

6-10-1971

June 10, 1971

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

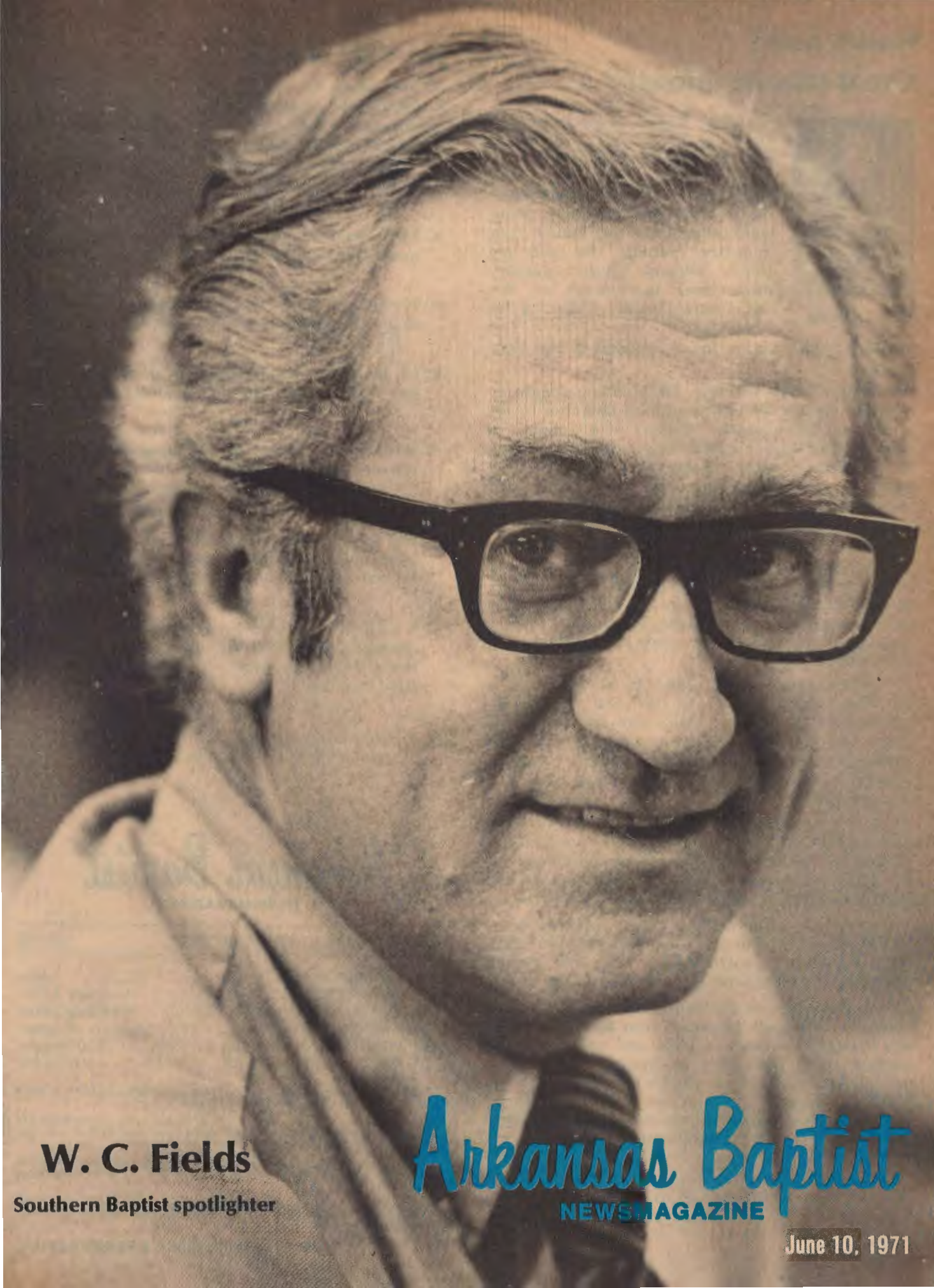
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W. C. Fields

Southern Baptist spotlihter

Arkansas Baptist
NEWSMAGAZINE

June 10, 1971

Great church ministry



Dr. Cowling

Little Rock's Second Church, Dale Cowling, pastor, was in the spotlight at St. Louis last week.

Dr. Cowling spoke first at the annual convention of Woman's Missionary Union, on Monday, along with others from his church. On Thursday morning, he and Jay Heflin, Second Church deacon, made brief appearances on the SBC program feature, "Meeting the Challenge of the Cities of the

World," a presentation by all agencies of the Convention.

At the WMU meeting, Dr. Cowling sought to motivate greater lay activity in local churches by reporting on the expanded ministry of his church in Greater Little Rock. He said that his church "is trying to develop a concept of spreading an umbrella of spiritual concern over the whole city." He said that Second Church had established "ministry points, each with a broad span of activities designed to meet specific needs of individual communities."

Dr. Cowling emphasized that his church was centering on meeting "the real needs" of people, "regardless of race," and by using such activities as tutoring sessions, sewing classes, instruction in family nutrition, family planning, medical self help, and directed recreation.

He explained the operation, by his church, of a Christian medical clinic, and how that persons are referred to two dental clinics and an orthopedic clinic. The church also provides a nursery school-kindergarten program, visits on a regular basis six nursing homes, and sponsors a special, hard-rock radio program.

In his appearance before the Convention, Dr. Cowling said that he had flown home from the convention the day before in order to be in his church at the mid-week prayermeeting, at which time he had baptized into the church membership four Negroes.

A feature of the Second Church ministry commended to other churches is the practice of bringing in to the church each Sunday night the people reached at the various ministry points out in the city.

Also speaking at the WMU meeting was Jasper McPhail, Little Rock physician who formerly served as a foreign missionary in India and now heads the medical clinic sponsored by Second Church. He said that the Little Rock church's program had resulted in "community awareness of Christian love" and "in the deepening of spiritual life among the laity and better health for the community."

Erwin L. McDonald

In this issue

- W. C. Fields, as director of the Baptist Press, heads the greatest religious news coverage in America. A story on Dr. Fields, the work he did in covering the SBC meeting, and his other jobs for Southern Baptists is featured this week as the cover story. See Page 15.
- More letters to the editor on the controversial rock opera "Jesus Christ, Superstar" are found on Page 5.
- The report of the Executive Committee of the SBC to the messengers is found on page 10.
- Dr. Criswell is among speakers at the annual Pastor's Conference at the SBC. See Page 11.
- Students had a place on the program at the convention this year for the first time. A story and photo on page 14 tells the message they brought.
- The thorny issue of the Broadman Commentary crops up again at the convention. See page 16 for a report.
- A resolution offered by an Arkansas pastor and adopted by the SBC endorses public education. This is found on page 17. Other resolutions are listed on page 18.
- A photo group on page 24 shows some of the Arkansans at the St. Louis meeting.

Arkansas Baptist

NEWSMAGAZINE

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JUNE 10, 1971

NO. 23

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Abbreviations used in crediting news items: BP Baptist Press; CB Church Bulletin; DP Daily Press; EP Evangelical Press; LC Local Correspondent; AB Associational Bulletin; EBPS European Baptist Press Service.

Southern Baptists in St. Louis

Routine, in the best sense of the word. That was the 114th annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention last week in St. Louis.

Everything went off just as planned—well, almost. There was one violent ripple on an otherwise calm sea. This was caused by the tossing of the millstone of Volume 1 of *Broadman Bible Commentary* back into the waters of the Baptist fellowship.

Some messengers felt that a calendar year had been more than enough time for the Sunday School Board to show some progress in the re-writing of the Genesis part of the *Broadman Commentary*, as the agency was directed to do by action of the Convention last year in Denver. The Sunday School Board's apparent tardiness on this assignment, along with reports that G. Henton Davies (the British theologian whose work had precipitated the Denver action) was being asked to do the re-writing, turned out to be more than the messengers were able to stomach.

It took some parliamentary maneuvering to get the issue on the convention's agenda. But once this was accomplished, the Convention voted, 2,672 to 2,290, to give a further mandate. On the motion of Kenneth Barnett, Oklahoma, the Sunday School Board is now directed to "obtain another writer and proceed with the commentary according to the vote of the 1970 convention in Denver."

The big surprise, this year, as far as parliamentary procedure is concerned, was the use President Carl Bates made of Convention Bylaw 16, having to do with "Method of Procedure." Citing that part of the bylaw which states, "Any motion or resolution affecting any . . . agency or institution, which is not included in its printed report, shall, when presented before the Convention, be referred to the Executive Committee or to such other committees as the Convention may direct," Dr. Bates, sustained by the Convention, referred to the Executive Committee several proposals messengers had sought to have voted on by the Convention.

Thus, Bylaw 16, as interpreted this year, becomes a strange phenomenon, putting the Convention in the bizarre position of having refused itself the privilege of conducting its own affairs, and, in effect, placing the Executive Committee over the Convention. This, obviously, will have to be corrected.

President Bates and his Program committee are due much credit for a well-rounded program, which included periods of inspiration and worship but allowed more adequate time for Convention business than had been the case in recent years. But the way some messengers took advantage of the miscellaneous business sessions to present a plethora of resolutions, and the way some of them argued over the semantics of resolutions eventually reported to the Convention by its Resolutions committee, provided some boredom and frustration. This, perhaps,

is inevitable in a body as big and unwieldy as ours that still tries to operate democratically.

The conduct of our business this year, for whatever reason, was far more decent and in order than was the case last year in Denver. Everybody from the presiding officer to the last messenger seemed to be in good spirit. There was none of the rowdiness that characterized so much of the business sessions at Denver. The few incidents of shouting that signaled rising blood pressures were handled astutely by Dr. Bates. Even those who pressed for action on the *Broadman Commentary* issue, the one and only hot item, though determined, were, for the most part, Christian in their approach.

St. Louis more than lived up to her long and enviable reputation of the good hostess—last week's session came just 100 years after the first meeting of the Convention in the Gateway City, back in 1871, and was the seventh time Southern Baptists had met there. Accommodations, including board, lodging, transportation, and auditorium facilities, were excellent. Not every one was able to secure quarters within walking distance of the auditorium, but a large segment of the more than 14,000 visitors did.

Early arrivers found some difficulty locating places to eat, with many of the restaurants, cafes and cafeterias closed Sunday and Monday (Memorial Day). But this only whetted appetites and pushed calorie consciousness into limbo for the abundant and delectable food so widely available the rest of the time.

"This year's Convention will surely be long remembered, not just for its freedom from feudin', fussin', and fightin', but for its long-range, constructive planning for stepping up our ministry to people wherever they are and whatever their needs.

* * *

"The Bible makes it clear that fornication is wrong. In this decadent age, every Christian college needs to maintain parietal standards that will help to restrain young people from succumbing to sexual temptation. One of the prime contributions of Christian schools is that of helping to form Christian character. And this process can only succeed where there are some 'don't's' as well as 'do's'."

— Christianity Today

* * *

Men and women everywhere need to recognize that he is a God of love. He is not trying to hurt people. He is trying to help people. The moral and ethical standards and principles which he has made a part of the universe—like the changing seasons—are to make life better, happier, fuller. In every life the greatest happiness can be found by living as God planned.

— Jack Gritz, in *The Baptist Messenger*

I must say it!

This may be our chance



Dr. Ashcraft

With My Lai, national unrest, and the ominous prospect of nuclear annihilation of the human race, this may be our chance to see the futility of war. Never have we seen the ugliness, destructiveness, immorality, unfairness, and evil as we see it in our day.

