

# Baptist and Reflector

Vol. 145/No. 6/February 7, 1979

News journal of Tennessee Baptist Convention

## TBC writes largest missions check

**Jan. mission gifts reach \$1,340,792 for record month**

The largest check in the history of the Tennessee Baptist Convention was written last Wednesday as the books were closed on Jan. 31. The check for \$2,287,317.71 was made out to the Southern Baptist Convention for support of its missions and ministries.

Tom Madden, TBC executive secretary-treasurer, noted that the check was the result of unparalleled mission support by Tennessee churches during January.

Mission receipts through the Cooperative Program set a record month in January when \$1,340,792.05 was received. The previous record month was August 1978, when \$1,107,140.33 was given.

The huge check issued last week contained \$462,573.26 for missions and ministries supported through the SBC Cooperative Program. This represents 34.5 percent of the \$1,340,792.05 received in January. Under the TBC budget approved at last November's state convention, 34.5 percent of Tennessee's Cooperative Program is shared with the SBC Cooperative Program.

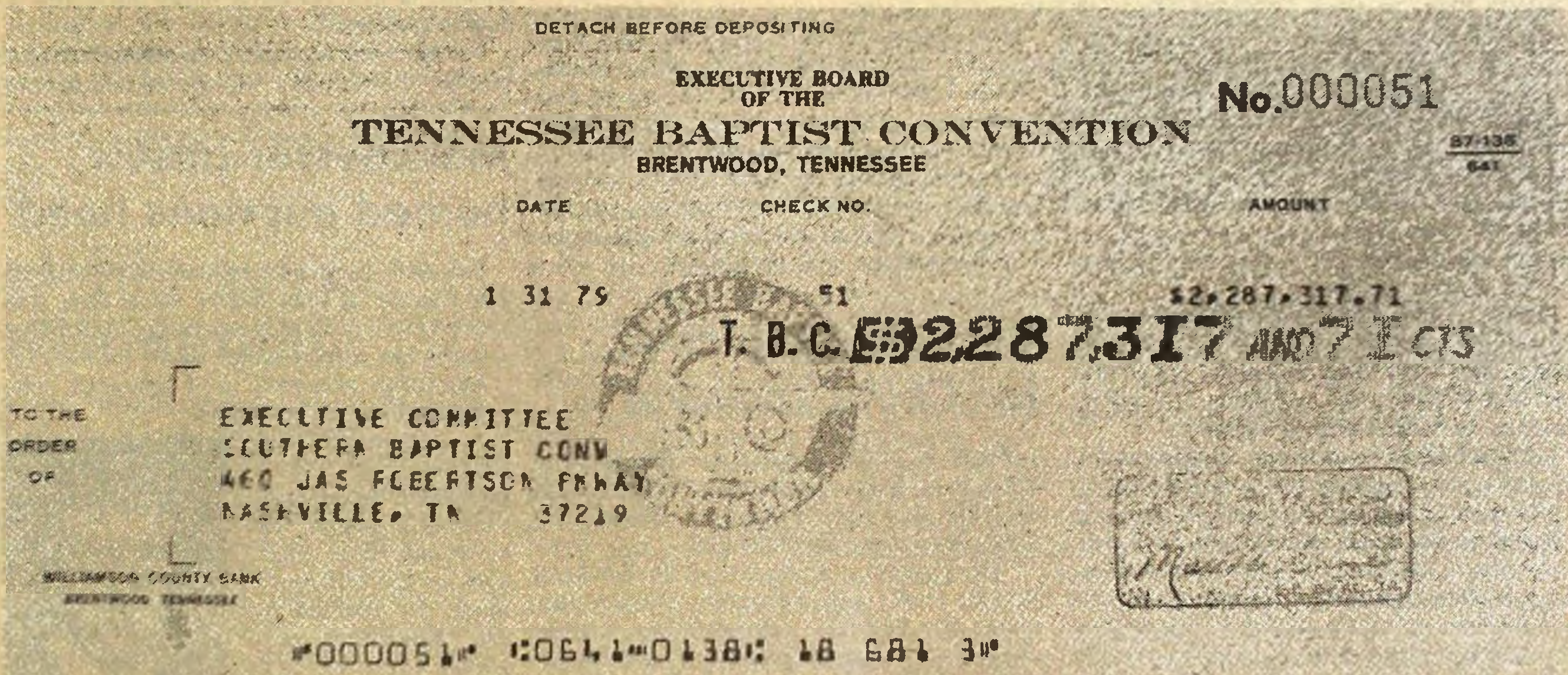
Also included in the check was \$1,753,710.60 designated from Tennessee churches for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions.

Other designations in the check to the SBC were these amounts: \$24,434.51 for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions; \$42,639.90 for the Foreign Mission Board; \$2,232.84 for the Home Mission Board; and \$1,726.60 for the American Bible Society.

Designated amounts are forwarded on these various agencies according to instructions received from church treasurers.

January's Tennessee Cooperative Program gifts of \$1,340,792.05 were 35 percent above the \$865,796.12 given in January 1978.

Madden also said that the January 1979 total was 26.7 percent above the monthly goal for 1979. The messengers to the 1978 Ten-



**HISTORIC CHECK**—This \$2,287,317.71 check was written last week as the largest in the history of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. The check included Tennessee's shar-

ing of the state Cooperative Program, as well as \$1,753,710.60 for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions.

nessee Baptist Convention approved an \$11.8-million budget-goal for the November 1978-October 1979 convention year. The monthly goal is \$983,333.33.

January's receipts also closed the first quarter of the current budget year. Madden said that Cooperative Program receipts for the November 1978-January 1979 period were \$3,237,931.12. This represents a 17.8 percent increase above the \$2,748,647.07 given to missions through the Cooperative Program during the same three months of the previous year.

The goal for the three months would be \$2,950,000, according to the TBC executive secretary. The receipts of \$3,237,931.12 are \$287,931.12 above (9.8 percent above) the convention-adopted goal for the quarter.

A church-by-church listing of the Cooperative Program gifts and designated receipts will be printed in the Feb. 21 issue of the Baptist and Reflector.

## One missionary leaves Iran; two to stay until this week

**TEHRAN, Iran (BP)**—In the face of an "erratic and uncontrolled situation" in Tehran, Southern Baptist missionary journeyman Michael Joe Sowder has decided to leave Iran.

Southern Baptist missionary Henry E. Turlington told the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board Jan. 31 that although the situation was precarious he felt that if any board personnel were hurt it would be simply "happstance." The Turlingtons plan to stay, at least for the next week, in Tehran.

Plans for Sowder's evacuation were indefinite at the time of the phone conversation with Turlington, but he hopes to fly out of Iran as soon as arrangements are made. Tentative plans are for Sowder to transfer to Aberdeen, Scotland, to work in a youth ministry.

While Turlington admitted there had been growing anti-American sentiment in the past week, he had not yet decided to leave. "I don't want to minimize the situation," Turlington said. "We do feel less safe than a week ago."

"We are closer to leaving now than we have been," he said. "If things calm down we'll stay. If we leave it will probably be for just a couple of weeks."

Turlington reported that he had been out every day and that there was shooting "from time to time" in his section of Tehran.

The congregation of Turlington's English-language church has dwindled in the past weeks from over 350 to about 40. But he feels no matter how much the situation deteriorates, a few church members will remain in the city.

"We held services on Friday, our regular worship day," Turlington said, "and had a church-wide dinner Sunday night."

Because of their decreased number, the congregation is meeting primarily in homes. Nigerian and Pakistani families also worship with the American business and military personnel. Most of the congregation are men

now, Turlington said.

The Turlingtons live just 100 yards from a market and have enough food to last six weeks if they are confined to their home. As many Americans left Tehran, they brought the food they had in stock to the Turlingtons. "The pastor is eating well," Turlington said. He also reported that they had heat more regularly and that the Iranian cold season would soon be over.

Other Southern Baptists missionaries have already left Iran.

## Baptist principal killed by sniper

**SAN DIEGO, Calif. (BP)**—A Southern Baptist elementary school principal was one of two persons killed by a 16-year-old sniper, who opened fire on the school across from her home Jan. 29 as children walked to classes.

Burton Wragg, 53, was shot while he attempted to help children who moments earlier had been shot by the teenage girl. Wragg died at a local hospital while undergoing surgery for severe stomach wounds.

Wragg, who was transferred to the Cleveland Elementary School just five months before, was a charter member of the First Baptist Church in Del Cerro in La Mesa.

After the initial shooting the sniper barricaded herself inside her home with a .22 caliber rifle and up to 500 rounds of ammunition. She held scores of police at bay for six hours before surrendering.

Wragg became the second member of the Del Cerro church who has died a violent death within the past four months. Jane Wyle-Stitz, an airline stewardess, died last September when the Pacific Southwest Airlines aircraft in which she was a passenger crashed in the San Diego residential area, killing 151.

## SBC Cooperative Program grows

**NASHVILLE, (BP)**—A single month's receipts to the national Cooperative Program topped \$6-million for the first time ever in January, despite just a 3.8 percent increase over January 1978.

Monthly increases, which had been averaging 11.9 percent since the fiscal year began in October, must average 11.5 percent to reach the \$64-million operating budget and capital needs goals of SBC agencies.

December's contributions of \$6,002,367 pushed the four-month total to \$20,541,133, a 9.4 percent increase over the same period last year.

Porter Routh, executive secretary-treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee, indicated December's fifth Sunday may have warped the figures.

"January receipts are not a good barometer this year," he said, "because December had five Sundays and many churches did not send in their December Cooperative Program contribution until January. What we receive in January represents what the states receive in December. This would also affect the designated gifts. We are grateful the increase for the year is still nearly 10 percent."

Designated contributions, which had been running 30 percent ahead of last year, fell 11 percent below the January 1978 total, reaching just \$6,590,128. Designated contributions for the year are \$8,211,359, or five percent below last year's total for the same period.



# Visitor to China finds no religious activity

LOS ANGELES, Calif. (BP)—Her first return home to mainland China in 30 years convinced Cherry (Mrs. Y.K.) Chang there is an urgent need to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ.

There is not active, public churchwork in China, according to Mrs. Chang, a Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board member and home missionary in California. "Many people practiced Buddhism before the Communists came. Now there is no public Buddhist worship," she said.

Mrs. Chang, who was born and raised in mainland China, had not visited her homeland since late in the 1940s. She and her husband were students at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, when the Communists took over. Although she had tried before to visit China, this was the first time she was granted permission for a visa. She was able to spend a week with her 88-year-old mother and to see other friends and relatives.

"Every citizen has freedom to believe on his own, but he's not allowed to tell about his faith," she said. She knows of only two churches in China, one in Peking and one in Nanking, both open only to visitors.

A distant relative, who was a department head at a prominent university and pastor of a local Baptist church before the Communist takeover in the early 1950s, told her religion courses are being taught in the universities, but it is the philosophy of religion— theology without conviction. He is now teaching at a university.

Mrs. Chang carried several Bibles and devotional books with her, and shared her testimony with men who were pastors before the Communists came. These friends carry on their worship quietly, she said. Children are taught the Bible but are cautioned not to speak of their lessons.

She said she was cautioned not to visit several Christian friends who, although released from prison and living at home, were not really free.

Even though personal relationships tie her to mainland China, Mrs. Chang is not pleased by President Jimmy Carter's decision to

break official diplomatic ties with Taiwan and establish them with China.

"It's contradictory," she said. "When I became a naturalized American citizen, I had to swear I was not a Communist or a member of the Communist party."

She is also concerned about the United States officially accepting and becoming allies with people who do not believe in God. "In the future we will be dominated by godless influences," she said. She is fearful for Taiwan's safety and even for the safety of the United States.

Mrs. Chang said it is not likely that missionaries will be allowed to enter China. "While I was there a friend told me he had read in a publication that China would welcome all overseas Chinese and others, except missionaries," she said. "But I told my Christian friends that Christians are praying for them and that no matter what happens, we are all one in the body of Christ."

## Baptist film picked for China showing

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)—The doors to China have inched open and a Southern Baptist film was one of the first Western influences to cross the threshold.

"Symphony," a production of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, along with television network films, is to be shown on Chinese national television concurrently with Teng's visit to the United States, according to Jeffrey Gralnick, vice president, special projects, ABC News.

The Baptist film, which premiered August, 1978 on ABC's "Directions" series, is part of a request by the Chinese government to the networks for films that would better orient their people with the U.S.

"Symphony" was chosen because it is a good indication of the American culture which is what the Chinese are looking for," said Gralnick. "It was elected from a three-year's accumulation of network specials."

The film features the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra and the contribution music makes to the enrichment of man's spiritual life.

"I'm very pleased our film was selected to go to China," said Truett Myers, head of the commission's television department. "For 20 years we have been locked out of China, and I'm glad the work of Southern Baptists will be one of the first Western efforts to reach that country. The film is ultimately an appreciation for those artists who give us great music. It is spiritually subtle which is probably another reason it was selected."

John Stevens, vice president of television operations, wrote, produced and directed the film. In October 1978, "Symphony" was voted the second most outstanding film in the Long Island Film Festival's documentary-art category.

# North Carolina to withhold funds from Wake Forest

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. (BP)—The General Board of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina voted Jan. 31 to cut off funds temporarily to Wake Forest University.

The 110-member board voted overwhelmingly to place the \$936,937 Cooperative Program allocation for the university into an escrow account.

In December, Wake Forest University trustees voted to remove the university from control of the state convention. Convention president Mark Corts suggested at that time that Baptist funds to the school "could and should" be held in escrow "until the matter is finally resolved."

The state convention's Council on Christian Higher Education, whose subcommittee

recommended the escrow account, endorsed the move. The executive committee of the General Board, meeting a day earlier, voted unanimously for the proposal.

