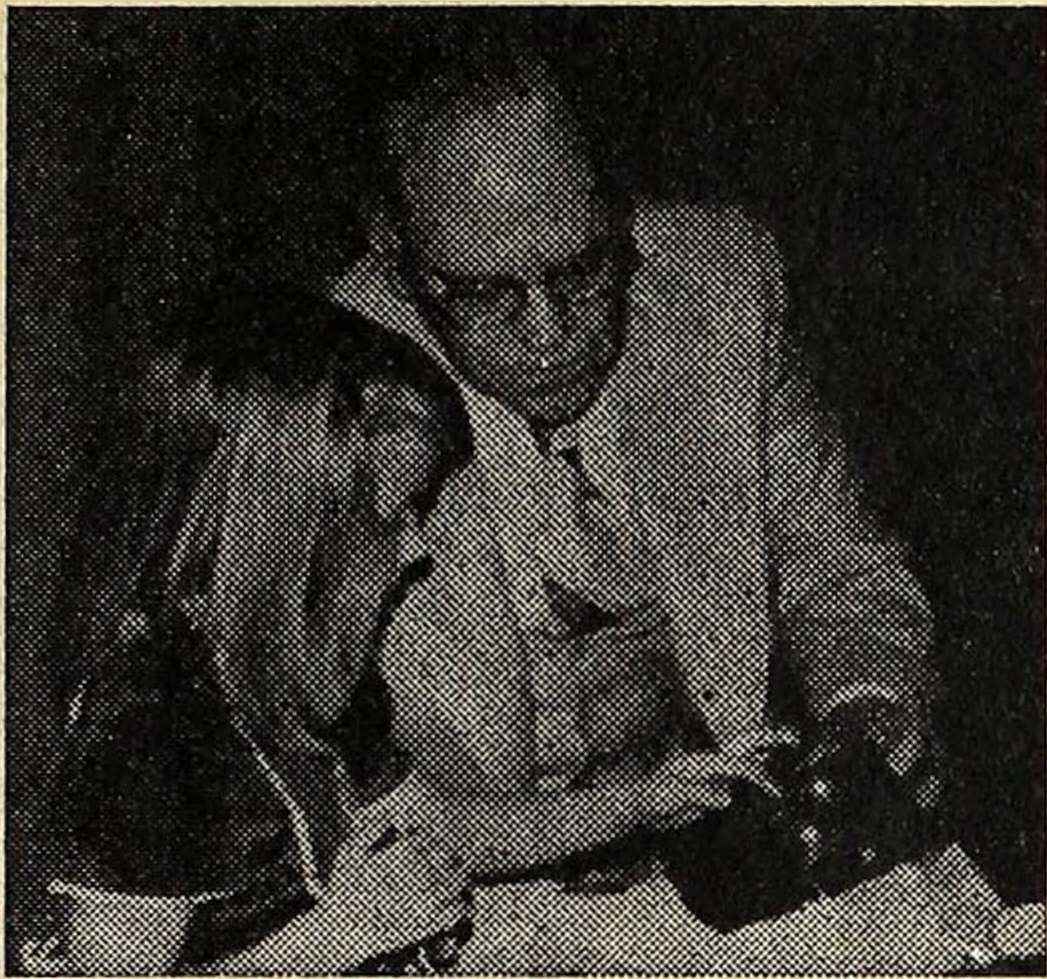


Baptist And Reflector

Vol. 141 / Thursday, December 18, 1975 / No. 51

News-Journal Of Tennessee Baptist Convention

Charles Norton Honored At Retirement Luncheon



Charles Norton, retiring director of the Church Training Dept., Tennessee Baptist Convention, shows his granddaughter, Ashley Norton, a gift presented to him from TBC employees. Norton was honored at a luncheon.

Baptist Property Damaged; Beirut Missionaries Unhurt

BEIRUT, Lebanon—Southern Baptist missionaries remaining in this violence-torn city are still uninjured, though a Baptist church and a missionaries' apartment have been damaged in two separate bombings.

The A & P Store across the street from the apartment of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Trimble was bombed, and damage was done to the front of their apartment, according to James K. Ragland, missionary in Beirut. The Trimbles were in the back of the house at the time and were not hurt. They had recently returned to Lebanon from a brief evacuation to Jordan.

The Baptist church in Tripoli, North of Beirut, was bombed on a recent Friday evening. Doors and windows were damaged. No one was injured.

The Baptist seminary is still open, and no Baptist-owned mission property has been seriously damaged. The Baptist school opened for a few days, then closed again.

Ragland reported the western part of the city, where the Baptist school is located and where he lives, is noisy, "like World War II" and "things are quite critical." Ragland urged prayer for the missionaries in Beirut.

Missionaries remaining in Beirut are the Finlay Grahams, the David Kings, William O. Hern, the Trimbles and Ragland, plus two volunteers, Miss Isabelle McLelland and Mrs. Ann Pfaender. (BP)

Staff members of the Tennessee Baptist Convention board building in Brentwood honored Charles Norton, director, Church Training Dept., TBC, at a retirement luncheon. Norton will retire Dec. 31 after having served in the position for 33 years.

Master of ceremonies for the occasion was Jonas Stewart, executive director-treasurer, Tennessee Baptist Foundation. Various members of the staff portrayed aspects of Church Training programs dating back to the B.Y.P.U. era.

Members of the staff presented a digital quartz watch to Norton in appreciation for his service. Presentation of the gift was by Ralph Norton, brother to Charles, and executive secretary-treasurer of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. Theme for the luncheon was "Loyal, Faithful, and True."

Two Memphis Bookstore Workers Retire

Two employees of the Memphis Baptist Bookstore retired this year with a combined tenure of service of over 50 years.

Mrs. Irene Ross retired after 29 years of service as office supervisor. A member of the LaBelle Haven Church in Memphis, she is also church librarian.

Mrs. Elizabeth Hawke, a member of Bellevue Church, retired after 23 years of service as office clerk A.

Both ladies were honored with a gift on their retirement, according to Charles McGlocklin, manager of the Memphis stores.

Coming Events

Jan. 5-9—At Home Week, Executive Board Building, TBC, Brentwood.

Jan. 11—Witness Commitment Day

Jan. 16-17—Music Faculty Retreat, Fairfield Glade, Crossville.

Jan. 16-18—International Student Conference, Cumberland Mountain State Park, Crossville.

Jan. 19-20—State Evangelism Conference, Belmont Heights Baptist Church, Nashville.

Jan. 20—Laymen's Night, Belmont Heights Baptist Church, Nashville.

Jan. 23—Church Building Conference, Holston Associational Office Building, Johnson City.

Jan. 23—Reaching People Through Recreation Workshop, Broadmoor Baptist Church, Memphis.

Jan. 25—Baptist Men's Day.

Jan. 26—Sunday School Associational Officers' Clinic, Brainerd Church, Chattanooga.

Jan. 26—Southwestern Regional Associational Officers' Banquet, Brownsville.

Jan. 27—Sunday School Associational Officers' Clinic, West Hills Church, Knoxville.

Jan. 27—Northwestern Regional Associational Officers' Banquet, First Baptist Church, Paris.

Jan. 29—South Central Regional Associational Officers' Banquet, First Baptist Church, Fayetteville.

Jan. 30—Central Regional Associational Officers' Banquet, Executive Board Building, TBC, Brentwood.

This issue is the last for 1975. The next issue of BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR will appear January 1, 1976.

The entire staff of BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR expresses sincere appreciation for your prayers, interest, cooperation and support of Tennessee Baptists during 1975.

At this Season, we extend to each reader sincere best wishes for a good Christmas in the Spirit of Christ. We wish for each reader a Happy and Fruitful New Year in His service.

BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR STAFF

Concerning The Spirituals

By Herschel H. Hobbs

"Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant."—1 Corinthians 12:1

In the coming weeks I want us to spend time looking at 1 Corinthians 12-15. This body of scripture deals with matters of vital interest to Christians today.

In 1 Corinthians Paul is dealing with problems which plagued the church in Corinth. In chapters 1-11 he treats the problems which relate more to the flesh: e.g. division over loyalty to preachers, sexual problems, Christians suing one another in pagan courts, the matter of eating meat offered to idols, and abuses concerning the Love Feast and the Lord's Supper. Then he deals with more spiritual matters or problems related thereto.

In 12:1 he notes this change of emphasis by the phrase, "Now concerning the spirituals." "Gifts" is not in the Greek text. "Spiritual" is plural preceded by the definite article. "Concerning" (*peri*) may also read "about." So this may well be translated, "Now about the spiritual matters." While in chapters 12-14 Paul centers on the problems growing out of gifts of the Holy Spirit, this phrase may also include chapter 15. There

the apostle deals with another spiritual matter—faith or the lack of it in the bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ and the consequential effect upon the Christian hope. That this seems to be a valid position is seen in the fact that chapters 12-15 do deal with strictly spiritual matters. Following this block he spends chapter 16 promoting an offering for the relief of the saints in Jerusalem and dealing with personal matters.

Paul has dealt at length with the more fleshly problems. Now he turns to the spiritual ones. He says, "I do not wish you to be ignorant" concerning the spiritual matters. The word rendered "ignorant" is a present infinitive (*agnoein*). From it comes the English word "agnostic." In modern thought this word implies one of superior intellect who refuses to exercise faith in spiritual matters. He does not **know**, so he does not **believe**. The Greek word does mean a lack of knowledge. But it does not refer to superior intellect. Such a person simply lacks knowledge. In modern parlance, we would call him an **ignoramus**! So one should be careful in claiming to be an agnostic.

Fresh out of paganism the Corinthian Christians knew little about the deeper things of the Spirit (1 Cor. 3:1-3). But sadly the same lack of spiritual knowledge exists today. As then, it still plagues the body of Christ. Prayerfully, therefore, let us approach this study in the coming weeks.

Tennessee Churches Report 64% On High Attendance Day

Responding to a Southern Baptist high attendance goal day in Sunday School last month, Tennessee churches reported 333,209 attending, or 64 percent of the total Sunday School enrollment of the Baptist churches in the state, according to Wendell Price, state Sunday School director.

Nearly 3,000 Sunday Schools in the state were represented in the count, and 67 out of 68 associations made an attendance report.

