

Baptist and Reflector

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LAUNCHING CENTURY II—Key leaders of the capital funds drive for Harrison-Chilhowee Academy, Seymour, are (from left) J. Robert Clark, HCA director of development; Russ Durham, LaFollette; and McKinley Braden, Knoxville.

Harrison-Chilhowee launches \$2 million gifts campaign

Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy, Seymour, has launched a \$2 million capital gifts appeal campaign—the largest in the institution's history—with the naming of three campaign key leaders.

The appeal has been tagged as the Century II Advancement Campaign in recognition of the academy's upcoming 100th anniversary celebration and the launching of its second century of service in 1980. The campaign will consist of three initial appeal segments.

Edna Hyder, H-C history teacher, will head up the faculty-staff campaign segment, while LaFollette businessman and academy trustee Russ Dunham has accepted the trustees' campaign chairman responsibilities. Directing efforts into the greater Knoxville area will be McKinley Braden, Knoxville civic, business, and church leader.

Academy president Hubert B. Smothers,

explained that Century II is a series of four campaigns, including faculty and staff, board of trustees, the Knoxville area, and the 2,700 Baptist churches in the state convention. Individual campaign goals have not been determined.

Plans call for the completion of the campaign's first three segments by Dec. 15, 1978. The campaign will then broaden its scope into Tennessee Baptist churches from Oct. 1, 1979 through Dec. 31, 1980.

J. Robert Clark, academy director of development and campaign director, said that the solicited funds will be used for "modernizing of existing facilities, constructing a youth life center, adding a floor to the girls' dormitory, strengthening and enriching the school's academic program and deaf education opportunities, and increasing the number of student scholarships and workshop opportunities."

Grandparents Day set for September Sunday

WASHINGTON—President Jimmy Carter has proclaimed Sunday, Sept. 10, 1978, as "National Grandparents Day."

In calling on government agencies and voluntary organizations to plan appropriate activities to recognize the contributions of grandparents to the nation, Carter said: "I urge every citizen to pause and to reflect on the influence his grandparents have had in shaping his own destiny, and on the legacy bestowed

upon our contemporary society by his grandparents' generation."

Carter noted, "Just as a nation learns and is strengthened by its history, so a family learns and is strengthened by its understanding of preceding generations. As Americans live longer, more and more families are enriched by their shared experiences with grandparents and great-grandparents." (BP)

Georgi Vins beaten; condition unknown

WASHINGTON—Georgi Vins, imprisoned Soviet Baptist dissident, was "brutally beaten" on June 10, according to a British group which monitors religious developments in Communist countries.

The Centre for the Study of Religion and Communism at Keston, England, reported on July 27 that Vins was beaten and placed in an underground isolation cell. No reason for the beating is known.

The Centre earlier reported on July 6 that Peter Vins, Georgi's son, was beaten on arrival at Ukrainian Labor Camp to serve a one year sentence for "parasitism."

The elder Vins, 50, has been reported to be in poor health for some time. According to reports from the Soviet Union, his condition had stabilized prior to the beating but is now unknown. His wife, Nadezhda Vins, is "very concerned" about his health, especially his heart condition.

Vins is the leader of Baptists in the Soviet Union who refuse to register their congregations with the government. In 1975, he was sentenced to five years in a labor camp on charges of inciting citizens to commit "illegal acts"—holding unauthorized prayer meetings. His term is scheduled to expire next March, but he then faces a five year term of internal exile.

He had found a job in the camp hospital, where he worked as an electrician for which he has professional qualifications. He is reported to be ready to accept an invitation to join relatives in Canada whenever he is released from prison. (BP)

Linden pastor to retire; concludes 25-year ministry

The pastor of First Church, Linden, A. L. Wade, has announced his retirement, effective Sept. 24. He led the congregation at Linden for the past nine years.

Active in the ministry for 25 years, he has also served Pleasant Hill #1 in Beulah Association; Ralston and Calvary Churches, Weakley County Association; and Clifton Church, Indian Creek Association. All of his ministry has been spent in Tennessee. During his tenure at Linden, the congregation completed its building program.

A native of Weakley County, Wade and his wife plan to return there following his retirement. He expressed a desire to develop work in soul winning within his local church, and will do some supply and interim work.

Church training to launch new enrollment procedure

GLORIETA, N.M.—A new church training enrollment plan was presented to key state associational and church leaders during the Church Training Leadership Conference at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center.

“Built Up” is a new program which gives churches a comprehensive plan to use in building up their church training programs by increasing the numbers of persons enrolled and participating.

“Our purpose is to implement the spiritual growth and development of all church members and their families, and not merely to get more numbers on our church rolls,” said Roy T. Edgemon, director of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board’s church training department. “We’re interested in getting people actively participating in church training.”

The plan, developed in 1977 by Andy Anderson, who designed the successful ACTION Sunday School enrollment plan, was tested by 14 churches in Arkansas, Alabama, Illinois, Georgia, and South Carolina. Also, pastors and other church leaders and state church training directors evaluated it.

“All the churches in the pilot program agreed that the plan works and is effective in enrolling persons into the church training program,” Edgemon said. “The key factors in determining whether members become active participants is the material offered in church training and the effort made to get members involved.”

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“I believe this campaign has really given my church training program the shot in the arm that it needed,” said Evans Hartzog, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Dothan, Ala., one of the pilot churches. “We’ve tried other ways, but I believe this plan has proven to be the best for results. It’s evident that our attendance has consistently held up for 20 weeks since the project began with an average of 202 compared to 150 a year ago.”

The enrollment plan will be available to churches in 1979. All the manuals and materials necessary for the program will be listed on the April-May-June 1979 undated materials church literature order form.

“We chose ‘Build Up’ as our title because it is a Biblical truth,” Edgemon said. “In Ephesians 4:11-12 the Scripture presents the idea of the Christian developing, growing, and maturing as a disciple, as well as increasing in number. Involving more church members and their families in Christian development and growth is a worthy objective of Southern Baptists.” (BP)

SBC mission receipts gain over last year

NASHVILLE—Giving through the national Southern Baptist Cooperative Program totals \$47,715,260 through the first 10 months of the 1977-78 fiscal year—10.6 percent ahead of last year’s pace.

But total giving on a national level for the nation’s largest Protestant body amounts to \$94,203,189, an increase of nearly \$9.6-million, or 11.4 percent, over last year. The total giving figure includes the Cooperative Program amount and another \$46,487,929 in specially designated gifts.

The national Cooperative Program figure (\$47,715,260) totals about one-third of the amount received by state Baptist conventions from Southern Baptist churches. The state figures, in turn, amount to about 8 to 10 percent of the collection plate dollar in the churches.

The specially designated gifts, over \$5-million more than last year, show a 12.1 percent increase.

For the month of July 1978, the 10th month in the fiscal year, national Cooperative Program totaled \$4,858,870, a 6.6 percent increase over July 1977, and designated giving was down 24.7 percent to \$995,954. In July 1977, designated giving amounted to over \$1.3-million.

However, total giving for one month amounted to \$5,854,824, only .48 percent lower than July 1977. (BP)

Currie named to head special joint program

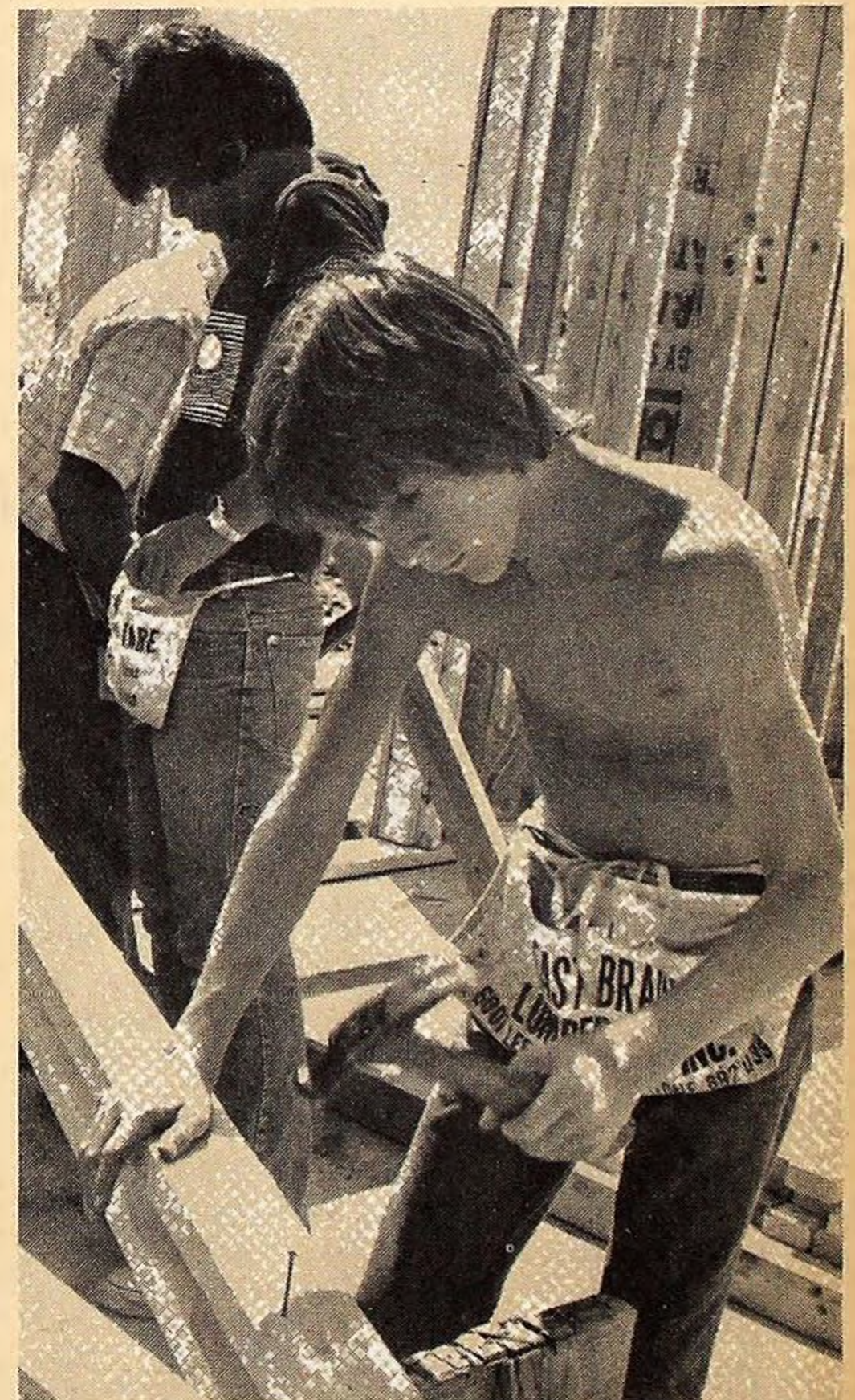
Texas native David Currie has been named as a special projects coordinator for the Home Mission Board and the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, according to Foy Valentine, executive secretary of the Christian Life Commission.

