

Baptist and Reflector

Vol. 144/No. 47/November 23, 1978

News journal of Tennessee Baptist Convention

TBC votes record budget, hunger study

Messengers to the 104th Tennessee Baptist Convention in Nashville last week created a study committee on world hunger; elected W. Fred Kendall II as their new president; and approved a \$11.8-million Cooperative Program budget-goal for the coming year.

The convention was hosted by Woodmont Church, whose pastor, Bill Sherman, served as president during the past year.

In other actions the messengers approved a new Program of Senior Adult Ministry; approved on first reading several changes to the TBC Constitution; and honored the executive secretary-treasurer, Ralph E. Norton, who will retire on Dec. 31.

Unofficial registration figures reported at the closing Thursday morning session showed 1,360 messengers and 216 visitors for a total registration of 1,576.

A motion by Lee Prince, pastor of Memphis' Union Avenue Church, was approved which created a special seven-member committee "to investigate the causes and possible responses to hunger in Tennessee and the world and to communicate their findings to the 1979 annual meeting." The committee will work with the TBC public affairs and Christian life consultant, Jerry Self.

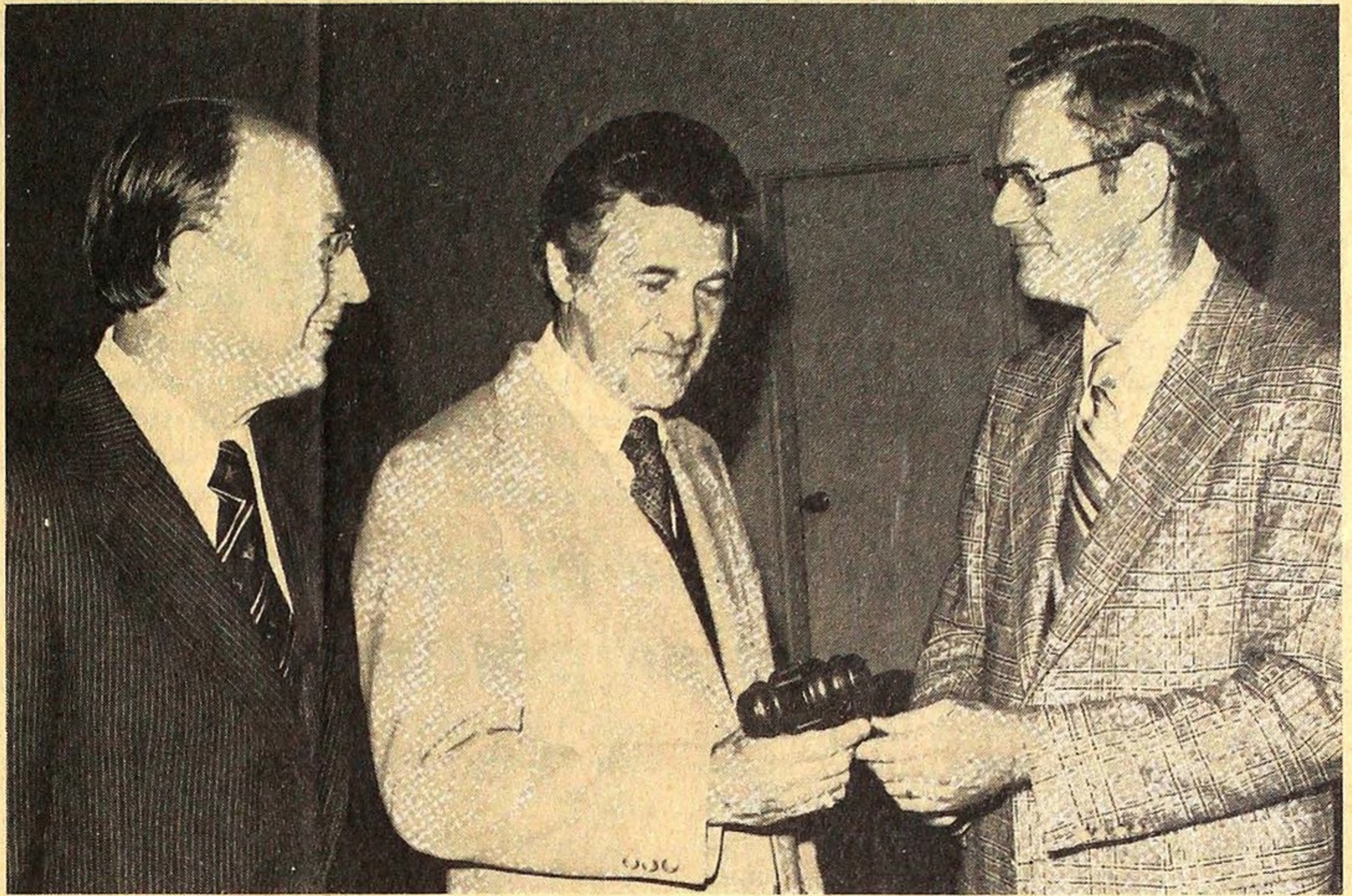
Later in the convention, Sherman named these seven to the committee: Earl Davis, Memphis, chairman; Steve Bingham, Lebanon; J. C. Carpenter, Manchester; Danny Jones, Henning; Roy Miller, Alcoa; Larry Taylor, Jefferson City; and Prince.

The messengers overwhelmingly approved a recommended budget-goal for the state convention for the convention year (November 1978-October 1979) for \$11.8-million. (See **Baptist and Reflector**, Oct. 12, page 13.)

The most discussion of any item at the convention came on the recommendation concerning the division of Cooperative Program mission funds after the budget-goal is passed.

Denzil Dukes, pastor of First Church in Milan, sought to amend the Executive Board's recommendation to extend the 34.5 percent shared with the Southern Baptist Convention's Cooperative Program to state convention Cooperative Program gifts received beyond the \$11.8-million budget. The board's recommendation would follow the practice of the past 18 years of allowing the board to divide the overage.

After discussion by George Capps, Nashville; Gaye McGlothlen, Nashville; Marvin



GAVEL PASSES—W. Fred Kendall II (center), new president of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, receives the gavel from outgoing president Bill Sherman (right), as the new vice-president, William Palmer, watches.

Nail, Nashville; and Wayne Allen, Memphis, the motion to amend failed to pass on a show-of-hands vote.

The messengers approved on first reading several changes to the TBC Constitution. These must be approved by the 1979 convention in Memphis to become effective.

The changes were approved as printed in the Nov. 9 **Baptist and Reflector** with one alteration. The messengers approved on a close vote an amendment to Article II, preferring to retain the title "Composition," rather than endorsing the title of "Membership" as recommended by the Constitution and Bylaws Committee. The amendment was proposed by Larry Corder, pastor of Gibson (Tn) Church.

Two recommended changes to the Bylaws as recommended by the committee were approved for Bylaw III. The changes, which become effective immediately, clarify the procedures necessary to create or to abolish any convention institution or agency.

Another proposed change to the Bylaws was presented by Bill Bruster, pastor of Bearden's Central Church, Knoxville. The proposed amendment would have required that "a minimum of one-third of the trustees

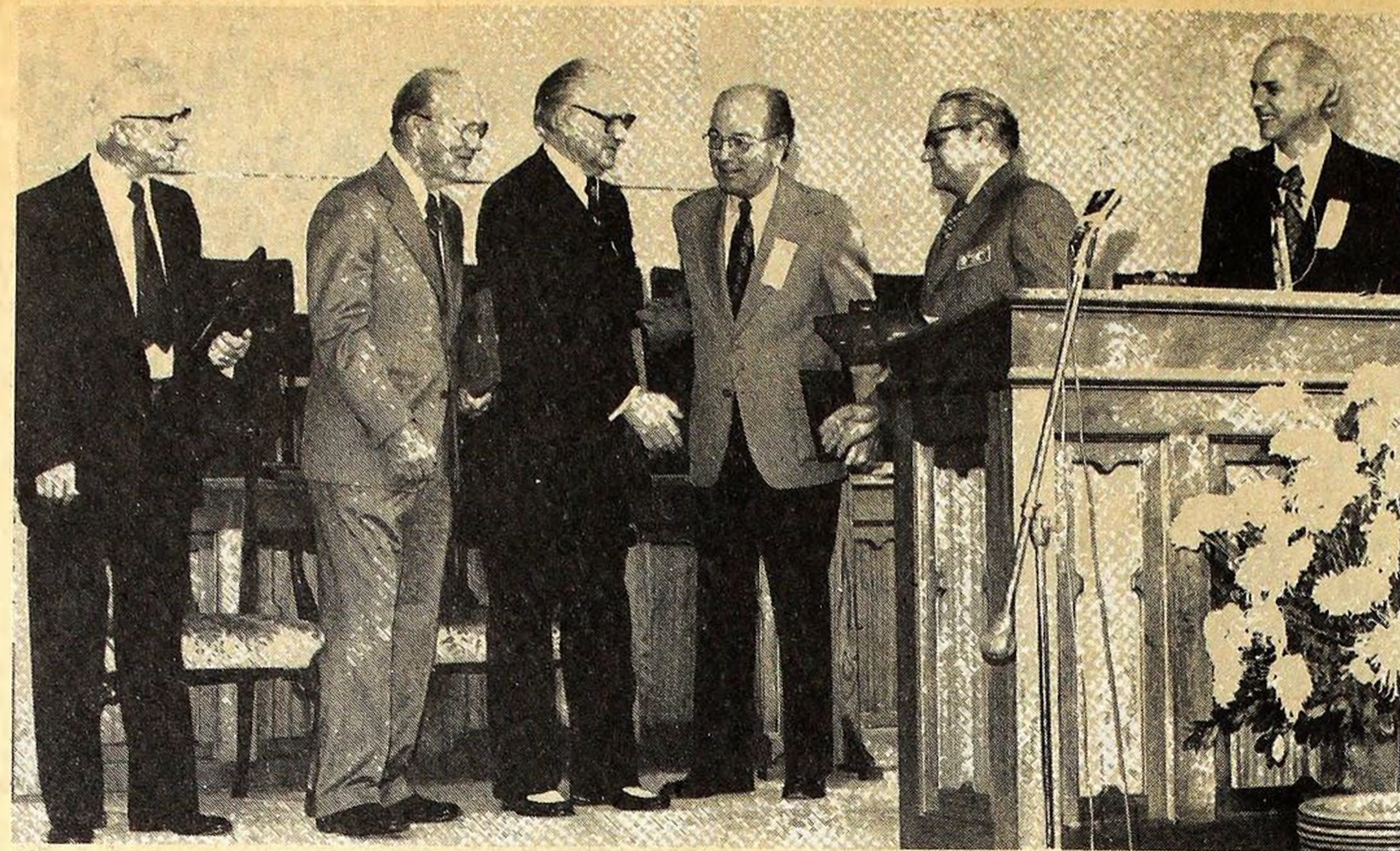
of each Board, Institution, or Agency shall be laypersons." The messengers approved a motion by Pat Landrum, pastor of Brighton (Tn.) Church that the proposal be referred to the TBC Constitution and Bylaws Committee for study and for report to the 1979 convention.

Two motions presented to the convention during miscellaneous business session were defeated by the messengers.

James Stroud, pastor of Third Creek Church of Knoxville, moved that the convention "go on record as opposing the recent decision of the Baptist Sunday School Board to return to printing two versions, including the King James Version, in four periodicals of the Life and Work Series beginning in October 1979." The BSSB had abandoned the practice of printing the KJV and a modern English translation in these quarterlies, but public response had caused the agency to announce that it would return to the former practice (**Baptist and Reflector**, Nov. 16).

Stroud said that the BSSB's action could give the "impression that we believe that the King James Version is the better of the"

(Continued on page 4)



FORMER PRESIDENTS—Plaques were presented to TBC presidents who served prior to 1967 at last week's convention. Those present at the Wednesday morning session were (from left) J. Howard Young 1957; W. Fred Kendall 1955; R. Paul Caudill 1958; Gaye McGlothlen 1960; and Ralph Norton 1956. The presentations were made by Joe McGehee (right), chairman of the Committee on Arrangements.

Service appreciation plaques given to former convention presidents

Eight past presidents of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, with tenures of service dating back to 1947, were given plaques of appreciation last week in Nashville during the state's annual meeting at Woodmont Church.

The eight who were present are among 20 men who served in the executive post

from 1947 until 1966. In 1967, the TBC began giving plaques of recognition annually.

Honored during the special ceremonies were: Richard N. Owen, president in 1947, retired editor of the **Baptist and Reflector**, now living in Nashville; W. Fred Kendall, who served in 1955, retired executive secretary-treasurer, TBC, now living in Nashville; Ralph Norton, president in 1956, executive secretary-treasurer, TBC; J. Howard Young, president in 1957, now assistant minister of First Church, Nashville; R. Paul Caudill, 1958 TBC president, pastor emeritus of First Church, Memphis, now retired and living in Memphis.

