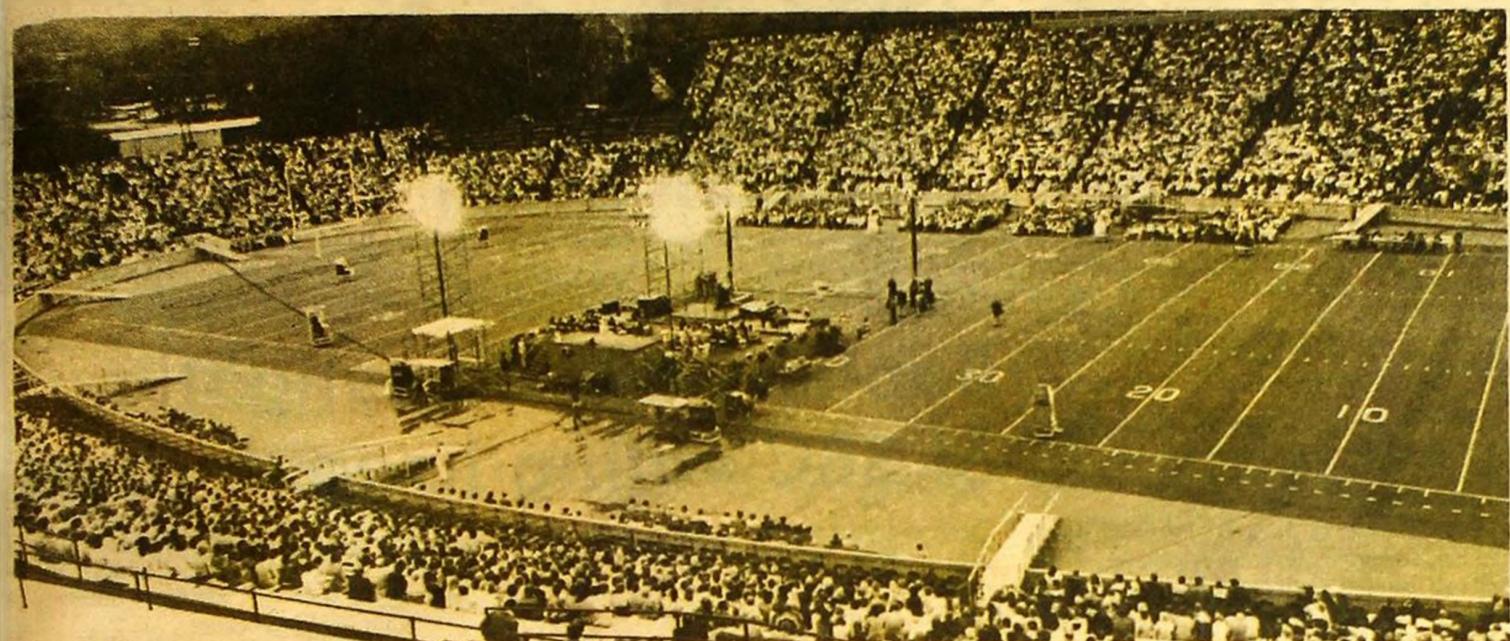


# Baptist and Reflector

Vol. 145/No. 26/June 27, 1979

News journal of Tennessee Baptist Convention



**THE BEGINNING**—An estimated Sunday-night crowd of 25,550 attended the opening session of Billy Graham's eight-day crusade in Nashville. The meetings, which will continue through July 1, are being held at Vanderbilt University

Stadium. The opening night attendance was larger than expected, because of rain which fell before and during the service.

## Nashville Graham crusade opens

Despite threats of rain and gasoline shortages, more than 25,000 residents of middle Tennessee attended the opening service of the Billy Graham Crusade in Nashville Sunday night.

The Nashville Central South Crusade will continue throughout this week with services at Vanderbilt Stadium each night at 7:30 p.m. and the closing service at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday July 1.

Vanderbilt officials estimated the June 24 crowd at 25,500.

In his first message of the eight-day crusade, Graham preached on Paul's experience in Athens, noting that Nashville has been called the "Athens of the South." The evangelist observed, "I doubt if there is a city in the world that has more religion and religious institutions than Nashville."

Graham noted that Paul found Athens in Greece full of religion and philosophies, but

also confounded by many questions. "People are still trying to find truth and meaning to life," he said, stating that today's generation is turning to drugs, pleasure, materialism, and cults.

Noting that Paul was stirred by what he found in Athens, Graham said that Christians in Nashville ought to be stirred by the moral corruption, social injustice, and racial prejudice that still exist. "We play at Christianity," he added. "We profess Christ, but we don't possess Him."

At the conclusion of the service, crusade officials estimated that about 500 people made decisions for Christ.

About 250 central Tennessee churches are actively involved in the crusade, according to James Gregg, crusade chairman. Before his retirement, Gregg was executive director of the Tennessee Baptist Children's Home. He is pastor of Westwood Baptist Church, Nashville.

The budget for the crusade is \$370,000, Gregg said. "We are hoping that one-half of this amount will come from participating churches, and the remainder from offerings taken each night at the crusade meetings."

Over 1,600 counselors have been trained and certified. Also, 800 ushers and 2,500 choir members have been enlisted.

A School of Evangelism is being held this week by the Graham Association at Belmont Heights Baptist Church, Nashville, with morning and afternoon sessions. The school will conclude at noon Friday.

This is the second Billy Graham crusade to be held in Nashville. The first was in 1964 and lasted 28 days.

## Kirby Godsey named Mercer president

MACON, Ga. (BP) — R. Kirby Godsey has been elected president of Mercer University, succeeding Rufus Carrollton Harris, who has held the office for 20 years, the second longest term in the Baptist school's 146-year history.

The election of Godsey, Mercer's executive vice-president and chief administrative officer since July 1978, will become effective July 1.

Harris, 82, becomes chancellor of the university, a new position created by the trustees at their spring meeting last April 19. The resolution creating the office said "the chancellorship shall be non-executive, and advisory in nature and that the responsibilities of the chancellorship shall be defined by the new president."

Godsey came to Mercer as dean of the college of liberal arts on Feb. 15, 1977, from Averett College, Danville, Va., where he was vice-president and dean of the college.

A Birmingham, Ala., native, Godsey holds five earned degrees. They are bachelor of arts, Samford University; bachelor of divinity and doctor of theology, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; master of arts, University of Alabama; and doctor of philosophy, Tulane University.

Godsey's career has included service as a Baptist minister and teacher of philosophy and religion. He has published numerous articles on religion, philosophy, and education.

## Shelby board notes Rogers' election

The Executive Board of Shelby Baptist Association, meeting on June 18, passed unanimously a resolution concerning the election of Adrian Rogers as president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Rogers is pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis.

The resolution said: "Whereas, Adrian Rogers has been elected president of the SBC, and,

"Whereas, the Shelby Baptist Association has been honored with his election,

"Therefore, be it resolved, that we give him our heartfelt congratulations, and,

"Be it further resolved, that we promise to pray for him during this year of service, and,

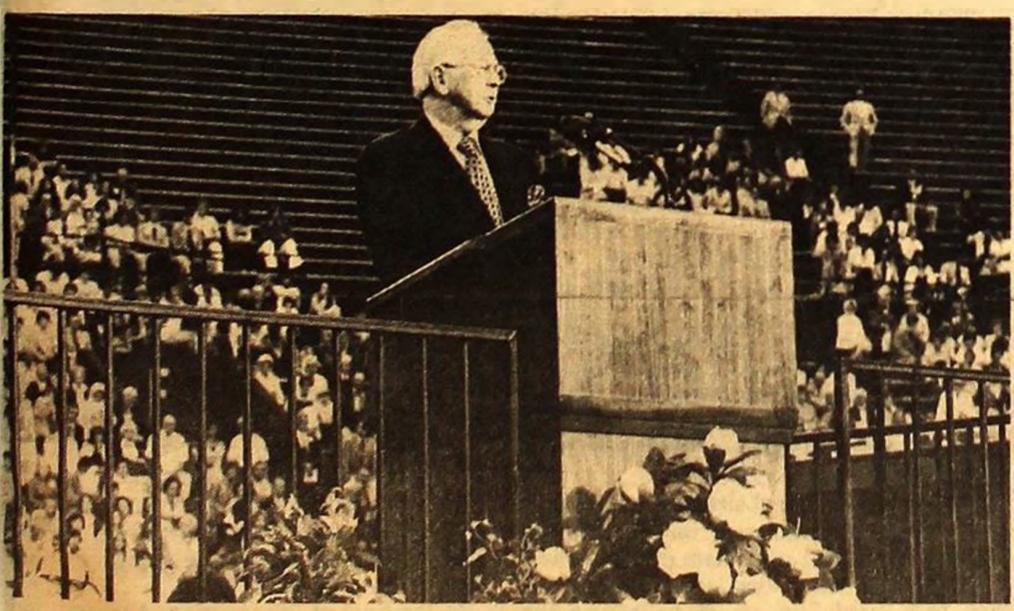
"Be it also resolved, that we pledge our cooperation with his service as president."

## Dobyns named president of Baptist deans' group

JEFFERSON CITY — Roy Dobyns, Carson-Newman College academic dean, has been elected president of the Dean's Group, Association of Southern Baptist Colleges and Schools. Dobyns' election came at the recent meeting of the group in Galveston, Tex.

The veteran educator joined C-N in 1975. He is a 1953 C-N graduate and was chairman of the division of natural sciences and mathematics, Clayton Junior College, Morrow, Ga., prior to joining the east Tennessee Baptist college.

Dobyns earned the M.A. degree from Vanderbilt University and the Ph.D. degree from George Peabody College, both in Nashville. His teaching experience includes positions at Georgetown (Ky.) College, McNeese State (La.) University, and Louisiana College.



**LAYMAN**—Maxie Jarman, prominent Nashville Baptist layman, explains the financing procedure of the Billy Graham crusade prior to Sunday night's offering. Jarman is a member of Nashville's First Baptist Church and vice-chairman of the crusade executive committee.



**MUSIC**—Popular entertainer Johnny Cash sang during the Sunday night service of the Billy Graham Crusade in Nashville. Cash is honorary chairman of the crusade.

# SBC seminaries hold six alumni meetings

HOUSTON (BP) — The six Southern Baptist seminaries elected alumni officers, honored outstanding alumni and reported on fund raising efforts as alumni luncheons during the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting.

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex., elected Richard Jackson, pastor of North Phoenix (Ariz.) Baptist Church, as president, and D. L. Lowrie, pastor of First Baptist Church, Texarkana, Tex., as president-elect.

The seminary recognized three SBC seminary presidents as distinguished alumni for 1979 — Russell H. Dilday Jr., Southwestern; W. Randall Lolley, Southeastern; and William M. Pinson Jr., Golden Gate.

Southwestern also affirmed support of faculty members and announced successful completion of its \$8-million capital needs company a year ahead of schedule.

The seminary presented awards to Evangelist Billy Graham and former U.S. Postmaster General Marvin Watson, honorary and general chairman respectively of the fund raising campaign which collected \$8,000,380.

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., announced the first million dollar gift in the history of the seminary. It came from Col. and Mrs. Marshall A. Sanders of Louisville, and their daughter, Joyce. Sanders a retired Army colonel, challenged alumni to use their energies to "dissipate ignorance by preaching the Word," and called on other Baptist laymen to help secure the seminary for its mission in the years to come.

The \$1-million gift boosted to \$6.5-million the amount given and pledged to the seminary's endowment fund drive.

Southern Seminary President Duke K. McCall urged alumni to pray for and work with the new SBC president Adrian Rogers of Memphis and reported he had invited Rogers more than a year ago to preach at the seminary. He said he would reissue that invitation in keeping with the seminary's long tradition of bringing SBC presidents to the campus.

The seminary alumni elected R. Gene Puckett, outgoing editor of the Maryland Baptist and executive director-elect of Americans United, Washington, D.C., as president for 1980-81. He succeeds Charles Ashcraft, executive secretary of the Arkansas Baptist Convention, Little Rock, who becomes alumni president this fall.

Admiral James W. Kelly, retired chief of Naval chaplains; Chevis Horne, pastor of First Baptist Church, Martinsville, Va.; and Niles Puckett, professor of Bible at Grand Canyon College, Phoenix, Ariz., were honored as alumni of the year.

Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C., announced that gifts to its \$3.5-million fund-raising campaign were approaching the \$1-million mark and affirmed their teachers as "authentic interpreters of the gospel."

A resolution adopted by the alumni noted that "there seem to be certain rumblings of discontent concerning the viability of some seminary education capabilities for receiving, comprehending, and interpreting content of the gospel..." The alumni went on to restate their "faith in our professors as believers in the gospel of Christ and as authentic interpreters of that gospel" and to reaffirm their confidence "in the integrity of (President) Randall Lolley."

