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### November 15, 1973

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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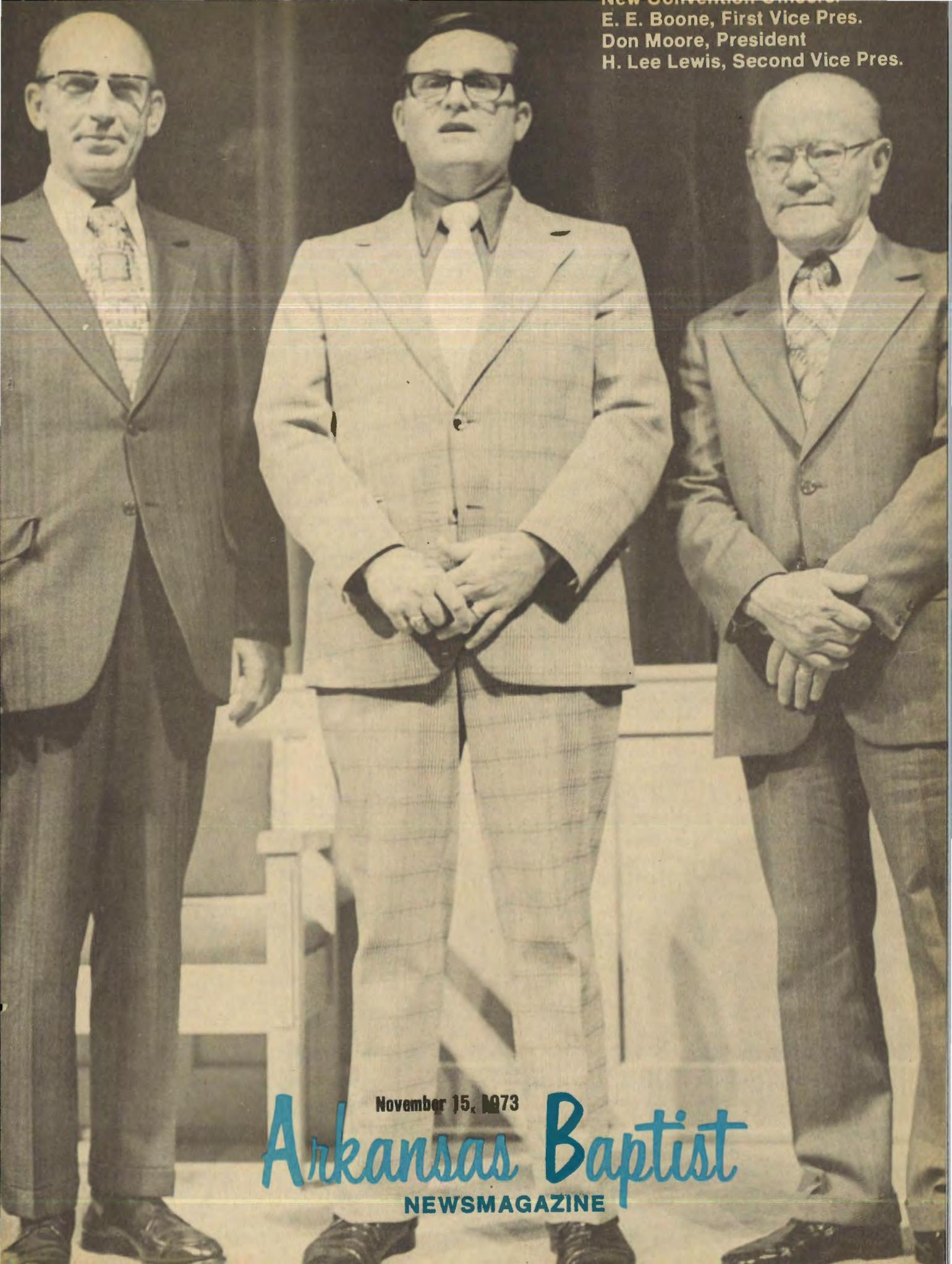
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NEW CONVENTION OFFICERS:  
E. E. Boone, First Vice Pres.  
Don Moore, President  
H. Lee Lewis, Second Vice Pres.



November 15, 1973

# Arkansas Baptist

NEWSMAGAZINE

## One layman's opinion

# The week the town closed up



Dr. Grant

Two questions that I hear repeated more than just about any others in Baptist meetings these days are (1) Is the "revival meeting" really relevant to most Baptist churches today? and (2) Is all the talk about "lay witnessing" based on anything more than just talk?

I recently met a man who has an interesting story to tell that speaks to both of these questions. He is Tom Foster, a retired railroad man from Malvern. He has written a book entitled *The Week the Town Closed Up* that tells his story. It may never win a Pulitzer prize, and he probably will not be bothered with Hollywood agents fighting over movie rights on his book. But one cannot help being moved by his simple faith that a railroad man can and should do something to help a town come to hear the good news about the love of Jesus.

Back in September of 1960, the First Baptist Church of Malvern voted to have a revival Oct. 23-30, with Angel Martinez as the revival preacher, and with morning services from 10 to 11 o'clock on four days. For many years Foster had wished there would be some way for all of the downtown businesses to close their doors so that employees could attend a revival meeting during the day. He had never had the courage or the faith to suggest it to anyone, and certainly not enough to make the effort himself to bring it about. He tells of getting the courage first to speak to his wife, then to his pastor, and then to approach the two largest businesses on Main Street with the question, "Do you love the Lord enough to close your store for four days just one hour each day?" He almost fainted when these first two decided to close up for the revival services, and as he began to approach the other businesses, he received help from the newspapers and others who joined in supporting the idea. By the day the revival services began, more than 100 stores and businesses had agreed to close their doors for one hour to permit their employees to attend the morning revival services. Angel Martinez preached to an average of 900 at those morning services and people still speak of it as one of the greatest revivals in Malvern's history. The 50 additions to the church were important, of course, but it may be that the demonstration of the impact of one layman's faith on an entire community is even more important.

Of course, in the sophisticated 1970's we can't go around closing up towns or cities for revival meetings. Or can we? The answer is that we close up just about whatever we want to close up when we feel the need is great enough. Laymen can do just about whatever they really want to do in pointing people to Christ. We may not always need to close up a town or a city, but it wouldn't hurt to try it occasionally. — Daniel R. Grant, President, Ouachita Baptist University

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# Arkansas Baptist

NEWSMAGAZINE

VOL. 72

NOVEMBER 15, 1973

NO. 45

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## Good spirit prevails at convention



Editor Sneed

An over-all good spirit prevailed at the Arkansas state convention this year, though minor disagreement was voiced on two issues.

A protest was raised concerning the seating of First Church, Russellville, and First Church, Malvern. President Rheubin South referred the matter to the Credentials Committee. Don Hook, parliamentarian for the convention, pointed out

that according to parliamentary laws these churches would be temporarily seated and could vote on all matters except the issue of their own status.

A report was brought by Don Moore, chairman of the Credentials Committee, pointing out that First Church, Russellville, had not sent messengers to the convention, therefore, no action could be taken regarding their status. A motion was made at the closing session of the convention to send a letter of appreciation to First Church, Russellville, for their continued support of the Cooperative Program and to express hope that the church would soon be re-associated with the convention.

It was further observed by the Credentials Committee that First Church, Malvern, was no longer in violation of the constitution of the convention. The committee recommended that First Church, Malvern, be seated.

With a major portion of the 995 registered messengers present there were less than 25 that voted against the recommendation. The church was seated.

A second area which received some discussion by the messengers to the 120th annual session of the convention was the office of Information Services. The new department was to assist pastors and churches to get together. The director was to provide a church, upon request, a minimum of five names of prospective pastors.

Those objecting to the office felt that it would "vest too much power" in the Baptist Convention employees and that it would "deter from the work of the Holy Spirit."

After 12 minutes of discussion in the Wednesday morning session, time for the miscellaneous business ran out. The matter was tabled until the afternoon meeting when an additional 20 minutes was provided for dialogue on the pros and cons of the matter. The office was defeated by a standing vote of the messengers.

We were proud of our convention in these times of voicing differing opinions. Everyone conducted himself in a cordial, Christian manner. President Rheubin South presided with dignity, efficiency, and fairness. We believe that it is not essential that all messengers agree on every issue, but it is vital that we conduct ourselves in a Christian manner, which was the case in this year's convention.

The good health of Arkansas Baptists can further be observed by the excellent response to the Cooperative Program. Dr. Porter Routh, executive secretary-treasurer of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, told the messengers that last year Arkansas had the largest increase in Cooperative Program gifts to Southern Baptist causes of any of the older state conventions. It would appear that this year's gifts to the Cooperative Program are expected to be even larger.

The first session of the convention began with a great declaration of victory. Jim Tillman, director of the Higher Education Campaign, reported that 51% of the churches of the state are in the campaign with the total pledges through the churches exceeding \$3 million.

Drs. Grant and Nicholas, of Ouachita University, Arkadelphia, and Southern College, Walnut Ridge, respectively, articulated very clearly the importance of Christian education. Each emphasized the increase of permissiveness on state supported campuses as well as the emphasis on naturalism and humanism. It was pointed out that at the present time there are over 102 colleges which have places where students may purchase beverage alcohol on campus. Many schools allow single men and women to live together in college-owned property. Each college president pledged to keep their respective institutions close to the cross and to the denomination. The emphasis on Christian education was closed with a stirring message by Dr. Harper Shannon, pastor, Huffman Church, Birmingham, Ala.

The entire convention focused on the theme "Share the Word Now." All messages reenforced this emphasis. Perhaps, the theme was most clearly denoted on Wednesday evening as the convention moved from Immanuel Church to the Little Rock Convention Center. Allen Comish, of the Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn., gave practical ways by which a church may organize to share the Word. He said "It all begins with a real commitment on the part of the pastor and the people to reach the lost and the unchurched of their area."

A pictorial presentation showed ways that each department of the state convention plans to assist in this endeavor. We believe that the practical plans which have been made will enable us to reach even more people in 1974.

The Wednesday evening session was concluded with a message by Dr. Franklin Paschal, pastor, First Church, Nashville, Tenn., who spoke on "The Imperative of Carrying the Gospel." Using the great commission as his text he emphasized that the spreading of the gospel was not optional but a direct command of the Master. He declared "People make fun of Baptists for all their activities, but we can only reach people as we go."

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

Great strength was added to the convention by the excellent Bible teaching of Dr. Curtis Vaughan, professor of New Testament, Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex. Dealing briefly with three passages from Colossians, he gave insight which made everyone anxious to participate in the forthcoming January Bible study.

The endeavor was concluded with a message by comedian Jerry Clower of Yazoo City, Miss. His humor captivated the audience. It was easy to see why he has been voted the comedian of the year by every major poll in the United States this year. Clower said

**I must say it!**

## Our new birth makes for unity

(Second in a series)



Dr. Ashcraft

Another instrument which makes for our unity as a large denomination is our common New Birth. Baptists have long insisted that people enter the kingdom of God and become brothers and sisters by being born anew (John 3:3). This new birth makes God our Father and all the redeemed our family. This is a real basis for unity.

Judgmental appraisers may say that all of our 12 million people have not been born anew but enough of them have to become a real family. A galaxy of new relationships have come as a result of this new birth. There is a new life, a new attitude, a new spirit, a new motive, a new purpose, a new master, a new loyalty, a new family, a new God and new brothers and sisters.