Also honored were: Raymond DeArmond, president in 1959, now retired in Seymour and serving as interim pastor at Manley Church, Morristown; Gaye L. McGlothlen, president in 1960, now retired and living in Nashville where he is interim pastor of Dalewood Church; and G. Allen West, president in 1966, former pastor of Woodmont Church, now director of missions in Louisville, Ky.

Unable to be present for the occasion were former presidents: Homer G. Lindsey Sr., 1939; John W. McCall, 1949; R. B. Jones, 1950; J. Harold Stephens, 1951; Ramsey Pollard, 1953; C. M. Pickler, 1961; E. Warren Rust, 1962; Harold J. Purdy, 1963; and David Q. Byrd, 1964. L. B. Cobb, who served in 1948; Henry J. Huey, 1952; A. Roy Greene, 1954; and Charles Ausmus, 1965, have died since their terms of service.

the post prior to 1939, are dead.

Redmond hits Baptists for loss of joy, accord

"The difference between our churches today and those in the Book of Acts is that we are different than first century Christians," declared Charles Redmond Jr. during his message to last week's Tennessee Baptist Convention.

The pastor of First Church, Lenoir City, noted that in 1977 only 45 of the 2,760 churches related to the Tennessee Baptist Convention baptized 50 or more people. "In Acts, people were saved by the thousands. I think the difference is in some things we have lost."

Redmond listed four things we have lost.

"Many of us have lost the joy over our own salvation," he observed. "We rejoice over other things than that our names are written in heaven" (Luke 10:20).

He added that we no longer rejoice over the salvation of others. "We are more eager to be first in the cafeteria line, than to tarry and rejoice with new Christians at the altar."

The third thing which Redmond says we have lost is our joy in doing God's work. "It gets harder every year to serve God. We are bored stiff doing what we once enjoyed."

The last difference Redmond noted is that our churches are not of "one accord" (Acts 2:1), which he defined as "loss of individuality." The Lenoir City pastor urged the church members to break up their little groups and cliques and become lost in God's great stream.

Redmond concluded his message by urging that Baptists allow God to do and to say what He wants to do and to say in whatever way He wishes.

"When we regain the joy of our salvation, the salvation of others, and the joy of doing God's work, and get in one accord, God will send results with souls by the thousands born into the Kingdom of God," Redmond stated.

Baptists pay tribute to mission leaders

Two Tennessee directors of missions, Clyde Cobb and Joe Harris, were recognized for their service to the state's Baptists during the annual meeting in Nashville last week. Both men retire this year from their positions.

Cobb, who served 30 years as a director of missions in seven associations, retired in July from Grainger County, (see **Baptist and Reflector**, July 27).

Harris has led as director in Carroll-Benton Association since April 1964. He is scheduled to retire Dec. 31. Before becoming a missions director, Harris was pastor of churches in Jackson, Memphis, Ridgely, Dyersburg, Camden, and Finley. He also led a congregation in Hickman, Ky.

A native of Missouri, he received his education at Union University, Jackson, where he earned the B.A. degree. He also attended New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans, La.

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: George Capps Jr., chairman; C. Henry Preston, vice-chairman; Gayle Alexander, William E. Crook, John Daley, Jim Dusek, Charles D. Earl, Ray Fowler, Hayward Highfill, Howard Kolb, Pat Landrum, Mrs. R. Trevis Otey, J. Arnold Porter, Paul Shell, Bill Sherman, Gerald Stow, and Herschel Woodburn.



BOARD OFFICERS—Newly-elected officers of the Tennessee Baptist Convention's Executive Board are Gerald Stow, president (standing); James McCluskey, secretary (left); and Robert Campbell, vice-president.

Stow named president of Executive Board

Gerald Stow, Cookeville, was elected as president to the Tennessee Baptist Convention's Executive Board at the board's organization meeting last week during the state convention.

Stow, who is pastor of First Church of Cookeville, was elected to the post over Fred Steelman, pastor of Red Bank Church, Chattanooga. Stow was nominated to that post by Paul Durham, pastor of Nashville's Radnor Church, while Steelman was nominated by Bill Kennedy, pastor of Central Church, Hixson.

The new vice-president is Robert Campbell, pastor of First Church, Rockwood. He was elected without opposition, after being nominated by Gayle Alexander, pastor of First Church, Alamo.

Jim McCluskey was elected secretary of the Executive Board. He is pastor of Wallace Memorial Church, Knoxville, and was nominated by Paul Woodford, pastor of Ripley's First Church.

Recognition plaques for service on the board were given to 12 members who are rotating off the Executive Board. They were George Capps, Nashville; Jerry Glisson, Memphis; Grant Jones, Sevierville; John Leeson, Nashville; Ray Mabey, Cookeville; Jack May, Memphis; Joseph May, Cowan; Ralph McIntyre, Nashville; John Outland Sr., Oak Ridge; Arnold Porter, Centerville; Henry Preston, Chattanooga; and Richard Smith, Maryville.

The next scheduled meeting of the Executive Board will be Dec. 11-12 in Brentwood.

Kendall, Palmer, Reeves elected as TBC officers

W. Fred Kendall II, pastor of First Church in Union City, was elected as president of the Tennessee Baptist Convention during last week's meeting in Nashville. Kendall succeeds Bill Sherman, pastor of Nashville's Woodmont Church.

Kendall was elected by ballot in an election with Jack May, pastor of Memphis' Broadmoor Church. Kendall was nominated by Joe Stacker, pastor of Concord's First Church, and May was nominated by Wayne Allen, pastor of East Park Church, Memphis.

The new TBC president was born in Louisville, Ky., but has lived in Tennessee during most of his life. He is a graduate of Union University, Jackson, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville. Before coming to his present pastorate in 1965, Kendall was pastor of First Church, Bolivar, and Middleburg (Tn.) Church.

The election of the president was the only one requiring a ballot, as other offices had only one nominee.

William Palmer was elected vice-president. He has been pastor of First Church of Morristown since 1969. Other pastorates have been in North and South Carolina. He was nominated by Ed Johnson, pastor of Kingsport's Calvary Church.

The new second vice-president is J. V. Reeves, who has been pastor of Smyrna Church, Burlison, for more than 15 years. He was nominated by Pat Landrum, pastor of Brighton (Tn.) Church.

Mrs. Alice Byram, Nashville, was re-elected registration secretary, and Wallace E. Anderson, Nashville, was re-elected recording secretary. Anderson was also elected statistical secretary.

The messengers passed a motion that Ralph E. Norton serve as convention treasurer until Dec. 31, with Tom Madden to serve in the post after that date. According to the TBC Constitution, the executive secretary-treasurer of the Executive Board shall be the treasurer of the convention.

Madden will become executive secretary-treasurer of the Executive Board on Jan. 1, 1979, when Norton retires after six years in that position.

Johnson City approved for 1980 convention

Tennessee Baptists voted last week to hold their 1980 state convention on Nov. 11-13 at the Johnson City Freedom Hall Civic Center.

The vote came following a recommendation from the Tennessee Baptist Convention committee on arrangements to the messengers attending the state convention at Woodmont Church in Nashville.

The Baptists also voted to have William J. Purdue, pastor of First Church in Kingsport, deliver the convention sermon next year in Memphis. The 1979 convention site, which was set at the state convention in Knoxville last year, will be East Park Church in Memphis. Dillard West, pastor of Pleasant Grove Church in Covington, was recommended and approved as the alternate speaker for the Memphis convention.

In presenting the recommendation for the 1980 site, committee chairman Joe McGehee said that the convention has not met east of Knoxville since 1947 and has not met in Johnson City in 55 years.

He assured the messengers that adequate motel rooms would be available in the tri-cities of Kingsport, Johnson City, and Bristol. He said that the convention would need approximately 600 rooms and that 2,200 rooms are available in the area.

Ex-Maryland WMU executive dies six weeks after retiring

RICHMOND, VA.—Funeral services were to be held here, Nov. 11, for Josephine C. Norwood, 65, who died less than six weeks after her Sept. 30 retirement as Woman's Missionary Union secretary for the Maryland Baptist Convention.

Miss Norwood, who had been seriously ill during the past year, had recently moved to a Richmond, Va. nursing home from the Baltimore, Md., area. (BP)

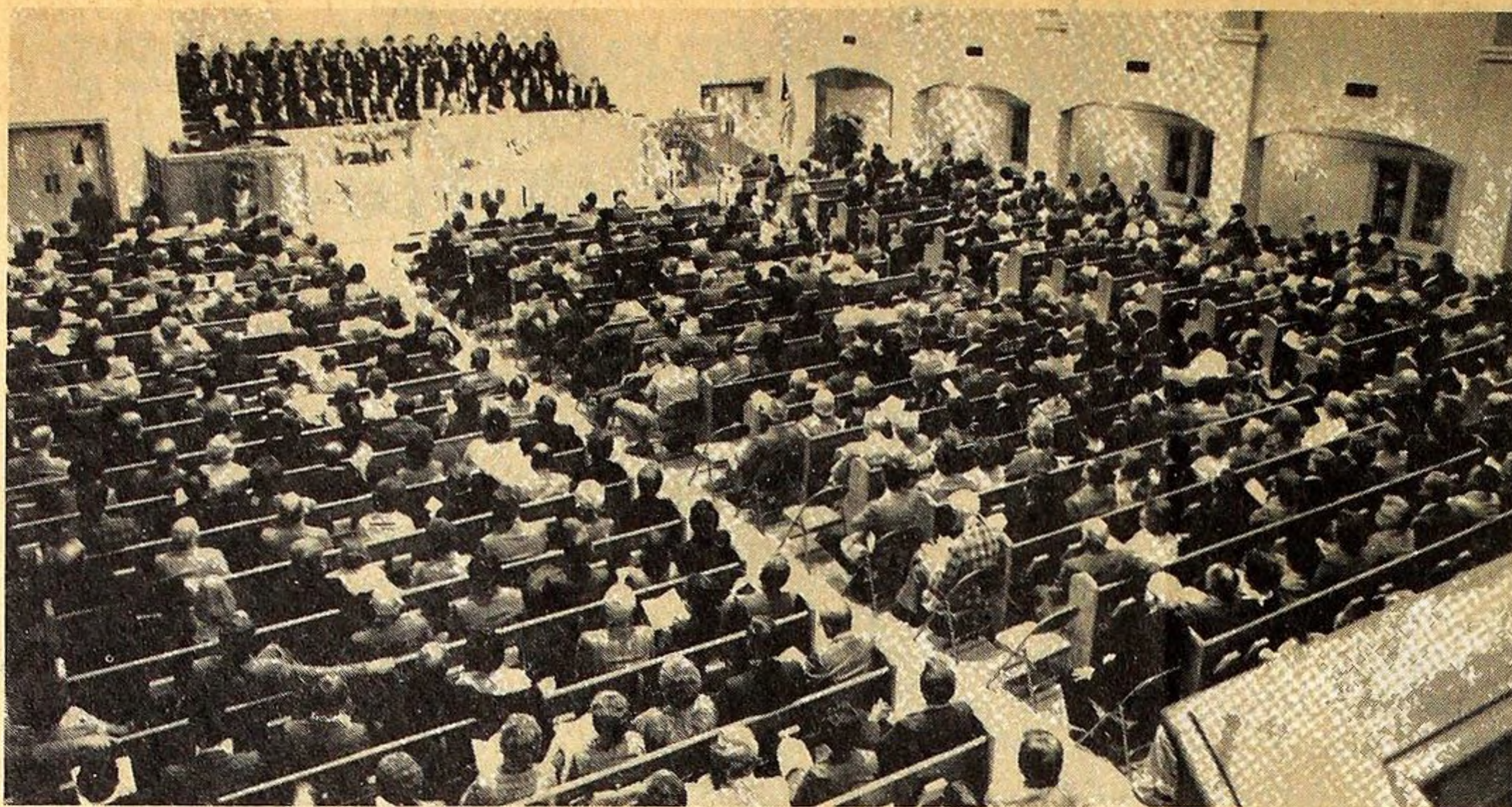
Baptist Book Store sets dedication for Nov. 27

Dedication ceremonies for the new Baptist Book Store building in Chattanooga will be held Nov. 27 at 10 a.m. The store moved into its new building, located at 4316 Brainerd Road, in early November.

James Clark, vice-president of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville; Forrest Watkins, director of missions, Hamilton County Association; Jack McEwen, pastor of First Church, Chattanooga; and W. O. Jones, director of the Chattanooga Baptist Center will appear on the program.

