills it to be so.

There is an opportunity for the believer to influence the children and the companion toward Christ. In fact the believer may so witness and live that the companion and the children may be won completely to Christ.

Mixed marriages in Christian lands are somewhat different but after marriage the same principle should apply. Grave caution should obtain when the decision is made to enter into such a union. It is permissible but not preferable. There may be rare exceptions in getting married but after marriage the same guidelines apply.

Foundation

Names That Live On

By Jonas L. Stewart
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

When one dies his name begins to disappear from public notice. Property and tax rolls no longer carry the name. It is removed from utility lists. The telephone directory soon leaves it out.

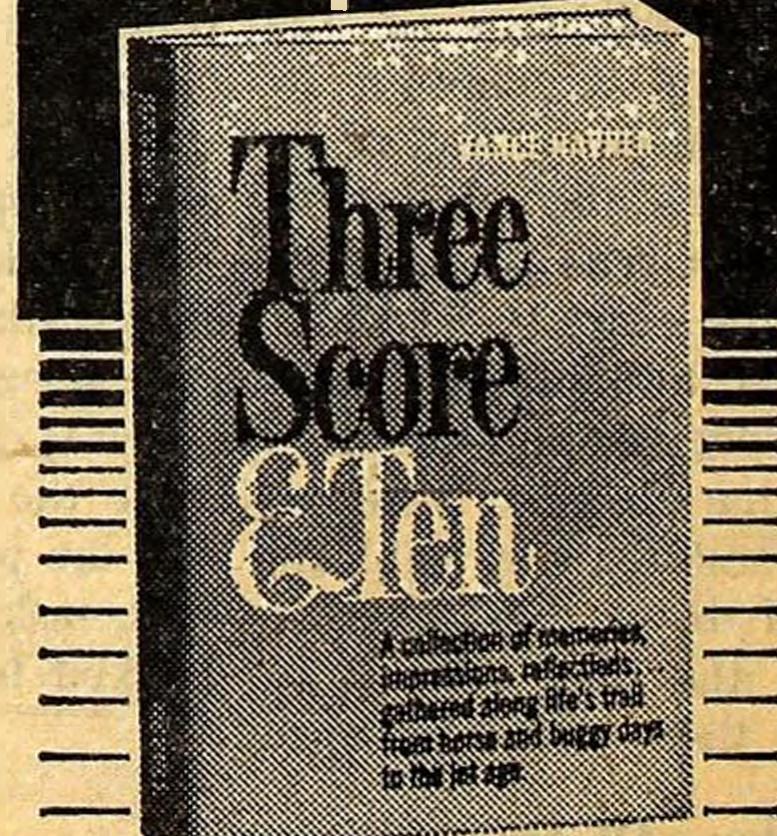
Perhaps more significant to a dedicated Christian is the fact that his name is erased from the roll of Sunday School and Church Training. It even disappears from the church membership roll. For all practical purposes his Christian testimony is over unless previous plans have been made to keep it active.

Many of God's servants are using the Tennessee Baptist Foundation through which to assure that their names will live in Christian witness until Jesus comes. There are some whose wills designate that every year a check will go to their church in their names. The check is provided by a trust fund established by their wills. Their names will never be forgotten and their testimony for Christ will never die.

For information about preparing a Christian will write Tennessee Baptist Foundation, Dr. Jonas L. Stewart, executive secretary-treasurer, P.O. Box 647, Brentwood, Tennessee 37027.

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From the Executive Secretary

By Ralph E. Norton

A phrase which many of you have been hearing and reading about recently is "KEY 73". Someone may ask, "What is KEY 73?" A simple answer would be that this is a 1973 project involving many Christian denominations and groups, with the general theme of "Calling our Continent to Christ". Thousands of people will share in seeking to confront the people of North America with the call to follow Christ in faith and obedience.

You will be hearing more of this theme, but we emphasize it now in order that we all might know that Southern Baptists are involved in it. In our state, the regional "Share the Word Now" conferences have had evangelism at the center of their program. The Lay Evangelism schools which are being held throughout our state are planned to help us to witness more effectively.

The Evangelistic Conferences have stimulated our hearts to be aware of the needs about us. So as we are involved in these programs, may we remember that the nation-wide efforts to evangelize America are coming at a time when there is an increasing interest in the Bible by many people in our nation, and seemingly a fresh openness to the Gospel. This is an opportune time to continue to pray for revival.