Currie will be responsible for correlating projects related to Christian social action and Christian social ministries under a special two-year joint program underwritten by the two agencies.

The two-year project represents an effort to help Southern Baptist churches move toward “a Biblically authentic intergration of the concerns of Christian social action and Christian social ministries,” Valentine explained.

A graduate of Howard Payne University, Brownwood, Tex., Currie received the master of divinity degree from Southwestern Baptist

Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, in May. He worked as a summer missionary for the Home Mission Board in 1972 and was an interim and associate pastor in Texas.



FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH GOES UP—Twenty-six men, women, and young people from Bartlett Church, Bartlett, traveled to Auburn, Ill. earlier this summer to construct that town’s first Southern Baptist church, named Meadowbrook. The Bartlett youth choir also presented two outdoor concerts in Auburn, a small town near the capital of Springfield. Irvin Hayes is pastor of Bartlett.

Retirement plans set by Carl H. Barrett

Carl H. Barrett, pastor of Ebenezer Church, Dunlap, since 1953, has announced his retirement from the active pastorate, effective Aug. 31.

Barrett led Calvary Church in Nashville from 1947 until 1953, when he accepted the Ebenezer pastorate in Sequatchie Valley Association. During his tenure in Dunlap, he also served as a guidance counselor for Sequatchie County High School, and was pastor of Toone Church, Toone.

He is an alumnus of Union University, Jackson, and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans, La. In addition to Tennessee, he has led churches in Mississippi and Louisiana.

The Barretts plan to reside in Dunlap where he will be available for supply and interim work.

Alabama to explore Bold Mission gain

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—A Bold Mission committee for Alabama Baptists unveiled a preliminary plan for increasing state convention contributions to national Southern Baptist Convention causes to help fund Bold Mission Thrust, the SBC plan to evangelize the world.

The report, presented to the Alabama Baptist Convention's Executive Board, calls for increasing the percentage of the state Cooperative Program budget to 50 percent by 1990 after deduction of certain agreed upon expenses shared by the SBC and the state convention. Currently, the Alabama convention gives 35.5 percent of all state Cooperative Program receipts to SBC causes.

The report is "firm but not final," according to committee chairman Pat Harrison, pastor from Mobile.

"In studying the minutes of the 1925 Southern Baptist Convention meeting when the Cooperative Program (SBC unified budget plan) was adopted, it was the intent that state conventions would give 50 percent to SBC causes and retain 50 percent in the state," Harrison said.

In other action, the Alabama board adopted a 1979 budget of \$16.2-million, subject to approval by the state convention, and honored its executive secretary, George E. Bagley, for 15 years service.

The major portion of the budget, \$10.5-million, is slated for state and SBC Cooperative Program causes, the remainder will come through a \$1.7-million challenge goal beyond the basic Cooperative Program budget and through special foreign, home, and state missions offerings. (BP)

Per capita giving comparisons said showing little boldness

By John J. Hurt

RICHMOND, Va.—The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board computer flashes the good news that Southern Baptists are contributing many more dollars for overseas missions than they used to—\$57 million last year compared to \$15.3 just 20 years ago.

There's also good news of an increase in missionary appointments—from a staff of 1,283 just 20 years ago to 2,858.

But the good news headlines begin to shrink when the figures are adjusted for a true comparative.

Southern Baptist membership has grown by approximately 50 percent in the 20-year span—from just over 9-million in 1958 to just over 13-million last year. But the ratio for appointment of new career missionaries shows it now takes 103,017 Southern Baptists for one career appointment, compared with 60,441 for an appointment in 1963.

Value of the Foreign Mission Board dollar has declined to offset some of the effectiveness in increased dollars. Per capita gifts to the board are up, \$4.43 last year compared to \$1.66 just 20 years ago.

But the purchasing power of those dollars went up only from \$1.92 to \$2.43 because of inflation.

Inflation is much worse in many countries abroad where the board spends those dollars.

J. Winston Crawley, director of the overseas division for the board, looks at these fig-

ures and others to explain: "This is simply to say that it takes a great and rapidly increasing amount of contributions on the part of Southern Baptists just to stand still in stewardship before we can ever begin talking about being bold."

His message was cast against the Bold Mission Thrust of the convention, which calls for doubling the missionary force to 5,000 by the end of this century.

Crawley's statistical study shifts back and forth between concern and joy, mostly the former. The facts do not show the boldness among Southern Baptists for which he begs.

He is disturbed that "as Southern Baptists become more prosperous" they should be giving "a larger proportion for outreach beyond our local congregations." They are not.

The best Southern Baptist stewardship, he says, was during the depression of the 30's "and there has been no consistent tendency for any increase."

There is joy as the states affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention begin to increase the percentage of the Cooperative Program dollar they pass on for Southern Baptist Convention work. A trend of the last two years has reversed a drop which went from 37 to 35 percent.

But the Foreign Mission Board has a problem within the Southern Baptist family. Four years ago it received more than 50 percent of the Cooperative Program dollar. It was about 45 percent last year.

Pointing to the 50 percent, Crawley said it would take a return to that for a "catch up, and it is, when we go beyond that, that we might begin to think of business in reaching out to more than 95 percent of the world's lost people."

The overseas mission director also has a major concern "related especially to the need for more preacher missionaries to do the work of the church planting and the church nurturing and multiplying that is at the heart of our missionary strategy."

"We do not yet see the 'Bold Thrust' of preachers offering themselves to go out to lands where most of the people have never heard the gospel and where there are now so few preachers," he said. "It is still our hope that we may see, for example, one new preacher-missionary each year for each of our 92 countries of service."

"It is still our hope that we may see 10 percent of the preachers graduating from our seminaries available and qualified for overseas service." (BP)

John J. Hurt, a native of Tennessee, was editor of Georgia's "Christian Index" and Texas' "Baptist Standard" before his retirement in 1976.



A YEAR OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS—Members of Orebank Missionary Church, Kingsport, added to their list of achievements this year by presenting a new Chevrolet Caprice to Pastor David K. Frazier. The membership has witnessed 32 additions to the church this year, including 23 for baptism; and the burning of notes for the parsonage and educational building, totaling \$43,000. Orebank Missionary Church was a mission of First Church, Kingsport, until its constitution as a church in 1959.

BSSB trustees increase prices for literature, conferences

GLORIETA, N.M.—Confronted with a 30.2 percent increase in costs over the last three years, the trustees of the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention approved a 7.6 percent increase in literature costs.

The trustees approved a number of recommendations during their two-day session at the Glorieta Baptist Conference Center, including an \$82-million budget for the operation of the Nashville-based Sunday School Board. This is a \$5-million increase over this year's operational budget.

James Clark, executive vice president at the board, said the literature cost hike was necessitated because of the same inflationary factors affecting everyone in the areas of production, labor costs, and particularly in the area of postage.

"An example is that the most recent postage increase will cost the Sunday School Board more than \$350,000 in additional funds each year. The Sunday School Board has always assumed the cost of postage for delivering literature to the churches and will continue to do so," said Clark.

He said the literature cost hike, effective on literature for use after April 1, 1979, will not have the same percentage impact on all churches. "The increase is less than the increase in the consumer price index and less than the jump in production costs."

The 82 trustees also approved a 9.3 percent hike in costs for participants at the conference centers at Glorieta and at Ridgecrest in North Carolina, both owned and operated by the Sunday School Board.

Robert Turner, director of the conference center division, said the increase is less than the additional funds required to operate the centers during the coming year. "We will make up this difference," Turner said, "by adding 10,000 guest days at the facilities and through cost controls."

Turner said the trustees also approved several recommendations that will help offset the elimination of the family discounts at the center. These include lowering food charges for youngsters—two thirds the normal rate for children in grades one through six, half rate for preschoolers over two, and no charge for children less than two years of age.

The trustees also approved the recommendation that Mrs. Peggy J. Self, a certified public accountant from Brentwood, be placed in the post of manager of the accounting and control department of the management services division.

A native of Anson, TX, Mrs. Self is married to Jerry Self, public affairs and Christian life consultant for the Tennessee Baptist Convention. She has an undergraduate and master's degree in business and has studied at South-

western Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth.

The trustees approved the deletion of *Collage*, a National Student Ministries periodical, which never reached its anticipated market, from the list of Sunday School Board publications. The emphasis of *Collage* will be shifted to *The Student*, another National Student Ministries publication.

Sam Stallings leads work at Greenhills, Collierville

Sam Stallings, former pastor of Liberty Church, Somerville, is serving as pastor of Greenhills Church, Collierville.

A native of Bolivar, he led the Somerville church while he was a student at Union University in Jackson. His last pastorate was at Trinity Church in Hernando, Miss. He led the work there for three years, and was active in his local association.