Price stated that those attending Sunday School in Hardeman County Association reached 71 percent of their goal with 2,669 present. Sullivan Association had every church reporting. Others excelling were Gibson Association with 7,627, Robertson Association with 4,000, Weakley Association with 3,690, and Lawrence Association, going over its goal with 3,390 present. William Carey Association was minus its goal by three persons.

The 1976 High Attendance Day emphasis is scheduled for Oct. 31.

Service Corp. Directors Elect Madden Chairman

Members of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Baptist Service Corp. met in Brentwood earlier this month and re-elected Tom Madden, pastor, Tullahoma First Church, as chairman of the board.

Ralph McIntyre, pastor, Chattanooga Brainerd Church, was elected vice-chairman, and Ed Meier, Memphis, was elected secretary.

Amon Swanger, Chattanooga, L. B. Jennings, Tullahoma, Ken Ross, Brentwood, and Tom Patton, Jackson, were welcomed as new directors, three of which were added by the Tennessee Baptist Convention to increase the number to 18.

Executive director Gene Kerr presented the annual report. Announcement was made that an option had been secured on property near Belmont College in Nashville for a retirement complex. Earl Swensson & Associates was selected as architects to develop plans for the project. Other action included progress reports on Holly Oaks Retirement Village, a project in Jackson, and the appointment of committees to serve for the coming year.

Gaye McGlothlen, Nashville, was selected as chairman of the Executive Committee.

Tennessee Baptist Service Corp. was organized as an institution of the Tennessee Baptist Convention in 1974.



BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR

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News-Journal of Tennessee Baptist Convention
Ralph E. Norton, Executive Secretary-Treasurer

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE: O. M. Dangeau, Raymond Boston, James A. Canaday, George E. Capps Jr., R. Paul Caudill, John R. Churchman, H. Eugene Cotey, Wade E. Darby, Larry Duke, James G. McCluskey, Gaye L. McGlothlen, J. Ralph McIntyre, Carroll C. Owen, Virgil Peters, Clarence K. Stewart, and Keith Wilson.

Pulpit To Pew

By Jim Griffith

A little girl named Virginia wrote a letter to her pastor, asking: "Please tell me the truth, is there really a Jesus?"

The reply, though not a classic, focuses on a great truth: Yes, Virginia, there really is a Jesus. Don't let the skepticism of a skeptical age confuse you. His birth is celebrated on December 25 and His name is Jesus Christ, the Saviour.

And Virginia, as surely as churches, homes, hospitals—and even prisons—observe this greatest of all birthdays, there is a Jesus.

As long as gospel sermons are preached and faithful people sing, "Joy to the World, the Lord is Come," there is a Jesus. In fact, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else so real and abiding.

But, Virginia, remember this: if you want to know more about the reality of Jesus, look above the tinsel on your Christmas tree and see the Star of Bethlehem—the Star that will point you to the Saviour who is Christ the Lord.

Survey Profiles Southern Baptist Education Ministers

By Michael D. Chute

NASHVILLE—A profile report of Southern Baptist ministers of education reveals that the majority are responsible for church work other than education, worked full time in a secular job prior to their present position, and earn under \$10,000 annually.

Three fourths of 353 ministers of education, responding to a survey of a statistical sample taken from a list of 2,500 Southern Baptist ministers of education report they are responsible for other areas of work besides education.

The 353 ministers of education represent 73 percent of the statistical sample surveyed by the research services department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

And about three fourths of the respondents to the questionnaire said they had secular employment before their present church work. Nearly 40 percent worked in secular positions 10 or more years, with 26 percent having worked between 10 and 19 years.

More than half the respondents reported annual salaries of less than \$10,000, excluding rental allowance, car allowance, or fringe benefits, if they receive such benefits. Approximately one fourth reported salaries between \$10,000 and \$11,999. Nearly 12 percent earn \$12,000 to \$13,999; and 11 percent have annual salaries of \$14,000 or more.

As expected, the survey showed that ministers of education are concentrated in the larger churches. Although about two thirds of all Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) churches have under 300 members, less than one percent of those churches have a minister of education.

On the other hand, only 14 percent of all SBC churches have a membership of 2,000 or over, and 96 percent of these larger churches have a minister of education.

Other approximations made from the survey indicate that seven percent of the churches with 300-999 members have a minister of education; and 59 percent of churches with a membership of 1,000-1,999 have an educational director.

In a surprising finding, nearly 14 percent of the respondents indicated they have been members of another denomination. Of the denominations represented, almost one third were Methodist. Presbyterian and other Baptist denominations accounted for about 15 percent each.

Among the reasons for becoming a Southern Baptist, more than one half said they

"felt that Baptist beliefs were more biblically accurate." One fourth felt they "were not saved" while a member of the other denomination. Approximately 15 percent believe their ministry in the other denomination was "not in God's will."

Fifty percent of the ministers of education responding to the survey have served on a church staff fewer than 10 years. More than three fourths have served under 20 years.

Educational directors currently serving their first or second church total 44 percent. Another 40 percent have served three to five churches. Eleven percent have ministered to between six and nine churches, and three percent have served 10 or more churches.

Based on the survey, slightly more than

half of the approximately 2,500 ministers of education serving the SBC's 34,734 churches are ordained.

Other data shows that fewer than seven percent of the ministers of education are women, and only seven percent are single. Fewer than one percent are widowed. Nearly one half of educational directors' wives work outside the home.

The report shows that ministers of education cover a wide age span, with little difference occurring between 5-year intervals covering 25-54 years of age. However, one third of the ministers of education are in the 30-39 age group.

Eleven percent of the respondents reported fewer than 16 years of formal education. Another 11 percent reported exactly 16 years, including a high school and college education. More than one fourth have completed at least two years of graduate work and nearly one fifth said they have completed 20 or more years of schooling.

According to the survey, approximately 70 percent of those continuing their education past high school hold at least a bachelor's degree, with 40 percent earning a master of religious education degree. (BP)



Members of Winchester First Church held dedication services for their new facilities recently. The \$260,000 structure was built by Rush Engineering & Construction Co., and was drawn up by John Preston Associates Architects. The sanctuary seats 450. Stained glass from the old building was used in the new structure, according to pastor Robert E. Hammer.

It Was Good To Go Home

Our church back home doesn't have a homecoming every year.

There was a homecoming here because Whitesburg Baptist Church was observing its 190th anniversary.

Folks came from as far away as Texas for the homecoming—a worship service in the morning, a huge covered-dish luncheon in the school cafeteria next door, and an afternoon program with pastor Henry Davidson.

I went home to Whitesburg, too, for the homecoming. I wanted to go for several reasons. My parents are active members there, and besides, that old church has always been something special to me. It was, after all, my church home during my "growing up" years, and I've spent many satisfying hours worshipping there.

As I sat in the sanctuary on homecoming morning, I found myself remembering stories of how our church was established as Bent Creek Baptist Church. It's the third oldest Baptist church in Tennessee, having been organized in June of 1785.

Those of us who grew up in Whitesburg Baptist knew something of the rich history of our church. We had visited often the grave of Tidence Lane—one of the church's founders—near a large "bottomless" spring on the farm just outside of Whitesburg now owned by Harrison Horner, present-day senior deacon.

In preparation for homecoming last month, Eva Russell, a Whitesburg resident, spent hour upon hour compiling a complete history of the church.

She started with the founding of the church at Bent Creek by Lane—a Maryland native who had organized two other Baptist churches in the Watauga settlement—and Elder William Murphy.

Minutes of Bent Creek Baptist Church, by the way, constitute the oldest recorded history of the people in what is now Hamblen County.

In her history, Russell describes the area in 1785 as "a primitive wilderness with wild beasts and Indian trails around." Coming to establish homes was a group of Scotch-Irish, English and German settlers, many with land grants for their service in the war for independence.

At first, the settlers met in homes to worship. Later, they began gathering under a large tree near the Bent Creek burying ground.

Another preaching place was on the bank of Bent Creek—under a large elm tree, said to have a 300-foot limb spread—where the Baptists met once a month, on a Saturday and Sunday. The site is on the farm owned today by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bush, active members of Whitesburg Baptist.

On May 1, 1810, William Horner, first deacon of Bent Creek Church, deeded two acres of land on which to build a church and establish a graveyard.

By Jerry Kirk

Soon a church—of hand-hewn logs—was built on the old stage road near the graveyard. For 67 years, it was used as a house of worship and also doubled for a time as a schoolhouse for the settlement. An additional two acres of land, including a roadway to the cemetery, was deeded to the church in 1827.

In 1850, membership in Bent Creek numbered 50, and during the Civil War, work was carried on by the church with the pastor, Thomas J. Lane, preaching to soldiers of both armies.

Armies roamed the territory during the war, guarding the railroad. A skirmish was fought on the site of the cemetery, and soldiers were buried there in unmarked graves.

Bent Creek Church had a membership of 96 at the close of the war.

With the coming of the railroad in 1856, the center of activity for the settlement began to move to the village of Whitesburg.

That set the stage for building the present Whitesburg Baptist Church structure, although a small group worshiped at times in the old log building at Bent Creek until 1877.

Construction of the new two-story brick structure in Whitesburg was a joint venture of the Baptists and members of the Masonic Lodge. The church and lodge shared in the cost and use of the facility, and to this day, the Masons still meet on the top floor of the building.

The lot on which the church stands—on Highway 11-E in the center of Whitesburg—was purchased in 1872 for \$75. The build-

Franklin Man Receives Top Belmont Honor

A Tennessee Baptist Children's Home employee became the twelfth recipient of Belmont College's alumnus of the year award in ceremonies this month.

Clifton (Cliff) Allen McClendon III, assistant superintendent and director of cottage life at the Franklin Baptist Children's Home, received the award. A 1960 graduate of Belmont, he is married to the former Martha Hudson and is the father of two sons, Matthew and Craig.

McClendon is an active member of Belmont Heights Church in Nashville where he serves as deacon and teaches a class of high school boys.

In addition to the award given McClendon, the 2400-member Belmont College Alumni Association bestowed honorary membership on nine persons at homecoming, including:

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Horrell, Nashville, chairman board of trustees; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hitner, Nashville, board of trustees; Mrs. Martha McKay, Nashville, retired dormitory hostesses; Mrs. Evelyn McCullough, Nashville, retired faculty member; Dr. Thomas J. Trimble, Missouri, former faculty member; Irvin Limor, Nashville, architect; and Miriam Robinson, North Carolina, retired faculty member.