The board also approved a recommendation that legal counsel be obtained "concerning all of the questions currently under discussion relative to the relationship of Wake Forest University and the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina."

The board further authorized the special subcommittee of the Council on Christian Higher Education to engage legal counsel and report to the board's May meeting at Winston-Salem.

Wake Forest University President James Ralph Scales told the Biblical Recorder, North Carolina Baptist newspaper, the school will have no cash flow problem until at least the end of May. He said most tuition money has been received and invested and will carry them through the school semester.

"I don't think the convention is going to come apart or the relationship with Wake Forest will be permanently impaired, if we don't have a solution by the next meeting (in May)," Scales said.

He said he was not surprised by the vote since the Council of Christian Higher Education had voted earlier to recommend the escrow idea.

The nearly \$1-million allocation going into escrow is four percent of Wake Forest's Renolda campus budget. Matching funds from the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation are contingent on the Baptist affiliation. The next installment on that money is due in July.

Frank Campbell, Statesville pastor and chairman of both the Council on Christian Higher Education and its subcommittee study group, said the North Carolina convention has no intentions of going to court and that cutting off the allocation was meant in no way to punish the trustees, which are elected by the state convention.

## Manchester pastor named missions head

James C. Carpenter, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church in Manchester since 1973, was named as director of missions for Duck River Association, effective Feb. 19.

Carpenter succeeds Hoyt Jennings, who resigned Dec. 31, in the post.

A native of Bell County, Ky., Carpenter has served three churches in that state and three churches in the Volunteer State. In addition to the Manchester congregation, he led Byrdstown Baptist Church, Byrdstown, and Memorial Baptist Church in Livingston.

He is a graduate of Georgetown College (Ky.) and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, where he earned the master of divinity degree.

He is a member of the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention and serves on the Christian services committee. Active in associational work, he was clerk and moderator for Riverside Association and moderator for Duck River Association.



Carpenter

## Carson-Newman student takes first pastorate

Carson-Newman College junior Wayne Bryant has accepted his first pastorate at Bible's Chapel Baptist Church near Morristown.

Bryant is scheduled to be ordained to the gospel ministry by the East Niotia Baptist Church in Niotia on Sunday, Feb. 11. The church's pastor, Bruce Newman will conduct the service, and Kenneth Yearwood will deliver the ordination sermon. Yearwood is pastor at Mount Harmony Baptist Church in Niotia.

The new Bible's Chapel pastor plans to continue his education at Carson-Newman.

## Nigerian leader dies in accident

OGBOMOSHO, Nigeria (BP)—Emanuel A. Dahunsi, general secretary of the Nigerian Baptist Convention, was killed in an automobile accident Jan. 30 near Ogbomosho, Nigeria.

The 61-year-old pastor and educator was called the "single most strategic national leader on the African continent" by John E. Mills, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's secretary for West Africa.

Dahunsi had been the convention's executive leader for four years. Prior to that he served with the Bible Society of Nigeria, translating the New Testament into his own language of Yoruba. He had also served as pastor of First Baptist Church, Lagos, and president of the Nigerian convention.

A product of Southern Baptist mission work, Dahunsi became a Christian as a child and attended mission schools. He was educated in Nigeria and then in America. The first African to graduate from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., Dahunsi received the doctor of theology degree with honors in 1957. He had earlier graduated from Virginia Union University, Richmond, and was ordained in Richmond at Ebenezer Baptist Church.

Mills credited Dahunsi with leading the Nigerian convention "to the greatest heights of self-support." Self-support and Nigerian leadership had been primary goals of Dahunsi since he returned to Nigeria in the 1950s after his American studies.

## Church calls roll at services

RUBY, La. (BP)—Checking attendance is a common practice in Baptist Sunday Schools. But what happens when a pastor takes roll call of the entire membership for a worship service?

D.L. Callender, pastor of Pine Grove Baptist Church, has done it a number of times. The most recent was a day in January.

"The members were excited. Some were anxious, wondering..." Callender said. "The idea was new here. The day we took roll was a nasty day, cold and raining. But when the roll was finished, we had 102 present and 197 absent."

He said about one-third of the membership was present, one-third lived in the church's vicinity, but was absent and one-third was "AWOL—whereabouts unknown," statistics he believes are representative of the Southern Baptist Convention.

"This thing of calling roll is very revealing," he said. "Many people sitting there had children, friends, relatives who had moved away years ago. When their names were called as members of our church you hear the gasps of disbelief."

"The church suggested that absentees be sent a letter encouraging them to get into a church, into the Lord's service, whether it's in their own church here, or in another church where they can follow his commandments. It will not be a reprimand because that just wouldn't work."

## Extension courses sponsored by NBA

Nashville Baptist Association is sponsoring seminary extension classes for the first time in history. The second semester began Feb. 6 and ends May 8. J.L. Ford, pastor of Eastland Baptist Church, Nashville is chairman of the Seminary Extension Committee for the association.

Courses are open to all persons, 16 years of age and older, regardless of previous educational experience. A diploma can be earned by taking 16 courses.

Robert Lamb and Robert Hammer are teaching at the First Baptist Church, Madison, center. Classes at the associational office center are being taught by John Langlois and Roger Abington. At Judson Baptist Church center, Raymond Langlois and George Horton are the teachers.

Carl Duck is the executive director of the Nashville Baptist Association.

## Stroke hits Mrs. Naylor

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)—Goldia Dalton Naylor, wife of retired Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary president Robert E. Naylor, suffered an apparent stroke Jan. 20 while the Naylor family were visiting their daughter in Bangalore, India.

The Naylor family, accompanied by their daughter Rebekah, a medical missionary with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, returned to Fort Worth, Feb. 1. Mrs. Naylor was to begin tests Feb. 2 as an outpatient at a Fort Worth hospital.

According to the Naylor family son Richard, Mrs. Naylor was extremely weak. She had suffered some temporary paralysis during the first days following the stroke, but appears to have recovered from that.

Naylor retired from Southwestern July 31, 1978.





**GEORGIAN HILLS BUILDS**—Following the razing of the church's old sanctuary, members of Georgian Hills Baptist Church in Memphis broke ground for a \$575,000 auditorium to be constructed by Leon Hecht of that city. Cost of the building has been subscribed through the United We Build program, and completion is expected by the end of the year. The new structure will seat 760 persons. Paul H. Shell is pastor. Pictured, left to right, are: Sid Posey, J. D. Lynch, Shell, Russell Powell, Jerry Durham, and Jim Wilkins.

## Tennessee churches file suits for employee tax exemption

NASHVILLE, (BP)—In two unrelated cases, Baptist churches in Tennessee and Texas have filed suit in federal court seeking relief for schools they sponsor.

In Tennessee, 42 Baptist churches, including several Southern Baptist, filed suit for exemption from unemployment taxes for their church schools.

In Texas, the First Baptist Church of Dallas challenged an Internal Revenue Service decision that has put its school's tax exempt status in limbo.

Brainerd Baptist Church of Chattanooga, Tenn., was one of two churches summoned to bring its payroll records and testify before a representative of the employment security department.

According to a story in the Chattanooga News-Free Press, the suit says the churches were told that if the summonses are not honored, "criminal proceedings will be instituted" by the state against the churches.

The church suit contends the state action violates the constitutional protection of religious liberty and tries to define the mission of a church.

A lawyer member of Brainerd Baptist told Baptist Press, "A church is clearly exempt under the law. Whatever ministries a church operates are as much a part of the church as any other ministry."

In fact, says the lawyer, who prefers not to be named, the state is a "johnny come lately" in education because churches first took the responsibility of teaching children to read.

"The Constitution does not say the state shall educate," he said. "And the Scripture says only the parents are responsible for the education of their children. No longer can

parents delegate that responsibility to non-Christians in humanistic schools."

J. Ralph McIntyre, director of the church and staff support division of the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville, whose church administration department produces textbooks and materials for such schools, said: "We feel church schools are a legitimate part of the ministry of a local church and should be treated as part of the church just like Sunday School and church training.

"As such, government involvement in this area is a gross violation of the church-state relationship."

First Baptist Academy's suit filed in Dallas complains the IRS is delaying a ruling on the school's tax status because it's in the process of adopting a new set of regulations designed to deny exemption to private schools that practice racial discrimination.

The rules, aimed at so-called "segregation academies" that grew up in the South in the early 1970s, would require a private school to follow detailed guidelines assuring it doesn't discriminate against minorities in its admission policies, hiring or administrative policies.

Critics of the ruling charge the regulations assume guilt until the schools prove their innocence.

The suit said the delay on the ruling has "practically curtailed" the academy's ability to collect donations because it can't tell potential donors whether or not their contributions will be tax deductible.

## Brotherhood, WMU announce joint Glorieta conference

The Brotherhood Commission and Woman's Missionary Union will join efforts to offer training to Southern Baptist Brotherhood and WMU officers on June 30-July 6 at Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference Center.

The occasion is the third annual Bold Missions Leadership Conference which is expected to attract about 2,500 members of Baptist families for a week of training, inspiration, visits with home and foreign missionaries, mission tours, and relaxation.

The conference, planned for church and associational Brotherhood and WMU leaders and their families, drew more than 1,500 two years ago and almost 2,050 last year.

Conference planners report the event will offer training opportunities for parents and mission education experiences for their children.

Men will choose from a dozen training courses for lay renewal leaders and church

# Religious freedom law clarified by Israel

TEL AVIV, Israel (BP)—A new official interpretation of Israel's controversial anti-bribery law says the law was never intended to limit religious freedom.

The interpretation, given by Minister of Justice Shmuel Tamir, received official status by being made a part of the official gazette of the Knesset (parliament), the Knesset Protocol.

Tamir's interpretation came after a visit to Israel by Jimmy Allen, Southern Baptist Convention president, to discuss the law and express Baptist concern for religious liberty. The interpretation by Tamir previously had been only stated verbally and in correspondence.

The law, passed by the Knesset in December 1977, prohibits offering material or other benefits to someone to induce him to change religions. The interpretation states "there is no intention whatsoever on the part of the Israeli government to restrict in any way the religious freedom of the Christian community or any other community in Israel or to impede them from the pursuit of normal educational or philanthropic activities."

Allen and Baptist leaders in Israel are pleased with this official interpretation.

J.D. Hughey, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's secretary for Europe, the Middle East, and South Asia, said he was "very glad indeed" to have the clarification which he hopes will be accepted as a guarantee of religious freedom.

Allen pointed out that in the Israeli legal system, the proper way to obtain an official opinion that is binding on the attorney general is to question the law in the Knesset record. Tamir's official interpretation was given in answer to a two-part question submitted by Knesset member Yitzhak Berman.

"I'm grateful for the steps of interpretation that have been taken in good faith by the current administration of the government of Israel," Allen said. "I believe the world looks

## Warrensburg congregation issues call to minister

Ralph Samples was called as pastor of Warrensburg Baptist Church in Mohawk recently. The church is one of the oldest in Tennessee, having been established in 1793.

Prior to coming to Warrensburg, Samples served churches in Kentucky, Indiana, and Tennessee. A graduate of Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, he was a chaplain in the United States Navy at one time.



**LEADERS MEET**—Prime Minister Menachem Begin of Israel (right) and SBC President Jimmy Allen met for 45 minutes during Allen's recent visit to that country. They discussed religious liberty in Israel and the current Israeli-Egypt peace proposals.

to Israel with high expectations for the respect of the rights of minorities and for the recognition of freedom of religion."

"We are particularly eager for the basic law on personal rights now being debated by the Knesset to reflect a strong emphasis on religious liberty," Allen said.

Other leaders reacted in similar fashion.

Finlay M. Graham, the board's field representative for the Middle East, said he felt the interpretation was a step in the right direction and he accepts it "as a face-saving expression" for the Israeli government.

"I hope the government will be very hesitant in its application of the implied letter of the law," Graham said. "I do accept the sincerity of Minister Tamir in his desire to promote good relations between different religious groups in the country."

Dale G. Thorne, chairman of the organization of Southern Baptist representatives in Israel, expressed appreciation to Allen for his conversation with officials. "We are hopeful that the continued contact between Baptists and government leaders will lead to a greater understanding of Baptists and general Christian positions in the country," Thorne said.

Robert L. Lindsey, veteran Southern Baptist representative in Israel, affirmed the value of Allen's visit and reaffirmed Baptists' opposition to bribery as a means of persuading someone to change religions.

He emphasized that Baptists have been concerned about the misinterpretation of the law and have never practiced bribery for conversion.

The law has been the subject of many government-Christian exchanges since passed by the Knesset, Dec. 27, 1977.

At least one incident of harassment of a group of Jewish-Christian believers has occurred, without official government sanction, according to Southern Baptists missionaries. Some 200 religious extremists forced entry into a believer's home, tore up Bibles and hymnbooks, brandished their fists and shouted abusive language as they rampaged through the home.

## Missionaries to Brazil injured in van wreck

FORTALEZA, Brazil (BP)—Southern Baptist missionary Harold Wheeler escaped injury, but his wife and daughter suffered cuts and shock when a truck turned into their Volkswagen van Jan. 29.

Gloria Wheeler required seven stitches to close a cut on her leg and suffered chest bruises and shock. The Wheelers' daughter, Stephanie, was cut above an eye. A baby, Stanton, was uninjured.

## Hixson youth earns award in Royal Ambassadors

Mark Pressley, Hixson, has completed work for his fifth service aide award under the Royal Ambassador program of the Southern Baptist Convention.

A member of Central Baptist Church in Chattanooga, Pressley will receive the service aid national award from the Brotherhood Commission, SBC, and \$1,200 in scholarship money. The east Tennessean performed his work in the area of education.

An active member of his church, he sings in the choir and assists in handling the sound system. His RA counselor is Max Thomas, and Jerry Songer is his pastor. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles S. Pressley.