Cooperative Program rally set

Tennessee Baptists throughout the northwestern section of the state will have an opportunity next month to participate in a rally



Guy

depicting the Cooperative Program as Southern Baptists' "Lifeline to World Missions." Second Church, Union City, will host the rally on Sept. 11, according to Orvind M. Dangeau, director of stewardship, TBC.

Throughout afternoon and evening sessions, attendees will hear challenges, messages, and discussion centered around the work of the Cooperative Program.

Cal Guy, head, department of missions, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, will speak on the "Biblical Basis for the Cooperative Program."

Challenges in the areas of associational missions, home missions, and foreign missions will be given by J. H. Stogner, director of missions for East Tennessee Association; Ruben Cañas, state missions department; and John McGuckin, missionary-in-residence, TBC.

The closing message will be brought by Robert Norman, pastor of the Belmont Heights Church in Nashville.

Ralph Norton, executive secretary-treasurer, TBC, will speak on "Lifeline to World Missions," and will also lead a discussion and question/answer period with Tom

ABS announces first Balinese New Testament

BALI, Indonesia—For the first time ever, residents of the Indonesian island of Bali now have the complete New Testament in their own language.

The Scripture was published in late May, the culmination of a project which began in 1973, according to the American Bible Society. The translation, completed in 1976, was initiated by the Balinese Protestant Church, the Roman Catholic Church in Bali, the Kemah Injil Church, and the Christian Life Foundation.

Wayan Mastra, chairman of the local Protestant synod, called the publication a "historic milestone." He said, "Now the Balinese Christians can no longer be accused of being aliens in Bali, because we now have the Holy Scriptures in our own language," he said. Balinese is spoken by three million persons on Bali and in nearby areas of southeastern Java.

Earlier translations of the Scriptures in Balinese were limited to portions of the New Testament. Translation of the Old Testament is in process, with a completion date forecast for the early 1980s. (BP)

Madden, convention ministries division director, TBC.

Dangeau explained that the afternoon session, beginning at 2:00, is for all church and associational leadership. All church members are encouraged to attend the evening session, which begins at 6:45.

Hohenwald church dedicates building

What began last year as a small group of Baptists meeting for Sunday School under a brush arbor in Lewis County was climaxed last month with the dedication of the New Hope Baptist Church in Hohenwald.

Sponsored by First Church, Hohenwald, the members constituted into a church in July 1977. They continued meeting in the arbor until cold weather forced them to meet in several homes while a church building was under construction.

The first service was held in a new concrete block structure, containing an auditorium and Sunday School rooms, on March 5.

Special guests and speakers present for the dedication included: Leslie Baumgartner, director of missions, Tennessee Baptist Convention; James Cook, chairman of deacons, First Church, Hohenwald; Charles Livenood, director of missions, Alpha Association; and Howard Jones, former associational missions director.

Dan Parker is pastor of New Hope. Morrell Lee is pastor of First Church, Hohenwald.

Union expands classes for seminary program

Union University in Jackson has announced plans to expand its fall classes under the Seminary Extension program of the Southern Baptist Convention. Classes will apply toward a three-year diploma program which is open to all ministers and laymen.

In addition to three courses, which will be offered on the Union campus, two 13-week classes will be conducted at First Church in Martin, beginning the first week in September.

Fred Kendall II, pastor of First Church in Union City, will teach "Old Testament Survey" from 7-9 p.m. on Thursdays; and Bill Bates, director of estate planning at the school, will teach "The Gospel of Mark" on Tuesdays from 7-9 p.m.

Courses to be offered at the seminary extension center on the campus in Jackson include: "Life and Faith of Baptists" (Mondays), "Leadership and Development" (Tuesdays), and "How To Understand the Bible" (Thursdays). Instructors scheduled are: Bob Agee, dean of religious affairs, Union; Hoyt Wilson, pastor, First Church, Lexington; and David Irby, associate professor of religion at Union.

Registration for the Martin classes will be held at First Church, on Tuesday, Sept. 5, at 7 p.m. Persons interested in registering for the classes in Jackson may do so at 7 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 11 on the Union campus.

Morrows return from mission work with 'ready to go again' claim

Convinced that "volunteer laymen are the ones who will make Bold Missions work", Lloyd Morrow returned home to Kingston this month after serving in his fourth assignment as a Christian Service Corp volunteer for the Home Mission Board.

Lloyd and his wife, Leverna, spent several weeks in Elkton and Marine City, Mich. conducting action surveys, organizing backyard Bible clubs, and completing repair work on the Southern Baptist church in Elkton. The Morrows have also served in Bangor, Maine and Miami Beach, Fla., where they did similar work. It was their second time to serve in Elkton, located about 125 miles north of Detroit.

Working with area missions director Joe Deaton (McComb Association), the Morrows slept in a van during their stay, cooked in the basement of the church, and drove two miles to take showers in a public high school. The sponsor of the new church is First Church of New Baltimore. The Elkton church expects to call a pastor in the near future, Morrow said.

Kingston's First Church licensed Morrow to the gospel ministry in May of this year so he would be able to preach when the need arose. The church also pays for his gasoline while he is on assignment.

The mission volunteer, who retired early from the carpet business in order to work in

MK's death brings parents closer to people of Africa

KOUDOUGOU, Upper Volta—Laura Lee Eitelman's death has brought important changes to Koudougou, Upper Volta, where her Southern Baptist missionary parents serve.

Ray and Patsy Eitelman said they feel more tied to Africa than ever before, "having planted a part of us here." The people of Africa feel a closer bond with the Eitelmans, too.

Laura Lee became ill July 1 at a boarding school in Ivory Coast. She came home to Upper Volta by private plane a few days later. Doctors diagnosed her ailment as hepatitis. She died July 12 in the Koudougou Hospital.

"We were astonished to find ourselves surrounded by a community of African friends and brothers that came by the hundreds to help us dig the grave and to console us," the Eitelmans said. She was buried beneath a giant tree on the farm operated by Eitelman, an agricultural evangelist. An iron cross marks her grave.

"Their comforting wish expressed in their language is: 'May God put his shade over you,'" the Eitelmans continued. "In this sunny country shade is their word for grace."

Many of the people had lost children of their

own. One man from their Ramongo church lost five children last year.

"We felt a kinship with these people that we had never felt before," the Eitelmans said. Now, after the death, church leaders have come to the Eitelmans to tell them of the sweeping effect their daughter's death has had on the community in establishing the legitimacy of their work.

Before, many critics did not know who they were or had them confused with those who taught there was no God. Those critics saw the Christian community gather around the Eitelmans during their time of need. Many apologized to the church leaders, saying that God was surely with the missionaries.

"Thus in one grand stroke God silenced much opposition and brought glory to Himself," the Eitelmans stated. "Laura had said early in life that she wanted to be a missionary. In retrospect, we can see that her dream was fulfilled." (BP)

Maranatha Church constitutes in Blount County this month

Approximately 65 persons constituted the Maranatha Baptist Church in Blount County on Sunday, Aug. 6, according to Horace Genoe, director of missions for Chilhowee Association.

The new congregation is meeting in the facilities of the Bethlehem Methodist Church, but plans call for the construction of a building for the Maranatha group.

John Kosier, pastor of Prospect Church in that association, was called as the congregation's new pastor.

New pastor begins service at Blue Ridge, Memphis

Blue Ridge Park Church, Shelby Association, called W. S. Crawley as pastor recently.

He comes to Memphis after having served as pastor of First Church, Goodwin, Ark., for the past three years.

Crawley attended Mid-South Bible College and was awarded the master of theology degree from Southern Bible Seminary.

Sullivan Association changes date of annual meeting

The annual meeting of Sullivan Baptist Association has been changed from Oct. 10 to Oct. 17, 1978, according to moderator William J. Purdue.

The place is the same, Litz Manor Church, and there will be three sessions—9:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m., and 7:00 p.m.



SERVICE CORP VOLUNTEERS—Lloyd and Leverna Morrow, Kingston, discuss plans for the day's work in Elkton, Mich. The couple works under the Christian Service Corp program of the Home Mission Board.

U. S. Senate focuses attention on alcohol-related problems

WASHINGTON—Alcoholism and other alcohol-related problems will get more federal attention if a measure voted by the U.S. Senate passes the U.S. House of Representatives and receives presidential approval.

The Senate voted to establish a Commission on Alcoholism and Other Alcohol-Related Problems as a part of a health planning package (S. 2410) authorizing funds through 1981.

The commission, advocated by Sen. Harrison A. Williams Jr., was recommended by the President's Commission on Mental Health. Williams noted that the national cost of alcoholism and alcohol-related problems is nearly twice the cost of mental illness. "The economic drain (of alcoholism) amounts to \$42.5-billion annually," Williams said.

Williams also pointed out that alcohol misuse is "a significant factor" in chronic diseases, suicide, homicide, and accidents as

well as in child abuse, marital violence, industrial accidents, assaults, robberies, drownings, freezings, and fires.

The commission would focus on research in the areas of unmet treatment needs of alcoholics and their families, availability and quality of services, the relationship of alcohol use to crime and family violence, and the effectiveness of prevention programs.

"It is ironic that in this society, in which alcoholism is rated as the third greatest health menace next to cancer and heart disease, we are spending no more than \$10-million a year in research; whereas, with respect to heart disease and cancer, we are spending \$400-to \$500-million," Sen. William D. Hathaway pointed out. Hathaway is chairman of the Subcommittee on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse of the Senate Human Resources Committee.

The Senate also adopted an amendment by Sen. Pete V. Domenici, to give special attention to the needs of native Americans related to alcohol. "Alcoholism appears to be an increasing problem among native Americans," he said. "For example, I am aware that in the Navajo Nation, the largest group of native American Indians, the most serious social problem today is alcoholism." (BP)

Thailand princess presides at new Bible introduction

BANGKOK, Thailand—Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, daughter of Thailand's reigning monarchs, presided recently at the opening of a Bible exhibition organized by the Bible Society of Thailand. A newly translated modern New Testament was introduced and copies were available for purchase.