There is a new relationship to God, to the household of faith and to oceans of people to be reached.

An experiential knowledge of God through Christ affects us internally, externally and eternally. It is such that it works its way out from within us to all it touches elsewhere, even on to eternity.

## WMU to open session Sunday, June 9, in Dallas

BIRMINGHAM (BP) — Woman's Missionary Union, auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention, has slated a Sunday evening starting session for its annual meeting in Dallas, June 9 and 10, and has designated a headquarters hotel for WMU members.

"Several pastors in the Dallas area have expressed enthusiastic support for the unusual missions night we have planned," said WMU President Mrs. R. L. Mathis of Waco, Tex. The session will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the 10,000-seat arena of the Dallas Convention Center.

WMU had Sunday evening sessions last year in Portland and the previous

year in Philadelphia. Mrs. Mathis cited outstanding attendance at those sessions but expects a greater turnout in the midst of the big Baptist population in Dallas.

Headline feature for the Sunday evening session is a commissioning service for new foreign missionaries, conducted by Baker J. Cauthen, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Gardner C. Taylor, pastor of Concord Baptist Church, Brooklyn, N. Y., will deliver the keynote address on the theme for the WMU meeting, "Listen to Your World."

Taylor, a leader in the Progressive National Baptist Convention, is former co-chairman of the Baptist World Alliance Commission on Religious Liberty

and Human Rights.

George R. Beasley-Murray, professor at Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky., will be featured pianist. Beasley-Murray was a concert artist before becoming president of Spurgeon's College in London. Joyce Jones, concert organist-in-residence at Baylor University, will be organist.

WMU will also have sessions Monday morning, afternoon and evening.

The Adolphus Hotel in Dallas has been named the WMU headquarters hotel. "This is the first time in several years that we have had a hotel adequate to be called the WMU headquarters," Mrs. Mathis said. "This year WMU members and friends can list the Adolphus as their first choice when applying for rooms."

"The greatest thing in my life is to witness for Christ."

The Pastors' Conference was characterized by excellent preaching. Most of the speakers were from Arkansas. Dr. C. A. Johnson, president, did an outstanding job of keeping the program focused on the needs of the pastors. We felt that the Pastors' Conference prepared the way for the convention. A full report on the Pastors' Conference will be carried in our Nov. 22 issue.

We believe that this year's convention will provide an excellent foundation for the coming year's work. We predict that 1974 will be a victorious year for Arkansas Baptists.

A group of twice born people act, feel and react differently than those of lesser birth. More should be expected of them. By virtue of their new birth they love one another. They have regard for the happiness of others.

They fill the mutual needs of each other. They desire and seek the company of one another. They are interested in the joys and sorrows of others. They delight to worship together.

They appreciate their family status and work for its edification. They think similarly on the matters of the kingdom because they are the kingdom. They instinctively work for unity as most of the goals in life are entwined about the life and the behaviour of others who are dear to them.

They become less judgmental as they grow in grace and knowledge knowing that, dissention, schisms, divisions and disturbed fellowship hurts all and benefits none. They will assume the initiative as peace makers. They will cherish their position as children in a noble family and will strive to be worthy of the family name.

They will not leave the fold (1 John 2:19). This is unity. (to be continued)

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

**Praises lesson writer**

My husband and I certainly enjoyed the Life and Work Sunday School lesson this week by Andrew B. Setliffe.

We think he is a very special person — a called of God man — a true messenger of God. In this day and time they are hard to find.

Thank you for a very good Baptist magazine. We know it is outstanding. —Mrs. Ben D. Miller, Grand Ave. Church, Ft. Smith

We appreciate the Arkansas WMU making it possible for us to receive the Newsmagazine and we enjoy reading about our friends and our home state.

Your editorial in Aug. 2, 1973 magazine, "Transportation For Furloughing Missionaries" was nicely stated and muchly appreciated. Thank you for your kind words in our behalf, but at the same time we say "Thank You" to Southern Baptists for all that is already being done for us as we strive to serve the Lord.

Sincerely yours,  
Graydon B. Hardister

**Win School report**

I want to report on a Win School taught by Jesse Reed at First Church, Rector. We had 26 to start the course and 21 to stay until the finish and 21 participated in the visitation. We had 4 to unite with the church Sunday morning on profession of faith as a result of the school and the group was elated by their visitation as well as the reception they received in the homes. The S.S. attendance Sunday was near a record when there had been no special drive for attendance. Our average attendance last year was 155 and we had 186 Sunday.

We also had five pastors taught by Bro. Reed in the afternoons so that they can conduct schools on their own. We believe this is the most helpful thing we have had in our church in years and believe that the continuing activities will bear this out.

Sincerely,  
Lawrence E. Green, pastor

**Missionary thanks**

After over two weeks of isolation, tension and uncertainty, mail began arriving again this week. Included in our mail were two copies of the "Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine," dated Aug. 2 and Aug. 16.

Beginning Dec. 1, 1973, letters to the editor must be limited to 250 words or less. All letters must be signed, although names will be withheld on request.

**Arkansas all over**



The Harmony Association met recently and elected officers. Shown are (from left) Harold White, superintendent of missions; H. H. Harvill, second vice moderator; Harold Stephens, moderator, and Ed Hinkson, first vice moderator.

**Famous author addresses association**

The Boone-Newton Association recently had John Newport, author of the popular book "Demons, Demons, Demons" for a Bible conference. Dr. Newport spoke on "The Occult" at two evening sessions and at one noon session.

Hundreds of people were in attendance and the new 800 seat auditorium of the Eagle Heights Church was almost filled for the two evening sessions. John Finn, the associational missionary, reports that it was one of the most successful meetings in the history of Boone-Newton Association.

**News about missionaries**

Rev. and Mrs. C. Thurman Braughton, missionaries who have completed furlough in the U.S., returned to Malaysia on Aug. 28 (address: P.O. Box 1706, Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia). He was born in Altus, Okla., and also lived in Hot Springs. She is the former Kathleen Blount of Little Rock. Before their appointment by the Foreign Mission Board in 1967, he was pastor of Westside Mission, Antlers, Okla.

**Harmony Association holds meeting**

The Harmony Association adopted a budget in excess of \$31,000 for 1974 in the Fifty-Sixth Annual Meeting held at Forrest Park Baptist Church, Oct. 22-23. A total of 300 messengers registered for the three sessions. The churches reported a total of 699 baptisms, an increase of 90 over the

previous year.

Harold Stephens, pastor, Hardin Church, was elected moderator; Ed Hinkson, Watson Chapel, 1st vice-moderator; and Mr. H. H. Harvill, layman from the First Church, Humphrey, 2nd vice-moderator.



Missionary Carl Bunch is presented a plaque at the annual meeting, Oct. 16, of Mt. Zion Association by John Urton, Jonesboro layman, in recognition of his 20 years of service as superintendent of missions for the association.

## Missionary completes 20 years' service

Messengers from the churches of Mt. Zion Association meeting at Fisher Street Church, Jonesboro, Oct. 16, presented a plaque to Carl Bunch in recognition of his 20 years of service as superintendent of missions for the association. John Urton, Jonesboro, made the presentation. In addition to the plaque there was a book of letters from individuals and churches and a check from the association.

Bunch first became superintendent of missions for the association in 1949. He resigned in 1951 to accept the pastorate at First Church, Hornersville, Mo. He returned to the association in 1955, where he has continued to serve.

During the years in which he has served Bunch has noted numerous changes. In 1949 there were 25 churches with a combined membership of 6,973. There are now 36 churches with a membership of 14,114. The combined value of church owned property has increased from \$720,300 to \$4,741,957. Gifts to missions have increased from \$28,700 per year to \$219,646. Total annual receipts of the churches have increased from \$202,913 to \$1,323,673. He pointed out that during these years the churches have suffered from the heavy migration of people which has been common to the

area. He stated that this has more severely affected the open-country and small town churches but that, hopefully, there has been a turning point and that some of these churches are now experiencing substantial advancement. Another change he noted is that the churches are not as dependent on agricultural income as they once were.

In 1949 the only property owned by the association was a used postcard mimeograph. Today the association owns a well equipped office building located at 2100 Young Street, Jonesboro, and assembly facilities equipped with complete central heat and air conditioning which is located on 40 acres on Crowley Ridge near Walcott. The camp facilities are used almost constantly throughout the summer months and almost every week-end throughout the year.

In 1949 the Baptist Student Union at Arkansas State University (then Arkansas State College) met in a classroom and without a director. In 1952 the association churches, in cooperation with the Arkansas Convention and other area churches erected a Baptist Student Center building on the campus and a full time director was employed. This was the first Baptist Student Center building to be erected in the state. An addition was con-

structed in 1961. It was renovated again in 1973 following a tornado. The center now has an estimated value of \$150,000. The association contributes to the operation of the center. Benny Clark has served as full time Student Director since January, 1970.

In 1969 an Area Office of the Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care Services was established in Jonesboro with Al Presley serving as area director. The office is located in the Associational Baptist Building. The agency operates a group home for boys which is located at 115 East Cherry Street in Jonesboro. The association and area churches contribute to the support of this work.

Bunch has served in many denominational capacities including six years on the state Executive Board, chairman of the Program Committee, served nine years on the Executive Board of Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge during the time the school received its North Central accreditation, a member of the study committee which brought Southern College into the State Convention, was one of two superintendents of missions in the SBC to serve on the 70 Onward planning committee, and is currently serving a second term on the state Nominating Committee.

In responding to the presentation Bunch expressed appreciation for the opportunity of working with the churches of the association. He noted that not many ministers have the opportunity of spending as much of their ministry in one community. He said that Jonesboro and Craighead County is a good place in which to live and rear your family and that the people of Mt. Zion Association are a wonderful group with which to work.

### Acrostic honors former editor

The following acrostic was presented by Mrs. E. J. Merryman, Texarkana, in honor of former Editor J. I. Cossey on the occasion of his receiving the honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Ouachita University recently:

J-ust like Jesus, went about doing good.  
I-nvolved in so many good works.  
C-onsecrated Christian leader.  
O-rdained of God.  
S-ervant of the people.  
S-elfless devotion.  
E-nlistment man — a great one.  
Y-es, all this and more!

## News briefs

• Crystal Valley Church, North Little Rock, recently had an old fashioned river baptizing. Pastor Ed Walker baptized 11 people and two others were saved at the river bank service.

• Acteens of First Church, Lincoln, held their first coronation service Oct. 28. Thirteen girls received their crowns for the queen honor.

• Wayne Edwards, son of Missionary and Mrs. Benson Edwards, Big Creek Association, was licensed to the gospel ministry by Sage Church, Sept. 30. Edwards is enrolled as a ministerial student at Southern College, Walnut Ridge.

• East End Church, Hensley, recently presented perfect attendance pins to H. K. Brooks and W. O. Woodard for 18 and 14 years respectively.

• A double ordination service was held recently at First Church, Paris. Edmond Lewis, pastor of Roseville Church, Ozark, was ordained to the ministry. C. E. Anderson was ordained as a deacon of First Church, Paris.

• Another double ordination service in Concord Association was held at Pine Log Church, Barber. Don Cochran, pastor of the church, was ordained to the ministry. Robert Kenner was ordained as a deacon of the church.

