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Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

5-20-1976

May 20, 1976

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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Recommended Citation

Arkansas Baptist State Convention, "May 20, 1976" (1976). *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1975-1979*. 91.

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May 20, 1976
Arkansas Baptist
NEWSMAGAZINE



Newsmagazine's
special day
page 12



I must say it

Charles H. Ashcraft / Executive Secretary

The church is in debt

While the church and the state are separated in some areas, they are certainly deeply related in others. They each are in the other's debt and they must pay up if either is to survive. The state protects the rights of a free church and so renders valuable assistance to the church and its mission. The church is no less involved toward the state and owes the state a debt of gratitude for its protection, non-interference and fairness to all the religions in the nation. The state has a right to expect this spirit on the part of the religious citizens. Of all the citizens of the land, religious people should prove to be the finest citizens and are so enjoined by holy scripture. The state has the right to expect encouragement from the religious community when the state acts for the common good. The state deserves commendation from its godly population when the best interests of the citizenry are served. The state has a right to expect righteous people to give strength and support to moral and right things in the country. The attorney general, prosecuting attorneys, judges, and law enforcement people have a right to expect the church folks to participate in the concept of law and order.

The state is not averse to the counsel of any great prophet who makes sense in his opinions on matters of state. The presence of a strong-minded, strong-willed reformer is not a deterrent to good government nor is he any threat to equally tall public figures, quite the contrary. Silence on the part of the church has hurt both church and state in their respective missions.

The court which must try the pornography case of "Deep Throat" should feel the strength of people who wish their country's level to be more in keeping with the religion they advertise. Every public official who is trying to do the right thing deserves the comfort, solace, good will and respect from the people who run the church. Until this is true neither the church or the state will ever share victories which should be complementary to each. The devotees of separation of church and state are to be commended upon their stand for separation of church and state, but never commended for their non-involvement and non-cooperation with and between church and state.

The church is in debt to the state and by paying her debts in full and first she may inspire the state to a higher degree of helpfulness to all faiths as well as non-faiths. The state is in debt no less to the church and its spirit of cooperation and involvement should be commensurate with that of the church.

I must say it!

In this issue

Editorial reaction 4

A few readers have responded to an editorial on the much-debated issue of the SBC Pastors' Conference. Five letters to the editor appearing in this issue are all those for publication which were received in time to get into print.

Snowy post 8

An Arkansas man finds his mission pastorate in Nome, Alaska, to be sometimes rough going, and not just because of the harsh climate. It's a different world for Paul Seal in a land of snow.

State paper day 12

Arkansas Baptists are being asked to remember the "Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine" in prayer on Sunday, May 30, and to use the state paper as a source of information about Baptists in Arkansas. On the cover is the final step in the process of distributing news to an Arkansas Baptist.

Pastor's a fighter 24

An Arkansas native who has been a pastor in several areas takes on challenges many would not tackle. He has fought crime, rode the rails, and become a missionary to serve in unusual ways.

Arkansas Baptist

NEWSMAGAZINE

VOLUME 75

NUMBER 21

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Post office box 552, 525 West Capitol Avenue, Little Rock, Arkansas, 72203. Published weekly except at July 4 and December 25. Second Class postage paid at Little Rock, Arkansas.

Letters to the editor expressing opinions are invited. Letters should be typed double-space and must be signed.

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

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

Original poetry cannot be considered for publication.

Individual subscriptions \$3 per year. Every Resident Family plan 18 cents per month or \$2.16 per year per church family. Club plan (10 or more paid annually in advance) \$2.76 per year. Subscriptions to foreign address \$5 per year. Extra copies 10 cents each.

Advertising rates on request.

Opinions expressed in signed articles are those of the writer. Member of Southern Baptist Press Association.

The next SBC president

The Southern Baptist Convention has been fortunate to have great men serving as president. As one considers the historical table in the SBC Annual (1975, pages 859-861), it becomes evident that the gavel has been wielded by some of our most able men. The two laymen, for example, who have served in recent years, Brooks Hays and Owen Cooper, have both national and international recognition.

On occasion, however, efforts have been made to groom someone for the position by creation of a particular image. Obviously, the proper characteristics should be considered before names are presented. The following is a list that we believe would provide the proper personal qualifications for this important position.

- First, our president should be one who possesses and demonstrates Christian love. When one is truly committed to the scripture, he will love the brethren.

- Our president should be a proven leader. The best leader is one who has a deep understanding of the historical ideals of Baptists. A thorough knowledge of our past provides a sense of direction for the future. A knowledge of who we are and where we should go is far more important than being a popular speaker.

- Our next president should be from the mainstream of Southern Baptists. Fortunately, the vast maj-

The editor's page

J. Everett Sneed



ority of our people belong to neither the ultra-conservative nor the liberal camp. Our next president should come from the "Middle of the Road" so that he can work with all our people.

- Our next president should be one who knows, appreciates and will encourage the major interests of Southern Baptists. Our major programs are represented by our boards, agencies, and commissions. In each instance, whether an agency is concerned with the printing of literature or the sending of missionaries, our priorities are evangelism, baptism, and training. (Matt. 28:16-20)

- Our next president should be an individual of great integrity. The demands of the office will require someone who will place the interest of Baptists above personal friendships.

- Our next president should be one who has the ability to preside over a sometimes difficult meeting. The president, to a large extent, determines the spirit of a convention. It is essential that he preside fairly yet firmly.

- Finally, the next president should be a person who relies upon the Holy Spirit. Regardless of other abilities, an individual who is not led by God will be inadequate for this important task.

Since Southern Baptist messengers generally do the right thing, our next SBC president will surely possess these qualifications. We are confident that as we seek God's leadership, the right person will be elected.

Guest editorial Standard-setter

Southern Baptists lost a great friend and "standard-setter" last week with the death of Ewing Stanford James. For 12 years (1954-66) as editor of *Texas Baptist Standard*, he was an exciting example and advocate of Baptist religious journalism.

After 25 years as a pastor, Texas Baptists turned to Dr. James in 1954 to edit the *Baptist Standard*. As most great men he knew his strengths and weaknesses, so he entrusted the paper's production to capable associates to offset his lack of journalistic training and experience. He devoted his abundant talents to the two aspects of the paper which made him famous and influential — the editorial page and the "letters to the editor" page.

Anyone who regularly read the *Standard* during those 12 years remembers that under each letter Dr. James printed a short, profound answer — which delighted those who agreed and infuriated his critics. Every survey showed this page was the paper's most-read feature.

E. S. James had three convictions which made him a great Baptist editor — (1) the Bible is God's inspired Word, (2) church-state separation must be maintained at all costs, and (3) Baptists have a right to know what their leaders are doing.

The Texas editor refused to tolerate secrecy. Full coverage was given to every Baptist activity — even when it wasn't wanted. In a 1959 editorial he penned, "A denomination that

hides its mistakes will soon go into hiding or develop into a hierarchy from which there is no escape." He saw his task thusly — "There is no pleasure derived from criticizing Baptist practices, but an editor of a religious magazine should stand as a watchman on the wall. When he sees signs of deterioration, he should have the courage to point them out. If he does not do so, who will?"

When Dr. James was wrong himself, he was quick to admit it. At Castro's takeover in Cuba, Dr. James was publicly pleased at the promised religious freedom. Later as Castro began his communistic practices, the editor acknowledged his mistake.

John F. Kennedy's candidacy for the U.S. Presidency drew sharp jabs from Dr. James' pen, fearing the entanglement of Roman Catholicism in our government. After the 1960 election when Kennedy demonstrated his convictions on church-state separation, Dr. James editorially praised the young President. The two became friends — so much so that the Kennedy family personally invited the Texas Baptist editor to JFK's funeral.

There are many other things that could be said about E. S. James. Maybe we could summarize it all by noting that much of what is good about Baptist state papers today is a result of the character, courage, and convictions of E. S. James.

Family or church?

by Larry Baker
(fifth in a series)

"The Church and the Family: Competitors or Colleagues" was the title of a lecture that I heard one time. That title points to one of the most important decisions that every minister must face. In the midst of his busy church life the minister's relationship to his family demands constant attention. Yet much of the tension we feel comes at the point of deciding which responsibilities should come first.

Family relationships are important. The New Testament itself points to the relationship between the minister's work and his family life. One thing is true: healthy family life and healthy



Dr. Baker

ministry do go together.

Some observations may be helpful. First, the minister's family faces the same stresses as other families, plus a few more. Our families live in the main stream of modern culture and are affected by the same factors that influence others. Like other Christians, we hold high family ideals while trying to function in a world which often works against their practice.

Second, it isn't inevitable or necessary that a minister neglect his family or his church. One thing is certain: we can't turn to chapter and verse in the Bible and find the answer clearly defined. "Five days thou shalt labor for thy church and the other two shalt thou spend with thy family" would be a helpful guide; but it isn't there. Yet, we can establish a reasonable balance. We can fulfill our responsibility to both. We can enjoy reasonable success in both. But

attaining that ideal requires time, effort, and patience; we must work at it.

Perhaps we need to help church members think through the needs of the minister's family. Many times their demands and requests are made without thinking. Likewise, any minister who permits unreasonable demands to be thrust upon him, or who imposes them upon himself, needs to rethink his position.

Third, we need to destroy the expectation of a perfect family life for the minister. Some people seem to think the minister and his family are not really human; that's not true, and we shouldn't accept the idea. Neither should the minister's family be expected to be Exhibit A for the church in the community. The minister should protect his children from unhealthy expectations on the part of unhealthy people. "Healthy family life" and a "perfect home" aren't synonyms.