The Southeastern alumni elected Jim Baucom, pastor of First Baptist Church, Radford, Va., as president; and Earl Davis, pastor of First Baptist Church, Memphis, as vice-president.

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary alumni approved a campaign to raise as

much as a quarter of a million dollars toward the school's \$2-million capital and endowment funds campaign. Jim Henry, pastor of First Baptist Church, Orlando, Fla., will head the alumni campaign.

Many alumni, including Adrian Rogers, newly-elected president of the Southern Baptist Convention, immediately announced pledges in support of the campaign, a spokesman said.

In other action, the alumni elected Curry Sanders, pastor of First Baptist Church, LaFayette, La., as president, and Peter McLeod, pastor of First Baptist Church, Waco, Tex., as vice president and president-elect.

Outstanding alumni awards went to Reginald McDonough, secretary, church administration department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, and Nelson Price, pastor of Roswell Street Baptist Church, Marietta, Ga.

Three alumni of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary at Mill Valley, Calif., received alumnus of the year awards, one posthumously.

Awards went to Jack B. Johnson, newly elected executive director-treasurer of the Arizona Baptist Convention, and Max Kell, pastor of El Camino Baptist Church, Sacramento, Calif.

Robert D. Hughes, executive director-treasurer of the Southern Baptist General Convention of California, accepted an award for his son, John O. Hughes, pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church of Richmond, Calif., who died four months ago.

In other action, James M. Morton, pastor, Trinity Baptist Church, Livermore, Calif., was elected president of the alumni association, and Arthur Nunn, director of associational missions, Sacramento Baptist Association, president-elect.

Alumni of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., approved a change in their Constitution to allow for reorganization of the association's elected officers. The officers will be president, president-elect, and past-president.

Following that action, Duane Trimble, pastor of Sherwood Baptist Church, Webster Grove, Mo., was elected president, and Robert Meade, a former seminary staffer and current pastor of First Baptist Church, Lee's Summit, Mo., president-elect. In other action the alumni heard reports on the initiation of a development program and affirmation by President Milton Ferguson of the seminary trustees.

## Missionary allowed to stay in Turkey

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Retired Southern Baptist Missionary John Allen Moore will be allowed to serve as pastor of the American congregation in Ankara, Turkey, under certain conditions specified by the Turkish government.

Foreign Mission Board officials in Richmond said Moore had been granted a visa for one year if the church will move off its rented property. The church cannot exist anywhere "on Turkish territory," the regulations state. This means meetings must take place in the American embassy or some similar place.

Moore reported that the embassy has agreed to help the church find suitable quarters.

Moore will take the place of James F. Leeper, Southern Baptist missionary to Turkey for 12 years who was asked to leave the country last fall. Leeper helped establish the American congregation and was its pastor for 12 years. The Turkish government would not renew Leeper's residence permit because they claimed the church itself was illegal.

Leeper and his family are now working with Turks in Germany.



**SBC OFFICERS**—Elected as officers of the Southern Baptist Convention, which met in Houston earlier this month, were (from left) Adrian Rogers, president; Abner McCall, first vice-president; and Don Touchton, second vice-president.

## Baptists ask investigation of SBC voting irregularities

HOUSTON (BP) — An intensive investigation into registration procedures was promised by registration secretary Lee Porter following allegations of voter irregularities in the 1979 Southern Baptist Convention.

Porter said that he had already decided to make an exhaustive study of registration and voting at the 1979 convention even before messengers adopted a motion requesting him to do so.

"I feel that a quick preliminary survey (of registration) raised enough questions in my mind that I felt that I must make a detailed study. I had already committed myself to that before the motion was made," Porter said.

James Varner, pastor of Woodhaven Baptist Church in Houston, made the motion to request a full investigation while serving as local registration chairman for the convention.

Neither Varner nor Porter would address the question that widespread voter registration abuse could have affected the outcome of the first ballot victory of Adrian Rogers of Memphis as convention president.

Rogers won the post with a vote of 6,129 out of 11,975 cast, a majority margin of 163 votes. In order to win on the first ballot, a candidate must receive 50 percent, plus one, of the vote, or 5,967 votes, in this case.

Porter said he has drawn no conclusions about what his findings of irregularities might mean, but he did say some of the things which raised the questions in his mind were:

"We found some churches which had more than 10 messengers and, we found some people who had doubled registered.

"We found some pastors or church leaders who had registered for all 10 of their allowed messengers.

"As early as Sunday, we had some pastors or church leaders who brought all 10 cards to the registration desk, and then we had messengers from those churches come by the desk on Tuesday asking for their ballots. We had to tell them to check with their pastors."

Although Porter mentioned only those abuses specifically, other people had other stories.

Varner, for instance, told of registering one man who got ballots for six people: himself, his wife and four children. "When I asked him if the children were attending the convention, he finally admitted they were out at the KOA campground," Varner said.

Another pastor told of sitting behind a man who marked 11 ballots in the presidential election and turned all of them into the usher.

Varner also noted that after the election they had found booklets of ballots on the convention floor "with only the second ballot removed."

Messengers also questioned the registration of Houston civil appeals court judge Paul

Pressler, controversial conservative, as a messenger after it was learned he was only an "honorary" member of the church who named him as a messenger.

"The registration form clearly says that each messenger shall be a member of the church by which he is appointed," Varner said, adding there is no provision for "honorary" members to be messengers.

Varner said there is no provision for dual membership, which Pressler claimed from the podium.

Porter said the investigation will center on churches with more than 10 messengers, persons with double registration, or persons with more than one ballot. Porter said no attempt will be made to match ballots with registrations because the task is impossible.

"We have a system which assures a secret ballot. We could not match them even if we wanted to, which we do not," Porter said.

Porter explained that our whole registration process is based on integrity. It is interesting to note that about 10 years ago, we did away with paper ballots and started using computer cards. I am of the opinion that we just went halfway in trying to correct some problems which were appearing at the time.

"We need to modernize our complete registration and balloting process. I plan to make extensive recommendations to the Executive Committee when they meet in September. I am sure we will have hundreds of people in the next few months who will make suggestions. I have already had 20 to 30 today.

"We will try to get the suggestions and make recommendations to the Executive Committee," he said.

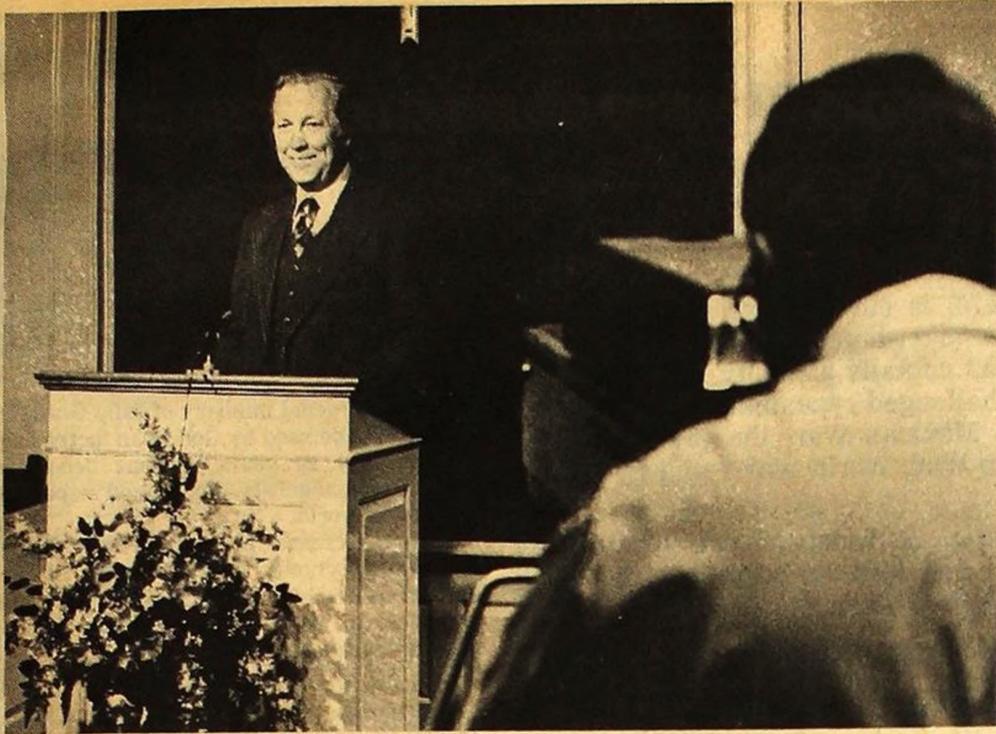
Porter stopped short of calling any registration and/or balloting irregularities widespread, but he did comment: "I do know I found enough irregularities to become concerned. I felt it was required for my own personal integrity and for the integrity of the convention."

## Woman given four years in killing of minister

ADA, Okla. (BP) — A woman convicted of first-degree manslaughter in the shooting of a young minister of music and youth Jan. 9 was sentenced to four years in prison.

Eula Vay West was convicted of killing Roy Akehurst, a staff member of First Baptist Church, Francis, Okla., and student at East Central State University, Ada.

At the time of the shooting, Akehurst had gone to Mrs. West's home to finish installation of a washer with another employee from an Ada appliance store where he worked part-time.



**HOSPITAL SERVICE**—H. Franklin Paschall pastor of First Baptist Church in Nashville, speaks during a televised worship service at Baptist Hospital's new daily chapel program.

## Nashville Baptist hospital begins daily closed circuit TV worship

The department of pastoral services at Baptist Hospital, Nashville, has begun broadcast of a daily worship service over the hospital's closed circuit television system. The new service, entitled "Midday Devotion," is an expanded version of a chapel program which has been conducted on a weekly basis for several years.

"'Midday Devotional' is primarily designed to meet the spiritual needs of patients and their families during the crisis of illness," said Chaplain David J. Farmer, director of pastoral services. "However, it also serves hospital employees and visitors, too."

"The weekly chapel program was expanded to a daily format so that more people could worship with us more often," Farmer added.

He said that some patients feel a real need for a structured worship program each day, and since many of them are not able to walk to the chapel, the most feasible way to reach them is by bringing the service directly to their rooms by way of television.

"Midday Devotional" is presented on videotape except on Wednesday when a "live" service is conducted in the hospital chapel and simultaneously broadcast over the closed circuit television system.

A guest minister from a local church or one of the hospital chaplains is featured at this time, and his message is recorded for playback on future programs.

The new daily worship program is broadcast at 12:15 p.m.

## Uganda government change delays volunteer team

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Departure of seven Southern Baptist volunteers for Uganda was delayed after the country's ruling coalition replaced President Yussufu K. Lule with Godfrey Binaisa.

An eighth volunteer, former missionary physician Loren Brown of Lincoln, Neb., continued to Uganda, where he plans to assess medical needs and make recommendations for a medical missions program there.

Southern Baptist missionary G. Webster Carroll called the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board June 20 to request delay of all volunteers except Brown until Uganda missionaries could re-enter the country and evaluate conditions.

When the government change occurred, Carroll and his wife Betty and James L. and Linda Rice of Virginia were in Nairobi, Kenya. They were participating in a mission meeting with James E. Hampton, the board's field representative for Eastern Africa, and Zeb V. Moss, mass media representative for Eastern Africa.

Carroll said he does not anticipate any adverse action, but is waiting to see what will take place. He said Southern Baptist missionaries are willing to work with the new government as appropriate.

The aid-distribution team — six East Africa "missionary kids" and former East Africa missionary Jimmie D. Hooten of Dallas, Tex. — were at the New York airport when word came for them to delay departure. They returned to Dallas to await further instructions. Carroll anticipated a delay of about a week.

Hooten and the MKs, all Swahili-speaking, were to help distribute aid poured into Uganda following the overthrow of former President Idi Amin, who had reduced the nation to poverty. MKs on the team are Jim and Tim Tidenberg, both of Clovis, N.M.; Will Partain of Fort Worth, Tex.; James Boone of Friendswood, Tex.; David Hooten of Dallas, and Randy Senter of North Zulch, Tex.

According to wire service reports, pro-western leader Binaisa, a former Ugandan attorney general who has been practicing law in New York and London for the past five years, was selected after Lule was forced to step down in a dispute over cabinet appointments.

## RA exhibits open to public

NASHVILLE — More than 100 exhibits, including 25 staffed by Southern Baptist missionaries, will be open to the public at the Opryland Hotel during the 6th National Royal Ambassador Congress, July 10-11.

Exhibits will include items from the countries or states where missionaries work and displays from a number of Southern Baptist colleges, state Baptist organizations, and Southern Baptist Convention agencies. Free refreshments and musical entertainment will be provided.

An artist will be on hand to do caricatures for a nominal charge, and Southwest Baptist College, Bolivar, Mo., will set up a short wave radio for persons to talk with the foreign missionaries in the countries where they serve.

Between 3,000 and 4,000 boys are expected to attend the congress, sponsored by the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission. Based on the theme, "Boldly Go ... and Tell," the conference has been designed to lead boys to commit themselves to assume personal responsibility to share Christ with the world through service and witness.