• James E. Long Jr. was licensed to preach recently by Central Church, Hot Springs. Long is a student at Ouachita University, Arkadelphia. Pastor James E. Hill Jr. was moderator of the service.

• Kibler Church, Alma, plans to celebrate their 75th anniversary Nov. 25. Dress for the occasion will be in the style of 75 years ago and the men will have a beard or mustache.

• Uniontown Church, Clear Creek Association, is conducting adult classes Monday through Thursday nights at the church. The classes are accredited through the eighth grade by the Arkansas Board of Education.

• Lamar Church has begun a church library. Improvements they are working on include painting the educational wing of the church, paneling the dining room, putting new cabinets in the kitchen and new floor coverings on each of these rooms.

• Temple Church, Dermott, observed its annual Homecoming Nov. 4. Guest singers for the occasion were the Golden Tones of Walcott.



The Northside Mission of Calvary Church, Batesville, dedicated a new debt-free educational annex Oct. 14. The building provides a fellowship hall, kitchen facilities, nursery and classroom space. Building aid was given by the state Missions Department from the Revolving Loan Fund. Leaders present for the dedication service were (from left): Paul Bass, Calvary Church staff and former pastor of the mission, Earnest Talburt, member of the mission, Don Heuer, chairman of the building committee, R. A. Bone, pastor of the Calvary Church, S. D. Hacker, superintendent of missions, Independence Association, Frank McBride, mission Sunday School director, and present pastor, Don Johnson.

## Woman's viewpoint

### A special sort of love that touches

By Iris O'Neal Bowen



Mrs. Bowen

A daughter's sweet concern for an aged mother; a mother's love and appreciation for the daughter — are these not things that touch the heart?

I saw it at our WMU night meeting not long ago. Our hostess went back and brought

out her little, old mother; white haired, a scarf about her shoulders, she was as fragile as precious china.

"Mama wanted to say 'hello' before she went to bed," the daughter said, and we all spoke to her.

"I used to go to circle meeting," she said, "but we had it at the church."

"Mama got to go back home to visit the other day," we were told.

"Yes," Mother said, "and if I had someone to stay with me I'd be home right now!"

"Now, Mama, you know you are welcome right here!"

"Yes," but I'm so much trouble to you."

"No, you are not any trouble. You're not a bit of trouble."

Someone said laughingly, "I bet Hattie Ann used to be a lot of trouble to you!"

The little old lady thought about that, then said emphatically, "No! Hattie Ann wasn't ever any trouble to me!"

And they just stood there a minute and smiled a special sort of smile at each other, before the old lady went back to her room.

That special smile stayed with me as I left the home, and I felt we had been blessed to have shared the experience.

The love which flowed between these dear people is the sort mentioned in the Bible as family or brotherly love and is next in importance to the love of God.

As we as families gather together to celebrate the holidays ahead, we should give special thanks for our families and the pleasures afforded us through this tender relationship.

We could even go a little farther and tell them how we love and appreciate them.

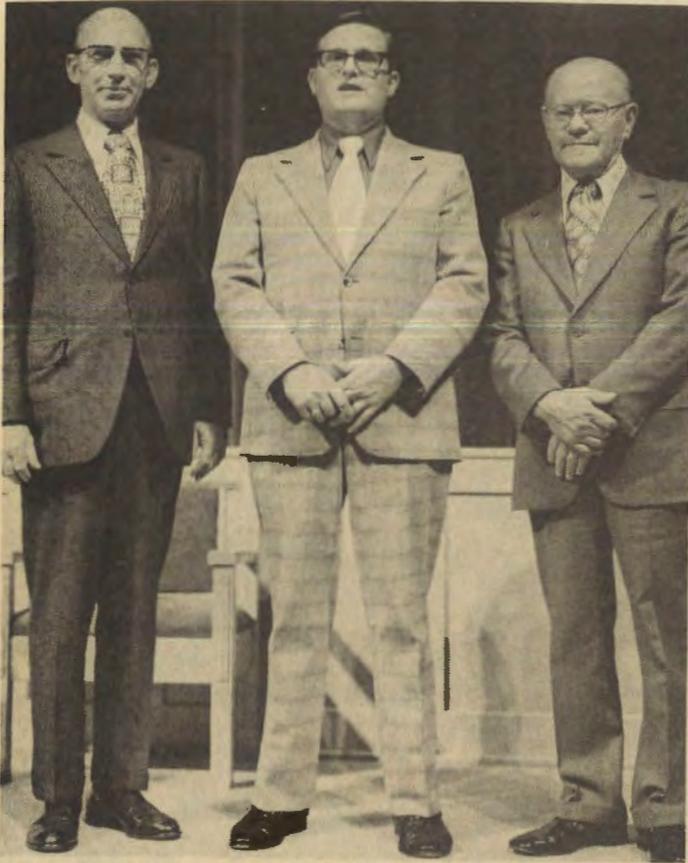
They may not always be here to hear us, you know.

## Deaths

**Dolph A. Hancock**, age 69, died Nov. 3. He was a member of Trinity Church, Ft. Smith.

**Mrs. Lela Irwin Abernathy**, 85, of Fordyce died Oct. 15. She was the widow of J. A. Abernathy and was a member of First Church, Fordyce.

# Scenes from the convention



New convention officers, left to right: E. E. Boone, pastor, Wynne Church, first vice president; Don Moore, pastor, Grand Avenue Church, Ft. Smith, president; H. Lee Lewis, pastor of Southside Mission of First Church, Warren, second vice president.



Dr. Rheubin L. South, pastor, Park Hill Church, North Little Rock, delivering the president's address.



Capacity crowd attends Tuesday night session of the convention at Immanuel Church, Little Rock.



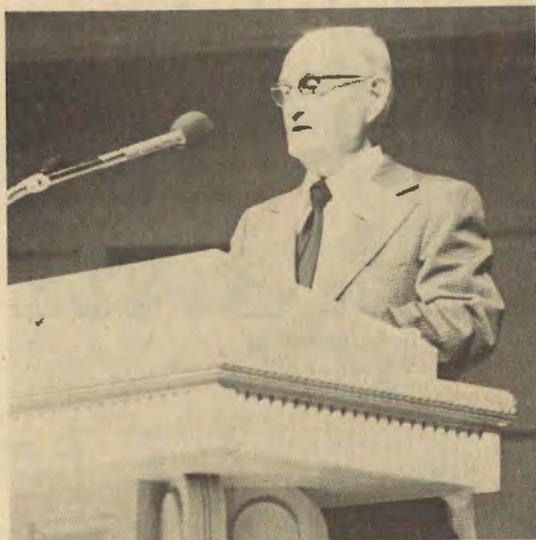
Mrs. Nadine Bjorkman, secretary to Executive Secretary Charles H. Ashcraft, keeping minutes on the convention.



*Dr. Curtis Vaughan, professor of New Testament, Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex., gives preview of January Bible Study.*



*The choir of Ouachita University sings for the convention.*



*Dr. George T. Blackmon, retired professor of OBU, delivers annual sermon.*



*Messengers visit between sessions.*



*Dr. Harper Shannon, pastor, Huffman Church, Birmingham, Ala., spoke at both the Pastors' Conference and the state convention.*

## Staff changes



Evans

**John Evans** has accepted the pastorate of the Northvale Church, Harrison. He had been pastor at the Pickles Gap Church for eight years. He held his first services at Northvale on Oct. 14. The church has recently voted to build a new sanctuary.



Miller

First Church, Sallisaw has called **Eldridge L. Miller** to serve as pastor. He assumes his duties Nov. 15. He will leave the First Church, Ft. Smith, where he served as minister of evangelism. A graduate of Southern Seminary, he is married to the

former Miss Jene Bryce Smith and they have nine children.

**Sam Thorpe** of Little Rock has accepted the position of minister of youth and music at Bethany Church, North Little Rock. Ted Richardson is pastor.

Thorpe is a graduate of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Both he and Richardson are current students at the Mid-American Theological Seminary in Little Rock.

Before accepting the position at Bethany, Thorpe served as youth and activities director of Baptist Tabernacle, Little Rock.

**John Schopp III** has accepted the call to Cass Church. He surrendered to the ministry two years ago and has been an active member of Uniontown Church where he served as chairman of the building committee during construction of the new auditorium.

First Church, Van Buren has called **Walter Watts** as mission pastor for the Turner Terrace Mission. A graduate of Southern Seminary, Watts lives in Ft. Smith.

## Correction

Gerald W. Trussell is chairman of the ABSC Finance Committee, not Program Committee as stated in our issue of Nov. 8.

## Beauty pageant at Southern

The Beauty Pageant for selection of the 1973 Miss Southern Baptist College will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 13 in the Carter Field House on the Walnut Ridge Campus. Admission will be fifty cents a person.

Approximately 30 young ladies will enter the competition for the title which is now held by Mary Welch Carter, a May 1973 graduate of Southern.

The Pageant is sponsored by the college sophomore class. David Daniel, class president; Karen Garner, class secretary; with other officers and Jerry Gibbens and Marty Sewald, class sponsors; are coordinating plans for the

Pageant.

The judges include Gardner McNabb, Pocahontas; Calvin Smith, ASU, Jonesboro; Mrs. Sheila DeWitt, Paragould; and Miss Dixie Sloan, Black Rock, the reigning Miss Lawrence County.

Theme for the Pageant will be "Close To You." Presiding over the public ceremonies and competition will be Mrs. Carolyn Shell and Mrs. Shirley Turbyville, both of Walnut Ridge.

All the members of the sophomore class join in inviting the public to attend the pageant.



Attending the International Banquet were (left to right) Cristina Barber, Bolivia; Mrs. Raj Kilambi, India; Dr. Raj Kilambi, India; Nima Kilambi, India; Executive Secretary Charles Ashcraft; Haluk Sabri Ozemek, Turkey; Hermon Hemont Rao, India.

## State leaders give address at U of A International Banquet

Charles Ashcraft, executive secretary of the Arkansas Convention; Roy Lewis, secretary of the Department of Stewardship — Cooperative Program; and Tom Logue, director of Student Work, as they neared the end of a week-long tour of Student Work in Arkansas, visited the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, Thursday and Friday, Oct. 4-5. The purposes of their visits were to see first hand the ministry of Arkansas Baptists on the campuses of Arkansas, and to meet students and to encourage BSU Directors in their ministries.

While visiting the U of A at Fayetteville, Ashcraft, Lewis and Logue counseled with Baptist Student Union Directors Jamie Jones and Ken Watkins,

met and talked with students and participated in three BSU functions. On Thursday afternoon, Lewis shared with students at "Perspective," a daily worship time at the BSU Center.

Thursday night, at the annual International Banquet, Ashcraft delivered a word of welcome and congeniality to the 150 international and American guests. On Friday, the three representatives of the Arkansas Baptist Convention met with the BSU Area Committee, composed of representatives from four area associations — Benton, Carroll Boone-Newton and Washington-Madison. The meeting was concluded by lunch served in the new University of Arkansas Student Union.