After every war we say "never again" because both sides lose and all our problems were not solved. The slave camps, atrocities, gas

chambers, mass execution of six million Jews and the death of 45 million others in World War II did not get the message across.

Defensive wars may be in order, as all enlightened people of courage will defend their lives, homes, and country. However, wars such as our eyes behold permits no Christian to retire at night with an easy conscience.

When everything seems to go wrong in a Christian's life he takes inventory of his course, behavior, and alignment with God. This is good for a Christian and for a Christian nation. Our world seems to be in the midst of a great Renaissance.

Perhaps one of the positive results could be that wars would be sacked forever as unworthy of any affirmative good. Society seems to cast aside unserviceable and unusable practices. Dueling, to a large de-

gree, has been set aside as it serves no real good in human relations.

Slavery is no longer considered an acceptable instrument of enlightened people. The caste system will ultimately be discarded as serving no useful role in advanced civilization.

War should be in this list for it is no longer a means of constructive progress. Many of us who are veterans of sustained combat actions in World War II would register the solemn conviction borne of a quarter of a century of meditation, "Few are the lasting achievements of war but many are the results of those who with even temper seek to do the right thing at the conference table, the common market, the United Nations, and when great injustices arise."

Enlightened people can live together in peace and by their united, constructive behavior hold in arrest the lesser enlightened ones without killing them before their lessons are learned. It is untenable to be in any circumstance in which one cannot pray to God for an intelligent solution.

Perhaps the only justification for the Vietnam war is that it is so sickening we would vote to end all such wars except of pure self-defense. To see the utter futility of it this may be our chance, our last chance, to correct a collision course from annihilation to a golden age.

An unknown author gives this fine sentence, "Extremism in the defense of liberty is no vice; moderation in the pursuit of justice is no virtue."

I must say it! — Charles H. Ashcraft, Executive Secretary.

Baptist beliefs

A Roman colony

By Herschel H. Hobbs

"Philippi, which is the chief city of that part of Macedonia, and a colony" — Acts 16:12

Philippi was a city of great historical significance in the ancient world. Originally it was called Krenides (Wells), but was renamed Philippi by Philip of Macedon, father of Alexander the Great. Gold mines nearby made it a prosperous center. This site is being excavated today. The river mentioned in Acts 16:13 (Ganites) may still be seen about one mile east of the site.

The decisive battle between the Roman triumvirate (Octavius, Anthony, Lepidus) and Brutus and Cassius was fought nearby in 42 B. C. In memory of this victory Octavius (Augustus Caesar) made it a Roman Colony. Many colonists from Italy, including retired Roman soldiers, were settled here.

Under the Roman system a city made a colony enjoyed certain privileges such as autonomous government within the framework of the laws of the Empire, and freedom from certain taxes. In return it carried certain responsibilities. It was to police the area. And its citizens were so to live as to cause non-Romans in the area to wish to become loyal citizens of Rome. T. C. Smith (Broadman Commentary) notes that while Acts mentions certain other colonies (Pisidian Antioch, Lystra, Troas), this is the only one which Luke describes as a "colony." It suggests his pride in such.

Moffatt translates Philippians 3:20 ("for our conversation (manner of life) is in heaven"), "But we are a colony of heaven." This is most suggestive. As Philippi was a Roman colony, a little bit of Rome set down in the far-flung empire, so the church there was a colony of heaven. It was a little bit of heaven on earth. As such it and all churches are responsible for the moral and spiritual life of the area. And each Christian as a citizen of heaven should so live as to make all men want to become such. Privileges? Yes. But responsibilities also!

The bitten hand

By Rex Thomas

I was walking down a city street
When I heard a bird sing low and sweet.
As it chirped and flitted all about
A car roared by and drowned it out.

I was standing on an autumn road
When an old tree dropped its weary
load
But a chime beneath the churchtow'r
eaves
Drowned out the sound of rustling
leaves.
Ironic? Yes, and very odd
That church bells end the peace of God.

I was walking down a country road
Past the many wonders Nature's sowed
When a whetstone question sharpened
pain:
Has man or beast the larger brain?

Will Nature fin'ly hear her song
When man has died and passed along?
Will joy erupt or silence fall?
I fear that man has killed us all.

(Editor's note: Mr. Thomas is a 10th-grader at Boys Training School, Pine Bluff. This poem was first published in THE PROFILE, Training School publication. — ELM)

Praises 'Witness Involvement Now'

I would like to add my word of commendation and appreciation for our new program of lay evangelism—WIN (Witness Involvement Now). I was one of the 9 Arkansas BSU Directors who participated in the WIN meeting in Houston. It was a very profitable week for me.

Dr. Kenneth Chafin and his staff are giving creative, dynamic leadership to this program. They frankly admit that the plan may have many flaws, but they intend to keep it open-ended and subject to change when experience indicates that this is needed.

I like the WIN Program for many reasons:

It is simple—not too sophisticated and complicated.

It is church-centered. This has many advantages: Any church can use it.

It makes personal evangelism a continuous, integral, major part of the church's ministry and program—not an isolated, seasonal activity. It permits a responsible follow-up ministry—both to those who accept Christ, and to those who do not. It endeavors to enlist and train the maximum number of lay

Christians—men, women, and young people—to share their faith in all of their "worlds" (at home, work, school, clubs, etc.).

It stresses person-to-person, direct (but not "hard sell") evangelism.

It stresses spiritual foundations and essential—dependence upon the Holy Spirit, prayer, serious Bible study, and a vital, winsome personal testimony.

It seeks to avoid a mechanical, "canned", contrived, technique by stressing that God, alone, can convict and save lost persons. It stresses that the printed materials are simply tools or aids.

In summary—it is Scriptural. It stresses that every person needs Christ, and that every Christian is to be a witness of the Gospel.

Again, may I commend this program to all of our pastors and churches, and may God use it mightily to bring many to Christ and to bless the lives of many Christians as they share their faith with others.

—Jamie Jones, BSU Director, University of Arkansas

'Jesus Christ, Superstar'

An admittedly late note concerning Tal Bonham's "Superstar or Son of God?": I picked up a May 27 *Arkansas Baptist* and read Mrs. Pat Elder's letter then went back to read the article that prompted it. I wish that Mr. Bonham had listened more closely to "Jesus Christ, Superstar". It has a lot to say that he did not hear, and he apparently heard a lot that it did not say.

The divinity of Christ is never openly challenged. It is merely left as an open question for the listener to decide. The depiction of Christ as a "superstar" is merely by his followers who failed to understand his mission, not by Christ himself. Judas presents the idea that it was all a publicity plot, but his suspicions are shown by the remainder of the lyrics to be false.

Buddah and Mohammed are most certainly not presented as Jesus' equals. He is asked rhetorically whether they are as "great" as he, the clear implication being that they are not.

The only valid objection which I can see is the omission of the resurrection. It is not, however, the blasphemous evil that Mr. Bonham describes. The story is concerned with the crucifixion, as Mrs. Elder wrote, and describes it movingly. I would press Mr. Bonham for specific instances of the opera's straying from scripture. The only variations which I can find are matters of interpretation, and hardly significant matters at that.—Neal Sumerlin, Student, Ouachita University, Member, First Church, Arkadelphia

* * *

Thank you for publishing the article, "Superstar or Son of God?" Dr. Bonham has done a beautiful and Biblical job of exposing the world's view of Christ.

Many Christians blindly approve of anything that youth do in the name of religion, whether it is scriptural or not.

Those who know the Bible teaching concerning God and Christ can only say "Amen" to this article. Thank you for sharing Dr. Bonham's article with your readers.

Newspaper editor at Ouachita named

ARKADELPHIA—Brenda Dierker of Grubville, Mo., has been named editor of the *Signal*, the student newspaper at Ouachita University.

A junior journalism major, Miss Dierker was a staff writer for the *Signal* last year.

Woman's viewpoint

Beauty and dry bones

By Iris O'Neal Bowen



Mrs. Bowen

I have a friend who is, in my opinion, a near-genius at taking little tacky things such as rocks, pieces of wood or foam plastic she has garnered from behind the shopping centers, and with other little tacky dabs of this and that, transforming them into surprisingly attractive items.

Since she teaches kindergarten, she is always on the alert for such goodies and I, as her non-talented but admiring buddy, am always casting my eye about for something she can beautify.

The other day as I was casting my eye about, it accidentally fell upon a small piece of white bone, a couple of inches long, hollow and nicely bleached from lying out in the elements. I presumed it was from the leg of a cow, since it lay out behind a meat market, and glancing about to see that I was not being watched, I snatched up the bone and hid it in my purse.

A day or two later, during a quiet moment at the check-out stand, I was ranging through my purse and ran my finger through the bone. A customer of ours walked up just as I came out of the purse, finger, leg-bone and all.

Now, this customer is also always coming up with creative urges, antiquing milk cans and stringing brightly colored gourds across her front porch.

Partly on impulse but more to cover my embarrassment over my fingered bone, I asked her, "Did you ever take something real ugly, and make something real pretty out of it?"

"Yes, I did!" she replied firmly, "my husband!"

Well, I keep looking at my little bone, then at the collection of flesh and bone I took for better or worse these 32 years ago, and wonder how she did it!

Antiquing him I have done. Gracing the front porch with him has also been successful. But improve on the best looking guy around at the time? When I finally thought about it, it was too late!

Ten Arkansas students receive degrees from Southern Seminary

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Ten students from Arkansas received degrees during the May 1971 commencement at the Southern Seminary.

The Arkansans were part of a 200-member graduation class, the largest since the seminary's Centennial commencement in the spring of 1959. Two-hundred-sixty-seven graduated that year.

Tony Land Berry, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robie Berry, Walnut Ridge, was awarded the master of divinity degree. He is a 1965 graduate of Ouachita University, Arkadelphia.

Winfred Paul Bridges, the son of James Paul Bridges, Monette, was presented the master of divinity degree. He is a 1967 graduate of Arkansas State University, Jonesboro.

Charles M. Covington, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Covington, Little Rock, received the master of divinity degree, also. He is a 1967 graduate of Ouachita University.

William E. Dumas, son of Mrs. H. W. Dumas Jr., Hot Springs, was granted the master of religious education in social work degree. He is a 1967 Ouachita graduate.

Gerry Heard, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Heard, El Dorado, received the master of divinity degree. He is a 1967

graduate of Baylor University, Waco, Tex.

G. Atherton Hiett, son of G. Atherton Hiett Sr., Leachville, was awarded the master of divinity degree. He is a 1967 graduate of Ouachita University.

Warren Leigh McWilliams, son of Mr. and Mrs. George L. McWilliams, Ft. Smith, was granted the master of divinity degree. He is a 1968 graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Okla.

Ben Owen, son of Rev. and Mrs. Hugh Owen, Malvern, received the master of divinity degree. He graduated from Ouachita University in 1968.

Dan G. Smith, son of Rev. and Mrs. Glen H. Smith, North Little Rock, was granted the master of divinity degree. He is a 1968 graduate of Ouachita University.

Jon M. Stubblefield, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roland P. Stubblefield, Fayetteville, was granted the master of divinity degree. He received his B.A. degree from the University of Arkansas in 1967 and his M.A. from there in 1968.

Commencement speaker was Harper Shannon, pastor of First Church, Dothan, Ala. A former second vice-president of the Southern Baptist Convention, he is also a past-president of the SBC Pastors' Conference.

