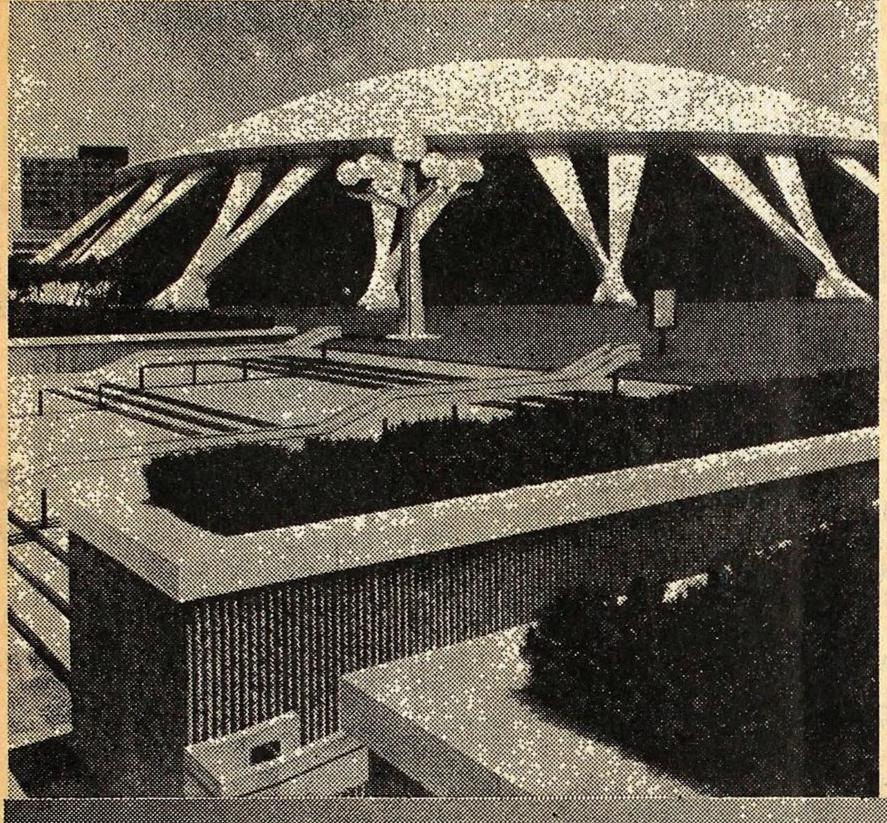
Baptist And Reflector

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News-Journal Of Tennessee Baptist Convention



NORFOLK SCOPE will house the 131st year meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-17. About 16,000 are expected to register for this 1976 session.

CHRYSLER HALL, adjacent to Norfolk Scope, will be the site of the 1976 Woman's Missionary Union annual meeting, June 13-14. Chrysler Hall and the municipal auditorium at nearby Virginia Beach will be connected by closed circuit television with the SBC sessions in Scope for any overflow crowds at night sessions. (BP) Photo



Need For An Interpreter

By Herschel H. Hobbs

"Wherefore let him that speaketh in an unknown tongue pray that he may interpret."—1 Corinthians 14:13

In verses 13-15 Paul draws a conclusion from the preceding verses (2-12). This is seen in "wherefore." Having established his point about speaking distinctly and clearly, he applies it. Apparently in verse 13 he envisions a situation in which there is present in a worship service someone who does not understand Greek. This would be a proper condition for speaking in a tongue.

But since the group would be made up largely of Greek-speaking people, he should "pray that he may interpret." Some see the interpreter as one with the speaker. However, the word "he" is not in the Greek text. The verb form may read "one interpret" or "someone interpret." "Pray" renders a verb meaning to pray or to ask God for something. So the sense seems to be to pray that one with the gift of "the interpretation of tongues" (1 Cor. 12:10) may interpret for the benefit of those who do not understand the language being spoken. The speaker himself probably did not understand the language. Those who have worshiped in



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foreign lands know how necessary an interpreter is to enable them to participate intelligently.

Some modern glossolalists call tongues "prayer language." Paul (v. 14) says that even if he prays in a tongue which he does not understand, his spirit prays but it is without benefit to his understanding. In verse 15 he says that he will both pray and sing in spiritual understanding. While emotion plays a part in worship, the intellect also must be involved.

Some soloists and choirs are so concerned about their tones as to ignore clear diction. The music stirs the spirit, but the words of the song involve the mind. Both should be involved in true worship. This seems to cast a shadow over the validity of "prayer language." One would do well to pray, sing, and listen in a language he understands.

Pulpit To Pew

by Jim Griffith

After graduating from the church nursery, the four-year-old son of a minister of music of a Texas Baptist church saw his first baptismal service.

The youngster came to an immediate decision and told his daddy: "When I grow up, I'm going to be a baptizer, but I'm not going to do it the way the preacher does—I'm going to just throw them in!"

Admittedly, this would be a startling innovation, but I can think of certain advantages that might go along with this new mode of baptism.

Not only would there be more interest in every baptismal service, but it should be an occasion which no one could ever forget.

Moreover, the old hymn "Throw Out the Lifeline" would take on added significance for every baptismal candidate.

And who knows? This system of baptism might be beneficial for all those who now apparently are "dry cleaned" and that with a weak solution.

My Father Knows

By Mrs. Oscar Nelson

The most precious thought I have is that I have a loving, heavenly Father through faith in His Son, my Savior, Jesus Christ.

And next to that is the assurance that my Father knows me, my thoughts, motives, weaknesses, failures, hopes, longings, commitments.

All of us Christians claim to be led by the same Holy Spirit, and yet we seem so diverse in so many areas. Each of us, confident of God's purpose, is responsible for his or her response to God's leadership.

When I believe I am led by Him and act or speak accordingly, and relatives, friends, acquaintances, or associates fail to understand, even criticize, I turn to Jeremiah 1:5a "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you."

I Samuel 2:3b "... for the Lord is a God of knowledge, and by Him actions are weighed."

Matthew 6:8b "... your Father knoweth that things ye have need of, before ye ask Him." .-

John 10:14a "I am the good shepherd and know my sheep . . . "

Revelation 2:22 "I know thy works, and thy labor, and thy patience ..."

Acts 1:24b ". . . Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men . . ."

I Corinthians 8:3 "But if any man love God, the same is known of Him."

Psalms 139:1-4, 23-24 "O Lord, Thou hast searched me, and known me. Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, Thou understandest my thought afar off. Thou compassest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word in my tongue, but lo, O Lord, thou knowest it altogether . . . Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my thoughts; and see if there be any wicked way in me and lead me in the way everlasting."

> In Jesus' Name Amen

Mrs. Nelson is the wife of Oscar Nelson who served as pastor of Madison First Church for over 18 years before his retirement. She was guidance counselor at Dupont High School of the Metropolitan Public Schools of Nashville. Presently she teaches a Sunday School class of adult women at Two Rivers Church in Nashville, where they are both mmebers.

BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR **Brings You News First**

Southern Baptist Religious Education Association

Twenty-First Anniversary Session June 13-14, 1976 Hotel Cavalier Virginia Beach, Virginia

Theme: "Freedom Through Christ"

Sunday	Afternoon,	June 13
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2:30- 5:00 Registration and displays open. The displays will be manned by the following departments or agencies: Sunday School, Church Training, Church Administration, Woman's Missionary Union, Brotherhood, Church Architecture, Home Mission Board, Foreign Mission Board, Annuity Board, Broadman Products, Convention Press.

Sunday Evening, June 13

Robert O. Feather, Dallas, Tex., presiding Theme: "Free . . . To Be Me Through Worship and Service"

7:00- 7:10 Music—Bill and Dellanna O'Brien, Fort Worth, Tex.

7:10- 7:20 Theme Interpretation—Mrs.

J. Winston Pearce, Buies

Creek, N.C.

7:20- 7:30 Appointment of Committees
Program Preview—Bernie M.
Spooner, Fort Worth, Tex.

7:30- 7:50 "Equipping for Discipleship"

—Lloyd T. Householder,

Nashville, Tenn.

7:50- 8:00 Music—Bill and Dellanna O'Brien

8:00- 8:30 "Ministering Through Worship"—Peter Rhea Jones, Louisville, Ky.

8:30- 9:00 Fellowship, consultation, refreshments

Following the evening session, a dessert party will be held adjoining the exhibit area.

Monday Morning, June 14

William E. Young, Nashville, Tenn., presiding

Theme: "Free . . . To Be Me Through My Family"

8:50- 9:00 Music—Russell Newport, Springfield, Mo.

9:00- 9:10 Theme Interpretation—Mrs.
J. Winston Pearce, Buies
Creek, N.C.

9:10- 9:30 "The Home and Church Working Together"—Daniel Grant, Arkadelphia, Ark.

9:30- 9:45 Break—Refreshments provided by Virginia Religious Education Association, Robert E. Lee Trail, president

9:45-10:00 Music—Russell Newport

10:00-10:30 Attrition Committee Report

10:30-11:15 "Issues Facing Religious Education"

Singles—Britton Wood, Dallas, Tex.

Aging—W. L. Howse, III, Culpeper, Va.

Family—Harry Hollis, Nashville, Tenn.

11:15-11:30 Reactors:
Singles—Elaine Dickson,
Nashville, Tenn.
Aging—Merle Basden, Fort
Worth, Tex.
Family—Barbara Siddle,
Columbia, Md.

