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Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1980-1984

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

8-13-1981

August 13, 1981

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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On the cover



Five Arkansans were among 84 new foreign missionaries appointed by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board July 21. The group was the largest ever appointed by the board, far surpassing the old record of 56. Here, Larry and Dianne Randolph (from Alabama and Texas, respectively) lead a group of missionaries from the Derbyshire Church in Richmond, Va., where the appointment service was held. See story on page 10.

In this issue

The U.S. Senate is considering a tuition tax credit bill designed to provide financial aid to parochial school students. Editor I. Everett Sneed points out its serious violations of the principle of separation of church and

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A "Family Protection Act" has been introduced into the U.S. Congress, and there is disagreement over whether the measure protects or jeopardizes family freedoms. Baptist leaders comment on the bill's provisions

ABN now available for the blind

Approximately seven months ago, the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine began, on a trial basis, making the publication available on tape to those who have impaired vision. This has now become a permanent ministry through the assistance of Park Hill Church, North Little Rock.

At the beginning, various volunteers recorded the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine on cassette tape. It was then mass reproduced on the equipment of Park Hill Church The staff of the Newsmagazine mailed the cassette tape to qualified individuals

Recently, the WMU of Park Hill Church has taken over the recording and the mailing of the tapes. Other individuals have provided money for the purchase of blank tapes, envelopes and labels.

Qualified individuals can have librarytype materials mailed to them without cost. Envelopes and tapes can be reused several times, reducing the cost of the ministry.

Currently, there are 11 people who are receiving the ABN on tape. The Newsmagazine is available on cassette tape to vision impaired individuals. Names should be sent to Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, Ark. 72203.



Dorothy Lambert, who operates the tape recording equipment at Park Hill Church, volunteers her time to duplicate each week's "Newsmagazine" on individual cassettes from a master tape.



The group of ladies from the Park Hill Church WMU that records the "Newsmagazine" every week includes (left to right) Bea Smith, Katie McCorkle, Gladys Mobbs. Kay Roberts, Louise Melton and A. J. Zini.

Catholics print book on Southern Baptists

ATLANTA (BP) - A Southern Baptist interfaith witness expert and a Roman Catholic publisher have teamed up to break a long-standing barrier between the largest Christian denominations in the United

Paulist Press, a Catholic publishing house, has printed "Introducing Southern Baptists: Their Faith and Their Life" by C. Brownlow Hastings, assistant director of interfaith witness for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

"While brief pamphlets have been pub-

lished by Catholic presses about Protestant denominations, this is one of the first fulllength books on Baptist faith and life produced by a Catholic publishing house," Hastings said.

The purpose of the book is to answer questions about Baptist faith and life for non-Baptists, especially members of Roman Catholic and Orthodox churches, Hastings said, noting he based the content of the book on questions asked of him during the 11 years he has been involved in interfaith discussions on behalf of the board.

Saying no to tuition tax credits

The editor's page

J. Everett Sneed



On June 3-4, the Senate hearing on tuition tax credits kicked off a powerful and well organized campaign for massive federal aid to parochial schools. The coalition of special interest supporters included both Roman Catholic and fundamentalists. Certainly, religious primary and secondary schools serve a high purpose in the furthering of particular religious beliefs. But those whose religion benefits from the school should pay their own bill. Any other approach is a violation of separation of church and state. Tuition tax credits are also unfair, inflationary and destructive to public education.

Tax-supported parochial schools would mean that Baptists would pay for the religious training of other denominations. Conceivably, it could mean that we would pay for non-Christian religious training. A Buddhist, for example, would be entitled to the same governmental aid for his school as would any Christian group.

Tuition tax credits are merely a disguised method of supporting sectarian schools. Since 90 percent of all private primary and secondary schools are church related, the beneficiary of S.550 (the current tax credit bill) is clear. The up to \$500 per student represents an estimated loss of more than \$4 billion in tax revenues.

Tuition tax credits have already been judged unconstitutional. The Senate hearing received a report from the American Law Division of the Library of Congressional Research Service. It said, "State benefit programs similar to S.550 have repeatedly been held by the Supreme Court and other courts to have an impermissible primary effect of advancing the religious activities of sectarian schools and, thus, to be unconstitutional."

We further oppose tax credits because they would primarily benefit those families who are in the upper income bracket. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) reported that about 60 percent of the benefits of 5.550 would go to students from families with incomes over the median family income. In other words, it is welfare for the wealthy. This is clear and simple discrimination. Nowhere does the Bible teach favoritism. Rather, the Word of God emphatically emphasizes the equal worth, value and

treatment of every person.

Tuition tax credits are not even a good idea for parochial schools. Obviously, if federal money is to be provided to private sectarian schools, there must inevitably be an increase in federal regulations on such schools. Before the credit (money) could be given to the individual for tuition, the federal government would be required to judge whether the student's school was worthy of receiving the credits. Eventually, the federal government must have to set standards or criteria for qualifying schools.

Tuition tax credits would be inflationary since private schools would view the tax credit as an opportunity to raise the price of futition. This would have two effects:

(1) It would contribute to the inflationary spiral; and (2) It would not substantially ease the pain of families sending their children to private parochial schools.

Many proponents of the tuition tax credit bill desire private schools as a tool to re-establish segregation. This was evident in the recommendation by Attorney William Ball, that instead of denying benefits to parochial and private schools which exclude students "on account of race," S.550 be changed to read "solely on account of race." This would mean that schools could exclude students for racial reasons if they included other reasons such as religion or ability level.

In the June hearing several witnesses from fundamentalist schools favored tax credits, but only if there could be no restrictions placed on the church school in their selection of teachers and students. So both the fundamentalists' testimony and that of Attorney Ball indicate the desire to return to segregation.

Tuition tax credits would harm public education. Public schools are already hard pushed financially, and the more than \$4 billion would be taken from public education. Furthermore, it would remove the better students from public education. If all Christians left public education, the moral values would sink to a new low.

No further Senate hearings are planned on this subject immediately. But those who cherish the separation of church and state must work to preserve it.

Arkansas Baptist

Arkansas' third largest publication, meeting the information needs of Arkansas Baptists.

VOLUME 80 NUMBER 31

J. EVERETT SNEED, Ph.D. Editor
BETTY KENNEDY Managing Editor
ERWIN L. McDONALD, Litt. D. Editor Emeritus

Letters to the editor expressing opinions are invited. Letters should be typed doublespace and must be signed. Letters must not contain more than 350 words and must not defame the character of persons.

Photos submitted for publication will be returned only when accompanied by a stamped, self addressed envelope. Only black and white photos can be used.

Copies by mail 25 cents each.

Deaths of members of Arkansas churches will be reported in brief form when information is received not later than 14 days after the date of death.