Fourth, the minister can't afford to neglect his family. Minister's children ought not grow up with their father a stranger to them. His neglect can deny his wife and children many benefits of his presence, affection, cooperation, time, and energy. Likewise, the minister denies himself much of the emotional and personal support he needs to be at his best in personal adjustment. In a word: the minister needs the affection of his family as much as they need his!

The minister and his family: competitors or colleagues? Good question. A good place to begin in answering is with a fresh look at the terms "the husband of one wife" and "good manager of his household" in I Timothy and Titus. And, by the way, Wayne Oates has a good study of both in *The Christian Pastor*, rev. ed. (Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1963, pp. 75-82).



One layman's opinion

Daniel R. Grant / President, OBU

Learning to appreciate a toe

The lowly toe is a badly neglected and little appreciated part of the human anatomy. I would not be at all surprised if most toes in this world have inferiority complexes. Only rarely does the world single out a toe for public commendation, such as the "educated toe" of the place-kicker, or the talented toes of the ballet dancer or gymnast.

I must confess that I have never really appreciated my toes. It is not that I have thought that toes are useless; it is simply that I have seldom thought about them at all. They have been at the bottom of my scale of anatomical values, such as being the last to get attention during my morning shower.

Recently all that changed. Following minor surgery on one of my toes, I learned the hard way that an infected toe has no trouble getting my attention — somewhat like the farmer's two-by-four across the head of the stubborn mule. I quickly learned what havoc one little infected toe can cause and what attention it can effectively demand from its master.

I have noticed also that the toe runs a very poor second to most other parts of the body in the sympathy it inspires

from others when it is ailing. An arm or a leg in a sling is a sure-fire way to get sympathy from friends and neighbors, but the sympathy I received for my sore toe reminded me a great deal of Job's "comforters." Several strongly suspected it was gout, and they informed me that gout is a disease of wealth and opulence. My loyal Ouachita faculty and staff members frequently inquired whether my injury was a sprained ankle sustained while playing tennis, and on learning that it was an infected toe, usually reacted either with undisguised disappointment or with smothered snickers.

Before the battle of the toe was finished, I decided never again to take it for granted, at the same time I resolved not to take for granted a lot of other things in my life, and in this world, that are relatively small and seldom noticed but of great potential for good and evil. I am prepared now to argue that it is far better to show regular appreciation (and care) for toes and other small things than it is to ignore them for long periods and then have two weeks of attentive but painful togetherness. I have even resolved to study I Corinthians 12:14-26 more seriously.

Funds sought for school chapel

Governor David Pryor will issue a special proclamation on Sunday, May 16, designating the following Sunday, May 23, as a special fund raising day for the Chapel Fund of the Girls' Training School at Alexander.

These funds will be used toward the construction of a chapel where the girls may worship, pray or meditate.

Contributions may be sent to Mrs. Chase W. Stephens, state chairman of the chapel fund, at 207 North 8th Street, Gurdon, Ark. 71743.

Pastors' Conference editorial: pro and con

You are so right about the SBC Pastors' Conference. It has become a preaching marathon which offers little practical help to me as I face the complex problems of being a pastor to all age groups in a fast changing society.

Until the Pastors' Conference is changed to follow the SBC meeting, we ought to elect qualified laymen and women to lead us as officers of our convention. They would not have a chance to run for office in the pre-convention meeting.

I do hope that in Arkansas our Pastors' Conference will offer helpful methods and techniques as well as inspiring and motivating each of us in the unique opportunity which is ours in our home state. — Nathan Porter, pastor, First Church, Arkadelphia

I feel compelled to write this letter of protest to your editorial of April 29, 1976 as I am sure that many others will too.

I, for one, feel that the Pastors' Conference is just what the name implies, for pastors. I don't feel that it is due for a change. I don't, for one at least, see anything wrong with a power structure rising from the men who are out where the water hits the wheel. I hope to see the day when the power structure of the Pastors' Conference overwhelms the power structure of Nashville.

If this editorial were one man's opinion of conviction, it wouldn't bother me so much. But I get several state papers and in a three-week period, every one of them had an editorial criticizing the Pastors' Conference and the Baptist Faith and Message Fellowship. If this kind of organization is bad; one dedicated to holding to the infallibility of the scriptures; one dedicated to keeping churches and pastors from leaving the Convention because of liberalism in our seminaries; one dedicated to the principle of the Cooperative Program, then God help us to organize some more of these bad organizations.

Anyone can see that this is simply a conspiracy on the part of the Baptist press to keep a man from being elected as president of the Southern Baptist Convention. May God help us when the day comes that the news media and denominational servants set the policy of the churches. I always assumed that this was the business of the churches under the leadership of a pastor called of God.

I would suggest that the editors of our state papers read Dr. Ashcraft's article, "I Must Say It," in the same issue. I don't know whether Dr. Ashcraft intended

that the same ethic he applied to the secular news media should also be applied to the religious news media, but somehow I believe it should, and the last paragraph is exceptionally appropriate.

I pray for our denomination daily, our denominational servants, and I hope you will do the same. God bless you. — R. L. Hillerby, pastor, New Hope Church, Greenwood

I thought your editorial about having the SBC Pastors' Conference after the convention was good. I hope the idea will "catch on." We probably need more time on the Convention program for non-business messages to satisfy those who want more "inspiration." — Conway Sawyers, director of missions, Liberty Association

I would like to question you about some of the statements made in your editorial of April 29, 1976.

Are you suggesting that Baptist Faith & Message Fellowship is far right or far left? If so then, are you suggesting that the present Southern Baptist Convention President is far right or far left? If so, then most Baptists must be either far right or left because Mr. Weber was elected by representatives of most Baptists, and Mr. Weber was one of the original national directors of Baptist Faith & Message Fellowship.

You mention "middle of the road." What do you mean by this term? Does this mean no commitment to anything? Are you suggesting that most Baptists are middle-of-the-road? If so, why did they elect a man who is far right or left?

You also seem to be casting shadows on most of the last fourteen presidents of the Southern Baptist Convention. You seem to think that their only qualification for this office is the fact that they once served as president of the Pastors' Conference. Mr. Editor, do you really think this to be fair? You stated in an earlier issue that this paper would not allow such castigation. You seem to be breaking your own rules. — Carel G. Norman, pastor, First Church, Greenwood

You kicked a live horse when you suggested a time change in the pastors' conference. I'm for the change. The Convention is the first order of business. It should come first on the schedule. Messengers should use their energies to attend the main feature and use whatever strength they have left to attend additional attractions. — James A. Walker, pastor, First Church, Warren

Correction

The editor's page article of April 29 contained the statement, "... most of the last 14 (Southern Baptist) convention presidents were president of the Pastors' Conference at the time of their election." This is incorrect. The fact is that six of the past 24 presidents of the SBC were president of the Pastors' Conference at the time of their election. Information from the SBC Historical Commission arrived too late to serve as a check on the editor's memory on this statistic.

Tears up ABN

I usually tear my *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine* apart and file its contents in various categories.

When I was reading and tearing my way through the April 29 issue I discovered that I was tearing out most of the copy.

The cover was our associational news with Pete Petty's smiling face. Pete is sure doing a good job for us in Washington-Madison Association.

Page two was Dr. Ashcraft's article on the news media. Amen, Amen and Amen.

After I tore out your editorial (on page three) I discovered that our pastor's article was on page four. I tore them out.

I tore out page six and seven to send to Alice Magill who helped in the State Youth Convention.

By now page nine was my "front page." It contained Roy Lewis' article on fund raising dangers. I agreed with Roy, so I tore it out. I file everything I read that agrees with me.

I tore out the Bicentennial Rally spread on pages 12 and 13 to put it on a bulletin board.

Pages 15-18 made interesting reading since it was a record of our churches' Cooperative Program gifts, but I didn't tear them out. I did tear out the Cooperative Program gifts by the churches in our Association on page 20.

I had to tear out page 22 which was Ernie Perkins' treatment of May 2 Sunday School lesson. It was a dandy.

I would have kept page 23 if it had had any jokes on it. Don't ever leave out the jokes.

All I had left to toss aside after my reading and tearing was pages 15-18 and 23.

I think it was a pretty tolerable issue. — Dan McKee, First Church, Fayetteville

The manpower of a student missionary program

by R. Wilbur Herring
(second in a series)



Dr. Herring

In our first article on this subject we established the need and desirability of the local church to direct a Summer Missions Program. We are familiar with the summer missions program of the Home Mission Board, the Baptist Student Union, and other agencies of our convention. It shouldn't be a strange thing to think about the local church conducting its own summer missions program.

Now there are three things yet to be considered. They are: (1) the manpower, (2) the means of financing such a program, and (3) a suggested schedule to be followed to assure a quality work and quality training. In this present article we can consider only the manpower.

Where do we find the summer missionaries? We should first take the counsel of the Apostles to the church in Jerusalem when it was recommended that they seek out "seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this task." Acts 6:3b (NASB) This recommendation was prefaced with, "But select from among you, brethren, . . ." Or as the King James Version words it, "look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, . . ." So the first place to look for these summer missionaries would be from among your own young people or adults who have recently surrendered to full time Christian service in a church-related vocation.