What is believed to be the oldest Bible in southeast Asia was on display, along with other Bible translations and Christian books.

More than 20 groups, including the organization of Southern Baptist missionaries in Thailand, displayed Bibles and Christian books. Speakers gave the history of the Bible and told how the Bible Society and Christian work began in Thailand.

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Texas student leader killed

DALLAS—Chester L. (Chet) Reames, director of the division of student work of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, was killed in an auto accident on a Dallas expressway, Aug. 3.

Reames was involved with Baptist Student ministries for more than 20 years. He succeeded W. F. Howard, Texas student director for 32 years, in 1974. Reames had served with Howard for 10 years as an associate. He was a BSU director, 1959-64, at North Texas State University, Denton. (BP)

Three new churches join Bangladesh convention

FENI, Bangladesh—Three new churches have joined the Bangladesh Baptist Union, and village evangelism work is continuing to flourish near Feni. The three churches are all directly related to Southern Baptist mission work. Other believers are forming groups and being baptized in villages visited by two-man village evangelism teams.

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Illinois man called to lead Tumbling Creek near Gleason

Allan Wooters, Cohokia, Ill., was called as pastor of Tumbling Creek Church near Gleason last month, according to James Humphreys, director of missions for Weakley County Association.



Wooters

The new pastor assumed his post last month. Ordained on July 9, 1978, by his home church in Duplo, Ill., this is his first pastorate.

He has served a church as director of bus ministry and music leader.

Houston association refuses school offer

HOUSTON—Union Baptist Association in Houston has turned down a proposal that it sponsor a private junior-senior high school.

None of the approximately 1,200 associations in the 33 state conventions of the Southern Baptist Convention is known to operate a high school program. The proposed take over of Northwest Academy was recommended by the association's Christian Education Committee but lost 50-45 before the Executive Board.

The academy was established in 1970 in the facilities of Garden Oaks Baptist Church but is now located on 15 acres with property said valued at \$1.5 million. Enrollment is down from a peak of about 550 to around 300, and it has reportedly operated at a deficit of \$30,000 to \$35,000 over the past two or three years.

About 28 individual churches in the Union Association have some type of weekday education program and 10 or 11 have elementary schools. Broadway Baptist has a high school. But none of the several churches approached would assume control of the academy. Houston Baptist University also turned it down.

Some support for associational sponsorship of the high school came from those who urged a place be secured for students coming out of church sponsored elementary schools. Opponents claimed that although the school is now and would be open to all races and creeds, it would be seen as an attempt to operate a "lily white" school. (BP)

India to get hospital chapel

BANGALORE, India—A ground-breaking ceremony was held for a new chapel to be added to the main building at Bangalore Baptist Hospital. The board of trustees, present for their annual meeting, conducted the services attended by representatives of the hospital staff. (FMB)

Family Living

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

Trustful firmness impresses, comforts younger children

"You're very angry," the teacher tells the rampaging child. According to a popular theory, the balm of the adult's empathy draws the heat out of the youngster's anger, and the explosive situation is defused.

A study headed by I. Sigel of Merrill-Palmer Institute found that in practice, this currently admired technique is more likely to have the opposite effect. Again and again, the researchers observed that the adult's empathy gave impetus to the child's out-of-bounds behavior.

When teachers acknowledge a misbehaving pupil's emotions—"I can understand that you feel like hitting" . . . "You feel very sad now . . ."—the inappropriate behavior intensified rather than diminished. It's possible that disciplinary techniques that "reflect" a child's feelings may actually contribute to the disturbance, Sigel and colleagues concluded.

Exciting theories tend to become epidemic, then slowly fade. Unfortunately, the practices arising from the weakest of them tend to linger on and on—generally with their effectiveness unquestioned, unmonitored, and unmeasured.

In their new and very practical aid for teachers, **Discipline and Classroom Management** (Education Associates, Athens, Ga., pub.) child development and early childhood education specialist Keith Osborn, University of Georgia, and his wife, educator Janie Osborn, North Georgia College, help teachers re-examine the ways they're handling the discipline problems that interfere with the learning climate.

In addition to presenting provocative research findings such as the Sigel study described earlier, the Osborns give detailed examples of discipline approaches that are proven winners, as well as the techniques that are born losers. For example, they discuss the validity of the persistent conviction that a display of raw teacher power is the best way to stop bad behavior and discourage imitation of it. In reality, a rough, tough exhibition of absolute authority is the least effective control technique a teacher can use, results of two very different studies have shown. Confident firmness, on the other hand, is as impressive to children as it is welcome and comforting.

BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR
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Interpretation

Jesus' life, taken or given?

By Herschel H. Hobbs

"Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost (Spirit)" — Matthew 27:50.

"Cried again with a loud voice suggests" Matthew 27:46 and John 19:30. After this He died. In John 10:18 Jesus said, "No man taketh it (my life, v. 17) from me, but I lay it down of myself." He did not die as a criminal or as a martyr but as a Savior.

This is seen in Matthew 27:50. John 19:30 says that He gave up His spirit. Mark 15:37 and Luke 23:46 say, literally, that He breathed out His spirit or expired. But Matthew says that He "yielded up" His spirit. Or it may read that He dismissed His spirit. Or He permitted His spirit to depart.

Korean army revival reported continuing

SEOUL, Korea—Large numbers of baptisms and decisions for Christ continue among the South Korean military, according to reports from Southern Baptist missionaries.

About 570 soldiers in one military division, including two battalion commanders, were baptized recently. During the same week 30 Korean Baptist pastors conducted 62 separate evangelistic meetings in which more than 2,200 men responded by filling out decision cards.

The evangelistic meetings, held at the invitation of the Republic of Korea Chaplain's Corps, presented the gospel to more than 16,000 soldiers in the 6th corps of the ROK army. This is an elite unit which guards the strategic approach to Seoul from the north, according to Southern Baptist missionary Rolla M. Bradley.

Both efforts were coordinated through the military evangelism department of the Korea Baptist mission (organization of Southern Baptist missionaries in Korea) and the Seoul Baptist Association. Bradley is supervisor for the department.

ROK Army commanders have invited Korean Baptists to choose 50 pastors to lead evangelistic meetings for another corps in October, Bradley said. (BP)

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Thus all of the Gospels read that Jesus died a voluntary death. The very verb used by John means to give up voluntarily. It is used of Judas betraying Jesus, of the Sanhedrin handing Him over to Pilate, and of Pilate delivering Him to the soldiers for crucifixion. Now John says that He voluntarily handed over His spirit to the Father.

But this fact is even more significant in Matthew 27:50. He dismissed His spirit. When His redemptive mission was finished, He said to His spirit, "You can go now." He dismissed or sent away his spirit. He died when He was ready to die, and not one second sooner. **King all the way!**

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'Test tube baby' raises questions

Last month in Oldham, England, a baby girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. Lesley Brown. The birth made international headlines, because the conception of Mrs. Brown's ovum and Mr. Brown's sperm took place outside a human body—actually, in a laboratory test tube.

The so-called "test tube baby" has been classified as a medical breakthrough. It would appear that some married couples who have had problems in conception now have hope for bearing their own offsprings—although scientists are quick to warn that this method may not prove successful for other would-be parents.

The birth of Louise Joy Brown has raised some theological and philosophical questions. Is this process morally acceptable? Is it a sin against God and His plan? Is it a violation of certain ethical standards which we have been taught?

Let's try to deal with some of these questions.

First, it would be well to note that no scientist has created a human life in a laboratory. This child is the product of two human beings. The pregnancy involved the reproductive systems of two people. The scientists merely assisted in the uniting of an ovum and a sperm.

Secondly, we should realize that the conception involved a legally married husband and wife. This couple had dearly wanted children, but had been unable to complete conception.

Many couples seek help in achieving pregnancy. The keeping of various charts and calendars, the study of certain habits, and careful planning have been used by many people to aid in conception. Physicians are often asked to advise married couples on methods to insure that pregnancy results.

Then, we might also view this event as "reverse-abortion." Baptist have been very outspoken in our opposition to abortion which is the removal of a living embryo from a human womb. The process used in England was the placing of a fertilized ovum inside the body of the mother!

We fail to see how the conception of this baby has violated any moral or religious principles.

The birth of the Brown's so-called "test tube baby" raises many questions. We hope that our Christian maturity will allow us to consider this event and its future implications in the light of our best moral and ethical wisdom.

It's cheaper

By John Roberts, editor
"The Baptist Courier," Greenville, S.C.

In his prize winning play, *Winterset*, author Maxwell Anderson has one of his principal characters living in a cold, dirty basement of a New York apartment building. The man has enough money, but despite his misery he does not want to move upstairs into a more comfortable place. He does not want to make the necessary effort, and adds, "But it is cheaper here."

As so often is the case, the writer uses literary form to teach a great spiritual truth. More times than not, we could accomplish more as citizens and be better Christians if we were willing to "spend" more.

Accomplishing anything worthwhile means spending time. A better community is built more by spending time than money. This includes time for planning and study, followed by involvement with neighbors in the strengthening of relationships. Energy also must be spent in this process. And emotional involvement must be freely added.

Church members find it cheaper not to give, or attend, or study, or pray. They can live in the cold basement of spiritual despair by putting forth no effort to be part of a church. It is cheaper there, but also more miserable.

The church as a body can find it cheaper to cancel building plans, skip the community census, reject plans for a counseling ministry, and allow mission interest to wane.