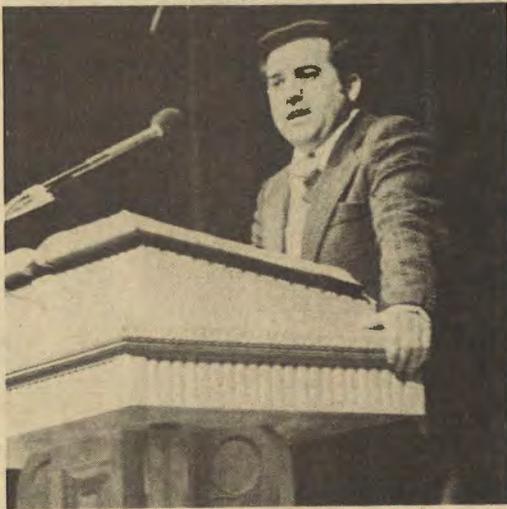
# Scenes from the pastors' conference



Clifford Palmer, pastor, First Church, Springdale, delivers message.



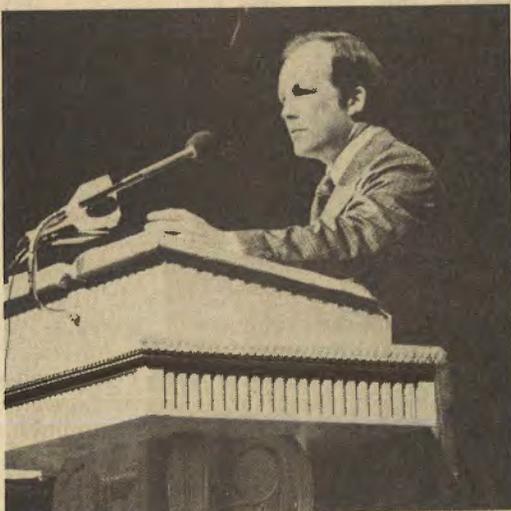
Wayne Davis, pastor of Oak Grove Church, Van Buren, and secretary of the Pastors' Conference, reads Scripture.



Jerry Abernathy, evangelist, North Little Rock, brings message.



Garland Morrison, pastor, North Main Church, Jonesboro, gives testimony on the bus ministry.



H. D. McCarty, pastor, University Church, Fayetteville, speaks on "The Pastor and His Family."



Dickson Rial, pastor, First Church, Ada, Okla., brings message.



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## Ouachita Homecoming activities, class reunions to be Nov. 17

ARKADELPHIA — Among Ouachita Baptist University's 1973 Homecoming Activities on Nov. 17 will be a number of class reunions.

Reunion buffets for the classes of 1923, '28, '33, '38, '43, '48, '58, '63, '68, and '73 will be held at the newly completed Evans Student Center at 5:30 p.m. A reunion dinner for the class of 1953 will be held at Bowen's Continental Buffet at 6 p.m.

Tickets for all reunions are \$2.50 and reservations are being made through the Former Students Association office at Ouachita.

An alumni buffet for all former students will be held at 12 noon. Tickets are \$2 and reservations are being made through the FSA office.

## Ouachita theatre receives a grant

ARKADELPHIA — "The Carousel Players," Ouachita Baptist University's children's theater troupe has received a grant of \$1,340 from the Arkansas State Arts and Humanities program.

According to Raymond Caldwell, assistant professor of speech and drama, Arkansas last year received over \$127,000 from the National Endowment for the Arts. Caldwell said the funds, "will help us finance the annual children's theater tour we've started for the players."

Other activities will include a parade at 10 a.m. through downtown Arkadelphia and the official dedication of Evans Student Center at 11 a.m. W. Clement Stone will deliver the dedicatory address.

The Homecoming Queen will be crowned at 1:30 p.m. prior to the annual Ouachita-Henderson State College football game. During halftime, the Former Students Association will present the Purple and Gold Heart Award to an outstanding alumnus.

Evening entertainment will be provided by the Student Senate.

All seats for the game must be reserved in advance. Tickets are \$3.50 and should be reserved by November 7. Orders by mail may be made through Bill Vining at the OBU Athletic Office.

"Pippi Longstocking" has been selected as this year's play. The production has a cast of 12 and will be the first musical ever produced by "The Carousel Players."

The Arkadelphia Chapter of the Association for Education will sponsor the Arkadelphia performances for this year. For the first time all the children in the Arkadelphia School district will have an opportunity to see the play.

Tryouts are open to all students and will be held next semester. The troupe will perform in Magnet Cove, Pine Bluff and Camden. Any group interested in sponsoring the troupe should contact Raymond Caldwell, Box 751, OBU Arkadelphia, Arkansas.

## Johnson named editor at Broadman Press



Johnson

NASHVILLE — J. S. Johnson, audio-visual production consultant for Broadman Press since 1970, has been named editor of inspirational books in the Broadman products department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

A native of Tennessee, Johnson graduated from Mississippi College, Clinton, and from New Orleans Seminary.

Prior to joining the board's staff he served as superintendent of missions for the George County (Miss.) Association and the Jasper County (Miss.) Association. Earlier he served as pastor for churches in Mississippi and Alabama.

"In this position we need a person of innovative, creative ability," said James W. Clark, director of the board's Broadman division. "We need a person who is able to relate well to authors; and one who can develop books that will help churches to be more effective in their ministry and that will help Christians to grow. We feel we have such a person in Joe Johnson."

Johnson is the author of Broadman's "Preacher, you're the best pasture we've ever had!"



Tommy Bridges, state director of Special Mission Ministries, and Harry Woodall, director, Central Association Missions, look at one of the many Bibles received in "Christmas in August" packages. Over 1,000 packages have been received at the Hot Springs Mission Center after the center was featured in the August issue of the ROYAL SERVICE magazine.



Harry and Jerri Woodall give direction to the Hot Spring Mission Center located at 1030 Central Avenue. The Woodalls are employed by Central Baptist Association in cooperation with the State Missions Department and the Home Mission Board.

# You shall be my witnesses

By George T. Blackmon  
Retired professor of OBU

## Acts 1:8

### Personal remarks:

Messengers of the One Hundred Twentieth Session of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, please allow me a few personal words. Even now once and again some one or group mentions that he or it had remembered me in prayer over the last few years. I am most grateful to all of you for this remembrance because God is entreated to bless because "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

I also honestly admit that I am not the best qualified man among you to express some guidelines for dedicated service in God's kingdom. I still feel as Isaiah felt in his unpurified estate: "I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell amidst a people of unclean lips." I have frequent cause to recall Paul's bidding to every one "not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think." In this area, I often feel the reprove who am I to tell God whom He can use or how He can use him.

I for a time faced a dilemma in respect to a purpose for this message. Should I make it a key-note for the convention's assumption or should I find the will of God in this worship hour? I returned to civilian life somewhat shaken by the sight of so much wasted human life. I faced the task of "putting things together" again. This message, elementary as it is, constitutes the result. I present it today to provoke thought in areas of religious life that seem vital to me. It does matter how a man thinks "for as he thinketh in his heart so is he." One cannot keep his mind in the gutter and keep his life out for long.

### Realm of truth

Now to seek some valid guidelines for service in the kingdom of heaven, we discover three in the Gospel of Matthew. "Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven." The degree of fidelity both in word and action to the whole truth develops an effective servant in the kingdom.

"Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven."

"Whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister." Among the ways to become great in the work of the Lord are also the guidelines causing "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." Freedom in the work, authority and force in it, successes and rewards are had by holding to and spreading the *Truth*. "And ye shall know the Truth, and the Truth shall make you free." "Grace and Truth come by Jesus Christ." So it is evident that God does not need antagonism nor exaltedness by one person in His choosing and using other denominations. There are four kinds of truth — historical established by documentation; philosophic arrived at by logic and reasoning; natural disciplines ascertained by experimentation; and religious grasped through revelation. Each kind of truth has its distinctive material and method; None neither prove nor contradict the others. Those who are disturbed about the "space age" may have complete freedom of choice so far as I am concerned. Some scientists may form another "Babylon Tower" to by-pass God; but unless I have a stop-over skyward on my way to my eternal home, I shall allow others my astro-passages otherwise. I have been theologically influenced by the dedication and near perfect accuracy in calculations of the whole personnel.

### Old Testament witnesses

In the time of Seth and his son Enos, it is said "then began men to call upon the Lord." Perhaps public worship had its beginning thusly. The next move toward public worship was when the father became the priest for the family during the lifetime of Noah, Abraham, Job, and Jacob. The home remained the worship center perhaps for sabbath worship (Deut. 6:3-9) until the synagogue appeared. God took the firstborn because they were spared in Egypt (Ex. 13:3). They were later exchanged for the Levites (Num. 3:40). Aaron was ordained the first high priest and his four sons as ordinary priests (Ex. 29:1-37). The priesthood continued on for centuries but most priests did not keep before the people God's revelation of himself and his mission for His chosen people. The priesthood served to petition God on behalf of the people — Man to God relationships. With the

decay of the priesthood came the office of prophet — God to man relationships. Although those two were the main witness groups, God opened channels of service for all other Israelite men and women only one function short of the priesthood — offering of sacrifices. The Nazarite Order was a group of dedicated "separated" witnesses (Num. 6). They chose to take the vows of "separation" (*nasar*). They were concurrent with the prophets.

During exile and restoration of Israel, the Nethinim were active witnesses for God. They were foreigners who by choice were circumcised. They were more acceptable by the people than by the priesthood. They were assigned all duties of unordained Levites. God accepted the fidelity to Him and to His work. Large numbers of them returned to Palestine with Zerubabel, Ezra, and Nehemiah (Ezra 2:43-55; Neh. 7:44-46). Their rise and acceptance along with the Nazarites of an earlier period point up the fact that anyone who chooses and faithfully dedicates himself completely, has a mission open to him in kingdom work.

### New Testament witnesses

The New Testament gives three groups of people who formed some personal relationships with Jesus. They were distinguishable by the kind and frequency of their contacts and responses. His mother was the first believer in him according to the record (Lk. 1:45). Then came Simeon; next were Anna and her society "that looked for redemption in Jerusalem" (Lk. 2:38). Many others later believed in him. Four or six men — Andrew and Simon, Philip and Nathanael, and probably James and John became believers in him by the River Jordan (Jn. 1:35-51). Later at least four of them became disciples by the Sea of Galilee (Mk. 1:16-20) at the call of Jesus. Yet later they were ordained as apostles on the mountain (Matt. 10:2-4). Those groups were more selective from the first one to the last. Missions and services changed. The believers were more numerous and more locally oriented. The disciples were more noble and dedicated in their loyalties. They left more for Christ (Matt. 4:18-22). They chose Jesus and were learners. They stayed closer and conversed more. The apostles were

chosen by Jesus. They were fewer. They were believers and had been disciples (Lk. 6:13). For the first one and one-half years, Jesus had followed the pattern of the preaching of John the Baptist: "Repent ye for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matt. 3:2; 4:17). That period was individually oriented. The last half of his ministry was given to the apostles, whom Paul wrote were "first" in the church (1 Cor. 12:28). Some reject the propriety of the election of Matthias (Acts 1:26). They argue that the Holy Spirit had not fallen upon the apostles and that God intended for Paul to fill the vacancy left by Judas Iscariot. The choice was made of one from the baptism of John and was a witness of the resurrection of Jesus. The apostle was a teacher — a full time representative of Jesus. Those three groups of New Testament times are after a fashion represented among present day Christians. Actual apostles were a one generation group. Paul said that the Ephesians were "built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone" (Eph. 2:20).