If you do not find candidates among your own people, then let me assure you that there are young people studying for the ministry in one of our Baptist schools who would prayerfully consider such an opportunity. The first objective would be to get the program fairly well crystalized by the pastor and the church. That is, it should be decided whether the pastor or some other staff member would direct the program and give

supervision and direction to the summer missionaries. Other items of interest to the prospective candidate would be: (1) How many weeks the program would run, (2) A brief job description, (3) The means and amount of financial support, (4) The housing and eating arrangements needed, (5) The matter of transportation, (6) The number of missionaries and how they would be paired off, and (7) What the church wants to accomplish within the weeks set apart for this program.

It will be surprising to discover how many young people in our churches who would greatly value this sort of in-training experience. In the church I pastored in Florida we had a summer missions program for most of the ten summers I was there. We limited this opportunity to our church since we had so many ministerial students. The Missions Committee was responsible for securing and screening the applicants. The choices were made with the following facts being considered: (1) educational level to date, (2) vocation objective, (3) consecration, (4) stability, (5) maturity, (6) dependability, and (7) the desire to be trained and to render an effective service for the Lord through His church. These are not stated in the order of their importance but all seven points were taken into consideration in the selection of the summer missionaries.

The lowest number of summer missionaries we had in Florida was two and the highest during one summer was six. The committee gave preference to seminary students, then college students and never considered anyone below the classification of a senior in high school. Each year the program was most profitable for the local church in the number of conversions and additions to the church. In addition to this, some of the ministerial students decided the ministry wasn't for them while others were given valuable in-training experience which has been of great help to them to this very day. Some are now pastors, some teachers, some ministers of education and some ministers of music, but all of them have been

trained in and know the techniques of soul winning.

But you might not have any ministerial students in your church. I read about a church that was celebrating the fact that they had had their first young man to surrender to the ministry in the one hundred years of the church's existence. So — if you don't have any ministerial students in your church this might be the very means of the Lord reaching down and calling some of your young people. Open up this opportunity to "whosoever will" among your college students and older high school students. Even if the Lord doesn't call any of them for church-related vocations it will make them better doctors, lawyers, accountants, farmers or whatever they are led to be and do in their life's work.

But if you don't have any likely prospects in your church, then visit Ouachita Baptist University and Southern Baptist College and inquire of the interest of the students there in such a project. Let me tell you something important. I had the good fortune of meeting with the Ministerial Alliance at Ouachita along with the Directors of Missions. One of the ministerial students asked how they could get before the churches in the Associations for opportunities of service. Can you remember when you were a student and you were so very anxious to have a place of service in a church? That same feeling exists today. In that dialogue we discovered that most of the ministerial students in that meeting would rejoice in the opportunity of serving as a summer missionary in a local church for a one month or two months period. And most would do this in-training work on a love gift basis or a set salary. The main thing is simply this, they want some worthwhile experience under a capable pastor or staff worker.

In the next article I hope to share with you the means of financing such a summer program and suggest a schedule to be followed to assure a quality work and a quality training.

Dr. Herring, pastor of Central Church, Jonesboro, is president of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

Church organized

Antioch Church, located in the Hamil Community near Pocahontas, held an organizational service on April 11 with 25 charter members in attendance.

The church, which began as a mission of Pocahontas, First, is pastored by George Glenn, a layman and coach at a local high school.

Average attendance in Sunday School for this church is 25 to 40.

New subscribers:

Church	Pastor	Association
New budget: Immanuel, Russellville Watson	Raymond Palmer R. L. Whitten	Dardanelle-Russellville Delta



Woman's viewpoint

Iris O'Neal Bowen

The smallest bear of all

Several Octobers ago, I went with two of our children out to run the gauntlet commonly known around here as the Midway at the Annual State Livestock Show. Those of you who have been there know the livestock take the back stables and the rides, sideshows and con games get most of the attention — and the noise is so ear-splitting, you couldn't hear a cow bawl if you were listening.

Little Mary, about seven, was be-dazzled, having never seen so many lights, nor people, nor big, beautiful, fuzzy stuffed animals in her life. She set in at once to get her big brother to win her a stuffed animal.

So we made our frantic way along, with Danny shelling out quarters, tossing balls and spinning wheels, trying to win her an animal.

I followed along, wringing my pocketbook and fussing about the waste of money and the sin of gambling, and, as I had predicted, no animal gamboled into Mary's arms.

Finally I got them headed for the exit, with little Mary sobbing her disappointment, then Danny spied a sign that read, "WIN A BEAR EVERY TIME!" — so since it was a sure thing, and Mary was so distraught, he dug out his last quarter and took his chances.

Naturally, his number was not a winning one, but we were at least sure that Mary would have a bear.

The attendant thereupon opened a drawer under the table and took out and handed to us a little black plastic bear about two inches high.

"You mean **that's** the bear they win every time?" I snorted.

"That's it, lady," was his bored reply, and Mary cried and I fumed all the way home.

That has been all of 15 years ago, the the other day in my stirrings about I found that little bear.

And do you know I found something else? I found I'm still mad about it!

Arkansas all over

Otis W. Yates of Lexington, Ky., observed his 67th anniversary in the ministry on April 29 of this year. Dr. Yates, who taught Bible at Ouachita University for 12 years, retired from the pastorate in 1966. Yates, who will be 88 on May 23, will be honored with a family birthday celebration in Lexington on May 31. He is presently working on an autobiography.

Dean Newberry of Rogers recently attended the annual meeting of trustees of Midwestern Seminary in Kansas City, Mo.

Gaines Armstrong is now pastoring Dollarway Church in Pine Bluff. He comes to the Pine Bluff church from

Memorial Church in Hot Springs.

Gary Potter will be licensed to the ministry by Dollarway Church and **Claire Langley Jr.** has accepted the call of this church to serve as minister of music and youth.

Kendall Philips and **David Copeland** were ordained as deacons of Runyan First Church, in Sherwood, on May 9. Coleman Poole was in charge of questioning with Dale Wilkerson presenting Bibles to the two men. Presentation of certificates was by Cenorio Rodriguez and Troy Choate led the ordination prayer. J. Everett Sneed, editor of *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine*, gave the charge. The pastor, James Thomason, delivered the message.

Arkansas all over

Caudle Avenue Church, Springdale, has purchased a 1970 bus and in keeping with the Life and Liberty bicentennial year campaign the bus is red, white and blue. The church held a bus dedication

service following morning worship services on May 2. Drivers for the bus are Allen Allen, Pete Powell, Dale Seigler and Ira Upton. Bob Batchelder is pastor.

Counselor Training for July 3 rally

Jim Brewer, counseling chairman for the July 3 Bicentennial rally, has announced three additional sessions to train counselors to work with those making decisions at the meeting.

These are the following:

June 10, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., First Church, Mountain Home;

June 19, 9 to 12 a.m., First Church, North Little Rock;

June 20, 2 to 5 p.m., Olivet Church, Little Rock.

The following sessions were announced previously:

June 6, 2 to 5 p.m., Grand Avenue Church, Ft. Smith

June 8, 7 to 10 p.m., Elmdale Church, Springdale

June 12, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Central Church, Jonesboro

June 24, 7 to 10 p.m., Life Line Church, Little Rock

Other sessions are being planned and will be announced later.

Baptist heritage

by Bernes K. Selph

Baptists, representing 11 states and the District of Columbia, met in the First Baptist Church, Philadelphia, Penn., May 18, 1814, for the purpose of organizing the General Missionary Convention of the Baptist denomination in the United States for Foreign Missions.

Since Luther Rice had been visiting among Baptists, enlisting support for his friends, Adoniram and Ann Judson, in Burma, he was asked to report on the funds collected for the mission enterprise.

He had kept a strict account of every penny collected, which totaled \$1,274.62½. Broken down into gifts by states the amounts were: South Carolina, \$702.40½; Georgia, \$181.37½, Virginia, \$119.89¾, and so on. A lady in South Carolina and another in Maryland each gave a pair of gloves. A gentleman in Washington, D.C., donated a badly needed pair of shoes.

Rice was urged to "excite the public more generally" by visiting Baptist leaders, families, churches, and associations as he had been doing.

... and that's how the first missions report was made to American Baptists 162 years ago.

□ O. K. and Marjorie Armstrong, *The Indomitable Baptists*, Doubleday and Co., Inc., Garden City, New York, 1967, pp. 127-30



The Nome Southern Baptist Mission meets in this building leased from the Masonic Lodge.

Young Arkansan pastors in Nome, Alaska

It is not the \$55 a day he receives from substitute teaching that draws Arkansan Paul Seal to the classroom of Beltz High School at Nome, Alaska, but rather the chance to reach the young people.



Seal

Seal has been pastor of the Nome Baptist Mission since January of 1974. The mission was organized in April of 1972 in the home of a Southern Baptist school teacher. Later the mission moved into a building owned by the Masonic Lodge.

small but growing. Five children were enrolled in Sunday School in February and seven in Mission Friends. University Church of Fairbanks sponsored the work at the beginning, but the mission is currently sponsored by the First Church of Anchorage. The mission is financially supported by the Home Mission Board and the Alaska Baptist Convention.

Seal is a native of Piggott, and was graduated from Southern Baptist College, Arkansas State University, and Southern Seminary. Both Seal and his wife, Berryl, who graduated from Louisiana College, were heavily involved in BSU work as college students. Among the mission projects Seal was involved in while a student at Arkansas State Uni-

versity were the Easter mission trips to Daytona Beach with the MIL (Meaning in Life) Singers.