Jay Turner and William S. Graham, also of the BSSB, book store division, will share on the program.

The Chattanooga bookstore began in 1945. June White has served as manager since shortly after it opened.



IN SESSION—Messengers and visitors to last week's Tennessee Baptist Convention gather in the auditorium of Woodmont Church in Nashville for the TBC's 104th annual session.

TBC votes budget, hunger study

(Continued from page one)

authorized versions which are available today." He added his opinion that the KJV is "probably the least reliable word-for-word translation of the authorized versions."

William Dodson, pastor of First Church of Martin, opposed the motion, noting that although "we have a right to take stands against or for any agency, I would remind this convention that the Sunday School Board is an agency of the Southern Baptist Convention." He said he was encouraged that Southern Baptists are being heard by their agencies.

The motion was defeated overwhelmingly.

Another motion, presented by Tom Straka, Greenwood Church pastor, asked that the "Committee on Arrangements give serious consideration to eliminating the Thursday morning session of the state convention." This motion was defeated on a close vote.

In other actions the messengers approved a recommendation from the Committee on the Journal that the 1978 TBC Annual be

dedicated to Ralph E. Norton. E. E. Duesner, Lexington, moved that the annual also contain a picture and biographical sketch of R. G. Lee, long-time pastor of Bellevue Church, Memphis, and former TBC president who died in July. This motion was also passed.

The Committee on the Journal reported that because of rising printing and postage costs, future editions of the TBC Annual would contain a condensed audit of the convention and its agencies (saving 92 pages) and delete the listing of messengers who attended the convention (saving 38 pages).

The messengers approved three resolutions from its Resolutions Committee: (1) praising the service of Ralph Norton, (2) pledging prayer and cooperation for the new executive secretary-treasurer, Tom Madden, and (3) expressing appreciation for the host church, officers, and others who contributed to the success of the 104th annual convention.

The convention received by common consent a resolution passed by First Church, Tullahoma, concerning the ministry and service of Madden, who was pastor of that church for 22 years. The resolution was read to the convention by the present pastor, James Porch.

The TBC Executive Board reported to the convention that it had granted permission to Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy, Seymour, to add the seventh grade to its curriculum for a two-year trial period beginning next fall. The addition will not require any additional funds from the convention.

The academy presently consists of grades 8-12. The adding of the seventh grade will give the Baptist school a complete junior and senior high school program.

The 105th annual Tennessee Baptist Convention is scheduled to be held Nov. 13-15 at East Park Church, Memphis.

12 others nominated to boards, committees

Twelve Tennessee Baptists were elected to various convention boards and committees during last week's Tennessee Baptist Convention, in addition to the nominations listed in the Oct. 12 **Baptist and Reflector** (pages 6 and 7). The elections came on recommendations from the Committee on Boards and the Committee on Committees.

Additional nominations made by these committees were:

Executive Board: Fred Tubbs, Somerville, term expiring 1980.

Harrison-Chilhowee Academy: McKinley Braden, Knoxville, term expiring 1980.

East Tennessee Hospital: Gary Marsh, Kingston, term expiring 1981.

Committee on Arrangements: Pete Roberts, Lebanon, term expiring 1981.

Committee on Audits: Martin Haggard, Waynesboro and Paul Veazey, Paris, terms expiring in 1981.

Committee on Boards: Henry C. Preston, Chattanooga, term expiring in 1981, and J. W. Abney, Friendship, term expiring in 1980.

Committee on Resolutions: Robert G. Lee, Covington, term expiring in 1981.

Constitution and Bylaws Committee: James Robertson, Knoxville; Thomas D. Robinson, Henderson; and J. Victor Brown, Nashville, terms expiring in 1981.

Take 'second look,' Langlois tells TBC

"Tennessee Baptists should look through eyes of faith toward the future, realizing the unlimited resources of God," Raymond Langlois said in a message to the Tennessee Baptist Convention in Nashville last week.

Langlois, pastor of Judson Church in the host city, acknowledged that Christians live in a day of contrasts, problems, and paradoxes. "We see so many situations as hopeless through our human viewpoint," he said, citing the loss of individual freedoms, confidence in government, and the abundance of shallow Christians.

Elucidating on the story of Elisha and his servant in Dothan (II Kings 6:13-18), the Nashville pastor expressed conviction that the Scripture and story reflect the attitude of "the second look" that Christians should take. "Let's don't be too quick to alarm and to cry out that our situation is hopeless as the servant did," he warned. "Rather, let us take the second look at the same scene and see it with a different vision."

Offering hope for the despondent, he pointed out that Baptists should recognize that God made everything and is still in control; that God cares about what He has made; that God has a plan of which we are a part; and that all of the trials will be worth our efforts.

Liquor issue gets attention in Cumberland Association

Messengers to Cumberland Association, meeting in annual session last month, voted to encourage the churches of that association to involve their membership in working to vote liquor out of Clarksville as soon as the law will allow for a referendum.

In other actions, officers serving for the 1977-78 convention year, were re-elected. These include: moderator Earl Forderhase, pastor of Parkview Church; vice-moderator C. J. Dexter, pastor of New Providence Church; treasurer Virgil Allison, pastor of First Canaan Church; and clerk Mrs. Norman McWhorter, a member of Gracey Avenue Church.

First Church in Woodlawn has asked to host the April 23, 1979 meeting of the association.

Nine RAs receive national awards

With the presentation of nine National Service Aide Awards to Royal Ambassadors during the Tennessee Baptist Convention last week, the Volunteer State leads the Southern Baptist Convention in the number of recipients of the award. Forty-four young men from Tennessee now hold this honor, according to the Brotherhood Commission, SBC.

The nine, representing six congregations, were presented the awards at Woodmont Church in Nashville. The awards were given by Kenny Rains, state RA director, and Tennessee's first recipient of the National Service Aide Award in 1973. The service aide award of the Royal Ambassador program requires 150 hours of work, and the national award requires 750 hours. The honor brings with it a scholarship of \$1,200, which may be used in any Baptist college honoring the program.

Receiving the awards were: Thomas Strong, First Church, Mt. Juliet; Barney Danks, Roger Scott, Randy Thomas, and Dennis Dearing, all of Central Church in Chattanooga; Jeffrey Seat, First Church, Smyrna; David Lockhart, Flat Gap Church, Jefferson City; Scott Carter, Calvary Church in Oak Ridge; and Greg Stephens, Belmont Heights Church, Nashville.

Archie King, state brotherhood director, pointed out that this was also the first time in the Southern Baptist Convention for four state officers (Danks, Thomas, Dearing, and Scott) to receive the award simultaneously.



OPENING—TBC president Bill Sherman, Nashville, takes the gavel in hand to call to order the 104th session to the Tennessee Baptist Convention.



RECEPTION—Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Norton are greeted by guests who attended a reception in their honor after the Wednesday night service at last week's state convention. Norton will retire Dec. 31 as executive secretary-treasurer for the TBC Executive Board.

Nortons honored by Baptists at Wednesday night session

The Wednesday night session at the Tennessee Baptist Convention last week turned out to be an appreciation night, as retiring executive secretary Ralph Norton and Tennessee Baptists both expressed their love for each other.

After Norton had addressed the convention on "Our Bold Mission Thrust," the convention, through its Executive Board, honored Mr. and Mrs. Norton for their service to Tennessee Baptists. Norton will retire at the end of the year after a six-year tenure as executive secretary-treasurer of the TBC Executive Board.

Officiating at the session was Henry Preston, pastor of East Ridge Church of Chattanooga, who was chairman of the board's recognition committee. In introducing that segment of the program, Preston said that "what we do here tonight can in no way begin to express all that we feel, but will express some of the love and appreciation we have in our hearts for one we have worked with for the past six years."

Mrs. Claude Jennings, Lebanon, state WMU president, spoke concerning the contributions Mrs. Norton has made to Tennessee Baptists, noting that she has served this year as president of the ministers' wives organization.

John Daley, pastor of Nashville's Brook Hollow Church and president of the Executive Board, presented to the Nortons a deferred annuity gift and a death benefit annuity approved by the Executive Board.

George Capps, chairman of the board's administrative committee, presented a bound volume of letters from Executive Board members, pastors, many Baptist leaders in Tennessee and throughout the Southern Baptist Convention, and other friends. Capps is associate executive director of the SBC Education Commission, Nashville.

A silver tray was presented to the Nortons by Mrs. Trevis Otey, Jackson, noting that "the Christian spirit with which you have led Tennessee Baptists is the standard that most of us apply to you."

Gerald Stow, pastor of Cookeville's First Church, expressed gratefulness for Norton's "commitment to our Saviour and your noble service to Tennessee Baptists." He then unveiled a portrait of Norton which was given to him.

The closing prayer of dedication was led by Charles Earl, pastor of Lyons Creek Church, Strawberry Plains.

In his message to the convention, Norton reminded Tennessee Baptists that "God's people are always to go forward. An examination of the glorious past would be fascinating, but God calls his people to look forward and proclaim the message of God's redeeming love, the message of God's full forgiveness, and the message of God's total demand."

The executive secretary noted that the purpose of the Tennessee Baptist Convention is to help in strengthening the work of local churches and in stimulating mission work of evangelizing and congregationalizing this state, as well as the world. "Bold Mission Thrust will be kept alive by individuals who are committed to world missions. Somehow our commitment to Christ must include being big enough to work together for God; big enough to forget small and petty differences; big enough to plan and to execute our programs."

In conclusion, Norton called for a spirit of concern and compassion, an optimistic faith, and a commitment that causes action.

A reception honoring the Nortons was held at Woodmont Church following the Wednesday night session.

WMU proclaims God's 'Message Glorious'

By Eura Lannom

The Woman's Missionary Union heard four foreign and one home missionary speak on the theme "The Message Glorious" at its 90th annual meeting held at Belmont Heights Church, Nashville, Nov. 13. President Mrs. Claude D. Jennings, Lebanon, presided.

Mrs. John R. Isaacs related the call of her and her husband, a pastor in eastern Kentucky, to do literacy work among the Eskimos and Indians in Alaska, where they served 12 years. She entertained with a dialogue of folksy stories on literacy missions work in Alaska where their responsibility was to help those who had not been able to attend school learn English so that they could tell them that Jesus loved them. Mrs. Isaacs now works as a literacy mission field worker for the Home Mission Board.

Four meditations were given by Mrs. Baker James Cauthen, wife of the executive director of the Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Va.

"There is a need for haste—getting into a hurry—the Lord's work needs to get done. In America there are thousands of people who do not know the Good News. When we think about around the world, three-fourths of the people do not know Christ. Why isn't the job being done?" she asked. Answering the question, Mrs. Cauthen said it was because there are more being born into the world than there are Christians.

"In this day God has called the largest number of preachers, but they are not interested in much more than a county seat town church. It is up to us to pray that God will continue to call them and to open the eyes of the preachers that, wherever they go, their lives will be committed to mis-

sions." She also urged the people to pray that God will raise up preachers among the Nationals.

John Cheyne, associate coordinator for hunger relief and disaster relief, Foreign Mission Board, talked about Bold Mission Thrust and said that we need to pray boldly, and we need to give boldly.

"Are we willing to say, 'Lord, here it is, my house, my job, my life, you take it'? It only takes an empty earthen vessel to bring glory and excellence to God. Are you willing to be that vessel?"

"Boldness will not be so much the goals we set, nor the missionaries we have out there, but what we do here with what we have and how we use it. The world must know that Jesus Christ is Lord," Cheyne said.

In her annual report to the convention, Mary Jane Nethery, executive director of WMU, pled for the women to be bold in enlisting new members in their organizations and the churches. "If the Foreign Mission Board is to achieve its goal, Tennessee WMU must bear its part of mission support," she said.

Mrs. Jennings was re-elected as president for the fourth term.

Vice-presidents elected were Northeastern Region, Mrs. Don Lockhart, Flat Gap Church, Jefferson City; Eastern Region, Mrs. Guy Hale, Broadway Church, Maryville; Southeastern Region, Mrs. Elma Parks, East Athens Church, Athens; North Central Region, Mrs. Donald Pharris, First Church, Livingston; Central Region, Mrs. J. W. Smith, Gracey Avenue Church, Clarksville; South Central Region, Mrs. Edwin P. Elder, First Church, Estill Springs; Northwestern Region, Mrs. George Up-

church, First Church, Paris; and Southwestern Region, Betty Jo Goff, Brownsville Church, Brownsville.

Doris June Large, Arlington Church, Knoxville, was elected recording secretary. Miss Nethery was re-elected executive director. Claude D. Jennings led the prayer of dedication.

Alma Hunt, retired executive secretary of the Woman's Missionary Union, SBC, Birmingham, said, "I have tingled with excitement with the glorious messages we have shared today. You can retire from a position, but not from a commitment." Since retirement in 1974, Miss Hunt has represented the Foreign Mission Board in many foreign countries.