Concord Ass'n Acteen coronation at Ft. Smith church

An Acteen Coronation Service was held recently at South Side Church, Ft. Smith. Combined with the coronation was recognition of seven Girls in Actions.

Mrs. Curtis Sawyer is Acteen leader and Jack Pollard, pastor. The new queens are Karen Fuller, Leslie Staton, Gretchen Jordan, Cathy Boone, Lynda Treece, and Yvonne Stipsky.

Recent pastoral changes include: **First**, Magazine, James Tallant, came to Magazine from Fitzgerald Crossing.

Oak Cliff, Ft. Smith, Pat Campbell, from Southwestern Seminary.

Temple, Ft. Smith, Jack Porter, from Green Forrest.

Phoenix Village, Billy G. Milam, from Southwestern Seminary.

Mt. Zion, Kenneth Huff, from Van Buren.

Memorial, Hackett, Hugh Gowens, from Benton County.

Delbert Hill has resigned his pastorate at Bloomer.

James A. Griffin, Superintendent of Missions, Concord Baptist Association, Ft. Smith.

Park Hill calls minister of youth



Mr. Medlin

Park Hill Church, North Little Rock, has called Del Medlin as minister of youth. He is a student at Ouachita University but will serve full time during the summer.

He will be responsible for all activities for young people in junior high through college and career.

At Ouachita, he has been freshman B.S.U. president and is a member of Sigma Alpha Sigma social club. He is a member of the Arkansas Air National Guard.

Mr. Medlin is a native of Little Rock.

Deaths

George W. Schroeder, 57, Memphis, executive secretary of the Brotherhood Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention for 19 years, May 29.

He had retired a month ago as chief administrative officer of the Southern Baptist mission education agency when his ill health kept him from his duties. Under Dr. Schroeder's leadership, enrollment in Brotherhood units in Baptist churches climbed to a high of 634,646, in 1964. It is now 422,000.



SEMINARY GRADUATES—(top) Tony Berry, Winfred Paul Bridges, Charles M. Covington, William E. Dumas; (Second row) G. Atherton Hiett, Warren Leigh McWilliams, Ben Owen, Dan G. Smith; (bottom) Jon M. Stubblefield.

Your state convention at work

RA camping includes worship



The above scene is being duplicated this week as boys worship together in Royal Ambassador Camp. It will continue being duplicated each week through July 2.

The sweetest music this side of heaven is produced when boys, in camp, unite their voices in song. Singing and worship is a daily activity at camp. Worship and a

presentation of the claims of Christ for each boy's life has resulted in decisions changing the lives of many boys.

Last year 29 campers accepted Christ as Saviour. During the same period 66 made rededications and 16 made a surrender to church related vocations. Many of our present missionaries, pastors and other Christian vocational

workers made their decisions in Royal Ambassador camp.

Royal Ambassador camp will be beneficial to any boy. The program is designed to assist each boy in growth and development spiritually, mentally, physically and socially.

Under the leadership of a Christian staff campers are led to realize the value of spiritual growth. Each boy is led to study and participate in activities that will enrich his spiritual life and help him find God's will and plan for his life.

Campers are provided opportunities to learn about nature and increase their knowledge of the many things God has given us to make life more interesting. They are taught the basic rules of camping and the art of living out-of-doors. Older boys are instructed in the use of compass and maps.

Proper food, exercise, and proper health habits enable campers to understand physical growth. It is not necessary to grow large but to be healthy and strong.

Social growth results in learning to live with others and learning to respect their rights and sharing with them. Camp time is a time of being together and sharing together many worthwhile experiences.

Every boy should have the privilege of attending a week of Royal Ambassador Camp.

Make reservations now for one of the remaining weeks.—C. H. Seaton



Robert Erwin



Sharon Whittenburg



Laraine Smirl



Robin Graves



Cathy Adams



Janet Mathews

Associational music tournament winners

Congratulations are in order for the following young people who recently won First Place in their chosen area of competition at their Associational music tournaments.

These winners will participate in the state tournament June 18 at Ouachita University.

Calvary Association: Sharon Whittenburg, Judsonia, First.

Harmony Association: Gale Heard, Watson Chapel, Pine Bluff; Frances Byrd and David Mitchell, Immanuel, Pine Bluff.

Black River Association: Laraine Smirl, Newport, First; and Robert Erwin, Imboden, First.

Mt. Zion Association: Sue Reeves and Elizabeth Henigan of Monette, First.

Central Association: Leah Newman, Pleasant Hill,

Bauxite; Robin Graves, Central, Hot Springs; and Becky Hollingsworth, First, Benton.

Bartholomew Association: Loranelle Johnson, Warren, First (winner both in vocal and organ); and Robert Green, Warren, First.

North Pulaski Association: Becky Goss, Park Hill, North Little Rock; Janet Mathews and Cathy Adams, Baring Cross, North Little Rock.

Liberty Association: Mike Sharp, Maple Avenue, Smackover.

The state tournament will be held in connection with the State Adult and Youth Music Conference at Ouachita on June 14-19.

— Ural C. Clayton, Secretary



ALL Baptist Student Directors in Arkansas who are employed by the Arkansas Baptist State Convention attended the recent WIN Conference in Houston. Ken Chafin and Nathan Porter of the Evangelism Department of the Home Mission Board met with the Arkansas directors for a special luncheon at Houston's Central Holiday Inn.

BSU directors attend WIN conference at Houston



NATHAN PORTER, talks to Arkansas and Texas BSU directors about the adaptation of WIN material for college campuses.



KEN CHAFIN held special sessions for Baptist Student Directors on Thursday and Friday mornings.

TOM LOGUE, Arkansas State Student Director, answers question of Chafin. (Jack Cowling and Don Norrington, Arkansas directors, on the right of Logue.)



TEN Arkansas BSU Directors attended Southern Baptists' second WIN Conference, held at South Main Baptist Church in Houston.

— Photos by Home Mission Board



Some suggestions on lay witnessing schools

Many have been asking about the cost of Lay Witnessing Schools. If an individual church plans a school and uses outside help, money will be needed to cover cost of the materials and take care of the director's expense during the school plus an honorarium. Our recommendation is that ordinarily the pastor or a layman in the church who has been to a leadership school in one of our pilot schools, should conduct the local church Lay Witnessing School. When this is done the expenses can be held to a very minimum.

The church should include an item in its 1972 budget for a Lay Witnessing School. Also, each person who attends should pay a \$5 registration fee (maximum of \$10 per family) to help cover the cost of the school or, perhaps the church will want to pay all the expenses for anyone who wishes to attend.

When a Lay Witnessing School is conducted and a Leadership School is also held in the daytime to train leaders, there will be more expenses. Please feel free to contact Ralph Davis or myself concerning these matters.

The heart and core of a school is to locate prospects three months in advance. The names, addresses, and spiritual history should be filed in the church office. This is the list the participants will use in their witnessing periods. Please keep in mind the school is limited to people who want to learn how to witness.—Jesse S. Reed, Director of Evangelism

WMU

Missionary to Nigeria to speak at camp



Miss Hall

Miss Ruth Ann Hall, missionary to Ibadan, Nigeria, the first dental hygienist to be appointed by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, will be a guest speaker at Girls' Camp to be held at Camp Paron, July 5-10.

Other missionaries expected for Girls' Camps scheduled for July 12-17, 19-24, and 26-31 are Miss Dorothy Latham, Brazil; Miss Sarah Lou Henley, Nigeria; Mrs. Harold Cummins, Kenya; and Mrs. Robert Bellingier, Liberia.

Registrations are now being received at the State WMU Office for all weeks.

State assembly

Alcohol, narcotics worker will speak to Siloam Springs campers



Mr. Ramsey

Paul R. Ramsey, educational assistant, Christian Civic Foundation of Arkansas, Inc., will serve on the staff of the Arkansas Baptist Assembly during the second and third assemblies, July 5-10 and July 12-17. He will present a program on

alcohol and narcotics and their dangers.

His experience and training make him well qualified in these areas. He has served as public information officer with the Arkansas State Police. While serving his active duty training with the Army National Guard, he was stationed

in the Criminal Investigation Division, Ft. Sam Houston, Tex. He has received special training in the alcohol-narcotics field at Baylor University, Waco, Tex., Mars Hill College, North Carolina, and Loma Linda University, California.

Most of his time is devoted to presenting the Foundation's alcohol-narcotics education program in the junior and senior high schools of the state.

He is a member of First Church, Beebe.

The Christian Civic Foundation of Arkansas, Inc., is supported by the churches of the state. The Arkansas Baptist State Convention and a number of Arkansas Baptist churches and associations include the Foundation in their budgets.

— Lawson Hatfield, assembly director

New Subscribers

New budget after free trial:

Church	pastor	association
Memorial, Hackett	Hugh Gowens	Concord

Bus ministry clinic attended by 127

One hundred twenty seven staff members and laymen from 73 churches attended the Sunday School bus clinic held recently in Little Rock's Immanuel church. The clinic was sponsored by Sunday School Department, Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

Program personnel included men from churches involved in outreach through a bus ministry. These included Garland Morrison, pastor, North Main Church, Jonesboro; Robert James, minister of education, First Church, Ft. Smith; Bernard Spooner, minister of education, Travis Avenue Church, Ft. Worth, Tex.; and Ben Smith, minister of education, Beckley Hills Church, Dallas, Tex. These men shared information on getting a bus ministry started, enlisting riders, visitation, budget and equipment, Saturday's schedule, and activities on the bus.

Carl Bunch, superintendent of missions, Mt. Zion Association, gave a report on the nation-wide bus conference held recently in Atlanta, Ga., and served as a resource person.

The Baptist Sunday School Board's Sunday School department was represented by Chester Vaughn, consultant in the general administration section, and Robert Fulbright,

supervisor of the preschool and children's division. Mr. Vaughn reviewed a suggested program design for a bus ministry. Mr. Fulbright gave expression to a philosophy on evangelism with children as related to a bus ministry.

Packets of material on starting and conducting a bus ministry are available for \$3. These can be ordered from the Sunday School Department, 525 West Capitol, Little Rock, Ark. 72201.—Lawson Hatfield, Sunday School department.

Leader training opportunities

WMU leadership elected to serve during 1971-72 will have unusual opportunities for training. There will be two identical WMU Leadership Houseparties - one at Ouachita University, Aug. 10-11, and the other at Southern Baptist College, Aug. 19-20. (Please note! The latter is a "new" date!)

Also there will be a chartered bus to WMU Conference, Glorieta, leaving Little Rock July 20 and returning July 29.

Details on conferences are available from State WMU Office. — Nancy Cooper, Executive Secretary and Treasurer



SBC—Messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in St. Louis, Mo., pause for the camera during the opening session of the convention.

Executive Committee

Budget of \$24,630,589 approved by Southern Baptists for 1972

ST. LOUIS, June 1—The Southern Baptist Convention divested itself of two hospitals, located its 1976 meeting in Norfolk, Va., adopted a 1972 budget of \$24,630,589 and altered its bylaws, at the opening session of its 114th annual meeting Tuesday at Kiel Auditorium.

The hospital vote completed a separation process begun last year. The hospitals in Jacksonville, Fla., and New Orleans, La., now become private institutions, effective Sept. 1.

Messengers voted to hold the Southern Baptist Convention June 15-17, 1976, in Norfolk. Consideration of this site was referred last year to the Executive Committee for study after messengers objected to the distance between some hotels and the meeting site. A sub-committee of the Executive Committee visited Norfolk and reported that facilities are adequate.