Pressley



## EDITORIALS

# A record is broken—dramatically

When Tennessee Southern Baptists decided to set a new record month in mission giving through the Cooperative Program, you really did it in an overwhelming manner.

As Tennessee Baptist Convention's books for January closed last Wednesday, the adding machines in the accounting office laboriously and excitingly strained to total up our fantastic new record—\$1,340,792.05.

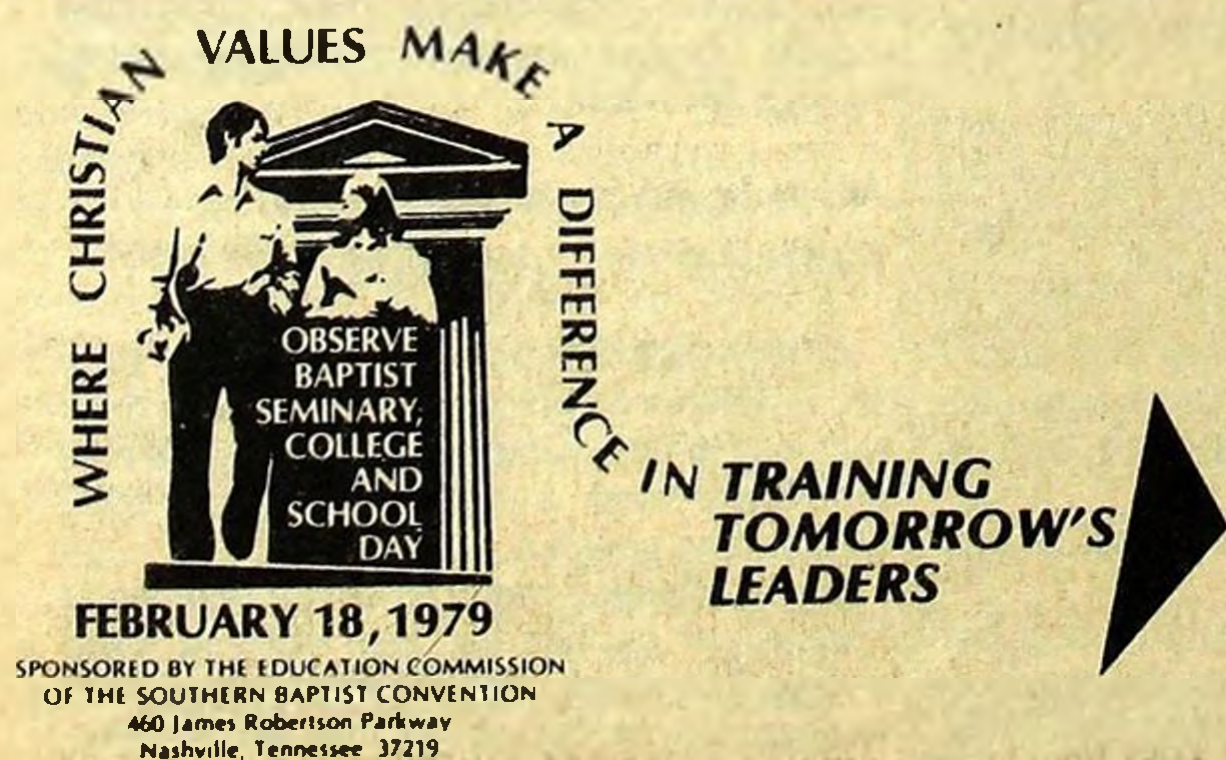
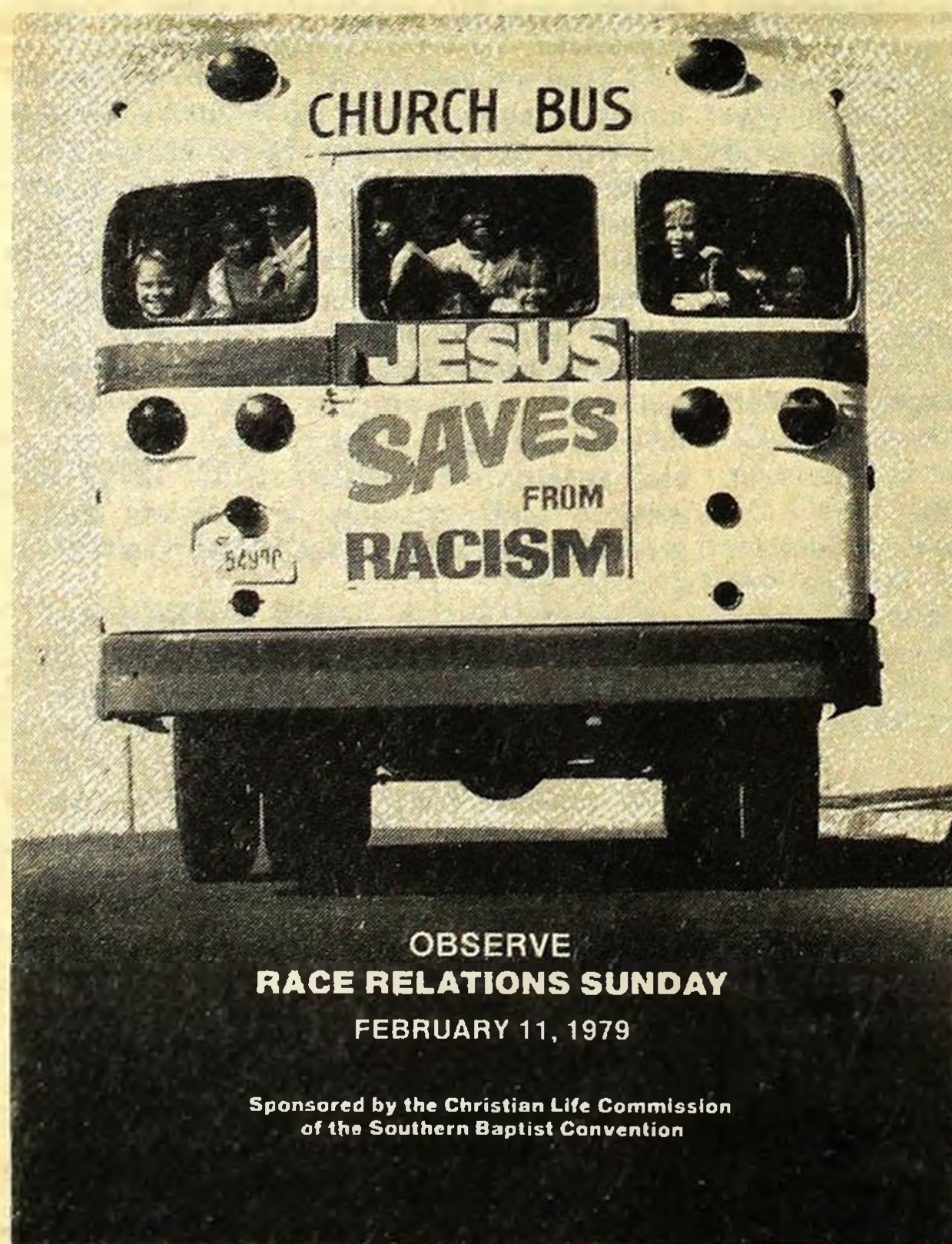
This not only passed the previous record month, but eclipsed it by a whopping 21.1 percent! The record was \$1,107,140.33 for August 1978.

We recognize that some of January's Cooperative Program gifts were probably meant for December's total. Doubtless, the holiday mail rush delayed many checks from church treasurers in reaching the TBC office before that month's books closed on Friday, Dec. 29.

However, when you take the two months together, you can easily see that December's \$800,904.63 and January's \$1,340,792.05 amount to well over a \$1-million average.

January's \$1-million-plus mission gifts through the Cooperative Program also indicates another heartening trend. It is the eighth time in the last 17 months that we have reached the \$1-million plateau.

January closes the first quarter of the current budget year for the state convention. Coupled with November's \$1,096,234.44 (our third highest month in history), we experienced our highest quarter in Cooperative Program giving—\$3,237,931.12.



We will admit readily that financial support is not the only gauge of mission concern—but it is one indication. Jesus reminded us, "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matthew 6:21). It follows, then, that the true concerns of one's heart are reflected by how one spends his money!

As Tennessee Baptists become even more impressed by the demands and needs of Bold Mission Thrust, January's record total will become a short-lived position as our largest month in mission support. Last month's outstanding record will quickly become the usual, rather than unusual.

## GUEST EDITORIAL

## Saves from racism

By John A. Wood  
SBC Christian Life Commission

The story is told about a new Christian who was trying to follow his church's instruction to witness. He stopped a man on the street and asked, "Brother, are you saved?"

The man replied, "From what?"

Christians have given various answers to this man's question. Of course, the theologically correct answer is, "From sin," but we have too often limited "sin" to certain forms of evil that are not particularly tempting to us.

And we have too often understood sin to mean primarily sins of the flesh including such things as drunkenness, sexual immorality, gambling, and pornography.

Without minimizing the dangers of the sins of the flesh, the Bible emphasizes more strongly the sins of the spirit, which include attitudes toward other people and the behavior that grows out of these attitudes. Paul's list of sins in Romans 1:19-32 and II Timothy 3:2-7 names more sins of the spirit than sins of the flesh.

Racism is the pernicious belief that all white people are congenitally superior and that all people of color are congenitally inferior. The sin of racism is the sin of despising those for whom Christ died, of thinking of ourselves more highly than we ought to think, or inexcusable pride, of judgmentalism.

The sin of racism includes unworthy attitudes toward people of other racial and ethnic backgrounds, as well as private practices and public policies that discriminate against these people. The gospel of Jesus Christ applies to these areas just as much as it does to such areas of life as prayer, stewardship, and Bible study.

Race Relations Sunday was put on the denominational calendar to help churches focus on an issue that needs constant attention throughout the year. Observe Race Relations Sunday, Feb. 11. Observing this emphasis won't solve the nation's crisis—but it could be a start.

Lord Jesus, save us from racism.

CIRCULATION THIS ISSUE—79,869

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News-Journal of Tennessee Baptist Convention  
Tom Madden, Executive Secretary-Treasurer

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## Cicero's comment



By the editor

There seems to be a continuing fascination about my middle name "Cicero"—so I am devoting this week's column to the man for whom I was named, Nathan Cicero Shackleford.

Friday of this week will be Feb. 9—by Dad's birthday.

On that date in 1890, he was born on a farm in rural Carroll County, Ga. From that date until his death in 1968, his life took many turns—farmer, country store merchant, World War I doughboy, school teacher, automobile salesman, hardware store owner, and tractor dealer.

Along the way he had other titles—such as, husband, father, mayor, deacon, and "Pop" to his Grandchildren.

Throughout all those 78 years there was one thing that remained constant—his love for poetry.

Among his prized possessions were old mail order catalogues with pages covered by poems he had clipped from newspapers and magazines in his youth. It took little—and sometimes no—encouragement to get him to recite poems he had memorized over the years.

And Dad loved to write poetry, too.

Oh, by literary standards these were not great poems. The meter was never exactly right, unless he read them. Most of his subjects were personal—about his experiences, his thoughts, and his family.

One was written as he stood guard at a WW I warehouse; another on the occasion of his parent's 60th wedding anniversary; one in response to our pastor's New Year's sermon; and even one noting my fifth birthday.

After declining health had forced his retirement in his early 70's Dad turned more and more to his poetry. Advanced senility began to rob him of his memory, mobility, and mental alertness. Yet, there remained one supreme desire—to print a booklet of his poems.

Through the loving labors of my sister-in-law Louise and a friend, 58 of Pop's poems were compiled into a small paperback booklet. I suppose it was the last task in his life that occupied his attention.

Dad delighted in giving copies of his poem booklet to his many friends and relatives.

Although the Baptist and Reflector never prints poetry, I am printing one here today—in honor of the birthday of another Cicero.

## HOPE

"Of all the words most beautiful; meaning most to us through life,  
Lending aid to all our struggles; strengthening us for the strife;  
Giving courage and inspiration; giving vision a broader scope;  
Soothing all our anxious longings; 'tis the beautiful word called HOPE.

"When all around us seems gloomy, and we feel doomed to despair,  
When all the future looks darkened, and nothing seems blooming and fair,  
When life's storms 'round us are raging, and o'er us dark billows roll,  
'Tis HOPE that gives us new courage and peace and strength to the soul.

"When the journey seems long and perilous, and the heart is sore and depressed,  
HOPE whispers, 'Press onward, my brother, in the end you will find sweet rest,'  
HOPE ever keeps guiding us onward, and cheers us each step of the way,  
And brings us at last with rejoicing, to the realms of infinite day."

N.C. Shackleford  
Written in 1916



## 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.

### Needed 'pledge'

Dear editor:

In our day of failing institutions, this "pledge" might be good for us to ponder seriously:

"I pledge allegiance to my home and to its place in God's plan. Giving thanks for the father and mother provided men for brothers and sisters that edify me. May God keep us together. May we truly love one another. May our home share Jesus now and forever more."

Brad Pinson  
3372 Park Ave.  
Memphis, TN 38111

### Comparing lessons

Dear editor:

May I offer a few comments on the intrinsic value that exists between the lessons published in the Baptist and Reflector and the Adult Teacher.

It is apparent that the author of the lessons published in the Baptist and Reflector is fully conversant with Scriptures. Also, the needs of the hour and how historical, theological terminology have a detrimental effect on the average teacher and student. Consequently, his lessons are slanted toward the dire need of the "now." The lessons are interesting and informative.

For the past year there has been entirely too much ancient and medieval history included and editorializing in the Adult Teacher.

The primary need of the "now" for teachers and students is not what occurred in the B.C. era, but for total commitment, dedication, and absorbing and applying the holy inspired

Word of God to their every day lifestyle and a closer walk with Christ.