11:30-11:45 Open Discussion

Luncheon, Monday Afternoon, June 14

Ralph C. Atkinson, Louisville, Ky., presiding 12:30-2:00 Buffet

—The Centurymen, directed by Buryl Red, New York, N.Y.

—Speaker—U.S. Rep. John Buchanan (R-Ala.)

Monday Evening, June 14

Ellis Bush, Shreveport, La., presiding
Theme: "Free . . . To Be Me in the Future"
6:45- 7:00 Music—Bill and Dellanna
O'Brien, Fort Worth, Tex.

7:00- 7:10 Theme Interpretation—Mrs.

J. Winston Pearce, Buies
Creek, N.C.

7:10- 7:30 "The Future of Religious Educators As I See It"—S. C. Ray, Greensboro, N.C.; Will Beal, Nashville, Tenn.

7:30- 7:40 Reactors—Roy Lee Williams, Houston, Tex.; F. Lawson Pankey, Richmond, Va.

7:40- 7:55 Committee Reports:
Nominating Committee—
Lawrence Klempnauer,
Atlanta, Ga., chairman
Findings Committee—Keener
Pharr, Jacksonville, Fla.,
chairman
Miscellaneous Business

7:55- 8:00 Music—Bill and Dellanna O'Brien

8:00- 8:20 "In Pursuit of Excellence"— W. O. Thomason, Nashville, Tenn.

8:30-

"The Fabric of Freedom"—
T. R. Parlier Jr., Atlanta, Ga., coordinator (A part of the Bicentennial celebration of the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention)
—Book and Lyrics by Ed Seabough
—Music by Bill Cates

Bicentennial Feature

Husband Shoots Minister For Baptizing Wife

NORFLEET'S FERRY, Va., June, 1777

—Baptist minister John Tanner was critically wounded when an irate husband shot the clergyman with a pistol for baptizing the man's wife.

As Tanner stepped off the ferry with another minister, the enraged husband came from hiding and fired at close range a large horseman's pistol, loaded with buckshot.

A physician said Tanner had been struck by seventeen of the shot. Most of the load hit Tanner in the thigh, and at least one piece passed through his leg.

Tanner's assailant was a leading persecutor of the church in this section. When he learned that his wife had asked for baptism into the Baptist church he reportedly threatened to shoot the minister who performed the ordinance.

Tanner said that he would not press charges.

Prepared for Baptist Press by the Southern Baptist Historical Commission, Nashville

Arkansas Church Updates Insurance—Tornado Hits

CABOT, Ark.—A Baptist minister who advised his congregation to increase its insurance coverage here is glad he did.

Some 30 days later, the Old Austin Baptist Church whose pastor Eugene Irby saw the need for additional insurance, was hit by a killer tornado that leveled Cabot and heavily damaged the church in late March. Five persons were killed and 65 places of businesses destroyed or badly damaged, reports indicated.

"It was through the Lord's guidance that we updated the insurance on our buildings," Irby said later.

He estimated that the recently built education building was a total loss and that the church's auditorium would be a 50 per cent loss. Ironically, before the insurance was updated, Irby said, the auditorium was covered for 50 per cent of its replacement value, and the education building wasn't covered at all. When the storm hit, the church's buildings and contents were covered for 90 per cent of replacement value, he added. (BP)

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MINITERIAL

By Foy Valentine

No one lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. So, no family exists to itself, and none is an island existing apart from the culture.

When the family comes under fire and is bombarded mercilessly and ridiculed shamelessly by godless but influential elements within the culture, family life is inevitably affected. Today's Christians have no more escaped the tragic consequences of such cultural assaults on the family than the early Christian martyrs could escape the impact of a decadent state whose cheapened views of human life issued in their being thrown to the lions.

The Crisis That Confronts Us

Twice before in the history of Western civilization family life has gone on the rocks, once in the Greek city-states about B.C. 300, and again in Rome about A.D. 300. In each case, the disintegration of family life was accompanied by the deterioration of the entire political structure. In each case, the symptoms were the same: (1) There was an almost universal disregard of the marriage agreement. (2) There was a declining birthrate, a symptom of preoccupation with things instead of a commitment to persons. (3) There was a denigration of parents, a sophisticated irresponsibility on the part of children toward their mothers and fathers, and on the part of mothers and fathers toward their children. (4) There was a tremendous rise in juvenile delinquency which then, as now, was preceded by adult delinquency.

These same symptoms are obvious today, not only in the culture at large, but also in the churches as well: (1) The United States now has the highest divorce rate in the world. For the first time in history, both the president and the vice-president of the United States are married to women who have been divorced, and the latter is himself a divorced man. Divorce directly affects most families in the nation, including most families in the churches. (2) There are indications that this nation's declining birthrate may not really be related to the serious moral problem of overpopulation in the world but may rather reflect a materialistic and selfish orientation to gadgets, creature comforts, and the love of luxury. (3) The modern deterioration of the parental role has been aided and abetted by modern mobility, by absentee mothers and fathers, and by the mass media, particularly television. (4) The fact of juvenileadult delinquency is real and growing. Although there is not as much talk about the problem today as there was a few years ago, the problem seems actually to be seriously worsening.

The family crises of ancient Greece and Rome are the family crises of today's world as well.

The Role Of The Church

What can the church do to help families find stability and strength in the midst of the current crisis?

The Roman Empire fell, Saint Augustine said, for want of order in the soul. It is not the church's business to prop up tottering empires; it is the church's business to foster order in the soul. Order in the soul is the result of authentic evangelism. True order in the soul begins by the work of the grace of God in the lives of individual believers who personally trust Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. That order in the soul is then extended to family life, social life, economic life, and political life by the disciplined and cross-bearing people of God. It is imperative for the church to stand for authentic evangelism if integrity in family life is to be restored.

It is also imperative for the church to hold strongly and teach clearly the Bible ideals and Bible principles related to marriage and the family. The gospel of God in Jesus Christ was never meant just for isolated individuals; it has always been meant for persons living in families and in the larger context of the whole human family. God's ideal from the beginning has been for one man and one woman to be joined together for life in the bonds of holy matrimony. God's purposes for the family—companionship, reproduction, nurture, and affection—must be understood, communicated, and furthered by churches aroused to the importance of the recovery of family life.

Bible principles related to family life deserving consistent attention by Christians are grace, commitment, faithfulness, freedom, and responsibility. These Bible principles, conscientiously studied and faithfully followed, will substantially help the church in moving from transition to true togetherness in Jesus Christ.

The church that is true to Christ in its witness concerning the family will insist in its preaching, teaching, program activities, building, stewardship, and outreach that marriage is not contract but commitment in the Lord, not freedom but fetters in the Lord, and not private but public under the lordship of Jesus Christ.

This statement appears in the April 1976 issue of Outreach magazine and is made available to state Baptist newspapers by permission of the Baptist Sunday School Board. Valentine is executive secretary of the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Baptist And Reflector Receives New Budgets

A Tennessee Baptist Church has placed the Baptist And Reflector in its budget.

The association, church and pastor is: Robertson Association, Lights Chapel, Richard L. Lankford.

Six additional Tennessee Baptist churches

are receiving the Baptist And Reflector through the Trial Plan. The associations, churches and pastors are:

Holston Association, Grace Church, O. C. Anderson, Interim Pastor;

Concord Association, Walter Hill Church,

James Hall Youree III;

New Salem Association, Lancaster Church, Millard H. Hooper;

Nolachucky Association,

Highland Church, Ray Edward Shanks;

Tennessee Valley Association, Pennine Church, Thomas H. Young;

Holston Association, Volunteer Church.

Tennessee Baptist Colleges To Graduate Over 730

Tennessee's three Baptist colleges will graduate over 730 students during commencement exercises this spring, according to statistics released by the colleges.

Belmont College will hold commencement and baccalaureate exercises April 30. Robert G. Lee will be the baccalaureate speaker, and David Y. K. Wong will speak at commencement. Lee, 90, was the baccalaureate speaker for Belmont 17 years ago, the year that Herbert C. Gabhart became president of the school. At that time, Lee and Gabhart made a pact that Lee would come back to Belmont for the same occasion when he reached his 90th birthday.

Wong is president of the Baptist World Alliance and a native of Wuchow, Kwangsi, China. His great-grandmother was the first Chinese Bible woman to do pioneer Christian work in Kwangi. Wong studied in Baptist schools in Canton, China through senior high school. He is a graduate of the University of California at Redlands and California Institute of Technology.

Belmont is scheduled to graduate 215 seniors.

Approximately 302 students are scheduled to receive degrees at the May 7 commencement exercises at Carson-Newman. It will be the 125th graduation at the East Tennessee Baptist college.

Jack H. McEwen, pastor, Chattanooga First Church, will deliver the baccalaureate address, and James Ralph Scales, president of Wake Forest University, will give the commencement address.

McEwen has pastored six churches in Texas and Tennessee for a total of 25 years in the ministry. In addition he has served as assistant professor of psychology and education at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. He is a graduate of the University of Chattanooga, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and received the Ed.D. degree from UT-Knoxville.

Scales received the B.A. degree (magna cum laude) from Oklahoma Baptist University and the M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Oklahoma. He had done post-graduate work at the University of Chicago and the London School of Economics. He became the 11th president of Wake Forest University in July 1967, succeeding Harold W. Tribble.

Jeannette Clift George, star of "The Hiding Place," will be the commencement speaker at Union University, May 29. Approximately 215 students are expected to participate in Union's first commencement on its new campus.