"In all the mission fields today, every leader was nurtured in the faith by a Southern Baptist," Miss Hunt reminded her Monday night attenders.

While giving her testimony Lisa Stockard said, "This has been my best summer because I could talk with girls about becoming a Christian, being a better Christian, and help them with their Acteen's work. It is through God's grace that I have been able to share my Christian life with others as an Acteen."

Lisa is a member of First Church, Donelson, a student at Belmont College, and is one of six panelists selected for the 1978 Acteens National Advisory Panel by WMU in Birmingham.

Mrs. Archie Dunaway told how she and her husband had no doubt what the Lord wanted them to do, nor where He wanted them to be. A missionary nurse to Rhodesia, she said that last year was one of spiritual deepening for their midwifery students. On June 15, she had given the final review for the midwifery lessons to the students preparing them for the government exams which would be coming up soon and at 5:30 went to check the maternity ward to see if everything was in order, and she was late getting off duty. Archie and their little dog, Joe, came looking for me, and Archie was attacked and bayoneted to death by a band of guerillas.

"When I found Joe, I knew trouble had come into my life."

"The Scripture John 12:24 kept coming to me over and over again through all the tragedy, 'Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.'"

"And the fruits continue. The Africans of Sanyati Mission Station do not have prayer meeting only on Wednesday night now, but they have prayer meeting every day. The Christian people of a very needy area where Archie had just received permission to build a church, and where he spent his last Sunday witnessing are busy

(Continued on page 13)



WMU LEADERS—The 1978-79 officers of Woman's Missionary Union are front row, (from left) vice-president Southeastern Region, Mrs. Elma Parks; vice-president Northeastern Region, Mrs. Don Lockhart; vice-president North Central Region, Mrs. Donald Pharris; and vice-president Eastern Region, Mrs. Guy Hale. Back row, recording secretary, Doris June Large; president, Mrs. Claude Jennings; and vice-president South Central Region, Mrs. Edwin P. Elder.

Joe Stacker elected pastors' president

By Bobbie Durham

Sunshine and temperatures in the 70s greeted Tennessee Baptist pastors in Nashville Nov. 13 for the 1978 Pastors' Conference.

Meeting at Woodmont Church, the ministers elected new officers and heard messages from their fellow constituents covering various phases of the pastor's life. Conference president Bill Kennedy, Central Church, Hixson, presided at the three sessions.

Officers elected to serve for the coming year included: president, Joe Stacker; vice-president, Bill Foote; and secretary-treasurer, Maurice Hays. Stacker, this year's vice-president, is in his 11th year as pastor of First Church, Concord. The Nashville native also led the congregations of First Church in Greeneville and Milton Church, Milton. He was nominated by J. Harold Stephens, Shelbyville.

The conference's new vice-president has led the Merton Avenue Church in Memphis for the past four years. Prior to that, he was at Beverly Hills Church in Memphis for 14 years; First Church in Greenbrier; and First Church, Cowan. He is a native of Bolivar. Foote was nominated by Charles Sullivan, Memphis.

Hays has served two pastorates in Jackson, including Pleasant Hill for four years and Meridian, his present position. A native of Bemis, he also led Beech Grove Church in Mercer for two years. Keith Synder, Adamsville, nominated Hays. A. Sidney Waits, pastor of Hickory Hills Church in Memphis, was this year's secretary-treasurer.

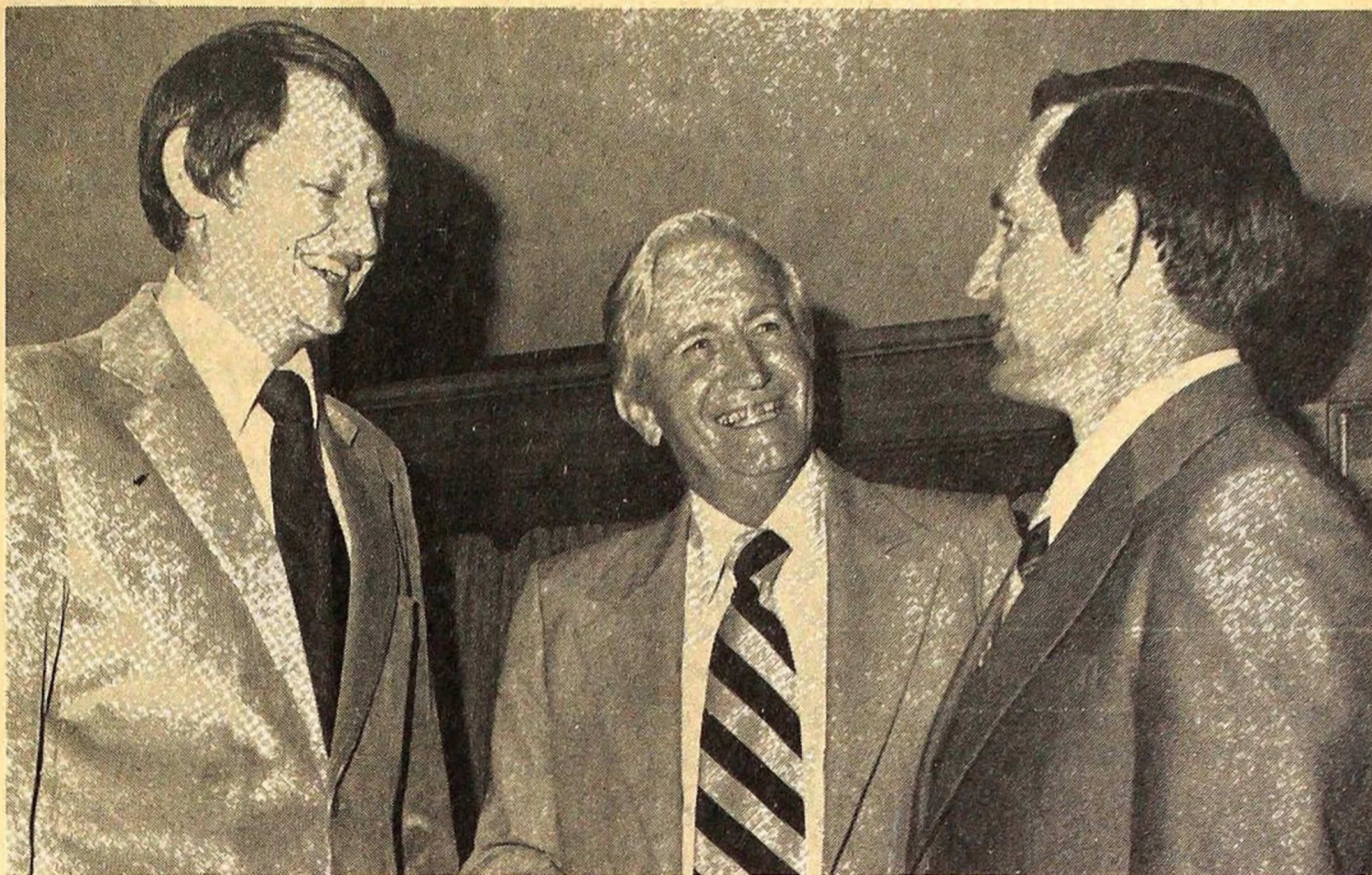
Detours useful

In the conference's opening message, "Life's Detours," Forrest Watkins, director of missions for Hamilton County Association, said that God uses detours in the life of a pastor. Citing the example of Jesus' detour in John 4, Watkins suggested that a detour can become a place of blessing for the pastor, even though it may cost him time, money, and the giving of love.

Bearden pastor Bill Bruster pointed out that both the pastor and the members of a congregation face varied and complex problems. In his message, "The Preaching of Today," the pastor of Central Church warned the ministers against preaching 98 percent of their sermons to the two percent of the congregation with no problems. "Ninety-eight percent of the people in our congregation are facing severe emotional problems, marital strife, depression, and physical ailments," he stated. "We are only preaching about two percent of our messages to these people." He said that the major problems facing preaching today are an unrealistic expectation of people toward the preacher and attempting to preach in a post literate age.

Priorities listed

Concluding the morning session, Jack May, pastor of Broadmoor Church, Memphis referred to the pastor's pattern for service, place of service, and purpose for serving.



PASTORS' LEADERS—Newly elected officers for the 1978-79 Pastors' Conference are (left to right): president, Joe Stacker, pastor of First Church, Concord; vice-president, Bill Foote, pastor, Merton Avenue Church in Memphis; and secretary-treasurer, Maurice Hays, pastor of Meridian Church in Jackson.

Alluding to Bruster's message, the Memphis pastor said that Jesus is the pattern for the service and beyond the four walls of the church is the place for service. He warned the attenders that they should remember priorities in their ministry. "Your number one priority is to make sure that you have spent time alone with the Maker," he reminded them. He listed their second and third priorities as being a witness in the home where they live and a witness in the church they serve.

Turning to the personal lives of the pastors, Adrian Rogers, Bellevue Church, Memphis, voiced concern over the temptations which ministers face. He outlined the seasons of temptation as flesh confronting the youthful pastor, the word against the soul confronting the middle-aged preacher, and the devil attacking the spirit realm of the older pastor.

Faith, flight, fight used

In overcoming temptation, Rogers said to use faith against temptations of the world, flight against temptations of the flesh, and fight against temptations of the spirit.

Rogers' evening message dealt with "The Resurrection Body." Basing his speech on I Corinthians 15, he said that the Christian is justified immediately, sanctified progressively, and glorified ultimately.

Chattanooga pastor Virgil Caldwell, New Monumental Church, charged the pastors with spending too much time learning the answers to questions which won't be on God's final examination. "We will be questioned regarding our feeding of the hungry, the supplying of water to the thirsty, and the care of the needy around us," he said.

In the president's address, Kennedy urged preachers to continue preaching the cross and the resurrection as the theme of the Bible. "We should be preparing ourselves and our people to go out. We need people who believe in missions through their lives, not just through their money," he said.

Following his message, Kennedy referred to his recent resignation from Central Church in Hixson (see **Baptist and Reflector**, Nov. 16) and thanked Baptists across the state for their prayers and understanding. He also praised his congregation as "a great church and a growing church."

First place claimed

Henry Linginfelter, Tennessee evangelist, and Jonas Stewart, executive secretary of the Tennessee Baptist Foundation, delivered messages on Jesus and the cross. Linginfelter said that Jesus was above all in creation, birth, life, death, and resurrection. He encouraged the preachers to make Jesus first in their lives by being willing to expand their ministry outside the church building.

Stewart said the person on the cross was Jesus, the purpose of the cross was to bring peace of mind and security of being, and the power of the cross was to provide a ransom for the soul.

Special music for the conference was brought by Marshall Vaughn, Stone Mountain, Ga.; Dick Barrett, Breman, Ga.; the school of nursing chorus from Baptist Memorial Hospital in Memphis; and groups from Central Church in Hixson. Don McCary, Central Church, Hixson, led the music.

1978 TBC: spirit, openness, attitude

Tennessee Baptists should be given an "A-plus" for their spirit, openness, and attitudes which dominated last week's 104 gathering of the state convention. Those who expected the heated debates and harsh criticisms that have overshadowed earlier conventions no doubt left Woodmont Church feeling that the convention was bland or apathetic.

However, we prefer conventions which are characterized by cooperation, appreciation, and mutual respect for those great truths and principles which unite us as Baptists.

This is not to say there were not important issues faced by the messengers. There were differences of opinion expressed on a number of critical issues, but the spirit and attitudes verbalized were basically constructive. And, when a decision was made, everyone seemed to feel that it was made in the proper way—by majority vote after complete discussion.

The officers of the convention—and especially President Bill Sherman—are to be commended for the fair and open way that all business sessions were conducted. No messenger was denied his right to make a motion or to discuss any matter on the floor. In fact, both miscellaneous business sessions ended early, after Sherman had repeatedly asked if there were other matters to be presented.

Let's review some of the significant actions of last week's convention.

Perhaps the most meaningful vote came on the acceptance of the Executive Board's recommended \$11.8-million Cooperative Program budget-goal for this convention year. This represents an 11.85 percent increase over the budget-goal for the convention year which concluded Oct. 31. The messengers obviously felt that this challenging increase is well within our ability—if not within all of our needs.

The budget-goal would share 34.5 percent of Tennessee's Cooperative Program mission gifts with missions and ministries supported through the Southern Baptist Convention's Cooperative Program. This is an increase over the 34 percent in last year's budget and the second consecutive year that the percentage has been increased after being stagnant at 33.33 percent for 16 years.