The work at Nome is much slower than the metropolitan areas, such as Anchorage, Fairbanks, or Juneau. Moreover, all of the original founders of the mission have moved away, and for young Seal the task is to rebuild.

For the Seals, who first learned of Eskimo culture in Vacation Bible School, their greatest joy has come from working with children. "The children have been the most responsive," Seal says, "and we continue to see new faces in our different programs of outreach. I believe the future of Southern Baptist work in Nome is in the hands of these young lives."



Behind these buildings in downtown Nome is the Bering Sea.



In many places in Alaska, the snowmobile is a primary means of travel, but in Nome it's mainly a recreational vehicle.

Bicentennial rally to feature Anita Bryant

Anita Bryant is the girl with everything — fame, fortune, family, faith.

One of the three headliners for the July 3 Bicentennial Rally in Little Rock's War Memorial Stadium, Anita ranks as one of the nation's best-known and most versatile women.

When she was elected to the Oklahoma Hall of Fame in 1967, the honor came as no surprise by those who had followed her career. Born in Barnsdahl, Okla., Anita Jane Bryant thinks of Tulsa as her hometown, having graduated from that city's Will Rogers High School.

When the word of Anita's popularity in Oklahoma radio reached New York, she was invited to appear on "Arthur Godfrey's Talent Scouts." Emerging as the winner, Anita became a regular on Godfrey's morning radio show. Soon thereafter, she returned to carry Tulsa's and Oklahoma's banner to the Runner-Up Award in the Miss America Pageant. The exposure from the pageant put her on the "Don McNeill Breakfast Club" and "on the map on a national basis."

Anita's first record, "Till There Was You," was released shortly after the pageant. From "The Music Man," the ballad became Anita's first million record seller. In the next two years, Anita earned two more gold records — "Paper Roses," and "My Little Corner Of The World." The music trades that year voted her the "Number One Female Recording Artist."

Anita's deep interest in religion has moved her to appear in crusades for evangelist Billy Graham and to sing sacred music to audiences throughout the world. Lenten Guideposts, a nationally syndicated column, brought Anita's simple, poignant statement of faith and determination to newspaper readers throughout the country. On a number of occasions, Anita has given her testimony before the Southern Baptist Convention. She has collaborated with Dr. Norman Vincent Peale in an album of sacred music and Dr. Peale devoted a chapter of his best-selling book, *Seven Steps to Vital Faith*, to her. Anita has participated in the Annual Congressional Wives Prayer Breakfast.

In 1970 Anita wrote her first book, *Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory*. This book of faith rocketed to the number 2 position on the national best-seller list. Anita's book, *Amazing Grace*, was published in the fall of 1971, and quickly climbed to the number 8 position on the national best-seller list. In October, 1972, Anita's third book, *Bless This*

House, was released and in 1973 her fourth, *Fishers of Men*. Her current books are *Light My Candle* and *Bless*



Anita Bryant

This Food, The Anita Bryant Family Cookbook.

For seven consecutive years, Anita was Bob Hope's "right arm" on his holiday tours to overseas armed forces bases. On these tours, Anita met and entertained hundreds of thousands of servicemen, traveling as far as 20,000 miles in 11 days. For her patriotic endeavors she received the USO Silver Medallion Award. She also was the youngest American to receive the Veterans of Foreign Wars Award and Gold Medal and Citation. And, when the National Guards' Guardsman Award for distinguished service was awarded to the singer, it marked the first time it went to a female.

In 1968 she became the first woman to head Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, and the only person to repeat this honor in serving again in 1969. In 1972, Anita was elected to the Council of Trustees of Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge. She has been a guest at the

White House on 14 occasions.

A multi-talented artist, Anita was seen throughout the country in 1968 and 1969 starring in television, in the special, "A Very Special Occasion," and was on view bonefishing for ABC-TV's "The American Sportsman." For six years, 1967-1972 Anita co-hosted NBC-TV's "King Orange Jamboree" (the Orange Bowl Parade).

In 1968, Anita Bryant and Billy Graham became the only people ever to appear on the podiums of both the Republican and Democratic National Conventions.

A frequent guest on "The Lawrence Welk Show" and the "Mike Douglas Show," Anita also has appeared on numerous local television and radio shows when she is traveling throughout the country, either as a performer at such conventions as the Kiwanis International Convention and the United States Chamber of Commerce Convention.

In 1968, Anita was chosen to represent the Florida Citrus Commission. Along with personal appearances, her duties also include radio and television commercials. In a typical campaign, Anita's Florida orange juice commercials reach over 92 percent of all adult women at least 11 times, and 92 percent of all U.S. households an average of 4.4 times per week.

On stage, Anita has portrayed such roles as "Annie" in "Annie Get Your Gun" and "Maria" in the "Sound of Music." She has also starred in "Guys and Dolls," "The Fantastiks," and "Do I Hear A Waltz."

Anita married former Miami broadcasting personality Bob Green in 1960. He is now her manager. The Greens are the parents of four children, including seven-year-old twins.

The Greens are active members of Northwest Baptist Church, where Anita teaches Sunday School and Bob is an ordained deacon.

Rally Highlights

Time: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, July 3

Place: War Memorial Stadium, Little Rock

Highlights: Appearances by Anita Bryant, Paul Harvey and Manuel Scott; 2,000 voice choir; mass band concert; Air Guard flyover

Admission: Free (tickets are available through your church). There will be a charge for parking in the near vicinity of the stadium.

Attendance Goal: 50,000

Auxiliary meetings precede Southern Baptist Convention

Many Southern Baptists who attend the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention June 15-17 in Norfolk, Va., will be attending a variety of special interest meetings before and between sessions of the convention.

Church music conference

An original musical drama and the premiere of an anthem will be among an array of musical presentations featured at the annual Southern Baptist Church Music Conference (SBCMC) at First Church here, June 13-14.

SBCMC President Paul Bobbitt of Jacksonville, Fla., who directs church music for the Florida Baptist Convention, said the two-day conference will get underway Sunday night, June 13, at 7:30 p.m. with music by The Centurymen, 100 Southern Baptist ministers of music from across the nation, under the direction of Buryl Red of New York City. Also featured will be Carmela Scott, soloist, Virginia Beach, Va.

A series of special interest conferences will be offered two times on Monday afternoon, giving two choices from six offerings — "Puppetry and the Music Ministry," led by Joe and Gloria Morrell, Bradenton, Fla.; "Youth Mission Tours," led by Joel T. Land, department of special mission ministries, Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, Atlanta, Ga.; "Early American Music," led by Robert A. Young, professor of music, Baylor University, Waco, Tex.; and "Sacred Harp Singing," led by Hugh McGraw, president, Sacred Harp Publishing Company, Bremen, Ga.

Bobbitt said those attending the conference "will have the opportunity to view a vast array of new music materials and equipment displayed by the music industry and educational institutions."

Religious educators

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (BP) — Religious education specialists in the nation's largest Protestant denomination will gather at the Cavalier Hotel here, June 13-14, for the 21st annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Religious Education Association (SBREA).

Under a theme, "Freedom Through Christ," a battery of religious education experts will confront issues and challenges facing religious education, and U.S. Rep. John Buchanan (R.-Ala.), a Baptist, will speak at an SBREA luncheon at 12:30, June 14.

Program personnel includes Daniel Grant, president, Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia.

Six persons will discuss special issues

facing religious education — singles, aging and the family. They are W. L. Howse III, director, Hurt Gerontology Center, Virginia Baptist Homes, Culpeper, Va.; Harry N. Hollis Jr., director of family and special moral concerns, SBC Christian Life Commission, Nashville; Britton Wood, single adult minister, Park Cities Church, Dallas; Barbara Siddle, director, Resources for Family Growth Project, Columbia, Md.; Merle Basden, director of religious education, Tarrant County Baptist Association, Ft. Worth, Tex.; and Elaine Dickson, supervisor, young adult section, Sunday School department, SBC Sunday School Board.

Four persons will discuss the future of religious education — S. C. Ray, minister of education and administration, First Church, Greensboro, N.C.; Will Beal, a consultant in the church administration department, Sunday School Board; Roy Lee Williams, director, church services, Union Baptist Association, Houston; and F. Lawson Pankey, director, division of teaching and training, Baptist General Association of Virginia, Richmond.

The conference will close on Monday night with a performance of "The Fabric of Freedom," the Bicentennial musical of the SBC Home Mission Board. It was written by Ed Seabough and Bill Cates.

Pastors' Conference

A retired U.S. congressman, two

former Southern Baptist Convention presidents and singer Anita Bryant will be among program personnel on the program of the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference here, June 13-14.

The annual meeting will address itself to the theme, "Faith of Our Fathers."

Walter Judd, a physician and retired U.S. Republican congressman, from Minnesota, and W. A. Criswell, pastor of First Church, Dallas, and Robert G. Lee, pastor emeritus of Bellevue Church, Memphis, both former SBC presidents, will be among an array of speakers.

Other program personnel besides Ms. Bryant and the Anita Bryant singers, include Adrian Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Church, Memphis, and Pastors' Conference president; Joe Crumpler, pastor of Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, Cincinnati, and Pastors' Conference vice president; and Russell Clearman, pastor, Olivet Church, Little Rock.

WMU sessions

The national annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) will investigate the missions implications of the nation's Bicentennial at a two-day gathering at Scope Convention Center in Norfolk June 13-14.