Consequently, let's have more lessons like those that appear in the Baptist and Reflector.

Jack W. Goans  
1723 Albert Ave.  
Knoxville, TN 37917

Our lesson writers have a distinct advantage on emphasizing the "now." Our deadline is two weeks ahead of the lesson date, but because of the Sunday School Board's large number of publications, their deadline is about one year in advance. (editor)

### Conference to focus on Bible, ethics

RIDGECREST, N.C.—A study of the Bible's role in making decisions about contemporary ethical problems will be the primary topic for a special conference for Southern Baptist pastors and laypersons this summer at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center.

The conference on "The Bible and Christian Ethics" will be led by Daniel B. McGee, associate professor of religion at Baylor University, Waco, Texas, during Bible Preaching Week, June 30-July 6. The seminar will include discussions on proper and improper uses of the Bible in making ethical decisions, ways that Scriptural insights can be merged with other sources of information, and an examination of what the Bible has to say about several contemporary issues.

The week-long conference is sponsored annually by the Christian Life Commission, the moral and social concerns agency of the Southern Baptist Convention.

### Belmont's campaign pulls wide response

Wayne Robbins, vice-president of Belmont College, Nashville, announced that the institute's campaign efforts are now national in scope and funds are being received from all sections of the country. The generation of gifts are part of Belmont's current Silver Anniversary Campaign.

A \$15,000 unrestricted grant from the Monsanto Fund at St. Louis, Mis. was awarded to the college. The grant will extend over a three-year period.

The Robert Glenn Rapp Foundation in Oklahoma City granted \$10,000 to Belmont to be applied for scholarships to aid needy students. The gift was the first one ever to be received from the state of Oklahoma.

"Since we do not rely on federal funding, Belmont College depends upon support from the private sector," said Herbert Gabhart, president of the college. The Silver Anniversary Campaign thus far has generated \$1.6-million.

### Texas Baptist college gets challenge grant

MARSHALL, Texas (BP)—East Texas Baptist College has received a challenge gift of \$400,000 from the Meadows Foundation of Dallas.

Terms for the gift call for the Southern Baptist school to raise matching funds of \$400,000 within the next four years. Funds raised to match the Meadows Foundation gift will be used to retire indebtedness. Curtis W. Meadows, father of the chairman of the Meadows Foundation, retired in 1977 after 37 years on the ETBC Board of Trustees.



Madden

## Personal perspective

BY TOM MADDEN  
TBC executive secretary

From many sources we hear discouraging and dispiriting news. As I have thought of this recently, I have also been reminded of the hope and inspiration and courage we receive from God through His Holy Word. Such phrases as, "Paul thanked God and took courage." Other references are easily found such as "be very courageous," and "fear not."

I recognize that the church is not a cheerleader and is not designed to give a weekly "shot-in-the-arm" and that the total gospel must be preached including not only grace but also wrath, judgement, sin, guilt, and failure but surely there must also be the bright light and trumpet of hope.

I am sure my thinking is influenced by my childhood home. Ours was a large family, and we grew up in the era known as "Depression Days." My mother struggled all week to care for us and then Sunday, she said, "found her in a new world." She would leave the house of God after a worship service and would say to us, "Now I have strength to carry on for another week." She found hope and courage and strength in God's house.

We really should encourage each other.

## NEWS ANALYSIS

# The next SBC president

By James H. Cox

MIDDLETOWN, Ky.—Southern Baptists' biennial preoccupation with the election of a new convention president is about to begin.

Jimmy Allen, pastor of First Baptist Church, San Antonio, Texas, reaches the constitutionally set two-year limit at the SBC meeting June 12-14 in Houston, Texas.

With the election of a new president only a few months away, some are already beginning to speculate on potential nominees. State editors will soon begin to report names of several of those who are presently only whispered about in the corridors of the SBC Building in Nashville, and who are currently making the circuit of state evangelism conferences and other local and state events.

History may tell us something about the person we will elect in Houston even now, however.

Forty different men have been elected president of the Southern Baptist Convention since the convention was organized in 1845.

By states, Texas leads with eight. Then come Tennessee, six; Georgia, five; Kentucky, Louisiana, and South Carolina, three. But there's a catch. One of those elected from South Carolina a century ago moved from the state and was re-elected as a Kentuckian.

Two presidents each have come from Arkansas, Maryland, North Carolina, Oklahoma, and Virginia. One each was elected from Alabama, Mississippi, and Missouri.

The elections of the last three decades may be even more relevant to 1979.

In 30 years we have elected 16 different individuals from seven states. Five were Tennesseans, four were Texans, two North Carolinians, two Oklahomans, and there was one each from Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi.

All of them served the constitutional limit of two years with the exception of K. Owen White of Texas and James L. Sullivan of Tennessee, who chose to limit their presidencies to one year.

Of the 16 elected since 1949, 13 presidents were pastors of large metropolitan downtown churches. Two were laymen—Brooks Hays of Arkansas, elected in 1957, and Owen Cooper of Mississippi, elected in 1972. One, Sullivan,

was a retired denominational agency executive.

Of the 13 pastors, two served the same church in Tennessee during their presidencies (R.G. Lee and Ramsey Pollard) and two served the same church in North Carolina during theirs (C.C. Warren and Carl E. Bates).

The convention has met in 15 states during the last three decades. On five occasions it met in Texas, where it meets again this year. Twice the presiding officer was completing his first year in office at the Texas meetings and was re-elected. The remaining three elected for the first time in Texas included an Oklahoman and two Texans. The Texans were elected the last two times the convention met in the Lone Star State (1968 and 1974).

Does all of this suggest that a Texan will be elected in June?

Time will tell, but recent history would suggest that a Texan, or someone in a state nearby, might have the inside track.

There is a precedent in modern times for the election of a convention president from a state in which his predecessor resides. While it hadn't happened in the previous 50 years, when W. Wayne Dehoney's second term ended in 1966, H. Franklin Paschall was elected to succeed him. Both were Tennesseans.

The outgoing president this year is a Texan. It's an interesting premise.

Jim Cox, a former Tennessean, is associate editor of the "Western Recorder," Baptist state paper in Kentucky.

## Citizen's Corner

By Jerry M. Self  
Public affairs and Christial life consultant

For the next several weeks 24 committees will meet to take actions which can have significant impact on Tennessee Baptists. Their business has not been assigned by church, association, nor convention for they are the standing committees of the Tennessee General Assembly.

When a bill is introduced in either the State Senate or the House, it must be passed by the full body on two separate days. Then the speaker assigns the bill to one of the standing committees. A dozen committees in each house will then attempt to make judgments on hundreds of bills in a few weeks' time.

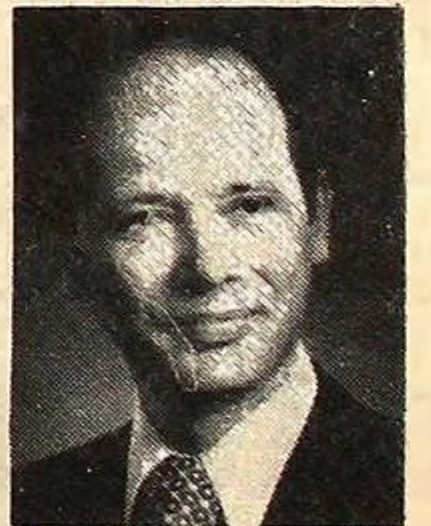
The committee, given responsibility for the bill, determines its future course.

Many of the bills will affect areas for which no single legislator has any expertise. The press of time, the clamor of special interest groups, and the inclinations of personal likes and dislikes counterbalance the legislator's sense of fairness and stewardship of office.

If a bill receives a majority vote in committee, it will go to the Calendar Committee in the Senate or the Calendar and Rules Committee in the House. The Senate committee merely sets a time for presentation before the whole Senate, but the House committee will again debate the merits of the bill. So in the House, a bill must face two committee tests; in the Senate, only one.

Should a bill pass the third reading in both houses and the two houses agree on its form, it goes to the governor. With his signature the bill becomes law. Should the governor veto the bill, his veto may be overridden by a simple majority vote in both houses.

Out of this process a few of the many bills will become law. Whether good, bad, or indifferent will depend, in some measure, on whether Tennessee citizens voice support for the positive and objection to the negative.



Self

## Oklahoma minister shot by mistake

FRANCIS, Okla. (BP)—Roy Akehurst, minister of music and youth at First Baptist Church, Francis, Okla., was shot and killed when he was mistaken for an armed prowler while working at his part-time job with an Ada appliance store.

The Ada district attorney said some kind of homicide charges will be filed against the woman who fired the fatal shot.

Akehurst, a 21-year-old student at East Central State University, Ada, and another employee were preparing to complete installation of a washer at the woman's residence. The woman had been notified by the store owner that the men were en route to her house. The washer had been delivered the day before the shooting.

Just before the shooting, the woman called Ada police, reporting that two men were approaching her house with guns, and that if they tried to enter, she would shoot them. She apparently mistook tools the workmen were carrying for guns.

Akehurst was shot in the chest as he started to leave the house after seeing the woman with the gun. The other worker escaped injury. Police found Akehurst still alive, but bleeding profusely as he lay near the front porch. He died at a local hospital.

Police said the woman, in her mid-30s, was "hysterical and screaming." They found a .38 caliber pistol on a table in the house.



# Missionaries home from Iran miss sand, softball, service

ATLANTA, Ga.(BP)—The big excitement in Ahwaz, Iran, centered around the softball field and the temperatures rose to 120 degrees in the summer. For miles around there was nothing but sand.

This desert city was home for Southern Baptist missionaries Kenneth and Beth Glenn, a home they fear they may not see again.

Last fall the quiet of the desert community was shattered when growing anti-shah sentiment burst into demonstrations and conflicts between marchers and the military. With the up-risings came anti-American expressions. According to the Glenns, the tensions and anxieties mounted in their city and no one knew for sure what would happen next.

Now news reports warn that the power struggle may escalate into all-out civil war.

All the Americans have left Ahwaz. The English-language church where Glenn was pastor is inactive with its more than 150 members scattered throughout the United States.

But the Glenns and their three children want to return to Iran.

Even in the midst of the crisis, they say they never felt personally threatened. They love their city and their work there.

People who left Ahwaz after the Glenns told of looting of Americans' homes. While there, the Glenns and other Americans received mimeographed death threats on the windshields of their cars. One American oil company executive, Paul Graham, was killed just a block from the Glenn home soon after the Glenns left Iran.

"But we were never mistreated in any way," Glenn emphasizes. "Everyone was very tense. Sometimes people would stare at us, but we were never insulted. We never had anything stolen. Our experiences were very positive."

Even though the Glenns would be willing to return as soon as peace is restored, that may not be possible. They were in Iran to minister to American and European families. Until major companies return employees to Iran, the Glenns' ministry will not be viewed as necessary by the Iranian government.

The Glenns found the softball field one of their greatest opportunities to be a part of the community. All five family members played ball with other members of the Western community. As they played they met many people who had questions about why they were in Iran.

Mrs. Glenn said she was surprised at the serious questions someone from the other team would ask her while they ran the bases. She played second and often talked to the runners.

"Some such Americans go overseas to get away from problems," Mrs. Glenn said. "Many of the people just needed a lot of love and a fresh start."

The Americans are gone from Ahwaz, but good memories remain with the Glenn family. "We have no idea about the future," Glenn said. "We want to go back, but we'll go somewhere else if we can't return to Iran."

## Evangelism speakers warn of opposition

DALLAS(BP)—Speakers at the Texas Baptist Evangelism Conference in Dallas reminded Christians their opposition is hard at work.

"Satan is slick, sneaky," observed Manuel Scott, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Los Angeles, Calif., on the opening night of the popular annual event of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

"There is at loose in our world a satanic and sinister force bent on casting all of us in the same mold," Scott continued in a second sermon at the conference, which attracted more than 9,000 laymen and ministers.

"God has appreciation for variety" in individuals and institutions, said Scott, a short black man known for powerful evangelistic preaching. His message, "Let the church be the church," roused the audience into repeated "amens." One emphatic motion broke a suspender, much like a physical exclamation point.

"Let a man be a man, let a woman be a woman, let the school be the school, let the government be the government, but for God's sake let the church be the church," Scott implored.

Charles Colson, former special counsel in the Nixon administration, said Christians are blending in with society rather than calling men to repentance. "My life shows the absolute futility of trying to find through government answers to problems in the heart," said Colson.



**NEW DEACON**—Henry Webb (right), editor of *The Deacon*, is a former pastor who recently was ordained as a deacon. He discusses the magazine with his supervisor, Ernest Mosley, who has a similar background.

## 'Deacon' magazine editor ordained as new deacon

NASHVILLE—Ordination to the deacon ministry is a special, significant time in the life of Christian laymen.

Henry Webb's recent deacon ordination holds doubly significant meaning for him. Webb, an ordained pastor, also is editor of *The Deacon* magazine.

Other editors of *The Deacon* have served their churches as deacons, but Webb is the first to be ordained to the deacon ministry while editor of the magazine, which is published by the pastoral section of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's church administration department.

Webb says the practical impact of his ordination as a deacon should be increased involvement in the lives of the church members in his family ministry plan flock.

"In my present church, I am not functioning as an ordained pastor, but as a member," Webb explained. "The role here is different

than in the last church where I was a member and the pastor.

"Ordination, whether to the deacon ministry or the gospel ministry, is being set apart for a specific role in ministry," he said. "Both ordinations are significant high points to me."

"Now as a deacon, I have been set apart for another role. I am not renouncing my first ordination," he explained, "but the church is choosing and setting me apart for the specific ministry assigned to deacons."

"I don't anticipate a major transformation in my ministry because of my ordination as a deacon," Webb said. "As a pastor, I worked closely with deacons and understood the deacon ministry, which will enhance my work as a deacon."