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August 13, 1981



One layman's opinion

Daniel R. Grant

One of the most tragic disasters during 1980 was the devastating earthquake in Italy, that brought death and destruction to thousands of people in Italian towns and villages. I remember vividly the television reports that brought the anguished emotions of the survivors into our living rooms. Although I had a sense of helplessness and frustration at my inability to help in a personal and tangible way, I remember being consoled somewhat by knowing that my government was using my taxes to help send emergency relief.

More recently I was pleased to hear a report from Knud Wumplemann, Baptist World Alliance regional secretary for Europe, about BWA assistance to the people

of the devastated area. The relief and development division of the Baptist World Alliance was the instrument for channeling cash and food from Baptists around the world to the affected Italian towns and villages. He made one statement in his report that I have not been able to forget. Wumplemann, a Baptist from Denmark who now serves all European Baptist groups in the BWA, described the expressions of appreciation he received from the people of Italy. He told of one who said, "The greatest help was the Baptist people who came and staved to work with us and to listen to us share our problems, concerns, and sorrows during these dark hours."

It was a refreshing message in a day

when so much of success and failure is measured in material terms. Obviously, earthquake victims need food, clothing, medicine and construction material and equipment. It is only natural for world opinion to judge success or failure of disaster relief efforts primarily in terms of tons of food and supplies delivered. This is the easiest thing for the television cameras to capture for the six o'clock news. It is good to be reminded, however, that the greatest help in time of sorrow and tragedy is often the least tangible — personal presence, listening ears and loving hands.

Daniel R. Grant is president of Ouachita Baptist University at Arkadelphia.



Woman's viewpoint

Miss Glenn Kirkland

This is a suggestion for those who have failing sight. If you do not have a simple tape recorder, I advise you to buy one that is easy to manipulate. The one I have has brought me joy in so many ways.

Most of all, I enjoy sermons, reports of religious conferences, and, thanks to the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, a tape each week of the current issue. In this way, not only do I keep abreast of our Baptist work in the state, but also outside of the state. I have accumulated many tapes of worthwhile religious material. These are numbered and the number recorded on a tape for easy finding.

Tapes are used for things I want to remember to do in the course of a day or a week. A tape is also helpful to record long distance telephone numbers. I find this helps me to remember to carry out these Christian acts which I try to perform, Cataloguing cards to send for various purposes, such as get well, anniversaries, congratulations, birthday, appreciation, etc. is another way to use tapes. Also, as I go about my work and pray, I record a person's name so I will pray for them later. A tape is also useful in making out grocery lists prior to date of purchase. When I know before hand about a special program on radio, it is well to make a recording of this, especially a good sermon. Another practical way to use

the recorder is to record food in the freezer. Describe the type of container and in what place on the shelf — right, left, middle, on top of, etc.

Another useful use of the recorder is to list certain books and on what shelf in the bookcase. Also, to record things which have been stored in closets, the designated shelf, and in what position on the shelf. In this way, you will not have to climb up in the closet, risking falling. Just get out your tape for that closet, sit down and listen. I have found all these uses very serviceable. I hope you may also.

The scripture that comes to mind for these thoughts is, "Let all things be done decently and in order" (I Cor. 14:40). Jesus believed in organization, and I think a tape recorder will be very useful in respect to religious matters as well as everyday helps.

Miss Glenn Kirkland, 86, has been teaching an adult Sunday school class at Plummerville First Church for nearly 55 years. Before she interrupted her teaching career in 1943 to care for her mother, Miss Kirkland had taught speech, drama and music at Fulton High School and Arkansas State Teacher's College (now University of Central Arkansas). She holds degrees from Ouachita Baptist University, ASTC, and Columbia University.

Arkansas-related HMB leader dies

ATLANTA (BP) — Roland T. Smith, 79, the first black to have an executive position with the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, died July 23.

Smith was appointed associate to the director of Negro work in 1942 and served until 1949. He also was among 18 Southern Baptist leaders honored by the board in 1979 for "outstanding contributions to racial reconciliation."

A native Georgian, Smith earned degrees from Morehouse College, Selma University, Arkansas Baptist College and Atlanta University.

Prior to HMB appointment, Smith was pastor of churches in Georgia and Alabama. He also was pastor in Arkansas followikng his service with the board, and later resettled in the Atlanta area.

Hanna named language missionary of year

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP) — An Arabic Baptist missionary was recognized as the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's Language Missionary of the Year during Home Missions Week at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center.

Kahalil (Charlie) Hanna, of Santa Ana, Calif., who has helped start 17 Arabicspeaking Baptist churches in California during the past two years, is a catalytic missionary to Arabic-speaking people in California.



The Southern accent

by D. Jack Nicholas





Nicholas

ity, drug abuse, etc. — and little attention has been given to shifts in general, global values which have made the violation of traditional values so easy on the American conscience.

One identifiable shift in the American mentality has been from a religious to a psychological mind-set. Few people today express any real interest in personal salvation or any pressing concern about life hereafter. The primary passion of most Americans today is the illusion, however deceptive or fleeting it may be, of "wellbeing." We want to feel "good", "together", "secure." Most people today look for psycho-social rather than religious solutions; they seek the counsel of a psychologist or psychiatrist rather than a pastor, priest or rabbi in their quest for fulfillment.

Another shift of global values has been from self-control to self-indulgence. Protestant values are regarded by modern, liberated man to be intolerably repressive. The contemporary American has been taught that his origin is purely natural (not supernatural) and he refuses to be oppressed by a system of values which does not spring directly from what he perceives to be his nature. The modern American asserts his right to be "free" to "express himself" and that self-expression most usually translates into self-indulgence.

When Puritan values prevailed in our national political, economic and moral theories, Americans were encouraged to be industrious, frugal, sober, temperate and self-controlled. The modern American hurries to exhaust his resources and those of his future in immediate gratification, with no thought to building character or becoming a better person.

Upon even brief reflection it is apparent that the shifts have occurred as an accommodation to the "man is purely animal" point of view. It is equally obvious that these new values undermine not only traditional religious value's but also the moral, social, economic and political foundations of this republic. Let us hope that America sees that before it is too late.

D. Jack Nicholas is president of Southern Baptist College at Walnut Ridge.

Arkansas ranks 7th in student volunteers

ATLANTA — Arkansas schools supplied the seventh largest number of student volunteers for summer mission projects nationwide

Working 10 weeks, 87 Arkansas students perform ministries ranging from vacation Bible schools to refugee resettlement, said Bill Lee, assistant director of special mission ministries for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Nationally, 1,471 students are summer missionaries, Lee said.

Ouachita Baptist University at Arkadelphia led Arkansas schools with 25 volunteers for home mission projects, ranking fifth nationally with the University of Tennessee at Knoxville in student output.

The state receiving the largest number of summer missionaries is California with 111.

Arkansas received 47 summer volunteers.

Students in the program are sponsored by the Home Mission Board, Baptist Student Unions, individuals, churches and state conventions.