Gary Anderson, of Lawrenceburg, Tenn., was installed as president of the alumni association. George A. West III, of Brentwood, is president-elect.

ing itself was built by William Dean, a Union veteran who burned the brick in a kiln located "on a red clay hill above the village."

The name of the church was changed to Whitesburg Baptist in 1875.

During the time that the building has been standing, members of Whitesburg Baptist Church have worked hard to improve and maintain their place of worship. For example, the men built a spire on top before the turn of the century, and in 1921, when the church got electricity, the women raised the \$20 needed for its installation and also purchased the fixtures.

The sanctuary was packed for the homecoming services. I was comfortable, sitting on the padded pew in the beautiful air-conditioned sanctuary. As I listened to Mrs. Pauline Pangle play the electric organ, I glanced up to see the antique kerosene lamps which still hang in the large windows of the sanctuary.

It was then that I got a special feeling. A feeling, perhaps, of assurance—that in this old church exists a special spiritual bond. And I believe that the same hand which gathered a few pioneers under a large elm tree on Bent Creek nearly two centuries ago has been guiding the following generations of worshippers and their church ever since.

I'm glad I was a part of it.

Executive Board Holds December Meeting

The Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention met in its annual December meeting in Brentwood last week.

Acting on a recommendation from the Tennessee Baptist Program Committee, executive board members voted approval of a motion for distribution of the 1975 Cooperative Program overage totaling \$615,336.35 on a 75%-25% basis to TBC and SBC causes, respectively. The 75 percent distribution for TBC would amount to \$461,502.26, and the 25 percent for SBC, \$153,834.09.

Disbursement of the funds in Tennessee would include the following: \$20,000 to Tennessee Baptist Missionary and Education

Convention (Black) for help toward the construction of a new headquarters building in Nashville; \$5,000 to Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes Inc.; \$50,000 to Union University toward erection of new campus; \$125,000 capital for camps; \$35,000 budget overexpenditure for camps; \$20,000 University of Tennessee Student Center renovation; \$1,000 for Cooperative Program Support Forum film for use at 1976 Southern Baptist Convention in Norfolk; \$88,365 to Carson-Newman College; \$49,320 to Belmont College; \$49,320 to Union University; and \$18,497.26 to Harrison-Chilhowee Academy.

Action resulting from a recommendation from the Public Affairs and Christian Life Committee was the approval of a motion that the Tennessee Baptist Convention receive a free-will offering through its churches for World Hunger Relief, and that all monies received in the offering from the churches be channeled to the Foreign Mission Board to be used by our missionaries.

Regarding the work of the Public Affairs and Christian Life Committee, a substitute motion by Wade Darby, pastor, Jefferson City First Church, called for consideration by the Administrative Committee of the feasibility of creating a Christian Life Commission. Darby's motion, which was approved, was offered in lieu of a recommendation from the Public Affairs and Christian Life Committee which called for the director of the Convention Ministries Division to assume responsibility of implementing the work of the committee.

A motion also passed calling for the Public Affairs and Christian Life Committee to stay abreast of developments within and without Tennessee which are of concern to Tennessee Baptists and to call attention to social issues not in harmony with the Lordship of Christ so that the Tennessee Baptist Convention could take a stand or make a contribution to a public issue.

The Church Building and Loan Committee which served last year was re-appointed by Ralph Norton, executive secretary-treasurer of the TBC. The committee members include: Norton, William Delaney, John Adams, James Owen, and Jonas Stewart, chairman. Leslie Baumgartner serves as advisor to the committee.

In accordance with action of the Tennessee Baptist Convention in November, the Administrative Committee, acting as a study committee, recommended that regarding the fiscal year of the Convention, we operate from Nov. 1 until the adoption of the new budget, on the budget of the previous year, with the budget retroactive to Nov. 1. The motion was approved.

Also passed was a recommendation that

Devotional

Don't Put Christ In Christmas

By Dwain Bouldin

How many times this season have you heard someone say, "It's getting harder and harder to put Christ in Christmas"? We may long for the days gone by when this didn't seem to be the case. Remember when Christmas was homemade decorations and handmade gifts? Recall the fascination of a simple orange or a candy cane? The house smelled of spices and pine. The true meaning of Christmas seemed to permeate the air. Things are not what they used to be.

And yet, some people are keenly aware of Christ's presence during this season even though times have changed. What answer would they give to the ones who ask how to put Christ back in Christmas?

Perhaps they might suggest MEDITATION. But cars roar and horns blow. Kids fuss. Stereos blare. The world clatters on, and our meditation is interrupted.

Then maybe the answer is to search more diligently for PEACE. But even the women at the neighborhood coffee have their falling outs. Employees rise up against bosses. Nations are still at war.

Well, what then? RELAXATION! Just take it easy. But the pressures bombard us from every side. School parties, office parties, church buffets, parades, shopping. . . go, go, go! Heads ache. Nerves are tense. Fatigue saps our strength, and escape seems impossible.

A return to TRADITION might help to regain the spirit of Christmas. But so many traditions have been shattered. Carols have a rock beat. The trees are artificial. We could still send Christmas cards, but the postage is out of sight!

So, what is the answer? Must we continue to be frustrated, disillusioned because there is no way to "put Christ back in Christmas"? Certainly not! This would deny us the joy that God has promised. So let's consider this: Don't put Christ just in Christmas—keep him in your life everyday. The presence of Christ need not be determined by what goes on in the world around us if he is in our hearts. Make him the center of your life everyday of 1976, and you'll surely find him in the Christmas season!

Note: Mrs. Bouldin is the wife of Don Bouldin, pastor of First Church, Columbia.

tenure recognition of Executive Board employees at the annual session of the convention be limited to those who have served 20 years or longer. Recognition will continue to be given at the Executive Board meetings, however.

The meeting was presided over by Executive Board president John Churchman, Morristown.

Religious Artist Slated For Evangelism Conference



W. Karl Steele, religious artist, will draw his "wordless sermon" at the State Evangelism Conference, Jan. 19-20, 1976. The conference will be held in the Belmont Heights Baptist Church, Nashville. Steele will begin each of the five sessions with his Gospel through Art.

Steele draws with a direct, decisive technique in glowing color, creating breathtaking, dramatic effects. The special light-reflecting chalk causes his pictures to take on a fiery brilliance when a special invisible ray spotlight is flashed on them as he completes the picture. Using chalk for his language and canvas for his pulpit, he presents an inspiring sermon. The drawing is synchronized with a musical accompaniment of voice and instrument.

Steele has been director of art at Wheaton College, Wheaton, Ill., for 25 years. His sermons in color have been a popular feature at conventions, concerts, evangelistic services and city-wide crusades.

M.D.--'Lord Closed Eye So I Could See Better'

By Jim Newton
For Baptist Press

Dr. Sam Cannata didn't think much about it at the time. A small Rhodesian boy had coughed—just once—while the medical missionary was examining sores in the youngster's mouth.

That one cough cost Dr. Cannata, Southern Baptist missionary, the sight in his left eye but, he says, actually changed his life for the better.

The child had Herpes Virus that causes ulcers in the mouth, not usually a serious disease.

But the virus entered the missionary's eye, causing an infection. As the weeks passed the infection grew worse, and three months later there was a secondary infection. Dr. Cannata spent nine days in a Rhodesian hospital, as the infection grew still worse.

The missionary doctor flew to his hometown of Houston for specialized treatment at the Texas Medical Center and Methodist Hospital where a team of specialists worked six weeks to save his eyesight.

The infection in his right eye healed, but he lost the sight of his left eye. "The Lord closed my eye so I could see better," Dr. Cannata now philosophizes. The eye itself healed, Dr. Cannata says, but it doesn't see.

While he was recuperating, "I looked back over my life and I didn't like what I saw," he recalled. After his eye had "healed", the doctor and his wife, Ginny, went to San Francisco for the 1962 Southern Baptist Convention.

"There, God convicted us of our sins, and we confessed how critical and jealous we had been of other missionaries and nationals. God forgave us and filled us with real joy," Dr. Cannata said, "but he also convicted us to confess our sins to another missionary couple whom we had criticized most."

When they walked into the Cow Palace the next morning, the first persons they met were the missionaries they had criticized. The two couples ate lunch together and, "Finally, we reached up and pulled off the masks we were hiding behind and confessed how critical we had been . . ." Then they asked their missionary friends to forgive them.

"They forgave us and asked us to forgive them. It was a tearful, yet joyous experience," Dr. Cannata said.

Learned How To Die To Self

"We learned a little that day," he added, "how to die to self. We learned a little who we are and who God is. And we learned who we can be if we will allow his spirit to fill our lives and take control."

Dr. Cannata's main thrust as a medical missionary is to the rural areas where he treats people in small villages who otherwise would have no medical care. He operates from a base government health center at Mehal Meda, about 100 miles from Addis Ababa, the Ethiopian capital.

The clinic was built for \$12,000 with Lottie Moon Christmas Offering funds (for foreign missions) and was given to the community. It was turned over to the government which staffs the clinic with qualified personnel.

Dr. Cannata is not on the official staff but works at the clinic where he enjoys an excellent relationship with government health officials.

Four days each week, the missionary boards a Missionary Aviation Fellowship airplane and flies to four different rural clinics to provide simple treatment. He holds medical clinics at eight different villages in Ethiopia, driving to the others in a Land Rover ambulance.

There are no expensive buildings in the Ethiopian mobile clinic ministry. Rather, there is a simple basic clinic at Tasi-Tsina, about 10 miles from Mehal Meda, where Dr. Cannata stocks most of his medical supplies. He carries only a minimum of medical equipment and supplies to the remote areas and said he can treat about 95 percent of the medical problems adequately.

Most of the medical problems include, for example, skin diseases, eye problems, gastritis, parasites, venereal disease, pneumonia and virus infections, and malaria (in the low areas).

The Menz District is in the highlands of central Ethiopia where the altitude is about 10,000 feet. It has a cold climate, averaging 20 to 40 degrees at night.

Dr. Cannata's work in the clinics is part of one of the most comprehensive community development programs operated by Southern Baptist missionaries.