Webb moved to the Sunday School Board in 1977 from Honolulu, Hawaii, where he had served as pastor of Kalihi Baptist Church for nine years.

"There is a sense of awareness of practicing what I preach through the magazine. My fellow deacons will probably have certain expectations of me because of my position. This will make me more dependent on the Spirit of God to implement the information disseminated through the magazine in my own ministry as a deacon."

"I still function in a pastoral role as editor of *The Deacon*," he said, "as an equipping minister. Through the magazine, I continually try to equip deacons across the country to do their ministry," he said.

According to Webb, the pastoral ministries team is composed of the pastor, church staff, and deacons, with no distinction of status since they are all part of a team. The distinction among members of the pastoral ministries team is for the specific function to which they are called to serve in the church. Pastors and deacons sharing the ministry can understand each other's roles as they lead and serve the congregation.

For Webb, the ordination as a deacon was a natural step. "The ordination was an external symbol of what I already felt," he said. "It is a clear distinction of my present role as a layman in my church."

**BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR**  
brings you news first



# Our People and Our Churches . . .

## PEOPLE...

Bethel Baptist Church, Beulah Association, ordained Kenneth Russom and James Petty as deacons on Jan. 14. Russom was also ordained to the gospel ministry on that day.

Mr. and Mrs. Ryland Page celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Feb. 4. They are members of First Baptist Church, Mt. Juliet. Billie Friel is their pastor.

Island Home Baptist Church, Knoxville, ordained Frank Lethcoe Jr. and Jeff Pratt as deacons Sunday evening, Feb. 4. Frank Lethcoe Sr., former pastor of the church and now pastor of First Baptist Church, Church Hill, delivered the ordination message. David G. Peach is pastor.

Mrs. Pearl Rhea, a charter member of Black Oak Heights Baptist Church, Knoxville, died Jan. 26. She was one of the oldest members of the church which was organized in 1946.

Wayne Jamison was ordained to the gospel ministry by Hillcrest Baptist Church, Lebanon, Dec. 31, 1978. Jamison has returned to Germany where he is in military service and is organizing a Baptist church near the base. W.L. Baker, interim pastor at First

Baptist Church, Lebanon, and James Shutt, a former pastor, delivered the ordination messages. James C. Hutchings is pastor.

Smithwood Baptist Church, Knoxville, has licensed Doug Cate and David Acres to the gospel ministry. Cate is enrolled in Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex., and Acres is a student at Carson-Newman College. Ervin W. Cook is the Smithwood pastor.

Ray Belew, associate pastor at Green River Baptist Church in Waynesboro, was ordained to the gospel ministry last month by Leoma Baptist Church in Leoma. Sam DePaul, Leoma pastor, delivered the ordination sermon. Evan Raley, pastor of Green River Baptist Church, Waynesboro, gave the charges to the churches and to the candidate.

Whitehaven Baptist Church, Whitehaven, has concluded his work as interim pastor of First Baptist Church, Eudora, Miss., and has accepted a call to serve at Northview Baptist Church, Memphis, as interim pastor.

J. Ralph McIntyre has resigned as interim pastor of Two Rivers Baptist Church, Nashville. McIntyre serves as director of church and staff support division of the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Audubon Park Baptist Church, Memphis, called Johnny Joe Jackson Jr. as associate pastor with responsibilities in evangelism and outreach. He is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark., and is a student at Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary. Howard Kolb is pastor at Audubon Park.

Dennis King began his duties as minister of music/youth at First Baptist Church, Carthage, Dec. 24, 1978. However, full-time work began when he moved on the field Jan. 1. Jere H. Plunk is pastor.

Riverside Baptist Church, Nashville, called John Gardner III as part-time minister of music. A reception was held for him and his family following the evening worship service Jan. 28. Gardner is staff coordinator in the church music dept. of the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Danny Hall resigned as interim minister of music and youth at Speedway Terrace Baptist Church, Memphis. Ray Gilder is pastor.

John Wren, pastor of First Baptist Church in Maryville, has resigned in order to enter the ministry of full-time evangelism. Wren has been in the pastorate since 1960, serving churches in South Carolina, Texas, Oklahoma, and Tennessee. He plans to reside in Maryville.

## Date change offered for hunger emphasis

NASHVILLE(BP)—The Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission has joined the Interreligious Taskforce on U.S. Food Policy and the denominational calendar committee will recommend a date change in the observance of World Hunger Day.

Both actions were recommended by 250 participants in the First Southern Baptist Convocation on World Hunger, held at Ridgecrest, N.C., in November 1978.

The Interreligious Taskforce supports a Washington-based staff to research and analyze issues and legislation related to U.S. food policy and channels information and recommendations to its "cooperating agencies."

The Christian Life Commission is the first Southern Baptist agency to join the taskforce, which is supported by 23 other religious bodies or organizations. Membership was made possible through a special contribution designated for that purpose.

The denominational calendar committee will recommend at the June 1979 Southern Baptist Convention sessions in Houston that World Hunger Day be observed the second Sunday in October starting in 1981. The denominational World Hunger Day observance, begun in 1978, is now on the first Wednesday in August.

A recommendation at the hunger convocation asked that the observance be moved from Wednesday to a "prominent" Sunday, a request the Christian Life Commission had made earlier.

W. David Sapp, who will represent the commission on the Interreligious Taskforce's board of governors, said the commission hopes its participation "will help Southern Baptists more effectively to encourage public policy decisions which will give high priority to the desperate needs of the hungry."

According to staff director Janet Vandevender, major concerns for the taskforce for 1979 are support of U.S. development assistance and support of the family farm in meeting the world hunger challenge.

# BSSB to renovate building, receives 40,124 requests

By Bracey Campbell

NASHVILLE(BP)—The Sunday School Board has received 40,124 requests for the Home Bible Study Guide since the new radio and television series "At Home with the Bible" premiered in October, President Grady Cothen reported to the trustees last week.

Cothen said the requests for the materials had come in at a rate of 880 per working day during the last week and that more than 9,100 persons have enrolled as "learners" in the program. He said the response to the program, now taking Bible study into homes in more than 1,500 cities and towns via cable and commercial television and radio stations, has far exceeded the expectations of its creators.

The trustees for the publishing arm of the Southern Baptist Convention approved a \$500,000 renovation of the five-story Frost Building here to provide an additional 40,000 square feet of office space.

The Frost Building, adjacent to the present board complex, will accommodate 70 professional and 80 clerical workers after the renovation is completed.

In addition, the trustees at their annual winter meeting took several steps in regard to materials being used in church training. Included were:

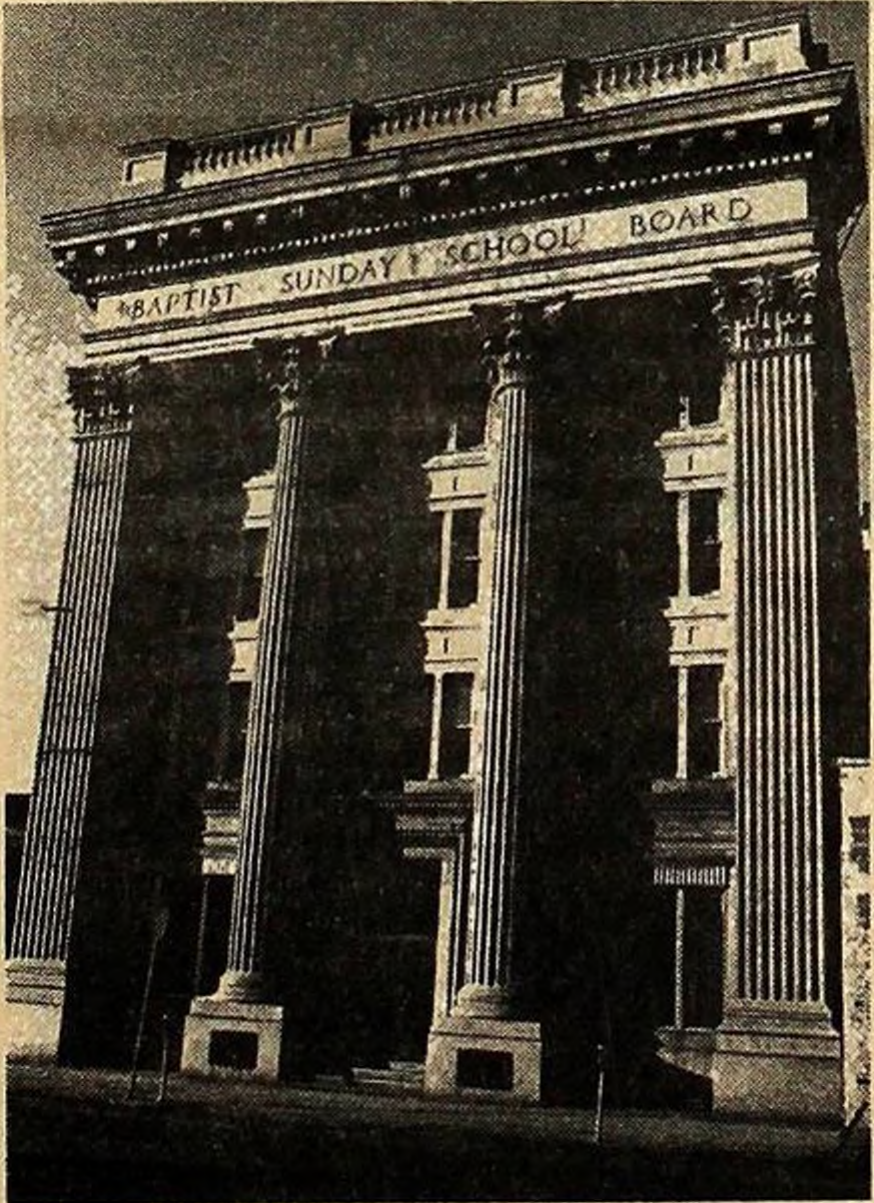
—A 16-page addition to the quarterly periodical *Baptist Adults*, effective October 1980, was approved to provide space for expanded and improved training plans. The upgrading of the periodical, which has an annual circulation of 1.5-million units, comes at the time of increased emphasis on all materials used in church training.

—The deletion of the quarterly periodical *Source and Source Resource Kit*, which was designed to provide adult training materials related to the life and work of the churches.

The periodical has lost in circulation since 1971 to its present position of 63,000 units per quarter.

—The deletion of the quarterly periodical *Exploring B*, *Exploring B for Leaders* and *Exploring B Kit for Leaders*, effective October 1980. Users of this children's quarterly, which has lost in circulation to 71,925 units per quarter, will be channeled into two other periodicals, *Exploring A* and *Exploring C*.

Erected in 1914 at a cost of \$160,000, the



**FROST BUILDING**—Trustee of the Sunday School Board have approved \$500,000 to renovate the Frost Building, which will provide additional office space for the board.

Frost Building has etched a mark in the history of Baptist life.

It served first as the home of the Sunday School Board and later housed the Christian Life Commission, the Education Commission, and the Baptist Book Store. Beginning in 1958, the building housed Southern Baptist Convention agencies now in the Executive Committee Building on James Robertson Parkway.

In addition, a number of Nashville businesses—and the city library—used the 161 Eighth Avenue, North structure periodically through November of 1978.

Other actions taken by the trustees included:

—Authorization of the extension of the mandatory retirement age for board workers to 70. This puts the board in compliance with recent federal statutes.

—Approval of increased retiree benefits in the Medicare supplement group insurance plan from a maximum of \$20,000 to \$50,000.

## Missionaries to Rhodesia welcome political changes

Salisbury, Zimbabwe/Rhodesia (BP)—Southern Baptist missionaries in Zimbabwe/Rhodesia welcomed changes moving the country toward black majority rule in recent days.

"We're glad to be here and to be part of good changes in this land," said one of the Rhodesian missionaries in a cable to the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board reporting the change of the country's name from Rhodesia, the British name, to include Zimbabwe, the African name.

The name change was symbolic of other changes which followed the Jan. 30 acceptance of a new constitution by the white minority electorate, which has been ruling the country. The new constitution, drafted by Prime Minister Ian Smith and three moderate black leaders in a transition government, insures a black majority in Parliament and the Cabinet, according to wire service reports.

After acceptance of the constitution, the country's name was officially changed to Zimbabwe/Rhodesia and all racial legislation, including that affecting housing, education, and health service, was repealed.

Acceptance of the new constitution has been termed vital to continued progress in the interim government and the move to majority rule, according to Southern Baptist Missionary Logan C. Atnip, chairman of the Baptist Mission (organization of missionaries) of Rhodesia.

Southern Baptist Missionaries have seen many changes since the first of their group entered Rhodesia in 1950. The biggest have come since Southern Baptist missionary Ar-

chie G. Dunaway Jr., was murdered by guerrillas in June 1978 at the Sanyati Baptist compound.

Missionaries stationed at Sanyati moved to larger cities, but African Baptists continue to operate the Baptist hospital and schools there, reports David L. Sanders, the Foreign Mission Board's area secretary for Eastern and Southern Africa.

The effect of guerrilla activity has not been confined to Sanyati. Southern Baptist missionaries Samuel L. and Ona Jones of Texas say, "the missionary staff in Rhodesia has, of necessity, grown smaller, thus leaving a seemingly impossible task, but the African Baptist people are stepping in to fill the gaps." The Jones are stationed in Salisbury, where Baptist maintain a recording studio, mission offices, and evangelism work.