The meeting will call participants to thanksgiving for their heritage and commitment to building a strong missions base in the American family, church and society. The meeting's theme is "Stand Up and Bless the Lord."

The WMU meeting will incorporate the first national conference for Baptist Young Women (BYW), which will meet June 11-13, at the Virginia Beach Convention Center before merging with the WMU meeting.

Participants in the BYW meeting, which gets underway at 7:00 p.m., Friday, June 11, must pre-register with the WMU office in Birmingham. BYW registrants will be transported by bus to the Scope Convention Center in Norfolk for the WMU meeting, beginning Sunday, June 13.

WMU sessions will feature a battery of religious and national leaders, including U.S. Rep. John Buchanan (R.-Ala.) and Mrs. Buchanan.

Two duplicate sessions, featuring a historical drama on the emergence of women's rights and addresses, will be staged by the WMU on Sunday. A 3:00 p.m. afternoon meeting will be held to accommodate Norfolk area Baptists in the 2,400-seat auditorium, and a 7:00 p.m. repeat of the program will accom-

Arkansans invited to music program

A Bicentennial festival of Praise will be held in Washington Cathedral, in the nation's Capitol on Saturday, June 12, and Arkansas Baptists have been invited to come a day early on their way to the Southern Baptist Convention to participate. James C. Allcock, State Music Secretary for Maryland Baptists, who is coordinator for the program, said the musical event will be held from 12:30 to 4 p.m. William J. Reynolds will lead congregational hymn singing; the Sons of Jubal, Georgia ministers of music, will perform Randall Thompson's setting of Thomas Jefferson's words, entitled "A Testament of Freedom"; a pipe organ recital will be given; and The Centurymen, directed by Buryl Red, will give a concert.

moderate out-of-towners arriving for the meeting.

The historical drama, written by Mrs. Lamar Jackson of Birmingham, will be directed by Ed Seabough of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, Atlanta, assisted by Sherry Fairchild, associate director of the Baptist Student Union at Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Va.

The major address will be on the European implications of the Bicentennial, as seen by C. Ronald Goulding, associate secretary of the Baptist World Alliance (BWA) and head of the BWA European office in London. His topic will be "Where Christians Stand Together."

Because Monday, June 14, is Flag Day, the WMU audience will move outside on the flag-decked Scope Plaza to stage a noontime celebration of Flag Day amid the throng of Southern Baptists.

The program will be the national focal point of the "Day of Prayer, Fasting, and Humiliation," sponsored by WMU in Southern Baptist churches across the nation.

Kenneth Chafin, pastor of South Main Church, Houston, Tex., will keynote the noon session, and special music, flag ceremonies, prayer, and an emphasis on fasting will suggest a Christian viewpoint of the Bicentennial.

SBC evangelists

The Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists will meet here 1 p.m.-4 p.m., Wednesday, June 16, between sessions of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) annual meeting.

The annual program, in Chrysler Hall of the Scope Convention Center will feature addresses by evangelists Manley Beasley of San Antonio, Tex.; Dudley Hall of Ft. Worth, Tex.; and Jerry Spencer of Memphis, Tenn., and by Oscar Thompson, assistant professor of evangelism at Southwestern Seminary in Ft. Worth.

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Baptists continue ministries in midst of Beirut's unrest

BEIRUT, Lebanon (BP) — The Beirut Baptist School has reopened and the Arab Baptist Theological Seminary continues to operate in the midst of political unrest here, a Baptist missionary said here.

Southern Baptist missionaries who remain say they have all escaped injury and plan to stay and continue their ministries.

Baptist churches continue to have services although three pastors have been robbed or burned out of their homes. All of the pastors will continue their ministries, according to David W. King, Southern Baptist missionary.

Worship services continue at the seminary when residents there are unable to attend regular services in churches in Beirut. A committee of that group is meeting to look into the possibility of forming a church, King noted.

He said the seminary has continued to function throughout the most recent fighting and the shaky cease-fire, but the Beirut Baptist School closed for several weeks. The seminary has five men and two women attending. Its one senior hopes to graduate this spring, in spite of time missed following the Christmas holidays while he visited in Morocco.

The broadcast ministry has been somewhat curtailed, King cited, because it is impossible for personnel to get to the station, but two seminary students are being trained to help. One will answer correspondence from people interested in knowing more about Christ; the other is being trained to do technical work.

The publication ministry has been hampered by the cut-off transportation routes, he continued. No books and materials can be shipped. Likewise, groceries are not being received into the local village grocery stores. The supply is lasting, but unless cross-country transportation lines are opened food could become scarce, according to King.

Missionaries, who used to travel into the city for groceries, are now also shop-

ping at village stores because radio reports about where the fighting is located and the intensity of it are unreliable, King said. All Lebanese radio stations are now in the hands of one side or the other, but missionaries still hear news via Radio Monte Carlo, British Broadcasting Company and Voice of America, the missionary said.

Baptist buildings, other than the homes of pastors and churches, have received no damage, but a large rocket left a 10-foot hole very close to the seminary. King said missionary homes have not been hit.

"We feel definitely that the Lord placed us here," said King. "We are continuing with seminary and with Bible classes. We are continuing with services and visits with neighbors and friends. We are keeping up with each other by telephone."

One group of women that missionaries have been visiting in prison were liberated, including two American women who have returned home after one-and-a-half years in prison. One of the women recently "made a real beginning of faith" and another "rededicated her life to Jesus Christ," King said.

Mrs. Ruby Moore, a volunteer teacher in the Beirut Baptist School, left Lebanon during a cease fire, bringing letters and a cassette tape from missionaries there. Decisions of the missionaries to stay or leave are fully supported by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, a spokesman told Baptist Press.

J. D. Hughey, area secretary for Europe and the Middle East, said in his report to the board recently that no distinction is made between the missionaries who stay and those who leave. "There are no brave missionaries and others who are less brave. Each decision is individual and based on several factors."

Remaining in Beirut are the Finlay M. Grahams, the Kings, the William O. (Bill) Herns, the James K. Raglands, Miss Mabel Summers and Miss Emma Cooke.

Church food service manager

Opening for experienced, Christian Food Service Manager effective June 1, 1976. Our present Food Service Manager is retiring after 12 years of continuous service. The person hired will have responsibility for administration of food service operations as

well as ordering, preparing and serving of food services. Hours must be flexible, able to follow supervision and able to produce. Salary open. Good fringe benefits. Please send resume to Mr. John C. Parker, First Baptist Church, 62 Pleasant Valley Dr., Little Rock, Ark. 72207.

Arkansas news begins . . .

News, features, or opinion materials to appear in Arkansas Baptists' state paper begin a journey to the reader when a church or individual mails information to the ARKANSAS BAPTIST NEWSMAGAZINE. Because the paper has no full-time traveling reporter, the staff depends on Baptist people to send information or to contact the editor for coverage arrangements.

By the flow of mail across her desk, the editor's secretary, Mary Giberson, knows whether the readers are reacting to opinion materials, or hurrying to send word of the church's success, or complaining because staff members can't read minds about their news. Each item is dated and logged with care.

Copy for the state paper is prepared by staffers with professional training. Most Arkansas news is rewritten for conciseness, with attention to grammar and news style. Managing editor Betty Kennedy is responsible for the final form for typesetting. Aiding in writing and rewriting is Millie Gill.

After detailed layouts are prepared by the staff, pages are prepared for the off-set camera by Twin City Printing Co. of North Little Rock.



Little Rock church in top five in VBS

NASHVILLE — Vacation Bible Schools in the Southern Baptist Convention reached an all time high of 30,669 in 1973 according to figures released recently by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

That was an increase of 5,822 over the 1974 report and represented the largest annual increase in Southern Baptist Convention history. Improved reporting procedures accounted for some of the increase. The figures include Vacation Bible Schools, Mission Vacation Bible Schools and Backyard Bible Clubs.

In the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, Second Church, Little Rock, in Pulaski Association, had the highest VBS enrollment with a total of 2,273. Other churches in the Arkansas top five were Seary First, Calvary Association; West Memphis First, Tri County Association; Windsor Park, Concord and Inman; and Pulaski Association.

The top five churches in the Southern Baptist Convention were: First Church, Dallas, with a VBS enrollment of 7,777; First Church, Brownsville, Tex., 4,864; Green Acres Church, Smith Association, Tex., 3,832; Glenview Church, Tarrant Association, Tex., 2,863; and Second Church, Little Rock, 2,273. Seary First was listed 22nd in the SBC and West Memphis First was number 28.

Vacation Bible School enrollment for the Southern Baptist Convention increased 17,529 over 1974 bringing the total to 4,911,276. Professions of faith showed a gain of 74 percent, which ended a two year decline. The total for professions of faith was 48,958.

It was projected that 1975 Vacation Bible Schools discovered 1,324,415 unchurched prospects. This includes pupils and parents.

Adults in Vacation Bible School totaled 74,021 in 1973, a four percent increase over the previous year.



April 15, 1975

Arkansas all over



Melvin Edmonson, pastor at Kato Church for seven years, will retire from the full-time ministry May 1. In the past 23 years he has served churches in Carroll, Boone-Newton, Dardanelle-Kosolow, Faulconer, and Clear Creek Associations. Edmonson holds the B.S. degree from Arkansas Tech at Russellville. During his pastorate the church has bought and paid for property valued at \$100,000, and income has increased 400 percent. There have been 162 additions to the church in this time. Edmonson and his wife will live at Lamar, and he will be available for supply preaching and other work. He can

be contacted at Rt. 2, Lamar, Ark. 72046, or by phone at 855-3277, after his retirement.