In the World Wide Pictures production she plays the part of Corrie ten Boom, a Dutch lady who helped save the lives of numerous Jews in her native Holland during the Nazi occupation.

George is a graduate of the University of Texas and is a well known Bible teacher, speaker, monologist, and playwright. She is director-producer of the "After Dinner Players," a Christian drama company which offers Bible-based plays for churches, schools and theaters throughout Texas and surrounding states. She has worked off-Broadway and toured with the New York Shakespeare Company.

Berclair Church To Host Church Building Conference

Berclair Church, Memphis, will host a church building conference May 14 from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m., according to Charles L. Norton, church building consultant, Tennessee Baptist Convention.

The conference is for all churches interested in remodeling or making a study of their present facilities, Norton stated.

Roland A. Smith, architectural consultant, Church Architecture Dept., Baptist Sunday School Board, will lead the sessions along with W. C. Dudley, Home Mission Board.

Richardson Named Associate On N.C. Biblical Recorder

RALEIGH, N. C.—Charles R. Richardson, assistant editor of the Baptist Standard in Dallas, will accept a similar position with the Biblical Recorder, state news publication for North Carolina Southern Baptists, effective June 15.

Richardson, 40, an 18-year veteran of journalism and public relations, fills a position vacated in Nov. 1973 by Toby Druin, according to Marse Grant, editor of the Biblical Recorder.

A native Texan, Richardson was public information director at Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, Tex., on two different occasions, 1965-67 and 1968-73. He joined the staff of the Standard, state newspaper for Texas Baptists, in July, 1973.

Other denominational positions have included serving as news director at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif., 1961-62, and press representative for the Baptist General Convention of Texas, 1967-68.

He also served the Abilene Reporter News, as staff writer, religion editor, state editor and then Sunday editor.

Richardson was graduated from Howard Payne College, Brownwood, Tex., in 1958, with a degree in journalism, history and education. He served during college days as a reporter for the Brownwood Bulletin and city editor of the Brown County Gazette, Bangs, Tex. (BP)



Note burning services were held recently for the Salem Association's mission home and office. Pictured above at the ceremonies were: (left to right) Nolan Turner, chairman of missions committee; Bobby Zumbro, moderator; Cannie W. Leonard, associational director of missions; Cecil Hayes, treasurer; V. Wayne Tarpley, former director of missions; and Jim Corley, trustee. The home was constructed approximately two years ago.

The Kingdom Of God Today

By Richard B. Douglass

The coming Kingdom of God has moved into the limelight in an unusual way during the last few years. People are excited about the "last things." It becomes rather easy to forget about the other aspects of the Kingdom in days when we want to think about the future.

No one tense can adequately describe the Kingdom of God. It is past, present and future. In some ways it is all of these at once. The ministry of Christ stands firmly fixed in history as a past event. Christ is the Coming King. He also continues to work through the lives of people today.

Many people have forgotten about this important present aspect of the kingdom. A man recently expressed the frustration of many. "I have given up on anything's changing this old world. I am ready for Christ to come back and put an end to the whole mess." Amen and amen! But the Bible does not leave us satisfied with this approach. It reminds us that God is at work in this world. God's Kingdom is also a present reality.

People must enter the Kingdom of God. Man's righteousness cannot gain him entrance. In Matt. 5:20 Jesus pointed out that legalistic righteousness cannot satisfy. Only a right standing before God, that comes as a free gift from God, can gain us entrance. Riches and possessions hinder some from entering the Kingdom. A miracle of God is the only hope that anyone has of entering the Kingdom and because of this anyone who will come by faith may enter.

Riches may keep a rich young ruler from entering. Modern scribes may reject entrance on the grounds of intellectual pride. Selfrighteousness may exclude today's Pharisees. This is because simple, uncomplicated faith provides the only entrance. Jesus talked about receiving the Kingdom "as a little child" in Mark 10:15. He was referring to the attitude of simple confidence that the child has as he believes what his parents claim and promise. Entering the Kingdom provides the only hope of eternal life. Entrance depends on repentance and faith, and determines our eternal destiny. A new birth, a willingness to follow Jesus and a continual dying to ourselves are called for. But entering the Kingdom is worth anything it costs us (Matt. 5:29-30).

Jesus taught that the Kingdom of God is within the believer. This seemed to confuse

Note: Douglas is pastor of Putman City Baptist Church, Oklahoma City.

his disciples. They had been taught to think of the Kingdom in terms of their nation's having great power and political freedom. They wanted release from Roman captivity. We have the reverse problem today. We have been taught to think in terms of Christ's dwelling within us in a mystical way. We need to know that the Kingdom of God within us means that Christ begins to reign in our lives at the moment of our conversion and that reign extends throughout our lifetime.

Unlike an earthly king, Christ continues to grant us the freedom to disobey him. We pay the consequences of disobedience but we are free to reject the rulership of Christ within. When we do yield our lives to Christ he uses them as agents for advancing his Kingdom. Christ's Kingdom is wherever he rules. As Christ lived in perfect obedience to God, God was able to release into our world powers which blessed and saved people. God releases his power through our lives when they are lived in absolute obedience to his will. This is at least part of what Christ had in mind when he promised that we would be able to do greater works than he did because he was returning to the Father and sending his Holy Spirit on us.

Many of us would like to be great golfers. Suppose one day you ran into Sam Snead and he told you that he had learned how to enter the body of someone else and play through him. He agreed to do this for you. What do you suppose would happen? Certainly you would want to yield complete control of your game to him. You would not really be able to claim credit for the game you play under his control. But you would play fantastic golf. This is basically what it means when Christ has his Kingdom in your life. He has control and should get the credit for what he does through you.

The Kingdom of God within you means that God empowers you. Christ becomes our power when we yield our lives to him. But the Bible also promises us present and future victories over death, Satan and sin. Our future victory will be greater. Our present victory is real. Christ won a victory over death and sin. That victory has an application in our lives. We do not have to yield to temptation. Sin should not enslave a Christian. The dread of death should bow in defeat before the promise of eternal life. The assurance of Christ's victory and the power of the indwelling Spirit make possible the Kingdom citizen's daily victory in his life.

Jesus also taught us that his Kingdom

must be expanded. Being a citizen is not enough. We must want that citizenship for everyone. Christ stated that he came "to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10). Christ established his churches to reach the lost and "disciple" them. After his resurrection he commissioned his churches for this task. Proclamation of the Kingdom must reach every individual.

Christ's Kingdom is a present reality. His reign is not as complete as it will be but it is real. People are entering the Kingdom by faith. Christ reigns in their lives. His power is being released through their lives. These people are witnessing and expanding the Kingdom. Our responsibility is to proclaim the gospel so men may enter the Kingdom of God. Christ will empower us to do so.—Reprinted from The Baptist Messenger.

Summer Baptist Hour To Feature James Pleitz

The May series of "Baptist Hour" sermons will treat such subjects as loneliness, answered prayer, the difference Christianity makes, and motherhood.

James L. Pleitz, pastor of First Baptist Church, Pensacola, Fla., is summer "Baptist Hour" speaker while Herschel H. Hobbs is on summer vacation.

In "Christ and the Ordinary Man" Pleitz tells listeners Christians are to react to situations "like extraordinary persons because Christ is the Christian's example and Christ was an extraordinary man."

Pleitz, discussing prayer in the May 16 sermon says, "If all our prayers require answers, we really don't know much about the subject."

He cites Leslie Weatherhead's suggestion to build a house of prayer with seven rooms—affirmation, thanksgiving, confession, reception, petition, intercession, and meditation.

Discussing the disease of loneliness May 23, Pleitz suggests it is on the increase. "But when we start thinking about others instead of ourselves, loneliness disappears," he said.

"The Baptist Hour" is produced and syndicated by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, It is heard on 369 radio stations across the United States and features music by "The Centurymen."

The Challenge Of Mobility

By Roy A. Helton
Professor Emeritus of Religion, Belmont College, Nashville, Tennessee

Basic Passage: Genesis 12:1-9; Hebrews 11:1, 8-16

Focal Passage: Hebrews 11:1, 8-16

Mobility is not a new phenomenon. Men have been on the move since creation. However simple or complex the circumstances of life, mobility calls for adjustments in life-styles. Abraham left a culture that was old and stable for a journey into a country of which he knew little. He took with him the conviction that the venture was God's will for his life. His faith in God was expressed in the altars he erected at Shechem and Bethel (Gen. 12:6, 8) where "he called on the name of the Lord." It is significant that it is said of him that he "journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb" (12:9) a barren and desolate area where he made his home for some years. The faith which fortified him on his long journey and bleak settlement produced a rich heritage for his descendants. Mobility of habitat need not immobilize faith.

The Nature of Faith Heb. 11:1

Mistaken notions about faith hinder the exercise and development of true faith. Too widespread is the belief that faith means believing something to be true where there is little or no evidence to establish it as true. It is supposed on this view that faith can create its own certainties out of its own resources. It assumes that persistence in belief against the facts will change the situation. It insists that what ought to be true is true. It follows the thesis of a song that was popular many years ago, "Wishing will make it come true." This is not the faith of the New Testament. It is not the faith of which the writer of Hebrews speaks.