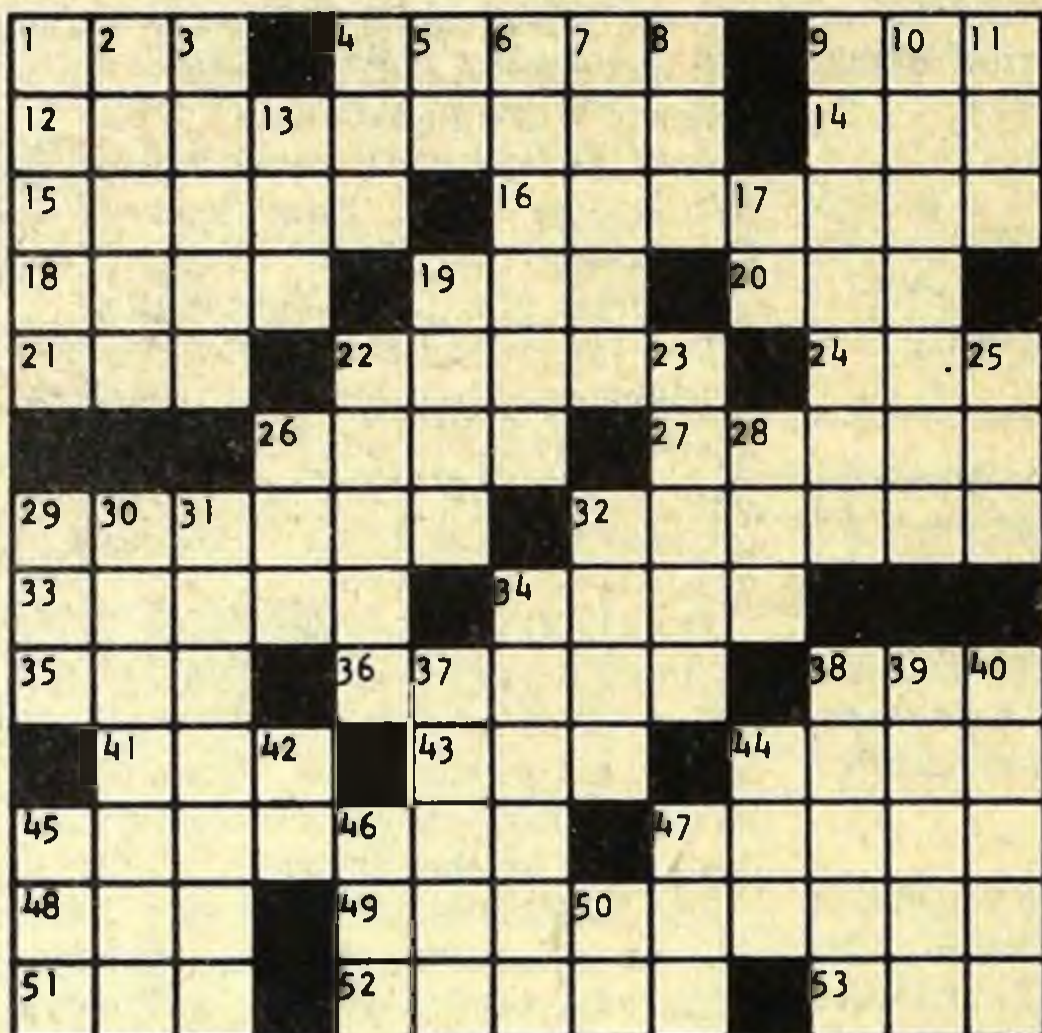
Guerrilla activity in other rural areas has moved other missionaries into the cities, resulting in changes cited by missionaries John W. and Mary Monroe of Texas: "The church buildings are now being turned over to the convention and the local churches. We praise the Lord that the people are showing signs of leadership in many areas in which they have never before led." The Monroes, formerly stationed in Sanyati, now direct the home for missionary children in Gwelo.

Another Gwelo couple, Ralph J. and Betty Bowlin of Alabama and Texas, who were among Rhodesia's first Southern Baptist missionaries, say that other work in Gwelo is productive. "We witness daily among the coloured (mixed race) community and have seen more professions of faith through personal witnessing than we have in many years."



# Bible Puzzle

Answers on page 10



## ACROSS

- 1 Earlier: prefix

4 David's was a counselor (1 Chron. 27:32)

9 A Thai people

12 "for the — of sins" (Rom. 3)

14 — horse (Zech. 1:8)

15 Tree (Rom. 11:17)

16 "— for the Lord" (Gen. 18)

18 Extremely

19 Three-toed sloths

20 Further

21 Suffix for baron or cellar: pl.

22 Many do it (1 Cor. 11:30)

24 Temperature: abbr.

26 Not a prophet (Amos 7:14)

27 "made — today" (1 Sam. 27)
- 29 Sally

32 Source of mighty oaks

33 "full of — fishes" (John 21)

34 "forsook him, and —" (Mark 14)

35 Pull strap

36 Miss Fitzgerald and namesakes

38 Metric units of length: abbr.

41 Oriental holiday

43 Of Roman bronze

44 Hole, of a kind

45 "and have — to answer" (Acts 25)

47 Core group

48 Indian's shoe: by shortening

49 Captain (Num. 2:5)

51 Deoxyribonucleic acid: abbr.

## CRYPTOVERSE

F P U T K P G X P J G Z X L U U X Q  
I G L C W R G F W W T Z C W

Today's Cryptoverse clue: T equals I

- 52 Ruhr city
- 53 Time abbr.

## DOWN

- 1 "every man — his own work" (Gal. 6)
- 2 Renew the lease
- 3 African noblemen
- 4 "to — them despitefully" (Acts 14)
- 5 Letters
- 6 Places of preaching (Matt. 11:1)
- 7 "— the four angels" (Rev. 9)
- 8 Wine: comb. form
- 9 Judas Iscariot (Luke 6:16)
- 10 See 26 across
- 11 — man out
- 13 Vine
- 17 Exclamation
- 19 Medicinal plant
- 22 "— a scorner" (Prov. 19)
- 23 "had gone six —" (2 Sam. 6)
- 25 Pounds: abbr.
- 26 Zoological suffix
- 28 Used to smite the rock (Num. 20:11)
- 29 Army man: abbr.
- 30 "and made an —" (Acts 12)
- 31 Woman (Rom. 9:10)
- 32 Sumerian drums
- 34 Armadas
- 37 Twines
- 38 Frame
- 39 Habits
- 40 Kind of wheat
- 42 Tellurium: symbol
- 44 Swedish district
- 45 Long meter double: abbr.
- 46 Direction: abbr.
- 47 Container
- 50 Pronoun

# Pulpit To Peter

By Jim N. Griffith

A speaker in a Priorities in Ministry Conference says ministers cannot serve a church 24 hours a day without other priorities in their lives suffering damaging consequences.

Ministers must handle priorities in order: everything the preacher is asked to do or expected to do may not be important. Some things have little place in the life of a minister, and other things don't have any place at all.

Despite the popular ministerial image of maintaining a frantic, hectic pace, it might be more effective if the pastor could be noted for something other than being busier than ants at a picnic.

In trying to be all things to all people, today's harried minister can be as confused as a chameleon running across a multi-colored garment. The only difference being that the pastor jumps into his vehicle of good intentions and drives off in all directions.

As someone has said, ministers will either follow Jesus' advice to "come ye apart and rest awhile" or they will just come apart.

## Interpretation

# Christian citizenship

By Herschel H. Hobbs

"Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake" 1 Peter 2:13.

"Ordinance" hardly refers to laws in light of verses 11-12. When Christians refused to worship the emperor, they were disobeying a law. Christians should not obey immoral laws or ones which come between them and God. But they must be prepared to suffer the penalty for such. All other laws should be obeyed, whether or not we agree with them. Otherwise, we bring shame upon God.

However, the word for "ordinance" may better be seen as "institution." "Ordinance of man" may read "human institution" (RSV). This fits what follows. "Submit" means to be lined up as troops under command. In a civic sense, it was used for being in subordination.

"King" (v.13) refers to the emperor or supreme ruler. "Governors" are his agents carrying out his rule—to punish lawbreakers and to praise those who are law abiding (see Rom. 13:1ff). God wills obedience so that by

their very lives Christians may silence the unjust accusations of their uninformed and unthinking accusers.

Note especially verse 16. Christians are free people. But they should not use their freedom as an excuse for doing wrong. They should not turn liberty into license. Instead, they are to use their freedom to serve God. "Servants" means slaves. We have been liberated from the slavery of sin to become slaves of God. And we should serve God with the same zeal we once used in serving the devil (see Rom. 6).

Verse 17 may be stated thus: Have respect for the dignity of the personality of all men. Especially, we are to love our Christian brethren. We are to stand before God in reverent awe. And we are to honor the king. In this case the emperor. Nero was the emperor when Peter wrote this. While he started out well, he became a monster. So the sense here is not so much the person but the office. We should honor the office as ordained of God for law and order. This is a much-needed admonition in a time when our social order fails so often to do this.

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## 70th ANNIVERSARY

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**Sunday,  
February 11, 1979**

All members, former members, and friends are invited to join us in the celebration of 70 years of ministry.

**To God be the glory.  
1909-1979  
Ted J. Ingram, Pastor**

Adv.



# New Spanish materials bring confusion in literature orders

NASHVILLE—The introduction by the Sunday School Board for an adult Sunday School quarterly in Spanish has inadvertently created confusion for Spanish-speaking churches in knowing where to order literature.

El Interprete, an adult periodical in the Convention Uniform Series, was first published by the board in October 1978 and a companion teacher's periodical El Interprete: Maestro will begin publications in October 1979.

Some churches which have traditionally ordered materials from the Baptist Spanish Publishing House in El Paso instead placed their annual order with the Sunday School Board, said Mancil Ezell, design and process specialist, Bible teaching division.

"Because only El Interprete for adults is presently available from the board's materials services department, these churches experienced delays in receiving their literature for other age groups," Ezell said.

He said churches can order Sunday School literature in Spanish for all age groups only through the El Paso Baptist Book Store. In doing so they will receive adult materials produced by the Sunday School Board while items for other age groups are produced by the Spanish Publishing House.

## Devotional

### God remains the same

By Linda S. Johnson

During these uncertain times, a real sense of security and peace of mind is hard to find. Man has always reached out for some power greater than himself. Even in our great nation, founded on Christian principles and a love for and dependence on God, greater and greater numbers do not know Him and are turning to various cults, following false prophets, searching for some direction, purpose, and stability in their lives.

Someone has said, "The only thing you can depend on is that everything changes!" However, Christians know that no matter what chaos may swirl around them, there is One who stays the same, now, and forever.

In Isaiah 22, there is a story about Eliakim, God's servant, who lived during troubled times in Jerusalem's history. The city was being besieged by enemies; the people had taken great care to protect themselves but had failed to turn to God as their ultimate refuge. Their attitude was much the same as a lot of us today: Eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die!

Shebna, a high officer of the court, had been proven unworthy of the people's trust. God told Isaiah that Shebna would be driven from his station; Eliakim would be called in his place, and God would strengthen him and commit the government into his hand. God further stated that He would lay the key of the house of David on Eliakim's shoulder, and He would "fasten him as a nail in a sure place" (Isaiah 22:23). All the glory of his father's house and the care of those beneath his rule would be hung upon him.

What a wonderful description of what Christ does for those who trust Him! In Luke 1:32-33, the angel tells Mary that "the Lord God shall give unto him (Jesus) the throne of his father David: and he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end." He is the nail in a sure place, unchanging, solid, and we may hang our cares, our very lives upon Him and know that we cannot fall.

Mrs. Johnson is secretary at First Baptist Church, Elizabethton.



Johnson

Bill Graham, director of the book store division, said, "We want to assist Spanish-speaking churches with all materials—literature, Bibles and other items. We have a total package available through the El Paso store."

Orders and requests for order blanks should be addressed to El Paso Baptist Book Store, 4024 Montana St., El Paso, Texas 79903.

La Fe Bautista, a church training periodical for adults produced by the Sunday School Board, currently is available only from the board in Nashville.

## Nominations needed by TBC committees

The guidelines adopted by the Tennessee Baptist Convention for the Committee on Boards and the Committee on Committees give all Tennessee Baptists the opportunity to make nominations by filling out a form printed in the Baptist and Reflector.

Some people may not understand how names come before committees. The head of each of the TBC institutions submits at least three names for consideration for each position to be nominated. They receive names from people interested in their particular work and pass these along to the Committee on Boards. The convention guidelines direct them to work with the heads of the institutions.

If a person wants to recommend a person to any of the convention's boards or committees, a letter or this form can be sent to Tom Madden, TBC executive secretary, P.O. Box 347, Brentwood, TN 37027, or to the temporary chairmen of the Committee on Boards or the Committee on Committees, or to the head of a TBC institution or agency.

The Committee on Boards will meet April 3. The temporary chairman is Gary Anderson, P.O. Box 8, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.

The Committee on Committees will meet April 19. The temporary chairman is Durwood Howard, 3824 Austin Peay Highway, Memphis, TN 38128.

### GUIDELINES

- Members of these committees should not nominate themselves to fill any vacancies existing on any convention standing committee or convention board
- Individuals over the state should be encouraged to send suggestions for nominees to these two committees, including supporting data as to their qualifications and availability.
- A form should be printed in the Baptist state paper by which suggestions could be made to these committees, the form bearing the signature of the person making the suggestion
- The initial meeting of these committees each year should be announced as an "open" meeting when individuals or heads of institutions or agencies could appear before the committees to offer suggestions of an about possible nominees
- The head of each institution should be asked to submit the names of three persons for each vacancy to be filled on his board, with supporting data on why these persons would make suitable board members, a practice that is now being followed.
- If the Committee on Boards considers someone else, other than a person suggested by the head of an institution, for any vacancy on a board, the committee should confer with that official concerning the qualifications of the person being considered, it being understood that the final decision on the nomination rests with the committee.
- The Committee on Boards should be aware of any requirements of the accrediting agencies which are related to our hospitals, colleges, academy, or children's homes as these requirements affect the work of the committee, keeping in mind the requirements of the Tennessee Baptist Convention constitution and bylaws. If and when conflicts develop in this area, the committee shall so advise the convention and the convention shall consider ways of reconciling the conflicts.
- These two committees should keep in mind the desirability of the following principles in making nominations: a board representation of geographical areas, differing sizes and types of churches, a variety of professional and educational backgrounds, different age groups, with both lay men/women and ministers included.
- These committees should not nominate a person to a Convention board or standing committee who receives a part or all of his salary from the Tennessee Baptist Convention or one of its subsidiary units.
- The Committee on Boards should no longer feel that all of its nominations should be confined to the geographical area where an institution or agency is located, but their nominees should be residents of Tennessee and members of churches affiliated with the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

# EXPERIENCE IS THE BEST TEACHER

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## RECOMMENDATION TO 1979 COMMITTEE ON BOARDS AND COMMITTEES ON COMMITTEES

For service as a director, trustee or committee member on the Tennessee Baptist Convention boards or committees.