The total approach in the Menz district includes the work of a medical doctor, three agricultural missionaries, a veterinarian, and a team of field evangelists.

The team has sought to not only meet medical needs, but to improve the quality of stock raised by the Menz people, teach the people a trade and provide new markets for the rugs and other products they produce, and help the people help themselves.

Bible Study Provided

The missionaries have also worked closely

Church Gives \$25,000 For Dobbins Chair At Seminary

BIRMINGHAM—Shades Mountain Baptist Church in Birmingham has pledged \$25,000 toward the endowment of the Gaines S. Dobbins Chair of Church Administration at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

The gift, which will be paid at the rate of \$5,000 per year out of the church's budget over the next five years, brings the total pledged to the chair's endowment fund to about \$275,000. That's \$75,000 short of the total needed.

The church, where the well-known Southern Baptist pioneer in theological education has been a member since 1966, presented a plaque to Dobbins at the announcement of the gift, expressing appreciation for his life and influence.

Dobbins, 89, is still active, currently teaching future ministers at Southern Seminary's Boyce Bible School. He served on the seminary's faculty, and later as dean, from 1920-56, before retiring. For several years after retirement, he taught at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif. (BP)

with the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, providing Bible study in the Amharic language in which many priests in the Orthodox church have participated.

Although Ethiopia is a country where drought and hunger are at their worst, the area affected is not near the Menz district.

Dr. Cannata holds one of his flying clinics in the Shenkora District, which is on the edge of the drought area. The most affected area, Dr. Cannata said, is in the eastern and southern regions of Ethiopia closest to the Sahara Desert.

Neither have Baptist ministries in Ethiopia been affected by the political upheaval in Ethiopia, because as Dr. Cannata said, "The new government has been very much impressed with our work and what we are doing to try to help the people."

That dedication to helping was illustrated a few years ago when Dr. Cannata examined the eye of an eight-year-old boy named Temba from the village of Ararti. Temba had been throwing stones with some friends, when a rock accidentally hit him in the eye.

Dr. Cannata examined the eyes and took several stitches. A week later, he returned to examine the eye, hoping and praying there would be no infection. As he removed the bandage, he breathed a sigh of relief. The eye was healing.

Missionary Jerry Bedsole, the veterinarian on the missions team, was standing at his side as Dr. Cannata removed the bandage from Temba's eye.

"Good work, Sam," he exclaimed. "You have given this boy what you yourself do not have—two good eyes!"

In Search Of The King

By Dr. Robert O. Byrd
Asst. Prof. of Religion
Belmont College, Nashville, Tennessee

Bible Material: Matthew 1:8-2:23

During a recent visit with a friend, a small plaque on the wall caught my attention. The words on it read, "IF YOU'RE NOT WORRIED, YOU JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND THE SITUATION." In the ancient world there seems to have been widespread hope for a deliverer who would change their situation. Our generation may not be looking for a king to get us out of trouble, but that does not mean that we need no help with our problems. Many thoughtful people feel that our human difficulties are so great that we need to become concerned enough to search for help. This lesson suggests three unproductive ways of seeking help and one potentially productive approach.

They Knew The Stars

Although the Wise Men even have been given names by church tradition, almost nothing is known directly about their specific identity or origin. Even their usually accepted number of three is drawn from the number of gifts which are mentioned (2:11) in Matthew's account. Although Magi are mentioned rarely by writers of antiquity, they were mentioned sufficiently for us to identify some of their characteristics. In the East they were often linked with royalty, and as a matter of fact some claim that they were themselves kings. It is more important for us to know about their two chief functions. They were said to be skillful in the interpretation of dreams and the knowledge of the heavenly bodies. Both of these activities are demonstrated by the Wise Men in Matthew's birth narrative.

There is every indication that these Wise Men had an accurate comprehension of the activities of the stars. But their knowledge of the stars themselves was not adequate to bring them to a successful conclusion of their search. In this time when many people have developed a fascination with and commitment to astrology as the key to life, there is the need to be aware of its inadequacies. The study of the heavenly bodies can never reveal the real meaning of life nor lead anyone to the Lord of life.

He Knew Politics

No doubt the politics of the Roman

Empire, and in particular those of Herod the Great, would seem brutal and harsh to modern Americans. However, no ruler could remain in power very long in that world without having an effective, if not compassionate, approach to his governing activities. Two things may be said about Herod. First of all, he ruled for thirty-six years, which is evidence that he possessed a practical, if perverse, understanding of how to remain in power. Second, Herod's reign could never be described as compassionate. For Herod was a man who lived in constant fear that someone would take his authority. As a consequence of this fear he was quick to use the technique of assassination to rid himself of any threat, real or imaginary. Herod was responsible, among many others, for the death of his favorite wife and several of his own sons. It does not take much imagination to believe that such a tyrant would resort to the slaying of the infants in the small city of Bethlehem.

The experience of Jesus with Herod should serve as a reminder that power and politics do not possess the answer to the problems of the world. Government is certainly a human necessity, but those who hope for a political solution to the hurts of humanity are as doomed to disappointment in the twentieth century as they were in the first.

Herod was searching for this king because of fear. Herod became king by intrigue and brutality and he was afraid of one who was "born king of the Jews" (2:2). Herod sought the king only to destroy him.

They Knew The Scripture

In the course of the events described in this lesson, the chief priests and scribes were assembled for the purpose of informing Herod and the Wise Men "where the Christ was to be born" (2:4). These religious leaders specialized in the study of scripture, and they knew its content. However, their knowledge was limited to the data that the scripture gave and did not include the reality behind the facts. Since these scribes knew the details of their scripture, they were able to inform Herod and the Wise Men where to find the one "born King of the Jews." The tragedy of it was that these people were able to instruct others concerning where to find the king, but they were unwilling themselves to make the journey. In a sense, these people could

search the scriptures but left it to someone else to search for their king.

We need constantly to be aware that an intellectual knowledge of the content of the Bible is not, of itself, sufficient to bring us to a full and meaningful life. There is certainly nothing wrong with learning the facts of scripture. It is more important to know the God of the scripture.

The End Of The Search: Personal Encounter

This lesson presented three different groups who were seeking a king. Herod sought the king in order to destroy him. The chief priests and scribes were willing to let someone else do their searching. It was only the Wise Men who reached the goal of their hunt. It was the Wise Men who risked going where the king was and who also found the joy of fulfillment and meaning in their search.

Pray that this Christmas Season will be made more blessed by our willingness to discover our Lord in some unusual and possibly some unexpected places.

1978 Youth Conference Planning Underway

WASHINGTON—The Executive Committee of the Baptist World Alliance (BWA) Youth Committee met in Arlington, Virginia, USA, in November for preliminary planning of the 9th Baptist Youth World Conference in 1978 at Hong Kong.

Robert S. Denny, BWA general secretary, will go to Hong Kong in January 1976 to discuss arrangements for the conference, expected to attract 5,000 youths. The proposed dates for the conference are July 9-13, 1978. The 8th Baptist Youth World Conference met in July-August 1974 at Portland, Oregon, USA.

The committee noted that about 30 per cent of the Hong Kong population is between 15 and 32 years of age. Hong Kong was the site of the First World Conference of Baptist Men in November 1974. David Y. K. Wong, BWA president, lives in Hong Kong.

Gerald Cooke, new chairman of the BWA youth executive committee, presided at the meetings in Arlington, near the BWA headquarters office in Washington. Cooke is associate secretary of the Department of Christian Education, Baptist Convention of Ontario and Quebec, Canada. He was assisted by Betty L. Smith, youth coordinator for the BWA staff.

Also attending the executive committee meeting were BWA associate secretaries Alan C. Prior of Australia, C. Ronald Goulding of England, Cyril E. Bryant of the USA, and Gerhard Claas of West Germany, associate secretary-elect. General Secretary Denny joined these officers in attending parts of the meeting.

The youth executive committee will meet in March for continued planning.

Helpful information about the Wise Men and Herod may be found in the Fall 1975 issue of *Sunday School Lesson Illustrator* which is published by the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Our People and Our Churches . . .

LEADERSHIP . . .

Calvin S. Metcalf is the new pastor of Central Church, Fountain City. He came to the field this month from Columbia, S.C., where he served as pastor of Eau Claire Church for nearly six years. Before going to Columbia, Metcalf served as pastor of churches in North Carolina and Elizabethton, Tenn. He is a graduate of Carson-Newman College and received the master and doctor of divinity degrees from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.



Metcalf

He serves as a writer for the Baptist Sunday School Board, having contributed to the Adult Teacher's Quarterly for the fall of 1977.

Jack Estey resigned as minister of music at Mill Creek Church, Nashville. Bob Lackey has been called to serve in the position as interim. Damon Corley is pastor.

Calvary Mission, Indian Creek Association, called Ed Gregory as pastor.

Philadelphia Church, Waynesboro, called Russell Flatt as pastor.

Johnny Bailey has been called as pastor of Cedar Grove Church, Iron City.

Oak Ridge Church, Waynesboro, called Charles Lipe as pastor.

Calvary Church, Sullivan Association, called Shafer Parker Jr. as minister of music and education. He will begin full-time duties in January.

Clayton Dunsmore has become full-time pastor at Union McMinn Church, McMinn Association.

Jamestown native Ron Owens has accepted the call to serve as pastor of New Salem Church, Limestone. A graduate of Tennessee Technological University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, he comes to the position from the pastorate of Fairmount Church, Fern Creek, Ky.

Richard C. Ashley has been called as pastor of Greene Hills Church, Greeneville. He is already on the field, coming from Mt. Pleasant Church, Hayesville, N.C.

PEOPLE . . .

Nashville's Gallatin Road Church ordained three men, Robert Schutt, Levi Brewington, and David Seay, as deacons. Lee Porter is interim pastor.

Sharon Church, Knoxville, ordained Bill Love as a deacon. James E. Robertson is pastor.

Tennessee native Preston Siler was named to Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges this year, representing Campbellsville College in Campbellsville, Ky. Born in Henderson, Siler is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Siler of McNairy. He is pastor of Mt. Roberts Church near Campbellsville, student government association vice president, and past president of the ministerial association.