#### The applications

From the foregoing, present day Christians can find both encouragement and guidance. God is not partial in His using and blessing every dedicated and active worker in His kingdom. Jesus established an organization called church to bring about a permanency to what he began. Far too many church members are only believers. During his fifth appearance (Jn. 20:21; Lk. 24:36-43), he gave the first Commission. Jesus said "as my Father hath sent (apestalken) me, even so send (*pempo*) I you." The use of synonyms must mean that he wished the apostles and disciples to be both messengers and ambassadors for him and the Father. The ordained of God's children today should likewise give special heed to speak the Truth and act godly in all cases and missions. Only men so sent should be ordained. Discipleship is the area in which the most weaknesses in service appear. What does the average church member forego, quit, or leave for Christ? "Must I go and empty handed be? Must I meet my Savior so?" From the second century for sometime the spread of Christianity was mainly by unordained statesmen, military men, business men, officials, and sailors. Under the law "*religio licita*" bishops, elders, and other ordained were not allowed to preach outside their several provinces. Person to person evangelism today appears to be becoming the most fruitful method of spreading the gospel and winning the lost-lay evangelism.

On his eighth appearance (Matt. 28:16-20; Mk. 16:15-18; 1 Cor. 15:5b), Jesus gave his second Commission. He

gave a cycle of activity that would guarantee perpetuity and expansion of the work. That Commission was given to the eleven and to "above five hundred brethren at once." That large gathering included apostles and disciples. It gave guidance in putting organization, method, and security in spreading the gospel and winning the lost to Christ. The Commission has four verbals in it, three of which are participles, which take their time phase from their relation to the finite verb. The first one translated "go" (*poreuthentes*) is an aorist deponent, not an imperative, used adverbally — "as you go," "when you go." Seldom does one need to be commanded to go. That gathering did not need a command; they would not remain on that mountain side. Jesus wished them to make disciples everywhere since there was so large a crowd of both disciples and apostles. It is unfortunate that English has no verb form for disciple (*mathateusate*). The expansion of the kingdom is to cover "all nations." Baptizing them is an act of initiation. The baptism of Jesus was announcement of his entry upon his work. The participle is *baptizontes* (present active) — two uncials have the aorist — which connects it in time with "make disciples." Baptism does not "make disciples" as Lenski maintains. Paul in Galatians wrote, "For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ." The word for "put on" really depicted putting on a uniform as a soldier. Becoming a

believer makes one a citizen of the kingdom (*basileia*). Being baptized makes one "a soldier of the Cross" — member of the church (*ekklesia*). The third and last participle (*didaskontes*) emphasized that its action is concurrent with the action of the main action — "making disciples." The cycle of action is as you go make disciples, lead them into the church by baptism, then teach them as they go make disciples, baptize them, and teach those as they go make disciples and teach them to do the same, the cycle of which shall continue to the end of time. What a tragedy it would be for man had all of that crowd or of any generation today stopped that cycle.

During his eleventh and last appearance (Acts 1:3-11), Jesus gave the third and last Commission. He emphasized the power and geographic scope for the expansion of the kingdom. Geographically, the cycle of activity he had assured to have his presence until time is no more. Now it is to have it to the end of the earth. The power of the Holy Spirit is to be with them and in them. For some, he seems to be only an item in their theology but he is the presence of God anywhere and everywhere. He "personalizes" God's revelations to the witnesses for Christ and God. "You shall be witnesses of me." You may not agree but one must dare to be the victim of his own convictions. The truth does not depend upon what I or you believe. It stands and has stood the same.

## Stevens marks his 20th year at SBC Radio-TV commission

FORT WORTH (BP) — With a touch of fun and slapstick, the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission honored its president; Paul M. Stevens, for 20 years service as the agency's chief executive.

Gifts and tributes were presented by commission board members, employees and city civic leaders, commemorating Stevens' tenure.

A humorous film, produced by employees and called "movie drone news," noted that Stevens, with "his shoeshine, his smile and a hard head," led his staff in the production of more than 3,600 radio and television programs.

Porter Routh, executive secretary of the SBC Executive Committee, added to the tongue-in-check quality of the gathering. He presented Stevens "a bill for \$9 million, because you said back in 1958 that if we raised your budget to a certain level you'd never ask for

more. Since that time you've asked for at least \$9 million more."

In a serious vein, Routh said the commission has received over \$17 million through the Cooperative Program, since Stevens was elected in 1953, to communicate the Christian message through radio and television.

Stevens said, "I am a product of the staff of this commission and the people of the Southern Baptist Convention who support this commission with their gifts through the Cooperative Program."

Stevens, commenting on the commission's success in the broadcasting industry, likened it to his father's comment about controlling a recalcitrant mule: "I just watch where it wants to go, and I follow it very closely."

"That's what we do with the broadcast industry," he commented. "We watch where it is going and we are there, very closely, with a Christian message."

# Arkansas Baptist College embarks on an "Era of Enrichment"

By Dr. J. C. Oliver

President, Arkansas Baptist College, Little Rock

**Editor's note: Arkansas Baptist College is owned and operated by the Consolidated Missionary Baptist State Convention of Arkansas.**

Dr. Robert U. Ferguson serves as a liaison between the Arkansas Baptist State Convention and the National Baptist Conventions in our state.

The manifold problems and struggles of colleges in general and black colleges in particular in the last 10 years have been told throughout the country. To some degree, the country has addressed itself to meeting some of the needs of higher education as spiraling costs and decreasing enrollment become established trends.

Arkansas Baptist College, a predominantly black, church related institution certainly feels the pinch as the institution continues to provide educational services, to a wide variety of students.

There are several major differences in the role and function of Arkansas Baptist College, however, that distinguishes its participation in the educational arena of Arkansas. (1) Enrollment statistics show that Arkansas Baptist is a true community college, serving the people of its im-

mediate area. 65 percent of enrolled students live in the Little Rock or North Little Rock area. (2) In a period when colleges of much higher pedigree, and support, regularly show red ink in their annual report, Arkansas Baptist College has operated in the black for the last seven years. (3) With the stymying of federal aid in College Housing Projects, building programs at major colleges have been set aside for two to three years. (Arkansas Baptist is completing a girl's dormitory this fall without government assistance.)

The completion of the girls' dormitory this fall will mark a significant point in the colleges building program with the completion of its sixth major building.

J. C. Oliver, president of the college states "we have worked over the past seven years to construct a physical plant that would adequately house our educational program. To accomplish that objective we have built five major buildings with the sixth now under construction, and over 70 percent completed. The college now prepares to address its resources to provide for the internal strengthening necessary for accrediting by NCA regulations."

management agency to establish policies and enforce disposal standards of air, water and land throughout the tri-state area. Large majorities were in favor of policies to slow population growth in the region: 72 percent wanted additional measures to reduce the birth rate, and 64 percent supported the use of federal aid to attract jobs and people to other parts of the country."

(From "Global Report" in *Saturday Review/World*, Oct. 9, 1973)

- **Consumers Fighting Back** — "Consumers injured by allegedly faulty products are going to court in record numbers these days. And they're winning bigger and bigger settlements. A \$75,000 award is not unusual. According to surveys by Jury Verdict Research of Cleveland, juries are ruling in favor of consumers more and more — from 49 percent of the time in 1965 to 52 percent in 1972."

(From *Everybody's Money*, p. 7, Autumn 1972)

The broad objectives of the "Era of Enrichment" are (1) Strengthening the College Library program to provide new equipment, materials and additional personnel as a primary step toward accreditation. (2) Development of a comprehensive, co-ordinated, systematic approach to the solution of problems posed by the socio-educational role of the institution. This plan will include curriculum development in vocational education, continuing education and developmental education; administrative expansion to provide administrative services to accommodate new curricula, expanded degree programs faculty training and student services, and institutional research to provide a continuous flow of data necessary for revision and refinement of the college program and to maintain the colleges role in a proper perspective to the total educational composite of Pulaski County.

In order to meet its objectives the college has launched a six month effort to raise \$100,000 for the college library program, submitted a proposal under the Title III, Developing Colleges program which is keyed to the overall objectives of the institution and entered into a Consortia arrangement with Philander Smith College and Shorter College (both area colleges) for an Experimental Learning Centers program also under title III. In addition the college has established and staffed a college development office with a grant from the Fleishmann Foundation which will actively seek grants from federal and private sources.

The "Era of Enrichment" at Arkansas Baptist College will be a period marked by concerted effort backed with the total commitment of its president who believes that, "Whatever you set out to do, you can do, if you would only have faith in God and faith in yourself." His record as a college president bears out his belief.

## Tennessee Baptist editor granted leave of absence

BRENTWOOD, Tenn. (BP) — James A. Lester, editor of the *Baptist and Reflector*, news publication of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, has been "granted . . . a six-month leave of absence, beginning Nov. 1 . . . at his request," according to O. M. Dangeau, chairman of the administrative committee of the Tennessee Baptist executive board.

"During this time Mr. Lester will not have any responsibility with the paper, and Ralph Norton (Tennessee Baptist) executive secretary-treasurer, will assume complete responsibility for it," Dangeau said in a statement in the *Baptist and Reflector*.



CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMISSION, SBC

- **A Better Environment** — (New York) — "Yet another poll has shown that the public is remarkably willing to incur some personal inconvenience and cost in order to achieve a better environment. Under the supervision of George Gallup, the Regional Plan Association polled 15,000 voters in a tri-state area (New York, New Jersey and Connecticut) and found 68 percent willing to spend more of their income — either in taxes or higher prices — to improve the public environment of the region. To deal with the problem of solid waste 88 percent favored reducing convenience packaging and other disposable consumer items; 82 percent supported a suggestion for a single governmental waste



Officers elected recently for the coming year for Caroline Association are (from left) Guy Whiting, Toltec Church, Scott, treasurer; Charles Chesser, First Church, Carlisle, clerk; Ron Honea, First Church, Coy, vice moderator; and Houston Austin, First Church, Keo, moderator. The annual meeting was held at First Church, Des Arc with host Pastor Billy G. West serving as moderator.

## OBU enrollment shows increase

ARKADELPHIA — Ouachita University is enjoying an enrollment increase of over eight percent this year over last year, according to computer figures released by the office of OBU President Daniel R. Grant.

Total enrollment for the fall 1973 semester has been tabulated at 1,642, including both undergraduate and graduate students on the Arkadelphia campus plus graduate students in Little Rock. (Ouachita is offering a limited number of graduate courses for Little Rock public school teachers.)

A year ago, enrollment totalled 1,511. Included in the total increase is a jump in the number of students studying for church-related vocations from 239 in 1972 to 270 in 1973.

The new church vocations figure breaks down into student increases in almost every job category this year: ministerial from 123 in '72 to 126 in '73;

religious education from 24 to 35; missions from 18 to 26; church music from 34 to 40; and youth work from 14 to 18. Recreation students decreased from 2 to 1; students in miscellaneous church related fields remained the same at 4 and 20 gave no response to the specific field question.

One-hundred eighty OBU students have parents in church-related vocations this year compared to 163 last year. Of the 180, 44 are the children of missionaries, 91 of pastors and 45 of persons in miscellaneous church-related jobs. Ten specified no field.

Class breakdowns on the new figures indicate an increase of approximately 12 percent in the size of the freshman class — from 523 in 1972 to 592 this semester.

## Revivals

**Dallas Avenue, Mena, Oct. 22-28;** Joe Starr, evangelist; one profession of faith, three by letter. Pastor is J. D. Webb.