The exhibits, located in the Ryman Exhibit Hall on the lower level of the Opryland Hotel, will be open free of charge on Tuesday, July 10, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Wednesday, July 11, from 12 noon to 6 p.m.

## After closing session...

# Messengers' impressions given of 1979 convention

By David Wilkinson

HOUSTON (BP) — Three days, 37 resolutions, 24 reports, seven major addresses, and countless votes later, a sampling of messengers to the 122nd annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention were asked what they consider to be the most significant occurrence in the meeting.

Their responses, for the most part, touched on three major themes — commitment to missions; the election of a president; and, despite frequent wrangling over various issues on the convention floor, a "spirit of unity."

"As always, we've had lots of diversity," summarized Clay Warf, pastor of Temple Baptist Church, Durham, N.C., on his way out of the Houston Summit after the closing session.

"We've had doctrinal controversy, emotion, frustration, even anger. Yet we're one, and the overriding impression is unity — unity of purpose — and that in itself is a miracle."

Charles Reat of the host city of Houston, agreed: "For me, the highlight was the realization that in Christ's love and through God's grace, we can have the kind of union and love for one another that we never dreamed possible a week ago."

Indeed, a week ago, reports were flying about a brewing battle over the issue of Biblical inerrancy that threatened to sidetrack the convention's emphasis on Bold Mission Thrust, an ambitious plan to share the gospel with the entire world by the turn of the century.

Most of the messengers polled felt,

## Carson-Newman wins award for exhibit

HOUSTON (BP) — Ten exhibits at the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in annual session received awards from the denomination's Baptist Public Relations Association.

First and second place awards were given in each category. Categories were divided according to the amount of money spent on each exhibit. Twenty exhibits entered the competition.

First place winner in exhibits costing up to \$500 was East Texas Baptist College. The second place went to Campbellsville College.

The Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission received the first place award among those exhibits costing from \$501 to \$1,000. Mississippi College received the second place award.

Among exhibits costing \$1,001 to \$2,000, the Baptist World Alliance won first place, and the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board won second.

The Baptist Sunday School Board received the first place award in the \$2,001 and up category. Carson-Newman College received the second place.

however, that a Bold Mission Thrust rally at the Houston Astrodome on Wednesday night dispelled dissension in the ranks and turned the convention toward a positive conclusion the following night. The rally, attended by more than 48,000 persons, featured the "commissioning" of 1,100 foreign and home missionaries.

"I appreciated the fact that we were allowed to be part of the commissioning of these missionaries," said Frank Queen of Madisonville, Ky. "That really stands out in my mind."

"I've been coming a long, long time (30 years, to be exact), and I've never seen anything like that," said Mrs. Earl Ogg of the Astrodome rally. Mrs. Ogg, a pastor's wife from Monroe, La., added, "I think that service will have a great impact on Southern Baptists."

Larry Payne, pastor of First Baptist Church, Beaver, Okla., said, "Without question, the Bold Mission Thrust rally was the most important event because it expressed the total unity of missions in our convention. Despite everything else we may have gotten into, everything revolves around missions, and I think the rally was an indication of that."

For others, the key aspect of the sessions was the election of Adrian Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., as president of the denomination.

"I think it was most important because it was a kind of reconciling factor after all of the talk about Biblical inerrancy," said Jerald Hicks, an Orlando, Fla., pastor.

Lee Kirkman, of Bassett, Va., felt Roger's election was most significant "because of his doctrinal position. And I hope the message gets across to the leadership of the convention."

For Lydia L. Cheung of the Chinese Baptist church in Houston, the big event during the convention was "a personal thing."

"I've been married 25 years," she explained, "and I met four people here who were in my wedding."

## SBC evangelists elect Appleman

HOUSTON (BP) — If Southern Baptists were judged by their evangelists there would be no question of belief in the inspiration of the Bible, the new president of Southern Baptist evangelists said.

Hyman Appleman, an evangelist from Kansas City, Mo., was elected president of the Fellowship of Southern Baptists Evangelists during their annual business meeting.

To see that Southern Baptists know about evangelists, their campaigns, and ideas, the fellowship decided to begin a newspaper it will distribute free to all Southern Baptist pastors.

Appleman said the evangelists would subsidize the paper which he hopes will begin by December. He quickly insisted evangelists have "no axe to grind."

"The paper will include no attacks on the denomination, not stress theology, no attacks on other people, but will provide information; challenging, inspirational features; and news on evangelists," Appleman added.

He said, "The churches leading in baptisms across the convention — all of them, not just the super-churches — use evangelists and have minimum of two revivals each year."

The more than 200 music and preaching evangelists at the meeting also elected T. D. Hall of Irving, Tex., vice-president; Ron Herrod of Kenner, La., and Dick Rial of Benton, Ark., pastor-advisors; Allison and Connie Ware of Plano, Tex., as co-music directors; and Jim McNeil of St. Louis, assistant music director.

EDITORIAL

# The birth of America's freedom

To many, it seemed a fool-hardy gesture.

Of the 59 delegates who came from the 13 colonies, only those from ten states had instructions to enter into an agreement. Two Continental Congresses had met previously, and most of their demands and requests of England had gone unheeded and unacknowledged.

The major ports of the colonies were besieged by the British Navy.

The British Army was well in command, having contained uprisings at Lexington, Concord, and Bunker Hill.

There was not general agreement on what was to be done.

In several new states, there was widespread indifference to any thought of independence and war—some even actively supported the British Crown.

The colonies had no money, only a few ships, and the army was an undisciplined collection of militiamen serving short-term enlistments under mostly inexperienced officers. And they were numerically inferior to the British.

As the delegates gathered in Philadelphia in June 1776, about all they had on their side was an intense, uncontrolled desire for independence and an undaunted conviction that governments should derive their powers from the consent of those governed.

Thomas Jefferson presented a Declaration of Independence he had composed. With few alterations, this was approved on July 4, 1776. The delegates from New York did not participate, but the declaration was approved by that state's convention a few days later. Three other delegates voted against the proposed declaration.

It was a significant event, but merely to "declare" themselves free was not enough.

We celebrate July 4, 1776, as our nation's birthday, but freedom was to come later—much later. Ahead lay defeats on Long Island, and the evacuation of New York City. Later, Trenton and Philadelphia were to fall into British hands. Other British units headed to the south and captured Savannah and Charleston.

Gradually, the colonists began to assert their power and dedication.

At Yorktown, General Cornwallis surrendered to General Washington on Oct. 19, 1781—63 months after the signing of the Declaration of Independence! The peace treaty with England was formally ratified Sept. 3, 1783—over seven years after that July 4, 1776, vote on the historic document.

Ahead lay many years of work on organization of the new nation. The Constitution was not completed and ratified until mid-1788. Our first president was elected in early 1789.

Of July 4, 1776, is our nation's birthday, then America was a teenager before the democratic form of government was actually a reality. And this freedom was to be challenged repeatedly by wars—The War of 1812, the Mexican War, the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, World War I and II, Korea, Vietnam.

The Declaration of Independence was highly significant—but it was only the beginning—the birth of a nation; the birth of a concept of freedom.

Birth is only the beginning of life. If any life is to survive and prosper, it must have support and nourishment. So it is with freedom in America.

GUEST EDITORIAL

## What happened?

By Bob Terry, editor  
"Word and Way," Jefferson City, Mo.

No one may be able to answer the question, "What happened in Houston?" One can report the events, but to declare what really happened may take the analysis of time.

There was a substantially smaller registration total than anticipated, but the vote for the president was more than 1,000 higher than any other election in SBC history.

There was sentiment displayed publicly and privately to purge the Baptist colleges and seminaries of so-called "liberals," and there was the election of a college president as first vice-president.

There was a campaign to elect a slate of officers committed to Scriptural inerrancy. The candidates supported by the campaign won the presidency, but lost the two vice-presidential votes.

There was a proposed loyalty oath for candidates to major SBC offices, and there was newly-elected president Adrian Rogers stating he would not break fellowship with a person who differed with him on interpretation of God's Word.

There was declaration that the Bible is infallible, but that the Bibles available today have textual problems and scribal errors.

There were threats to drive out certain factions of the convention, but only parts of the camp making the threats expressed any hint of leaving the Southern Baptist Convention.

There were predictions of splits, and there was a magnificent demonstration of unity.

There was talk of investigating the seminaries for doctrinal problems, and there were two standing ovations for the seminary presidents.

There was confusion. There was victory. There was defeat. What happened in Houston?

Politicking, praying, confrontation, compromise, rejoicing, crying, change.

What happened in Houston? Only time can tell for sure.

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## Cicero's comment



By the editor

The phenomenal ministry of Billy Graham continues to be used by God in an increasing manner. For 30 years, he has been the premier of evangelists—known and respected around the world.

Graham's crusade in Nashville is providing another opportunity for the citizens of our state to be involved in one of his outstanding crusades. In May of 1978, Graham held a similar crusade in Memphis.

To many, it would seem that the 60-year-old evangelist has always been attracting large crowds to many stadia throughout the world to hear the gospel. Yet, it has been only 30 years—but when you consider the length of similar ministries by other evangelists, 30 years is a miracle in itself.

At a press conference last Thursday, I reminded Graham that about three years ago he felt that the number of mass crusades would be diminished, and he would give more of his time to teaching and writing. I wondered how he envisioned his future ministry now.

He responded that several years ago he sincerely believed that the era of large evangelistic crusades was beginning to decline. He noted that evangelists of other eras had had only about 10 years of this type of ministry, before moving on to other interests. He added, however, that he continues to receive far more invitations that he can accept—and these invitations are coming from throughout the world.

"I'll just plan to keep preaching as long as the Lord keeps opening these doors," he added.

Graham's coming to Nashville, gave me the opportunity to reminisce (an asset of growing old) about the first time I ever heard Graham in person.

One of his early crusades was in Atlanta during the fall of 1950. As I recall, it was one of his early meetings in the eastern part of the nation.

The crusade was held in the Old Ponce de Leon Park, the baseball field which was the home of the Atlanta Crackers, then in the Southern Association.

A metal building was constructed over the infield, joining the regular stands behind home plate. Those sitting in the stands could see the pulpit (located at approximately second base), since the sides of the temporary structure were open.

As a new ministerial student at Mercer University in Macon, Ga., I was interested in what God was doing with Billy Graham. Three friends and I hitchhiked up on Saturday and went to the Saturday night service.

I must confess that I do not remember what Graham preached about, but I vividly remember that George Beverly Shea sang, "I'd Rather Have Jesus." That song instantly became one of my favorites, and I suppose it must be the favorite of many, since Shea said last week that he receives more requests to sing it and "How Great Thou Art" than any other songs.

Shea recalled that his mother had copied a poem, "I'd Rather Have Jesus," and placed it on his piano. As he read these words, God impressed his heart that Jesus was not the priority of his life.

His commitment to the message of the poem led to Shea's composing the now-familiar music.

During these years, George Beverly Shea must have sung "I'd Rather Have Jesus" thousands of times. Yet the sincerity that comes across with each rendition clearly says that his commitment to those words is just as strong today as when he found them on his piano.

IT'S HAPPENING IN AMERICA



## 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.

### God's work God's way

Dear editor:

I am ashamed at some of the stuff that went on at the recent convention in Houston. When are God's men going to do God's work God's way? I mean honest.

I can't imagine one preacher saying he sat behind another man and saw him mark 11 ballots. Why didn't this preacher expose this kind of cheating right then? Why wait until the convention was over before he let it be known?

James Varner, registration chairman, said, that "he registered one man who received six ballots." He should have reported this to the chairman of the convention immediately and had the man removed from the building. He wouldn't have voted six times.

Wayne Dehoney of Louisville, Ky., said, "The kind of political activity that went on at our convention was absolutely contrary to our Constitution and bylaws." To my way of thinking, there was too much stuff that went on behind closed doors.

The other thing I would like to bring to the attention of our readers is the fact of the white elephant on Belmont College campus. I think the men who authorized the building of it ought to be made to buy it and relieve Tennessee Baptists of this tremendous debt. It is costing Tennessee Baptists \$1,500 per day. I think it is terrible that such a few men led so many people into believing that we needed this kind of building for our elderly people.

I wish we as Southern Baptists could win more people to Jesus Christ. My partner and I are still teaching God's Word at the jail (from King James version). This is the only one we will ever teach from.

Same E. Goad  
Rt. 1, Box 343  
Covington, TN 38019

### Biblical accuracy

Dear editor:

I read the New York Times News Service report that the Southern Baptist Convention was bracing for a public struggle over Biblical accuracy at the annual convention in Houston.

I was shocked, horrified to learn that we have teachers in our seminaries and preachers that doubt the accuracy of the Bible. Divarication is the devil's most potent weapon to create divergence of opinion.

It is my candid opinion that if any person regardless of status has any doubt about the Bible being the holy, inspired, infallible Word of God, that person forfeits the privilege of remaining in Southern Baptist seminaries and pulpits.