Believing in this person's moral integrity, spiritual commitment, and other qualifications:

1. I recommend \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

2. Approximate age \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

3. Is person an ordained minister? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Name and address of church where the above is a member \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Association \_\_\_\_\_

5. Give brief statement as to the past and present loyalty of this person to this church, and the programs of Southern Baptists \_\_\_\_\_

6. List service on boards or committees of the Tennessee Baptist Convention \_\_\_\_\_

7. List training, skills, experiences, etc., which would qualify for service recommended \_\_\_\_\_

8. List the place where you think this person can best serve:

A. trustee or director of an institution or agency or the executive board (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

B. Convention committee: (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Please understand that this recommendation does not assure nomination. However, your recommendation will be given serious consideration. No contact will be made by the committee on boards or committee on committees until nomination has been approved.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
(name of person making recommendation)

(mailing address) \_\_\_\_\_

(occupation) \_\_\_\_\_ (date) \_\_\_\_\_



# New course on ministers' wives approved for Seminary Extension

NASHVILLE(BP)—Development of a course for and about ministers' wives was approved during the annual meeting of the seminary committees which give direction to the Seminary Extension Department.

Among other actions were approval of a name change for the department's series of study materials for seminary graduates and an extension of its emphasis on bi-vocational and ethnic ministers.

A number of ministers' wives have taken advantage of the theologically-oriented courses offered by Seminary Extension, but

the new course will be the first tailored specifically for them.

In approving the course, the Seminary Extension curriculum committee, made up by faculty representatives from each of the six seminaries, designated John Howell of Mid-western Baptist Theological Seminary to serve as a special consultant to the team enlisted to write the course. Howell has led conferences for ministers' wives at both Ridgecrest and Glorieta conference centers.

When it's available, the course will be offered for study either in a Seminary Extension center or through the department's Home Study Institute.

The curriculum series name-change was approved by the Seminary Extension Administrative Committee, composed of the presidents of the six seminaries. A variety of cassette study programs and other learning resources now known as the "Personal-Career Development Series" will be changed to the "CESA Series." CESA is an acronym for "Continuing Education for Seminary Alumni."

Department Director Raymond M. Rigdon requested and received an extension of the department's two-year emphasis on help for bi-vocational and ethnic ministers.

Also approved during the meetings of the two committees were:

- A new Seminary Extension diploma program in Biblical studies;
- Three new Old Testament survey courses;
- A new course in systematic theology;
- Guidelines for developing Seminary Extension courses for language-group pastors;
- An annual review of fees for certificate and diploma programs; and
- An optional plan permitting students completing Seminary Extension college-level courses to use the credit registry of the American Council on Education.

## BIBLE PUZZLE ANSWERS

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## UNIFORM SERIES Lesson for Sunday, February 11

# Christ at work through us

By Bob R. Agee  
 dean of religious affairs  
 Union University, Jackson

Basic Passages: Matthew 16:13-27; John 14:12-14; Matthew 28:16-20  
 Focal Passages: Matthew 16:13-21; John 14:12-14; Matthew 28:18-20

When a person accepts Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord, Christ comes to live within that person. As He takes up residence in that believer's life there are certain things that He wants to do in that life, remolding and reshaping it into a new nature, a new personality, a new character. But His work goes beyond what He wants to do in the believer's life. The indwelling Christ also wants to reveal himself through that life. He desires to use the believer's life as a vehicle through which He can continue His life and ministry in the world today. In order for Him to do this He has provided a channel for the work (Matt. 16:13-21), resource for us to be effective channels (John 14:12-14), and a specific commission concerning what He wants us to do (Matt. 28:18-20).



Agee

not withstand the onslaught of the liberating message that "God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself."

Understanding that Jesus is the Messiah and that He has come to set men free comprise the keys to the kingdom. Those who will declare by faith that Jesus is the Christ can be set free from the bondage of sin. That earthly deliverance guarantees them the complete joy of heavenly freedom. Through Christ God's promises to us become a meaningful present reality.

**A Profound Secret** (vv. 20-21). It was important for the disciples to understand who Jesus was. However, the time was not right for this news to be spread abroad. The disciples still needed to learn what kind of Messiah He was going to be and how He would accomplish His mission. They had simply come to recognize that He was the Christ. Thus Jesus instructed them to keep that to themselves for the time being.

For the first time, then, Jesus began to tell the disciples that He must die and rise again (v. 21). He was not a military or political Messiah like the Jews were anticipating. He had chosen Isaiah's Suffering Servant as the pattern for the way He would carry out His mission on the earth (Isaiah 53). Not only would He carry out His mission in unselfish, self-giving love, but this would form the example for the church's future methods and ministry. This was the next important lesson for the disciples to learn.

### A Special Resource (John 14:12-14)

In verse twelve the disciples of Jesus are told that they will be able to continue the ministry of Jesus. They will not only do the things that He did but will go even beyond His works. Their ministry would encompass far more than what His brief ministry had touched.

However, in order for Jesus to extend His ministry through the disciples in such a way, certain special resources must be provided. In John fourteen at least two resources are mentioned. The disciples could draw upon the power of prayer (vv. 13-14), and they could depend upon the Holy Spirit to guide them. (vv. 16-18; 26-27).

A special resource for the ministry of the church is prayer. In verse thirteen, Jesus told them how to pray and described the motive that was to accompany that prayer. When God's people pray in the name of Jesus desiring to see the Father glorified in what we are praying for, Jesus has promised to answer that prayer. This important promise must be viewed as one connected with the Christian's ministry described in verse twelve.

### The church's mission (Matt. 28:19-20)

For the Christians to do what Jesus expected of them, they must draw upon Him as the source of all power. Their ministry was not to be confined to the gathered congregation. They were to be living in the world encountering people in the day to day process of existence. As they went, the disciples were to seek to lead people to become disciples of Jesus (teach V. 19) and to lead them to make an open declaration of the fact that they were followers of Christ ("baptizing them..."). These disciples were then to be instructed in the words and the ways of Jesus so that their lives would eventually become totally saturated with His life.

In Jesus' last command, He envisioned the church being totally committed to outreach and training. When Christians and their churches are committed to these objectives, they are assured that Jesus will accompany them and will never leave them.

### The chosen channel (Matt. 16:13-21)

In the Old Testament God chose a nation to be the channel through which He would reveal Himself to mankind. He took the initiative to call that nation, make a covenant with them, and commission them for His special purposes.

Jesus came to fulfill and to carry out what God had begun in that old covenant. He chose a people to be His people, taught them, made a covenant with them, and commissioned them. It was important for them to know who He was and what He had come to do.

**A Crucial Question** (vv. 13-15). The confession of Peter at Caesarea Philippi stands as the watershed for the earthly ministry of Jesus. Jesus apparently felt that the time had come to determine just what the disciples understood about Him. The crucial probing question began with an inquiry into what conclusions the general public had reached about Him. However, the important issue was what conclusion the disciples had reached about Him. The accomplishment of what Jesus had come to do hinged upon what His disciples understood about who He was.

**A Decisive Answer** (v. 16). Peter spoke for the twelve with a declaration of faith that acknowledged Jesus as the Messiah, the long-awaited anointed one from God. By identifying Him as the Christ, Peter linked Him with the promises made by God through the prophets of the Old Testament. Jesus was the one for whom the people of God had been looking for centuries.

**A Founding Principle** (vv. 17-18). Peter's understanding of who Jesus was had not come merely through the processes of human reason. The Heavenly Father had prompted the disciples' understanding. Spiritual things are not understood without the guidance and assistance of spiritual help.

It was Peter's recognition of Jesus as the Messiah that was to form the foundation stone for the establishment of the church. The disciples' faith in Him as God's anointed one sent to deal with human sin and to offer forgiveness and meaning for life constituted the founding principle for the church. The church today is founded upon the same conviction that God has acted in Jesus to deal decisively with our sins and to provide a new meaning for life.

**A Priceless Promise** (vv. 18b-19). Christ's church is assured of victory. Hell's dominion over human existence has been shattered. The chains of slavery to sin have been broken by Jesus the Christ and even Hell's gates can-



## LIFE AND WORK SERIES

Lesson for Sunday, February 11

## What do believers receive?

By Bob C. Hardison, pastor  
Calvary Baptist Church, NashvilleBasic Passage: Romans 5:1-21  
Focal Passage: Romans 5:1-11

"I'm not ready," "Let me think about it," and "I will sometime" are responses that are often heard from those asked to become Christian. Often their reply means "I would have to give up too much in order to become a Christian." Folks often take a negative view about the Christian faith. Paul presents the gospel from the positive side by telling what one receives by believing in Christ as Saviour.

Chapter 5:1-11 begins with the transitional word "therefore" which indicates a further development in Paul's thought. The next phrase, "Being justified by faith," summarizes the previous section, 3:21 to 4:25, that told how God justified guilty sinners on the basis of faith. Now Paul delineates the benefits the believer has in Christ.



Hardison

spiritual maturity. Webster defines hope as that "what is wanted will happen." Paul explained it as that which one desires but has not seen (Rom. 8:24). Hope always burns most brightly in those whose character has been developed through overcoming traits.

What is Paul saying? A Christian can rejoice in suffering because God gives him strength to endure and through it all he can develop a nobler and stronger character. With this attitude toward tribulations, we can say with Lord Keith, "I do not like crises but I do like the opportunities they provide."

A Confident Hope for the Future  
(Rom. 5:5-11)

In progressing from tribulation to hope, Paul now elaborates on the Christian's hope. The hope of Christian is not based on one's wishful dreams but in the reliable nature of God. A Christian's hope for the future is grounded in God's love demonstrated in the giving of His Son to die for our sins.

In verse 5 Paul says that "hope maketh not ashamed." A believer is "not ashamed" to suffer for God because he has not been deceived by a false hope. His hope is not in wishful thinking but in God's love for us. God's love "is shed abroad in our hearts" through the Holy Spirit. The Spirit makes known the reality and assurance of God's love which is the object of the believer's hope.

In the remainder of the passage (verses 5-11), Paul proceeds to show how God expressed His love for us. When we were "without strength" to save ourselves, "in due time" (the opportune time) Christ died for the ungodly (verse 6). Even though it is unthinkable for a person to die for a "righteous (good honorable) man," God loved us so much that He let His Son die for us while we were yet sinners (verses 7 and 8). In verses 9 and 10 Paul argues if we are "justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath" (the final judgment). He added if we are reconciled by Christ's death, even more then we shall be "saved by His life (Christ's resurrected life)." Thus, the believer's hope is substantiated in God's love.

Baptist TV series  
set for Northwest

SPOKANE, Wash. (BP)—It was a strange setting for the delegation from the usually warm climates of Tennessee, Mississippi, and South Carolina.

The foot-and-a-half of snow was a first for many members of the group who had come to introduce "At Home with the Bible" to Baptists in the northwest. Such a deluge of the white stuff would have closed their home towns for days.

So it was with delight and surprise that the group was greeted by about 800 persons at the magnificent Spokane Opry House on a frigid week night and by about 200 persons the following night at a rally at the Victory Baptist Church in Des Moines, a Seattle suburb.

The rallies were planned by the Northwest Baptist Convention to introduce the new radio and television series—cosponsored by the Baptist Sunday School Board and the Radio and Television Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention—to the people of that area.

The Washington residents who braved the elements to attend the rallies were shown one of the 30 minute segments and heard from Chester Russell of the Sunday School Board, explaining the origin and the possibilities for the series.

Frank Pollard, a Texas native, said the series was the "boldest step" he has seen Southern Baptists undertake in their Bold Mission Thrust effort, designed to share the gospel with every person in the world by the year 2000.

1979 WMU leadership conferences  
to begin Feb. 26 in Clarksville

The Woman's Missionary Union of the Tennessee Baptist Convention has announced the dates for the 1979 WMU workshops for leaders of days camps, leaders of mission friends, girls in action, acteens, Baptist young women on mission action and direct evangelism, and Baptist women on mission action and direct evangelism.

The workshops will begin this month on the 26th and will continue throughout the state until Mar. 15, according to Jannie Engelmann, coordinator for the conferences.

Dates and locations for the meetings scheduled are: Feb. 26, 9:30 a.m. at Hildale Baptist Church in Clarksville; Feb. 26, 7 p.m., at First Baptist Church in Paris; Feb. 27, 7 p.m., at First Baptist Church in Trenton; and Feb. 28, 9:30 a.m., at Bartlett Baptist Church in Bartlett.

March meetings begin on the first day of that month at 9:30 a.m. at First Baptist

Church in Bolivar and at 7 p.m. at First Baptist Church in Savannah; Mar. 2, 9:30 a.m., at Pleasant Heights Baptist Church in Columbia; Mar. 12, 9:30 a.m., First Baptist Church in Lebanon, and 7 p.m., at First Baptist Church in Manchester; Mar. 13, 1 p.m., at First Baptist Church in Crossville; and Mar. 14, 9:30 a.m., at First Baptist Church in Cleveland. On Mar. 15, meetings will be held at 9:30 a.m. at First Baptist Church in Greeneville and at 7 p.m. at Broadway Baptist Church in Maryville.