The 1972 Cooperative Program budget the messengers approved covers a nine-month span created by a change in the convention's fiscal year. It does not represent an increase in operating funds. Cooperative Program receipts at the end of last year reflected only a 1.79 percent increase over the previous year.

Gifts show increase

Porter Routh, Nashville, Tenn.,

executive secretary of the Executive Committee, reported Cooperative Program receipts have picked up during the first five months of this year, increasing 5.6 percent over the same period last year.

The bylaw change permits the SBC president to appoint the resolutions committee at least sixty days in advance of the convention rather than on the first day of the convention.

Another bylaw alteration requests that copies of proposed resolutions be submitted to the committee thirty days before the Convention to make possible more thorough consideration and to expedite resolutions committee work.

In answer to a question by Al Engelmann, San Pablo, Calif., Convention President Carl Bates said the new bylaw will not prohibit offering of resolutions from the floor during the convention.

Other bylaw changes permit the convention's committee on order of business, rather than the president, to appoint the music director for the convention.

C-P principles

In other business, the Convention reaffirmed principles of the Cooperative

Program, the unified budget system adopted in 1925. A new feature in the principles is a request to states not to cut the percentage of Cooperative Program funds leaving the state for national causes without giving SBC representatives a chance to present their agencies' needs.

The statement outlines relationships between state Baptist conventions, churches, and the Southern Baptist Convention. The principles protect the right of churches to designate contributions to the programs of their choice.

The convention also adopted recommendations pertaining to representation in the Northern American Baptist Fellowship and agreed on a rate scale for annuities paid by agencies of the SBC. Messengers also asked the Radio and Television Commission, Foreign Mission Board, and Home Mission Board to work out procedures for using broadcast media in missions.

Following study of the basis of representation in the Convention, the Executive Committee recommended that no changes be made, since no improving idea had been suggested. The messengers concurred.

The Convention also adopted recommendations for promotion in 1973-74. The approved emphasis is called "Share the Word Now." It includes an outline of three projects for witnessing, involving people in Bible study, and starting new missions and churches.

Criswell reaffirms Bible as 'inerrant, infallible word'

ST. LOUIS, May 31 — Supported by an enthusiastic crowd at the closing session of the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference W. A. Criswell, Dallas, reaffirmed "the inerrant and infallible word of God."

The Amen-punctuated sermon by Criswell, former president of the Southern Baptist Convention, to more than 7,000 persons ended a day packed with 15 sermons on various aspects of preachers and their ministry.

Speakers at the closing session examined "God's Preacher as a Person," while those at morning and afternoon sessions scrutinized him as a prophet and as a person facing the world's problems and temptations.

The preachers elected John Bisagno, pastor of First Church, Houston, Tex., as their next president.

Gene Phillips, pastor of University Church, Peoria, Ill., was chosen vice president, and Bill Wallace, pastor of Woodlawn Church, Charlotte, N. C., as secretary.

The preacher's special mandate is to preach the Word of God — the Bible — which says that all Scripture is inspired of God," said Criswell, pastor of Dallas' First Church, largest among the 34,360 in the denomination with 15,000 members, "This introduces us to the long and bitter controversy about the inerrant and infallible Word of God."

Criswell characterized the modern day as one in which there is vigorous opposition and antagonism to the Bible.

He criticized "modern intellectuals" who would say "the Bible is like Aesop's Fables — full of fairy tales" and cited historical and scientific information in efforts to rebuff persons who claim the Bible contains historical and scientific error.

"Science, like a chicken, molts every day," he said.

Citing a library in Paris which he said contains three-and-a-half miles of obsolete science texts, Criswell jabbed at those who would "rewrite the Bible on the basis of the latest scientific information."

Criswell referred to archaeology which in all its probing into "tens of thousands of years of history" has never made "even one discovery contradicting the Word of God" and "tens of thousands which uphold the Bible."

Cothen chides nitpickers

Earlier, Grady Cothen, president of New Orleans Seminary, chided Baptists

who engage in bitter battles over the Bible.

"One of the strangest things in all Christendom is the fights we have about our Bible," he said. "We engage in a contest on who is the most orthodox. Many of us almost hate one another over the Scriptures."

Dealing with the various problems that effect a minister's morality, Cothen said a pastor can function without many things — but not without personal integrity in all his relations.

He outlined pressures and temptations to which Christian integrity must be applied, including sexuality, dishonesty, hostilities and hatred and temptation to insinuate falsely about others, including the tendency carelessly to label others as liberal or unscriptural.

Meek cites 'poverty'

Jon F. Meek, Jr., New York, told the pastors that "the spiritual poverty of the city is so great that it demands the attention of our convention. It demands priority attention. It demands that we give attention to the investment of missions funds . . . to the attention of men, money, and methods and any and everything that will bring to bear an effective witness for Christ."

Meek, missions director of the Baptist General Convention of New York, said preachers and churches must not run from the city, as they would naturally tend to do, but stay and minister to the people.

Former SBC President J. D. Grey, pastor of First Church, New Orleans, said preachers should fill the role of modern-day prophets without fear of trying to please everyone.

"Far too many so-called modern-day prophets make about as much impact upon society as a rubber balloon filled with dry oatmeal dropped on a foam-rubber cushion," he said.

"If God's Word preached by his prophet got results in the ancient city of Ninevah, I maintain emphatically that God's word when faithfully preached by his modern-day prophets will bring results in our modern Ninevahs," he said.

James Hester, Dallas, associate in the evangelism division of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, urged preachers to realize the importance of foreign missions.

"When your only area of concern is one small area, you live in a mighty small

world," said the former missionary to Italy.

Calls for integrity

The preacher and his financial integrity drew the attention of John F. Gibson, pastor of Wesleyan Drive Church, Macon, Ga.

"Since our creditors have been influenced in part by our positions and by the basic honesty expected of our calling, they are entitled to receive their due from our purse," he said.

W. Fred Swank, pastor of Sagamore Hill Church, Ft. Worth, Tex., cautioned pastors that their attitudes play a large role in their relationship with others. He took to task those who rejoice in the misfortunes of other pastors, jealously attempt to explain away their successes or pettily try to undermine them.

Former SBC President H. Franklin Paschall, Nashville, Tenn., echoed a sentiment of other speakers — "preachers and their families are flesh and blood, just like other people, subject to the same frailties."

He said a lot of preachers and wives, subject to heavy pressures, would divorce if they were not in the church.

SBC officers

Landes, Hultgren SBC Vice Presidents

ST. LOUIS (BP)—After re-electing Carl E. Bates, Charlotte, N. C., to a second term as its president, the Southern Baptist Convention here named two new vice presidents and re-elected its other major officers.

Elected first vice president, was James H. Landes, pastor of First Church, Richardson, Tex., a suburb of Dallas. Landes defeated W. Ross Edwards, editor of the *Word and Way*, in Jefferson City, Mo., in a runoff.

Warren Hultgren, pastor of First Church, Tulsa, Okla., was elected second vice president.

Three secretaries for the convention were re-elected, from Nashville: Clifton J. Allen, recording secretary (retired editorial secretary for the denomination's Sunday School Board); W. Fred Kendall, registration secretary, (executive secretary of the Tennessee Baptist Convention); and Porter W. Routh, treasurer, (executive secretary, SBC Executive Committee).

Baptist women recommit themselves to mission causes

ST. LOUIS.—“Here is my life,” sang almost 3,000 women and a generous sprinkling of men in a resounding finale to Southern Baptist Woman’s Missionary Union’s annual meeting.

The three-session, one-day meeting was climaxed by a time of commitment. In song, prayer, Scripture, and meditation, the audience was urged to pledge personal commitment to missions.

The Volunteer State Chorale, ministers of music from Tennessee, wove the service together with special music such as “Hallelujah,” by Handel. Claude H. Rhea Jr., Birmingham, Ala., and Gene Bartlett, Oklahoma City, directed congregational music and sang in tandem.

Each session spotlighted one of WMU’s purposes: mission study, mission action, and mission support through prayer, money, and preparation of missionary vocation volunteers.

Mrs. R. L. Mathis, Waco, Tex., who was re-elected for a third term as president of the 1.3 million-member organization, asked women to make more than a token commitment to WMU’s goals.

“We must determine to act on a higher commitment to Christ’s plan,” she said.

Alma Hunt, Birmingham, Ala., executive secretary of WMU, called, in three addresses, for a “committed minority” of women.

‘A woman, a way’

“Where there’s a woman, there’s a way,” she declared. “WMU was born out of the need for mission support. We are committed today as we were in 1888 to sustaining missions.”

Miss Hunt described the popular interest in education as an asset to WMU’s desire to make churches aware of the world missions situation.

“WMU is committed to helping the church make of itself a force in the world through mission action,” she said. “Our goal is not only to help people in Christ’s name but to change attitudes through action.”

Porter Routh, Nashville, Tenn., executive secretary of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, and Baker J. Cauthen, Richmond, Va., executive secretary of the Foreign Mission Board, both praised the women for their part in a recent upsurge in Cooperative Program gifts.

Cauthen thanked the women for their promotion of the Lottie Moon

Christian offering for Foreign Missions, which recently rang up a record total of \$16,220,104.99.

Arthur B. Rutledge of Atlanta, Ga., executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, expressed optimism for the annual home missions offering now being reported.

Calls for loyalty

Mrs. Robert Fling, Pleasantville, N. Y., a former national WMU president and now president of New York WMU, delivered pleas for personal commitment to the three WMU purposes.

“We must cut the roots of self-love personally, in churches, and in states in order that world missions not be curtailed,” she said.

Two foreign missionaries and two home missions executives spoke during the meeting. Robert C. Davis Jr., missionary to Vietnam, said that regardless of division in the United States over the nation’s role in Southeast Asia, Southern Baptist missionaries are certain God wants missionaries in the country.

Missions in Vietnam

Davis praised Baptist service men stationed in Vietnam who have helped the missionaries minister to human needs of the Vietnamese.

G. Webster Carroll, missionary to Uganda, spoke of Southern Baptists’ need to base their work on a full understanding of Jesus.

“When men begin to doubt the authority and power of Jesus, they begin not to care,” he said. “Their Christianity has no authority.”

Carroll said he believes Baptists will give more support to foreign missions if they are moved with compassion for neighbors next door.

Wendell Belew, Atlanta, director of the division of missions at the Home Mission Board, pledged partnership with WMU in sharing Christ with Americans.

“WMU mission action implements home missions, while home missions uses mission action wherever women are organized to work,” he said. “Where WMU is not in existence, home missionaries want it organized immediately,” he said.

Kenneth L. Chafin of Atlanta, director of the department of evangelism for the Home Mission Board, spoke three times on why Southern Baptists should be involved in meeting needs of and witnessing to fellow-Americans.

Officers named by pastors’ wives

ST. LOUIS—More than 300 women were told at a luncheon here last week that they can be better ministers’ wives.

Occasion of the luncheon, at Third Church, was the 16th annual Conference of Ministers’ Wives. In attendance were eight former conference presidents.

“Happiness Is Being Married to a Baptist Minister” was the topic of principal speaker David Edens, Stephens College, Columbia, Mo. A former minister of counseling at San Antonio Trinity Baptist Church, Edens heads the college’s Marriage and Family Counseling program.

“Women today are expecting and demanding an identity of their own,” he said. “They are increasingly rejecting the notion that their lives should be planned for them.”

Edens said the demands for independence are not generated by the women’s liberation movement alone, but, “by a genuine freeing of the spirit.”