I am a teacher of a Bible class and believe with all the sincerity of my heart that the great Biblical truths were written by man inspired of God. Should I ever harbor any doubts about the inerrancy of the Bible, it would be time for me to resign, because I would be detrimental to the teachings of Christ and my members.

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

Let's wait to be shocked and horrified when it has been proven that there are specific teachers and preachers who doubt the accuracy of the Bible. (editor)

### Represents conservatives

Dear editor:

I am sure I can't adequately cover my position in 300 words. Considering I represent the conservative view, as in the past you probably would divide my letter and publish

them weeks apart destroying their continuity. However, you published another person's letter double the limit.

I wonder who read past your headlines "SBC seminarians support Biblical inspiration" (May 30)?

The presidents declared each seminary officially subscribes to the Baptist Faith and Message.

Duke McCall, president of Southern seminary, said, "Much of the debate is over the fallibility of human language. We are in agreement on the inspiration and authority of the Scriptures. The original manuscript, which we do not have, is inerrant. If you are talking about an existing manuscript, you can't say it's without error. If God had thought I needed an inerrant, infallible, verbally inspired copy of the Bible, He would have preserved the original text on a golden tablet."

God describes this type of theology: Ephesians 4:14; II Timothy 4:3-4; Matthew 7:15-20; I John 4:1-4; I Timothy 4:1 — (many other scriptures, if I had space). According to their theology, the Bible we now have is not authority enough to test them by.

I encourage readers to read the Baptist Faith and Message, page 7, "The Scriptures," and page 6, "Education." I don't have space enough to adequately comment on this subject.

Readers should note the above article received front page coverage. Note the space given to material that appeared to oppose the movement to elect a conservative convention president.

Also, remember Cicero's comment June 6? Praise God! Adrian Rogers, one of the men mentioned in your satire (or should I say slur-tire, if there was such a word), was elected as our new president.

As W. A. Criswell's book title states, Look Up Brother.

Jimmy H. Davis  
P. O. Box 237  
Savannah, TN 38372

I did NOT divide your earlier letter — you did, when I returned it to you and asked that you shorten it to our 300-word limit or divide it into two letters.

The only letter I have ever printed that was longer than 300 words was from Johnnie Lee (Oct. 27, 1977), and I explained at that time that I was allowing him to discuss a motion he had made to the 1976 TBC which was to come up again at the 1977 TBC.

Coming from one who has now had 11 letters printed here, I challenge your charge that I am unfair in printing letters to the editor. I have printed every controversial letter to the editor (which meets the requirements printed at the top of this column) that I have received since I came as editor in November 1976. Do you know any other editor of any publication of any type who will match my openness to such letters (editor)

### Withdrawn resolution

Dear editor:

Many have asked why I withdrew my resolution on doctrinal integrity and spoke in favor of Wayne Dehoney's motion affirming Article I of the Baptist Faith and Message.

Prior to the discussion and vote on Dehoney's motion, I spoke with both Jimmy Allen and Adrian Rogers, and with Dehoney himself. My concern was that we be assured that "truth without any mixture of error" meant no errors of any kind and applied to the entire Bible, not just "truth" within the Bible.

In speaking to his motion, Dehoney defined the sense and intent of his motion as follows: "My interpretation and his (Rogers) interpretation of what that means 'without error' is that we understand this to mean that the

(Continued in next column)

## SBC condemns IRS threats to church school exemption

HOUSTON (BP) — Southern Baptists attending the 122nd annual session of the convention adopted overwhelmingly a substitute resolution condemning a proposed Internal Revenue Service procedure which would deny tax exemption to church schools which fail to prove they are racially nondiscriminatory.

The substitute, adopted after lengthy debate, replaced a much milder statement proposed by the convention's resolutions committee which affirmed the principle of separation of church and state but fell short of decrying the IRS proposal.

The controversy over appropriate convention response to the proposed revenue procedure by the IRS has been brewing in recent weeks.

The denomination's Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, an agency located in Washington, D.C. and supported jointly by the SBC and seven other U.S. Baptist bodies, has repeatedly expressed strong opposition to the IRS proposal.

First announced by the IRS last August in the Federal Register, the proposed procedure would require all private schools, including those owned and operated by churches, to prove annually that they do not discriminate on the basis of race. The proposal would require church schools to demonstrate to the satisfaction of IRS officials that they discriminate in neither enrollment policy nor in actual student registration.

The Baptist Joint Committee opposed the procedure at IRS hearings in December and again before congressional committees on both sides of Capitol Hill earlier this year.

But last month, William H. Elder III, director of Christian citizenship development for the SBC Christian Life Commission in Nashville, presented written testimony to IRS Commissioner Jerome Kurtz and to a Senate subcommittee approving the procedure.

Virtually, every major religious body, including several Protestant denominations, the U.S. Catholic Conference, and several

original autographs, God's revelation, was perfect and without error doctrinally, historically, scientifically, and philosophically."

Herschel Hobbs also explained that the unquestioned intent of the committee that designed the 1963 Baptist Faith and Message statement was that it apply "to the whole Bible."

Since the maker of the motion is the only one who can interpret the intent and sense of his motion, and since the messengers clearly understood this interpretation and affirmed it with a near-unanimous vote, I accept this as a commitment to the principle of inerrancy, and the basic purpose of my resolution in the first place. With this interpretation I had no difficulty supporting the Dehoney motion and saw no need to pursue my resolution further.

Larry Lewis  
Tower Grove Baptist Church  
St. Louis, MO 63110

### Need 'troublemakers'

Dear editor:

My subject is those who tried to cause trouble at the Southern Baptist Convention in Houston.

Let us thank God for them. They help us to stay close to God and His Word.

In the past God used J. Frank Norris and John R. Rice and maybe others, but our convention just keeps on growing and doing great things in the name of the Lord. We have not fallen apart, as years ago some said we would.

Did not Paul have something that God would not take away, which God used to keep Paul humble? Did not David have Shimei?

James A. Williams  
P.O. Box 166  
Galloway, TN 38036

Jewish groups, has opposed the IRS proposal.

The Christian Life Commission endorsement of the proposed regulation is the only one of its kind from a major denomination. At the same time, major civil rights groups, including the NAACP and the American Civil Liberties Union, support the guidelines.

The substitute resolution passed by the convention essentially takes the Baptist Joint Committee viewpoint that the basic issue in the IRS proposal is the separation of church and state rather than racism, as contended by the Christian Life Commission.

W. Wayne Allen, pastor of East Park Baptist Church, Memphis, which operates Briarcrest Baptist School, presented the substitute resolution. He had introduced a similar statement condemning the IRS proposal. The Resolutions Committee had set aside that document to reach its compromise position. The substitute Allen presented was written by Baptist Joint Committee executive director James E. Wood Jr. and director of research services John W. Baker.

## Personal perspective

BY TOM MADDEN  
TBC executive secretary

On Thursday morning, from 8:30-9:00, those who work here in the Brentwood Baptist building gather to worship together. A very vital part of this time is spent in sharing our burdens and concerns and then praying together. I don't recall a chapel service in which sorrows, griefs, hurts, and disappointments have not surfaced along with victories, triumphs, and joyful thanksgivings. As I came out of the half-hour worship period this week, I found myself thinking about the age old problem of suffering.



Madden

Somewhere, I read the account of the historic "Battle of Blenheim." Years later the English poet, Robert Southey, wrote one of his masterpieces named after the battle. In it, a child brought his grandfather an object he had found near a brook. The old gentleman explained that it was a part of a skull of a soldier who had been killed in the Battle of Blenheim. The old man described the battle, and when he had finished, the child looked the old man in the face and said:

"But what good came of it at last?"  
Quoth Little Peterkin,  
"Why, that I cannot tell," said he;  
But 'twas a famous victory."

Many of us ask this same question about much of the suffering and grief of the world. All of us, in our own families and friendships, know many who are experiencing traumatic episodes in their personal lives. Can any good come from it?

I do not know the answer. I have determined that when we stand "face to face" and our Lord explains the details, we will be absolutely satisfied. In the meantime, I rest up on His promises: "The sufferings of this life are not worthy to be compared with the glory that shall be revealed when we stand in His presence."

His word also reminds us to "be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord for as much as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." All things may not be good in themselves but will work together for good for those who love God and seek to do His will. Good does come out of suffering and sorrow that is committed to Him.

# Uganda Baptists' leaders turn from past to future

KITALE, Kenya (BP)—Freed from the dangers that threatened them during former president Idi Amin's rule Ugandan Baptist leaders are planning a series of revivals to help restore spiritual health to their battered nation.

Meeting in Jinja in early June, 20 Baptist leaders from seven Ugandan cities were to set up a schedule for revivals to be led by preaching teams from the Baptist Convention of Kenya.

There revivals will mark the latest chapter in a story of Christian faith that has enabled Ugandan Baptists to endure—and survive—the rigors of Amin's harsh government and the turmoil of his final months in power.

Southern Baptist missionary Harry B. Garvin, who worked in Uganda before his transfer to Kenya in 1978, recently returned to visit Baptist leaders in several cities. As he encouraged them and delivered tracts and Bibles, he also learned how these Baptists had survived and managed to continue their worship.

In Kampala, one of the cities to participate in the revivals Garvin found that John Ekudu, pastor of the Kampala Baptist Church, and his wife Grace, had moved after an artillery shell hit within a few feet of their house, damaging it.

Shortly before the shell hit, Mrs. Ekudu had moved her small charcoal stove from its customary spot outside the house to the opposite side of the home. When the shell hit near the stove's normal location, she was spared. Ekudu and son Paul were unscathed, although the living room where they were drinking tea collapsed around them.

In a visit with Samuel Wamanga, pastor of the Mbale Baptist Church, Garvin heard another story of deliverance. A few weeks earlier, Amin's men had come to loot Wamanga's home and kill him.

As two men loaded their guns to kill Wamanga and a friend, a higher ranking soldier told them to wait because he wanted to beat the captives himself. After beating them, the soldier told Wamanga and his friends, "run quickly to your house." Their lives were spared.

Before entering Uganda, Garvin helped deliver food and money from Kitale (Kenya) Baptist Church to members of a Ugandan church living in exile in Kenya. He delivered the aid with the help of the Amanang (Uganda) Baptist Church's pastor, Wallace Kariuki. After Amin banned Baptists and 26 other religious groups in 1977, the Amanang church members had walked four or five miles to cross the border each Sunday for worship in Kaptega, Kenya.

They were trapped there in late April when Amin's soldiers led a raid on houses and farms while they were gone. Though they lost their possessions, all church members escaped death by being in Kenya while hundreds of their neighbors were killed. The people of Kaptega gave them a place to stay until they could return to Uganda.

Although about 200 people had become Christians at the Amanang church between the early 1970s and 1977, Garvin says church membership had dwindled to about 30 before the raid. As the church members crossed the border each week, soldiers there told them they did not want to see them carrying their Bibles and hymnbooks across the border into Kenya for worship.

Members responded by traveling in groups of no more than two or three and leaving some Bibles and hymnals at the school where they met in Kaptega. Because of the constant pressure, however, many of them moved back to Kenya, the country from which most had originally migrated.

After visiting Baptist friends in these cities and Jinja, distributing all the Bibles and food he had carried, Garvin returned to Kenya impressed with the strength of his Ugandan Christian brothers. "The churches will go forward now, I'm sure," he said.



**FAMILY**—William L. Hendricks, Golden Gate seminary, talks with children of Southern Baptist missionaries during a four-day family enrichment conference in the Dominican Republic.

# Caribbean missionaries hold family enrichment retreat

LA ROMANA, Dominican Republic—To explore and strengthen missionary family life, the Southern Baptist missionary force on the field in the Caribbean—45 families, including 73 missionary children, plus three single missionaries and 12 missionary journeymen—gathered here for a family enrichment conference.

The four-day meeting was designed to stimulate thought in the area of family living, but also included provision for family time together for the missionaries and their children. Nineteen mission fields were represented.

During morning and evening sessions, while adults met together for addresses and discussions, the MKs (missionary kids) were led in their own age group sessions by non-missionary guests and the journeymen.

The conference grew out of a regional goal based on need, explained William W. Graves, Foreign Mission Board field representative for the Caribbean. Planning for the meeting began three years ago. And the purpose was to identify needs within family relationships and provide resources to help all family members deepen those relationships.

Charles W. Bryan, board secretary for Middle American and the Caribbean, summed up the theme as he presented service pins to several missionaries and also recognized the families' children present. "Missionary work is a family affair," he stated.

Several families gave personal insights into their family approach in mission work. A husband told how he and his wife had learned to share in counseling young people and had opened their home to youths. A missionary wife declared, as the couple told of their mutual support, "We look after each other."