In many Executive Board meetings and convention sessions in recent years, the issue has been raised of extending the SBC shared percentage to all Tennessee Cooperative Program gifts, rather than just the budget-goal amount. The present procedure is for the Executive Board to decide on allocations of any overage at its December meeting following the close of the convention year.

The issue was raised again last week and was again defeated—but the vote seems to be getting closer.

The creation of a special committee to study the causes and the responses to the hunger problem was a significant action at last week's convention. Concerned Tennessee Baptists will be anxiously awaiting the committee's report at the 1979 TBC.

The decision to hold the 1980 TBC in Johnson City was an excellent choice. There are many Tennessee Baptists in upper east Tennessee, and we need to hold some of our sessions in this area. We have not convened in this part of the state since the 1947 TBC in Kingsport.

The motion to oppose the Sunday School Board's decision to return to using the King James Version (along with a modern English translation) in the Life and Work Series was defeated overwhelmingly. The defeat could be variously interpreted: (1) support for the BSSB trustees' right to determine the work of that agency, (2) support for the honored place of the King James Version, or (3) reaction to the motion-makers statement that the KJV is probably the least reliable of any authorized version. Doubtless, it was a combination of these which led to the large negative vote.

The attendance at this year's convention was the smallest since 1973. Long-time observers seemed to feel that Baptists in central Tennessee are not as strong on convention attendance as those in other parts of the state.

This was the last appearance of Ralph E. Norton before the convention as executive secretary-treasurer. He will retire from that post at the end of the year. Appropriate recognition of his six years of service was made during last week's convention, particularly on Wednesday night.

Woodmont Church did an excellent job of caring for the needs of the meeting. They did everything possible to insure that the convention would not be handicapped by lacking any need or service. The expected parking problem was greatly eased by the use of facilities of neighboring churches, and Woodmont even provided shuttle bus service to these parking areas.

Contributing greatly to the success and spirit of the 194th convention were the outstanding messages and music provided by those participating.

The preaching was great. Gerald Stow's convention sermon and Sherman's president's address were printed in our Nov. 16 issue. Articles about the other major messages are contained in this issue.

The musicians gave the convention attenders an impressive variety of inspirational music. The reaction of the messengers and visitors showed that every music group or solist was greatly appreciated.

The 104th session of the Tennessee Baptist Convention is over. Hopefully its spirit will exert its influence on our work for years to come.

Our People and Our Churches . . .

Cicero's comment

By the editor



"Cicero, I wish that motion had passed which asked that the Committee on Arrangements study the possibility of eliminating the Thursday morning session of our state convention," commented **Faye Thull** as we looked out over the empty seats at last Thursday's session.

"Well, the vote was close," Cicero acknowledged, "but it seems that the majority felt the need of all seven TBC sessions."

Faye agreed, but observed that issue was not necessarily the Thursday morning session, but what she called the **Last Session Syndrome**. "Some Tennessee Baptists seem to be allergic to a convention's last session-regardless of when it is held!," she opined.

Cicero allowed that this was true, but was not sure that anything could be done about that attitude.

Faye fumed. "You are so short-sighted! There are a number of things that could be done." So Faye began to offer some suggestions.

"We could have a **one-session convention**. Therefore, the messengers would attend the last session while they were attending the first session. Some would have accidentally attended the last session without even knowing it! But I realize that some, such as **Earl Lee Partain**, would probably leave for home even before that session," Thull thought.

"Or we could call the last session a **funeral service**. It appears that many pastors have to leave the convention early for funerals, so why not have a state-wide funeral service at the convention's last session?," she asked.

"Another possibility would be to have a **lengthy business period** during the last session. We could make sure that some motion was passed which was **embarrassing** to Baptists, so maybe the messengers would feel that in later conventions they had better stay to the end."

Faye Thull wondered about the Committee on Arrangements merely labeling **another** session, for example the second session, as the "final session." She figured that this way some messengers would attend the "final" session accidentally! This way they might gradually be conditioned to attend last sessions—which could come at any time during the convention.

"There is another way to insure good attendance at the final session," Faye followed. "The Committee on Arrangements could slyly announce that there would be a **Thursday afternoon session**. Then, at the conclusion of the Thursday morning session, they could announce that the Thursday afternoon session had been **cancelled**."

PEOPLE . . .

Former west Tennessee pastor **Billy J. Turner**, now pastor of First Church, Stearns, Ky., was injured seriously in an automobile accident recently. A native of the Volunteer State, he was a pastor in Memphis for 10 years, Big Hatchie Association, and Haywood Association. He left Tennessee for the Kentucky church four years ago. **Turner** was confined to the hospital and is now at home with limited privileges.

Mt. Zion Church, Holston Association, licensed **Jack Dykes** to the gospel ministry.

Albert Berry was ordained as a deacon at First Church in Jonesboro recently. The church also licensed **Phil Groos** to the gospel ministry. **Groos** is a student at Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City. **John Carpenter** is pastor of the Jonesboro church.

First Church, Maryville, ordained **Jon Rupert**, **Tom Sawyer**, and **Mike Garner** as deacons last month. **Horace Gennoe**, director of missions for Chilhowee Association, delivered the ordination sermon. **John Wren** is pastor.

Jim McClinton was ordained as a deacon at Lincoya Hills Church in Nashville earlier this month. **Nolan P. Howington**, church training department, Baptist Sunday School Board, gave the charge. Pastor **David Moore** brought the ordination message.

H. K. Sorrell and his family were honored at a reception on Sunday, Nov. 12, by members of Brownsville Church in Brownsville. The occasion was **Sorrell's** 20th anniversary as pastor. He came to Tennessee in 1958 from Sturgis, Ky. The Brownsville pastor has served on the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention for 14 years and was also formerly vice-president of the Tennessee Pastors' Conference. Presently, he is serving on the committee on arrangements, TBC, and as a trustee of the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes. He is moderator of Haywood Association.

Enerson Wiles is scheduled to be ordained as a deacon at First Church, Old Hickory, on Sunday, Dec. 10. **Norris G. Hite** is pastor.

Immanuel Church, Concord Association, ordained **Eugene Cattlett**, **John Carroll**, **Monroe Hirlston**, and **Howard Moore** as deacons recently. **Carl Allen** is pastor.

Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Branson were honored on their 54th wedding anniversary. They are members of Lincoln Park Church in Knoxville. **Ted J. Ingram** is pastor.

Aubrey Lee Knois was licensed to the gospel ministry by Rover Church, New Duck River Association. A retired military officer, **Knois** has served for two-and-one-half years as a deacon at Rover Church. **David Wall** is pastor.

Halls Westside Church, Dyer Association, ordained **Jackie Newman** as a deacon recently. The ordination message was preached by **W. W. Shanklin**, director of missions.

First Church, Huntingdon, ordained **Curtis Barker**, **David Caldwell**, **Bob Cole**, **Gerald Hilliard**, **Romie Morrisett**, **Bob Newman**, **Joe Pruitt**, **Bill Toy**, and **Gaylon Webb** as deacons. **George W. Hill** is pastor.

First Church, Union City, held ordination services for **Jerry Dellinger** and **Rupert Pritchett Jr.** on Sunday, Nov. 12. **W. Fred Kendall II** is pastor. The two men were ordained as deacons.

Members of Calvary Church in Knoxville voted to license **Richard Barr** to the gospel ministry. The ordination will take place in the near future, according to the church's pastor, **Bob Burch**.

LEADERSHIP . . .

Carter Elmore resigned as pastor of Concord Church, Chattanooga, to become pastor of Highlands Church in Huntsville, Ala. He served the Chattanooga church for seven years, coming from First Church in Dixon, Tenn. He served as chairman of the annual session committee for the association this year.

Lincoya Hills Church, Nashville, called **Bill Scudder**, Goodlettsville, as part-time minister of music. **Scudder** has served churches in the Nashville area as minister of music, education, and also as pastor. **David Moore** is the Lincoya Hills pastor.

Youth director **Barry Wilson** resigned from Malesus Church in Madison-Chester Association.

Joe M. Thomas resigned as pastor of Highland Park Church, Jackson, to become pastor of Dawson Church in Philpot, Ky. Pastor of the Jackson church for the past five years, his resignation was effective Nov. 1.

Unity Church, Luray called **Johnny Hassek** as interim youth director. **Hassek** is a student at Union University in Jackson.

Bennie Pritchett, minister of education at Frayser Church, Shelby County, has accepted the call of Olivet Church in Little Rock, Ark.

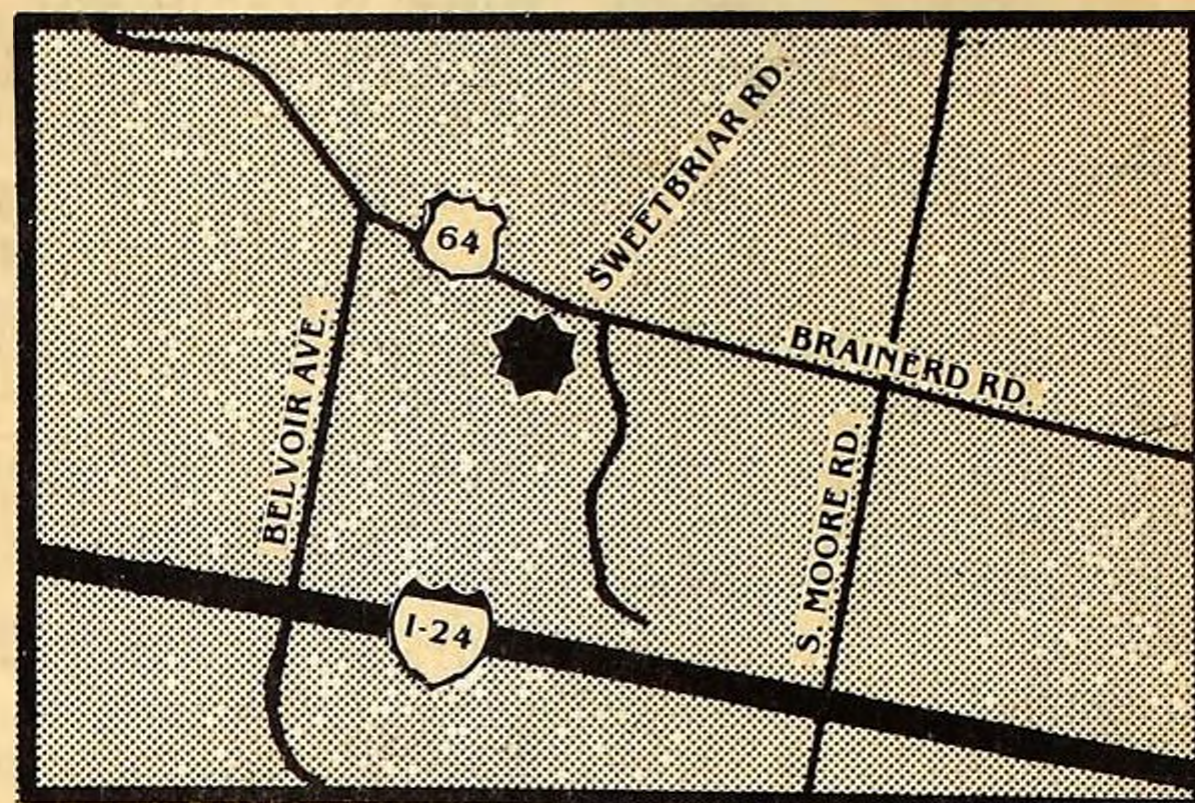
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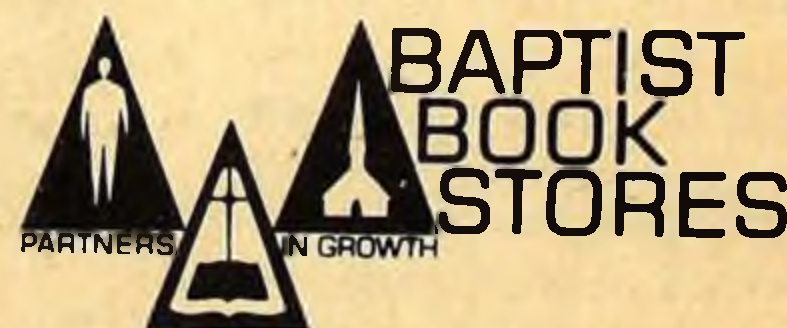
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Pulpit To Pew

By Jim Griffith

Thanksgiving is always a good time to pause and reflect on the blessings and bounty of life. But, if we observe Thanksgiving in November and forget that every day brings reason for giving thanks, then at heart we are ungrateful.

And someone has said that an ungrateful man is like a hog under a tree eating acorns, but never looking up to see where they come from.