**First Church, DeQueen, Oct. 28-31;** Billy Foote, evangelist; 26 professions of faith. Joe Denton is pastor.

## Sandy Thomas named Miss Polk County



Sandy Thomas, Miss Polk County

Sandy Thomas, 17-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Thomas, Mena, recently won the Miss Polk County title.

For her talent the new fair queen presented the Lord's Prayer in sign language. Her beautiful and dramatic presentation impressed the judges.

Sandy is an active member of First Church, Mena, and is active in the youth choir, the "Celebration Singers." She, also, is a senior in the Mena High School.

## Church Efficiency Conference

Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge

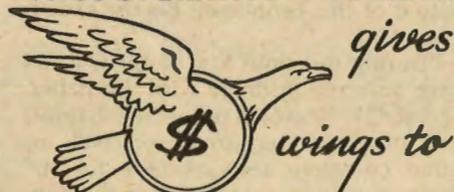
Dec. 2-5, 1973

Further information will be in Nov. 22 issue.

For reservations write:

Billy Walker  
P. O. Box 281  
Southern Baptist College  
Walnut Ridge, Ar. 72476

## The COOPERATIVE PROGRAM



YOUR MISSION DOLLAR

November 15, 1973

Page 17

# One Item Every Layman Should Consider in the Church Budget

AN OPEN LETTER FROM  
DAROLD H. MORGAN



Inflation hurts. No one needs to tell you that. It cuts heavily into a family's budget. It makes things cost more... Food... Clothing... Housing... Medicine... EVERYTHING. Inflation makes you whittle away at luxury items in order to provide necessities.

*Inflation bites deeply into a church budget too.* During the next few weeks, your church will determine its 1974 budget. You'll deal with inflation in every item and have to trim costs wherever you can.

Crucial decisions will be made. The very life of your church depends on how you spend the funds in the budget. One item that needs special consideration is salary compensation for your pastor, other ministers and church employees. How you budget for salary and benefits will affect each of them. Every church wants to do what is fair. Yet, a church can be unfair sometimes and not be aware of it.

As a former pastor, I know how your pastor and staff feel. Rising costs make paying bills hard on them too. I would like to suggest that your church consider

salary increases for each staff member.

Since 1967, inflation has jumped more than 25 per cent nationally. Predictions are that 1973 will register one of the steepest increases ever in the cost of living.

Remember further that Social Security tax for ministers also goes up. Every ordained minister by law must pay all of the Social Security tax himself.

Retirement and insurance programs are offered by the Annuity Board. If your church does not provide these plans for its employees, consider the benefits available. Both are hard to beat.

Since 1967, retirement, disability,

SERVING THOSE  
WHO SERVE  
THE LORD



widow, and child benefits in the Protection Program have jumped considerably. Yet, dues costs have never increased. Not only do you help the minister, church staff, and their families, but you answer in advance the question—what should our church do if our pastor is disabled or must retire with inadequate benefits?

If your church participates now in the Protection Program, *make sure the dues are based on 10 per cent of total salary for all your staff.* It will take this and more when you consider what inflation will continue to do.

The Protection Program is Southern Baptists' way of saying, "thank you for a job well done" to those who serve in churches, agencies and state conventions.

Annuity Board personnel are ready to help you begin a program or improve an existing one.

For full details, write the Church Area of the Development Division, Annuity Board, SBC, 511 North Akard Building, Dallas, Texas 75201; or, contact the annuity secretary in your state convention office.

## Co-laborers in Mission

Not long ago one of the television networks covered the arrival and deplaning of the crew of Apollo 17 in Huntsville, Ala. The telecaster commented that these heroes were coming to Huntsville not so much to be recognized as to recognize the contribution of others to the success of the Apollo mission. Eugene German spoke for the crew. What he said was deeply moving. He acknowledged that without the dedication and skill of every individual involved in the space program, the Apollo flight would have been no more than an empty dream. He linked the ground crew with the moon adventure just as definitely as he did the space crew themselves.

Immediately I drew a parallel between the mind-boggling space enterprise and the worldwide mission of Southern Baptists. Not every citizen aspires to or can explore the moon's surface, nor can every Baptist go to a mission field. But every Baptist can be a part of the worldwide mission of his church. He can be this by giving through the Cooperative Program.

This is why Operation One is so important to every Southern Baptist. Operation One is the concentrated effort to familiarize every one of us with the mission needs of the world and to challenge us to respond in a positive way through greater involvement in mission giving. Every church is being challenged to increase its gifts through the Cooperative Program by at least 1 percent of the total church budget income thus enabling every Baptist to have a greater involvement in the world mission of the church.

Missionaries themselves are quick to testify that without dedicated giving by the "ground crew," our missions effort would be no more than an idle dream. Listen to some of these missionaries speak out.

... from Spain

"To ask how I feel about the Cooperative Program is like asking a fisherman what he thinks about the boat he uses daily in his work. It is like inviting the farmer to comment on his plow. It is like questioning what function the canal serves in the irrigation processes.

"For 25 years I have been overseas, glad to give my life for Christ and confident that I am in a partnership with those back at home who put tools in my hands.

"I cannot imagine what our mission work would be — either at home or abroad — without the Cooperative Program. It is a wonderful, effective, and inspired plan. It is a great canal of love which flows out to those whose greatest need is Christ." — Indy Whitten

### OPERATION ONE: A bold step in increased support for world missions.

... Argentina

"The Cooperative Program to the missionary is not only a means of missions, but it is a philosophy of spiritual giving. We know we are God's missionaries in Argentina because it is his plan; and we are convinced that part of God's plan for winning the world for Christ is the Cooperative Program. Each church participation is like a strong link of a great chain that holds us secure from the homeland to the far away land. We thank God that he inspired this plan of cooperative giving for Southern Baptists. There's no other plan in the world that makes missions possible in such an effective way." — Suzie Plunk

### OPERATION ONE: A greater involvement in sharing Christ with the world.

... Malaysia

"People from the surrounding hills gathered slowly as had long been the custom. Most wore the same style clothing as their parents and grandparents before them. Babies and small children still rode 'piggyback' tied securely by a sarong. A similar piece of cloth formed a turban to protect the head from the burning sun, a custom of long standing.

"But many old customs were not evident. There was no rice wine and no one was drunk. There was no loud weeping and wailing and no heathen priest to perform heathen rites and no gongs to ward off evil spirits. Instead, Christian hymns rang out and hearts and voices were raised in prayer to the God of love who gives victory over death. This was the first Christian funeral among the people of the village, and Christ made the difference. We are aware that the love of our Christ was made known to these people through Baptist missionaries and a national worker supported by Cooperative Program gifts." — Mary Yarnell

### OPERATION ONE: Co-laborers in Mission Around the World.

— Billie Pate, Growth Coordinator, Church Training Department, Baptist Sunday School Board (October 1973 Baptist Program reprint.)



## Arnold joins staff of Children's Home



Arnold

Bill Arnold has joined the staff of the Arkansas Baptist Home for Children as Director of Activities for the Home. A graduate of Ouachita University, Arnold taught in the public schools and held coaching positions in Nevada and Louisiana prior to

joining our staff. Active in community affairs, Arnold served as president of his local Jaycee chapter and was selected by that organization as one of the outstanding young men of America, 1972-73.

Arnold will direct the recreational activities at the Children's Home. He will work to set up and direct programs to meet the individual needs of all the children at the Home. As a valuable member of our child care team, his influence touches the lives of each young person in the areas of self-discipline, healthy competition and interaction with others, recreational skills, and most heavily on the improvement in the way they feel about themselves.

We are grateful to have him as a part of our staff and look forward to the contribution he will make to our child care ministry. — Johnny G. Biggs, Executive Director, Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care Services.

## Savannah Book Store manager is named

NASHVILLE (BP) — Joseph M. Harley, accounting section supervisor, accounting and control department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board here, has been named manager of the Savannah (Ga.) Baptist Book Store.

Effective Oct. 15, Harley will replace Joe D. Roberts, who became manager of the Lubbock (Tex.) book store in August.

A native of Savannah, Harley received the bachelor of business administration degree from the University of Georgia, Athens.

Prior to joining the board in 1969, he was employed by American Cyanamid Company, Savannah, as an accounting supervisor. Earlier he worked in the accounting department for the U.S. Steel Corporation in Port Wentworth, Ga.

## Arkansas Baptists — Thank you for sharing

"To Arkansas Baptists we say, 'Thank you.'"

"Thank you, Arkansas Baptists, for supporting colleges and seminaries that prepared me for this work."

One of the above quotations is from a foreign missionary and the other from a home missionary. Both were written in response to a request for quotes about the Cooperative Program, and both express appreciation for the part that the Cooperative Program played in their preparation for the mission work in which they are presently engaged.

Many speakers have said in one way or another, "A call to serve is also a call to prepare for that service." Our missionaries around the world realize the importance of a good preparation for the work they have to do.

The quotes used here are typical of many made by missionaries from many places as they stop to think of what the Cooperative Program means to them. As we think of the Cooperative Program, sometimes we limit our thinking to the work of those who have already finished their training and are out in the field working. We should never forget that a very real part of the

Cooperative Program is the preparation of these workers as well as others who are presently in school preparing themselves to work alongside these people and to take the place of the present workers when they retire.

Many of our Baptist workers in the state, outside the state, and outside the U. S. will agree with Mrs. Betty Whitlow from Hong Kong, as she says, "I am thankful for Cooperative Program funds given to the support of Christian colleges within our state. At Ouachita, while I attended, I was particularly impressed by some fine Christian faculty members. There I felt and responded to God's call to mission service."

Many others also have found in our Baptist schools information about the great needs of the world and have found, as did Mrs. Whitlow, an environment in which they could respond to these needs and prepare themselves to help meet them.