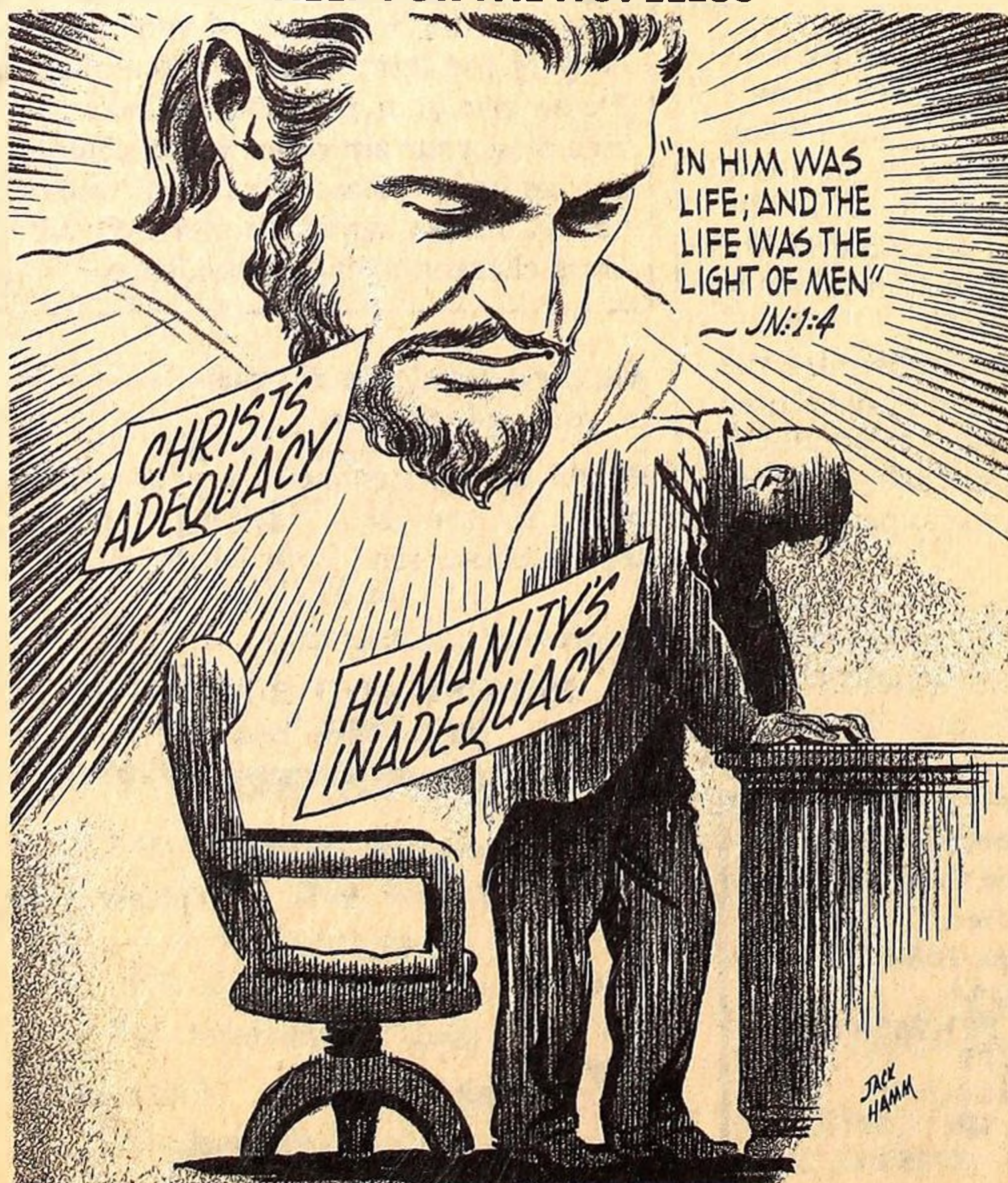
The pastor can find it cheaper to forego refresher courses and seminars, and to cut corners in his study habits.

But following this course for any of these means missing the enriching experiences of the abundant Christian life.

God's call to Abraham was to continue a trek begun by his father. Abraham's father, Terah, left Ur for Canaan, but tarried in Haran. It evidently was a safe and comfortable place to live, and he found it easier to stay than to break camp and set across the unknown desert. The account of him closes sadly, "And Terah died in Haran" (Gen. 11:32).

Abraham responded to God's call with no thought for cheap comfort. He sought to do what God asked, and because of that willingness became the person on whom God built a nation. He could have clung to the security of an oasis in Haran. But there is no record of his saying, "It is safer here, cheaper here." The Bible says he departed, as God had bidden. Every Christian must act with equal boldness if he is to experience the blessing of accomplishment for God.

HELP FOR THE HOPELESS



Cicero's comment



By the editor

At many places I go in Tennessee, I am asked the same question, "Why do you use the name Cicero?"

For those of you who missed or have forgotten my inaugural column (Nov. 18, 1976), let me explain that "Cicero" is actually my **middle name**! Didn't you ever wonder what the "C" in Alvin C. Shackelford stands for?

Thus has evolved an interesting paradox.

For over 40 years of my life I sought to keep my middle name a deep, dark secret. Now that I'm openly using it, many people don't believe that Cicero is actually my middle name! On a number of occasions I have had to produce my draft card or some other official document to prove that I bear that name.

Contrary to what some might believe, I was not named for that first century BC statesman, scholar, lawyer, writer, and orator—Marcus Tullius Cicero—at least not directly. My middle name came from my father, Nathan Cicero Shackelford. I was the last of three sons: the second got the "Nathan"; I got the "Cicero"; and all three of us got the "Shackelford."

I must confess that during those early years I took little comfort or pride in my middle name. In fact, I did everything possible to keep it unknown.

However, there were those first days of each school year when some insensitive teacher would heartlessly read the enrollment card, "Alvin Cicero Shackelford. Do they call you Alvin or Cicero?" Snickers would always erupt. At recess there would be those taunting calls of my shortened name "Sissy." After a few fights, the name would be forgotten until the next year, when some insensitive teacher would heartlessly read the enrollment card . . .

On those days when a schoolboy with bruised pride would object to that middle name, my dad would remind me, "A name is just what a person is called. What really matters is what he is."

And my dad was many things—a deacon, a car dealer, a proud "Pop" to his grandchildren, a Sunday School superintendent, a mayor, a school teacher, and a farm equipment dealer. He died in 1968.

There has been one therapeutic benefit since I started using Cicero on a similar column in the **Indiana Baptist** in 1975. Several people have acknowledged they have unusual middle names—even one with "Cicero."

Letters to the Editor . . .

Letters on any religion-related subject are welcomed. Letters of over 300 words will not be used. Other letters may be shortened at the discretion of the editor. No unsigned letters will be printed, but writer's name will be withheld for sufficient reason. Letters must contain complete address.

Will of the people

Dear editor:

Your news item ("Arizona vote fails to elect executive" (July 20) states that at a special called meeting July 7 the Arizona Southern Baptist Convention did not elect Mark Short Jr. as their new executive director-treasurer, even though he had been unanimously recommended by the search committee and unanimously elected by the Executive Board.

This may well be one of the best things that has happened to Arizona Baptists and may be the kind of thing that needs to happen more often in many of our denominational settings.

Action such as this by the body is the only way the grass roots have for making their voice heard by the denominational leadership. In this case it seems evident that the leadership had not sought the will of the people. Perhaps the next round they will!

Many of the problems in our denominational life could be solved before they ever develop if the leadership would simply make

an honest effort to know the will of the people at large, before they attempt to make decisions that affect the people and depend upon their support for success.

May Arizona's tribe increase!

J. W. Bargoil

P. O. Box 444

Harriman, TN 37748

'Amen' to editorial

Dear editor:

I would like to say "Amen" concerning your editorial, "Pastors need encouragement, inspiration" (July 13) at the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference and not insults, criticism, and condemning of ministry in general.

Jerry Foust

Toone, TN 38381

The action at the special called convention could also be interpreted as a slap at the body. After all, these same "people" had elected an Executive Board which you say "had not followed the will of the people." (editor)

Medical ministry performed in remote country of Yemen

by Ruth Fowler

JIBLA, Yemen—Over two mountain ranges, across a valley and right up to the point where the van would have to be traded for a camel to go farther—then you arrive at Jibla Baptist Hospital.

This Southern Baptist mission station is barely accessible by car and most of the area it serves is not. The small dirt road goes through Jibla, carrying some tourist traffic, but most of the villages which the hospital serves are remote. The hospital itself is remote.

Southern Baptist missionaries serve in a medical ministry which included 1,400 inpatients and 22,000 outpatients annually. The 70-bed hospital and clinic provide the only medical care in Jibla. It's the only Southern Baptist presence currently allowed in the country.

Jibla Baptist Hospital and the homes on the compound have safe tap water and one of the few sewer systems in the country. The cities and villages do not have safe drinking water. Children at the hospital have a swing set, one of three in the nation. Because no toys or crutches can be purchased in Yemen, one of the Southern Baptist missionaries makes wooden ones for the hospital's use.

The hospital staff have no telephones available for a quick link with their loved ones—

including teenage children who must go to school away from home, often on another continent.

Supplies are another problem. Sometimes the hospital must wait weeks or months for supplies to arrive, including medication. For more than a year, the staff has awaited the arrival of a shipment of washable paint—a must for the hospital walls, which badly need painting.

Given this isolated and sometimes lonely setting, the people of Yemen wonder why Southern Baptists are there. The missionaries sometimes wonder too. But most of the time, they know the answer. They tell people, "We're here because God wants us here. We're here because Christ loves you enough to send us."

An important part of the reason Southern Baptists stay in Yemen—the part that makes their work pleasant—involves the people themselves. They're appreciative and friendly, and they desperately need the care.

Disease related to hygiene—parasites and infections—is the most common ailment, but doctors see a little of everything, from birth defects to accidental injuries to the common cold. Malnutrition is not really a major problem because the people can now afford adequate food. (BP)

Pulpit To Pews

by Jim N. Griffith

The Christian Index, Georgia Baptist Convention news magazine, recently carried a news item about a woman who was honored "for working in a church nursery 21 years without missing a Sunday."

If nothing else, it ought to be said that it's a crying shame there aren't more willing and faithful nursery workers like her.