OBU gets ready for fall semester

ARKADELPHIA — Registration for the fall semester at Ouachita Baptist University will be held Tuesday and Wednesday, Aug. 25-26, in Evans Student Center and Lile Hall with classes set to begin on Thursday, Aug. 27, according to Carl Goodson, vice president for academic affairs.

Incoming freshmen and other new students will convene on campus for orientation sessions on Friday, Aug. 21.

The last day to register for fall courses is Sept. 9.

Garland Association names new director

Garland County Association, with offices in Hot Springs, has named as its first director of missions Gene Ellis, a native of Hot Springs.

Ellis, currently serving as assistant pastor and bus director for the Hot Springs Grand Avenue Church, will assume his new posi-



Ellis

tion Oct. 1. He will also be entering the field of evangelism to do revivals, Bible studies, evangelism conferences and associational meetings.

He has been in the ministry for 15 years and has served several Arkansas churches. Ellis is married to the former Geneva Echols, also a native of Hot Springs. They have three children and three grandchildren

Baptist leader's book draws praise

Arkansas Baptist Executive Secretary Huber Drumwright recently completed a grammar of New Testament Greek that is receiving praise from a number of scholars and in journals.

Published in 1980 by Broadman Press, An Introduction to New Testament Greek includes 2B chapters in which explanations of grammatical points, vocabulary lists and exercises are presented by the former professor of New Testament and dean of the school of theology at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

"Drumwright has achieved all the requirements [necessary for a Greek grammar] to a remarkable degree," wrote M. Christopher White in the journal "Perspectives in Religious Studies" last spring. "[His] approach to the study of language comes from years of experience as a teacher and from his proficiency in New Testament Greek itself."

A recent issue of "New Testament Theology" noted the book's importance as "a textbook for first-year seminary courses" and its appendixes "[which] provide the rules of accent, principles of accent for enclitics, principle parts of some irregular verbs and paradigms."

L. L. Collins, associate executive secretary and a former colleague of Drumwright at Southwestern, said, "The book has many strengths, one of the strongest being his use of biblical material for the translation exercises, thus getting the student into the Greek New Testament much quicker."

Drumwright has also written Saints Alive! and Prayer Rediscovered, served as editor for Revision of Peloubet's Dictionary of the Bible, has contributed articles to several journals and Bible encyclopedias, and translated the Cospels of Matthew and John for the New King James Bible.

Arkansas all over

by Millie Gill/ABN staff writer

Rev. and Mrs. W. J. "Chuck" Smith

will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary Aug. 16 with a reception from 2 to 5 p.m. at Clinton First Church. The couple was married Aug. 28, 1931, in Clinton. He is a retired Southern Baptist minister, having served churches throughout Arkansas, as well as serving for three years as associational missionary for Stone, Van Buren and Searcy Counties. Mrs. Smith is the former Bonnie Burnett. They have three children, James H. Smith of Frazee, Minn, Mrs. Gayle (Marylee) Noble and Mrs. Gary (Carolyn), Lay, both of Little Rock. They also have five grandchildren.

Leonard Williams

began his ministry Aug. 10 as pastor of the Viola Church, going there from a three and one-half year pastorate at the Paragould Center Hill Church.

Alan G. Ellen

began his service as pastor of El Dorado Trinity Church, effective July 19. He and his wife, Marilyn, and son, Alan II, moved there from the Southside Church of Punta Gorda, Fla.



Rev. and Mrs. Smith

Joe Bagwell

has resigned as pastor of Leslie First Church to do mission work in Oregon.

Clyde Hart

is serving as interim pastor of the Wilmot

loe Toombs

is serving as pastor of the Oden Church. A recent graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, he was ordained to the ministry Aug. 9 by the Oden Church.

loe Damazio

has resigned as pastor of the Mount Gilead Church.

A. A. Brady

has resigned as director of missions for the Caddo River Association due to the illness of his wife. The Bradys are moving to Tupelo, Miss., to be with their son, Dennis, and his family.

Bob Lovd

has accepted the call to serve as pastor of the Dardanelle Calvary Church, going there from the Centerville Church.

Ta- Casa

has resigned as pastor of the Russellville Kelly Heights Church to move to Boone

Lyle Koone

is now serving as pastor of the Saltillo Heights Church.

briefly

Colt Church

was in a revival July 13-19 led by Earl Humble, professor of religion at Southern Baptist College. Pastor James B. Busby reported six professions of faith.

Hot Springs Barcelona Road Mission

will be organized into a church Aug. 30. Huber Drumwright, Executive Secretary of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, will be speaker for the 2:30 p.m. dedication service to be held at Coronado Center in Hot Springs Village.

Van Buren Oak Grove Church

observed homecoming Aug. 2. D. O. Stuckey, a former pastor, and Skip Kelley, associate pastor, were speakers. Wayne B. Davis is pastor.

Altheimer First Church

held open house at the parsonage July 12 to show improvements that include new floor and wall coverings for bathrooms and the installation of drapes and carpet throughout the home. Coy Camp is pastor.

Conway First Church

has a team of 15 people doing mission work in Denver, Colo, Aug. 7-14. Their ministir includes revival services Sunday through Wednesday evening and Vacation Bible School each morning Monday through Thursday.

Magnolia Central Church

has been selected by the Southern Baptist Convention Radio and Television Commission and Home Mission Board to be a part of the programming of the American Christian Television System. Evangelistic services in the Magnolia church Oct. 18-21 will be taped for broadcast over cable-TV at future dates.

Mena Dallas Avenue Church

held a mission emphasis day July 19, honoring Dr. and Mrs. Robert Garrett prior to their return to Zimbabwe, Southern Africa, as career missionaries. Pastor and Mrs. Max Deaton were also honored and presented with a gift of money to be used on their evangelistic trip to Malawi, Southern Africa.

buildings



Paris First Church held a note burning June 14 to celebrate the final payment of its \$131,000 sanctuary and \$9,650 van. Shown left to right are Fred Raney, trustee; C. E. Anderson, trustee and Building Committee member; Jack Porter, former pastor, Bill Kreis, current pastor, Frankie Jarrard, trustee, and Gene Davis, Building Committee member.

people Letters to the editor

Correction

The Aug. 6 issue listed the incorrect name of the church where Jack Porter is serving. He is pastor of the Batesville Fellowship Church.

Change needed

There is a spirit moving among us that is dividing brethren and creating an unnecessary chasm. I don't fear the doctrinal purity of our Southern Baptist leaders as much as I fear the men who are power hungry either to keep power or gain it for the first time

I believe some simple changes would

help eliminate these power struggles. I suggest the following ideas because we have many capable leaders who will never be able to serve their denomination under our present system.