"We need to keep our marriage in good repair," advised John E. Drakeford, professor of psychology and counseling at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas. "I don't believe anybody ever set out to destroy a marriage. They just neglected it, and as they neglected it, it deteriorated." Restoring that relationship

comes "by the wonder of concern, by the miracle of affection," prescribed Drakeford. "There is no marriage that is so good that it couldn't be improved a bit."

Both the aspect of missionary husbands and wives working as a team and the need for individual growth and freedom emerged as specific topics during the conference.

"Life is the gift of God and each person is responsible for the gift of life," William L. Hendricks, Bible teacher for the week, told missionary wives. "You are ultimately and primarily responsible to God as an individual—as a woman—for your life, not through your husband," added Hendricks, professor of theology and philosophy at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif.

Hendricks urged candid conversation between husbands and wives about crucial matters of life and death and about respective roles on the mission field. He challenged husbands to discuss with their wives the question: "How can my wife be my helper without becoming absorbed into my personality?"

"There is a oneness in marriage, but if we lose our personhood in marriage, then we have lost the purposes of God for us," pointed out Mrs. D. Stuart Briscoe. She shared the speaking sessions with her husband, a Waukesha, Wisc., pastor. Both the Briscoes are authors. "One of the greatest wasted resources in our churches today is the spiritual gifts of women," Briscoe said.

Truman S. Smith, missionary family consultant for the Foreign Mission Board, spent time conversing with MKs and their parents. He offered down-to-earth suggestions about building family roots for MKs. "The love that parents give to each other as husband and wife is truly a gift to the children," said Smith.

# Texas pastor called by Morristown group

Joel T. Wood, Azle, Tex., was called as pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church in Morristown recently.

A native of Knoxville, he attended Cleveland State Community College in Cleveland and graduated from Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex.

Before coming to Hillcrest, he served as associate pastor of Big Springs Baptist Church in Cleveland; pastor of Blythe Avenue Baptist Mission in Cleveland; pastor of Nance's Grove Baptist Church in New Market; and pastor of First Baptist Church in Briar, Azle, Tex.



Wood

## Citizen's Corner

By Jerry M. Self  
Public affairs and Christian life consultant

For some time I have been intrigued but a bit disturbed by the credo: My country, right or wrong! The meaning of this expression was somewhat clarified for me when I discovered the following quotation.

"Our country! In her intercourse with foreign nations may she always be in the right; but our country, right or wrong." Thus spoke Stephen Decatur in a toast given in Virginia one day in April, 1816.

Decatur's toast proclaims a national loyalty. He wanted his nation to be right but would not forsake her when she was wrong. Turn the sentiment around to discover the importance of it. You want acceptance, a place, a feeling of being at home. You would not like to lose that because of mistakes or even due to maliciousness on your part.

Loyalty's value is apparent, but I still find the statement bothersome. Does it mean gross injustice, shady dealings, or sloppiness in handling the affairs of state must be tolerated? Surely not.

I was pleased to discover the expression in a second quote. Carl Schurz addressed congress with these words in 1872: "Our country, right or wrong. When right, to be kept right; when wrong, to be put right."

Truer loyalty finds expression here. Loyal opposition is both reality and necessity. We support our nation by cooperation but also by opposition. As a matter of fact, in the physical sense, support means opposition. If my chair did not oppose me, it could not support me. I would fall to the floor.

May our nation always be right. May we as Christian citizens endeavor to keep her right or strive to put her right!



Self

# Witness team serves from Belmont campus

A Christian witness team from Belmont College, consisting of two staff members and two students, is serving in Tennessee Baptist churches this summer, according to R. E. Underwood, director of admissions and recruiting.

Underwood said that the group is available for worship services, prayer meetings, Sunday and Wednesday night services, and special programs. Their testimony includes worship through word and song.

Members include: head basketball coach Don Purdy, women's basketball coach Betty Wiseman, and students Danny Duvall and Susan Swink.

# Freed man, aided by Atlanta churches, dies 45 days after prison release

ATLANTA (BP) — Mosie Alfred Harriell, alias Charlie Harris, lived only 45 days free from the threat of extradition before dying of a heart attack in mid-June.

Harris had been called "an ecumenical movement" by his public defender because Atlanta churches of all faiths rallied to his cause and quest for freedom.

Harris escaped 10 years ago from an Indiana prison work detail where he was confined for killing a policeman in 1943. He lived in Atlanta under the name of Harris on "borrowed time" according to doctors, because of a heart condition, diabetes, and asthma.

When he was discovered and jailed last fall, Oakhurst Baptist Church in an Atlanta suburb offered its building as security for his \$30,000 bond, but never officially needed to sign the bond. Friends and church members instead raised money to pay the bond fee.

A request from Indiana for extradition was withdrawn in early May, freeing Harriell from the threat of extradition.

# Our People and Our Churches . .

## CHURCHES...

First Baptist Church of Watertown observed its 75th anniversary as a congregation on Sunday, June 24. James Barry, consultant in proclamation and worship, Baptist Sunday School Board, brought the special message on Sunday morning. Barry has served as interim pastor at First church on several occasions. F. Keith Page is pastor of the Watertown congregation.

Olive Branch Baptist Church, Ripley, announced completion on the construction of a new sanctuary. The congregation will begin worshipping in the new facility in the near future.

## PEOPLE...

John Lee Taylor, pastor of West Jackson Baptist Church, Jackson, was asked to serve as chaplain of the day for the United States House of Representatives on June 26.

Mr. and Mrs. Porter Bourne, Brunswick Baptist Church, Brunswick, observed their 50th wedding anniversary recently. Bourne is a charter member of the Brunswick church. Darrell Overstreet is their pastor.

Members of Two Rivers Baptist Church, Nashville, voted to license Don Frensley to preach to the gospel ministry. Frensley will enroll at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth this summer. Roy Edgemon is interim pastor at Two Rivers.

Preston Hooker was ordained as a deacon earlier this month at Mercer Baptist Church in Mercer. Fred Ward is pastor.

Persia Baptist Church in Rogersville ordained Ronnie Jones to the gospel ministry. Jones is a graduate of Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Billy Ray Courney is pastor at Persia church.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmo Callis, members of Cypress Creek Baptist Church in Martin, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary earlier this month. Dale Green is their pastor.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Dean Grandstaff, members of Unaka Baptist Church, Elizabethton, have returned home after a visit with their daughter, missionary journeyman Jackie Carol Grandstaff, in Badajoz, Spain. They also visited missionaries Bob and Jerry Worley in Badajoz, and Charles and Indy Whitten and Errol and Mary Simmons of Madrid Spain.

Two couples celebrated golden wedding anniversaries at First Baptist Church in Dandridge recently. They are Mr. and Mrs.

Rob Corbett and Mr. and Mrs. Rube Whaley. Robert D. McCray is pastor.

Pat Landrum, pastor of Brighton Baptist Church in Brighton, is scheduled to tour the Holy Land next month with his wife. The trip was made possible by members of the church in appreciation for Landrum's 21 years of service as pastor and for Mrs. Landrum's service as music director.

## LEADERSHIP...

Alta Loma Baptist Church, Madison, called Dale Lature as summer activities director. A student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Lature begins his work at Alta Loma this month. Jerald E. Smith is pastor of the Madison congregation.

West Shiloh Baptist Church, Stantonville, called David Simmons as youth and choir director for the summer. A resident of Memphis, Simmons is a student at Union University in Jackson. John Skiles is pastor.

Betty Bray is serving as summer youth and recreation director at First Baptist Church in Dandridge. Robert D. McCray is pastor.

Big Spring Baptist Church in Cleveland called Alan McNeil as music director.

Mark Merwin resigned as pastor of Pleasant Site Baptist Church in Selmer earlier this month. He plans to pursue graduate work at Memphis State University, Memphis.

Speedway Terrace Baptist Church in Memphis called Wayne Brown as minister of music. He comes to the post from First Baptist Church in Sardis, Miss., where he was minister of music for over 15 years. Ray Gilder is pastor.

Thurman Penick resigned as pastor of New Concord Baptist Church in Kenton.

Jean Smith is serving as summer youth worker at Sharon Baptist Church in Knoxville. A native of Knoxville, she is a student at the University of Tennessee. She is a member of Wallace Memorial Baptist Church in Knoxville. Jim Robertson is pastor of the Sharon congregation.

Una Baptist Church in Nashville called Brent Morton from part-time to full-time minister of music and youth.

Norma Jean Ray, a graduate of Belmont College in Nashville, is serving as summer youth worker for First Baptist Church in Greenbrier.

Grace Baptist Church, Robertson County Association, called Billy Dunn as summer youth director. He is a sophomore at Union University in Jackson.

Henry Tyson is the new minister of music at First Baptist Church in Kingston. He is a recent graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. Gary Marsh is pastor of the Kingston congregation.

Larry Alan Reeves has been named as associate director of the Baptist Student Union of the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. A native of North Carolina, he is a graduate of Berea College in Berea, Ky., and the M.R.E. and M. Div. from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. He was a BSU summer missionary to Malasia and Singapore. Additionally he has served as pastor of Gilead Baptist Church in Richmond, Ky., and pastor of Little Flat Creek Baptist Church in Corryton, Tenn. He has held the posts of state BSU president for Kentucky and Baptist campus ministry intern at the University of Louisville. Robert Hall Jr. is director of the UT BSU.

Johnny G. Walker, pastor of Zion Hill Baptist Church, Turtletown, has accepted the pastorate of Polkton Baptist Church in Anson County Association of North Carolina.

Kenny Vaughn, Memphis, was called as minister of youth by Brunswick Baptist Church in Brunswick. Darrell Overstreet is pastor.

New Era Baptist Church, Sevierville, called William E. Barnes as interim pastor

Manley Baptist Church in Morristown called Jack Shannon as interim minister of music. He will be responsible for the youth and adult choirs. Richard Emmert is pastor.

Eugene Shaffner is the new minister of music at Pocahontas Baptist Church in

Hardeman County. He is from Oakland Baptist Church in Walnut, Miss.

Debra Love, youth director at Graceland Baptist Church in Memphis, resigned to move to Jackson, Miss. E. Lowell Adams is pastor of Graceland church.

First Baptist Church, Memphis, called Charles Fant III as youth director. A student at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Tex., Fant is scheduled to earn the master of divinity and master of religious education degrees from that institution next month. In 1978 he was selected as one of the "Outstanding Young Men of America." During his undergraduate work at Clemson University, Clemson, S.C., he led an evangelism team which shared Christ with hundreds of college students. He also served as president and vice-president of the student body at Southwestern seminary, Earl Davis is pastor at Memphis First church.

First Baptist Church, Counce, called Paul Smith as summer youth director. Smith is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Stan Smith, Henderson. He is a first year music major at Union University in Jackson. Jimmy Bryant is pastor at Counce.

Donny Erwin was called as full-time minister of music and youth by First Baptist Church in White Pine. He is a graduate of Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, and was a member of the singing group "Something Special" for three years. Kenneth Richey is pastor.

Kerr Wolfenbarger has begun his ministry as interim pastor at West Lonsdale Baptist Church, Knoxville.

Mike Laughlin resigned as youth director at Sanford Hill Baptist Church in Henderson.

East Laurel Baptist Church, Jackson, called Tommy Parchman, a student at Union University, as associate pastor. His duties will include a special emphasis on youth. Tommy Stutts is pastor.

Ricky Clark, music director at Hillcrest Baptist Church in Jackson, resigned in order to enter New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans, La., for the summer term.

Glenwood Baptist Church, Oak Ridge, called Hayward Highfill as interim pastor following the resignation of Pastor Tom Clay.

## Decision issued by Supreme Court in Baptist Hospital, NLRB case

WASHINGTON (BP) — In a case involving Baptist Hospital in Nashville, the Supreme Court ruled here that workers may be solicited for membership in a union in some

parts of the hospital but not in others.

The dispute between the hospital and the union dates to 1974, when a local unit of the Service Employees International Union began organizing workers at the 600-bed hospital. The hospital then announced a new rule prohibiting union solicitation at all times in areas of the hospital accessible to or used by the public.

The union filed a complaint with the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) which found that the hospital's ban on solicitation violated a section of the National Labor Relations Act and ordered the hospital to lift it.

When the hospital refused, the union sought to have a federal court of appeals enforce its order. The court refused, however, agreeing with hospital officials who claimed that solicitation anywhere on the premises might adversely affect patients' recovery.

In its 9-0 ruling, the Supreme Court agreed with a portion of the court of appeals' decision, holding that the hospital may forbid solicitation in certain areas of the hospital, including corridors and sitting rooms on floors of the hospital having patient rooms or operating and therapy rooms.

At the same time, the justices held that the NLRB order overturning the ban is valid for much of the hospital's first floor, including the cafeteria, gift shop, and lobbies.