Biblical faith is the response of the whole man to God as he is seen in Jesus Christ. It is a commital of the total self to God in the assurance that this is the only act which makes the present and the future worthwhile. It is a faith which is not impressed with its own valor, but by the faithfulness of God. It does not create its own certainties, but accepts the certainties of God's truth. No matter how changing and uncertain the present circumstances may be, genuine faith looks to the future as the chest that holds eternal truth.

The Power of Obedient Faith 11:8-10

Four illustrations of faith are associated with Abraham, the father of the faithful. Though each of the illustrations has a particular truth about faith to illustrate, the theme which runs through all of them is "be

loyal to the unseen, unrealized values." The four illustrations each pick up some phase of faith to illuminate. (1) Abraham obeyed when called—v. 8a. (2) He embarked on a venturesome course in not knowing where he was going—v. 8b. (3) Sarah trusted Him whom she considered faithful in promising her power to conceive in her old age—v. 11. (4) Abraham passed the supreme test of obedience when he was willing to offer Isaac in sacrifice—v. 17. Adventuresome trust and obedience are essential ingredients of faith.

We view this story about Abraham long after the outcome is known. He had no such advantage. He did not know the outcome of faithful obedience. He had to leave a land of culture and opportunity to go out to the unknown. This is what faith means to any contemporary Christian. We live in a land of abundance and beauty. We have conveniences and opportunities unknown to most of the world. When the call comes to live under different circumstances for higher motives and less recognition and fewer returns we are paralyzed with fear. We may be persuaded to take the first feeble step in the direction to which God has called us, and suddenly we feel the ground giving way under our feet and draw back, because our faith has been anchored in the confidence of our own ability. We must rest our faith in God who speaks in persuasive tones and reminds us, "In me is your strength."

Bleak Ground

Verse 12 describes the bleakest ground imaginable for faith to take root in. There was nothing in Abraham or Sarah that could offer any hope for the promise which God made. How could he possibly become the father of a great people "as many as the stars of heaven?" There appeared to be no possibility that God could ever use his descendants as a medium to make his revelation known to all the world. Yet faith in God

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can become a creative force that can bring about his purpose in the world. In God's plans the faithful can become the bearers of tremendous destiny. Abraham had nothing but the naked promise of God which he, in turn, clothed with trust born of both desperation and hope. This is the lot of those whose reward comes from "the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen" v. 1.

What made Abraham a stranger and exile on earth? (v. 13). He had been promised a land for himself and his descendants, but as far as Abraham could see, it belonged to other people. He was a stranger, an exile in the land promised to him and his descendants. What brought about this situation? The promise of God. Abraham could never settle down and take things as they were. His faith compelled him to look for his destiny in the future. This is the eternal burden of faith. In this world of conflict, corruption, competitive greed, confused ideals, and concentrated power, men and women of faith are strangers and exiles. This is not their home. It is said of Abraham and his descendants, "If their hearts had been in the country they left, they could have found opportunity to return" (11:15 NEB). But because of the promise of God they longed for a better country, and this is why God is not ashamed to be called their God. The eleventh chapter of Hebrews ends (vv. 39-40) by pointing out that these heroes of faith did not receive what was promised because God had a better plan that they should not reach their goal of completion without us. Will we help these faithful souls by joining the procession of those who put faith in the promises of God?

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Our People and Our Churches . . .

CHURCHES . . .

Gladeville Church, Gladeville, had dedication and open house services earlier this month for a new educational building. The structure contains 8000 ft. of floor space with a fellowship area, kitchen, adult and youth departments. A record Sunday School attendance of 278 was set. Paul Hall, associate in the Missions Dept., Tennessee Baptist Convention, and former pastor of the Gladeville Church, was the dedication speaker. Robert D. Agee is pastor.

Oakfield Church, Madison-Chester Association, is remodeling their church sanctuary, according to pastor Lowell Meade.

Pleasant Hill Church, Madison-Chester Association, voted to build a new auditorium. Construction will begin this spring. The structure will cost approximately \$85,000. Maurice Hays is pastor.

Coletown Church, Copperhill, is bricking and adding a front extension on to the church. Cost of the improvement will be approximately \$20,000. F. A. Davidson is pastor.

LEADERSHIP . . .

John W. Lowe has been called as pastor of Olive Hill Church, Olive Hill. He comes from Luray.

The new pastor at Concord Church, Nashville, is Leary Willis. Willis served the church as interim before being called full time. He is employed by United Church Finance in Nashville and has served churches in Florida.

Robert Lackey has been called as minister of music at Mill Creek Church in Nashville. Damon Corley is pastor.

Members of Belmont Heights Church, Nashville, called C. Winfield Rich as program coordinator/staff administrator. A native of West Point, Miss., Rich has served as minister of education in churches in Florida, Louisiana, Georgia, Texas and Tennessee. He is a graduate of Mississippi State University and received the master of religious education degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has served as president of Tennessee Southwestern Seminary alumni, as a member of the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, as president of the Tennessee Baptist Church Library Association, and as first vice president of the state convention. He has also been active in convention wide work. Bob Norman is pastor at Belmont Heights Church.

Members of John Sevier Church, Knox Association, observed dedication day for newly-renovated facilities. The renovation completed the third phase of a long-range growth program. Ted Huckaby is pastor at John Sevier Church.

Bethel Church members, Clinton Association, voted to build a structure housing a sanctuary, pre-school classrooms, choir room, library, and office space. J. C. Parrish is pastor.

Grace Church, Clinton Association, plans to build an addition and brick the exterior of the building. Bill Vowell is pastor.

New Sunday School rooms are being constructed at Indian Bluff Church, Briceville. R. C. Seiber is pastor.

Members of Mt. Pleasant Church, Andersonville, will hold dedication services on May 2, according to **Delbert Payne**, pastor. Members will dedicate the church's new educational building.

CPS Exam Offered In Nashville Area

Peggy J. Clark, associate professor of business administration, Belmont College, Nashville, will give the 1976 Certified Professional Secretary Examination. The examination will be administered Monday and Tuesday, May 3 and 4.

Belmont will be one of more than 200 centers for the two-day, six-part examination, which approximately 4,500 secretaries will take throughout the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico.

The examination is open to all secretaries who meet the specific educational requirements in combination with specified years of verified secretarial experience. Applications for the 1977 examination are now being accepted by the Institute for Certifying Secretaries, 2440 Pershing Road, Suite G-10, Kansas City, Missouri 64109.

Instruction Offered To GA Leaders

Two day camp clinics will be held for leaders of Girls in Action, May 14-15 and May 21-22, according to Jannie Engelmann, state GA director.

The clinics will be held at Camps Linden and Carson, respectively. Sessions will begin at each camp on Friday at 7 p.m. and Saturday at 8:30 a.m. Sessions will conclude by 2:30 p.m. Saturday.

PEOPLE . . .

Gearin's Chapel, Weakley County Association, ordained Robert Archie and Billy Cantrell as deacons. Wayne Perkins brought the ordination sermon, and former pastor George Smith delivered the charge to the church and the candidates.

Charles Cheatham was ordained to the gospel ministry by Coletown Church, Copperhill, earlier this month. Cheatham has accepted the call to serve as pastor of Simonds Chapel Church, Culberson, N.C.

Walker Memorial Church, Franklin, ordained Gary D. King to the gospel ministry. Clarence Johnson, brother-in-law to the candidate, led the ordination prayer. Robert King, the candidate's father, presented the Bible, and Wilbur Powell, pastor, Calvary Church, Franklin, brought the charge. Joe E. Franklin, pastor of Walker Memorial, preached the ordination sermon. King was called as pastor of Cedar Grove Church in Franklin, Ky.

Don Long, pastor, Calvary Church, Oak Ridge, was honored by members of the church with a Pastor Appreciation Day earlier this month. Members presented Long with a love offering which will be used for a trip to the Holy Land.

SBC Churches Start 679 New Training Programs

NASHVILLE — Southern Baptist churches across the country reported 679 new Church Training programs established in an emphasis ending the first Sunday in April, which was designated "New Day for Training."

Some programs include among the 679 churches reporting were begun prior to April, with all new programs started since October, 1975. Attendance in the new programs on April 4, totaled 25,611, for an average of 37.8 new members in each new group (churchwide), according to Philip B. Harris, church training department secretary for the Baptist Sunday School Board here.

The 679 total represents the largest number of churches beginning new training programs in recent history, said Harris. Each local association in the denomination was encouraged to establish at least one new church training program by April 4. The overall goal was 1,196, he said. (BP)

Instruction areas will include: "GA's, Knowing and Growing," "You, Knowing and Growing," "You and Day Camping," "Guatemala Day Camp."

Ohio Elects Sommerkamp As Editor, Allan, WMU Director

columbus, Ohio—Theo E. Sommer-kamp, associate director of public relations at the Southern Baptist Annuity Board, Dallas, for the past five years, was elected here as editor of the Ohio "Baptist Messenger."

Sommerkamp, who has spent 21 years in Southern Baptist journalism and public relations, will succeed L. H. Moore, retiring editor of the state Baptist news publication, June 1.

He will also have responsibility for the public relations for the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio and serve as the convention's historical secretary.

Besides electing Sommerkamp, the Ohio Convention's executive board also named Helen M. Allan, editor of Mission Friends material for the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union (WMU), Birmingham, as state WMU director.

In other action, the board voted to establish, with Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., a branch of the seminary's Boyce Bible School in Columbus to offer non-degree diploma work. A building will be remodeled to house the Boyce School center, a Seminary Extension center and the Capital City Baptist Association.