1. All major officers to be elected for one year without eligibility for another term in that office.

2. Committee membership to be limited to two terms without eligibility after a one year absence.

3. Simultaneous membership on state and national boards, agencies and committees should be prohibited.

4. No church should be allowed to have more than one representative on the state or national level of leadership.

5. Involve more laymen in the leadership of the work.

EXAMPLE: We have 42 directors of missions in our state and they occupy 13 positions of leadership on committees and boards in the state convention. There are 1,113 pastors in the state and they hold 133 positions. However, there are 132,945 laypeople and they fill only 117 positions in our state.

I believe the ratio is out of proportion and needs our attention.

Acts 6 needs to be applied to our denomination as it was to the early church so the pastors and missionaries can get back to their calling. The by-product of doing our calling may be the solution to the struggle for leadership in our convention. Bold missions cannot be accomplished without bold leadership. - S. Ray Crews, Heber Springs





Food and fellowship

Virginia Kirk and Jane Purtle

Retreat

... he charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father . . . " Acts 1:4.

After Jesus' death and ascension, the disciples needed time to be guiet, to pray and commune together. Jesus wisely charged them to stay in Jerusalem for a time while they prayed and waited for the outpouring of the Spirit. There are times to go out and minister, and there are times to withdraw and renew one's body, mind and spirit. Jesus recognized this fact in his life and often withdrew alone or with his disciples for renewal.

Retreats for rest and renewal, for spiritual recharging, have become important in the life of many churches and individuals. Youth groups, Sunday School classes, prayer groups, deacons, even entire churches, find retreats important for group building and deepening of individual and community spiritual life.

Working at a retreat center, I see almost daily the life-changing experiences that people have when they give themselves the opportunity to come away and let God speak to them in new ways. If you and groups in your church have not experienced retreat. I encourage you to seek an opportunity. There are now many retreat centers throughout the country that offer retreats for individuals and groups. Or any group can plan its own retreat for a weekend or longer by finding an appropriate place and leadership.

These two recipes are often served at Christian Counseling and Teaching Center in Syria, Va. The ham and cheese casserole is easy and economical, a good way to use leftover ham. Red cabbage cooked in this sweet-sour sauce is the best tasting cabbage I've eaten. We have recently published a cookbook that includes these as well as other favorites.

Red cabbage

1/2 stick of margarine 1/2 teaspoon salt

1 medium red cabbage, cut or chopped 1/2 cup vinegar

1 small onion, diced 1/2 cup water

2 medium apples, chopped or grated 1/2 cup brown sugar or honey

Place all ingredients in heavy pan and bring to a boil. Cover and cook on medium heat approximately 40 minutes. In the last five minutes, remove cover and turn heat higher to evaporate excess liquid. Serves eight.

Ham and cheese casserole

12 slices of bread 2 cups milk

1/2 teaspoon dry mustard

8 ounce package of American cheese

1/2 teaspoon salt

1 tablespoon margarine

2 cups chopped or ground ham 4 eggs

Place six slices of bread in the bottom of 9x12 greased baking dish. Top with cheese and ham. Beat eggs slightly. Add milk, mustard, salt. Cut rest of bread slices diagonally. Dip each slice in egg-milk mixture and arrange on top. Pour rest of milk mixture over bread. Dot with margarine and sprinkle with paprika. Bake 40-45 minutes. Cut into squares. Serves six to eight.

Virginia, professor emeritus at Arkansas College, is a member of Batesville First Church, Jane is on the staff of Christian Counseling and Teaching Center in Syria, Va. They have enjoyed cooking together for several years.

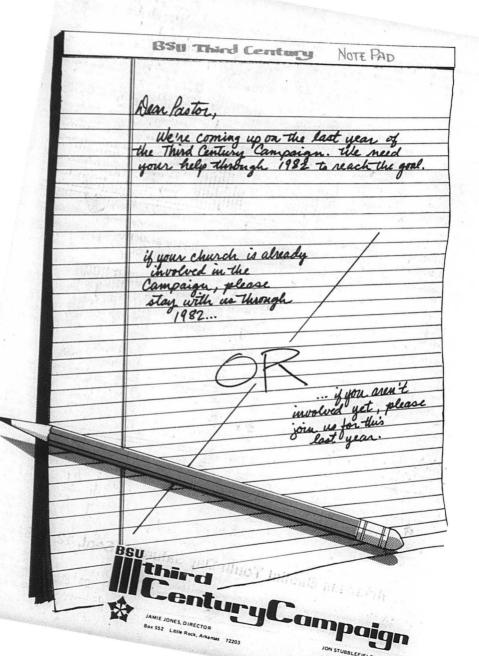
Church-state separation a fetish

lesus said "Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and unto God the things that are God's" in answer to the question. "Is it lawful to pay tribute to Caesar?" The clear meaning of this is that the believer is to pay his taxes, as a good citizen. By no stretch of the imagination could it mean that we are to be unequally yoked together with such unbelievers as the ACLU to promote or oppose any law, or for any purpose whatever.

We have made a fetish of "Separation of Church and State" that threatens to ruin our effectiveness in the more important works of witnessing to the unconverted and the edification of believers.

I believe in "Separation of Church and State." I hope we never have to undergo persecution here. But, I cannot find where Stephen, James the brother of John, Peter or Paul spent a major portion of their time compromising with unbelievers in efforts to avoid it.

These ideas will probably not bring the writer any praise or popularity, but they ought to be considered in the light of biblical priorities. - Clay Hale, El Dorado



Mr. and Mrs. Aaron M. Remington, missionaries to Portugal, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Ave dos Bombeiros Voluntarios, Lote 121, S. Esq. [Alges] 1495 Lisbon, Portugal). Born in Prairie Grove, Ark., he lived in Lubbock, Texas; Morrow and near Little Rock, Ark., and Ukiah, Calif., while growing up. She is the former Mary Unger of Elk Creek, Mo. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1977.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell L. Locke, missionaries to Nigeria, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: PMB 5113, Ibadan, Nigeria). Born in San Diego, Calif., he also lived in Polk County, Mo., while growing up. The former Veda Williams, she was born in Shirley, Ark., and also lived in Alton, Mo. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1955.

Ted Holt, missionary journeyman to Mexico, has completed his term of service and returned to the States (address: Rt. 7, Box 368, Tupelo, Miss. 38801). He was born in Memphis, Tenn., and also lived in Gilmore, Ark., and Tupelo, Miss. Before he was employed by the Foreign Mission Board in July 1979, he was graduated from Delta State University, Cleveland, Miss.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence A. Allison, missionaries to South Africa, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 601 South Hughes St., Little Rock, Ark. 72205). Born in Walnut Ridge, Ark., he lived there and in surrounding communities while growing up. She is the former Alla Brasell of Pine Bluff, Ark. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1960, resigned in 1964 and were reappointed in 1969.