Why, I doubt if the pacifiers and teething rings have been in the nursery every Sunday for 21 years.

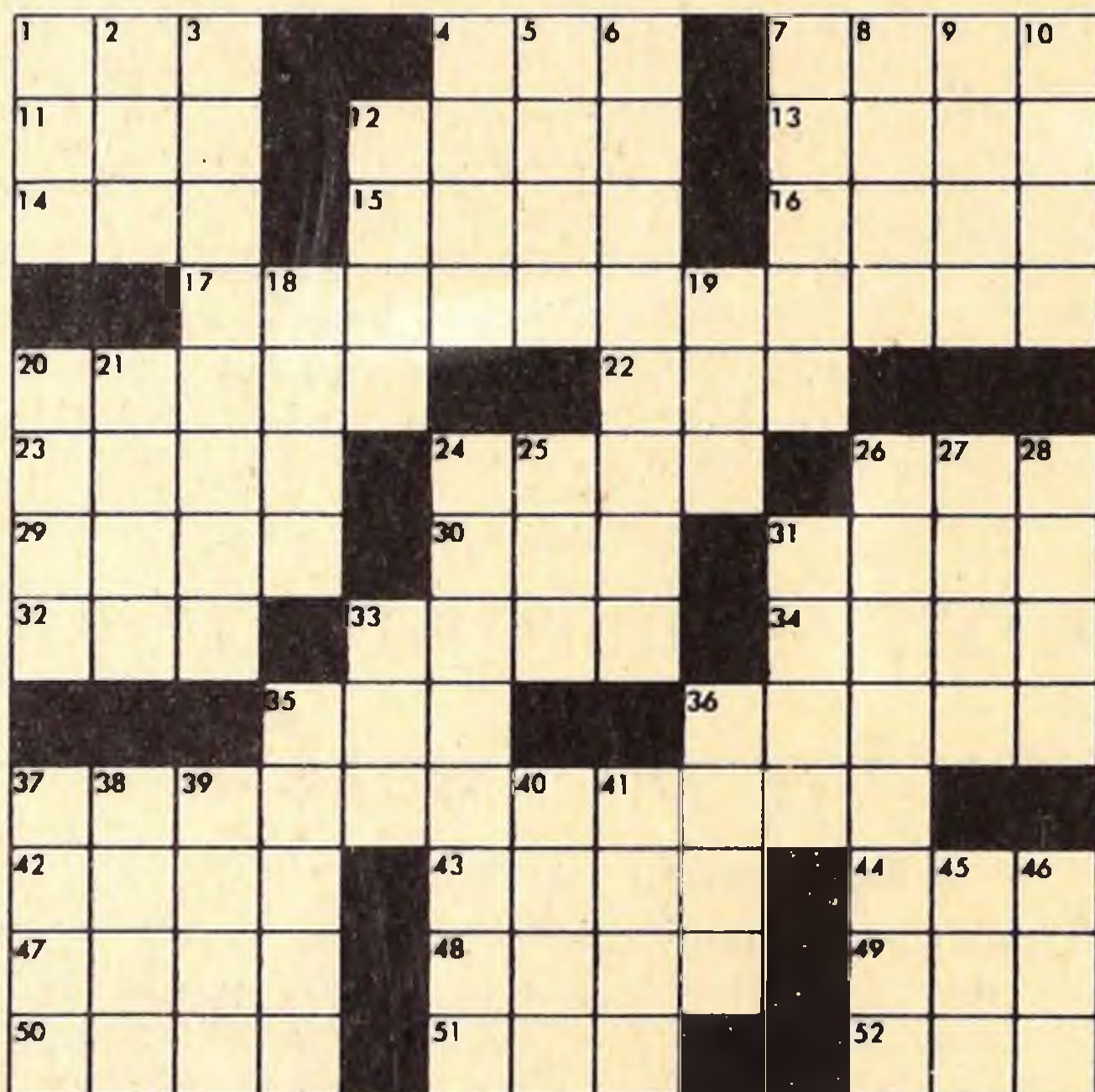
Talk about putting your shoulder to the task, her shoulders must have been cried on more than the planks in a mourner's bench.

The least they can do is retire her rocking chair and bronze her set of safety pins!

Yes sir, during her 21 years in the nursery, she must have seen a lot of changes.

Fact is, this great lady may have a somewhat different interpretation of the Scripture: "We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed."

Bible Puzzle Answers on page 13



ACROSS

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1 O. T. book: abbr. | 24 To die (Phil. 1:21) |
| 4 Ord and Sumter: abbr. | 26 Affirmative |
| 7 "— thine enemy" (Matt. 5) | 29 Sin offering (Ezek. 43:25) |
| 11 Money of account | 30 Have |
| 12 "— no evil thing" (Eccl. 8) | 31 Rent |
| 13 Southward city (Josh. 15:21) | 32 "— of the covenant" (Heb. 9) |
| 14 Small boy | 33 An Edomite (1 Sam. 21:7) |
| 15 Sheltered | 34 Spoil |
| 16 Saturated carbon compounds: suffix | 35 Cushion |
| 17 "— — shall say" (Matt. 24) | 36 House plants |
| 20 Parable subject (Matt. 13:18) | 37 They went out (Acts 19:12; 2 words) |
| 22 "for ye — tithe" (Matt. 23) | 42 Ancient Irish capital |
| 23 Orange and lemon | 43 Hebrew month |
| | 44 Sash |
| | 47 Son of Dishan (1 Chron. 1:42) |

CRYPTOVERSE

Z M W F W M N Z M S P Z W U X Z N Z J P S Z N B W S
H P V K V Z C V G M N C J C G P U U P S Z P U N S

Today's Cryptoverse clue: G equals C

- 48 Man (1 Ki. 1:8; poss.)
49 Man's nickname
50 Shoemaker's need
51 Light brown
52 Red, for one

DOWN

- 1 City dweller (Gen. 13:12)
2 Macaw
3 "or is —" (Rom. 14)
4 Abated
5 Golf mounds
6 "Peter was —" (Acts 12)
7 Difficult
8 Man (Neh. 12:15)
9 Suffix for nine or six
10 Formerly: archaic
12 — and square
18 Garment
19 Sped
20 Icelandic tale
21 Aroma
24 "Mary hath chosen that —" (Luke 10)
25 Reverence
26 "I will sell —" (Joel 3)
27 Ireland
28 Members of congress: abbr.
31 Allowance for waste
33 Hindu slave
35 "and — gardens" (Jer. 29)
36 Trees
37 And others: abbr.
38 Spanish unit of length
39 An Ithrite (1 Chron. 11:40; poss.)
40 Concept
41 Weather word
45 Stinging insect
46 Mountain on Crete

HISTORICALLY

FROM THE FILES

50 YEARS AGO

R. L. Rogers of Lexington was recalled as pastor of Oak Grove Church near Lexington for the third consecutive year.

Belmont Heights Church, Nashville, called R. Kelly White of Bessemer, Ala., as pastor. White succeeded W. M. Wood.

25 YEARS AGO

Immanuel Church, Nashville, broke ground for its new sanctuary. Gaye L. McGlothlen was pastor.

Harold Ford was the new pastor of Eastland Heights Mission, Springfield. He came to Springfield from Ball Camp Church, Knoxville, where he was serving as pastor.

10 YEARS AGO

Euman M. Holt, pastor of First Church, Etowah for the past 10 years, retired from the active ministry.

W. C. Tuten was the new pastor of Apison Church, Hamilton Association. He came to Tennessee from Shelby, Ala. where he served as pastor of First Church.

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Baptists' disaster relief unit assists flash flood victims

DALLAS—The Texas Baptist disaster relief unit has fed about 2,000 people daily in the tragic wake of flash floods from torrential rains that quenched the drought-stricken state Aug. 1-5.

Tropical Storm Amelia hurled her final fury at the hill country of Central Texas near Austin, and then around Albany in West Texas by dumping torrential rains that caused floods, killed an estimated 27 people, and destroyed hundreds of homes and businesses.

Even as the 10-20 inch rains continued in Central Texas, the 18-wheel mobile unit, manned by a trained task force of Texas Baptist Men, dispensed meals to homeless flood victims and relief workers in Kerrville in Central Texas. Three counties in the hill country, normally a tranquil setting of natural beauty for campers, and three West Texas counties, the setting of ranches and small towns, were declared federal disaster areas.

The relief unit responds in emergencies as part of the disaster relief program of the Baptist General Convention of Texas. Charles McLaughlin, chairman of the statewide Texas Baptist Disaster Relief Committee, said that the program also will assist Baptist churches to minister to the needs of people in both areas of flooding. The mobile unit had assisted in flood recovery in Austin, Texas, in late July.

Bob Dixon, director of Texas Baptist Men, led the crew of volunteers and members of his staff.

Members of the Texas Baptist Convention staff, associational staffs, pastors, and laymen cooperated in the recovery work with other church groups and state officials. The final meal served by the Baptist unit in Kerrville

was to Mennonite relief workers staying at a Methodist camp.

HEB Food Stores donated food for distribution by Texas Baptists. Kerrville Baptists prepared the food in their church kitchens. The unit's crew and local volunteers dispensed meals from the unit in Kerrville and from pickups in surrounding communities.

After feeding meals and searching for missing persons in the hill country for five days, the Baptist relief unit moved to West Texas on Monday, Aug. 7, for standby service. The Graham area in West Texas received about four inches of rain during the storm's passage.

Billy Clarke, Baptist missions director in the hill country, said that members of First Baptist Church, Comfort, Texas, bailed out six inches of water and removed ruined carpet from their sanctuary on Friday and Saturday after the floods. The congregation returned to the sanctuary Sunday morning for regular worship services.

Clarke said that a story reported by Richard Porche, pastor of the Baptist church in Comfort, had a more tragic outcome. Two deaths occurred in one family who had visited the church after moving into a "dream home" in Comfort the week before the flood. The mother rushed her three young children upstairs in their new home when they heard the rising flood waters.