Questions directly relating to women’s roles as ministers’ wives were raised by the psychotherapist. He shared characteristics common to breaking marriages and alerted the women to ways they may avoid them.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Wilch, St. Louis, provided “Happiness in Love Songs.” Wilch is minister to youth at Kirkwood Church.

President of the Conference in 1972 is Mrs. Charles Watkins, Roanoke, Va. Mrs. D. B. Martin, McMurray, Penn., is the new vice president; Mrs. T. Earl Ogg of Monroe, La., recording secretary, and Mrs. Billie Mobley, Alaskie, N. C., corresponding secretary.

Elected for 1973 was Mrs. Claude Bowen, Greensboro, N. C., president, Mrs. Gilbert Skaar, Shelton, Wash., vice president; Mrs. David Ray, Lubbock, Tex., secretary-treasurer; and Mrs. Samuel Shepard, Miami, Fla., corresponding secretary.

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WMU OFFICERS: The Woman's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention, in its annual session last week in St. Louis, re-elected Mrs. R. L. Mathis, Waco, Tex., left, president, and Mrs. Roy E. Snider, Camden, Ark., center, recording secretary. Right is Miss Alma Hunt, Birmingham, Ala., executive secretary.



MINISTERS WIVES CONFERENCE — New officers for the Ministers Wives Conference elected in St. Louis, Mo., are: (left to right) Mrs. D. B. Martin, McMurray, Pa., vice president; Mrs. Charles Watkins, Roanoke, Va., president; Mrs. Billie Mobley, Ahoskie, N.C., corresponding secretary and Mrs. T. Earl Ogg, Monroe, La., recording secretary.

Would eliminate 'doctrinal reader'

ST. LOUIS, June 1—A motion that the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's "doctrinal reader" be eliminated was referred Tuesday to the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention.

In a miscellaneous business session filled with numerous resolutions and motions, Walker Stockburger, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church, Norfolk, Va., moved that the reader's position, now held by Leo Eddleman, former president of New Orleans Seminary, be eliminated.

SBC President Carl Bates of Charlotte, N. C., ruled that convention by-laws dictate that issues concerning convention agencies be referred to the Executive Committee.

Messengers sustained Bates in his ruling after a point of order called by Alvin C. Shackelford of Indianapolis, editor of the *Indiana Baptist*. Shackelford contended that the wording of the by-law dealt only with motions from agencies, not about them.

The doctrinal reader was employed by the Sunday School Board at Nashville, Tenn., last September following the request by last year's convention in Denver to rewrite Volume one of the *Broadman Bible Commentary*.

The reader evaluates Sunday School Board literature to discover anything which might cause theological misunderstandings. Broadman publications are not included in Eddleman's responsibilities, according to a Sunday School Board spokesman.

One of seven motions, presented by M. O. Owens of North Carolina, referred to the *Baptist Program*, monthly publication of the Executive Committee, which "carried two articles which present acceptance of fallibility and errancy in the Scriptures and no article of an opposite viewpoint."

Owens moved "that the convention respectfully request the Executive Committee and the editor of the *Baptist Program* to provide equal space that competent, conservative scholars may present the convention viewpoint, which holds to the inerrancy of the Bible," Owens said.

Other motions included two calling for the SBC by-laws to be amended. One would have the convention meet every two years instead of annually and the other that a procedure be spelled out for dealing with controversial issues affecting the internal operations of SBC agencies. The first motion was made by Charles M. Edmonds of Big Stone Gap, Va., the second by Ernest White of St. Joseph, Mo.

RE conference names officers

ST. LOUIS.—Most Southern Baptists have "made a profession out of not letting anybody find out anything important about them," Kenneth L. Chafin, Atlanta, division of the evangelism department of the Home Mission Board, told Southern Baptist educators here Monday night of last week.

Chafin, who is spearheading the development of workable witnessing techniques for church members, spoke at the concluding session of the Southern Baptist Religious Education Association conference, which attracted 272 religious education workers.

The conference featured a series of talks on developments that are happening now in church ministries and addresses by several denomination leaders, including Carl E. Bates, Charlotte, N. C., president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Chafin shared the podium with Jaroy Weber, pastor of Dauphin Way Church, Mobile, Ala., who told about his congregation's busing ministry.

The association elected Joe Burnette, minister of education at First Church, Charlotte, N. C., president. He had been president-elect during the past year.

New president-elect is John Durst, Columbia, Sunday School secretary of the South Carolina Baptist Convention. Elected first vice president was Tom Allerton, minister of education, First Church Atlanta.

The new second vice president is Miss Rita Stewart, dean of women at Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth Tex. William E. Young, director of church administration field services, SBC Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn., was re-elected secretary-treasurer.

Couple to be honored on wedding anniversary

Rev. and Mrs. C. R. McCollum will be honor guests Sunday, June 27, at a Golden Wedding Anniversary reception at Ebenezer Church, El Dorado, their daughter Mrs. Claoma Benefield, of 5660 Park Manor Drive, San Jose, Calif., has announced.

The reception will be held from 1 to 5 p.m., and friends of the family are invited.



'Frustrated' Jenny Estes gets encouragement from a fellow youth.

Students 'speak up' at SBC on what youth seek in church

By J. D. Dennis

ST. LOUIS (BP) — Jenny Estes couldn't sing "Amazing Grace" during the Southern Baptist Convention here. The noise was too loud. Halfway through the second verse of her solo, shouts from students drove her from the stage.

"That music is as old as the building," they shouted. "We should deal with contemporary problems."

Jenny's solo was the opening volley from Baptist college students during their presentation to the convention, the first time that Baptist students have had a slot on the program.

The feature, "Students Speak Up," combined sight, sound, music, testimonies, and slides to depict what students are trying to do in the world through the church. At first, the loud interruption seemed to startle the messengers. Later, they realized it was all part of the planned presentation.

When Jenny, a George Peabody College graduate student from Nashville, couldn't finish her solo, "The Bridge," a Baptist folk music group from the University of Alabama, filled the void with a rocking rendition of "Put Your Hand in the Hand of the Man from Galilee."

Three fellow students who are actively involved in Baptist Student Union activities came to her aid. They testified to what God had done in their lives and what they want to do in the world.

David Dixon, Lois Weaver and Joe Wylie told Jenny to have faith. They said something is going on among Baptist students. Dixon is a recent graduate of North Texas State University in Denton and Wylie, a football star, attends the University of Oklahoma in Norman.

Miss Weaver, state B.S.U. president in Virginia and a student at Radford College, Radford, Va., challenged the convention to, "use us in our Christian concern for our world. Help us to form opinions in the area of social concern, guide us in commitment to those concerns, then take us a step beyond commitment and into action."

Ed Culpepper, leader of "The Bridge," summed up the students' feelings: "Working in the church and through the church we have greater opportunity to share Jesus Christ."

When Jenny sang "Amazing Grace" again, not only did she finish the first two verses, but more than 10,000 messengers in Kiel Auditorium stood to sing the last verse with her.

W. C. Fields — spotlighter of Southern Baptists

By The Editor

Field marshal of the greatest religious news coverage in America is Southern Baptists' W. C. Fields.

In his four-fold position of public relations secretary of the Executive Committee of SBC, press representative of SBC, editor of *The Baptist Program*, and director of the Baptist Press, Dr. Fields (he has the Th.D. degree from Southern Seminary, Louisville) has been responsible as no one else for making Southern Baptists the most spotlighted religious denomination in the world.

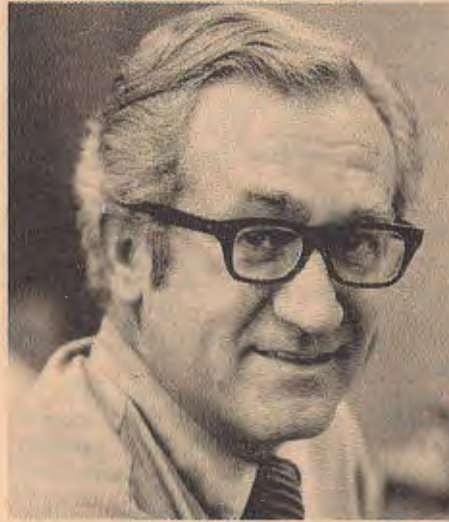
There are some who think this achievement something less than an unmixed blessing for a people who frequently "wash their dirty linen in public." But Fields and the SBC Executive Committee, which pays his salary, feel that Southern Baptists have nothing to hide, from themselves or from anybody else.

For many years, now, the news coverage of the annual sessions of the SBC, under W.C.'s direction, has constituted one of the most remarkable routines in the religious world. Top journalists from news services and newspapers of the nation who have come to cover the conventions have frequently been more enthralled by the Baptist Press operation than by the myriad of actions and activities it consistently covers to the last minutia.

From time to time columnists have paid tribute to Fields and his associates for their phenomenal operation. But it remained for James Robison, staff writer of the *St. Louis Globe Democrat*, to be the first to do a full-scale feature article on the theme. The article appeared in the *Globe Democrat* of May 29-30, just ahead of the 114th annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention last week in St. Louis. Its six-column, streamer-head created some apprehension in inner Baptist circles: 'The selling of the Baptists.' But it turned out to be quite a different story from "The selling of the Pentagon."

Some of the highlights of Fields' symphonic communication production this year that fascinated Mr. Robison were:

1. Assemblage of a staff of 56 specialists (the most of them volunteers working "free gratis, for nothing") to cover various aspects of the convention;
2. Provision of free coffee, soft drinks and doughnuts to reporters, along with tables, typewriters, telephones, headgears tied in with the inter-communication system, and with



Dr. Fields

closed-circuit TV, all in a large, restricted-area press room;

3. Extensive, on-the-spot, press photo service available to all reporters at cost (\$2 per 8-by-10-inch glossy print);

4. Free distribution, in advance, of all major speeches, printed in full "to give the press an idea of what's upcoming";

5. A radio-TV news center for getting out daily news summaries on convention proceedings, via telephone "hotlines," to 500 radio stations all over the nation;

6. Provision in advance to newsmen of "news kjts" of 125 pages each—"a newsman's delight."

The philosophy back of such elaborate press service was expressed by Dr. Fields in interview with Mr. Robison:

"Southern Baptists have a primary responsibility to their congregations and the public at large to report what the largest Protestant group is doing or not doing and how it's maintaining its role on the religious scene."

There are many ways of judging a man. In the quarter of a century I have known W. C. Fields I have viewed him from many angles and in widely varying circumstances. I have never known him to rate anything but A-plus. A ball of energy and congeniality, this six-foot, 190-pound native of Saline, La., is a rare combination of rich, native endowment and remarkable training and experience, all of it totally committed to serving the Lord and the Lord's people. At 49, Dr. Fields has been everywhere and seen everything (he has traveled in 60 countries) and done the equivalent of

two or three lifetimes of things worthwhile.

He has a marvelous helpmate, in Rebecca Elizabeth Hagan, of Ft. Thomas, Ky., whom he married on June 22, 1946. He has a wonderful family, in Randall Hagan, Christy Alderson, and Rebecca Borden Fields. He has a superb staff headed by Jim Newton. And he has "the greatest denomination on earth" to serve.

As Jim Newton describes him: "He is a great guy. He can do anything he wants to do and do it well—even to playing the piano, self-taught."

Dr. Fields has served Baptists as song leader, educational director, pastor, state paper editor (*Mississippi Baptist Record*), all with distinction, but his achievements have frequently reached far beyond Baptist bounds. He has been national president of the Religious Public Relations Council, president of the Associated Church Press, and he is an accredited member of the Public Relations Society of America. He has been listed in *Who's Who in America* since 1964.