Stephen Hyde has assumed the pastorate of South Side Church, Ft. Smith, effective March 1.

He came to Ft. Smith from Lake Village, where he was pastor of the Lake Village Church for three years. A native of Kentucky, Hyde graduated from Chauncey University in 1969 where he majored in religion and sociology. He received the master of divinity degree from Southern Seminary at Louisville, Ky., in 1972. He and his wife, Jean, have two sons.

William L. (Bud) Wadley, 76, died March 31. He was a member of Sunset Lane Church, Little Rock, and had served as pastor of Mountain View Church, later known as Sunset Lane, for 15 years. He served as pastor of Mountain View (No. 2) Baptist Church on Highway 5, now known as Hilltop Church. He was pastor of Liberty Church near Thornburg. He is survived by his wife, Naomi Hayden Wadley, two sons, and two daughters.

Life and Liberty Crusades continue in Western Arkansas

By B. Wilbur Hoising

Many of our churches in the western part of the state will be in the Life and Liberty Crusades this week and next week. Let us remember to pray for the churches and the pastors. We have prayed for several years preceding these crusades but we must continue praying throughout the year-long campaign.

We would like to remind all of the Directors of Missions that Brother Jesse Reed would like to have a complete report of the Life and Liberty Crusades in each association. We are anxious to know the total results of the crusades across the state.

The most encouraging thing that has come my way are the reports to the effect that almost all of the churches are cooperating in this great evangelistic tool of simultaneous revivals. I was fortunate to be in the early simultaneous crusades conducted by Dr. Charles Matthews in the state of Texas. Then I also recall the great revivals in Arkansas when we used the simultaneous ap-

proach. I am confident that the revivals will prove the effectiveness of the Life and Liberty Crusades across our state. One of the churches in our association reported that they had their greatest revival in the history of the church. These reports will be echoed across the state several hundred times. The church that I pastor enjoyed one of the greatest revivals in the entire history of the church. Not only did we have a great attendance each night, a goodly number of conversions and additions to the church, but many of our members were truly revived and made meaningful commitments to the Lord.

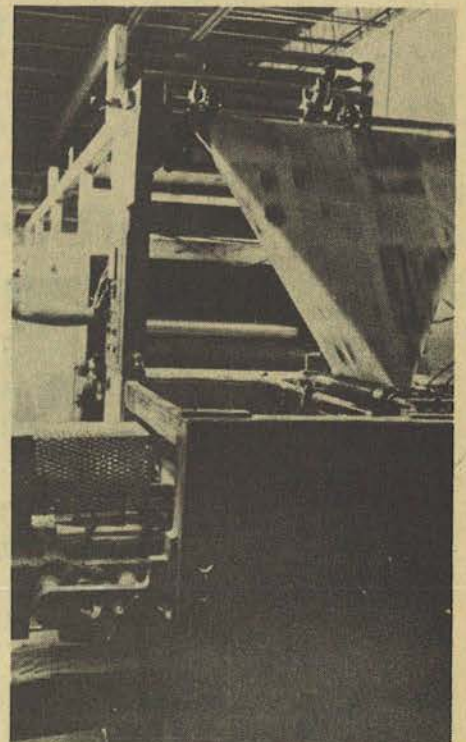
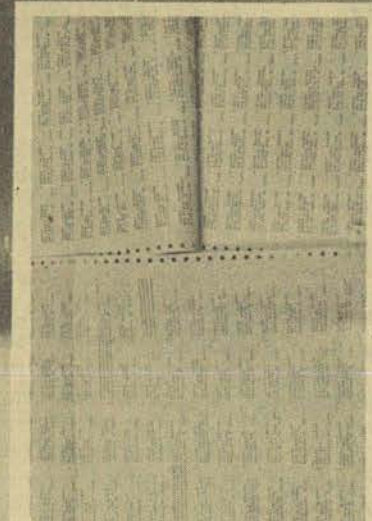
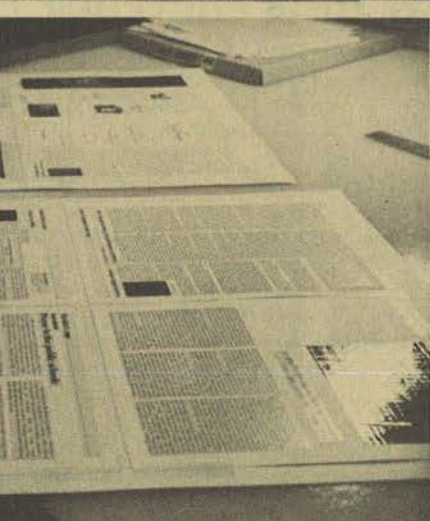
We are now in the middle of the battle. The campaign to present the gospel of Christ to every person in the state of Arkansas in the year 1976 is one fourth of the way through. Many churches are praying and witnessing more fervently and faithfully than they have ever done before. Many churches are ready, while a few are still sleeping. Wouldn't it be heavenly if all the churches would cooperate in fulfilling the chief mission and command given the church? Yes, it would be heaven, but in heaven there will be no further need to proclaim the gospel. It is here and now that we need to be found faithful in this task.

Page 5

... and ends with readers

During all the processes of getting information into print, staff members work constantly to keep the mailing list of nearly 69,000 subscribers up to date. Ann Taylor, circulation clerk, says that changes average 400 each week.

After at least 12 days "in the mill" information for and about Baptists comes off the press to begin a journey through the mails to reach Arkansas Baptists. Directing the paper's production is Editor J. Everett Sneed.



Your state convention at work

ACTION proves a success for Pine Bluff congregation

When ACTION, a new Sunday School growth program, was presented as a challenge to Immanuel Church, Pine Bluff, in April of 1975, the congregation voted to enter this as a concept to increase their outreach.

According to Lawson Hatfield, state Sunday School Director, "the program is one which works and never fails, if a church and its leadership want to participate. If the ACTION plan is followed, success is assured."

Immanuel Church has found this to be true. This enrollment evangelism ministry included the addition of Wes Kent to the staff as minister of outreach. Three additional buses were also purchased.

There are five steps in the program. These are: a pastor's class; TASK force visits door to door; the Anglers youth group; telephone enrollers; and bus ministry.

Anton Uth, pastor of Immanuel, conducted the pastor's class with approximately 18 enrolled; there were approximately 87 participating in the TASK visitation. The first week of visitation led to the enrollment of 200 in Sunday School and during the second three-day visitation period there were an additional 85 enrolled.

The Anglers had 30 involved in their activities.

Following the visitation a Welcome Sunday was held. There were three additions to the church.

As a part of ACTION Immanuel now

has a fleet of four buses and is presently purchasing a van which will be used with the older Sunday School members.

Kent has been successful in developing a bus ministry from zero to a record attendance of 70. He has also established a Children's Church for ages four through eight.

When this program began in the Pine Bluff Church the average Sunday School attendance was 360 with 895 enrolled. In August the enrollment increased to 1,100 and the average attendance from Oct. 1 to Dec. 31 was 428.

In January of this year the attendance was 435 and in February it was 483. Two Sundays in March and April there have been more than 500 present for Sunday School with the present enrollment now 1,230.

During this period of growth the church had a "Prove the Tithe Day," with a record offering of \$6,600. This record was later broken when the offering reached \$6,800 one Sunday. The church adopted a record budget this year of \$259,000.

Uth, in summarizing what ACTION has meant to Immanuel, says, "It not only has increased our Sunday School attendance and offerings, but has added to the church family in number." "The changed attitudes of members, making them more sensitive to the needs of people outside of the church walls, has been one of the greatest factors of the program," he concluded.

Church Training Current issues

Some people like to get involved in current issues, especially if they are controversial issues. There are two current issues every pastor should become involved in this month. I am referring to the May issue of the *Church Training* magazine and the May issue of the *Church Administration* magazine.



Holley

The May *Church Training* magazine is your catalog of Church Training resources for 1976-77. It contains complete outlines of all the curriculum materials for all ages for the entire year. It also describes all of the WIN materials including the new *WIN Books Teaching Guide*, and a listing of all New Member Training materials. This is your best source of information for selecting Church Training materials for the coming year. Keep this issue as a handy reference throughout the year.

The other issue you should get involved in is the May *Church Administration* magazine. This is a special planning issue designed to help the pastor, church staff and church council to plan for the year 1976-77. This is one of the most helpful planning tools available to a church.

Many pastors already receive *Church Administration*. Pastors who are not now receiving it will receive a complimentary copy of the May issue from our department in the next few days. We hope you will make the best use of this excellent planning tool. — Robert Holley

W.O.W. — Win Our World . . . is working in Arkansas churches

What is it? "WOW" is an exciting training experience for young people who desire to be more effective witnesses. It happens in the local church. "WOW" has as its primary purpose the training of young people in a witnessing lifestyle.



Guthrie

"WOW" is more than methods and materials. It is training for a new way of life — the Jesus way of life. It is a lifestyle that rejoices in telling others of the love of God.

Who is it for? "WOW" is for junior and senior high school students who

by Neal Guthrie
(second in a series)

desire to share their faith in Christ. Youth directors, youth sponsors, and other youth workers in the church are encouraged to participate in the "WOW" emphasis. "WOW" can give youth leaders a greater insight and understanding of today's young people.