Before joining the Annuity Board in 1971, where he also served as press representative, Sommerkamp spent six years as director of European Baptist Press Service (EBPS), Ruschlikon, Switzerland, under appointment as a missionary associate by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

The Tampa, Fla., native previously spent over 10 years as assistant director of Baptist Press (BP), the SBC's news service, SBC Executive Committee, Nashville.

He also earned a master of science in journalism from Florida State University and has earned accredited status from the Public Relations Society of America. He is current president of the Texas Baptist Public Relations Association.

Mrs. Allan, wife of the late H. Marvin Allan, a pastor who died in 1951, worked at the SBC Sunday School Board, 1958-1968, first as a budget analyst assistant and then as assistant editor of Home Life magazine. She joined the WMU in 1968.

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Annuity Board Plans Breakfast For Benefit Recipients

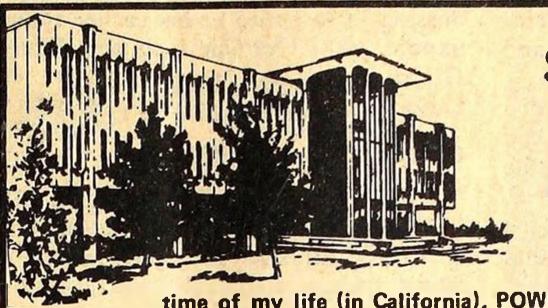
Benefit recipients of the Southern Baptist Convention Annuity Board present in Norfolk are invited to attend a breakfast on Thursday, June 17.

The annual "Annuitants' Breakfast" is held during the yearly meeting of the SBC. The breakfast at Norfolk will be held in the Ballroom of the Holiday Inn-Scope at 7:30.

Annuitants and their spouses will be

guests of the Annuity Board. A limited number of others may attend by paying \$3.50 per person, according to Kermit E. Whiteaker, Dallas, Annuity Board senior vice president and organizer of the breakfast.

H. H. Hobbs, Oklahoma City, former president of the SBC, will be master of ceremonies. Attendance is expected to surpass 300, Whiteaker said.



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CENTERVILLE CENTERVILLE CLEVELAND COLUMBIA COOKEVILLE COPPERHILL	WHLP 1570 K SA 0400PM CHATTANOOGA WRIP CH 61 WIKA SA 0400PM KINGSPORT CATV SU 1000AM WCLF 100.7M SA 1130PM WKRM 1340 K SU 1130PM WTTU 088.5M SU 0900AM WLSR 1400 K SA 0830PM CHATTANOOGA WTVC CH 09 FR 0902AM WLSR 1400 K SA 0830PM KINGSPORT CATV TH 0600
FRANKLIN GREENEVILLS HENDERSONVILLE HUMBOLDT JACKSON	WIZO 100.1M SA 0800PM KNOXVILLE WATE CH 06 SA 0700AM WGRV 1340 K SA 0830PM KNOXVILLE WBIR CH 10 SA 0100PM WBYO 092.1M SU 0630AM KNOXVILLE WBIR CH 10 SU 0655AM WIRJ 0740 K SA 1100AM WJAK 1460 K SU 1130AM THE BAPTIST HOUR
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Paul M. Stevens, President

European Baptists Discuss Liberty With Soviet Leader

MOSCOW—Five representatives of the European Baptist Federation (EBF) and the Baptist World Alliance (BWA) held a frank, two-hour discussion on religious liberties with a Soviet government official here in late March, which included an appeal for clemency for Baptist pastor Georgi Vins and others.

The conversation was "the frankest discussion European Baptist leaders have had in recent times with a representative of the Soviet Union," in the opinion of David S. Russell of London, general secretary of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland, who wrote a report of the meeting to BWA officials in Washington and London.

Victor N. Titov, deputy chairman of the Council for Religious Affairs of the USSR, heard the delegation's plea for clemency for Vins and about 78 other persons thought to be in Soviet prisons for their religious beliefs. Similar appeals were voiced in interviews with the press and radio, and to the chairman of the Council for Religious Affairs in Kiev, capital of the Ukraine.

Russell preached to a capacity audience with many young persons at the Kiev church (Initsiativniki, Reformed Baptist) where Vins used to be pastor. After the sermon Russell spoke privately with Vins' wife. She expressed gratitude to Christians around the world who have prayed for her husband whom she visited in Siberia in January.

Appeals Made

In addition to their appeal for leniency for Vins, now serving a five year prison sentence, the delegation referred to the situation of Janis Smits, a Baptist minister in Latvia, whose repeated requests to leave the country with his family had been refused. Titov said that such permission has now been given.

The five Baptist leaders from western Europe were in Moscow for meetings of the executive committee of the European Baptist Federation, the first time any such gathering has met in a European socialist state. The timing of the March 25-27 meeting came about 100 years after the emergence of Baptist witness in the USSR.

Baptists in three churches at Moscow and Kiev assured Russell that the openness he experienced with the Soviet officials "is marked in many other ways also and that the treatment they receive is now much better than for a long time past."

Besides Russell, the Baptist delegation which conferred with Titov included Gerhard Claas of West Germany, secretary-elect of the EBF and BWA; John Merritt, executive secretary of the European Baptist Convention in West Germany; Theo van der Laan, general secretary, Baptist Union of the Netherlands; and Knud Wumpelmann,

general secretary of the Baptist Union of Denmark.

The "straight talking" between the Baptists and Titov included Claas' expression of appreciation for Soviet government permission in response to his earlier request to import 3000 German language Bibles for German speaking people in the Soviet Union.

Concerned Over Attitude

Russell's report to Baptist World Alliance said that the delegation expressed concern about the attitude of Soviet authorities to dissidents, especially religious dissidents.

Titov cited the case of Vins, who, he said, had been warned for infringement of the law, as a case in point. Vins has the right to appeal to the Soviet Supreme Court, Titov said, if he were willing to "acknowledge his mistakes."

The Baptist delegation conceded that dissidents "may have been imprisoned for a breach of the law," but explained that "such an assertion conceals the fact that the law itself sometimes reflects a measure of religious discrimination, not least in its application at the local level."

Vins was a founder of the dissident Baptist movement which the Soviet government considers illegal. The "Initsiativniki" separated from the officially sanctioned All Union Council of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (AUCECB) in 1965 and formed the Council of Churches of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (CCECB), of which Vins is secretary. The AUCECB hosted the EBF executive meeting. Alexei Bichkov, the AUCECB's chief officer, is EBF president.

Titov Questioned

Frank questions were asked Titov about the government requirement for church registration and about the religious teaching of children. Titov said that the USSR has no law against such teaching of children. He added that a few registration applications from congregations have been rejected for good reasons.

Titov told his visitors that any infringements of the rights of citizens at the local level can be reported, and will be dealt with, by the Council of Religious Affairs.

Within "minutes" of his arrival in Moscow, Russell reported he was preaching at the Central Baptist Church to a congregation that filled the pews and aisles. He said eight men and 16 women were baptized at the church in a Friday evening service.

They "seemed to throw themselves backwards as they stood in the water, eager to be buried with Christ and raised into newness of life, each one uttering a loud 'Amen' in response to the minister's declaration," Russell said. The congregations he visited

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Dallas Baptist College Gets \$1.5 Million

DALLAS—Dallas Baptist College here, which has encountered financial difficulties over the past several years, has become \$1.5 million richer following successful completion of a matching fund drive.

The funds in cash and endowment will be used to retire two debts, which the college has been unable to include in its annual operating budget, and to increase the size of the school's endowment fund for scholarships and other continuing purposes, W. E. Thorn, the college's president, told trustees here.

The matching fund drive was launched by college trustee A. Webb Roberts, who said he would give \$750,000 if the college would raise an additional \$750,000, which it did.

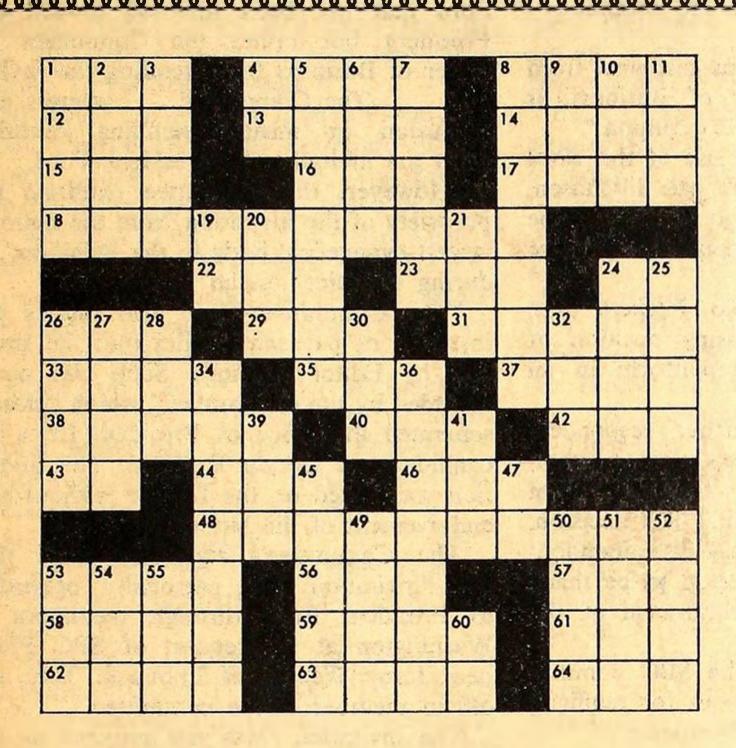
In other action, the trustees named Thomas J. Rector as financial administrator. He joined the college's administration in September as director of institutional research. (BP)

whispered approval as their ministers prayed. "In a country whose official belief is that

of atheism, the baptism of a believer shows a sense of commitment which is surely real and deep," Russell said. "I shall long remember the look of joy, expressing itself in tears, on the faces of relatives and friends as they presented the newly baptized with flowers."