Alita Garrett, missionary journeyman to Hong Kong/Macao, has completed her term of service and returned to the States (address: 1210 DeQueen St., Mena, Ark. 71953). She was born in Portales, N.M., and lived in Houston, Fort Worth, and Eastland, Texas, and Rhodesia, where her parents were missionaries. Before she was employed by the Foreign Mission Board in July



1979, she was a medical receptionist in Mena, Ark.

September is the season for Eureka Springs.

With fall right around the corner, cooler weather and special rates, September is the ideal time to visit scenic Eureka Springs, Arkansas.

Come and enjoy the timeless beauty of the Ozark Mountains. See the inspiring Great Passion Play and the seven-story Christ of the Ozarks Statue. Take advantage of the special group bus rates for churches, senior citizens and others. Visit Victorian homes, arts and crafts shops, fine restaurants and dozens of fun attractions.

September is not only the season for Eureka Springs, it's the best bargain for families and groups.

For information on accommodations, activities or tour packages, write or call: Chamber of Commerce, Room 206, Eureka Springs, AR 72632. (501) 253-8737.

Invitation . . . to Arkansas State University students from First Baptist Church, Jonesboro

presenting





Ring Center, Saturday, Aug. 29, 7:30 p.m. Emil Williams, pastor



Arkansas Baptist Youth Day Saturday, Sept. 12, 1981

For information contact:

Church Training Department, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, Ark. 72203, phone 376-4791

August 13, 1981

Record missionary appointments

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Five Arkansas couples were among 84 men and women named missionaries July 21 in the largest appointment service of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's 136-year history.

The group, from 34 states, far surpassed the previous record of 56, set in April 1947 when a war-ravaged world was begging for missionaries.

They brought with them caravans of relatives and friends who filled the new sanctuary of Derbyshire Church, Richmond, Va., and spilled into the aisles on folding chairs.

They were pastors, church musicians, business managers, farmers, teachers, nurses, a fertilizer salesman. They ranged in age from mid-20s to late 50s (several missionary

associates have grandchildren). They were ordinary folks bound by a common call to leave home, family and country to spread Christ's gospel.

Foreign Mission Board President R. Keith Parks challenged the 84 to be "good soldiers" of Christ, ready for battle, focusing all energies on the evangelical task.

Counting the naming of 82 missionary journeymen and four special project workers in July, the new appointments brought the total of new missionaries for the month to 170, another all-time high. To date, new missionaries in 1981 number 229

The five Arkansans

Mr. and Mrs. S. Kyle Cox will work in Chile, where he will be a seminary extension teacher, and she will be a church and

home worker.

For the past three years Cox has served as pastor of Fair Park Church in Russellville.

Cox is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Cox of Russellville.

Cox has served as pastor of the Cedar Grove Church in Arkadelphia and also churches in Missouri and Texas.

A native of Missouri, Mrs. Cox is the former_Lois. Tipton. She attended Southern Baptist College.

Mrs. Cox has been a consultant for the emotionally disturbed in the Russellville public schools, an educational diagnostician for special children in the Head Start program, and currently is a teacher of the profoundly handicapped at Friendship School in Russellville.



Rev. and Mrs. Mason E. Bondurant



Mr. and Mrs. Richard O. Cheek



Rev. and Mrs. S. Kyle Cox



Mr. and Mrs. Gregory B. Meeks



Rev. and Mrs. James A. Smith

Boyce Bible School schedules fall classes

Boyce Bible School in Little Rock will offer seven courses during its fall term which starts Aug. 28. All of the courses meet at Central Baptist Hospital.

In addition, the Boyce Bible School branch in Blytheville will begin classes Aug. 24, meeting on eight Monday evenings at First Church.

The courses offered at the Little Rock center include:

Friday

6-7:55 p.m.	0901	English Grammar I	Tom Greer
6-7:55 p.m.	0624	History of Southern Baptists	Cecil Sutley
8-8:15 p.m.	Assemb	oly for all Friday students and faculty	
8:20-10:15 p.m.	0560A	New Testament Survey I (part 1)	L. L. Collins
Saturday		Note Miles	
7:45-9:40 a.m.	0600	Introduction to Theology	Everett Sneed
7:45-9:40 a.m.	0663	Principles & Practices of Missions	Harold Gateley
9:45-10:10 a.m.	Chapel	for all Saturday students and faculty	
10:15-12:10 p.m.	0520A	Old Testament Survey I (part 1)	W. T. Holland
12:50-2:45 p.m.	0852	Church Recreation	Jamie Smith

Registration will be Aug. 27, 5:30-7 p.m., and Aug. 28, 4-6 p.m., at the Central Baptist Hospital Educational Annex. Contact the director, Ralph W. Davis (address: 2121 N. Van Buren St., Little Rock, 72207; phone 663-4098), to register at his home

the week of Aug. 25. Books will be sold Aug. 28, 5-7 p.m., or may be purchased at the Baptist Book Store in Little Rock in advance.

Registration is Aug. 24, 4-6 p.m., at First Church for courses offered at Blytheville, which include:

8

5-7:55 p.m.	0560A	New Testament Survey I (part 1)	Emil Williams
3-9:55 p.m.	0512	Biblical Backgrounds	Ed North

include Arkansans

The Coxes have one son, Christopher Kyle, born in 1979.

Mr. and Mrs. Gregory B. Meeks will work in Taiwan where he will be a school administrator, and she will be a church and home worker.

Born in Arkadelphia, Meeks is the son of Dr. and Mrs. E. Bruce Meeks of Hot Springs. He considers Second Church in Hot Springs his home church.

He has worked as an elementary teacher and principal at schools in Hot Springs and New Orleans.

Born in Paragould, Mrs. Meeks, the former Jackie Hunter, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mervin Hunter of Paragould. She considers East Side Church there her home church.

She has worked as a secretary and service representative in Hot Springs.

Mr. and Mrs. Mason E. Bondurant will work as missionary associates in Venezue-la, where he will be pastor for the English-language congregation in Maracaibo, and she will be a church and home worker. He is pastor of the First Church in Jacksonville and a member of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention Executive Board. She is a teacher for the Pulaski County School District in Little Rock.

Bondurant has served as pastor of Trinity Church in Fort Smith and First Church in Dumas, as well as other churches in Alabama and Oklahoma.

Mrs. Bondurant, the former Margaret Montgomery, is a native of Alabama.

The Bondurants have four grown chil-

Mr. and Mrs. Richard O. Cheek will work in Malaysia, where he will be a seminary teacher, and she will be a church and home worker.

Born in Little Rock, Cheek considers Midwest City, Okla., his hometown.

Mrs. Cheek, the former Jene Criswell, was born in Pine Bluff and lived in Little Rock. She has worked as a teacher in a Fort Worth school.

The Cheeks have three children.