## Ray Fowler to write life and work series

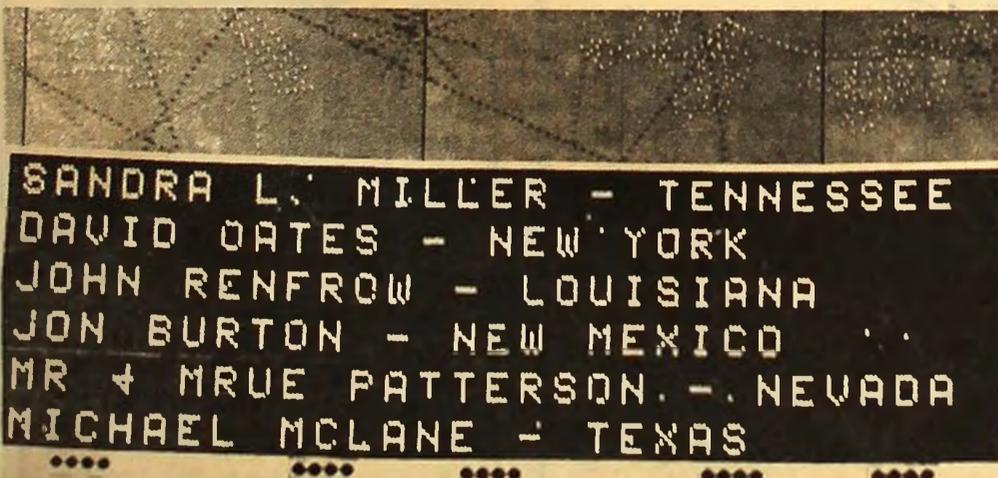
Ray E. Fowler, pastor of White Oak Baptist Church, Chattanooga, will write the life and work series Sunday School lessons for July, August and September.

Fowler served as pastor of Ivy Memorial Baptist Church, Nashville, before going to Chattanooga in 1967. He has also served as pastor of North Springfield Baptist Church, Springfield, and Pioneer Baptist Church, Harrodsburg, Ky.

He has served as chairman of the trustees for the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, vice-president of the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, vice-president of the Tennessee Baptist Pastors' Conference, as well as, vice-moderator of Hamilton County Baptist Association and vice-president of Hamilton County Baptist Pastors' Conference. He is also a certified deacon trainer for the Baptist Sunday School Board.

A native of Thomaston, Ga., Fowler is a graduate of Georgetown Baptist College, Georgetown, Ky., and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

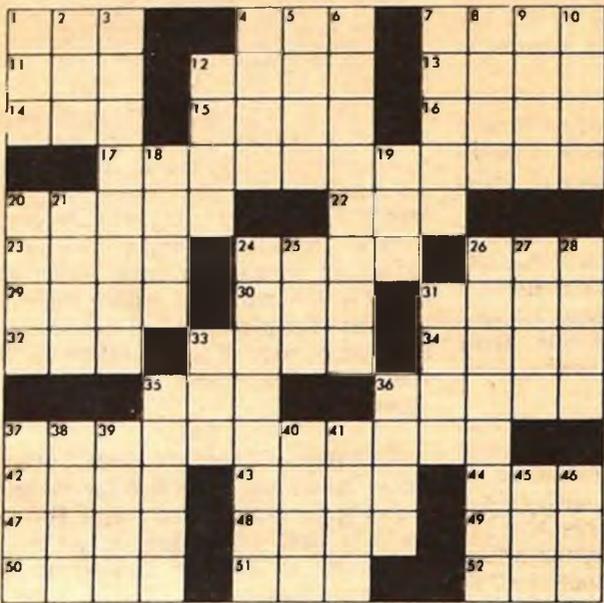
He is married to the former Cherrie Jenkins of Louisville, Ky., and they have two sons, David, 18, and Scott, 12.



**MISSIONARY NAMES ILLUMINATED**—The Astrodome scoreboard in Houston flashes the names and home states of missionaries during the Bold Mission Thrust rally held in connection with the Southern Baptist Convention. Sandra L. Miller, Chattanooga, is serving as a mission service corp volunteer in northeast Pennsylvania. She is a graduate of Belmont College in Nashville and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex.

# Bible Puzzle

Answers on page 10



### ACROSS

- 1 Woman (2 Ki. 18:2)
- 4 Saul's father (Acts 13:21)
- 7 "— for us" (Heb. 13)
- 11 N. T. book: abbr.
- 12 Hour, of a kind
- 13 Italian coin
- 14 Cartographer's product
- 15 Heraldic word
- 16 Not deceived (1 Tim. 2:14)
- 17 Work of the flesh (Gal. 5:19)
- 20 At Pentecost (Acts 2:9)
- 22 Degenerate
- 23 Poems
- 24 Fig or olive
- 26 Cannot be tempted (Jas. 1:13)
- 29 Dwellingplace (1 Sam. 13:2)
- 30 Aaron's helper (Ex. 17:12)
- 31 Golfer's word
- 32 Vital organ: abbr.
- 33 Fasteners
- 34 "that we — not those things" (2 John)
- 35 Lettuce
- 36 Allonge
- 37 "this world — — —" (Jas. 2)
- 42 Concerning
- 43 Chalice veils
- 44 Be indebted
- 47 Man (2 Sam. 23:11)

### CRYPTOVERSE

R E K K Q J O K N C K O M E S C S O K K E K S E  
U E E L V E K G N F Q S S E S X O O Y A J

Today's Cryptoverse clue: Q equals U

- 48 Pierre's friend
- 49 Clay: comb. form
- 50 Iddo (2 Chron. 9:29)
- 51 High note
- 52 Electric, for one

### DOWN

- 1 "the — of the Lord" (John 12)
- 2 Large snake
- 3 Kind of children (Ezek. 2:4)
- 4 Tendril
- 5 Wight or Man
- 6 "as a sheep before her —" (Isa. 53)
- 7 "shall — vineyards" (Zeph. 1)
- 8 Amusement park attraction
- 9 Man (1 Chron. 7:38; poss.)
- 10 Menu item
- 12 Birds of legend
- 18 Cozy place
- 19 "as the days of —" (Matt. 24)
- 20 Insect
- 21 City of Judah (Josh. 15:21)
- 24 "— of the devil" (2 Tim. 2)
- 25 Carpet
- 26 "and — — through grace" (2 Thess. 2)
- 27 Otherwise: abbr.
- 28 Bambi, for one
- 31 Flutter
- 33 Luau food
- 35 "Be of good —" (Acts 23)
- 36 Ascend
- 37 Narrow inlets
- 38 Author
- 39 American Indian
- 40 Sense of touch
- 41 Wild water buffalo
- 45 Very small
- 46 Old cloth measure

# Pulpit To Peter

by Jim N. Griffith

With prices continuing to rise and gas shortages and nuclear nervousness spreading across the nation, it has been suggested that the time has come for all persons to curtail their worries.

As part of the plan, one man is advocating a Worryless Wednesday—a day in which he calls a halt to all worries.

This will come as welcome news—since there are so many persons who are already several days behind on their worrying.

For many, the daily anxieties are climbing as rapidly as prices. There is no shortage of the energy required to worry.

But we need to follow the example of the man who, because he had been able to entrust everything to God, spoke of two days in every week about which he never worried: Yesterday and tomorrow.

There is no fuel like an old fuel, especially when it is the fuel of faith.

## Interpretation

# False prophets described

By Hershel H. Hobbs

*"But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction." 2 Peter 2:1*

Like the poor, false prophets/teachers we have with us always. It was true in the Old Testament (1 Kgs. 22; Amos 7:10-17). It was true in the New Testament (Acts 20:29-30; Col. 2:8; 1 John 2:18-19). It is true today. So Peter describes them that we might identify them.

They "privily" bring in "damnable [destructive] heresies." "Privily" means to bring in by the side or secretly. These are heresies of destruction — destroying faith as well as souls kept from trusting Christ. They deny the "Lord" ("Master, despoten, best texts) who bought them. "Bought" is a verb akin to agora, the Greek marketplace. Christ died to buy redemption for all men. These either were those who had not accepted His redemption or those who made a false pretense at doing so. Their teachings did not fit their profession. But in God's own time they will receive "swift destruction." The word for "destruction" (apolelan) is akin to Apollyon, one name for Satan (Rev. 9:11). So this destruction may mean lost in hell.

The strong thing is that false prophets always find a following (v.2). "Pernicious

ways" may read "licentiousness" (RSV; Robertson). This refers to the Gnostics who taught that salvation was a spiritual process; what one did with his body had no effect upon his soul (but see 1 Cor. 6:19-20, the best texts end with "body" in v. 20). These deluded followers by their licentious living reviled the Christian truth that salvation involves every area of life, physical as well as spiritual.

False teachers are covetous in that through "feigned words" (purported as true but in reality are false) they "make merchandise" of their victims. These quoted words render a verb whence comes our word "emporium." It refers to travelling merchants. In this case to false teachers who travel about and teach their heresy for a fee. (Compare 2 Peter 2:4-22 with Jude 6-16.) This covetousness reminds us of professors in colleges and seminaries who are paid to teach, yet teach contrary to the beliefs of the sponsoring group. Academic freedom also involves academic responsibility and honesty.

I will never forget words spoken by the late Robert G. Lee. They went something like this. "I have more respect for a man who at risk will burglarize than for a false teacher who, at no physical risk, will teach falsehood to my children and thus burglarize their faith." Amen!

Beware of false teachers! For they abound today.

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# Children's Homes

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/TREASURER

EVANS B. BOWEN

We are happy to report that the Mother's Day Offering receipts to date are just slightly more than last year. There is no accurate criteria for judging what the total amount will be on July 31, 1979. God has blessed Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes in so many ways, especially has He been gracious in enabling us to go beyond our goal for many years. We feel certain that His people will continue to be responsive in giving. Our goal is \$450,000.



Evans B. Bowen

As inflation continues, we find ourselves trying to stretch the dollar just a little more. Just as you face these rising cost problems in your own home, so do we. The difference being that "our family" is much larger. We trust that you will continue to be aware of the boys and girls whom we seek to serve. Already, many of them have known problems and heartache far beyond the average children their ages. Your staff is diligently working to help them cope with life as they have experienced it and give them help in understanding how God has planned it.

Each year, our Homes go through a very detailed process of grading for another year. We are licensed by D.H.S. each year and favor the idea. It enables us to look objectively at the quality of our work compared to other private agencies. However, there are times when we feel very strongly that the Department of Human Services has become too involved in the internal operations of our Homes. We fully believe that the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes is an "integrated part of the church." We have never accepted the label of "social welfare agency." Our work is distinctively religious and when it ceases to be so we should close our doors and allow the state to take over.

We encourage you to let your State Senators and Representatives know that Baptists still believe in the separation of church and state. As your Executive Director-Treasurer, I would never agree to operating our Homes on the level of our public institutions. We are continuously striving for a higher quality of work. On the "new standard" used by the Department of Human Services, one of our Homes scored 96 points out of a possible 100. Every child is precious to our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, every child is precious to TBCH.

## All Dressed Up

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Murphy are houseparents in the Bowen Cottage, Chattanooga. They have nine "children" to get into their "Sunday best" every Sunday morning and Sunday evening. Don't you agree that they have a truly handsome family? Mr. and Mrs. Murphy continue to remain young and happy. We feel that they have found the place of service to which the Lord has called them.



We have just a few openings for houseparents. If you are interested or know of some couple, you may contact the Central Office for application forms.

## Kindergarten to College

Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes work with boys and girls from Kindergarten to College. Pictured below are four beautiful children proudly displaying their Kindergarten Certificates. They are now ready to begin first grade and will compete favorably with all their class mates.

Misses Theresa Bullock and Mary Lewelling are ready for Union University. These two beautiful young ladies are prepared as well for colleges as most freshmen who will be enrolling this fall. Their happy smiles reflect some of the love and understanding they have received while living on the Memphis Campus.



Four proud graduates



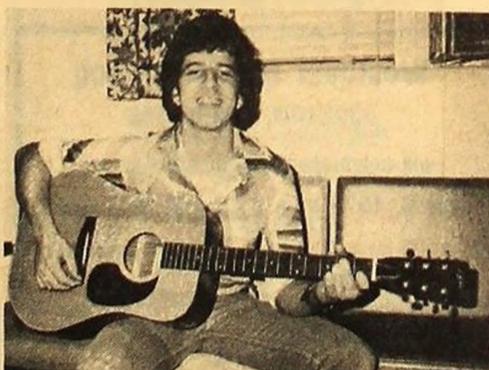
Theresa Bullock - Mary Lewelling

## Another Country Music Star?

Among the things that John enjoys is playing his guitar and singing "country music." Those who listen to him make loud proclamations concerning his ability.

It may be difficult to get John too interested in mowing, working in hay, feeding the cattle or studying math. But one thing can be counted on as a certainty — it is never a chore for John to "pick and grin."

John lives at the Memphis Home but it looks for sure like he is looking toward Nashville as a future home. One thing is sure, John will enjoy his music down through the years whether he uses it for pleasure or a livelihood.