Pastors, educators, medical doctors, lawyers and many others would agree with Jerry Schleiff from Rhodesia when he says, "Ouachita has meant much to me. The ministry of such men as G. T. Blackmon and R. C. Dailey, plus the valuable friendships which seem to

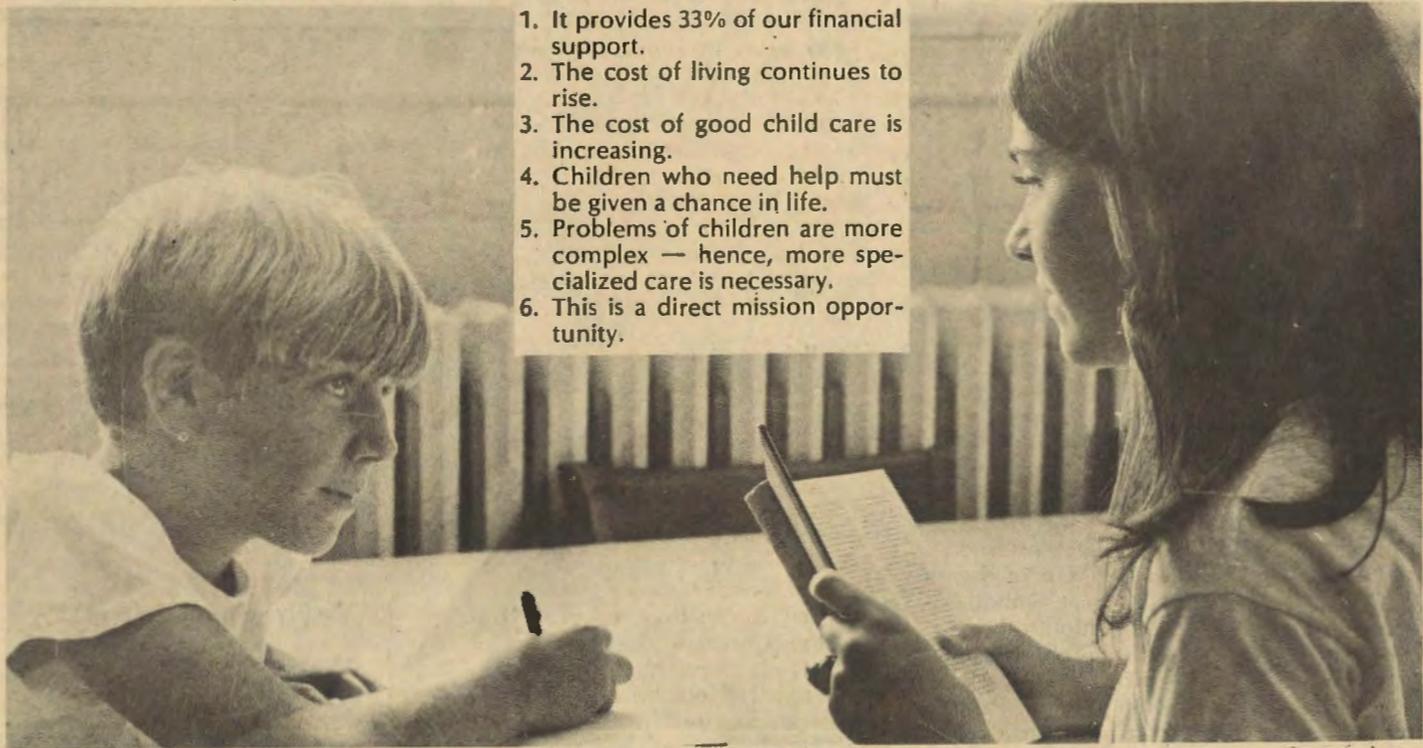
grow with time and distance . . . these are difficult to pass over as real influences in my life."

Our Baptist colleges have played an important part in carrying out our mission task. It is easier to see what they are doing in our state, but Robert A. Wells, superintendent of missions for Nevada Baptist Association in Reno and long-time pioneer missionary in the West, reminds us that their contribution is not limited to our state: "Arkansas Baptists, through Ouachita, provided much of the leadership in establishing the California Southern Baptist work. At present there are at least one hundred pastors, the executive secretary, and president of our college, as well as many laymen. Without your help it would have been hard to imagine its being what it is today. . . In a recent meeting in Nevada, where I serve, there were five graduates of this great institution. So you were there, Arkansas Baptists! Thank you for continuing to share."

It is easy to see that through Christian education our Cooperative Program gifts reach much farther than we sometimes think and have more lasting results than we will ever know. — Gilbert A. Nichols, Missionary to Paraguay, representing the Stewardship-Cooperative Program Department

## The Thanksgiving love offering is important

1. It provides 33% of our financial support.
2. The cost of living continues to rise.
3. The cost of good child care is increasing.
4. Children who need help must be given a chance in life.
5. Problems of children are more complex — hence, more specialized care is necessary.
6. This is a direct mission opportunity.



**Thank the Lord for children — 100% participation**

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Home for Children**

**Arkansas Baptist Family  
and Child Care Services**

# The strong and the weak Christian

By Anton C. Uth Sr.  
Immanuel Church, Pine Bluff



Uth

Much has been said in the recent decades concerning the survival of the fittest. Given as a principle of wildlife, it is also erroneously applied to the human race. In the language of the forest, the strong and healthy devour the weak and sickly; but

not so among men. Man has a God given ethic of responsibility for others. This innate responsibility was challenged as Cain responded to God, "Am I my brother's keeper?" (Gen. 4:9) In the concept of Christ, a man is his brother's brother.

The responsibility for others is heightened as a man becomes a child of God. Paul has discussed the Christian's responsibility in the area of lost people. He intimated that Christians have a debt to the world — preach the gospel — and should not be ashamed in fulfilling this purpose. He turns his attention to the response to Christian brothers.

The unit theme involves identifying and cultivating virtues that create harmony and usefulness. We have examined passages about the victorious life. These have been practical lessons about living. Today's lesson is no different. A Christian has responsibility for his fellow Christian.

### The problem

(Romans 14:1-2; I Corinthians 8:7-8)

In the letters to the Romans and Corinthians, Paul is writing to relatively new Christians who had been won to Christ out of paganism. As these were won and became a part of God's moving army, some left all pagan practices; others brought over some of these practices into the church life. One pagan influence was eating of meat offered to pagan idols and gods. Some of the early Christians ate the meat without any consideration of the idol; others feared the eating and therefore abstained from meat eating only herbs. (v. 2) In the Roman 14 passage, Paul does not mention idols; however idols are mentioned in I Corinthians 8:7. Several suggestions have been made by commentators about the Roman problem of eating meat: (1) certain Jewish priests imprisoned in Rome sub-

sisted on figs and nuts for their piety. (2) Jewish Christians in Rome had scruples about eating common, unclean or food prepared by Gentiles. (3) The meat was as in Corinth, sacrifices to an idol. Irrespective of interpretation, the basic problem remains the same. Some Christians ate the meat at liberty; others abstained. Therefore a serious conflict developed.

Paul begins chapter 14 by admonishing the reception of a weak brother. (v. 1) The strong looking after the weak. "Weak" refers to an immature or not-yet-grown Christian. His spiritual diet may be limited to "milk of the word." He has not grown or is not grown as others and needs help. He may be a brand new Christian. How many novices in the Lord have been stabilized by mature children of God while others have not been able to handle the cunningness of the devil and have been damaged for life. Paul wishes the "weak" brother to be taken in brotherly fellowship but not into criticism. (v. 1) He needs help not hindrances.

The weak brother is defined in verse 2. The stable, strong Christian eats all things; the weak brother eats only vegetables. Every person is not alike in actions and thoughts. Not every man knows (I Corinthians 8:7) that the question about the eating is needless and superfluous. Now the eating of the meat doesn't make the Christian better nor does the abstaining make him worse. The problem — a Christian eats the meat and thinks and believes he has defiled his body and sinned against God.

### Pattern of immaturity

(Romans 14:3-4)

The danger of extremes confronts both Christians — the weak and the strong. Both can demonstrate immaturity. Paul warns the one who eats not to despise the other. Conversely, the one who eats not must not look down on the one who eats. God has received them both (v. 3)

Paul uses an analogy to press his point. One Christian does not own another. God owns him. Therefore, one Christian will not be ordering another just as one man will not order another man's servants. Because the

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### International

Nov. 18, 1973

Romans 14:1-4

I Corinthians 8:7-13

servant is responsible to his master. (v. 4)

Those Christians who have drawn up a compact list of do's and don'ts for all other Christians and who work diligently to press others into their molds should take note. Paul asks, "Who are you who judges?" Actually, a warning is sounded — both the one who eats and the one who abstains are accountable to God. (v. 4)

### Perfected response

(I Corinthians 8:9-12)

Maturity reigns as the stronger Christian "takes heed" of his brother. Christ has set us free but this "liberty" must never be allowed to become deterrent or discouraging factor to another. In Christ there is no legalism. He has broken all bands. But if a Christian's freedom causes an obstacle for another Christian, the freedom is being misused. (v. 9)

### Conclusion

(I Corinthians 8:13)

What is the ultimate decision to be made by the strong Christian? Put his brother first in matters of decision. Be willing to take any step for his brother. Be ready to give up any activity or attitude to help his brother. Paul ate meat. But he was to declare that as long as this world stood, he would eat no meat at all. (v. 13)

Is the "giving up of meat" a sacrifice? Paul saw it as a sacred privilege — a privilege to help his brother. How many churches could be strengthened by practicing this concept? How many homes could be reunited by applying Paul's principle?

The seriousness of this lesson involves the Christian's influence. He is vitally and totally responsible for what he does and for what he causes his brother to do.

Therefore, watch your step; somebody else is.



## Following Jesus' example in witnessing

By Dr. Bill Bruster  
First Church, Siloam Springs

Life and Work  
Nov. 18, 1973  
John 1:29-51



Bruster

This is the second lesson in the unit "Why Should I Witness"? The first lesson suggested we should witness because of the call of Jesus to witness. In this lesson we see we should witness because of the example of Jesus.

There are four examples in this passage that we would do well to emulate in our attempts to witness for Christ.

### See the good in men (v. 43-51)

The fourth day of our Lord's ministry he found Philip and challenged him to become a disciple. Philip accepted the challenge. Jesus' witness to Philip was simply, "follow me" (v. 43). Philip then became a witness. He found his friend Nathanael and brought him to Jesus.

Nathanael was a contemptuous fellow. There was nothing in the Old Testament which foretold that God's chosen one should come from Nazareth. Nazareth was a quite undistinguished place. Nathanael himself came from Cana, a neighboring Galilean town, and jealousy between rural villages was quite notorious. Philip told Nathanael he had found the Messiah and the Messiah was from Nazareth. Nathanael's reaction was quite natural. He asked the question, "Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?" (v. 46)

Philip did the wise thing, he refused to argue with Nathanael. He simply invited his friend to come and see Jesus and make up his own mind. You cannot argue anyone into the Kingdom, you may simply invite them:

Jesus saw the good in Nathanael. He greeted Nathanael by saying, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no guile" (v. 47). That was a tribute any devout Israelite would recognize and be honored by. But Nathanael was surprised that anyone could render a verdict like that upon so short an acquaintance. He demanded how Jesus could possibly know him that well (v. 48).

The Lord told Nathanael He had already seen him under the fig tree. In Jewish thought the fig tree always stood for peace. Their idea of peace was when a man could be undisturbed under his own vine and his own fig tree. Still further, the fig tree was leafy and shady, and it was the custom to sit and meditate under the protection of its branch-

es. No doubt that was what Nathanael had been doing. Jesus knew of Nathanael's devotion and complimented him for that rather than condemning him for his sin.

### Look for the potential in men (v. 40-42)

The day before Jesus met Philip He encountered Andrew. Andrew was a great deal like Philip. Andrew was always bringing people to Jesus. The three most prominent accounts of Andrew find him bringing his brother to Jesus, bringing a lad with bread and fish to Jesus, and bringing the Greeks to Jesus. Andrew was a man who had the humility to be able to live in the shadow of others. His ego did not require the spot light.

When Jesus saw Simon he said, "Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, 'a stone'" (v. 42). Jesus changed Simon's name. In the Old Testament a change of name often denoted a new relationship with God: Jacob's name was changed to Israel and Abram to Abraham. The name change was indicative of the fact that Peter had a new relationship with God now that he had met Christ.

When we see people we should not only accept them for the good qualities which they possess but we must also see the potential that each man has. We should see each individual as one who has abilities whose absence makes the Kingdom of God incomplete.

### Invite men to a closer look at Christ (v. 37-39)

John the Baptist had been preparing the way for Christ. He even prepared his own disciples to follow Jesus. The day after our Lord's baptism two of John's disciples decided to follow Jesus. Christ saw them following and asked, "What seek ye?" (v. 38). Jesus approached them. He met them half way. He made things easier for them. Here we have an example of Divine initiative. It is always God who takes the first step. When the human mind begins to seek God and the human heart begins to hunger for God, God comes to meet us more than half way.