Mr. and Mrs. James A. Smith will work in Austria, where he will be a student worker and general evangelist, and she will be a church and home worker. He is a campus minister at Spalding College in Louisville, Ky., and she is a secretary in that city.

Smith is a native of Martinsville, Va.

Mrs. Smith, the former Rebecca Nichols, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert A. Nichols, Southern Baptist missionaries in Asuncion, Paraguay, and former pastor of Baughs Chapel in Austin. Mrs. Smith lived in Cabot as a child. She received the bachelor of music degree from Ouachita.

The five couples will go to Pine Mountain, Ga., in September for a 12-week orientation before leaving for the field.

A former resident says:

"My feelings about the Children's Home are thankful! Thank goodness people of Arkansas care enough to provide needy children with the environment that gives them the opportunity everyone else has. I know by personal experience the good the Home does. I shudder to think what my life would have been like had I not lived there during my most influential years. Thank God for right influence at the right time."

Give to the Thanksgiving Offering to continue this ministry.

Arkansas Baptist Family & Child Care Services



Attendance report

Alexander First Vimy Ridge Immanuel Alexander First Vimy Ridge Immanuel Alexander First Vimy Ridge Immanuel Alexander First Adens, First Baserolle Baserolle First Maring Home Bestownille Bestownille First Bestownille First Bestownille First Bosands First Bosands First Bosands First Bosands First Carmon, Cullendale First Carmon, Cullendale First Carmon, Cullendale First Carmon, Cullendale First Carmon, First Bosands First Merdiala First First Merdiala First First First Merdiala First First First First Merdiala First First First First Merdiala First First First Merdiala First First First Merdiala First First Merdiala First First First Merdiala First First First First First Merdiala First F	Section 1. 1981 School 1. 1981 114 99 1689 1689 1689 2481	Church Trans. 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Church addus. 1
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Central Avenue	72	49	2
Berryville	-03		
Freeman Heights	265	92	2
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Forrest City, First	562	96	
Ft. Smith Grand Avenue	1,256	305	2
Mission Westside	81	47	- 33
Cassville Centry First	112	35	,
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Hampton, First	169	87	1
Hardy, First Harrison	120	61	
Eagle Heights Northvale	172	67	1
Woodland Heights	103	52	1
Grand Avenue	399	95	1
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Mountain Pine, First	73	32	
North Little Rock, Stanfill	75	31	
Paragould Calvary	190	143	
East Side First	434	196	1
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ine Bluff	224	67	,
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International Aug. 16, 1981 Deuteronomy 30:1-10 by Ira Taylor Atkins First Church

Repentance and restoration

After reminding the Israelites of God's willingness to renew his covenant with them and urging them to keep their part of the covenant, Moses shared another great truth with them. He told the Israelites that only repentance of sin can bring restoration to any person or nation.

Remember . . . and repent

The first step toward repentance is to remember. We see this in our Lord's messages to the churches in Revelation 2 and 3. Over and over again the message is "remember . . . and repent."

It seems that Moses had learned well the nature of these Israelites and indeed the nature of all men. Man's nature is bent toward sin. Israel would sin. "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23). Moses tried to prepare these Israelites by teaching them what they must do when they would sin - remember and repent.

Israel must remember both the blessing and the curse. The prodigal son remembered the blessings he once enjoyed with his father. He then repented and returned to his father. But Israel must also remember the curse of sin, as I am sure the prodigal son never forgot eating with the swine.

The nature of repentance

But remembering is only the first step in repentance. Next comes the turning away from sin and a return to God and his covenant. In verse 2 and in verse 10 Moses tells the people that they must "return unto the Lord," and "hearken unto the voice of the Lord."

This return must not be just lip service. It must be "with all thine heart and all thy soul." God knows our hearts. He searches them and tries them. He knows when repentance comes from the heart and not just from the lips. This wholehearted repentance is the only kind that God will accept.

Repentance then is evidenced by obedience. Our willingness to "obey his voice" and "to keep his commandments and statues" (v. 10) is an indication that repentance is real and acceptable with God.

Restoration follows repentance

Restoration is conditioned upon repentance. When God's people repent, God will restore them. Complete restoration depends upon complete repentance, and obedience to God is evidence of that repentance. God is always ready to do his part. Are we as ready to do ours?

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When evil seems to be winning

How a thing appears and what it really is are sometimes entirely different. The wicked appear to prosper. In contrast, there is a prosperity for the godly which is very real. The Psalmist is telling us not to get worked up over the "apparent" prosperity



of the wicked. In fact, it is possible to be jealous of the wicked and the success they are enjoying.

The Christian is always asking why God doesn't do something about wickedness. He is! The wicked are to be blown away. The Christian has trouble waiting for the process to occur.

What is the Christian to do while the drying and blowing away of the wicked is oc-

1. Trust in the Lord. That means to stay in the place where God has placed you. That is what he means by "dwell in the land." So many folks try to escape circumstances rather than dealing with them. It is as if the solution to the problems we face is somewhere else. Be faithful to your task where you are and God will feed you.

2. Delight in the Lord. This delight in the

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Life and Work

Aug. 16, 1981 Psalm 37:1-9: 25-28 by Jerre R. Hassell Stuttgart First Church

Lord is in contrast to delighting in the victories of the wicked. The way for the Christian to gain the victories he is seeking is not to revert to the ways of the wicked but to delight in the Lord. He will feed you. It is awfully easy to try and use worldly ways to accomplish spiritual purposes.

3. Commit your way to the Lord The word picture of "commit" has the idea of dislodging a burden and putting it upon God. Why should we try to do things which God is willing to do? Even more, why do we even attempt to accomplish things which only God can do?

4. Rest in the Lord. Rest is confidence. Rest is relaxing in the hands of someone else. Resting in the Lord is waiting for him. Our impatience with God is sometimes ridiculous. The person who tries to accomplish spiritual purposes with questionable methods is not waiting patiently for God. Evil ways never bring about Godly purposes.

Verse nine gives us the principle for the Christian. Wait upon the Lord for God will take care of you. You shall inherit the earth. Verses 25 through 28 form the conclusion of the matter. The righteous are not forsaken by God and their children don't have to beg for food. The Lord will not forsake his own. So the hymn says, "Be not dismayed whatever betide. God will take care of you." There the matter rest!





Bible Book Aug. 16, 1981 Hebrews 11:1-40 by Henry G. West Mississippi County Association

The past achievements of faith

Isn't it wonderful that of all the created beings in the universe only man has the capacity for faith. On the everyday level of business activity we see the reality of human faith. Without faith, the farmer would never till the soil and plant the seed. Without faith, the banker would never lend or the merchant spent to stock his store. Without faith, the teacher's efforts would be futile - on and on we could go. Faith is absolutely essential to life and is the greatest inspirer of hope.

Now when it comes to God, the author of Hebrews says that Biblical faith is "the assurance of things we hope for and the proof of the reality of things we cannot see."