Russell counted 150 children and teenagers and 30 adults at a youth meeting at 9:30 p.m. after the baptismal service. He said increasing numbers of young and educated persons are joining Baptist churches in the USSR. (BP)

Bible Puzzle Page Answers On Page 13



ACROSS

1 "If ye shall —" (John 14)

4 Craggy hills 8 The Lord's endures forever (1 Pet. 1:25)

12 In the regions of unbelievers: abbr. (L.)

13 Pas de duex

14 Armadillo

15 Calendar abbr.

16 Early car

17 Steep in Scotland

18 What man ate (Psa. 78:25;2 words)

22 He was not found: abbr.

23 Peter Cottontail's mother

24 Bone

26 School subject: abbr.

29 Writing material (Jer. 36:18)

31 Aaron (Psa. 106:16)

33 Kind of town

35 Fowls don't (Matt. 6:26)

37 Misfortune in Glasgow

38 Shine out

40 In the year before Christ: abbr.

42 Footed vase

43 Help for drinkers: abbr.

44 Boy's nickname

46 He sent Joram to David (2 Sam. 8:10)

48 "went into the — — —" (Luke 6)

53 Beverage

56 Form of address

(John 4:11)

57 Stir

58 Avouch

59 Chemical suffixes

61 Eastern holiday

62 Pistols: slang 63 Kind of rail

64 Body parts: abbr.

DOWN

1 Where the Benjaminites lived (Neh. 11:31)

2 Measure (1 Sam. 17:4)

3 See 60 down

4 Department of federal government:

abbr. 5 "by himself purged

——" (Heb. 1) 6 Part of a sail

7 "And Jesus —" (Luke 18)

8 "But when Herod — —" (Matt. 2)

9 Choose

10 Girl's name

11 Kind of places (Luke 11:24)

19 One against us: abbr.

20 Garland

21 Hawaiian honey

eaters 24 Unique thing

25 British gun

26 "crying, -, Father"

(Gal. 4) 27 Girl's name

28 Sticky stuff

30 Chaldean

(Ezek. 23:23)

32 Son of Caleb

(1 Chron. 4:15)

34 — Day

36 Apollos did it (1 Cor. 3:6)

39 Less: comb form

41 Cote sound

45 Pondered

47 "— I be lifted up" (John 12)

49 Mount (Acts 7:30)

50 David dwelt there

(1 Sam. 27:3)

51 A prophet of the

Lord (2 Chron. 28:9)

52 Intersperses

53 Joker

54 The yellow bugle

55 They forsook them

(Mark 1:18; sing.)

60 Egyptian ruler

(2 Ki. 17:4)

CRYPTOVERSE

WXO KW NY QXIY FZYS UZKHZ QXIY NXT

UZEF OYUEOR ZEIY NY

Today's Cryptoverse clue: O equals R.

Gill New Copy Editor In Broadman Products

NASHVILLE—Melody Gill recently was named copy editor of Broadman books in the Broadman Products Department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Gill was an editorial assistant in the Sunday School Department of the board before assuming her present position. She also served as a tour guide in the board's office of public relations several summers prior to permanent employment.

A native of Nashville, she graduated from Carson-Newman College. She received her B.A. degree in English and French and is doing graduate work at George Peabody College for Teachers in Nashville.

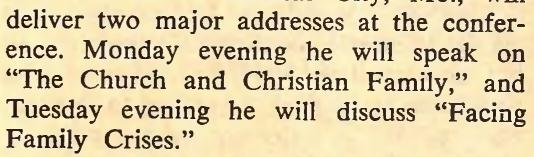
John Howell To Address Family Enrichment Conference

The Tennessee State Conference for Family Enrichment will be held at Judson Church in Nashville, May 31-June 1, ac-

> cording to Johnnie Hall Jr., state Church Training director.

> Sessions will begin at 7 p.m. Monday, 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, 1 p.m. Tuesday, and 7 p.m. Tuesday. The Tuesday night session will be the final session.

> John Howell, dean, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., will



Howell

Family enrichment conferences will be offered for preschoolers, young children, older children, junior high, senior high, and adults. Conference leaders will include Joe Hinkle, Linda Lawson, Don Mattingly, Richard Waggener, Fred Heifner, all from the Baptist Sunday School Board; Howell, Mrs. Robert Parris, Nashville, and Mrs. Jesse Meek, Nashville.

Study in family care workshops will feature "Developing Family Care and Counseling Skills," "Marriage Enrichment Experiences for Couples," "Christian Sex Education for Parents," "How to Plan, Promote, and Conduct a Family Enrichment Conference During Christian Home Week," "Bible Teaching Program in Effective Family Enrichment," and "Ministering to Parents without Partners." Leaders will include Howell, Waggener, Hinkle, Chaplain Bill Mays, Baptist Hospital, Nashville; Mrs. Wendell Price, Nashville; and Mike Dawson, pastor, Dalewood Church, Nashville.

Waggener will also lead a family life feature at each Tuesday session. These are scheduled to include "The Caring Church Meeting Family Needs," "The Family, from Beginning to End," and a film and discussion.

Music at each session will be led by Frank Charton, director, Church Music Dept., TBC. Presiding at the sessions will be Hall, Don Mauldin, director, adult work, Church Training Dept., Clifford Horne, Nashville Baptist Association.

The conference is sponsored by the Church Training Dept.

Ford Invitation Stands; Editor Will Not Pursue

NASHVILLE—An invitation to President Gerald R. Ford to address the annual Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) in Norfolk, Va., June 15, will not be withdrawn and a Baptist newspaper editor who called for withdrawing the offer for Ford to speak to the SBC has said he will not pursue the matter further.

The committee's decision to reaffirm the Ford invitation came in response to a widely-circulated Mailgram from Robert J. Hastings, editor of the Illinois Baptist to R. G. Puckett, chairman of the Committee on Order of Business, SBC, and editor of the Maryland Baptist.

Hastings had protested the invitation, contending it was unfair to other presidential candidates, Bicentennial or not, particularly to Georgia Democrat Jimmy Carter, a Southern Baptist layman.

The SBC committee's decision was made via a telephone conference involving all but one member, Harley G. Humes, who could not be reached, according to Puckett, who released a statement on the committee's behalf to Baptist Press. All Committee members contacted agreed to reaffirm the invitation for the President to address the

SBC, Puckett said.

Hastings, on learning of the committee's decision responded:

"I appreciate the prompt response from the Committee on Order of Business. It shows they are responsive to opinion."

Secondly, he said, "The use of the word 'embarrassing' on my part was ill-chosen, and, actually, we have no reason to be embarrassed if the President does accept the invitation."

Hastings had written to Puckett that, "We are in the embarrassing position of giving Ford this political platform in an election year . . ."

The Illinois editor further responded, "In view of the committee's almost unanimous decision, I respect their judgment and plan no further action." His decision, Hastings said, meant he was also abondoning earlier plans for a motion to be made at the SBC calling for withdrawal of the invitation to Ford.

Puckett, speaking for the SBC committee, stated the group's reasons for reaffirming its invitation to the President:

"The invitation was extended as part of the Convention's celebration of the nation's Bicentennial. The program of the annual meeting of the SBC is not a platform for political candidates. The Convention has a long-standing practice of non-endorsement of any candidate for any office. Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter are no exception.

"The protest of the invitation to Mr. Ford had not been directed toward the President but rather the Committee on Order of Business for extending the invitation... The Committee... regrets any confusion or misunderstanding resulting from the invitation to President Ford.

"However, the committee reaffirms the propriety of the invitation from the nation's largest evangelical body to the President... during the Bicentennial year.

"The Committee . . . also regrets the injection of partisan politics into the situation by Editor Hastings. Such was never intended by the Committee," which "clearly separated the office of President from the candidacy of Gerald R. Ford. The invitation was based on the former without any endorsement of the latter."

The Committee's statement cited that the "invitation was personally presented to President Ford through mediators in Washington at the request of SBC President Jaroy Weber" of Lubbock, Tex., exofficio member of the committee.

The invitation "was not rejected at the time extended and is subject to confirmation or decline two or three weeks before the June 15 date of the (Ford's) address. All press releases have clearly stated the acceptance (by Ford) was tentative, subject to the President's schedule and national priorities at the time. An earlier check with the White House scheduling office, had confirmed the tentative nature of acceptance by the President, as cited by the SBC committee.

Hastings said that the Illinois Baptist
State Association's (IBSA) "Freedom in
Christ Bicentennial Rally," planned for
July 4 called initially for inviting Jimmy
Carter to speak, but the "invitation was
not extended because of Carter's (presidential) candidacy."