It has come to my attention that two young men from Tennessee will be graduating from seminary this spring with a degree in Religious Education. If you are pastor of a church that might have an interest in finding someone to fill a vacancy for a Minister of Education, please let me know and I will be glad to share this information with you.

'Religious' Views On Insurance Factor In 'Security' Exemption

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Religious groups opposed to insurance would be exempt from paying Social Security employment tax on wages under a bill introduced in the Senate by Sen. Richard S. Schweiker (R.-Pa.).

The Amish were cited as an example of a people "who desire and should be afforded this society security exemption due to their religious objection to social security," said the Senator, Congress' sole member of the Schwenkfelder faith.

The Internal Revenue Code currently provides an exemption from self-employment tax for members of a recognized religious group which makes provision for its own members. (RNS)



Norton

Historically: From the files

50 YEARS AGO

Carson-Newman college entered its second semester with 403 full-time students and 42 summer school students for a total of 445. The school was eliminating its Preparatory Department from the catalogue due to crowded conditions.

The State Volunteer Conference met in Chattanooga in February and was comprised of Tennessee students establishing Young Women's Associations throughout the state.

20 YEARS AGO

The oldest minister in Shelby County, A. U. Boone, donated some of his books to the Egypt Baptist church, the oldest church in the county. The church had named its library in honor of Boone, former pastor of First church, Memphis.

Third church, Murfreesboro, held first services in its new building which was partially completed. It contained an auditorium seating 250.

10 YEARS AGO

It was announced that the first nationwide Girls' Auxiliary convention would be held that year in Memphis. Pre-registration was so heavy for the summer meeting that the state WMU decided to host a second session to be held immediately following first one.

St. Elmo church in Chattanooga broke ground for both a sanctuary and educational space in special ceremonies. McKnight Fite was pastor. Construction was expected to take about 35 weeks.

On Matters of

Family Living

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



Child-Raising Should Be Fun— At Least Most Of The Time

If raising your children isn't fun at least 55% of the time, "there's something wrong," Dr. Lendon Smith, the pediatrician and author known as "The Children's Doctor," observed in an interview in "St. Louis Post Dispatch."

Kids know when they're not enjoyed, he pointed out and it upsets them. Couples who don't like children shouldn't have them just to fulfill family or cultural expectations, he is convinced. When they're not really wanted by their parents, "children are the losers."

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AN OPEN LETTER TO DEACONS

My fellow Deacons:

In 1972 Southern Baptists baptized over 450,000 persons—the largest number in the history of the Convention. Over one-half million baptisms can be experienced in 1973 if more deacons will commit themselves anew to the promotion of evangelism and personal witnessing. Lost people are responding to the gospel. It is our challenge to see that the gospel is presented to them.

May I suggest some very practical things that deacons can do, both as a Board, and as individuals, in full cooperation with their pastor, to lead their church to increase its baptisms in 1973:

(1) Set aside one hour at an early deacons' meeting or call a special meeting to consider the suggestions in this letter. Your pastor, of course, should be present and will welcome this opportunity. If by chance your church is without a pastor, make your plans anyway.

(2) If you do not have a revival scheduled for 1973, schedule one. If you have a revival already scheduled, you may want to schedule a second revival or special soul-winning weekend to be led by laymen. Your revival meeting should be well planned with appropriate committees, a religious census, and undergirded with prayer. If you want specific help on planning effective revivals write the Evangelism Department of your state convention.

(3) Consider a well led, properly planned, young people involved, youth revival.

(4) Intensify the evangelistic outreach of your Sunday School. The Sunday School is still a great evangelistic organization. Use your Sunday School for evangelism. For specific suggestions, write the Sunday School Department of your state convention.

(5) Plan a Lay Evangelism Training School (WIN) for your church or in cooperation with other churches. Numerous persons have been trained to conduct such a school and in many churches the results of these schools have been electrifying.

A deacon from a Virginia church recently wrote me, "Our church has been literally ignited since our lay witness school in October. Our people are witnessing with new confidence and boldness. We have had as many as 13 professions of faith on one Sunday. Our young people are the real leaders."

For information about a Lay Evangelism Training School, write the Evangelism Department of your state convention or the SBC Home Mission Board, Evangelism Division.

(6) Consider a Lay Witness Mission in your church. This is an occasion when a group of dedicated lay people will come to your church for a weekend of testimony, renewal and witnessing.