"She questioned her children about their salvation, and they said they were saved," Clarke said. "Then the floods swept the house away, and only one child survived."

Newspapers reported seven deaths at a church camp near Bandera in the hill country. A youth group at Alto Frio Baptist Camp in the area was safely evacuated when water and power services were severed. (BP)

Midwestern elects Ratliff to faculty

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—F. William Ratliff Jr., will become assistant professor in philosophy of religion and theology at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Mo., in September.

Ratliff comes to Southern Baptists' newest seminary from the denomination's oldest, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., where he has served as director of admissions and financial aid since 1976.

The 36-year-old New Mexico native is a 1964 graduate of the United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md., and served as a naval officer, 1965-69.

He earned master of divinity and doctor of philosophy degrees from Southern Seminary. During his study at Southern, Ratliff served as teaching fellow in philosophy and later as instructor of Christian philosophy.

He is former pastor of Union Baptist Church, Greensburg, Ind., and has held interim pastorates in Indiana and Kentucky. Ratliff also has held positions as church camp director and interned as campus minister at the University of Louisville, Ky. (BP)

Mercer University given \$500,000 in property

MACON, Ga.—Pine Mountain property in Harris County, including a lodge, clubhouse, and motel, has been given to Mercer University's Walter F. George School of Law by John B. Amos, Columbus, Ga., insurance executive.

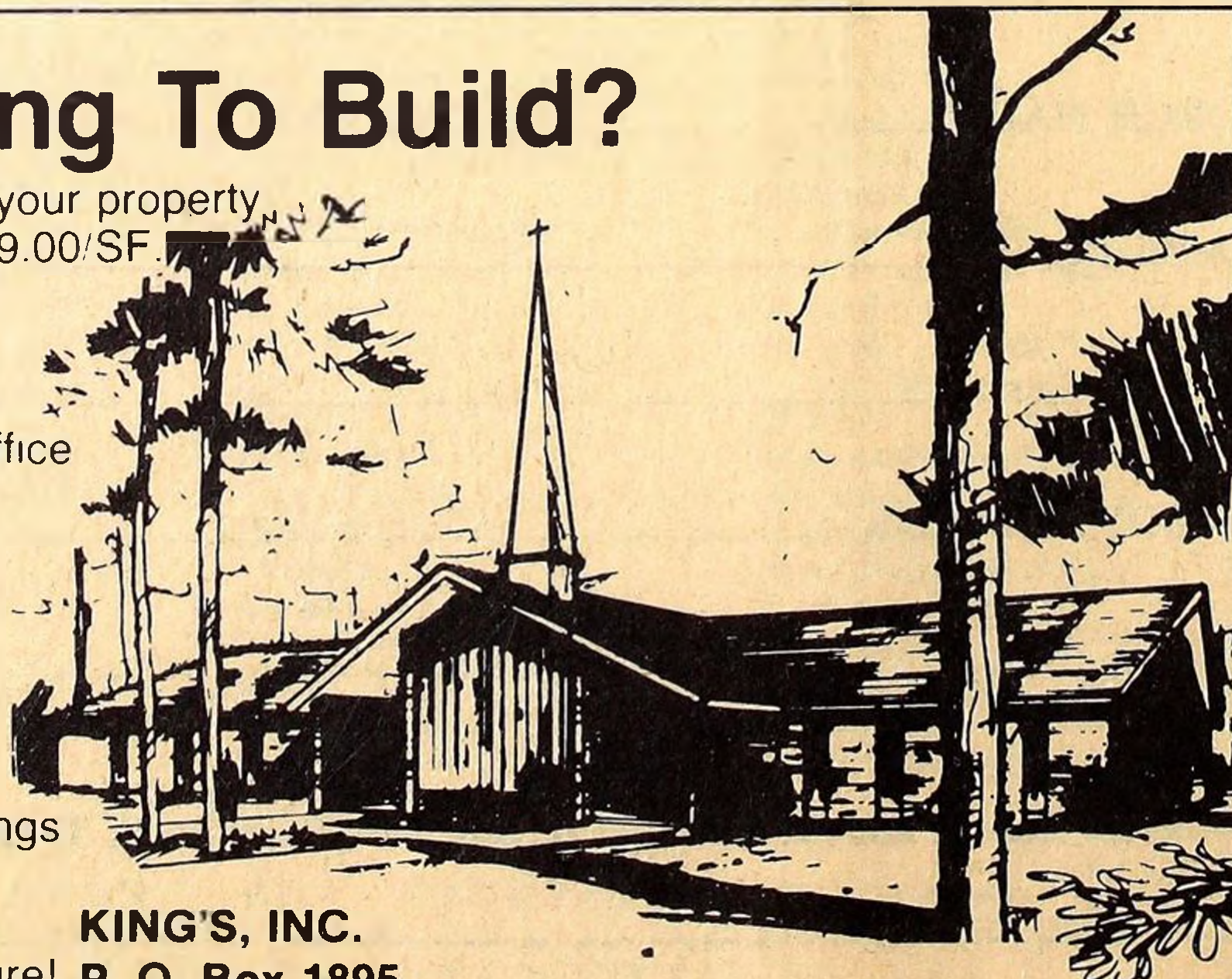
Atlanta attorney Robert L. Steed, chairman of the special gifts committee of the law school of the Baptist university in Macon, Ga., said the gift will exceed \$500,000 bringing Amos' total contributions to the school to more than \$650,000. (BP)

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That best portion

By Wallace Greene

Ted Hobson always kept a flashlight and a set of battery jump cables in his car. Not because he was excessively prudent or had a phobia about emergencies, but because he knew what it was to need and receive help and believed the best way to express gratitude for it was to be willing and able to help somebody else. He didn't feel particularly noble about it; that was just the way he was—a kind, thoughtful, easy-going person who savoured life and wished all men well.

There was an indefinable distinction in Nan Edwards that set her apart without alienating her. It wasn't appearance, or economic, or social status, or any special talent, or achievement, but an inherent kindness, decency, and honesty; a quiet sureness and integrity that were as much a part of her as the color of her eyes or her gentle skill in discouraging and muffling gossip.

"There's something about her," her friends said. "She's gracious and good without being sticky sweet." Nan Edwards simply loved people and believed in people as God's choicest handiwork.

These people are real, though their names are fictitious. Probably you have friends who share some of their characteristics; maybe you have some of them yourself. Wordsworth in "Tintern Abbey" must have had such people in mind in his estimate of

"... that best portion of a good man's life,

His little, nameless, unremembered acts
Of kindness and of love."

—not unremembered by those who received them, but by the person who did them.

But on a deeper spiritual level, there is an even better portion—the one obtained by a woman who sat at Jesus' feet one day and "heard his Word." Here is the root and source of all God-implanted acts and inclinations, the primary good that Jesus was talking about that day in Bethany: "But one thing is needful; and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her" (John 11:42).

Our Father, nourish our lives through your Holy Spirit with the good part that Mary chose, for we pray in Jesus' name.

Greene is a retired employee of the Baptist Sunday School Board and a member of Immanuel Church, Nashville, where he serves as associate teacher in the Adult IV department.



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SBC disarmament stand shared with officials

WASHINGTON—Baptist concern for nuclear disarmament and a shifting of national priorities from nuclear weapons to "basic human needs" has been communicated to the president, secretary of state, the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and all members of Congress.

James E. Wood Jr., executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, sent a copy of the resolution on multilateral arms control passed by the Southern Baptist Convention in June with a letter assuring support for any efforts "to achieve strategic arms limitation, to eliminate nuclear weapons, and to insure world peace."

The resolution calls on Baptists to "urge our representatives in Washington to move in imaginative and reconciling ways to seek mutual agreements with other nations to slow the nuclear arms race."

The resolution also calls for the United States and other nations "to shift funds from nuclear weapons systems to basic human needs, such as education, medicine, and relief from hunger."

Wood pointed out that this resolution is consistent with the stand of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs. On March 8, 1977, the committee voted to commend the president for his commitment to limiting arms to domestic safety needs and ultimately to eliminating all nuclear weapons. (BP)

Thai missions report gains

PATTAYA, Thailand—Record statistics in church membership, baptisms and contributions were noted at the annual meeting of Southern Baptist missionaries in Thailand held here recently. More than 140 new Thai believers were baptized in the past year, and more than 550 refugees were baptized in the Cambodian and Vietnamese refugee camps and transit center, according to Mrs. Robert R. Stewart, missionary press representative.

BIBLE PUZZLE ANSWERS

L	A	M		F	T	S		H	A	T	E
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"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man" (1 Cor. 10:13).

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BROADMAN

Faith in time of peril

By Paul D. Brewer
Chairman of the Humanities Division
Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City

Basic Passage: Acts 27

Focal Passage: Acts 27:21-26; 39-44

Apart from the fact that it is sacred Scripture, the chapter which provides the material for the lesson today has three things to com-



Brewer

mend it. First, it is an exciting adventure story. It bears all the marks of an eyewitness who had lived through the experience. Having been present, Luke captures for the reader the excitement inherent in a shipwreck.

Second, it is, in every sense, great literature. Even in the translation it comes through to the reader. The vocabulary is large and very expressive, but not so pretentious as to bore the reader. The style of writing is concise, direct, and wastes no words. The excitement never lags throughout the account, and the suspense builds until it reaches an exciting climax. All of these are marks of lasting literature.

Third, this account is the oldest one we have in literature concerning such a shipwreck as this. So much can be learned from it concerning the handling of a ship in the ancient world. We just do not have a document from antiquity which supplies so much information.

The reader must be warned to not get so carried away as to forget the point. Luke's primary purpose is neither to entertain, to give information about ancient sailing days, nor to write great and abiding literature. The account is preserved to help the reader understand God's purpose in bringing Paul to Rome. This purpose could not be thwarted by political and religious debate on land nor by natural calamity at sea. In the midst of this, Luke shows a man of faith, claimed by God, who acts with courage in the face of seemingly hopeless circumstances.