(BP)



WHEN ONLY THE BEST WILL DO. FOR MOTHER'S DAY

A FIELD OF DIAMONDS

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A gift-book collection of poems and short prose pieces to inspire and delight. Comes attractively bound in foil cover and boxed. \$5.95

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EBROADMAN AT YOUR BAPTIST BOOK STORE

Barnes Accepts Missouri Language Post

Jimmy L. Barnes, dean of students at Harrison-Chilhowee Academy and director of the academy's College Preparatory Program for Deaf Students, has accepted a position with the Missouri Baptist Convention to begin a state wide ministry among deaf persons.

Barnes began his ministry with the academy in 1972 while under appointment with the Home Mission Board's US-2 Program. Before being appointed dean of students, he served as interpreter and tutor in the deaf program. As the work with deaf students developed, he also assumed the responsibility of directing the program.

Seminary Opens In Liberia Fulfilling Long Time Dream

PAYNESWARD CITY, Liberia—A 96-year-old dream came true here recently with the opening convocation of the Liberia Baptist Theological Seminary.

Nineteen young men compose the first class. Twelve are from churches of the Liberia Baptist Missionary and Educational Convention (LBMEC) which operates the seminary. Four are from the Liberia District Baptist Missionary Conference, the second Baptist body with which Southern Baptist missionaries work. Three are from Methodist churches.

The faculty and staff include Liberians and missionaries. Director is Southern Baptist Missionary Bradley D. Brown. Codirector is Advertus A. Hoff, minister of education for the Republic of Liberia.

In 1880 the organizers of the convention set as one objective in their constitution the establishment of theological institutions.

Since the early 1960's the convention president, William R. Tolbert Jr., who is also president of the Republic of Liberia, has included reminders of that objective in his annual message. In 1964 he noted that in 84 years no theological institution had been established and none was in sight. In 1969 he led the convention to adopt the goal of beginning a seminary by the centennial year, 1980.

Goal Reached

Steps toward the goal have included the Union Meeting and various activities through the Baptist Training Center. The Union Meeting, which is older than the convention, was begun in 1875 for the training of preachers and deacons. At that time there were only four churches organized into a Baptist Association. Three times

Ross Morgan Completes Five RA Service Areas

Ross Morgan, New Market, has earned five service aide awards in the areas of ministry, education, witness, worship, and application in the Royal Ambassador program.

For completion of the work, which requires 750 hours, Morgan received the Service Aide National Award plaque from the Brotherhood Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, and a \$1200 scholarship to any one of the three Baptist colleges in Tennessee.

Morgan, 17, is a member of the James Gibson Royal Ambassador chapter of the Piedmont Church in Dandridge. James H. Royston is pastor, and Quinton Eslinger is the RA counselor.

a year ministers met for a week to teach, train and test those who were studying toward a certificate of proficiency which was required before they could be ordained. Most of the present pastors received this type of training. Very few have been able to study in a seminary or Bible school.

Through the Baptist Training Center, directed by Brown and Hoff, a major program of monthly week-long institutes included literacy skills for pastors and deacons of tribal origin. Other training has been done through week-end study retreats for future Baptist leaders, workshops and theological education by extension.

According to H. Cornell Goerner, area secretary for West Africa, there are currently no seminary trained Baptist pastors, totally supported by the church they are serving, in the nation of Liberia. The seminary will provide training for pastors including a post high school program for students who have had high school educations. Previously theological training involved many literacy classes.

Mission Action To Highlight First Pioneer RA Congress

Carson-Newman College will host the first Congress for Pioneer Royal Ambassadors, May 21-22, according to Roy Gilleland, state Brotherhood director. Pioneer Royal Ambassadors are boys in the RA program, grades 7-12.

The purpose of the congress is to emphasize mission involvement and evangelism, Gilleland stated. The congress will be designed to acquaint Pioneers and their counselors with opportunities available through home and foreign missions, the journeyman program, US-2 program, Christian Service Corps, Baptist Student Union, and Ambassador Service. Opportunities in Christian education will also be explored.

Dog-patch olympics will be led by coaches Ken Sparks and Chris Jones and members of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Program personalities will include Dal Shealy, backfield football coach for the University of Tennessee; Jimmy England, All-American in basketball, U.T.; James Teel, missionary to Argentina; and Wayne Emmanuel, missionary to Japan.

Registration will begin at 3 p.m. on the campus. Pre-registration should be made through the Brotherhood Dept., Tennessee Baptist Convention, P.O. Box 347, Brentwood, 37027.

General chairman for the congress is Carroll Bales, Corryton.

Coming Events

April 30-May 2—Christian Career Conference, Camp Linden.

May 1—Sunday School Associational Special Leadership Training, Meridian Baptist Church, Knoxville.

May 2-9—Christian Home Week.

May 8—Sunday School Associational Special Leadership Training, First Church, Goodlettsville.

May 9—Mother's Day Offering for Tennessee Baptist Children's Home.

May 11—Executive Board Meeting, Executive Board Building, Tennessee Baptist Convention, Brentwood.

May 13-14—Religious Education Association Retreat, Montgomery Bell State Park.

May 14-15—GA Day Camping Clinic for GA Associational and Church Leadership, Camp Linden.

May 14-15—GA Day Camping Clinics for GA Associational and Church Leadership, Camp Carson.

May 15—Sunday School Associational Special Leadership Training, Brownsville Baptist Church, Brownsville.

May 17-18—New Pastors' Orientation, Executive Board Building, Tennessee Baptist Convention, Brentwood.

May 21-22—Sunday School Camp for Teachers and Leaders, Camp Linden.

May 21-22—First Pioneer RA Congress, Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City.

May 28-29—Sunday School Camp for Teachers and Leaders, Camp Carson.

May 31-June 1—Family Enrichment Conference, Judson Baptist Church, Nashville.

BIBLE PUZZLE PAGE ANSWERS

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"For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye?" (Matt. 5:46).

The Anguish Of Parenthood

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

Basic Passage: II Samuel 11:1-19:8

Focal Passages: II Samuel 18:5, 31-33; 19:4-8

Many joys can come to parents through their responsive and grateful children. Many sorrows can come due to self-willed and ungrateful children.

In spite of all this, there is a tremendous challenge and reward open to parenthood. There are black sheep occasionally in some of the best families. Even shepherds do not quit having flocks because of an occasional black sheep.

In fact, there is a risk to any worthy business or undertaking. Democracy is the best way for a free people, but there are many disappointments in the democratic system due to human weakness. Yes, we have hypocrites that embarrass the church of our Lord, but what would our nation be without the churches.

Parents have to follow the divine guidelines to the best of their abilities and leave the results to God.

A FATHER'S DEEP CONCERN— II Samuel 18:5

Absalom, who was very dear to David,

his father, was leading a revolt against his father.

David charged his commander-in-chief and all the military leaders to deal kindly with the young man, Absalom, in case he should fall into their hands. He particularly gave charge to Joab.

THE FATHER'S HEART BROKEN—II Samuel 18:31-33

The revolt led by Absalom finally meets a crushing defeat. The news is brought to David. His joy over the victory was held in abeyance when he gets the facts about Absalom.

The tragic death of Absalom is made known to him. It turns any joy of victory he could have had into utter anguish. It broke his heart.

He goes up to his chamber bewailing—not only his tragedy of Absalom's terrible end but the fact that he had failed his son. He cried, "O Absalom, my son! would God I had died for thee." He should have bewailed the fact that he should have done a

better job of living for him. Even then some sons will fail their fathers.

DAVID COMES TO HIMSELF— II Samuel 19:4-8

The anguish of David over his son's death threw everything out of proper perspective. It demoralized all of his loyal supporters who had stood by him. He was neglecting his duties as the king of the nation. Things were falling apart.

He still had much to live for and in addition to this he had an inescapable responsibility to the people. Joab told him as much in no uncertain terms.

He came to himself and appeared at his public post of duty. This rallied the whole nation to its normal process and to orderly function. In fact, it revived a new spirit everywhere. Life must go on.

Laughs

It was a dark night. A man was riding a bicycle with no lamp. He came to a cross-road, and did not know which way to turn. He felt in his pocket for a match. He found but one. Climbing to the top of the pole he lit the match carefully, and in the ensuing glimmer read: "Wet Paint."

Mailmen at a Des Moines post office discovered that one package in a sack of parcel post bundles had broken open. The damaged package contained U.S. Postal Service pamphlets that tell people how to wrap parcels for safe delivery.

A pretty young thing was about to take her first train journey alone. Her mama repeatedly warned her to be careful and not talk to strange men. At the station a kindly porter asked: "Where are you going, Miss?"

"To Los Angeles," she replied.

So the porter put her on the train bound for Los Angeles. As it pulled out of the station, she sank back in the seat with a smile and said to herself, "Well, I fooled him that time. I'm going to Boston."

Professor—Mr. Gray, what three words are used most among college students?

Gray—I don't know. Professor—Correct.

MOTICE

NOTICE!

Photographs submitted for use in "Baptist And Reflector" must be black and white glossy prints. We cannot use color. No pictures are returned unless a self-addressed stamped envelope is sent with the picture. This is due to the increase in postal rates.

"I Love You Very Much

Tennessee Baptists for remembering me and my brothers and sisters on Mother's Day, in your prayers and with your gifts."

THAT DAY IS SUNDAY MAY 9!



TENNESSEE BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOMES, INC.