Miss Engelmann said that the emphasis for three conferences with mission friends, girls in action, and acteens will be "purposeful planning." Conference leaders will include Mrs. Clara Lee Hall, Nashville; Miss Jo Hair, former GA director in South Carolina; and Susan Stokeld, an editor with WMU, Birmingham; and Mrs. Linda Knott, acteens director, Nashville Baptist Association.

Day camping instruction will be under the direction of Miss Englemann, Tennessee's GA and mission friends director.

Mrs. Dorothy Hudson, Baptist women director in Madison-Chester Association, will lead the conferences for Baptist women and Baptist young women.

Churches planning to attend one or more of the conferences should make reservations through the WMU office of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Mission gifts taken  
by laundry baskets

PALATKA, Fla. (BP)—In a special "Victory Day" celebration, members of Francis Baptist Church, Palatka, Fla., gave \$16,000 to their Lottie Moon Christmas offering for foreign missions.

For the 404-member congregation, that figures out to be 16 times the Southern Baptist Convention's per capita gift to the 1977 offering.

The total offering at the Jan. 28 service was \$16,074, or almost \$40 per member. The convention's per capita gift for the 1977 offering was \$2.52. One family of four contributed \$1,695. The church expected another \$500 the following Sunday.

Members filled a laundry basket with offerings and their children lined up jars stuffed with coins on the pulpit platform during the service. Pastor Harry Varnadoe said this was a record participation in the annual foreign missions offering for the church, which averages about 150 in Sunday School.

Baker J. Cauthen, executive director of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board and speaker for the victory service, said the congregation was "filled with the happiness of a people giving for worldwide missions."

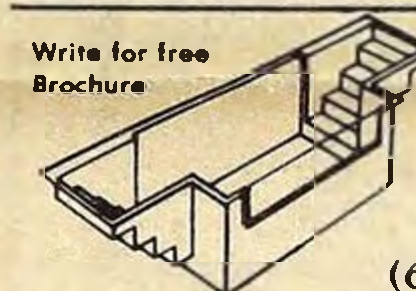
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## Happy 50th Birthday on March 25, 1979

## Calvary Baptist Church, Cleveland, TN

## Program...

Sunday Morning—Rev. Paul Huling, Pastored 1948 to 1951  
Reid Evans will direct the music

Lunch and special service after the morning service  
Sunday Evening—Dr. Jason A. Faile, Pastored 1959 to 1961,  
1966 to 1978

Jack Tullock will direct the music

We invite you to share in the celebration of our 50th birthday.  
We especially hope that all of our former members will return  
for this happy occasion.

## Calvary Baptist Church

695 South Ocoee Street  
Cleveland, TN 37311



# Pastor turns Olympic ticket into new church

By David Wilkinson

LAKE PLACID, N.Y.(BP)—David Book has a ticket to the Olympics, but he's decided to make it a one-way trip.

Book is pastor of the Baptist Chapel, a recently constituted Southern Baptist congregation which meets in a rambling, two-story, gray house on the main thoroughfare of Lake Placid, New York, site of the 1980 winter Olympics.

Along the two Southern Baptist Home Mission Board area missionaries, a US-2 couple from the panhandle of Oklahoma and a team of student volunteers, Book is working feverishly to see that a Christian presence is part of the celebrated, international festivities next winter.

But more importantly, the unique team is working to establish an effective Southern Baptist ministry that will be a part of the Lake Placid community long after the Olympics have left town.

"We're excited, of course, about the tremendous possibilities for ministry during the Olympics," says Book, "but our No. 1 priority all along has been to establish a church in Lake Placid."

Book has been an integral part of the Southern Baptist Olympic ministry since last summer when he took a 10-week sabbatical from his job as associate director of student work for the Kentucky Baptist Convention to work with Home Mission Board area mis-

sionaries Ken and Marilyn Prickett in Lake Placid.

With a small staff of student workers, he coordinated a summer program jammed with Bible studies, Vacation Bible Schools, backyard Bible clubs, puppet shows, concerts and perhaps most importantly, a comprehensive religious survey of the community's 3,000 residents which was sanctioned by the area clergy association.

At the end of the summer, Book was asked to return.

"I could think of 40 good reasons not to be here during the Olympics," Book recalls, "but he (he and his wife Marianne) eventually decided that this was a tremendous challenge, an opportunity that we just couldn't pass up."

Book resigned his job in Kentucky, and moved his family to Lake Placid Dec. 1.

Although the pace since then has been hectic, the overall approach has been low-key, in keeping with the long-term strategy for Lake Placid mapped out in the fall of 1977 by the Pricketts and a special taskforce of representatives from the Home Mission Board, the Adirondack Baptist Association, and the New York Baptist State Convention. Recognizing that a lasting acceptance by Lake Placid residents would not be achieved by an all-out Baptist blitz during the Olympics, the taskforce emphasized establishing contacts and cultivating relationships.

As Norman Bell, director of the Adirondack association for the past 18 years, explains, "You just don't come into a community cold turkey and announce that you're going to start a Baptist church."

Indeed, progress has been slow.

The Baptist Chapel began meeting last summer in a room in the Ramada Inn provided by the motel manager. On the first Sunday, eight persons showed up. Five were members of the Southern Baptist ministry team, two were Campus Crusade for Christ workers, and one was a Lake Placid resident—a Southern Baptist—who promptly announced, "I thought you'd never get here."

Attendance hasn't increased dramatically since then, but there are signs the low-key strategy is paying off.

Although Southern Baptist are newcomers to the community, Book serves with other local clergymen on the Olympic religious affairs committee. The committee, a first in the history of the Olympics, is officially sanctioned by the International Olympic Committee.

Dan McCormick, coordinator of religious affairs for the Olympics, says the Southern Baptist team will be "an integral part" of the committee's efforts to meet the challenge of the first statute in the International Olympic Committee regulations which states that "host cities shall watch over the spiritual as well as the temporal well being of the athletes and visitors."

McCormick credits the Southern Baptist workers for "making it obvious from the very beginning that they are here to help meet the needs of the community."

One of the most pressing needs, Books feels, is something to counteract the tourist town boredom that draws low paid employees to the 56 bars in Lake Placid.

"Lake Placid is a great place to take a vacation," he explains, "but it can be a terribly boring place to live. The unemployment

rate is very high during the off season, and even when people do have jobs, it's hard for many of them to cope with the fact that they don't have money to throw around like the tourists who have a good time on \$200 a day."

Book hopes to use the house on Main Street as a place for Bible studies, Christian entertainment in a coffee house setting, and lodging for Baptist mission groups who come to help. The building also houses the team of student volunteers who pay for their room and board by getting jobs in the community.

As for the Olympics, there is plenty to do.

In addition to a limited ministry to the athletes, Book sees countless opportunities to meet the spiritual needs of the 50-60,000 spectators who will crowd into the resort area next winter.

"A lot of what we'll be doing is simply trying to hold people together spiritually and morally during all of this activity," he says candidly. "We won't be able to really get down to the brass tacks of ministry to the community until after the Olympics."

"I look for a long, hard haul. But I think it will be worth it."

## On Matters of

## Family Living

By B. David Edens

Director, Marriage and Family Program  
Stephens College, Columbia, MO 65201

## Youngsters are frightened

Fear is the feeling that has come to dominate American children's response to the world outside the front door, a survey of more than 2,200 representative elementary school children has revealed. One-fourth of 7-to-12 year-olds said they were afraid to leave the safety of their homes. Two-thirds feared that their front doors weren't strong enough to keep violence out; they felt that "somebody bad" would someday break into their houses.

While anxiety over violence was twice as frequent among children who were heavy TV viewers, it was not clear whether kids stayed close to their sets because they were scared to go out or because of the violence witnessed on TV.

"The survey suggests that children have reason to be fearful," says Dr. Nicholas Zill, who directed the project for the Foundation for Child Development. "The majority of the children who say they are afraid to go outside also say they have been 'bothered' by other youngsters or adults while playing outdoors."

Most of the 2,200 said they were generally happy in their home lives, but 1 in 10, asked to name the person of whom they were afraid, named their fathers. This unpleasant revelation ties in with a bit of bad news delivered to the American Association for Advancement of Science at its Denver conference, where a team of sociologists reported that the U.S. home is a site for violence surpassed only by battlefields and riot scenes.

The National Institute of Mental Health survey of 2,143 families indicated that each year more than 1.5 million children between the ages of 3 and 17 are attacked by their parents with enough ferocity to cause severe injury or death.

Twenty percent of parents admitted having hit their kids with an object that year; in 2.9% of these instances, the object was a gun or a knife. Older youngsters were not immune. More than a third of all American youngsters between 15 and 17 years old had been hit by their parents that year.

Preliminary analysis shows that there is just as much violence in the families of the college educated as among those with less education.

The study of relationships between husbands and wives showed that a high percentage of parents beat up each other as well as the kids. One of every 6 couples had committed acts intended to inflict physical pain on a mate during the survey year.

## HISTORICALLY

### FROM THE FILES

#### 50 YEARS AGO

P.L. Ramsey resigned as pastor at Henning to become pastor of the church at Ridgely.

John T. Oakley, pastor of Brush Creek Baptist Church, Brush Creek, accepted a call to become half-time pastor at Round Lick Baptist Church, Watertown. Oakley had served this church some 20 years earlier.

#### 25 YEARS AGO

Work began on a \$20,000 mission building for the James A. Cayce housing unit. The building would accommodate approximately 200 in Sunday School and worship services. The project was sponsored by Edgefield Baptist Church, Nashville. J.T. Spurlin was pastor, and Marvin Agee was chairman of the missions committee at Edgefield.

Tommy Smothers, son of D.D. Smothers, pastor of First Baptist Church, Fayetteville, was ordained to the gospel ministry at his home church. Tommy was serving as pastor of Bethel Baptist Church near Troy.

#### 10 YEARS AGO

Nolachucky Baptist Association of Baptists purchased 1.3 acres in Morristown for \$8,616.15. Plans were to begin construction of an office and conference building for the association. Estimated costs of the brick veneer structure was between \$25,000 and \$28,000. Eugene Roberts was chairman of the building committee.

W. Douglas Hudgins, pastor of First Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss., for the past 23 years was elected executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. A native of Estill Springs, Tenn. Hudgins was the son of W.D. Hudgins, Tennessee's first Sunday School secretary.

## HMB sends 100th volunteer for Mission Service Corps

By Dan Martin

ATLANTA(BP)—A 71-year-old retired school teacher is the 100th Mission Service Corps volunteer to be assigned by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Miss Abbie Leone Hollis of Oklahoma City will serve Calvary Baptist Church in Laurel, Mont., as a church supporter, pianist, teacher, senior adult visitor, and literacy worker.

"We feel Miss Hollis' appointment is a milestone," said David Bunch, director of MSC coordination for the board. "We had hoped to have our 100th volunteer assigned by the end of 1978 or the start of this year so we feel we are right on schedule."

Mission Service Corps, a plan to place 5,000 volunteers alongside career missionaries at home and abroad, was adopted by messengers to the 1976 Southern Baptist Convention in Kansas City.

With Miss Hollis' assignment, 100 MSC volunteers are serving or soon will serve in 30 states. An additional 25 volunteers are being processed preparatory to assignment and another 149 have been approved and are waiting on funding prior to assignment.

At the Foreign Mission Board, Lewis I. Myers Jr., director of MSC coordination, said 39 volunteers have been assigned. They are serving or will serve in 22 nations.

While MSC is behind schedule on its original stated goal of 5,000 volunteers by 1982, Home Mission Board officials are pleased with progress. "We are much further along than we were a year ago," said William G. Tanner, executive director-treasurer of the board. "We may not have 5,000 volunteers yet, but MSC is successful from the very fact that it is living and going."

Bunch said the assignment of 100 volunteers since Nov. 1, 1977, "has proven that the MSC is a viable way to provide missionary personnel. As far as we can determine, most of the MSC people are doing creditable work and work that otherwise would not have been done."

Miss Hollis, who sometimes refers to

herself as "Dear Abbie," applied to MSC during Woman's Missionary Union week at the Glorieta, N.M., conference center last summer.

"Since I heard about it, I had the feeling that I was one who could do it," she said. "I applied because I felt if the Lord would give me something to do, then I could do it. However, I didn't know whether anyone would want me because of my age." But, she added, "I am very energetic and in good health."

She retired nine years ago after a 41-year career in teaching elementary, junior high, and high school students. She taught elementary school music for several years and then spent most of her career teaching English and Spanish in junior and senior high school. She is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, and the University of Oklahoma, Norman.

Miss Hollis, a member of First Baptist Church of Oklahoma City, has been active in teaching missions and literacy training since retirement. In Montana, Miss Hollis will work with pastor Al Carlock and the 53-member congregation at Calvary.

"Laurel is a town of 8,000 about 15 miles west of Billings," said Carlock. "Some say it is the fastest growing city in Montana. We have the largest railroad center between Minneapolis and Seattle and we have a large oil refinery."

Carlock was pastor of the 600-member Hunter Station Baptist Church in Montgomery, Ala., until July 1978 when he and his wife, Kathleen, moved to Laurel, and the 37-member Calvary church. "Since July, we have had 19 additions, including an 83-year-old woman," Carlock said. "In January, we had 39 people in attendance with a foot of snow on the ground."

A retired couple—Mr. and Mrs. Carl Clark from Jackson, Miss.—worked in Laurel last summer, cultivating a senior adult group. "Miss Hollis will be building on what they started," Carlock said. "When I heard she was coming, I was thrilled and tickled to death."