What does it include? "WOW" includes three phases.

1. Climatizing — preparation for "WOW"

2. "WOW" Week — actual local church training and equipping

3. GO — follow through activities of growth and outreach

The actual "WOW" Week includes

four one and one-half hour sessions to be held on four successive evenings or on a retreat. The emphasis of the sessions will be "The Real Life," "The Power Life," "The Sharing Life," and "The Trusting Life." There will be Bible study, creative activities and learning activities in each session. The emphasis will be on young people discovering for themselves the witnessing lifestyle.

What do I need to do to have a "WOW" emphasis? You can begin by ordering a copy of "WOW" Preparation Guide which is offered to you free. The guide will explain all you need to do in order to have a "WOW" Emphasis with the youth of your church. Write to: Neal Guthrie, Arkansas Baptist State Convention, Evangelism Department, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, Ark. 72203.

New stewardship filmstrips

"Opportunity Living — A New-Life Style for Bold Believers" is a new 64-frame filmstrip recently released by the Stewardship Commission and available to all churches. The filmstrip portrays three Christian families with contemporary needs and problems. Two of the families have a life style that does not reflect the Lordship of Christ and demonstrates some of the problems they encounter.

The third family portrayed has successfully implemented their Christian faith into their day to day living and financial decisions. All three family situations are realistic portrayals of circumstances that could fit any typical family.

Another filmstrip entitled "Ministry Action Budgeting" is also available. It describes a relatively new concept in church budgeting in which the needs, ministries, and priorities of the church determine the actual budgeted amounts in contrast to the all too common meth-

od of just revising last year's budget.

Ministry action budgeting allows the membership of the church itself to determine the church priorities and the direction that the church will take in the coming months. Then the budget is designed to fit those basic decisions, rather than allowing the budget to become something that hinders or restricts the church in its missionary and evangelistic program.

This concept of budgeting can be used and adapted to any size church, any place that is willing to make the necessary preparation for involving its people in planning ahead. The filmstrip demonstrates how the plan was utilized in one church.

Both filmstrips have a pre-recorded narration on a standard size cassette. The filmstrips, with cassettes, are available on a loan basis, without charge, from this office. — Roy F. Lewis, Secretary of Stewardship-Cooperative Program

Sellers provides option in problem pregnancy

A single young woman recently went to an abortion clinic, planning to end her problem pregnancy. After seeing for herself what that option meant, she left the waiting room and contacted the Sellers Baptist Home and Adoption Center.

She asked if she could come to the maternity home, stay through the delivery of her child, and discuss with the staff the option of adoptive placement. She moved in to Sellers within the next few days. Courageously, she chose to give birth.

Located in New Orleans, Louisiana, the Sellers Baptist Home and Adoption Center continues to offer help with problem pregnancies. The maternity services were established in 1933, with the adoption program being added in 1948. Since these beginnings, many girls and young women have received service through this program. Southern Baptists provide this Christian resource through the cooperative program and the Annie Armstrong offering. Gifts, donations, and fees also help support this program.

Girls and young women from all states, of all races, and of all religious affiliations are welcome. The maternity services offered include: * Maternity home, * Out-patient Services, * Medical care, * Social Work services, * Chap-



lain services, * Delivery at Southern Baptist Hospital, and * Adoptive planning and placement (optional).

When the young lady mentioned earlier came to Sellers, she found a program based in a strong Christian ministry of redemptive opportunity and sound professional care and services. For the family of a young single girl and for the girl herself, pregnancy is often a problem. Much stress is often relieved when she can live with other girls and young women who share similar problems. Counseling is also available to the natural father of the infant.

The option of adoptive placement is carefully explored, with great consideration given to the emotional and legal realities involved in adoption. Most of the girls and young women in the Sellers program do place their infants for adoption; some choose not to do so. A significant portion of this ministry is to help each person know of the alternatives available to her so that she may make the best possible choice for herself and her child.

Being brought together through the adoption program, many adoptive families and children are given the beautiful experience of a loving Christian family.

The Home Mission Board operates the agency through the Department of Christian Social Ministries.

For further information contact: Sellers Baptist Home and Adoption Center, 2010 Peniston Street, New Orleans, La. 70115, (504) 895-2088.

Visitors are welcome.

Sunday School and WIN

In an Arkansas church recently I participated in a WIN school. We followed most of the suggestions in the manual. In addition, we used some of the distinctive ideas from Feather's book *The Sunday School in Evangelism*. After the first few sessions the church members had shared their own personal experience, used the booklet "How to Have a Full and Meaningful Life" and compiled a prayer list of unsaved and unreached people.

The immediate result was observed in additions to the church of persons on profession of faith and by letter.

New motivation for personal witnessing has been revived and new interest in organizing the adult Sunday School classes into groups for witness and ministry functions.

Thank you, Jesse Reed, for Life and Liberty emphasis on WIN. — Lawson Hatfield, Sunday School Department



Hatfield

Chaplain serves full-time now

Terrel Gordon has concluded a 17-year pastorate to become VA chaplain in Fayetteville. Gordon was pastor of Immanuel Church, Fayetteville, and served part-time concurrently with the VA Hospital. He succeeds T.D. Whitehorn, also a Southern Baptist who has served as the full-time chaplain.

Chaplain Gordon was born into the family of 11 children in Greenwood, Ark. His education includes Greenwood High School, Arkansas Tech, the University of Arkansas, and Southwestern Seminary.

Gordon spent four years with the Army in World War II, and at the end of the war was serving in the G-1 Section of General MacArthur's GHQ.

He is married to the former Lois Davis of Fayetteville, and they have one son and two daughters.

After many years of part-time service in the VA Hospital, Fayetteville, his transition to full-time service will be easy and effective. — Wilson C. Deese, Director, Chaplain Ministries



Gordon

Youth go to camp with your help

"I guess I can say that going to Siloam Springs is one of the few things I really look forward to each summer. There is such a thrill that enters my soul when I think of going because I know that the Christian fellowship there is better than gold. What a blessing it is to be privileged enough to get to go and receive a fantastic lifting of the soul." — Kim

"I'm really looking forward to going to Siloam Springs again this summer. The main reason is because being together with fellow Christians helps to give me strength to get through the year 'til the next summer. It gives me strength to face the world of people who aren't Christians and try to help them." — Nanci

The above paragraphs were written by two of our youth who have attended Siloam Springs Baptist Assembly in the

past. One of the girls made a profession of faith last year and then later followed our Lord in baptism in one of the local Baptist churches in Monticello.

Christian friends from churches throughout our state have provided the necessary funds to send our children to camp for many years. We are indeed grateful for your support in providing this extensive religious training, fun and fellowship that all of us who attend Siloam Springs enjoy. If you would like to share in this part of our program this year, be sure and mark your gift or check plainly so we will know just how it is to be used. Twenty-five dollars will pay camp fees, buy study books and provide a small amount of spending money for a boy or girl. — Mrs. Eula Armstrong, Child Care Worker, Arkansas Baptist Home for Children

Area chairmen for BSU named



Pipkins



Berry

E. A. Pipkins, pastor of First Church of Clinton for the past 10 years, has been elected Area Chairman for the Baptist Student Union for the University of Central Arkansas at Conway.

Pipkins is married to the former Dorothy Cox of Forrest City. The Pipkins have one son, Emmett Charles.

Pipkins first had contact with Baptist Student work when he was a student at Arkansas State University and met the BSU director Jim Reed whom Pipkins describes as a "serious witness on the campus."

Pipkins later transferred to Ouachita, where he graduated, and later to Southwestern Seminary.

Elected Chairman of the Properties Committee was J. A. Kuehn, Director of Missions for Faulkner Association. W. T. Byrum, Director of Missions for Carolina Association, was elected Chairman of the Finance Committee; and David Miller, Director of Missions for Little Red River Association, was elected chairman of the Publicity Committee.

Tony Berry, pastor of First Church of Dardanelle, has been elected Area Chairman for the Baptist Student Union for Arkansas Tech. A graduate of Southern Baptist College and Ouachita University, Berry was active in the Baptist Student Union at both schools and served as a summer missionary in West Virginia.

Berry is married to the former Ann Holt and is the father of two sons, Christopher, 2½ years old, and Joel Patrick, one month old.