A layman attending a Sunday night evaluation service at the close of renewal weekend recently wrote, "I was a visitor at your Sunday night service. It was obvious to me from the speeches of some members that something spiritually exciting and stimulating happened this weekend."

For further information write the Brotherhood Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention.

(7) Consider a program of Renewal Evangelism in your church. This is a continuing program involving interested and committed persons in your church to a plan of renewing their Christian commitment. For further information write the Evangelism Division of the Home Mission Board.

(8) Join your pastor or a fellow deacon for personal witness visitation in your local community. Set up a specific time and schedule for personal witnessing. Select one lost person as your particular objective of prayer and witness for the coming year.

(9) Pay the expenses of your pastor to preach a revival meeting in a pioneer area where the church is unable to pay transportation or living expenses for a visiting evangelist. Write the Home Mission Board for suggestions of a place your pastor might be best used.

"The fields are white unto harvest." People are responding to the gospel. If the deacons in our various churches will provide programs to train

BRING YOUR BIBLE

Styles come and go only to return again. It is about time for the Bible-carrying Baptist to come back into style.

Do you remember when you could not be 100 per cent in Sunday school without bringing your Bible? The idea was that Sunday school was Bible study time. Everyone needed to have the textbook in his hands. He needed to learn how to use it, to become familiar with it as a book. Besides, it was considered a valuable Christian witness for all of those Baptists to be seen with a Bible in their hands.

Today it is stylish to hide one's lamp under a bushel. Carrying a

Referendum Asked To Guarantee Rectory, Parsonage Tax Exemption

HARRISBURG, Pa.—Legislation proposing a state constitutional amendment to authorize the exemption from taxation of church parsonages or rectories, has been introduced in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.

The proposal would amend a section of the constitution which currently authorizes only the exemption of churches, defined as "actual place of regularly stated religious worship."

If the amendment is adopted, a process that involves a vote of the people, it would enable the legislature to enact a law exempting parsonages and rectories from real estate taxes.

Many local taxing authorities already exempt such properties from taxation, but are not legally required to do so.

The bill was referred to the House local government committee. (RNS)

Dorm Doors Open For Visiting Baptists

Stetson University announced that Baptist groups visiting in the vicinity of Walt Disney World this summer need not worry about crowded housing conditions.

Located in Deland Fla., Stetson is sixty miles from the newly opened attraction.

Stetson is not entering into competition with area commercial facilities but will make dormitories available to Baptist groups such as touring choirs and youth.

Full information as to accommodations and cost will be made available upon request.

Stetson University is supported by the Florida Baptist Convention and is the oldest private University in Florida.

laymen and lead in providing opportunities for witnessing, over 500,000 baptisms can be enjoyed in 1973.

Sincerely,
Owen Cooper, Deacon
First Baptist Church
Yazoo City, Mississippi

Bible in public calls attention to what you are doing. Try it, even on Sunday morning in a hotel lobby, and you will see what I mean. No wonder public opinion in increasingly middleclass congregations blunted the church's insistence that we "bring your Bible." It is embarrassing to let your piety show.

But as we left the textbook at home, even the church has contributed to the Biblical illiteracy of our times. Many Baptist families would have trouble remembering where they left the Bible in the house. I have learned to pull out my pocket testament and not ask them to let me read out of the family Bible when I visit in times of sickness and sorrow.

We used to claim "Baptists are the people of the Book," Now that means privately the book of etiquette, and in our public meetings it is Robert's Rules of Order. The invisible Bible is the symbol that our subconscious has turned to other sources of authority for our private decisions and our churchly deliberations. Biblical theology is still taught in the seminary classroom but has little use elsewhere. It has been a long time since I have heard even the prooftext use of Scripture in debate over a church decision.

The Bible has become not only the "unread best seller" in America; it has also become the unused rule of faith and practice in Baptist churches and conventions.

I do not have any big ideas to solve this subtle and devastating deterioration within our denomination. I have a little idea, but even it is expensive. I want to put a Bible in every pew rack in the Seminary chapel, so that students, faculty, and staff can be called upon to read from it responsively and in unison, or silently along with the worship leader. Do you know of anyone with some of the Lord's money available to invest in 750 Bibles? Maybe you would rather replace the visitor's cards and some of the hymnbooks with a Bible in the pew racks of your own church. That is really what I want to teach Seminary students by putting Bibles in the Seminary chapel.

DUKE K. McCALL, President

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
Louisville, Ky.

(Editor's Note: Mr. Cooper is also president of the Southern Baptist Convention)