He is an airplane pilot, the author of two books, and he likes fishing, flying, and photography.

So, rise and take a bow, Wilmer Clemon Fields! We dub thee Doctor of Southern Baptist Communications — D.S.B.C.

Walker to Van Buren church staff position



Mr. Walker

Murl Walker, pastor at Bethel Church, Barling, has resigned to become staff evangelist at First Church, Van Buren, as of June 13. Mr. Walker has served the Bethel Church the past 10 months. Prior to that he was the organizer and pastor of Roland

Hills Church, Roland, Okla. Other pastorates include 4½ years at Kelly Heights Church (now Windsor Park) and five years with the Oak Cliff Church, Ft. Smith, as organizer and pastor.

Mr. Walker has been in the ministry for 33 years. He was pastor or staff evangelist for 27 years and spent 6 years in full-time evangelism.

Says greater role for laymen depends on laymen themselves

ST. LOUIS.—Laymen hold the keys for communicating with and understanding modern man, Fred Rhodes, Washington, D. C., first vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention, said, here Monday night.

In a major address to the Baptist Men's Conference at Southwest Church, Rhodes declared that "the world of the 'earth people' is pure and simple a layman's world. Laymen work and live where the action is."

The conference, sponsored by the Brotherhood Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, attracted laymen from more than 30 states. Rhodes was one of six speakers on the theme "Laymen in Missions."

"For years laymen have griped that there was no place for them in the Convention," the deputy administrator of the Veterans Administration said. "If that were true, it is no excuse."

He asked if there is not a need for laymen in the field of education or as Convention executives. He asked why laymen are not used in hard-to-fill jobs in the state conventions or as editors of Baptist state papers.

For job preparation

The answer, he said, is that laymen have not prepared themselves to take the jobs.

"There will be a lay involvement in the Convention because laymen are concerned and cannot be contained within the four walls of the church," he said. "This concern will press our denomination into new frontiers of expression," Rhodes said.

James Johnson, Arlington, Tex., a computer specialist, told how laymen can become involved in missions through their vocations. He challenged the Home and Foreign Mission Boards to provide assistance and guidance to

vocational missionaries.

"The boards can express mission needs in small terms that can be understood and met by individuals and small groups of laymen," he said.

"The Brotherhood Commission and various state missions agencies can establish mission project information offices where missions needs and missions resources (men and material) can be matched into functioning projects," the computer expert said.

Johnson introduced two Texas laymen involved in mission action.

Provide medical aid

Jim Wren, an Athens, Tex., layman, is president of Amigos Internationales, which operates a medical-dental missions project working along the Rio Grande River. The organization recently signed a contract with the government of British Honduras to operate the mobile medical-dental units in that country after January, 1972.

Timothy Pennell of Bowman Gray School of Medicine in Winston-Salem, N. C., examined the philosophy of missions in the light of the New Testament.

"If we accept this philosophy we must be concerned and involved in missions," he said. "We can no longer talk the big game...we must live it."

Pennell enumerated mission needs which he described as "unbelievable" and able to reach men at the "gut level."

Jack Stanton, Atlanta, Ga., evangelism consultant for the Baptist Home Mission Board, told how laymen can be involved in missions through evangelism. He shared the results of recent lay evangelism schools.

Laymen participated in a special forum designed to provide an opportunity for them to exchange ideas and to have dialogue on missions involvement and support.

Sunday School Board directed to get new commentary writer

By Robert O'Brien
For Baptist Press

ST. LOUIS, June 3—Messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention asked the Baptist Sunday School Board Thursday to replace British Bible scholar G. Henton Davies in re-writing Volume One of the controversial Broadman Bible Commentary.

The messengers approved, 2,672 to 2,290, a motion by Kenneth Barnett, Lawton, Okla., that the Sunday School Board had not followed the convention's 1970 ruling and that it must find a new writer and proceed with that ruling.

Last June in Denver, the SBC voted 5,394 to 2,170 to ask the Sunday School Board to withdraw the commentary's first volume and rewrite it.

Broadman officials first approached Davies, who reportedly refused to alter his views and had not decided whether or not to accept the re-writing assignment.

Conrad Willard, Miami, Fla., Sunday School Board president, told the messengers that the Board is seeking to follow last year's instruction "to the letter."

He said that a committee appointed to deal with the rewriting directive decided "the first step was to seek out the existing writers and see if they would rewrite according to the will of the 1970

convention, 'with due consideration to the conservative point of view.'"

Willard said that Volume One has 15 writers and he observed that "all of these men were not being discriminated against." He said the men were contacted and are now in the process of evaluation. "If they agree we felt it would meet the demands of the convention," Willard said.

"I don't see how a man (Davies) with these convictions can rewrite the commentary with due consideration to the conservative point of view," said Kenneth Bowen, a messenger from Forest City, N. C. "This man ought not to be asked to do so."

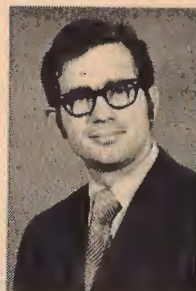
Adrian Rogers, Merritt Island, Fla., added, "Let's not waste a lot of money rewriting something that will not be swallowed by Bible believers."

John Parrott, pastor of Roswell, N. M., asked the messengers to give the Sunday School Board "ample time to do what has been requested." He said "this procedure takes time."

Major disagreement last year centered around Davies' conclusion that God did not order Abraham to sacrifice his son, Isaac, as recorded in Chapter 22 in the book of Genesis.

Davies is principal of Regent's Park College, Oxford, England.

Snow to Sparkman



Mr. Snow

The First Baptist Church of Sparkman has called Rufin Snow as their new pastor. Snow comes to Sparkman from First Church, Renner, Tex. He was a May graduate of Southwestern Seminary with the Master of Divinity degree, and a 1967

graduate of Ouachita University. Snow has served as youth director at First Church, Van Buren, and as mission pastor at Moffett Mission of Grand Avenue Church, Ft. Smith, and East Side Chapel in Pine Bluff.

Public schools get Baptist endorsement



Dr. McClanahan

A resolution on public school education, offered to the Southern Baptist Convention at its meeting last week in St. Louis by John McClanahan, pastor of First Church, Pine Bluff, was adopted as follows:

"Whereas, the American public school system has historically had the support of Southern Baptists, and

"Whereas, a basic tenet of American democracy is that every child deserves an equal opportunity for public education regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, or economic status, and

"Whereas, the vitality of the nation is aided by public education of high ethical and academic quality,

"Therefore, be it resolved, that this Convention reaffirm its commitment to our system of public school education as a means of raising the knowledge level of all children in the nation, and

"Be it further resolved, that we support efforts to improve the quality of public education, thus enhancing the possibility of responsible freedom for each young person in America, and

"Be it further resolved, that we seek God's guidance in the midst of social change that our attitudes and actions may speed the progress of justice and our patience and compassion may make a positive witness of Christian love to all people in our day."



Deacon Jay Heflin of Second Church, Little Rock, as he gave his personal witness at the Thursday morning session of the convention in St. Louis.



Pastor John McClanahan of First Church, Pine Bluff, national president-elect of the Southern Seminary Alumni Association, visits with President and Mrs. Duke K. McCall of the Seminary, at the alumni luncheon honoring Dr. McCall, who was observing his 20th anniversary as Southern Seminary headman.



O. W. Yates, 82, interim pastor of Lexington, Ky., with his portrait unveiled at a Ouachita University coffee in St. Louis, during the SBC meetings. With him are his daughter Ann Culley (Mrs. Eugene Enlow, Tulsa, Okla.), center; and Mrs. Yates. The portrait is a gift of the Ouachita Class of 1943 to the University, in commemoration of Dr. Yates' twelve years as head of the Ouachita Bible department.



Henry Ashcraft, 82, messenger from Third Church, Malvern, enjoyed a cup of coffee with his son Charles, executive secretary of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, at the Sheraton-Jefferson hotel, SBC headquarters for the St. Louis convention. It was the senior Ashcraft's first time to attend an SBC annual-session. He liked it.

Baptists urged to work for pro-abortion laws

ST. LOUIS (BP)—Defeating two attempts to soften the wording, the Southern Baptist Convention adopted a resolution urging Baptists to work for legislation permitting abortion under certain conditions.

The resolution cited conditions including "rape, incest, clear evidence of severe fetal deformity, and carefully ascertained evidence of the likelihood of damage to the emotional, mental and physical health of the mother."

It was the first time that the nation's largest Protestant denomination had taken a stand on the abortion issue at a national convention.

In the same business session, the convention adopted resolutions on prison reform, judicial reform, beverage alcohol, and the work of the American Bible Society.

Efforts to soften the wording of the abortion resolution failed at two different points.

A motion to kill the entire section recommending that Baptists work for legislation allowing abortion under certain conditions was defeated, and another amendment striking out the phrase "emotional and mental" health of the mother as conditions for abortion also failed.

The convention expressed "the belief that society has a responsibility to affirm through the laws of the state a high view of the sanctity of human life, including fetal life, in order to protect those who cannot protect themselves."

Debate also swirled around the resolution on beverage alcohol, which urged Congress to pass laws prohibiting the advertising of such beverages on television and radio and to prohibit sale of alcoholic beverages on airplanes and other forms of transportation.

An amendment to add military installations to the list of places where alcohol should not be sold was defeated after considerable discussion, and the resolution as a whole was then approved.

On prison reform, the convention called for Baptists to "follow the teachings of Jesus by caring for those in prison by working to provide funding, education, ministries, and other innovative programs and expanded parole alternatives necessary to make prisons more honestly correctional..."

It also urged Baptists to work with elected officials for more humane and Christian treatment of offenders, and to increase education and vocational training in rehabilitative efforts at federal, state and local prison systems.

Another resolution on judicial reform noted that crowded court dockets and long delays "infringe upon the basic constitutional right to a speedy trial." It added the resulting pressures on courts makes "the attaining of true justice more difficult."

The resolution commended the efforts of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the American Bar Association, and the state bar associations in judicial reforms.

The resolutions committee, which the previous day had received more than 20 resolutions, reported to the convention it felt no need for a resolution on conscientious objection, since the convention adopted a statement on the subject in 1940.

Another resolution commended the work of the American Bible Society.

Statement's opposing public support of non-public schools, commending President Nixon's troop reduction efforts in Vietnam and opposing the President's Vatican envoy were among resolutions approved Thursday.

The chief executive was commended "for his part in reducing the number of troops in Vietnam" and urged "to continue our American withdrawal in keeping with our desperate concern for prisoners of war..."

The resolution reminded Christians that "our primary responsibility is to work for a just peace." It asked all Americans to "uphold principles of peace, justice and the dignity of human life and to resist those who attempt to glorify immoral conduct in war."

At the suggestion of Dick Hall, a messenger from Decatur, Ga., messengers tacked the Vatican envoy statement to the resolution on public funds and non-public education.

It urged the president of the 11.6 - million-member SBC to "convey to President Nixon our extreme displeasure in this action and ask that he recall envoy Henry Cabot Lodge at once."

Hall's amendment said that Nixon "now has a personal representative at the Vatican" despite "vigorous protest of many citizens." It said this action gives "preferential recognition to one religious denomination" and violates "our concept of the separation of church and state."

The main body of the resolution spoke to efforts to channel federal support to non-public and parochial schools.