Gratitude itself must be recognized as a blessing. At a church Thanksgiving party several years ago, the evening ended with a fellowship circle in which each person was asked to say what he was especially thankful for. Among the usual blessings mentioned were the words timidly spoken by a young girl: "Oh, I'm just thankful that I am thankful."

The person, who is aware of every blessing, is of all persons greatly blessed.

And for the truly grateful person, every day is Thanksgiving Day.

HISTORICALLY

FROM THE FILES

50 YEARS AGO

W. C. Creasman resigned as pastor at Lenoir City to accept the call of First Church, Shelbyville.

The Tennessee Baptist Convention meeting in First Church, Knoxville, re-elected A. L. Todd of Murfreesboro as president. John J. Hurt of Jackson and James T. Warren of Jefferson City were elected vice-presidents. Re-elected were Fleetwood Ball, recording secretary; O. E. Bryan, corresponding secretary and treasurer; and N. B. Fetzer, statistical secretary. Miss Mary Northington gave the WMU report. This was the first time in the history of the TBC for a woman to bring a report.

25 YEARS AGO

Rogers M. Smith, for the past nine years student union secretary of the TBC, resigned to become a field representative for the Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Va.

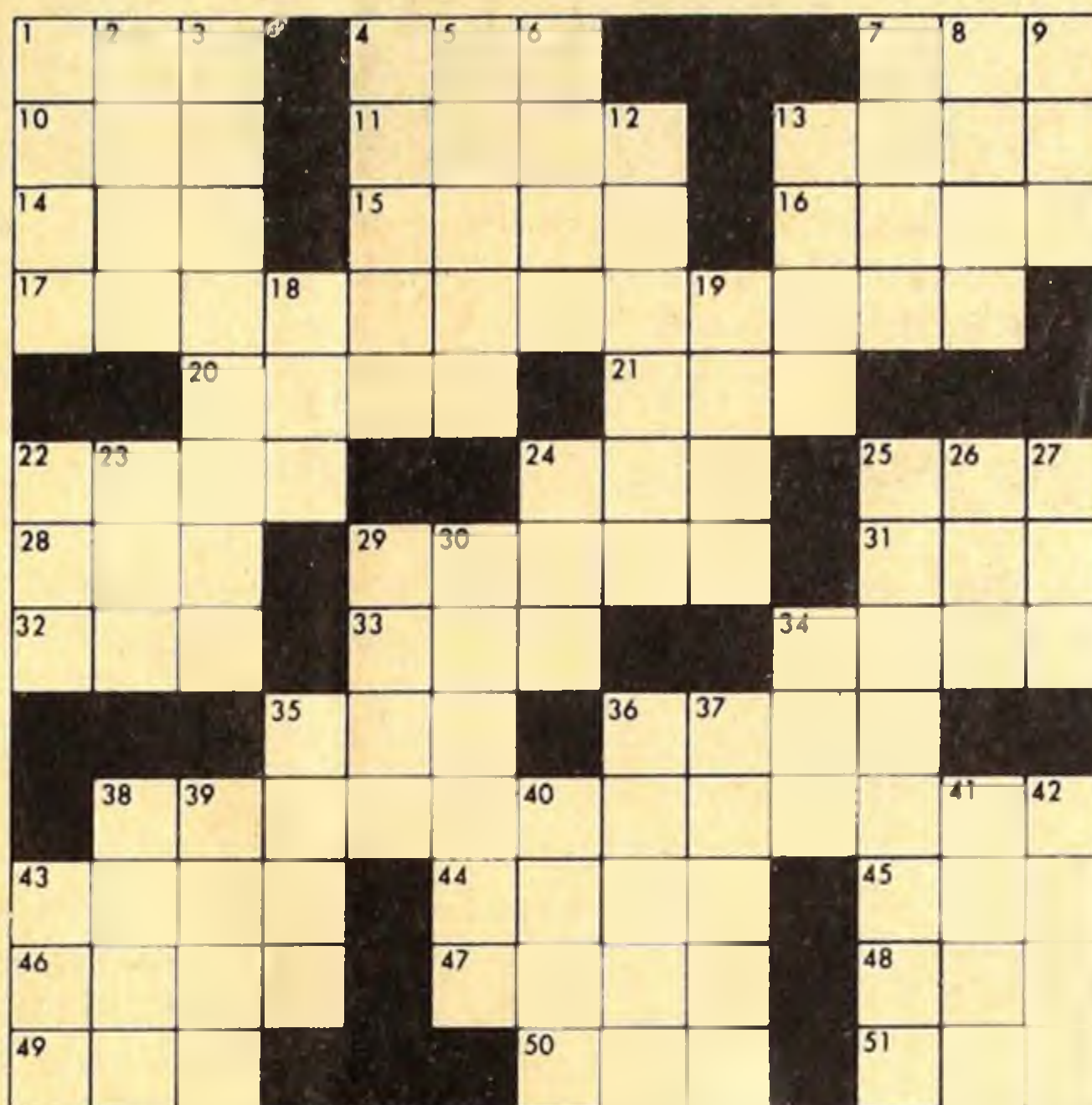
N. O. Baker resigned as pastor of Round Lick Church, Watertown, to accept a similar position with the South Pittsburg Church.

10 YEARS AGO

Tom Madden, pastor of First Church, Tullahoma, was elected president of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. Named vice-presidents to serve along with Madden were Henry G. West, pastor of First Church, Covington, and Ray Jones, pastor of First Church, Fountain City.

Newly elected officers of the Pastors' Conference were president Vern Powers, pastor of Glendale Church, Nashville; vice-president Richard Smith, pastor of First Church, Athens; and secretary Paul B. Clark, pastor of Calvary Church, Jackson.

Bible Puzzle Answers on page 14



50 Before egraph
or egram
51 Aaron's budded
(Heb. 9:4)

DOWN

1 "in the — of
judgment" (Isa. 40)
2 Blackthorn
3 "— lies" (1 Tim. 4)
4 "law was — by
Moses" (John 1)
5 "— forth the best"
(Luke 15)
6 A deliberate
deception
7 Unruly crowds
8 Aflame
9 Profit
12 "in the — — Herod"
(Luke 1)
13 Heavenly body
18 Vigor
19 "that devise my —"
(Psa. 35)
22 Priestly garment
23 By way of
24 "fowls of the —"
(Acts 11)
25 "of — — of the air"
(Eph. 2)
26 Plant seed
27 Foot part
29 Man (1 Chron. 2:6)
30 Compute
34 Bone or breaker
35 Greek mountains
36 "— things speak"
(Tit. 2)
37 One who opposes
authority
38 "make a mercy —"
(Ex. 25)
39 Plague
40 Horse's gait
41 Rotary: comb. form
42 Deceased
43 Mill culls out: abbr.

ACROSS

1 Abbr. in a letter
4 Guidebooks: abbr.
7 "What is —"
(Heb. 2)
10 High mountain
11 Angered
13 Unclean thing
(Lev. 11:30)
14 "upon the great —"
(Ex. 29)
15 Slavonic fairy
16 Death notice
17 "multitude of the
— —" (Luke 2)
20 Herod (Acts 12:1)
21 It became black
(Rev. 6:12)
22 City of Benjamin
(Josh. 18:23)
24 A Burmese people
25 Recipe abbr.
28 Female unicorn in
Chinese mythology
29 Tendency
31 Kind of cake
32 Gold container
(Isa. 46:6)
33 Eastern Church veil
34 "both — and
Greeks" (Acts 19)
35 The grampus
36 Snare
38 "bold to — — —"
(Phil. 1)
43 Satisfy
44 Prince of Midian
(Judg. 8:3)
45 Trouble
46 Juan's home
47 Kind of dive
48 Timetable abbr.
49 Baseball's Mel

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SERVICE PLAQUES—Ralph Norton (left) presents service awards to the TBC officers who served during the past year. From left are Bill Sherman, president; Earl Wilson, vice-president; and Pat Landrum, second vice-president.

Sullivan examines leaders' problems

Charles W. Sullivan, pastor of Southland Church, Memphis, speaking on "The Struggles of a Leader" at the last session of the Tennessee Baptist Convention compared Moses with the leaders of today (Exodus 3:1-14).

He cited six things about Moses which are true of this day: (1) we forget God; (2) we lose faith in God; (3) we think it's too late; (4) our leadership is not accepted; (5) we are not appreciated; and (6) we are satisfied with the status quo.

"Whenever you try to do something for God, there will be those who react as did

the Israelites to Moses. Any dedicated servant has felt that his leadership was not accepted, and the world is full of little people who will resent and resist what you try to do for God," the speaker warned.

He reminded his attenders that they started their Christian life in a blaze of glory. "You, too, are in the desert like Moses, wasting your time and the privileges God bestows upon you instead of giving yourself to God," Sullivan observed.

"Any time we live up to less than our ability, capacity, or endowment, we are failing God. Moses would have died a nameless shepherd, if he had not turned around," according to Sullivan.

"The glorious thing is that when Moses saw God and heard God, he obeyed. A lone man with nothing but a shepherd's staff in his hand, challenged the mightiest nation on the face of the earth, and he led a million people out of bondage. He did it by God's power," he added.

"If your faith has diminished, God's faith in you has not diminished. God does not want you and your people to do nothing. He wants us to move forward! Let Him be in you and bring His victory through you," Sullivan pleaded.

UT-Martin BSU plans reunion

Alumni of the Baptist Student Union of UT-Martin will hold a reunion on Nov. 25, at the BSU center. Reservations for the 5:00 p.m. informal meal can be made through BSU director Adam Hall.

Devotional

Thankful to God

By W. A. Armstrong

I'm thankful that Christ came for the average person. Salvation bears no stipulation which says that I should be well educated to understand, wealthy enough to afford, or come from a royal family to obtain.



Armstrong

I would not have excelled in sports. I would not have held a high position in my religion or community such as did the scribes or Pharisees, nor even would I have to be sinless.

I am thankful that God does not give me more than I can be humble with, more power than I could love with, more success than my head could stand without swelling. I pray that He will give me an over supply of concern, and a compassion that stops my own pace and turns me to the need, that I will recognize opportunity when I meet it and act according to the need.

I am thankful that I amount to something to God while not having attained any of these accomplishments. Yet, I seem to be important to Him. The speed of answered prayer seems to be at the same level as those who are more prominent. His hearing is not tuned to the more important and dulled when some one of my circumstance speaks.

Then when my time comes to die, an average man, God will not measure me by the world's standards but by His own. I heard once that when we come to die, all we have left was what we had given away. Thank the Lord that's true. God grant me a giving heart.

Let us be thankful to God that He made us individuals with an ability to express ourselves and with at least enough knowledge to recognize the voice of God when we hear it and the common sense to respond and be used of God. I'm thankful, aren't you?

Armstrong is a member of Lincoya Hills Church, Nashville, where he teaches a men's Bible class.

Cumberland University head announces 1980 retirement

WILLIAMSBURG, Ky.—J. M. Boswell, described as "an educational legend" in the Appalachian Mountains in Eastern Kentucky, has announced his retirement from his 33-year presidency of Cumberland College, Williamsburg, Ky.

The 72-year-old educator will step down from the helm of the Kentucky Baptist coeducational senior college, Aug. 1, 1980.