It is more than emotional response; faith carries conviction, it is powerful enough to change the entire course and purpose of one's life. It goes beyond sight and beyond knowledge. It is a complete confidence that God is in total control of history and is in complete control of my life. It is substance (title deed), evidence (proof), hope (reality) and a bringing together the whole of life in the knowledge that all things work together for good to those who love God and are called to his pur-

To see the back side of a piece of embroidery as the seamstress works it, one sees only a tangled, jumbled mass of threads — but to turn it over one sees a beautiful work of an artist in glowing color.

As the song writer puts it, "A little while with Jesus, Oh how it soothes the soul, and makes all the broken threads of life into one great whole."

Faith's achievements (11:4-38)

He then lists some of God's honor roll of the faithful. These people responded to God's call at the risk of ridicule, severance of family ties, or even death. Their action revealed their faith. They completely trusted God even when it seemed impossible. Faith always carries with it a forward look and the writer is urging these Hebrew Christians to ever move forward in God's Bold Mission Thrust that is their destiny.

Faith's hope

It took faith for Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Moses and multitudes like them to "go out with God and look", but the walk and the look made all the difference. In this latter part of man's most brilliant century we still need the same faith to "walk with God", "work for God" and "take the long look of faith with God," "For without faith it is impossible to please him, for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."

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Your state convention at work

Stewardship

The shrinking dollar

Today's silver dollar is smaller than the one Americans once used. The new coin is only slightly larger than a quarter. Coin machines reject them. Potential users question their value.

The old silver dollar was too large and too heavy. But it was and is valuable. Most families have at least one silver dollar hidden away somewhere

The dollar has been shrinking in more ways than one. In 1981, it takes \$2.67 to buy what a dollar would purchase in 1967. The family with a \$175 weekly income in 1967 needs a weekly income of \$467 just to keep up with inflation.

Conditions that influence the family pocketbook spill over into the local church. A church that had a \$15,000 budget in 1967 faces a \$40,050 demand in 1981

An \$80,000 budget in 1967 requires \$213,600 to purchase the same goods and services today.

Churches can check their financial health by multiplying their 1967 budget receipts by 2.67. If the church receipts are more than 2.67 above 1967, the church is growing financially. If the answer is smaller than the 1967 budget times 2.67, the church hasn't kept pace with inflation.

Increased dollars look great on paper. Inflated budgets sound impressive but unless a church experiences new dollar growth, both local and world missions face shrinking dollars.

Sound budget programs encourage new dollar growth. Check with the Stewardship Department for various budget programs. - James A. Walker, director

Sunday School

Teach the Bible to win the lost

This article is last in the series of growth actions, but it is the first in the purpose of a Sunday School and the work of a church. The action stated is "Teach the Bible to win the lost and develop the saved." This concept is not new. Historically, evangelism has been at the



heart of Sunday School work. A Sunday School leader of the past generation said the purpose of the Sunday School is three-

fold: First, to evangelize; second, to evangelize; and third, to evangelize.

J. L. Corzine wrote a book titled. Teaching to Win and Develop. While this book is out of print, it plainly states a major growth action for the Sunday School work, Current evangelism books in the church study course to help teachers teach to win members and prospects to the Lord include: Every Christian's Job; The Evangelistic Church: Take the Stand: A Theology of Witnessing; Witness to Win; and Outreach Evangelism Through the Sunday School.

Some Sunday School Jessons deal primarily with developing Christians, strengthening the home and establishing principles of righteousness for nations; yet every lesson can have a positive evangelistic application. In other words, it is really basic that persons be won to Christ if they are to develop as believers, to build godly homes, and to help establish a strong Christian influence in national life.

Motivation for growth is ultimately based on making disciples, or winning persons to Christ. A growing Sunday School is evidence of an evangelistic Sunday School.

Teach the Bible with the specific purpose to win persons to Christ and help them develop in the graces and gifts of the Lord. It is firmly established that when a Sunday School grows numerically, more persons are won to the Lord and added to the churches. - Lawson Hatfield, state Sunday School director

Student department

Welcome to U of A for Medical Sciences

You are invited to become a part of a fellowship of Christians who are involved in the Baptist Student Union at UAMS. The busy schedules and time committments of the students makes the support of fellow Christians even more of a need in the Hos-



Smalley

pital setting. The Baptist Student Union is located just east of the Medical Center at 323 South Elm. Our primary programs are a Tuesday night Supper-Seminar and a Monday Luncheon Dialogue each week. There will also be some Bible Study groups that will be organized in the dorm. Our first activity of the fall will be a picnic on Aug. 18.

Our BSU president for this year is Sandy Voris, a speech pathology graduate student from Tulsa. Okla. Our other officers are vice president, Steve Goss of Pine Bluff: program chairman, Jared Thompson of Batesville: growth chairman, Beverly Parker of Carlisle; and outreach chairman. Terry Payne of Springdale. I have worked on campuses in Arkansas for over 25 years and am starting my 13th year at the Medical Center. It is the prayer of the leadership of

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our group that you may grow spiritually during your days at UAMS. - lames A. Smalley, director at UAMS

Family and Child Care

Child needs expressed in poem

This child is scared and all alone Won't you show him how to get home? This child is not very smart So please, please have a heart. What would you do if you Were this child, all alone and blue? This child wants to share All of his love with you. So please care. This child just needs a chance in life; He can't bear the pain. He can't handle

the strife. Won't you help him to understand, Won't you please lend him a hand? This child is not happy in any way; He needs your help, just in one day. If you give him just one day's help You'll feel the hurt and pain he has felt. Don't you see what is happening to him? His life has nothing bright; it is always

He just sits around and watches us: If he could only find someone he could

If we would just give a little of our time, He would be in our hearts, yours and

mine.

This poem was written by a former resident of the Children's Home who expresses herself well in poetry. She speaks for many other children and youth who need, and deserve, a chance in life. Thank you, Arkansas Baptists, for joining with us in this ministry of love. Love makes a way. - Johnny G. Biggs, Executive Director, Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care Services

Acteens

Where do missionaries come from?

Do you wish God would call young people from your church into a missions career? Are you praying that some of the many missionaries needed so that everyone can hear the gospel by the year 2000 will come from your congregation? Want to help answer that prayer?

Look at your age level missions organizations. Do you have missions education for every age? Remember the opportunity for uninterrupted missions education should extend from the cradle to the grave and this does include high school age youth.

Many of our churches who use the Wednesday evening family night schedule use high school youth to work with choirs and other activities which prohibit their involvement in missions education. Some substitute other studies for youth. The fact that a larger number of young people attend the study does not always justify the substitution. The church needs to look for overlapping and omissions in the religious education program for youth. Would a similiar effort devoted to missions education not reap greater results in the long run?