John picking and grinning

## Beautiful Franklin Home Campus

So many people visit the Middle Tennessee Baptist Children's Home (Franklin) and exclaim that it is a beautiful place. We agree. But it requires work on the part of the children and the staff to keep it beautiful.

Grass must be mowed every week! Flowers are beautiful to look at but work is required if they are there to enjoy.

"All work and no play would make

Johnny a dull boy." There is always time to play! Isn't it amazing that a boy can expend twice as much energy playing as working and become only half as tired? If you don't believe the above statement — just visit one of our Homes and ask any boy or girl about it.

## Laugh It Off

A man came into a federal building and inquired if it was the headquarters for the war against poverty.

"Yes, it is," replied the receptionist.

"Good," he said, "I've come to surrender."

Patience is that virtue you need when the boss makes a mistake.

"The world is round!" said the little girl.

"Ain't!" her little brother said.

"Then, you think it's not round?"

"Nope."

"What's the world then?"

"Daddy says it's crooked."

A six-year-old asked his young friend, "Do you say a prayer before you eat?"

"No, I don't have to. My mother's a good cook."

June is the month when college grads take their diplomas in hand and go out to conquer the world. July is when the world counter-attacks.



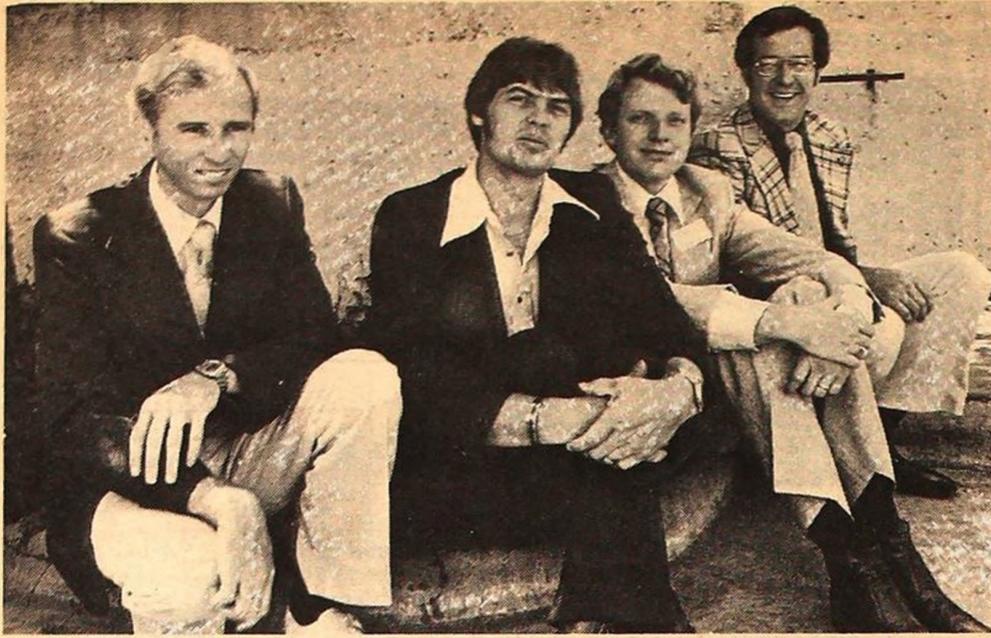
Work



And more work



Eddie at play



**TENNESSEAN ELECTED**—Sam Carothers, Baptist student director at Austin Peay University, Clarksville, was elected membership vice-president of the Association of Southern Baptist Campus Ministers during the groups recent meeting in Houston. The officers are (from left) Ron Brown, president; Russ Arch, administration vice-president; Carothers; and Burt Purvis, program vice-president.

**UNIFORM SERIES**  
Lesson for Sunday, July 1

# Consequences of leader's choices

By Ben Curtis  
professor, religion department  
Belmont College, Nashville

Basic Passage: I Kings 12:1 to 14:20  
Focal Passage: I Kings 12:6-11, 26-30

Shortly after Solomon's death, in 922 B.C., the people of Israel split into two countries: Israel in the north and Judah in the south. This breakdown of national unity shows the significance of the king. The king was not simply an official, but he was God's representative, a kind of corporate symbol. A good king usually meant good days for the people and vice-versa.



Curtis

At some point Solomon went wrong. He got out of touch with his people. The temptation of any leader, including religious leaders, is to use the people for his personal benefit. The last straw was setting up forced labor camps, reducing free citizens to conscripted workers. In the last decade, particularly with Watergate, we have agonized with the spectacle of leaders believing they were beyond accountability to their people.

Scripture hints that part of his problem was concession to idolatrous practices, maybe due to the influence of his foreign wives (I Kings 11:1,4). Only a respect for his covenant with David keeps God from tearing the kingdom away from Solomon (I Kings 11: 29-37). The Old Testament view is that punishment comes immediately and any delay is due to the special forbearance of God. However, the seeds of disruption had been sown and they could not be stayed forever. Again, as a nation we in America know this lesson very well, witnessing the civil rights movement of the 60's after decades of discrimination, and it remains to be seen how far our selfishness and greed with energy resources will catch up with us.

Solomon's death set the stage for the folly of his son, Rehoboam. Rehoboam journeyed to the north to ease ill feelings, but he received and acted upon poor advice. The elders counseled reconciliation, but the younger men advised severity. Foolishly, Rehoboam chose severity, promising a heavier yoke and

a whip of scorpions, causing the north to cry "to your tents, O Israel! Look now to your own house, David" (I Kings 12:16, RSV). There is a lesson here: when leaders are insecure, they exercise authoritarianism instead of authority. Authority presents itself as firm and clear; authoritarianism is defensive, refusing to listen, and often is harsh with people. Parents, teachers, and ministers meet with disaster when they confuse the two.

When Rehoboam promised only weightier burdens, Jeroboam, who had served as a commander in the north for Solomon and then fled to Egypt after a mutiny, rallied the people to revolution. "And when all Israel heard that Jeroboam had returned, they sent and called him to the assembly and made him king over all Israel" (I Kings 12:20 RSV). Jeroboam made Schechem his capital, taking advantage of its rich heritage for the lives of Jacob and Joseph (Gen. 33:18, Josh. 24:32).

But Jeroboam made a fatal mistake. In order to rival Jerusalem he set up alternate churches in Dan and Bethel with statues of bulls, a symbol associated in Israel's history with the golden calf of Aaron (Exod. 32:4). Some scholars feel that Jeroboam meant no evil, that the bull was a symbol for deity and these bulls were merely pedestals for the invisible presence of God. We do know that the bull was the symbol for El, the high God of Syria, and probably a dangerous syncretism of Israelite and Canaanite worship was being offered. At any rate, Jeroboam was clearly using religion for political gain. In the last few years, religious historians in America have coined the term "civil religion," describing a version of piety that believes God is committed to our national success. The flag and the Cross are not identical symbols, however, politicians may try to interchange them.

Rehoboam was a failure, but Jeroboam was unfaithful. The contrast is underscored by the enigmatic story of the two prophets (I Kings 12: 1-32), one from Judah who faithfully spoke God's Word and one from Bethel who seduced him into disobedience. The disobedient prophet was killed at the hands of God by a lion, but paradoxically his body was protected and he was lauded by the prophet from Bethel for his courageous preaching. In its own way this is an encouraging story. In spite of our inevitable shortcomings, the good that we do remains. Not even moments of failure cancel out time of faithfulness. God seems quite content to convey the treasure of the gospel through earthen vessels.

## O'Hair 'In God We Trust' campaign denied hearing by Supreme Court

By Stan Haste

WASHINGTON (BP) — The U.S. Supreme Court announced here it will not hear atheist Madalyn Murray O'Hair's challenge to the constitutionality of the motto "In God We Trust" on coins and currency.

The high court's action marks the final defeat of the Austin, Texas-based O'Hair's efforts to remove the slogan.

Mrs. O'Hair filed suit against Secretary of the Treasury Michael Blumenthal in January 1978, in a federal district court in Austin. That court ruled against her three months later, holding that she failed to show a "cause of action."

On appeal, the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans declined to hear the case last January.

The challenged slogan has appeared on U.S.

coins for more than a century and on all currency since 1955, when former President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed into law a bill requiring that it be used.

Over the past 17 years, Mrs. O'Hair has come to the Supreme Court challenging the constitutionality of various religious practices in public life.

Her suit challenging mandatory prayer and Bible reading in the public schools resulted in a 1963 decision by the high court outlawing such devotional exercises. The high court had ruled in 1962 that a New York board of regents prayer designed to be read each day in state public schools likewise violated the "no establishment" of religion clause of the First Amendment.

In 1968, Mrs. O'Hair challenged the National Space and Aeronautics Administration for permitting astronauts in space to read from the Bible. She argued then that the famous Christmas Eve 1968 reading of the Christmas story violated the rights of non-believers.

On two separate occasions, however, the nation's high court declined to disturb lower court rulings disallowing her objections.

### For Sale

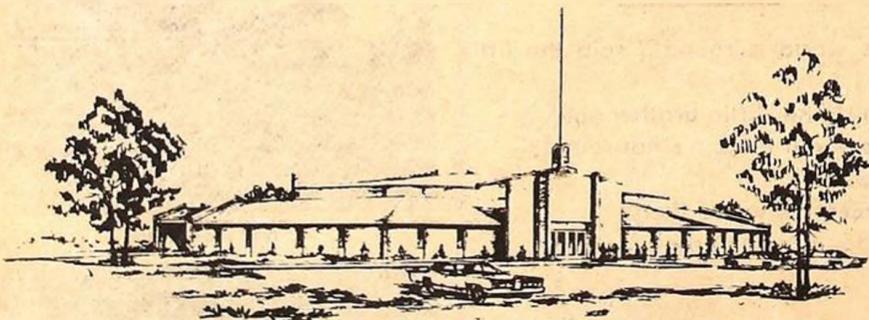
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"For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil" (Rom. 13:3).

### Westover Baptist Church Jackson, Tennessee

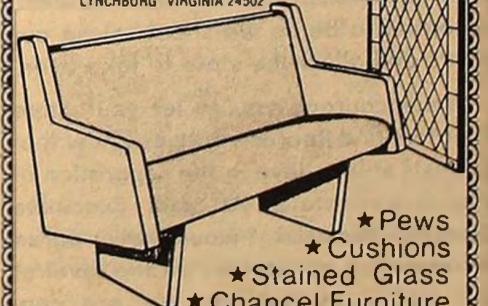
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**LIFE AND WORK SERIES**  
Lesson for Sunday, July 1

# A man of misguided zeal

By Ray E. Fowler, pastor  
White Oak Baptist Church, Chattanooga

**Basic Passages:** Acts 7:54 to 8:3; 22:3, 27-28; 26:4-5, 9-11; **Philippians 3:4-6**  
**Focal Passages:** Acts 7:58-8:1; 22:3, 27-28; 26:4-5, 9-11

The focal passages deals with two men, two men with great zeal. In neither could that zeal be abated. Each had a zeal he could not sublimate nor subdue. But there was a difference. Stephen had great zeal for God, guided by the Holy Spirit. The other, Saul, had a misguided zeal.

This lesson deals with the misguided zeal in the life of Saul of Tarsus. His pre-conversion experience teaches us that enthusiasm and zeal in religion can sometimes be misguided. Jonestown and Jim Jones is a modern example of such misguided religious zeal.



Fowler

**Saul's role in the death of Stephen**  
(Acts 7:58-8:1)

Stephen witnessed so effectively for his Lord that he aroused the anger of the religious leaders of his day. He was arrested and charged with blasphemy and seeking to change the Mosaic customs (Acts 6:13-14). Perhaps, it was the latter that especially aroused their anger. Changing the customs was a deadly sin then and now. The stock reason for doing anything in the church today is this: "It has always been done that way." At any rate Stephen's presence made a difference in the church of which he was a part and the community where he lived. What about ours?

After the trial he was taken outside the city and stoned to death. Saul looked on, but Saul's role in the death of Stephen was not merely passive. "And Saul was consenting unto his death" (Acts 8:1). Perhaps, his defeat before Stephen in the Cilician synagogue had aroused personal revenge in Saul's heart (Acts 6:9-10). The fact that they "laid down their clothes" (Acts 7:58) at Saul's feet evidences that he was at least an accomplice in the murder. It was there that Saul tasted his first blood of persecution which led to a large-scale persecution of Christians in Jerusalem and other cities.

**Saul's background** (Acts 22:3, 27-28)

Saul's background accounted for much of his misguided zeal. His background was both Jewish and Greek. Bible scholars are not agreed as to which of these two influenced Saul the most.

Religiously, Saul boasted of the supreme importance of his Jewish heritage. He could boast that he was a descendent of Abraham, a Hebrew of Hebrews, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, that he took his name from the first King of Israel, and much more.