Trustees of the school have elected James H. Taylor, the school's vice-president for development for the last five years, as Boswell's successor. He will serve as president-elect until Boswell's retirement. (BP)

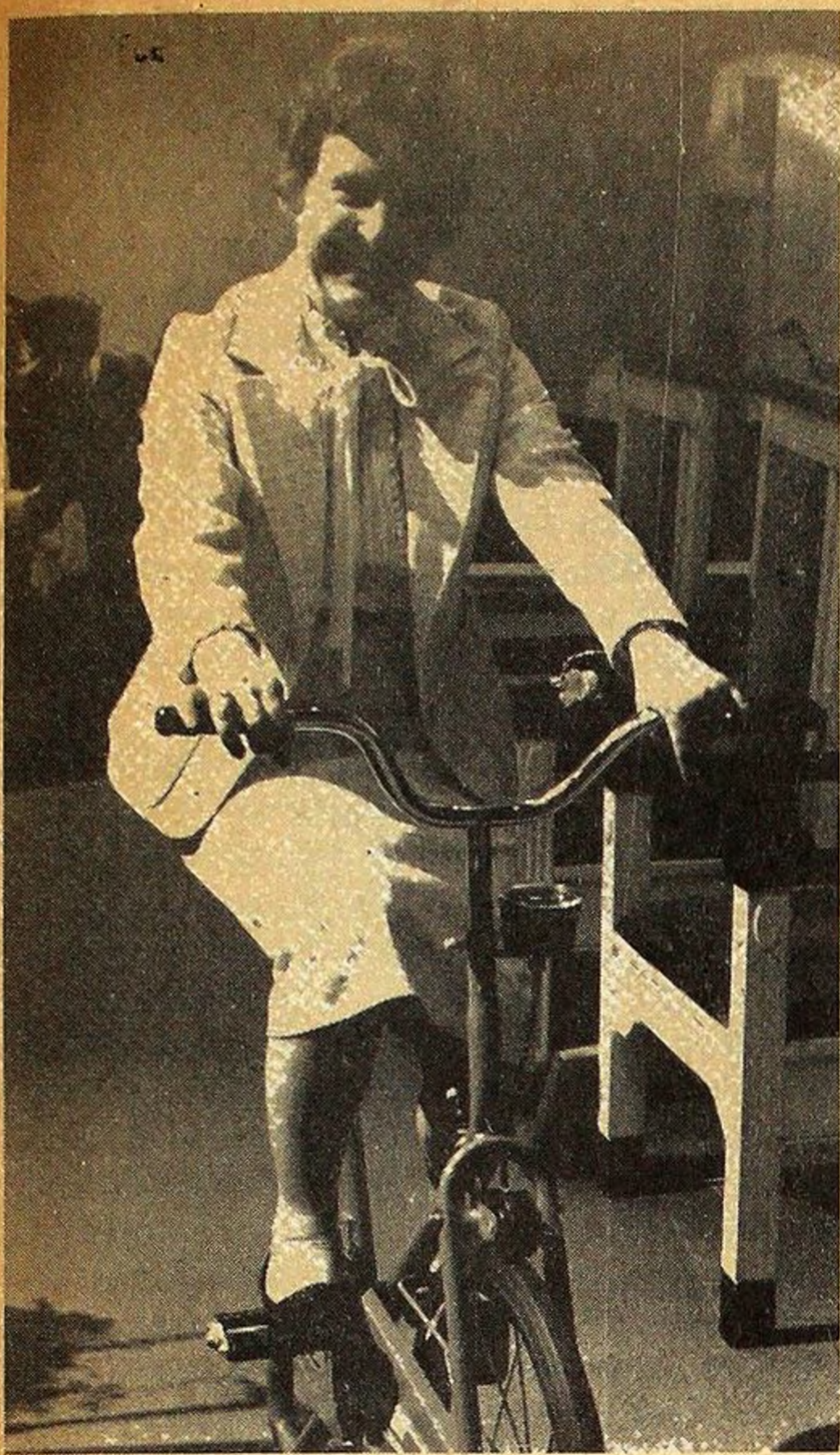
Herbert Scobey dies, led Memphis' Oaklawn

Herbert M. Scobey, 64, pastor of Oaklawn Church in Memphis for 32 years, died following a heart attack last month at his home in that city. He retired from the Oaklawn pastorate in January 1975.

A member of Dellwood Church at the time of his death, Scobey had assumed the pastorate of the young congregation at Oaklawn nine years after its organization in 1933. The church had been a mission of Bellevue Church, and Scobey had come as a lay pastor out of the old Seventh Street Church in Memphis. It was his only pastorate.

Funeral services were held at Memphis Funeral Home with Dellwood pastor George Hern officiating. Burial was at Memorial Park Cemetery in Memphis.

Scobey is survived by his wife, Helen, Memphis, and four sons, Ricky, Don, Herbert, and John, all of Memphis.



RECOGNITION—Beulah Peoples, promotion director, was recognized for 20 years of service with the Tennessee WMU during its convention and was presented a bicycle.

WMU convention

(Continued from page 6)

gathering the stone and praying for more financial help to build this church. It looks dismal in Rhodesia, but I don't believe God will let us down," she said.

Ronda Etheredge, a deaf student at Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy, Seymour, from Plainview, Tex., gave her testimony through an interpreter. Having been brought up in a Christian home, she left home at the age of 12 to attend a deaf school in Texas where for the first time in her life she had seen bad things such as drugs and drinking.

"It was too much for me. I am really thankful to God for HCBA. This is my second year, and I want to thank Him for what He has done for me," Ronda said.

Pages serving the convention were Mary Smaw, First Church, Nashville; Lisa Helton, First Church, Donelson; Barbara Smith, Grace Church, Nashville; Lou Redmond, Belmont Heights Church, Nashville; and Vicki Brent, Hermitage Hills Church, Hermitage.

Brotherhood Commission responds to proposed merger with BSSB

MEMPHIS—Trustees of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission honored the memory of their late Executive Director Glendon McCullough, named a search committee to nominate a new chief executive, and responded to a proposal to merge the Brotherhood Commission and the Sunday School Board.

Trustees unanimously adopted a motion responding to a proposal under study by a joint committee of the commission and the Sunday School Board to merge the two agencies.

As an interim response to the proposal, trustees urged the committee to make the study with one primary purpose in mind—"How may men and boys in local Baptist churches

be enlisted and encouraged in an even greater way in missions and ministry?"

"As commissioners, we have the strong impression that this purpose can best be served if the Brotherhood Commission maintains its present status as a separate agency," the trustees declared. "If, however, careful study indicates that a merger would be more beneficial for the ongoing ministry of men and boys in local churches, then we will eagerly endorse a merger."

Trustees urged the study committee to "exhaust every resource in making the most thorough study of all aspects of the possible merger" and requested the committee to share its findings with the full Brotherhood Commission before releasing the findings elsewhere.

The proposal to merge the two agencies was made by George Bagley, executive secretary of the Alabama Baptist Convention. The Southern Baptist Executive Committee referred it to a joint committee from the two agencies, asking for study and a report to the Executive Committee in February.

In other action, the trustees elected a new slate of officers and paid tribute to their late executive director in their first meeting since McCullough's death in a Memphis traffic accident, Aug. 23.

In memory of his leadership as executive director of the missions agency for men and boys from 1971-78, the trustees voted to begin construction of a training center at the Memphis office and to name it the Glendon McCullough Conference Center.

Trustees also unveiled a portrait of McCullough to hang in the center, adopted a resolution in memory and tribute to his contribution, and established an endowment fund to finance scholarships to enable needy persons to receive training at the new center. (BP)

Two Tennesseans named to Brotherhood search

MEMPHIS—Trustees of the Brotherhood Commission chose a five-man committee from their group at their semi-annual meeting to search for a new executive director of the Southern Baptist agency.

The top administrative position of the missions education agency became vacant Aug. 23 when Executive Director Glendon McCullough died in a three-car crash on a Memphis street.

William E. Hardy Jr., outgoing chairman of the commission's trustees, was elected as chairman of the search committee. He is minister of education at First Baptist Church, Columbus, Miss.

Other committee members are Lee Prince, pastor of Union Avenue Baptist Church, Memphis; Jack L. Knox, president of Q S Storage-North American Van Lines, Germantown; Jack Deligans, mechanical engineer at Lawrence Livermore Laboratories, Livermore, Calif.; and Carl E. Voda, president of House of Electronics, Alexandria, La.

Hardy, who said he has already received several recommendations for the job, invited Southern Baptists to offer additional names in writing to him at his church in Columbus.

One of the first duties of the committee is to agree on criteria for the job and the process the committee will follow in its search, said Hardy, who added, "God has already chosen the leader he wants us to have. We can find that leader if we are sensitive to God's leadership." (BP)

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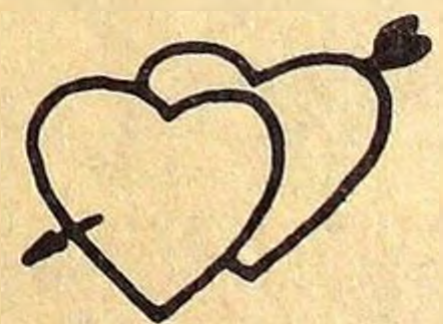
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Love fulfills the commandments

By John H. Tullock, chairman
Department of Religion and Philosophy
Belmont College, Nashville

Basic Passages: Leviticus 19:33-34; Deuteronomy 6:1-5; Matthew 22:34-40; Luke 10:25-37.
Focal Passages: Matthew 22:34-40; Leviticus 19:33-34; Deuteronomy 6:4-5

Hazel Moon is a small gray-haired woman from the same county in Virginia where the famous Lottie Moon grew up. Hazel, too, is a missionary. When you ask her the inevitable question, "Are you related to Lottie Moon?" Hazel will smile and say, "Lottie was a good missionary."



Tullock

If you follow Hazel around at the Baptist Health Center in Ogbomoso, Nigeria, you will soon reach the conclusion that Hazel also is a good missionary. You watch her bathe the festering sores of people who suffer from the dread Hansen's disease (leprosy); watch her give them their medicine; hear her talk of the difficulty of getting a decent water supply for them; see how she is greeted with love and affection by people who are outcasts from society, and in her daily tasks you see the teachings of Jesus lived. As His life was, so Hazel Moon's life is one of love and service to suffering humanity.

The greatest commandment (Matt. 22:34-40)

One of the crucial points of conflict that Jesus had with the Pharisees was his attitude toward the law. The interpretations of the great rabbis from about 200 B.C. to the time of

Jesus' ministry were held in great reverence by the Pharisees. These were the "traditions of the elders" which the Pharisees believed were an oral law handed down from Moses' time, just as they believed was true of the written law. They had then described the law as having 613 commandments, of which 365 were negative, and the remaining 248 were positive.

When the lawyer (another name for "scribe") asked Jesus the question, "Which is the great commandment in the law?" it was in attempt to trap Him, since rabbis said all commandments were of equal importance. Jesus responded by taking the call to worship for Israelite religion (Deut. 6:5), combined it with a key verse from what is called the Holiness Code (Lev. 19:18) and declared that those combined commandments were the greatest because they contained "the principle of interpretation for the whole of the law and the prophets." (Stagg).

Two major ideas are prominent in verses 37-39. First, love is the common thread that binds together the two Old Testament passages that He quotes. Secondly, "love is the basic disposition of one's whole being to relate to God for His glory and to man for his good." (Stagg).

While there are variations in the way that Deut. 6:5 is quoted in the New Testament (see Luke 10:25-28 and Mark 12:28-34. They all are trying to say that man's attitude toward God involves his total personality.

The "heart" was looked upon as the source of man's deepest thoughts and feelings.

The "soul" was not a spirit without a body as some think. Rather it involved the life of man, the vital part of his being that made him a person. The mind had to do with man's power to reason. All these must be committed to loving God. Anything less cannot meet God's standard.

But love must also be directed toward man. Healthy love for one's neighbor starts in a healthy respect for one's self. If you do not love yourself in the proper way, then your love for others is warped. True love is whole and not divided. We cannot love God without loving our neighbor or ourselves.

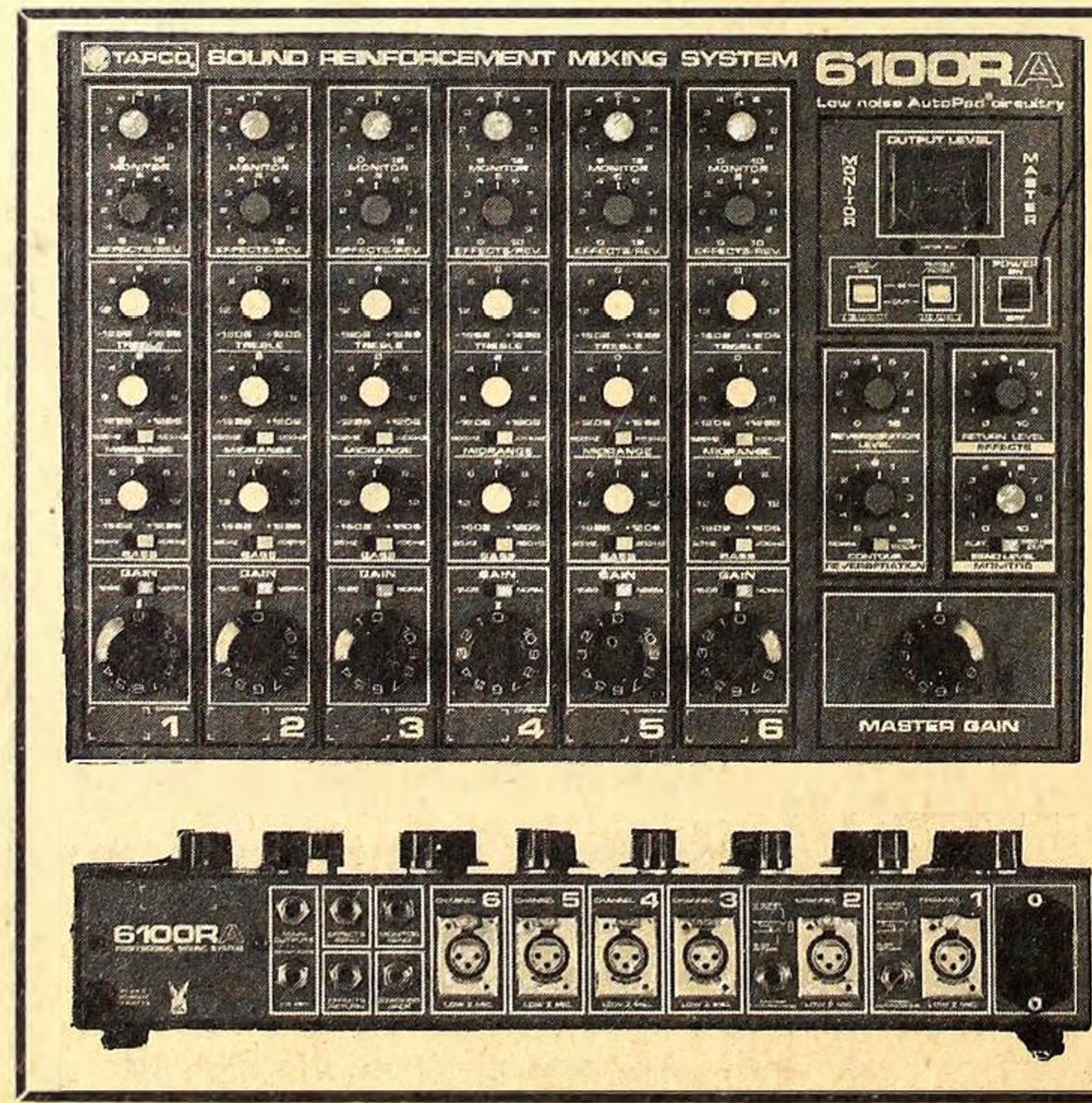
Love for the stranger (Lev. 19:33-34)