Evans B. Bowen, Executive Director

Brentwood • Memphis • Franklin • Chattanooga • Min-Tom

Family Living

By Dr. B. David Edens,

Director, Marriage and Family Program

Stephens College—Columbia, Missouri 65201

Killers Can Be Spotted In Teens: Psychiatrist

The way a disturbed youngster regards other people—the degree to which he "dehumanizes" others—is the tip-off as to whether or not he or she is a potential killer, says a Univ. of Michigan psychiatrist. Dr. Derek Miller predicted that 10 specific children among his teenage patients would inevitably attempt to kill. So far, 8 have attempted murder and 3 actually have killed. None, he notes, had a past criminal record.

The young patient's ability to partially or totally dehumanize other people—his inability to recognize that others have feelings and to empathize with them—is the outstanding characteristic of the future murderer, Miller told the American Psychiatric Assn. at its annual conference.

While the capacity to dehumanize others exists in all human beings and is intensified in war when soldiers are encouraged to dehumanize "the enemy" by such terms as "gook", in certain vulnerable children the mechanism of dehumanization takes over in response to early childhood experiences.

In the course of more than a decade of work with troubled adolescents, Miller had found 3 murderous personalities in youngsters and specific childhood situations shared by all 3 types. He defines the "murder syndromes" he has pinpointed in adolescents are:

- —Those who kill by totally dehumanizing their victims.
- —Those who kill by partially dehumanizing. This person kills to resolve internal tensions associated with mixed conflicts of sexuality and aggression; first he or she kills in fantasy, then in fact.
- —Those who partially dehumanize, reinforced by peers who approve the process.

The three types, in his experience, shared common childhood experiences. All had violent fathers, who showed explosive loss of control, subjecting the child to violence far beyond any act of provocation. All had deceitful mothers or mothers who failed to protect them from their fathers' cruelties.

"Dynamically, all of the patients who partially dehumanized others showed a wish to attack either a maternal image or an unacceptable part of their own personality," said Miller.

The development of the child's capacity to humanize takes place early, he reminds. Humanization may not be possible, he sug-

HISTORICALLY

FROM THE FILES

50 YEARS AGO

Hopewell Church in Robertson County was preparing to celebrate its 100th anniversary in May. A day-long program was being planned with the editor of Baptist And Reflector scheduled to preach the anniversary sermon. Many former pastors and members were expected.

At the call of First Church, Pulaski, the church council met to ordain Sibley C. Burnett to the work of the ministry. The council was composed of O. E. Bryan, D. B. Booker, J. L. Campbell, J. C. Griffin, T. E. Haney, W. D. King, L. M. Laten, and H. M. Prosser. Campbell preached the ordination sermon and delivered the charge.

20 YEARS AGO

Jacob H. Sharp, 82, for several years field secretary for Carson-Newman College, died. He had held several Tennessee pastorates and was prsident of the Tennessee Baptist Convention from 1936-38.

Dillard Mynatt, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, accepted the call as pastor of Taylors Chapel, Murfreesboro. He was a native of Knoxville.

10 YEARS AGO

Warren G. Robards, pastor of Cumberland Drive Church, Clarks-ville, accepted the call of Savannah First Church.

In Western District Association, Jones Chapel Church had completed construction on five new Sunday School rooms.

gests, without consistent love in the first 2 years of life. Multiple handling by too many adults without sufficient regard for the infant's needs or respect for his individuality may be "catastrophic."

Schools that ignore the different maturation rates of boys and girls, as well as different development patterns and unique differences from person to person, also contribute to dangerous potentials for dehumanization.

From the Executive Secretary

By Ralph Norton

We want you to join with us in welcoming a new staff member here at your Convention offices. Orvind M. Dangeau will



Norton

be joining us on May
1 as the Director of
Stewardship and Cooperative Program. Although a newcomer to
our office, he is wellknown across the state,
for he has served as a
Tennessee pastor for
twenty years and has
been actively involved
in denominational activities, both on the associational and state level

during many of these years.

Coming from the First Baptist Church of McKenzie where he has been pastor for thirteen years, he also served as pastor of the First Baptist Church of Somerville for seven years. From a pastoral background as well as one of denominational work, we feel he has excellent qualities for leading us in the area of Stewardship and Cooperative Program challenges. We look forward to his coming with eager anticipation and pray that our relationship with him both here and across the state will serve to advance the cause of missions during the years ahead.

It is with genuine regret that we accept the resignation of Don Madaris, associate in the Music Department, effective May 1. He has served the convention through his involvement in music in many areas of state-wide as well as local church activities, and we will miss the abilities and interest which he has shared with us during these few years. We pray God's leadership upon him as he goes from us to other fields of service. Tennessee Baptists appreciate you Don, and thank you for your contributions to the music ministry in our state.

New Books

Saints In Sandals by Maude DeJoseph West, Baker Co., 250 pp., \$6.95. This book is a warm, vivid picture of the first-century Christians who picked up Christ's command and marched out to carry the gospel across the ancient world.

Celebrate Your Freedom, by Don Williams, Word Co., 148 pp., paperback, \$4.95. This book is an exposition of the Book of Galatians. The author uses a workbook approach in discovering afresh the deep truths of Galatians.

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—John C. Howell, professor of Christian ethics since 1960 at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary here, was elected the second dean in the 19-year history of Southern Baptists' youngest seminary.

The unanimous action of the trustees came following the recommendation of Howell by Seminary President Milton Ferguson to the executive committee of the board.

Howell succeeds Roy L. Honeycutt who resigned in 1975 to become dean at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, the denomination's oldest theological institution.

In other action, the Midwestern trustees approved a budget for the 1976-77 academic year, totalling \$1,335,035, based on the proposed budget of the Southern Bap-

tist Convention (SBC) which will be acted upon by "messengers" when the SBC meets in Norfolk this June.

Projections call for Midwestern Seminary to receive \$1,061,535 from the SBC's operating budget funded by the Cooperative Program (unified budget).

The two-day annual meeting of the trustees drew 31 of 34 members. R. G. Puckett, editor of the Maryland Baptist, was elected president of the trustees for the coming year. Other officres include: Frank Parks, Excello, Mo., first vice-president; Weldon E. Marcum, Miami, Okla., second vice-president; James Pharp, Springfield, Mo., secretary; and Edward Van-Deusen, Kansas City, Mo., treasurer.

The seminary trustees made plans for welcoming the annual SBC meeting in Kansas City in 1977. (BP)

I Believe In - - By Jonas L. Stewart
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

A statement often made by most of us begins with the words, "I believe in - - -." The concluding words of that statement reveal something of the character of the person.

Foundation

Many are saying, "I believe in Christian education." Usually they are referring to one of our Baptist schools. There is much talk about this kind of education among our people. The sad thing is that some people have done more talking than performing.

There are lots of people who on cannot spare their resources and feel secure in their financial responsibilities, however, some have found a way to greatness in giving by preparing a Christian will, leaving a portion, and often all, of their estate in trust to join others in endowing one of our schools. An increasing number of Christian stewards, both rich and poor, are making this kind of provision for the protection of their estate at death. They believe in Christian education and prove that belief by performance.

For information about preparing a Christian will as additional testimony of your belief in Christian education, write Tennessee Baptist Foundation, Jonas L. Stewart, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, P.O. Box 347, Brentwood, Tennessee 37027, or contact the development officer at the school of your choice.

BPRA Elects Nash To Presidency

SARASOTA, Fla.—Stanton H. Nash, assistant to the president of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif., was elected national president of the Baptist Public Relations Association (BPRA) during the Southern Baptist group's annual meeting here.

Nash succeeds Roy Jennings, executive assistant, Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission, Memphis.

Other officers for 1976-77 are James H. Cox Sr., associate editor, "Western Recorder," Middletown, Ky., program vice president; M. Judson Cook, director of public relations, department of child care,

Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City, membership vice president; Evelyn Strickland, public relations coordinator, Tennessee Baptist Convention, Brentwood, secretary-treasurer; Jennifer K. Bryon, communications specialist, Book Store Division, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Inter-agency Council representative; and Leonard Hill, managing editor, "Baptist Program," SBC Executive Committee, Nashville, newsletter editor.

The BPRA is made up of 234 members from churches, associations and national and state Southern Baptist organizations from California to Virginia. (BP)



BPRA ELECTS OFFICERS—Stanton H. Nash, left, was elected 1976-77 national president of the Baptist Public Relations Association at BPRA's annual meeting in Sarasota, Fla. Serving with Nash, assistant to the president of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif., left to right are James H. Cox Sr., associate editor, "Western Recorder," Middletown, Ky., program vice president; M. Judson Cook, director of public relations, department of child care, Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City, membership vice president; Evelyn Strickland, public relations coordinator, Tennessee Baptist Convention, Brentwood, secretary-treasurer; Jennifer K. Bryon, communications specialist, book store division, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, SBC Inter-agency Council representative. Not pictured is Leonard Hill, managing editor, "Baptist Program." (BP) Photo

FCC Head Speaks To Baptists In Fort Worth

Richard E. Wiley, chairman of the Federal Communications in Washington, D.C., spoke to a group of Southern Baptist pastors and laymen at the third annual Southern Baptist Radio-Television and Cable Consultation in Fort Worth.

The conference was designed to help leaders in churches using, or planning to use, the broadcast media in their ministry.

Wiley's topic was "The Church Using the Media In a Free America." Other subjects covered included the use of advertising as a method of communicating the church and its image, and a survey of radio and television spot announcements and special formats. Also studied were cable television, religious programming and the local church, types of religious programming, the use of advertising methods for communicating, and the most effective method of broadcasting the worship service for television.