Deliverance Promised: Acts 27:21-26

To deal with the focal passage in this lesson requires a knowledge of the whole of chapter twenty-seven. Read it carefully in a modern version and ignore the verse divisions in order to appreciate the account.

The voyage had its beginning with a gentle south wind, with no hint of the disaster to come. The crew weighed anchor, and suddenly a dread northeaster howled down upon them and drove them Southwest, away from the friendly shore. The seamen made a desperate effort to save the ship. First, they ran under the lee of a small island, took their lifeboat aboard, and then undergirded the ship

with cable to keep it from breaking in two. They lowered the sails and cast a drag anchor into the sea. Finally, in despair, they even threw things overboard to lighten the ship. Nothing seemed to work, and they lost hope of surviving.

In the midst of their despair, Paul stepped forward and took the position of leadership. The crew and passengers had not eaten for days, and their despair was deepened by physical weakness. Paul could not resist the opportunity of saying, "I told you so." He was seeking to establish confidence in his judgment as leader and to correct his earlier word, that ship, cargo, and lives would be lost (verse 10). As a result of a vision, he was now convinced that only the ship, and not their lives, would be lost.

Through this experience Paul's desire to preach at Rome (Acts 19:11) was being fulfilled. The arrest in Jerusalem had seemed to end the hope of getting to Rome, but the promise had been renewed while he was in prison (Acts 23:11). The dream had almost turned to mockery through months of imprisonment at Caesarea.

The appeal to Ceaser had unexpectedly reopened the door, but this storm had almost ended it again. God made it clear to Paul that he had not brought him this far to abandon him. In the midst of terrifying physical circumstances the promise was renewed. Paul would preach at Rome, and the men on the ship with him would be saved from death by his presence. I think every one who has felt the hand of God upon his life should read and re-read the triumphant confession of faith echoed by Paul in verse 25.

Saved as Predicted: Acts 27:27-44

It was fourteen days after the storm began that the sailors determined they were approaching land. It was dark and, fearing that they might be driven on the rocks, they let out four stern anchors to keep the ship headed shoreward. Pretending a need for anchors at the bow, they lowered the lifeboat to escape. Paul saw through their scheme, and warned the centurion that if the sailors escaped there would be no way to get the ship to shore when morning came. The soldiers then cut the lifeboat adrift and prevented their escape. Paul was now the acknowledged leader of the voyage.

Before dawn, Paul urged everyone to eat. He knew they would need all their strength for the final crises. He set an example by expressing thanks to God and then eating. This demonstration of his own assurance broke the tension and everyone ate. It was such an astound-

ing occasion that Luke recalled the exact number who witnessed the event (verse 37).

When full daylight arrived preparation was made to go ashore. They did not know they were approaching land but were glad for any haven. They planned to ride the ship into a small bay and on to the beach. The ship was straining, so they cut the anchor ropes, dropped the rudder into place and hoisted a small sail. Success seemed theirs until they hit an obstacle. The language of Luke says "a place of two seas" which must have been a sand bar or some like obstacle. The ship began to break up; so the soldiers thought the safest plan would be to kill the prisoners. For Paul's sake, the centurion stopped this course of action. As a result of Paul's leadership and courage, all of the people miraculously escaped to safety. Paul's journey to Rome continues—by the grace of God.

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Meaning of Christian fellowship

By Lee Prince, Senior Minister
Union Avenue Baptist Church, Memphis

Basic Passage: Philippians 1:1-11
Focal Passage: Philippians 1:1-11

Christian fellowship is more than fun, games, soda-pops and cookies in the church basement. Recreation is a valid element of fellowship, but it's only part of the larger picture.



Prince

Out of this foundation develops the feelings expressed by Paul in this letter to the Philippians.

Challenge to Want More

I feel this passage is a challenge to us to "want more" in our relationships.

We have made peace with failure in relationships. We've quit expecting much of ourselves or of others.

"I don't read advertisements," says the Archbishop of Canterbury, "I would spend all my time wanting things."

One frugal friend of mine says the best way to have "more" is to "want" less.

The problem with most of us is we don't want enough! We are so easily satisfied with too little!

We don't want to stretch the boundaries of our mind. We don't want to hear another opinion. We don't like to admit only one person in the world can actually defeat us—ourselves.

"Wanting more" is a healthy experience. Our world can be changed if we want more freedom and opportunity for each individual. Our community can be improved if we want to be more involved in community decisions and planning. Even our personal relationships will develop deeper meaning when we want more joy and happiness for those we know.

It's O.K. to want to see some changes. We have a right to expect our public schools to provide a high quality of education. We have a right to expect our city officials to give serious attention to the business of our community. We have a right to expect there will be few changes unless we match our wants and words with our actions.

Try making a "want" list for your home, your church, your community, even your nation. Most of us are satisfied. We have made

peace with the failures of our society. We've quit pushing. We've stopped wanting more of the true elements which enrich life.

I want more for you. I hope you want more for yourself.

One biographer of Horace Walpole wrote, "All his tastes were minor; they were for decoration and bibelots and curiosities, for historical paradoxes and antiquarian anecdotes and contemporary gossip."

"All his tastes were minor"—he didn't want much in life.

Express Appreciation and Care for Others (v. 3-11)

Being able to express our appreciation and care for others is a mark of personal maturity. As we develop a good feeling about ourselves as "made in the image of God," we learn to say positive words to others. This is Christian fellowship.

Our relationship with others is an index to our level of spiritual and personal growth.

If we find we often tell others we appreciate them, give thanks for them, and want good things for their life, we can be sure we are moving in maturity. However, if we find we often put-others-down, tell them they are doing a poor job, if we suggest others are "hopeless," and imply we alone know how to get things done, we can be sure we've got a lot of maturing to do ourselves.

When I express my positive feelings about you and to you, we both feel good. When I use my words and acts to "put you in your place," we are both damaged by my approach.

Paul gives us an example of appreciation and care expressed. He still has the ability to deal with failures and problems in personal relationships.

I Want to Share the Load (v. 5)

Every Christian individual has a contribution to the Christian fellowship. We have different, unusual, and special gifts, but we all have a gift.

My words of love and appreciation for you are empty unless I stand with you to help carry the load.

Your local church needs both your prayers as well as your energy. Words are not enough.

If we are under a common judgment as "church folks," it is the judgment: we are more "talkers" than "doers."

I Want the Lord to Keep Working on Me (v. 6)

Keep working on me Jesus! I'm not what I have been, and I'm not yet all I'm going to be. Someday I'll put on perfection. Everyday I'm being fashioned by God into a child of His image.

Isn't it wonderful to start the day and end the day in the knowledge that God is working on us?

We don't hold on to Him, He holds us. God plans to finish what He starts. Sometimes we feel discouraged; we don't believe things will improve. We're ready to quit; God doesn't give up on us.

I Want A Growing Love that Chooses the Best (v. 9-10)

Responsible love is not a push-over. The passive mush we sometimes call "love" is dangerous. True love can be tough, realistic and demanding.

True knowledge and perfect judgment help us grow in a love that selects the best for all.

A love that chooses the best has high standards and expectations. A mature love is able to face the pain of resisting selfishness. This love in the Christian fellowship cares enough to stand-by and share the suffering and disappointment.

I Want a Life of Good Qualities (v. 11)

If my life is to have those qualities that bring glory and praise to God, I must have Christ in me. Christ alone can cause me to produce a life-style and attitude that will honor God.

My skills, my talents, my background, my resources, and my efforts cannot bring glory and praise to God without the power of Christ.

In my Christian fellowship, I'm learning to let Christ work through me. I'm learning to be open to the leadership of Christ in my life.

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Isley, Sanders named to seminary posts

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—Branson B. Isley, director of college relations at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary for two years, has been named director of admissions and financial aid at the seminary.

In another employee change, Teresa Ann Sanders, an Oklahoma native and former Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board journeyman to Nairobi, Kenya, has been named feature writer on the seminary's news bureau staff.

Isley, 32, succeeds F. William Ratliff, who resigned to accept an assistant professorship at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., and Sanders succeeds Nancy McGough, who has completed seminary and moved with her husband to Whitwell, Tenn., a Chattanooga suburb, where he serves as a pastor.

A 1973 journalism graduate of Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Sanders is a first-year theology student. She plans to serve in foreign missions publication work. She served at the Baptist Publications House, Nairobi, and is former staff writer for the Thomasville, Ga., "Time-Enterprise," and former news intern for the McAlester, Okla., "News-Capital." (BP)

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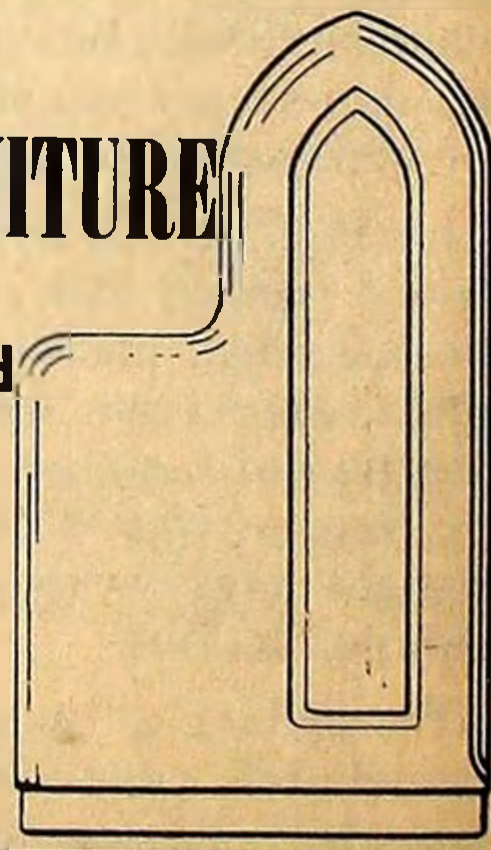
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