All too often we hear the Old Testament spoken of as the book of the law in contrast to the New Testament as the book of love or grace. While the theme of love is not so prominent in the Old Testament, nonetheless, it is there. It, furthermore, is not limited to loving a fellow Israelite, as the word "neighbor" implies (Lev. 19:18). This passage reminded Israel of those strangers or aliens within her borders who like the "neighbor," or fellow Israelite were to be loved. Israel had known what it was to be aliens, looked down upon by the Egyptians. As God had loved men and delivered them from bondage, so they were to show God's kind of love toward the strangers in their midst.

Hear, o israel! (Deut. 6:1-5)

Deuteronomy chapters 5-12 give Deuteronomy's version of the Ten Commandments (5:6-21) and a sort of commentary on them. Chapter 6:1-25 is a commentary on the first commandment, the heart of which is Deut. 6:1-5. The first commandment was the foundation for all the other commandments. The basis for keeping it was not to be "fear" (6:2) in the sense of horror or terror but a deep abiding "fear" or reverence that was founded in one's love for God.

Because He is the one Lord of the universe (6:5) the Creator and Sustainer of all that is (Isa. 40:12-31), He has a right to expect from us the deep, whole-hearted commitment of our total selves in love. Only then can we find the potential that God alone knows that we have locked up within us. Only then can we find the kind of balance in life that makes us whole, physically, emotionally, intellectually, and spiritually.



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"Thus saith the Lord, Learn not the way of the heathen" (Jer. 10:2).

Acting like a neighbor

By William L. Swafford, pastor
First Baptist Church, Elizabethton

Basic Passage: Luke 10:25-37
Focal Passage: Luke 10:25-37

The New Testament writers were inspired to choose a word for love which described a beneficial action toward another. It was the Greek word **agape** and represents a compassion which transcends emotion or circumstance.

A tempting question (Luke 10:25-26)

The lawyer who questioned Jesus was one of a group of men who copied and interpreted the Jewish law. His question, "Master, what shall I

do to inherit eternal life?" was not asked because he thought Jesus had some superior theological insight. Contrarily, he thought Jesus could not answer the question and "tempted Him" to show His ignorance.

Jesus caught him off guard with the question, "What is written in the Law? how readest thou?" Jesus made it seem as if He were totally unaware that the question was meant to trap Him, and dealt with the lawyer with genuine compassion.

A splendid answer (Luke 10:27-28)

The lawyer gave a splendid answer, quoting Deut. 6:5 and a portion of Lev. 19:18. Jesus said on one occasion, "This is the first and great commandment" (Matt. 22:38). It was called the **Shema**, and a copy of it was often carried by devout Jews to keep them from forgetting it. It was supposed to be the guiding principle of every Jewish life.

Jesus congratulated the lawyer on his answer, "Thou hast answered right: this do and thou shalt live." If any would truly keep this commandment, he would have eternal life, for to know Jesus is to know God and to know God is to know Jesus who said, "I and my Father are one" (John 10:30).

An attempt at self-justification (Luke 10:30)

The lawyer suddenly realized that Jesus had assumed command of the situation and that he was on trial instead of Jesus. "But, he, willing to justify himself, said unto Jesus, And who is my neighbor?" (v. 29). He had attempted to discredit Jesus before the crowd, but instead Jesus had put him on the defensive. He read the intent of the lawyer like a book and controlled the conversation as if he were talking to a child!

The Apostle Paul could have been writing a commentary of this passage when he wrote,

"For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness" (I Cor. 3:19).

Under the embarrassing pressure, "He willing to justify himself," made one last attempt to put Jesus on the spot by asking, "And who is my neighbor?"

A story about three attitudes (Luke 10:30-35)

Never, in his most compassionate moments, would an orthodox Jew consider a Gentile to be his neighbor. Had Jesus answered bluntly, "All men of all races are your neighbors," He would have played into the lawyer's hands and given him fuel for the fires of opposition.

Our Lord's answer was a story which demonstrated three attitudes toward a fellow human being. The story tells of "a certain man," understood to be a Jew, who undertook the perilous journey from Jerusalem down the winding mountainous road to Jericho. Like so many during that time, he "fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead."

We see, first the attitude of the thieves which was **what is yours is mine, I'll take it**. Those thieves were Jews who dwelt in close proximity to the unfortunate victim, but they were not neighbors. They were enemies!

Next, Jesus illustrated a more temperate attitude by introducing His hearers to two professional ministers. "And by chance there came down a certain priest that way. . . and likewise a Levite" (v. 31-32). Each of them "came down" from Jerusalem where he had probably fulfilled his time of service in the temple. Neither the priest, who officiated at the temple worship, nor the Levite, who served as his assistant, seemed to have gained from worship an incentive for sacrificial service.

When we can worship and walk out of the church building without a compassion for the needy, the infirm, and the distressed, our worship is little more than a sham! Neither of these men did anything to harm the unfortunate victim. They merely "saw him and passed by on the other side." Their attitude was selfish and could be termed **what's mine is mine, I'll keep it**.

Finally, Jesus introduces "a certain Samaritan" who, "as he journeyed, came where he was" (v. 33). It is ingenious how Jesus introduces the Samaritan, who represented a race most despised by the Jews. Instead of insisting that the Samaritans should be considered to be neighbors, He makes the Samaritan the hero of the story. He was not presented as a neighbor who needed to be ministered to, but as one who did the ministering. "When he saw him, he had compassion on him, and went to him"

(v. 33-34). He delayed his journey, went out of his way to approach the victim, and ministered to him as he "bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him" (v. 34). He even pledged further funds, if needed, to provide extended care for the victim. His attitude could be defined as **what's mine is yours, I'll give it**.

An undeniable application (Luke 10:36-37)

Jesus put the lawyer even more on the spot when He asked, "Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbor unto him that fell among the thieves?" If He had asked "Which of these do you consider to be your neighbor?" the lawyer would have had the option of disqualifying the Samaritan. But, Jesus was still in command of the situation. Not wanting to exonerate one against whom he was prejudiced, the lawyer evaded the use of the term Samaritan and answered simply, "He that shewed mercy on him."

A good neighbor is anyone who has compassion on another, regardless of race, creed, position, or circumstance. He sees every man as a creature made in the image of God, who comes under the scope of God's love, and for whom Christ died.

A lawyer would probably have had the attitude of the priest and Levite, especially if the victim had been a Samaritan. Jesus challenged him to assume the higher attitude of unselfish compassion which characterized the Samaritan by saying "Go, and do thou likewise" (v. 37).

We cannot but wonder whether the lawyer was converted by our Lord's words. Even more important, however, is whether we are made conformable to them!

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Pastors' hours, stress said 'work salvation'

By Jim Lowry

NASHVILLE—Southern Baptist ministers preach "by grace are ye saved," but the number of hours worked and chronic stress continually endured by many point undeniably toward an unconscious 'work salvation' approach to their ministry.

"Many Southern Baptist pastors, without realizing it, try to earn innate worth by long hours of service," Fred McGehee, consultant in career guidance for the church administration department at the Baptist Sunday School Board, said at a conference on stress.

Penn-Jersey Baptists vote to cooperate with Florida

PITTSBURGH—Elected messengers to the Baptist Convention of Pennsylvania-South Jersey voted to enter into a working partnership with the Florida Baptist Convention during their eighth annual meeting in Pittsburgh.

The working partnership with the Florida Convention grew out of plans developed cooperatively by representatives of each convention as a strategic means of reaching goals of the Bold Mission Thrust in "pioneer areas" where Southern Baptist work is new in the United States. (BP)

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"Pastors try to earn grace and innate worth from congregation members," McGehee said, "and they end up exhausted and unfulfilled, for some reason unclear to themselves. Admiration can be earned, but unconditional love is a free gift."

Chronic, long-term stress, commonly ignored or denied by pastors daily, was the subject of the in-depth seminar at the Sunday School Board to provide guidance for pastors who want to manage stress.

McGehee defined stress as a barrage of events which an individual considers to be threatening, followed by another barrage without a break for rest.

"Idealism and altruism gradually wear away over the years in the face of chronic stress," McGehee said. "Christian ministry becomes wooden—just another job to be done."

"Consequently, since the minister has to earn his worth, he feels legitimate only when functioning in the midst of the fray," he said. "He secretly feels that he has no worth unless he is working."

"Stress is presently aggravating the problem of limited self-knowledge and low self-esteem so common among ministers," McGehee explained. "But for the most part, because of a minister's physical stamina and problem-solving ability, he has anesthetized his emotions until he feels no pain."

"The minister's values are success oriented," he said. "He is on the way to the top, wherever that is, and it is not because God is there" in many cases.

Ministers and foreign missionaries attending the stress conference studied several areas affects persons physically and spiritually. Each person also explored the origins of his or her own stress to determine solutions for managing it. Creative use of rest and leisure, spiritual renewal, priorities in ministry and improv-

ing decision-making were other topics considered to aid ministers in dealing with stress.

Successful ways of effectively dealing with stress by resting between successive barrages on the ministers' emotions were encouraged by utilization of local "support systems."

McGehee said most stressful situations don't seem as critical to ministers when they can share their concern with someone else.

Different levels of support need to be consciously blended into the ministers' support system, McGehee explained. Ministers have intellectual needs, confessional needs, social needs, and spiritual needs which can be met by different people in the church and community. Pastors need people to relate to them as friend and peer, instead of just pastor and spiritual leader.

Mobility, choice of vocation, urbanization, scheduling, and reluctance of openness all contribute to the difficulty of establishing an adequate support system, according to McGehee.

All persons need two basic kinds of support, McGehee said—earned esteem—or the feeling of usefulness, and innate worth—or unconditional love.

Different stress factors and the uniqueness of individuals dictate the necessity of different support needs for ministers, McGehee explained. The ministers must exercise caution to balance the fulfillment derived from both areas, however, to avoid the "work salvation" way of life. (BP)

Interpretation

Peace in personal relationships

By Herschel H. Hobbs

"If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men."—Romans 12:18

Paul is applying the principles of the gospel to the Christian's relationship to other people. It should be characterized by a desire for peace with those about us. However, note the apostle's two qualifying phrases.

"If it be possible." Some people simply will not respond to our overtures of peace. Born in the objective case and kickative mode, they carry a chip on their shoulders and dare you to knock it off.

So in such case, Paul adds, "As much as lieth in you." Literally, "With respect to the things out of you." The cause for strife should never find its source in the Christian's life. Our

lives should be conducive to peace, not strife.

Going one step farther, Paul says that Christians should never seek vengeance for wrong done to them. "Vengeance is mine: I will repay, saith the Lord" (v. 19). Instead, we should show kindness to our enemies: feed him who hungers and give drink to the thirsty. "For in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head" (v. 20).

A woman was seeking to divorce her husband. When the judge asked why, she replied "Well, Judge, he just won't do right. I've nagged him and nagged him. But he won't do right." The judge asked if she had tried heaping coals of fire on his head. She said, "No, but I don't think it would help. I've tried scalding water, and that did no good."

Obviously, she had missed the point of Paul's words.