The resolution "reaffirmed our belief that the use of public funds for education in church-controlled schools, regardless of the manner in which these funds are channeled to church schools, is contrary to the principle of religious liberty."

The resolution petitioned the federal and state governments to "honor the principle of religious liberty and the constitutional position of the separation of church and state inherent in the First Amendment to the U. S. Constitution."

Southern Baptists were encouraged to keep alert to developments and insist that "public funds for educational purposes be channeled only through public institutions which do not discriminate on religious or any other grounds."

In other action, messengers defeated a motion asking that a copy of the SBC book of reports be mailed to each cooperating church at least 10 days before the opening date of the annual SBC meeting.

New officers

Bisagno head of Pastors' Conference

ST. LOUIS (BP) — John Bisagno, pastor of First Church, Houston, Tex., was elected president of the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference during the annual meeting of the 25,000-member ministerial group.

Bisagno, whose churches have led Southern Baptist churches four out of the last six years in persons baptized, won in a close race with James L. Pleitz, pastor of First Church, Pensacola, Fla., and outgoing vice president of the conference.

Bisagno replaces Landrum P. Leavell, pastor of First Church, Wichita Falls, Tex.

In a nominating address, Bisagno was also praised for an aggressive social service program which led to 300 jobs for persons in his church community last year.

Pleitz, a former Arkansas pastor, was cited for a strong bus ministry and for mission action programs involving young people.

Elected vice president was Gene Phillips, pastor of University Baptist Church at Peoria, Ill. He was opposed by R. B. Culbreth, pastor of Hoffman Baptist Church of Birmingham.

Bill Wallace, pastor of Woodlawn Church, Charlotte, N. C., was elected secretary without opposition.



American Baptist Convention President Mrs. Rohlfs and SBC President Carl Bates.

Press Conference

Presidents of Baptist bodies share views on various issues

ST. LOUIS.—The presidents of the two major Baptist bodies in the U.S. were quizzed here about views and intentions in such matters as the death penalty, abortion, ministries to youth and inner-city programs of Baptist churches.

Carl E. Bates, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, and Mrs. Marcus Rohlfs, newly elected president of the American Baptist Convention, expressed divergent views at several points.

They were interviewed by representatives of secular and denominational press in a between-sessions press conference in Kiel Auditorium here Tuesday afternoon of last week.

Bates said that the death penalty is essential to the maintenance of national entities, although Christ points Christians toward dealing redemptively with criminals.

Views on abortion

Mrs. Rohlfs said she opposes the death penalty and favors upgrading rehabilitative programs in the penal systems. She told reporters that the American Baptist Convention in its recent annual meeting adopted a resolution favoring abortion. All children should be wanted, she said.

Bates said abortions should be performed only when the mother's life is in jeopardy or the fetus is known to be seriously deformed.

Both convention executives want youth to be adequately represented and ministered to in Baptist life. Bates

pointed out that young people were specifically included in the program of the SBC here.

Inner-city ministry

Both cited instances in which churches in their conventions are stepping up their ministries in the inner city.

A question on United States participation in Vietnam brought vigorous opposition from Mrs. Rohlfs.

"I'm opposed personally to war. My husband was a conscientious objector in the second World War and my son is in this war. I personally don't think war is

within the tradition of Christianity," she said.

Asked how he would counsel a person who opposed war, Bates replied that a person has the privilege to conscientiously object.

"I think that everyone is sick of this war and would like to see it end," he said: "Mr. Nixon is the only president who has brought home any troops."

On governmental aid to parochial schools, Bates said he could not think of any reason that the government should provide this help.

Supports public schools

Bates emphasized his support for the public school system, but said he would grant other persons the right to support private schools, including those started to avoid integration.

The Baptist leader said the private schools cropping up in Southern Baptist churches were the affair of the individual churches and he had no business offering them any advice as president of the denomination.

On the question of employing minority groups in denominational positions, Bates said Baptist leaders are addressing themselves to the matter but reminded it would take time.

"In the American Baptist Convention we already have a great number of blacks and orientals on our staff," Mrs. Rohlfs said. "But we have no Indian Americans."

On the evolution of the Jesus movement, Bates said he thought it contained real spiritual power.

"I wouldn't write it off. I'm encouraged by what's happening among the young people across America," he said.

Bates praised the contributions of women to the growth of Southern Baptists. He said they practically saved the denomination "until we could get the men interested."

The White House

Washington
May 28, 1971

To the messengers of the Southern Baptist Convention

It is a pleasure for me to greet you as you gather for your annual meeting — reminding all of us once again of your considerable achievements and of the dynamic role you play in our nation's life.

Your organization has thrived in adversity. The thorny path has but increased your strength. And your gains have been a blessing for our country.

The sustaining spiritual support you have given to the leaders of this country in times of crisis, the understanding and compassion which you have shown to your fellow citizens, the Christian charity that fills your ranks and inspires your public service: these have earned you a nation's enduring respect.

As one who continues to be heartened by the selfless spirit of your mission, I share your confidence in the future, and trust your deliberations will further your important work in our society.

Richard Nixon

ALWAYS FRIENDS

By Grayce Krogh Boller

TIMMY and his brother Paul liked to play together. They had bunk beds, and they shared just about everything. Timmy had begun a shell collection when the family had spent a vacation at the shore. Paul had begun a leaf collection, but he was also interested in the shells. As he looked at them now, Timmy watched closely.

"Be careful, Paul!" Timmy cried out. "Don't drop any. Watch out! You pushed that one too close to the edge of the shelf."

Neither Paul nor Timmy knew how it happened, but suddenly there was a small crash. One of the shells lay on the floor in a dozen pieces.

"See what you've done!" Timmy was almost in tears. "That was my best shell. Don't you ever touch any of my things again, Paul. You had no business handling my shells. I'm not ever going to speak to you again."

"I'm sorry," said Paul, although he did not look sorry. He looked just as angry as Timmy. "Go ahead and think more of an old shell than you do of your own brother."

Paul stalked out of the room. Timmy picked up the pieces of shell and angrily threw them into the wastebasket.

"I'm not," he whispered as he went outside. "I'm not ever, ever going to speak to Paul again."

When the angry tears had dried, Timmy felt sorry. He could see Paul over at the end of the garden. Paul was kicking dirt with his toe.

"I guess I didn't please Jesus when I became angry with my brother,"

Double crossword

By Margaret Murray Ridenour

1.	2.	3.
2.		
3.		

1. Female chicken
2. Adam's wife
3. Trap for catching fish

Answers

hen, Eve, net

Timmy decided as he walked around to the front of the house. "Dear God, please help me to forgive Paul. I'm sorry I was angry. Please forgive me," he prayed.

Just then, Timmy saw a beautiful maple leaf. It was partly green and partly yellow in an unusual and pretty pattern. It would be nice in Paul's leaf collection. Timmy picked it up gladly and ran around back to find Paul.

Paul was nowhere to be seen. He no longer was at the end of the garden, kicking dirt with his toe. Probably he had gone into the house. Timmy ran in with the pretty leaf. He called Paul as he went from room to room. There was no answer, except that Mother told Timmy Paul wasn't there.

"Where can he be?"

Timmy suddenly felt afraid. Suppose his brother had run off and would never come back. Suppose he was so sorry about the shell and so sorry Timmy wouldn't speak to

him that he had run away. How would Mother and Daddy feel? How would Timmy feel?

Suddenly, Timmy's eyes blurred again. He stumbled outside. Still holding the leaf, he walked to the end of the garden where Paul had been digging with his toe. Yes, there was the little hole in the dirt caused by his kicking. Timmy sat down beside it.

"Dear God, please let Paul come back," Timmy prayed. "Please help him to know I love him and I'm not cross anymore."

Just then Paul came walking around the side of the house. He was holding something very carefully.

Timmy scrambled up and ran to meet him. "Look, Paul; I found this leaf for your collection. I'm sorry I was cross. Please forgive me."

"I'm sorry I broke your shell, Timmy. It was an accident." As Paul spoke, he held out a square box. "Here, I bought these shells for you. Mother said I could use my allowance savings. This set has shells that are different from yours."

Timmy opened the box and looked at the pretty shells. "Oh, thank you," he smiled. "These are much nicer than the ones I have—better than the one that fell. Oh, Paul, let's never be cross with each other again. It makes us unhappy and it makes God unhappy."

"We'll always be friends," Paul promised. "Come on; help me put this nice leaf in my notebook."

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The coming Messiah

By Vester E. Wolber

Religion Department, Ouachita University

Those who participate in the discussion of these Messianic passages from Isaiah should keep in mind that there are two schools of thought among reverent Bible readers concerning their interpretation. One system of interpretation sees in these passages an authoritative but poetic and spiritual insight into the kingdom which was later established by Jesus of Nazareth.

The other system sees a partial fulfillment in the Kingdom of Christ and a final and literal fulfillment in the millennial reign of Christ when he comes again. The chief difference is that the former school understands that these predictions are fully satisfied in the Kingdom of God, whereas the latter school looks for a literal fulfillment before the Consummation of the world.

Wisely, Baptists have not seen fit to make one's views on these matters a test of fellowship. Advocates of either view have their full share of sound scholarship and solid Christian experience. Those who follow the first system feel that the other system does not place enough emphasis on the Kingdom of God as a present reality. Those who follow the second system feel that the other view does not place enough emphasis on the final consummation of the Kingdom.

One guideline in interpretation is that on the first Christian Pentecost (Acts 2) Peter quoted at length from Joel and declared that the passage was fulfilled in the events of the day as the Holy Spirit descended upon the Church and made it effacious in witnessing. There is no indication, however, that any of the detailed phenomena catalogued by Joel took place at Pentecost.

There is this much in common between the prophecy and the event: Joel predicted unusual phenomena in nature, and Acts reports that unusual phenomena did take place; but the details of the two accounts do not coincide. Perhaps, therefore, we should not look for a detailed fulfillment of Isaiah's passages so much as we should look for a general spiritual fulfillment in the Christian experience. A meaningful Christian experience is far superior to an ideal environment.

The house of the Lord 2:2-4

1. The prophet saw the house of the Lord exalted like a lofty mountain peak—higher than all other mountains (2-3). All nations recognize it and all nations look to it for moral and spiritual

leadership. One of the clearest notes which history sounds is that the Christian movement has provided moral and spiritual leadership for the world. If in recent years religious leaders have presented a confused pattern of ethical and spiritual standards, it is because they have lost sight of their Christian ideals. The house of God will again be exalted.

2. He saw the influence of the house of the Lord as depending on the word of God which goes forth from it (v. 3). Let's face up to the truth: the effectiveness of the house of God in any generation is directly related to its faithfulness in proclaiming and practicing the word of God.

3. He saw peace among men and nations as the normal outgrowth of the establishment of the Kingdom of God in the hearts of men and in the statutes of the nations. We cannot know what the next decade will bring in terms of international peace and security, but when Christ is enthroned in the heart he brings a measure of peace in the heart: and when his principles become the bases for the international negotiations they bring peace in the world. Peace in the heart is available now, and peace in the world will come in direct proportion as the Kingdoms of this world become the Kingdom of Christ.

The throne of David 9:2-7

1. The prophet saw the light of hope shining into the darkness of despair. Matthew quoted from this passage in introducing the ministry of Jesus in Galilee (4:15-16). In the last decade the American scene was shot through with the theology of despair, but there signs that in this decade we will listen to the new theology of hope which was proclaimed by Isaiah and Paul—the theology of a bright light in a dark world.

Isaiah looked beyond his own day when his people were under Assyrian oppression and saw a day of deliverance when the yoke of the oppressor would be broken (4-5).