Mrs. J. A. (Mary Lou) Stewart, long-time member of Fayetteville First Church, died recently at the age of 92. She was the oldest member of the church. Her brother-in-law, W. J. Stewart, served at one time as director of the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes. Funeral services for Mrs. Stewart were held in Fayetteville with Reuben Trussell officiating.

Brook Hollow Church, Nashville, ordained Emmett Wood as a deacon. John B. Daley is pastor.

East Union Church, Madison-Chester Association, ordained Emmett Dodd, Bergy Ervin, Grady Jones, Edward Lott, and Jimmy Stanford as deacons. Eldon Byrd, Union University, brought the ordination message. Thomas Lewis, director of missions, delivered the charge to the church and the charge to the candidates. This was the first ordination of deacons in the 15-year history of the church. Calvin Moore is pastor.

Etowah First Church ordained Lawrence E. Blair and Hubert Miller as deacons.

Burnis Smith was licensed to preach by the Cub Creek Hall Church, Beech River Association. Ed Tubbs is pastor.

Mr. and Mrs. P. E. Leigh, members of Park Avenue Church, Nashville, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Bob Mowrey is their pastor.

Richard H. Brown has been called to serve as director of properties and food services for Nashville First Church. He is responsible for supervising and giving direction to food services and maintenance of church properties. H. Franklin Paschall is pastor.

Baptist Medical Team Aids 4,500 Patients In Trinidad

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad—A team of three doctors, five dentists and five nurses saw over 4,500 patients during their recent two-week stay here, according to David L. Martin, Southern Baptist missionary.

They held six clinics and gave away thousands of dollars worth of medicines. The group was organized by Lawton Kiser, director of mission outreach at Wieuca Road Baptist Church, Atlanta, Ga. Most of the team came from the Wieuca Road church. Some also came from nearby towns.

Billy Bob Moore, Southern Baptist missionary pastor here, used the clinic to help strengthen his church. He held revival services during the first week of the clinic, climaxed by a youth rally on Saturday night. Professions of faith were made and unenlisted Baptists became identified with the church, according to Martin.

At each clinic, daily devotional services were held and tracts entitled "Did You Know?" telling about Baptists and Baptist churches were given to the patients.

"The people found out the doctors, dentists and nurses were doing the real thing," a woman said, "and they flocked to the clinics. People all around are still speaking of the wonderful work that those people of God did."

Ronald Dale Odom was ordained to the gospel ministry by Burt Church, Salem Association. Harry F. Nichols gave the charge to the church, and James C. Lassiter gave the charge to the candidate. Wade Campbell delivered the ordination sermon. Nichols is interim pastor.

Lincoya Hills Church, Nashville, ordained Leroy Verble as a deacon. The charge to the deacons was led by Bob Stone, and the charge to the church by Luke Morris. Pastor David Moore delivered the ordination sermon.

T. H. Darden, father-in-law of Grace Darden, stenographer, Church Training Dept., Tennessee Baptist Convention, died in Nashville Dec. 9. Funeral services were held from the Roesch-Patton, Dorris and Charlton Funeral Home in Nashville on Dec. 11. Franklin Paschall, pastor, First Church, officiated. Burial was at Woodlawn Cemetery.

Oak Hill Church, Holston Association, ordained J. S. Murray and Clarence Cutshall as deacons. Quinton Rose, pastor, presented the candidates to the church. James Harris, director of missions, brought the ordination sermon.

Angolan Refugees Flee Homeland--Begin Again

By Betty (Mrs. Curtis) Dixon
Southern Baptist Missionary

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa—It was with a sadness of heart that the Portuguese began their exodus from the war-torn country of Angola. The majority felt Angola was their land.

As the tensions of war began to mount in Angola last July, the exodus began. People were leaving by any means possible—air, ship or car—in order to escape the uncertainty of the future and the apparent certainty of civil war.

Many of the older people had been there the greater part of their adult lives. Most of the younger ones had been born in Angola. They had no desire to leave their homes to try to make a new life in another land.

A great many decided to journey south to South West Africa and South Africa, feeling they would rather be in a land with strangers, speaking a different language, than face the economic and political problems of the small country of Portugal.

As fighting spread into southern Angola, some left with only a few clothes, their family and car. Others took time to pack some of their most precious belongings, while those who had large trucks were able to bring out nearly all of their possessions. When the time came to settle in another country, many had to leave possessions behind and take only what regular air cargo would allow.

As they streamed across the border at a rate of several hundred per day, South West Africa had temporary camps set up for refugees not properly documented at the border. The refugees were then transferred to larger camps in South West Africa and South Africa.

Aided By South African Government

The South African government provided the people with food, shelter and medical

Editor's Note: Tennessee Baptists, we need to remember these missionaries and all those in the war-torn areas around the world in our prayers.

attention while trying to arrange proper documentation. They had to decide which of the refugees should be allowed to stay and work in South Africa, or perhaps go into Rhodesia, and which ones would be sent back to Portugal.

A number of Baptist families from the city of Nova Lisboa, Angola, were in two camps at Cullinan, about 100 kilometers (62 miles) from Johannesburg. Missionaries were able to visit them several times, taking food, tracts and Gospels of John to be distributed. Two of the men were deacons in the First Baptist Church of Nova Lisboa. One of the Portuguese pastors, with his family, was in the camps for a while. However, they were sent to Portugal because he had no church in South Africa.

One of the deacons, with his wife, their daughter and two grandchildren, had brought out a car and two trucks with most of their belongings. The daughter's husband had stayed behind in Nova Lisboa, with plans to come down later. They were able to convince the South African authorities not to make them return to Portugal until Curtis could return from Angola with news of the son-in-law.

They learned the son-in-law had gone directly to Portugal, and they left to join

him. Because they had to travel by air, all their possessions were left behind.

Families Divided

The other deacon and his family were hoping to stay in South Africa since he had a sister living there. Curtis was able to bring out some documents and papers to help them. They were turned down for South Africa, but were able to get a work permit for Rhodesia.

Another couple was in camp with two sons, a daughter-in-law, her twin sister and the sister's husband. The older couple was allowed to stay because the unmarried son got a work permit. The two young couples were sent back to Portugal.

It was a tremendous blessing to see the faith of these people, especially of the two deacons and families, as they talked of God's care for them and of having committed their future to Him and His will.

The camps are quickly being phased out. More than 7,000 Angolan refugees have been flown and shipped back to Portugal from South Africa since August. About 1,130 men, women and children have been granted permanent resident permits. In addition, 511 have been able to pay their own way to Brazil and Rhodesia.

There is a lonely feeling as one goes to some of the camps, now completely abandoned, and sees the empty tents and other evidences of the refugees having been there. Soon all signs of the camps will have disappeared. In our minds a certain nostalgia and sadness will linger for these people who were forced to leave the land they love.

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Franklin Church Begins Special Ministry To Children

By Bobbie Durham

If you were to ask a pastor for an example of a precious commodity related to his ministry, one of the first things he might say would be the commodity of time.

Time is priceless to a pastor. Like everyone else he has 24 hours in his day. But into that 24 hours he must squeeze studying, praying, visiting, witnessing, counseling, preaching, administering, and befriending. At home he must find time to be father, husband, and leader. He must take an active part in community life. On the denominational level he makes himself available to serve when called upon.

To do all of this a pastor must establish priorities. And Virgil Peters, pastor, Franklin First Church, did just that. Like any pastor, he had to ask himself what he could do, what he must do, and what could be put off until another time.

Special Ministry Sought

Earlier this year Peters decided that ministering to the children of his church was important to him. He sought a method of ministering to them in a special way, a way other than preaching to them on Sundays, waving to them in the halls of the church, or occasionally poking his head into their Sunday School classes.

So, the Franklin pastor started a rather unusual "Pastor's Pals Club." It was slated to be different from the run-of-the-mill club where they are pals in name only, or at best, where pastor and pal get together for a revival fellowship once a year.

This pastor's pals club was to be a unique, integral part of Peters' ministry and

an essential part of the development of the boys and girls.

Ranging from third through sixth grades, the "club" met once a week during the summer months, with Peters devoting the entire day to fellowship with the junior constituents. The schedule was flexible, Peters said, with emphasis on what the kids wanted to do. "The most important thing was that I got to know them personally, and that they got to know me," he said.

Fellowship, Study Included

Usually the morning began with a session at the church consisting of roll call and prayer. This was followed by a Bible study, film, character story, or study of some aspect of church life.

Following a sack lunch, the procession was led to various sites throughout the Nashville area. On one occasion, the group visited the Tennessee Baptist Board building in Brentwood and witnessed the work of the convention offices. Other education adventures included visits to the Cumberland Museum, the Parthenon, and a food packaging plant.

On days the group chose recreational activities, they experienced swimming, enjoying the facilities at Opryland U.S.A., indulging in dips of ice cream at a local ice cream parlor, and feasting at a hamburger shop.

Peters was assisted on the tours by his wife and four additional volunteers.

Relating what he had gained as a pastor by being with the children on an informal basis, Peters said that he felt he had grown to know the worth of the children and their

SBC Cooperative Program Exceeds 1974-75 Pace

NASHVILLE—With \$7.1 million contributed in the first two months of the 1975-76 fiscal year, the Southern Baptist Convention's national Cooperative Program unified budget is running 12.51 percent ahead of the same period last year.

Total contributions, including Cooperative Program and designated contributions, total more than \$8 million—a 12.71 percent increase, according to figures released by John Williams, director of financial planning and assistant to the treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee.

In November, the second month of the fiscal year, more than \$3.4 million was funneled through 33 state or regional Baptist conventions, with 34,734 churches in all 50 states. That's a 6.37 percent increase over more than \$3.2 million received in November of 1974.

Designated giving in November totaled \$456,880, running total contributions for the month to \$3.87 million, a 7.66 percent increase over \$3.59 million received in November, 1974. (BP)

families more than he had previously known. "I found out their needs, their assets, their desires, and their feelings. I also feel that there is better public relations between them and their church as a result of the program." He later recalled that, following a few sessions of the pastor's pals club, he had seen 12 of them sitting on the front row during a sermon.

Outreach Seen

He felt, also, that the children had gained a better knowledge of the work of the church, the association, and the state and Southern Baptist conventions. Another bonus to the activity was that the church witnessed to two families through the club. The families later began attending the Franklin church.