But the question "What seek ye?" also gives us another insight into Jesus as a witness. It is the most fundamental question in life. It was a basic question

to determine real interest. Some men follow Jesus in search of security. Others follow Jesus in search of power, prominence, prestige, or some kind of peace. Jesus wanted to know why they were really following him.

These two disciples answered His question with a question. They asked, "Where do you live?" (v. 38). But notice how they addressed Him before asking Him that question. They called Him Rabbi (v. 38). It was a title of respect given by students and seekers after knowledge to their teachers and to wise men. After addressing Him as Rabbi they asked where he lived. It was not mere curiosity that made them ask the question. They meant that they did not wish only to speak to Him on the road, in passing, but desired a longer interview with Him. They may not have known why they were following Jesus. But they did want to know more about Him. So Jesus responded to them, "Come and see" (v. 39). Jesus did not force Himself upon these disciples but He did invite them to learn more about Himself.

There are no tracts, verbal formulas, or magic tricks that we can use to entice people to become Christians against their wills. But we can invite them to learn more and more about Jesus until they love Him enough to commit their lives to Him.

### Invite men to open commitment (v. 29-36)

Jesus began His public ministry by coming to John for baptism. Jesus may have taken that step to affirm the ministry of John the Baptist. Jesus might have been baptized as a commitment unto death. He may have been baptized as an example for us. But it is possible that Jesus was baptized for the above reasons and another. He may have been baptized in order to give John the opportunity to make a public profession of his faith in Jesus as the Messiah.

Jesus came to John the Baptist and John said, "Behold-the Lamb of God" (v. 29). John may have been thinking of the Passover Lamb. The Passover Feast was not very far away (John 2:13). The old story of the Passover was that it was the blood of the slain lamb which protected the houses of the Israelites on the night when the Angel of Death walked through Egypt.

The prophets Jeremiah (11:19) and Isaiah (53) spoke of a lamb who would redeem his people by his sufferings

(Continued on page 23)

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## Life and Work lesson

(Continued from page 22)

and sacrifice. John may well have had this concept in mind.

Whatever picture you think John had in mind, one fact remains. Jesus gave John the opportunity to make a public profession of his faith. If we are to witness like Jesus did, then we must see the good in people, look for their potential, invite them to learn of Christ, and give them an opportunity to make a public profession of their faith in Him.

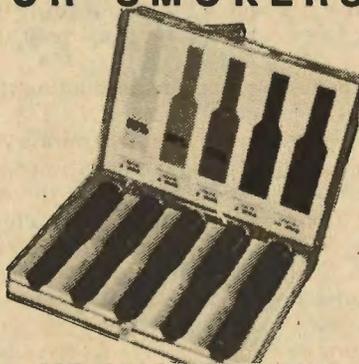
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## A smile or two

Smoke signals never got an Indian out of bed at 3 in the morning to answer a wrong number.

\* \* \*

Let's hope the oil industry keeps barreling along!

\* \* \*

The trouble with today's individualists is that they are getting harder and harder to tell apart. —*Typo Graphic.*

\* \* \*

"I'm not saying she's old — but her Social Security number is 6!"

\* \* \*

One thing about losing weight: You are not as big a fool as you used to be.

\* \* \*

Anti-litter campaigns do have their effect. More and more people now look around to see if anybody's watching before they throw down a wrapper." — LANE OLINGHOUSE.

\* \* \*

There are many complaints about the weather, but not so many as there would be if the government regulated it instead of predicting it.

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## Attendance report

Nov. 4, 1973

Church	Sunday School	Church Training	Ch. adds.
Aljica	35		
Alma, First	367	102	1
Alpena	33	78	
Alexander, First	75	46	2
Beirne, First	36	22	
Bentonville, First	265		2
Berryville			
First	186	73	
Rock Springs	101	67	
Blytheville, Gosnell	193	82	
Booneville, First	228	205	
Cabot, Mt. Carmel	187	81	
Caledonia	42	12	
Cherokee Village, First	43	14	
Clinton, Friendship	52	26	
Concord, First	90	24	
Conway, Second	302	136	6
Crossett			
First	544	167	3
Magnolia	230	110	3
Mt. Olive	395	184	3
Dermott, Temple	159	59	4
Elaine	167	76	
Ft. Smith			
First	1193	380	5
Oak Cliff	195	110	1
Temple	144	77	
Trinity	195	73	1
Windsor Park	736	288	6
Gentry, First	180	55	
Grandview	66	61	
Gravel Ridge, First	197	88	6
Greenwood, First	329	141	1
Hampton, First	156	83	
Hardy, First	103	42	3
Harrison			
Eagle Heights	286	122	
Woodland Heights	83	50	4
Helena, First	260	85	2
Hope			
Calvary	131	102	
First	390	116	
Hot Springs			
Grand Avenue	625	189	21
Leonard Street	105	93	
Park Place	326	112	2
Hughes, First	192	57	
Jacksonville			
First	361	92	
Marshall Road	280	104	4
Johnson	59	43	3
Jones Mills, Shorewood Hills	51	21	
Jonesboro			
Central	421		4
Nettleton	268		4
Lake Village, Parkway	58	30	
Lavaca, First	299		
Lexa	155	75	1
Little Rock			
Cross Road	74	69	3
Crystal Hill	186	101	11
Geyer Springs	571	174	1
Life Line	486	129	3
Martindale	92	54	
Sunset Lane	162	89	
Woodlawn	98	45	
Magnolia, Central	551	210	4
Melbourne, Belview	126	76	
Monticello			
First	272	84	2
Second	262	112	4
Mountain Home, First	341	124	
North Little Rock			
Baring Cross	475	154	
Calvary	330	152	1
Park Hill	582	167	1
Runyan	72	39	
Sylvan Hills	257	103	
Paragould			
Calvary	189	157	1
First	504	137	
Paris, First	352	90	
Pine Bluff			
Centennial	140	65	
East Side	227	117	1
First	583	139	3
Green Meadows	63	39	
Second	150	56	2
Prairie Grove	188	86	
Rogers, First	600	123	
Russellville			
First	392		1
Second	177	54	
Saddle	56	23	
Sheridan, First	239	91	
Springdale			
Berry Street	106	47	
Caudle Avenue	120	41	
Elmdale	330	96	2
First	933		9
Oak Grove	76	28	
Van Buren			
First	491	177	
Mission	32		
Warren			
Immanuel	258	68	
West Side	71	37	
West Helena	280	100	1
Second	217	94	3
W. Memphis, Vanderbilt Ave.	130	56	
Wooster, First	109	90	

## Southern Baptist datelines

# Southern Baptists urge integrity for government officials in U.S.

WASHINGTON (BP) — "Southern Baptists are deeply concerned with Biblical morality and we desire to see this morality embodied in those who lead our nation," declared Owen Cooper, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, at a fellowship breakfast here for Baptist Congressmen.

Thirteen Baptist congressmen and representatives of two other Baptist legislators were among those attending the breakfast, which centered on the theme, "Focus on Integrity." It was sponsored by the Christian Life Commission, the Southern Baptist social action agency.

C. Welton Gaddy of the commission staff, who led the congressmen in a "Prayer of Integrity," said, "Our trust has been ruptured by double-talk and immoral behavior on the part of persons in high echelons of government, our minds are troubled by a tumult of crises, our wills are frustrated as we vacillate between a sense of importance as citizens and a sense of futility.

"We pray," he said, "that leaders in this room may be among those in this 93rd Congress who by moral leadership secure once again the shaking foundations of this democracy."

The Southern Baptist president said that "because of recent tragic events, public distrust of governmental leadership and cynicism regarding the political process have increased."

Cooper expressed gratitude that, in spite of the continuing scandals in government, "there are so many

Southern Baptist senators and congressmen as well as other outstanding Christian leaders in the United States government."

Referring to the Southern Baptist constituency, Cooper told the congressmen, "We are a people who quickly grow impatient with anyone who attempts to use the processes of government for personal gain, to deceive voters or violate basic personal rights and liberties given to us by almighty God and guaranteed for us by the Constitution."

In spite of Watergate and related scandals, Cooper said Baptists "still believe in this government's ability to function effectively and justly. We want to encourage the citizens who attend our churches not to withdraw but to involve themselves even more meaningfully in the political process."

Of 52 members of Congress who are Baptists, 26 had indicated plans to attend the fellowship breakfast, but at the last minute congressional duties prevented several from attending. Two former members of Congress, a Methodist Congressman and 25 Baptist leaders from various parts of the country also attended.

Christian Life Commission Executive Secretary Foy Valentine said the primary purpose of the breakfast was for "fellowship and affirmative support" of those in Congress who struggle to maintain integrity in public life.

Cecil E. Sherman, pastor of the First Church, Asheville, N.C., and chairman of the Christian Life Commission, em-

phasized that morality is the same for Christians wherever they happen to be.

Whether people are in the backwoods of the country or in highly sophisticated areas or in Congress, "people are people and being a Christian is just being a Christian wherever you are," Sherman said.

Sherman then outlined the ethics that, he said, "all Americans need to see and a large majority of Americans want to see embodied in their governmental leaders."

"We are to love God," he said. "we are to place our loyalty to Him above all other loyalties. We are to live simply, for the clutter of many things will corrupt us. We are to tell the truth. We are to honor our families. We are to live temperate lives. We are to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. We are to 'bear one another's burdens.' These are the great ideas of the Christian ethic."

Gaddy, director of Christian citizenship development for the Christian Life Commission, organized the breakfast which took place in the private dining room for Congressmen in the United States Capitol.

Rep. William Jennings Bryan Dorn (D-S. C.) and Rep. Richard H. Fulton (D-Tenn.) were instrumental in making arrangements and in contacting their fellow congressmen.

Others on the program were former Congressman Brooks Hays, Rep. James M. Collins (R-Tex.), and Alma Hunt, executive secretary of Woman's Missionary Union, auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention.

## HMB has created two new staff positions

ATLANTA (BP) — The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board has named Toby Druin of Raleigh, N. C., and Lyndon W. Collings of Gary, Ind., to newly created positions.

Druin, associate editor of North Carolina's *Biblical Recorder* since 1966, will become editor of the mission agency's news service, Dec. 1. Collings, superintendent of missions for Northwest Indiana Association, was elected assistant secretary of the department of church extension, effective Nov. 15.

The board also named Mrs. Katherine G. Roberson, a systems analyst from Fairfax, Ala., to direct the agency's office personnel. She succeeds Mrs. Evelyn Worley who retires in January.

Druin, 38, worked eight years with daily newspapers in Texas, including papers in Amarillo, Borger, Wichita Falls and Waco, before earning a journalism degree from Baylor University, Waco, and serving with the school's public relations office.

Collings, whose new responsibilities extend from the Great Lakes to Florida, has been a superintendent of missions in Indiana since 1969. He has held pastorates in Kentucky and Indiana.

The Normandy, Ky., native is a graduate of Georgetown (Ky.) College and Southern Seminary at Louisville. He is 50.

Druin, the first HMB staffer with exclusive news responsibilities, joins an editorial department of journalists who produce the agency's magazine, *Home Missions*, and mission study books, as well as the news service.

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