Saul was born at Tarsus in the Roman province of Cilicia. Tarsus was a large and prosperous city and a center of intellectual life. His parents are not named, yet we know his father was a strict Jew (Acts 22:3). Saul was not merely a Pharisee but the son of a Pharisee (Acts 23:6). Apparently, his home atmosphere was thoroughly Jewish, not to say Pharisaic. Home environment plays an important part in every human life. Later he was trained at the feet of Gamaliel, the great master rabbinical teacher in Jerusalem (Acts

22:3). Much of what Paul learned in the home, in the synagogue at Tarsus, and from Gamaliel contributed to his zealous spirit for God and his intolerance for Christians. Even the best educated religiously can sometimes have a misguided zeal.

Saul was proud of his Roman citizenship. He was born in a Greek city, born a Roman citizen. His Roman citizenship later spared him of much punishment on several occasions.

**Saul the persecutor** (Acts 26:4-5, 9:11)

As champion of orthodox Judaism, Saul saw danger inherent in the followers of Jesus. They struck at the very foundations of Judaism. For Saul, only Judaism and Pharisaism offered hope for Israel and the world. Therefore, the followers of Jesus must perish. This hot-blooded young rabbi saw his task in life as the destruction of these "heretics" before they undermined the cause of Judaism. He took no half-way measures in stamping out what he regarded as a vicious heresy (Acts 22:4; 26:10; Gal. 1:13). His relentless hate allowed him to violate the very precincts of their homes (Acts 8:3).

Armed with authority from the chief priests he "laid waste the church" in Jerusalem. He persecuted both men and women (Acts 22:4; 26:10). His activity in Jerusalem ceased only when the material there gave out. He was "exceedingly mad against them" (Acts 26:11). He persecuted them even unto foreign cities (Acts 26:11). "Beyond measure" (Gal. 1:13), he was zealous in his persecution. Damascus was none too far from him to travel in his determination to fight to the finish (Acts 9:2).

**Conclusion**

How well have we learned the lesson of the value of enthusiasm and zeal in doing the work of our Lord? How well have we learned the lesson of danger of a misguided zeal? Zeal and enthusiasm directed toward wrong ends results in wasted energy and untold suffering as in the persecutions led by Saul. Could we not confess that at times some of our zeal for God has been to satisfy our ego and for our personal aggrandizement? Therefore, we must be careful that our zeal, while not diminished in any way, is directed by God's Spirit.

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# New Senate bills to clarify pension laws, Morgan states

DALLAS, Texas—Legislation which gives Southern Baptists a chance to support a 1976 Convention resolution opposing the federal pension law's rule prohibiting church agencies from participating in church pension plans has been introduced in the U.S. Senate.

Darold H. Morgan, president of the SBC Annuity Board, explains the three bills "would amend the law's definition of 'church plan' to recognize traditional church retirement plans which cover agency employees."

Identified as S.1090, S.1091, and S.1092, the bills are jointly sponsored by Senators Herman Talmadge, Ga., Lloyd Bentsen, Tex.; and David Boren, Okla.

Morgan, chief executive officer of the Annuity Board, also serves as chairman of the Church Alliance for Clarification of ERISA.

Composed of members of more than 25 religious denominations representing their denominations' pension programs, the Church Alliance initiated efforts to amend the federal pension law.

Companion legislation was introduced earlier in the U.S. House of Representatives by Barber Conable Jr., New York. The house bills are HR 1576, 1577, and 1578.

According to Morgan, both the House and Senate legislation would enable ERISA to recognize unique differences in religious denominational structuring.

Current ERISA regulations penalize church employees and have deprived some denominational personnel of pension benefits, Morgan explained.

"This is in opposition to the stated intent of the federal pension law," he said. "The Church Alliance legislation would correct these and other inequities in the law."

Gary Nash, Annuity Board general counsel, said ERISA also threatens to fragment denominational pension plans and, if not amended, undermine how churches have functioned successfully for many years.

Nash has played an instrumental role in establishing a base of support for the legislation.

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**NOTE BURNING**—Deacons and members of City View Baptist Church in Knoxville gather for the burning of a note signifying the freedom of church indebtedness. Property and buildings are valued in excess of \$1,150,000. Pictured above, left to right, are: Fred Maples, Jack Roach, Harold Wright, John Spencer, John Miller, Lowell Farmer, Bud Grayson, Jim Lackey, Raymond Groseclose, Hugh Campbell, James Davis, Lawrence Powell, Floyd Owens, Bill Campbell, Paul Courtney, Bill Loy, Chales Webster, Chester Farmer, and Pastor Earl H. Wilson.

# Routh, Bennett disapprove of 'political' campaigns

HOUSTON (BP) — Both the incoming and outgoing chief executive officers of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee said here they hoped the pattern of pre-convention meetings and the "political machine" which organized the campaign to elect a president of the Southern Baptist Convention would not be followed in the future.

Porter W. Routh, who retires July 31 as executive secretary-treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee after 28 years in the position, and Harold C. Bennett, who assumes the position Aug. 1 after 12 years as executive secretary of the Florida Baptist Convention, made the statement during a news conference at the SBC.

"I am concerned about the methodology of a secular political machine used at the convention this year," Routh said. "I don't

believe this is the way God would have us move in the future."

Routh said in a democratic organization such as the Southern Baptist Convention, "we need to listen to the voice of the minority, for often by listening to the voice of the minority we hear the voice of God."

The only way the denomination can do its work is by following "the voice of the majority," Routh added. He acknowledged that sometimes neither the majority or the minority represent the will of God.

"We need to most of all listen to the voice of God," Routh said.

Commenting on the election of Adrian Rogers of Memphis as president of the convention, Routh said he felt Rogers would express concern for the evangelism, missions, and stewardship in the SBC.

Routh pointed out that the office of president of the convention is not a staff position, and that the convention president does not develop a program of his own.

He said the convention has already adopted its program for the years 1982-1985, pointing out that the convention "has got to work four to five years in advance" to plan its programs. The president of the convention, he said, "can provide dynamic leadership to carry out the program the convention has adopted."

SBC President Jimmy Allen has done a "fantastic job" as president of the convention to carry out the Bold Mission Thrust program already adopted, Routh said.

"The service Wednesday night at the Astrodome (attended by 48,000 persons with a dedication service for 1,100 missionaries) was a crowning climax to his term as president."

Bennett, the new executive secretary-treasurer, said he upholds completely the belief in the Bible as described in the Baptist Faith and Message statement adopted in 1963 which says the Bible "was written by men divinely inspired and is the record of God's revelation of Himself to man ... It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter."

Bennett added that he believes in the inerrancy of the original documents, and if "somewhere I find something in the Bible I don't understand, I accept the Bible by faith."

## SBC television resolution given to federal committee

WASHINGTON (BP) — Word of Southern Baptist Convention action on broadcasting legislation was carried to Congress by a Christian Life Commission spokesman here.

Harry N Hollis Jr., the commission's associate executive secretary, appeared before the Senate Subcommittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Communications Committee.

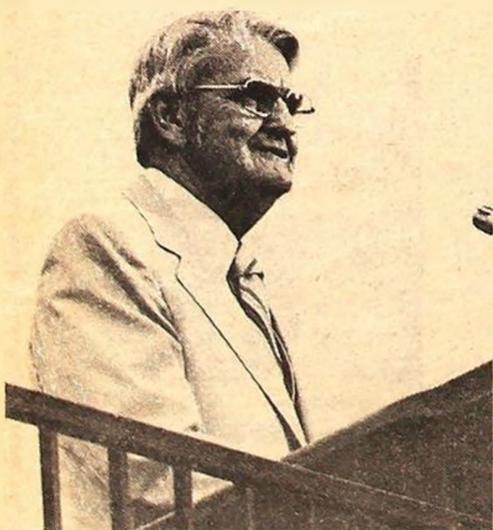
He said that messengers to the annual meeting of Southern Baptists in Houston had "unanimously and enthusiastically" passed a motion calling on Congress to include the public interest standard in any communications legislation they write. He also said that the motion included reaffirmation of the idea

### T.B. Maston improves after angina attack

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — T. B. Maston, 81-year-old retired professor of Christian ethics at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, is "improving steadily" at a Fort Worth hospital after being rushed to the hospital's emergency room because of severe chest pains.

According to Maston's wife, Essie Mae, doctors at Harris Hospital have determined the problem to be angina, rather than a heart attack, and have found no heart damage. Mrs. Maston said the chest pains struck Maston as he was getting ready to go to church on Sunday.

Maston was honored for his contribution to the life of Southern Baptists through his 41 years of writing and teaching at Southwestern Seminary at a special luncheon during the recent Southern Baptist Convention in Houston.



**WELCOME**—James Gregg, chairman of the crusade, welcomes the 25,000 attenders to the opening night service of the Graham crusade.

that the airwaves belong to the American people.

The subcommittee is holding hearings on amendments to the 1934 Communications Act which currently regulates the broadcast industry. Similar hearings are in progress on the House side.

U.S. Sen. Barry Goldwater, Ariz., sponsor of one of the measures before the subcommittee, said that "our purpose is to deregulate broadcasting as much as we can." Hollis responded by saying that he "would hope the task would also be to protect the public interest."

Goldwater said that he also dislikes some television programming but fears violation of First Amendment rights if government continues regulation. "We must depend upon the decency, if there is such a thing, in the programmers' heart," he commented.

Hollis told Baptist Press that his reading of the public mood is concern for the effect of violent exploitative programming. "People don't care if television is deregulated. They care about what's happening to their children."

Hollis also charged that the sponsors of legislation are prepared to do whatever the broadcast industry wants rather than protect the public. "The lines are clearly drawn," he said. "It's deregulate, as the industry requests, or maintain the public interest standard and serve the people of the nation."

Joining Hollis and other religious spokespersons before the subcommittee in attacking the removal of the public interest standard was Jack Golodner of the AFL-CIO. "We have here a misplaced confidence that marketplace forces can protect the public interest," Golodner said. "If there is one thing we have learned in the American experience, especially in the labor movement, it is that the profit motive is not appropriate in all circumstances and cannot be deified."

### Knoxville Baptists view Astrodome mission rally

Over 3,000 persons in Knoxville attended the special showing of the Astrodome Bold Mission Thrust Rally televised via satellite from Houston on June 13. Knoxvilleians gathered in the city's civic coliseum to view the two-and-one-half hour telecast, sponsored by Knox County Baptist Association.

A spokesman in the Knox County associational office said that at least 60 area churches were represented and that 16 decisions for missions were recorded.

James McCluskey, pastor of Wallace Memorial Baptist Church, Knoxville, delivered a message to the Knoxville group and also led the commitment service.

### Devotional

## True commitment

By F. Murray Mathis

So many organizations, issues, and causes in our society today attempt to commit people's energy and time to their needs. Oftentimes we make commitments that we cannot keep.

Jesus Christ outlines the meaning of true Christian commitment in (Matt. 16:24) "Then said Jesus unto His disciples, If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me."



Mathis

In order to be a committed Christian, first of all, a person must die to self, or deny self. A very basic foundation of godliness is self denial. To deny signifies to put aside, to put off, to annihilate one's self.

The Apostle Paul identified with this thought of self denial when he wrote, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loves me and gave Himself for me" (Gal. 2:20).

A minister once made a statement, "To take care of self is the first law of nature." "Yes, sir," said an older minister in reply; "but to deny self is the first law of grace!"

Secondly, Christian commitment calls for an identification with Christ in His sufferings. "Take up His cross," it has been said, "every high mission means the cross." Each committed Christian has a cross allotted him. It is a mistake to call all our suffering a cross. Even the wicked have sorrows, but they have no crosses. Our cross is that suffering which results from our faithful identification with Christ.

Thirdly, a committed Christian must follow Jesus... The emphasis is "Let Him be following me."

When a person receives Christ and commits his life to Him, he begins a journey which leads to Heaven. Christ leads the way and the committed Christian follows Him.

The beautiful hymn "Wherever He Leads I'll Go" expresses the idea of following Jesus.

"It may be thro' the shadows dim, Or O'er the stormy sea, I take my cross and follow Him, Wherever He leadeth me."

Mathis is pastor of Third Baptist Church, Murfreesboro.

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## HISTORICALLY FROM THE FILES

### 25 YEARS AGO

Betty Jo Corum was elected as junior and intermediate leader for Tennessee. She succeeded Roxie Jacobs who would retire Dec. 31, 1954. Miss Jacobs had served in her post with the Training Union for 31 years. Charles L. Norton was the state Training Union director.

A mission organized in Munford by Brighton Baptist Church, March 28, 1954, moved into a building three months later. The building, a nine-room dwelling, was purchased by the Brighton Baptist Church. William Cordle was pastor of the mission and E.A. Butler was the Brighton pastor.

### 10 YEARS AGO

Lincoya Hills Baptist Church, Nashville, called Richard L. Wakefield as pastor. He came to Nashville from Burton Memorial Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Ky.

New Middleton Baptist Church, New Salem Baptist Association, was constructing a new auditorium and educational building, estimated to cost \$36,000. Emory Farmer was pastor.