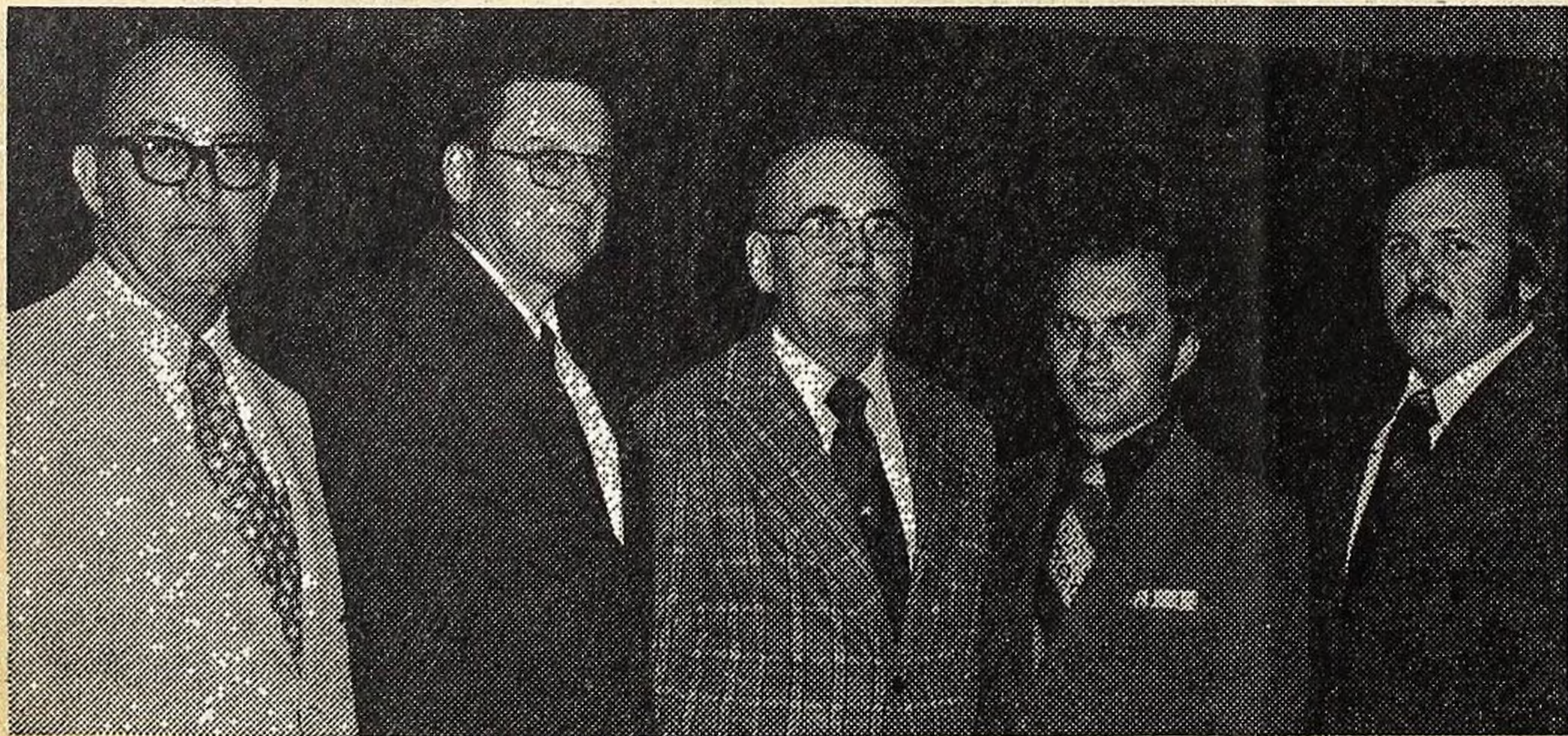
Those who participated in the club this year look forward to a similar "happening" in the years to come.

Chuck Fly, a fourth grader who was a member, said that he knew he would be a part of the fellowship next year. "Brother Peters was nice to do this for us. We all appreciated him for it. I enjoyed the sharing times best."

A fifth grader, Lisa Billings, expressed appreciation for the fellowship the group had and recalled that she learned a lot about "our church and God."

Many of the children wrote letters to Mr. and Mrs. Peters noting the value they received from the activities and studies.

Virgil Peters, when considering the ministry to the children, felt like a pastor of yesteryear, John Wesley, who said, "Though I am always in haste, I am never in a hurry." Virgil Peters was not in too big a hurry to take time for the children.



Pictured above with Shirley DeBell, left, director of missions for Shiloh Association are officers for 1975-76. Left to right are: Lauren Locke, pastor, Morris Chapel, treasurer; Tom Sanders, deacon, First Church, Bethel Springs, clerk; Paul Barkley, pastor, First Church, Adamsville, assistant moderator; and Abe Silliman Jr., pastor, Turkey Creek, moderator.

Minister Seized By Mob Talks Way To Freedom

WOODSTOCK, Va., January, 1772—Seldom has a minister preached with greater feeling or with better results than did John Koontz recently when he talked a mob out of hauling him away to jail.

Koontz, a Baptist evangelist, had arranged a religious meeting near here. But before he had begun his sermon a gang seized him, saying that they were taking him to prison. Anyone who preaches in Virginia without approval of the state church is subject to arrest for "disorderly conduct" or "disturbing the peace."

"Take heed what you do," Koontz warned his captors. "If I am a man of God, then you fight against God." One by one the mob desisted until Koontz was free.

He has not always been so fortunate. A gang attempted to break up a previous Baptist service conducted by the evangelist near Smith's Creek. When the congregation insisted Koontz be allowed to preach, the mob withdrew, warning him not to come back.

Koontz ignored the threat and soon returned for another service. A man hired by

the mob attacked the minister with a large cane, demanding that Koontz promise not

to return. When Koontz refused, his assailant beat him almost senseless, witnesses said. Koontz escaped one thrashing intended for him, however, A man allegedly hired to beat him entered a house occupied by the minister and one of his converts. Before the assailant could be persuaded he was attacking the wrong man, he beat the convert severely.

Observers said opposition only seemed to arouse Koontz's zeal. (BP)

Bible Puzzle Page

Answers On Page 13

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DOWN

- 1 It went out (1 Sam. 3:3)
- 2 "— heart was perfect" (1 Ki. 15)
- 3 December holiday
- 4 Fundamental
- 5 "about my Father's —" (Luke 2)
- 6 Father of the Arodites (Num. 26:17)
- 7 Gender: abbr.
- 8 More secure
- 9 Work unit
- 10 The Lip: baseball
- 11 He went with Jonathan (1 Sam. 20:35)
- 17 An age: Heb.
- 19 O.T. book: abbr.
- 21 Biblical pronoun
- 23 "and the herd ran — down" (Mark 5)
- 24 Land measure
- 25 Legal document
- 26 Lying in a manger (Luke 2:12)
- 27 Christian and others
- 28 O.T. book: abbr.
- 29 For anointing the eyes (Rev. 3:18)
- 33 Foot board measure: abbr.
- 35 Presently
- 36 Chap
- 38 Tower (Gen. 35:21; poss.)
- 41 Russian river
- 42 "Take — to the ministry" (Col. 4)
- 44 Portico
- 45 Sense
- 46 Slender finial
- 47 "two — stood by them" (Acts 1)
- 48 Calendar abbr.
- 49 Corn part

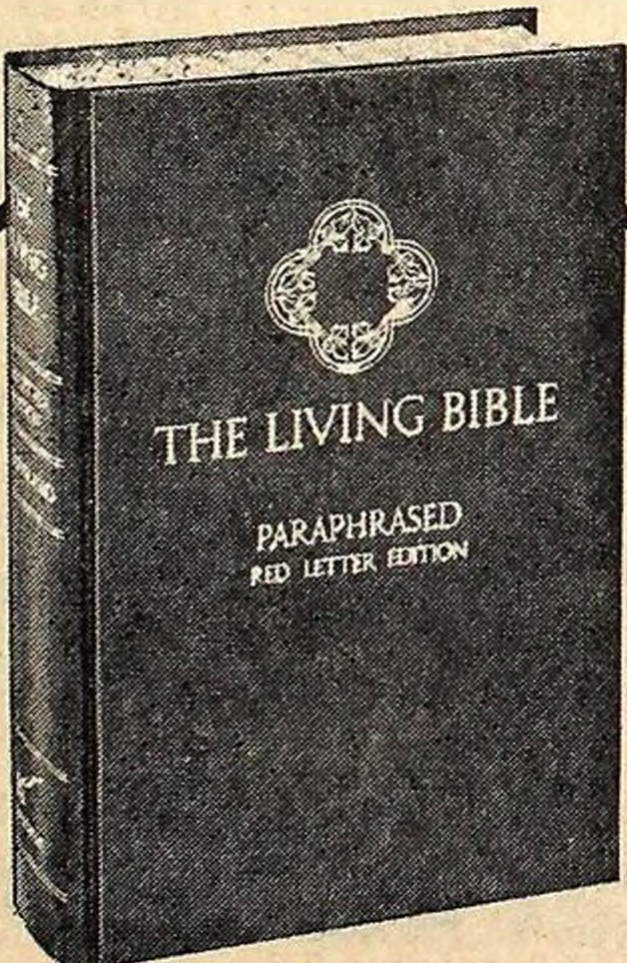
ACROSS

- 1 "what — I yet" (Matt. 19)
- 5 It held deceitful weights (Mic. 6:11)
- 8 Buy's opposite (Jas. 4:13)
- 12 Tennis great
- 13 Noun suffix denoting action
- 14 Open space
- 15 Virgin (Luke 1:27)
- 16 "shall be called the — —" (Luke 1)
- 18 Greek letter
- 19 — Ages
- 20 — the Man
- 22 Place (Ezek. 27:8)
- 26 Birthplace of 16 Across
- 30 Frost
- 31 Used in Paul's rescue (Acts 23:27)
- 32 Sauce or bean
- 33 Prefix for shadow or know
- 34 Barnyard sound
- 35 "being — with one accord" (Acts 15)
- 37 German city
- 39 Identical
- 40 Where Joseph found his brothers (Gen. 37:17)
- 43 Stamped on some checks: abbr.
- 46 His name (Matt. 1:23)
- 49 Diminutive suffix
- 50 Mountain (Num. 23:28)
- 51 N. T. book: abbr.
- 52 Century plant
- 53 Swiss river: poss.
- 54 Citrus drink
- 55 Old English coin

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Louisiana College Refuses \$137,000 In State Aid

PINEVILLE, La.—The Louisiana College board of trustees unanimously passed a recommendation by Robert L. Lynn, president of the college, to decline acceptance of more than \$137,000 in state aid.