The teen years are times of decision making. Yet many churches give little effort to maintain Acteens and Pioneer Royal Ambassadors. Just when the field of missions should be a viable alternative the attention of youth is focused on other things.

The Acteens organization has much to offer girls. Their magazine, "Accent," is attractive and interesting. Girls may have an officer, council or a planning group to plan their weekly programs. They are led to participate in missions in their own community and after some experience may participate in a mission effort or efforts in their state or in other states. They come to know missionaries as persons and realize they, too, have talents God can use. They study about the Cooperative Program as a channel for mission funds. They learn to develop a life style which will support missions and feed the hungry of the world.

If your church does not have this organization for girls grades 7-12, would you pray that God will guide you in the action you should take?

Missionaries do not appear out of the clouds full grown and trained. They are nurtured and trained and offered to God for His use by churches committed to doing what the Great Commission commands. -Betty lo Lacy

Evangelism

Revival objectives

God wants to do some definite things in our revival meetings. The objectives of revival in our day must be Bible-based and true to the purposes of our Lord.

The first objective is a renewing of our spiritual vigor as Christians. Webster says, "Renew means



Shell

to make strong or refresh again, to reestablish, or resume". Many times we, as Christians, ruh down spiritually. We need to be recharged by the Holy Spirit to have the spiritual power to be effective and happy in our Lord

As revival renews our spiritual vigor, it brings satisfaction, security and success to our lives as we serve our Lord.

The second objective of revival is reclaiming of lives lost to service. It shocks our mind and breaks our heart to realize how many church members are lost to our Lord's services. We have approximately four million non-resident Southern Baptists. Along with these non-resident members, we have nearly three million in-active resident church members. We must not mark them off. We must move out to them with love and concern and do our best to reactivate

Galatians 6:1 exhorts us. "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted." A real revival helps to reclaim their lives and talents and services

for the glory of God.

The third objective is redeeming of the lost to Jesus. Jesus said in Luke 19:10, "For the son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." Jesus laid aside the crown of glory to come and wear a crown of thorns that we might wear the crown of life. The number one reason that Jesus left heaven and came to earth was to save the lost. He is still the Saviour today and we are the seekers to bring people to him. We should expect people to be saved in every revival.

The final objective is retaining of new Christians for Christ's use. We must never be satisfied to dip them and drop them. We can help set the course of a person's Christian life as we deal with them personally or from the pulpit. They need to understand the identification with the church and Christianity is a continuing growth process in life. We have a deep conviction that a real revival has a responsibility to help a new Christian grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ.

The New Testament evangelism makes, marks and matures people in Christ. -Clarence Shell Jr.

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Christian families challenged

ARKADELPHIA, Ark. (BP) - Campus ministers and Baptist Student Union directors attending the Directors National Workshop were urged not to allow work demands to force inadequate attention to marriages and families.

John C. Howell, academic dean and professor of Christian ethics at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, said studies among Southern Baptist couples show a desire for more intimacy in Christian mar-

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Howell said ministers and their spouses need to have a healthy sense of self before "marital closeness" can be achieved. "Who

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you are in Jesus Christ and how God's will is working in your life affects how you relate to others," he said. "You have to feel comfortable with the person God is creating in you before you can relate to others."

Ministers spend time helping others acquire interpersonal skills, then fail to practice what they teach. Howell said. "Unfortunately," he explained, "ministers are often hesitant to admit they need to grow."

Howell addressed more than 450 campus ministers and BSU state and local directors attending the quadrennial directors workshop, held this year at Quachita Baptist University

He said that for the next three years Southern Baptists are going to be involved in a Bold Mission Thrust effort to strengthen families and he challenged leaders to develop a growing understanding of family life.

by Larry Chesser

WASHINGTON (BP) - A revised "Family Protection Act" has been introduced in the 97th Congress, but supporters and opponents disagree over the central question of whether the measure protects or jeopardizes family freedoms.

Modeled after a 1979 bill sponsored by Sen. Paul Laxalt, R-Nev., the new bill introduced by Sen. Roger W. Jepsen, R-Jowa, as S. 1378 and Rep. Albert Lee Smith Jr., R-Ala., as H. R. 3955 contains a collection of conservative social and educational positions which sponsors claim is designed to get the federal government off the back of the American family.

Critics of the bill - including a pair of Baptist leaders - claim the Jepsen-Smith proposal is more threat than protection to the American family.

At a news conference announcing the bill's introduction. Smith called it "a first step in removing government intrusion from the lives of American families."

Jepsen said: "Government policies interfering with the family have increased over the past decade under the guise of 'solving' human problems in the areas of health, education and social services."

To remedy the situation, Jepsen and Smith have proposed more than 30 specific provisions in the areas of parental rights. taxation federally-funded education school prayer and rights of religious institu-

The bill, among other things, provides for what it calls "voluntary" prayer in public school, and prohibits the use of federal funds for educational materials which "tend to denigrate, dimish or deny role differences between sexes '

It also would establish an education savings plan whereby parents or other relatives of a child could deposit up to \$2,500 annually tax exempt. Though not as direct as tuition tax credits, the proposal would be likely to benefit the nation's private schools.

The bill also would require schools receiving federal moneys to allow parents or community representatives to participate in decisions related to the "establishment or continuation" of religious courses, and would prevent such schools from limiting parental visits or prohibiting parental review of textbooks.

Former Alabama Congressman John Buchanan attacked the bill, declaring that the underlying philosophy of the Family Protection Act is that of a federally enforced system of family life" ... (and) "would be more apt to do violence to the rights of American citizens than to protect them."

Buchanan, a consultant to the Southern Baptist Convention Christian Life Commission, added that the bill would "extend the heavy hand of the federal government into the home and into the very personal and private lives of American citizens."

Referring to a section of the bill which prohibits federal interference with state child abuse statutes. Buchanan said the Jepsen-Smith proposal would "specifically exclude physical punishment administered by a parent from the definition of child abuse, no matter how severe that corporal punishment may be."

"I hardly think this is a service to the American people or something that will strengthen family life in our country." Buchanan added.

Further concern about the Jepsen-Smith bill was expressed by Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs Executive Director James M. Dunn who described the measure as an "unwieldly patchwork quilt of attemps to find loopholes in the pattern of guaranteed constitutional liberties."

Especially offensive," Dunn said, "are the oblique attacks on church-state separation found in the thinly-veiled attempt to provide aid for parochial schools and to offer permission for the exercise of religion in public schools."

Supporters and opponents disagree on the bill's changes in Congress.

Buchanan told Baptist Press he didn't think passage of the bill was "in the realm of possibility" but Laxalt, joining Jepsen and Smith at a press conference just before introduction of the bill, was expectedly op-

The Nevada senator said chances of securing passage in the present political climate were "excellent," but admitted that the bill's sponsors had no "specific commitment" from President Reagan to back the measure and that it "would be well into next year before we're ready for floor processing."