2. The prophet foresaw the Messiah (6-7). In one of the clearest passages in the Old Testament he promised that (1) the Messiah would be human: "A child is born... a son"; (2) the Messiah would

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International

June 13, 1972

Isaiah 2:2-4; 9:2-7; 11:1-10

have authority: "The government would be upon his shoulders"; (3) he would be clothed in wisdom: "called Wonderful Counsellor"; (4) he would be divine in nature: "Mighty God . . . Father"; and (5) he would bring peace to men.

The passage goes on to declare that the authority and peace-giving of the Messiah would be ever-expanding and never-ending.

About seven centuries before the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem, Isaiah heralded the good news of his coming. When the time was right he came, and he met all the qualifications laid down by the prophet. He brought new life to the hearts of all who received him, and peace.

But the peace which he brings to the heart of men is not the peace which replaces all care and concern, but a peace which abides in spite of such tensions. Just as peace is never complete in the heart, perhaps it will never be complete in the world; but whatever peace there is in the world will be in proportion to the degree of justice and love which are given expression in the world.

Hails global success of 'Superstar' opera

NEW YORK (EP)—The reverent rock opera "Jesus Christ Superstar," based on the suffering and crucifixion of the Savior, is heralded in this week's issue of *Life* magazine as an "international phenomenon."

The expensive, two-record album, issued seven months ago by England's Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice, has "buried the generation gap" because of its variety of music, says the article.

Andrew Webber, who wrote the music, is quoted as being convinced "that it is as a secular drama that Christ's story holds the most importance today." Says Webber: "He must have been an incredibly powerful man..."

Several pickets marched outside an auditorium in Kansas City. Said a conservative Catholic: I'm here "to defend God because he's being publicly blasphemed."

"I don't think," said a placard-carrying "Jesus Freak," "that this is the work of the Lord."

A letter of encouragement

By C. W. Brockwell, Jr.

Minister of Education, Calvary Church, NLR

Life and Work

June 13, 1971

2 Kings 24

Did you ever look at another person and think: "He really has it made. If I had his position or wealth or ability, look what I could do?" But the truth is that person may then be going through the most trying time of his life. No person has ever escaped the struggle to live rather than just exist. Those who survive are always the ones who face their difficulties and go on.

Jeremiah cared about the people taken away to Babylon. Being a lonely man himself, he understood something of the loneliness they were experiencing. So God directed him to write them a letter and this is what he said.

Don't dwindle away!

Probably not many people saw the handwriting on the wall when Nebuchadnezzar first robbed Judah of her citizenry. They were too busy listening to the soothing words of the false prophets. But lest we judge them too harshly, remember that it is very difficult to tell the difference between a true and false prophet until the immediate situation passes. That is why the danger is so great. The Devil still has power to deceive and we are no wiser than they.

Like any traumatic situation, the reality of it is at first hard to accept. Tell a man he has terminal cancer and he will rebel at the idea of dying. Then he will question the reason for it and hopefully be able to accept it. He may even be able to use his last days to encourage others.

Jeremiah told his people to "cool it" and settle down for a long stay. God had placed them in exile for their own protection and he would not let them out until they were ready to turn to him for help. Right now they needed the discipline of doing without and learning to depend upon God all over again.

The captivity was certainly no picnic but it could be used as a time to rebuild a people who worshipped God. "Feed your opportunities and starve your problems" one wise executive counselor has advised his clients. Move from a position of strength instead of weakness. "If you want to come back," God said in essence, "come back strong."

Plans of good and not of evil

Being in Babylon and being in Judah was no different as far as false prophets were concerned. There is always someone around to lead you to do wrong. All the troublemakers will never leave the church and if you split and

begin a new church a few will go with you. The real question we must face is: "Am I leading someone to do wrong?"

God had only good plans for his people. "I know all about you," he said, "and I am working everything out according to a purpose." When people had trouble believing Jesus he told them to at least believe his works until they could believe his words (John 10:38). Jeremiah encouraged the people to "hang on" to their basic faith in the goodness of God and pay no attention to the false prophets proclaiming to speak for God.

Someone has said that a great percentage of our prayers are worthless because they are not born of desperation. We keep thinking we can handle the situation while reminding God to let us work it out our own way. But when we get desperate, we do not mind how God works it out for we recognize our helplessness to do anything about it. Very assuringly God has said, "In those days when you pray, I will listen. You will find me when you seek Me, if you look for Me in earnest" (Jeremiah 29:12-13, *Living Psalms and Proverbs*).

Listen to the word of God

The people left in Judah were in for a rude awakening. It was going to get a lot worse before it got better. Violence, starvation and disorder would be the order of the day and there would be no one to help them. Before it was over, everyone would wish they were safe in Babylon. But therein would be the true test of God's people. Safety and security leads people away from the word of God. They are distractions from the source of our strength and we soon grow weak and undernourished to do God's work. The only lasting strength is in the word of God.

Why is Jeremiah still loose?

An old adage says "If you can face the music, you may someday lead the band." Jeremiah suffered the brunt of Judah's frustrations and people respected him even though they did not believe him. This bugged Shemaiah (in Babylon) so much that he wrote questioning Zephaniah (in Judah) about why Jeremiah was still being allowed to make prophetic statements. Zephaniah

showed the letter to Jeremiah and they probably had a good laugh. But it was the end for Shemaiah and neither he nor his family would ever be permitted back in Judah.

What can we learn from Jeremiah's letter? God is always looking out for his people. They may be confined to an exile of hardship for awhile, but in time he will reward them with another opportunity for service. The privilege of serving God is truly the greatest blessing of all, besides forgiveness, fellowship, joy, love.....

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B—"Baptist beliefs," a colony of heaven p. 4; Berry, Tony Land, graduates from seminary p. 6; Bridges, Winfred Paul, graduates from seminary p. 6; Bates, Carl, re-elected SBC president p. 11.
C—Covington, Charles, graduates from seminary p. 6.
D—Dierker, Brenda, named OU newspaper editor p. 5; Dumas, Bill gets seminary degree p. 6.
F—Fields, W.C., as Baptist Press head p. 15.
H—Heard, Gerry, graduates from seminary p. 6; Hlett, Atherton, gets seminary degree p. 6.
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W—War, futility of (IMSI) p. 4; WIN praised (L) p. 5; "Womans viewpoint," beautifying the ugly p. 5.

Christian leaflets counter Lenin coins

INDIANAPOLIS (EP)—Somewhere between Pittsburgh and Indianapolis, Psychologist Kenneth Markley, Eastern representative of the Narramore Christian Foundation, noticed a tall man distributing Lenin coins to children on an airliner.

Other tall men, as if on cue, began distributing Lenin coins also, using English heavily accented by Russian. To Markley, the action called for counteraction.

Digging into his briefcase, he found only leaflets containing his organization's statement of faith so he began distributing them among the tall strangers onboard, using the little snatches of Russian that he knew. At first the Soviets were reluctant to accept them, but they finally did.

Near Indianapolis, the stewardess identified the visitors when she asked that the Soviet basketball team members remain in their seats until the other passengers had disemplaned.

The unseamly

A smile or two

Commuter

It was her first visit to church and the little girl was somewhat awed by the solemnity of the occasion.

"Mama," she whispered during a brief pause in the service, "Does the minister live here or does he come down from heaven every Sunday?"

Weakling

The ninety-seven pound boy, tired of being ignored by the girls and bullied by the guys, sent away for a set of barbells and other weightlifting body builders. After several weeks, a friend asked how he was coming with his own physical fitness program.

"Just fine," replied the little man, "I'm getting pretty good at lifting those bars. In a few weeks, I hope I can start putting the round things on the ends of them."

Cuisine

A young husband did not like hash. His wife acquired a French cookbook giving recipes for using leftovers. The next evening she had one of the fancy mixtures in a covered dish on the table. The husband reached over and raised the cover.

The wife looked questioning. "Why don't you ask the blessing, dear?"

The husband replied, "I don't believe there is anything here that hasn't already been blessed"

Get The Picture?

A pre-schooler with considerable TV-watching experience wasn't stumped for a remedy when her mother lost her voice in a recent siege of laryngitis.

"You got no sound, Mamal!" diagnosed the tot. "Maybe you need a new tube."

Daffy-nitions

Transistor radio: A small, noisy plastic case attached to a teenager.

Carpenter: One who can keep a straight face while repairing a do-it-yourself project.

A hunter who climbed a fence with a loaded gun is survived by his widow, three daughters, two sons. . and one rabbit.

Attendance report

May 30, 1971

Church	Sunday School	Training Union	Ch. Adns.
Alexander, First	45	23	
Alicia	81	77	
Arkadelphia, Second	198	198	
Berryville			
First	124	44	
Rock Springs	92	65	
Blytheville, Calvary	197	75	7
Booneville, First	236	185	1
Cherokee Village Mission	98	16	4
Crossett			
Mt. Olive	262	125	1
First	412	143	1
El Dorado			
Caledonia	41	27	
Ebenezer	105	40	
Farmington, First	63	29	
Ft. Smith, Grand Avenue	667	215	4
Moffett Mission	28		
Grandview	48	27	
Greenwood, First	245	74	3
Hampton, First	143	55	
Hardy, First	32	14	
Harrison, Eagle Heights	174	45	
Helena, First	248	61	2
Hope, First	403	127	
Hot Springs			
Emmanuel	77	22	
Lakeshore Heights	120	41	
Mt. Valley	77	28	2
Jacksonville			
First	319	89	1
Marshall Road	268	105	5
Lake Village, Parkway	44	28	
Lincoln, First	134	36	
Little Rock			
Crystal Hill	124	51	
Geyer Springs	543	229	6
Life Line	470	119	7
Marked Tree, First	171	52	1
Melbourne, Belview	122	57	
Monticello			
Northside	88	51	2
Second	148	62	7
Murfreesboro, Mt. Moriah	38	29	
North Little Rock			
Baring Cross	475	123	4
Southside Chapel	24	15	
Calvary	345	128	2
Gravel Ridge	140	78	2
Levy	379	1	
Park Hill	714	147	3
Sixteenth Street	60	48	1
Paris, First	308	60	3
Pine Bluff			
East Side	180	76	
First	612		2
Green Meadows	34		
Springdale			
Berry Street	80	33	
Elmdale	278	70	
Texarkana, Beech Street	366	83	2
Van Buren, First	387	121	1
Mission	54		
Vandervoort, First	38	19	2
Warren, Immanuel	215		
West Memphis			
Calvary	201	71	
Vanderbilt Avenue	84	36	

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Arkansans in St. Louis



Youth who "spoke out" at the convention.



John Parrott, native of Tuckerman, Ouachita graduate 1943, now pastor of First Church, Roswell, N.M., wearing his SBC messenger's badge, in St. Louis.



Pastor Rheubin L. South of Park Hill Church, North Little Rock, compares notes with Pastor Warren C. Hultgren of First Church, Tulsa, Okla., who was elected second veep of SBC. Man in the middle is Pastor Scott L. Tatum, Shreveport, La.



Pastor Andy Kerr of Second Church, Jacksonville, and son Larry, 12, were among Arkansans attending the St. Louis convention.



Franklin Owen, Lexington, Ky., pastor, and Bruce H. Price, Arkansas native, now a retired pastor of Newport News, Va., listen to one of Brooks Hays' tall tales, during one of the lulls at the St. Louis convention. Dr. Hays, former Arkansas congressman, is a former president of SBC.

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