The board agreed with an earlier statement by Lynn that he felt the Baptist school could not accept the governmental appropriation because such action directly violated the traditional stand by the Louisiana Baptist Convention on separation of church and state.

Lynn was recently inaugurated as Louisiana College's sixth president in ceremonies at the college's Guinn Auditorium. (BP)

Fires Evict Grants From Raleigh Home

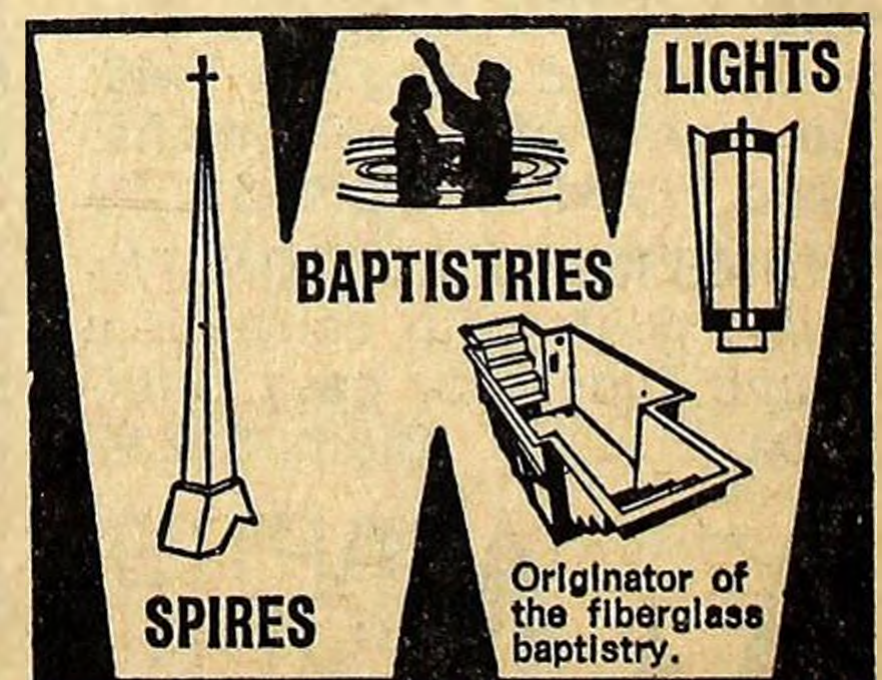
RALEIGH, N.C.—Back-to-back fires over the weekend of Nov. 29-30 extensively damaged the home of J. Marse Grant, editor of the **Biblical Recorder**, state news publication of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.

The first occurred on Saturday afternoon, shortly before 2 p.m. in the basement. Mr. and Mrs. Grant, a daughter and three grandchildren were on the upper level when the fire of undetermined origin broke out. No one was injured in the fire which destroyed three downstairs rooms and badly damaged the remainder of the house with smoke.

Shortly before 1 a.m. on Sunday, fire was discovered again by neighbors, this time in a basement bedroom and extending to the upper level. It destroyed the study, badly damaged another room, and caused more smoke damage.

The Grants hope to rebuild at the same address at 1428 Ridge Road, where they have lived since they moved to Raleigh in 1960. (BP)

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Set the Record Straight About Child Services Act

By John W. Baker and Rosemary Brevard

WASHINGTON—Have you seen a circular warning you that the Federal Government is plotting to take away your children if you insist that they take out the garbage?

The bills which the circular asserts contain this alleged plot are H.R. 2966 and S.626, the Child and Family Services Act of 1975. These bills, which are almost identical, are currently pending in House and Senate subcommittees, but the allegations contained in the circulars are false and misleading.

The Child and Family Services Act of 1975 is actually designed to help both children and parents—particularly those parents who are working or cannot, for a variety of reasons, adequately care for their children during working hours. It provides for full-time or part-time child care programs, before and after school as well as summer programs, education and consultation for parents, prenatal medical care for mothers who cannot afford it to help protect the unborn child, food and nutritional services for poor children, treatment of medical and psychological problems of children if their parents request such treatment, and help for children with handicaps or special learning disabilities.

The fact that Congress is even considering this act has generated a wave of unusual protest—unusual in that most of it seems to be the result of unsigned circulars which have been widely distributed by churches and individuals. These circulars, often headed "rearing children by the government or by parents," contain a welter of inflammatory misinformation and untruth.

Several versions of the circular assert that the office of Senator Dewey Bartlett (R-Okla.) had issued the information in the circular. Another version links a member of Senator Bartlett's staff to a proposed letter writing campaign against the act. Senator Bartlett's office denies it has had anything to do with the circular or letter writing campaign. That office rejects the circular as a misleading document.

Senator Walter Mondale (D-Minn.), chairman of the Senate subcommittee handling the Child and Family Services Act, in a speech on the Senate floor (Congressional Record, Nov. 19, 1975, pages S20397-S20401), stated that the act is "... being subjected to one of the most distorted and dishonest attacks I have witnessed in my 15 years of public service."

Allegations Completely False

Mondale went on to speak of the allega-

tions in the circulars and about the circulars themselves. "These allegations are absolutely and completely false. There is not a shred of truth in any one of them. If there were, neither I nor any member of Congress would be sponsoring this legislation ... Yet mimeographed materials being circulated ... allege that the so-called 'children's rights' quoted (on the Senate floor in 1971 from a British) document are 'becoming part of' the Child and Family Services Act.

"That allegation is totally false, and I believe that the individuals or organizations making the allegation know it is false. I say that because the materials containing these allegations are unsigned—a clear and significant sign that the organizations or individuals circulating these allegations know that they cannot defend or document them."

Some falsehoods attributed to the act are that parents who are not doing a good job will have their children taken away from them, that parents cannot teach their children about God, that a charter of children's rights is being added to the act, and that parents would lose the right to form their children's characters.

To set the record straight and to refute the above untruths the following facts about the act are given:

—1. The act, instead of taking child rearing away from parents, clearly states that "... Child and Family Service Programs must build upon and strengthen the role of the family and must be provided on a voluntary basis only to children whose parents or legal guardians request such services, with a view toward offering families the options they believe to be most appropriate for their particular needs."

—2. There is no "child advocacy clause"

nor is there a "charter of children's rights" anywhere in the bill, and neither of them will be added. The "charter of children's rights" was developed years ago by the unofficial British Advisory Center of Education but was never even seriously proposed in England. Senator Carl Curtis (R-Neb.) read a portion of this British group's proposal into the Congressional Record in a Senate debate on another child services bill on Dec. 2, 1971. The text is found on page 44128 of the Record. However, that material was not a part of the 1971 bill and is not a part of the present act.

—3. The act specifically prohibits any practice which would "... infringe upon or usurp the moral and legal rights and responsibilities of parents or guardians with respect to the moral, mental, emotional, physical, or other development of their children."

—4. The act prohibits any medical or psychological examination or treatment unless the parent or guardian provides written permission.

Privacy Protected

—5. The privacy of families is protected by the provision that no "... section of this act be construed or applied in such a manner as to permit any invasion of privacy otherwise protected by law, or to abridge any legal remedies for any such invasion which are otherwise provided by law.

The statements of fact given above should not be interpreted to mean that the act is free of potential church-state problems. The Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs gave testimony on the act before a joint House-Senate committee last spring.

In that testimony it was pointed out that the inclusion of religious organizations as possible operators of some child care programs would raise the problem of using public funds for what might be religious education and indoctrination.

In summary, close examination of the current bills simply makes it obvious that the allegations in the circulars now flooding the country are a "parade of imaginary horrors." If one is to oppose this act it should be done on the basis of informed judgment and not on the basis of a circular made up of patent untruths and wild distortions. (BP)

BIBLE PUZZLE PAGE ANSWERS

L	A	C	K		B	A	G		S	E	L	L
A	S	H	E		U	R	E		A	R	E	A
M	A	R	Y		S	O	N	O	F	G	O	D
P	S	I		M	I	D	D	L	E			
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What Can We Give Him?

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

Basic Passage: Matthew 2:1-23

Focal Passage: Matthew 2:1-12

The Christmas season suggests many ideas. Some of them are beautiful, but some of them are ridiculous.

Some people think of the excitement of the flesh. Some turn to outright pagan indulgence. They seem to think that it is time to go heathen.

Others wonder what people will give them. Still others begin trying to plan what they will give those who may give them something.

Many turn to the idea of giving to the needy and underprivileged individually or through organizations to which they belong.

The greatest gift of all is the Father's gift of His Son and the Son's gift of himself. How many think of giving to the Holy God? In giving to Him we give to those causes that exalt Him and promote the ministries of service that explain His redeeming and keeping love.

DEDICATED ALERTNESS—Matthew 2:1-2

It was an era of relative tranquillity and expectancy. Some were waiting, longing and

looking for the unusual. Small groups were expecting the Messiah.

There were some men who were evidently students of the Scriptures, to some extent, and the heavenly bodies. God could create the Milky Way and the glory of millions of galaxies. Could He not arrange a phenomena in the sky that would give knowledge of the newborn babe of Bethlehem?

REACTION OF LEADERS—Matthew 2:3-8

Herod was very upset at the visit of the Magi from the East and of their inquiry. All Jerusalem, in particular the leaders, were troubled, also.

Herod called the Jewish religious leaders and authorities together to inquire as to where the King of the Jews, or rather, the Messiah, should be born. They told him

that, according to the prophet, the Messiah-King was to be born in Bethlehem of Judea.

He held a private conference with the Magi and asked them when they observed the special star. He then charged them to go to Bethlehem and search the city thoroughly for the child. Then they were to come and tell him so that he might come and worship him, also.

Of course, the wicked King thought that he might be able to destroy the child and frustrate the plans of God. Men are too frequently deceived about their ability to discredit the plan of God.

KING HEROD THWARTED—Matthew 2:12

The Wise Men, or Magi, found the child, worshipped and made gifts to Him.

They were warned of God not to return with the news to Herod because of his wicked designs. They, therefore, returned to their own country another way.

The cunning fox was the one thwarted and frustrated. It is so foolish for men to think that with their puny power they can thwart the Almighty in His ultimate purposes.

Let us not let these interesting events make us overlook the great significance of the birth of Christ to us. May our gratitude find an appropriate expression.

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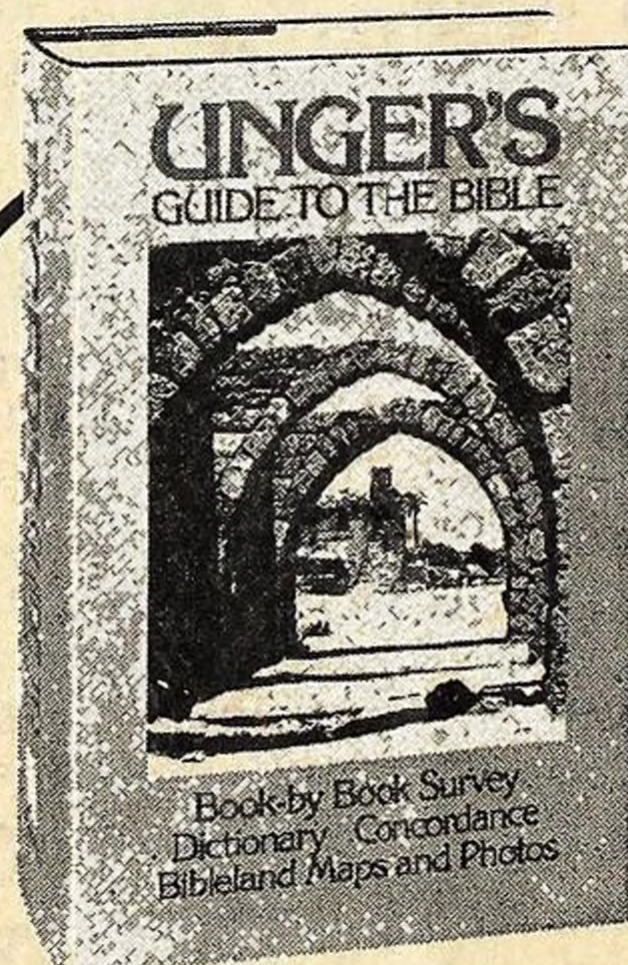
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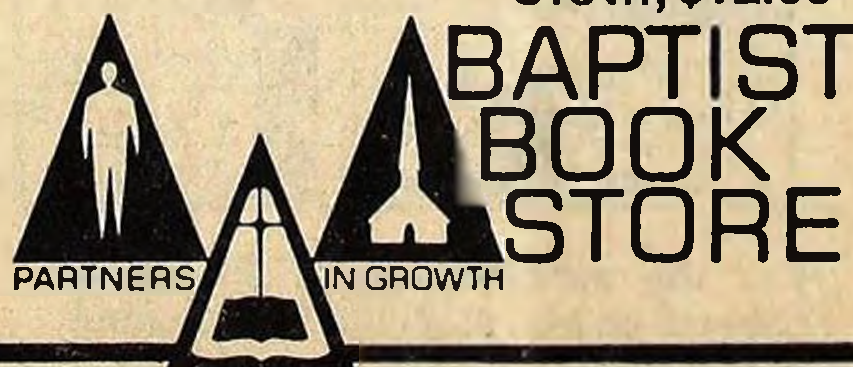
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Family Living

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

Finds Some Small, Non-Cognitive Advantage In Open Schools Vogue

Pupils in open schools do not appear to suffer academically, but they don't show consistent or significant gains in achievement either. This was one of the findings of the biggest study yet made of the effects of open vs. traditional schools, and it probably comes as a let-down to passionate partisans of open schools as well as to dogged defenders of the conventional school system.

The news that students in open schools are not at an academic disadvantage may actually disappoint traditionalists who have been predicting that open school pupils would develop into illiterate hedonists.

On the other hand, supporters of open school don't have much solid proof that openness is synonymous with expansion of children's minds and spirits, if study results are considered dispassionately. While there were definite gains in open school pupils' self-reliance and satisfaction with school life at every grade level surveyed, the gains were very small.

In the area of college aspiration, the effects of open school attendance were positive in grades 5, 6 and 7 but unrelated to plans for college in grades 9 and 12.

What the survey of 7,283 pupils in grades 4, 5, 6 and 11 basically revealed was that "in every grade almost all of the variation in student achievement is 'within schools.'"

The influence of family background and home life and the impact of the individual teacher appear to be more closely tied to school performance than the "openness" or "traditional" structure of the school attended. All in all, the steamy debate between supporters of "open" and defenders of "traditional" schools would, at this point, seem to boil down to much ado about nothing much.

The study, conducted by researchers Joyce L. Epstein and James M. McPartland for the Center for Social Organization of Schools, Johns Hopkins Univ., involved 7,283 elementary, junior high and high school students in a school district containing a larger number of open and traditional schools.

NOTICE!

No pictures are being returned unless a self-addressed stamped envelope is sent with the picture. This is due to the increase in postal rates.

HISTORICALLY FROM THE FILES

50 YEARS AGO

The death of John T. Christian, termed "one of Southern Baptists' greatest men" was announced in **Baptist And Reflector**. He had served as pastor of Chattanooga First Church, superintendent of missions in Mississippi, pastor in Louisville, pastor of LaSalle Church in Chicago and Second Church, Little Rock, and mission secretary for Arkansas. For his final position, he accepted the chair of Church History at Bible Institute in New Orleans. He was working on a multi-volume set of **The History of Baptists** at the time of his death.

20 YEARS AGO

J. Lowell Knupp began his fifth year of service as pastor of Mt. Pleasant First Church.

Monterey First Church ordained Carlos Bohannon, DeWitt Sampley, and Frank Medley as deacons.

10 YEARS AGO

Members of Nashville First Church voted to build a new structure at its present location and to maintain its tower, a downtown landmark for more than 80 years. The new structure was to include a 1,700-seat sanctuary.

Belmont College announced plans to build a \$600,000 auditorium and fine arts building. The proposal was approved by the TBC Executive Board.

Would you like to know what the Bible says about Angels? Send \$1.00 to Mrs. Opal Bell, R.3, Petersburg, Ill. 62675 for her book, **Ministering Spirits, Angels**.

From the Executive Secretary

By Ralph Norton

I shall long remember occasions on which I am privileged to participate in building dedication services. Recently there were two such opportunities on the same day, and each proved to be a real spiritual blessing to my heart.



Norton

In Chattanooga, Look-out Valley Church completed a beautiful and spacious activities building. The fact that this church in its long-range planning foresaw a need for this building is proof that the pastor and leaders of the church are endeavoring to meet not only the needs of their present membership but the total community as well.

Sensing the challenge to provide particularly for the host of young people in their midst, they faithfully launched this building program with courage and enthusiasm.

I was glad to be there and enjoy their hour of victory and celebration. Herbert Thomas, their dedicated and hard-working pastor, has led this church in a remarkable way during his five years on the field. We believe we will hear of greater progress, both spiritually and physically, as they continue to serve the Lord in that lovely valley.

First Church of Winchester held dedication services for a beautiful new sanctuary. The new building replaced the previous structure which was built in 1898. It was partially destroyed by fire in 1973 and due to its already deteriorating condition, the membership felt the need for a new building and immediate action was taken to begin the plans.

Rarely does anyone experience the thrill of moving into and dedicating a new building more than was felt by the large group of members and friends who filled this lovely sanctuary to capacity on the afternoon of the services. Robert Hammer, pastor since 1972, has won the love and respect of the people of this church during his ministry. Evidence of a good relationship was the completion of a new sanctuary built and dedicated to the glory of God. We truly rejoice with them and pray that this may be the beginning of additional ministries through this historic church.

Experiences such as these are most encouraging. They confirm my belief in the future of Tennessee Baptists as they launch out in faith to accomplish difficult tasks. May God bless all our efforts in all of our churches, especially during this Christmas Season as we celebrate the birth of the Saviour.

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Medicare was enacted to help our Senior Citizens pay the ever-rising cost of Hospital and Medical Services; however, Medicare does not pay the entire bill. As you know, some expense is left for you to pay in addition to Medicare. Now, with these new changes effective January 1, there are more expenses left for the Senior Citizen to pay.

As it is very important that you know about these changes, complete and mail the enclosed postage-free card immediately, so that we may rush you complete information concerning the new changes in Medicare.

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To Enrich The Life Of Others

By Jonas L. Stewart
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

"I want to leave something to somebody else so that my having lived might enrich someone else's life." This is the statement reported to have been made by Dr. Daniel C. York, Calhoun City, Mississippi, as he presented a deed for 7,400 acres of land to the president of Mississippi College.

This man never attended Mississippi College but he does believe in Christian principles that are stressed there. He wanted to "have a part in helping some young people make something out of their lives" at a Baptist directed school.

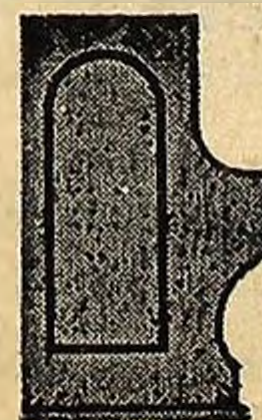
Across the state of Tennessee there are people with land that could be used for the same purpose. It might be 50 acres or as much as Dr. York had to give, but whatever the amount, our people need to give consideration to investing it in the Christian education of our youth.

Many acres of such land was bought at depression (?) prices. To sell it now would take away more in capital gains tax, in many instances, than the original cost. It could be placed in trust to endow one of our schools for a tremendous savings. There would be no capital gains tax when sold. It is also excluded from the estate at death, therefore, there will be no estate tax on it at that time.

The above financial advantage can be gained through a gift of stocks, bonds, antiques, or any other kind of property with appreciated values. Write our office for more information about giving property as indicated above: Tennessee Baptist Foundation, Dr. Jonas L. Stewart, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, P.O. Box 347, Brentwood, Tennessee 37027.

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