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	ALSO				0600AM
FORT SMITH	KWHN	1320	K	SU	0830PM
LITTLE ROCK	KKYK	103.7M	SU		0730AM
NEWPORT	KNBY	1280	K	SA	0300PM
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OSCEOLA	KOSE	0860	K	SU	0900PM
PARAGOULD	KHIG	104.9M	SU		1030PM
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CORNING	KCCB	1260	K	SU	0930AM
DEQUEEN	KDQD	1390	K	SU	0630AM
FAYETTEVILLE	KFAY	1250	K	SU	0830AM
FORDYCE	KBJT	1570	K	SU	0430PM
HOPE	KXAR	1490	K	SU	0100PM
MENA	KENA	1450	K	SU	0700AM
MONTICELLO	KHRM	1430	K	SU	0325PM
PARAGOULD	KDPS	1490	K	SU	0830PM
SILOAM SPGS	KUDA	1290	K	SU	0700AM
WYNNE	KWYN	1400	K	SU	0730AM

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BRINKLEY	KBRI	1570	K	TU	0230PM
BRINKLEY	KBRI	102.3M	TU		0230PM
CAMDEN	KAMD	0910	K	WE	1000PM
CORNING	KCCB	1260	K	SU	0700AM
DEQUEEN	KDQD	1390	K	SU	0300PM
HEBER SPRINGS	KANH	1370	K	SA	1000AM
HELENA	KCRI	107.5M			
HOT SPRINGS	KBHS	0590	K	SU	0430PM
LITTLE ROCK	KXLR	1150	K	SU	0700AM
MARKED TREE	KPCA	1580	K	SU	1000AM
MENA	KSKR	101.7M	SA		0700PM
MORRILTON	KVDM	0800	K	SU	0300PM
OSCEOLA	KOSE	0860	K	MO	0225PM
OZARK	KZRK	1540	K	SU	0100PM
PARAGOULD	KDRS	1490	K	SU	0600PM
SILOAM SPGS	KUDA	1290	K	SA	0100PM
	ALSO		SA		0535PM

MASTER CONTROL*

BERRYVILLE	KTHS	1480	K	SU	1230PM
BRINKLEY	KBRI	1570	K	SU	0700PM
BRINKLEY	KBRI	102.3M	WE		0700PM
CORNING	KCCB	1260	K	SU	1000AM
DEQUEEN	KDQD	1390	K	SU	0100PM
DUMAS	KDA	1560	K	SU	0600AM
FAYETTEVILLE	KHOC	1440	K	SU	0730AM
FORDYCE	KBJT	1570	K	SU	1000AM
FORREST CITY	KXJK	0950	K	SU	0100AM
FORT SMITH	KWHN	1320	K	SU	0800PM
	ALSO				0800
NASHVILLE	KBHC	1260	K	SU	0315PM
NEWPORT	KNBY	1280	K	SU	1200M
PARAGOULD	KDRS	1490	K	SU	1015AM
PARAGOULD	KHIG	104.9M	SU		0830AM
PRESCOTT	KTPA	1370	K	SU	0930AM
SILOAM SPGS	KUDA	1290	K	SA	1000AM
WYNNE	KWYN	1400	K	SU	0230PM

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MENA	KENA	1450	K	SU	1015PM
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Paul M. Stevens, President



Deanna Gobert

Deanna Gobert writes on BSU

"When I came to Henderson State University three and one half years ago, I had no idea what BSU was. Since then I have learned that BSU is people — students, directors, and others — who care enough to share God's love. I saw and felt that love through them and accepted Christ at the BSU State Convention my freshman year.

"There have been many opportunities to learn and share with others through Bible studies, special programs and seminars, outside projects, and the responsibility of being on the BSU Executive Council. In summer missions I served as a G.A. camp counselor. The people who make up the BSU have played a major part in getting me involved and helping me to grow as a Christian. I am now serving God at The Carver Center in New Orleans as a semester missionary."

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Foundation Giving and receiving

Recently, a family made a gift through the Foundation to various Baptist causes that proved to be of benefit to them. The family owned stock that today, was worth many times the price that they had paid for it. However, they were receiving an income just under 2 percent of the value of the stock. They did not want to keep the stock but they could not afford to sell it because of the large amount of capital gains tax that would have been due.

Their will revealed their intention to make a gift and a review of their current financial standing indicated they could afford to do this during their lifetime without jeopardizing their emergency fund. A Charitable Remainder Annuity Contract was drawn and the stock was transferred to the Foundation to fund

the contract. The results were — no capital gains tax was due — a charitable deduction can be claimed on the 1976 income tax return — the income of the donor and/or surviving spouse was increased to 6 percent of the current value of the stock — at the death of the survivor, the value of the trust will be transferred to the Baptist cause named by them. Thus, they were able to make a gift and at the same time help themselves.

It could be that you could benefit from this type of arrangement. The Foundation will be happy to supply the information to you and your financial advisor. Write or call Harry D. Trulove, Arkansas Baptist Foundation, Little Rock, Ark. The address is Box 552, Little Rock 72203 and the telephone is 376-4791.

1976 GA camp, Paron

If you had rather —

- Your GAs sit around home all summer giving cause for boredom;
- Your GAs stay indoors and watch TV all the time;
- Your GAs not "get a lot of smart" about missions work, missionaries, the Bible, Christian living;
- Your GAs not improve skills in private devotion and grow more spiritually;
- Your GAs not receive the maximum fulfillment in missions education;
- Your GAs not meet lots of new friends and have good Christian fun and fellowship;

Then you should not consider — that they go to GA Camp this summer.

We believe that you had rather your GAs in grades 4-6 attend one of the GA weeks at Camp Paron this summer. The dates are July 12-17, 19-24, and August 2-7. Camp information has been sent to GA leaders of the local churches. If for some reason you do not have the camping materials or need additional registration cards, please write State WMU Office, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock 72203. Registrations are now being accepted on a "first come, first served" basis. The weeks fill up quickly so don't delay in returning your registration cards. (Adapted) — Julia Ketner

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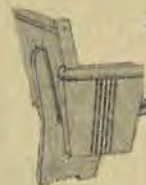
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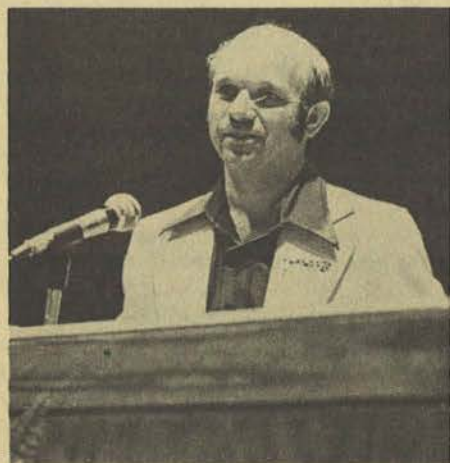
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The 23rd annual Royal Ambassador Congress opened with flag processional and pledge to American, Christian, and Royal Ambassador Flags.

RA Congress has varied program

Graydon Hardister, missionary to Jordan, challenged the Congress to cherish religious liberty and freedom in a Christian nation and redouble efforts to preserve them.



Brady and Nathan Rose provided entertaining and inspirational music.

Archie, assisted by Clyde, provided both fun and inspiration at every session. Clyde is Clyde Spurgin, pastor, First Church, Green Forest.



ABOVE: The Speakers Contest produced four first-place winners: (back row) Mark McGough of Jonesboro, David Bobbitt of Jonesboro, (front) Shawn McFarland of Little Rock, and Michael Jones of Cash. Each boy receives a scholarship to RA camp. (ABN photos)

ABOVE, CENTER: Henry Whitlow, missionary to Mexico, challenged the RAs to find God's will for their lives and be fully committed to go.



**In a fast-moving world
time flies.**

**Baptist people are ac-
complishing things every
minute, every day.**

**How will Arkansas Baptists
keep up? stay aware?**

**One source of information is the
Baptist state paper.**

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**informs Arkansas Baptists:
churches building / staff mem-
bers moving / state meetings /
Sunday School lessons / opin-
ion to stimulate / features to
inspire / reader opinion**

**Sunday, May 30, is a day
of prayer for the Arkan-
sas Baptist Newsmaga-
zine.**

**Please remember your state paper
in prayer during your services.**

**Your church can support the state paper by subscribing for every member and
by helping in covering your news. For more information on either, write the
Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, P.O. Box 552, Little Rock, Ark. 72203.**

Minister fights crime

From page 24

on credit; something everyone said was impossible. When a baptistry was needed, a Georgia pastor donated the money his church had given him for a trip to the Holy Land.

After seven years at Grace Baptist, Albright felt they "needed new blood. It seemed like God was saying to move to some new work. I knew it would be pioneer."

But the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists wasn't about to let a man like Albright leave the state. Convention workers persuaded him to accept a position as a zone missionary for the eight-county, northeast section of West Virginia; an area known as the Potomac Highlands.

"We knew the eight-county work was the biggest challenge we had ever faced," he says. Besides, the prospect of being more closely involved with the West Virginia convention's priority of starting churches and missions fitted Albright to a tee.

He and Pearl moved to Moorefield — where a nucleus of a mission was already forming — so they would be nearer the center of their area. Three years later, the Moorefield congregation meets in a 12-by-60 foot mobile home. The chapel contains an attractive nursery, restrooms, and an auditorium for about 60 persons.

During services at the chapel on a recent evening, Albright made some important announcements. The congregation needed to be thinking about an additional room for adults, so children's classes could be divided to take over the folding partition-rooms of the auditorium. He also reminded the congregation that the mobile chapel was only on loan to them from the state convention and would have to be returned within the year. They must hurry and find land to buy and build on.

And there was bad news and good news. Don Wall, an area missionary, would soon visit to talk about phasing out a portion of the financial aid received from the state convention and the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board. Usually such aid is dropped 10 to 15 percent a year, according to the congregation's ability to finance its expenses.

The good news was that the First Baptist Church of Marion, Ky., was prepared to assist the chapel. In 1975 the youth choir, sponsors and pastor from the Kentucky church spent a week at Moorefield, holding Vacation Bible School and revival. The Kentucky young people had now decided to buy all the literature the chapel needs for the next 12 months, freeing funds for

site and building needs.

Albright, one of seven missionaries featured in a new HMB photo-textbook, "Seven Beginnings," says he enjoys his eight-county responsibility, but the area's vastness and difficulty of travel in the hills keep him under pressure.

On a typical Monday he travels two hours to Hedgesville, in the eastern panhandle, within a section of West Virginia surrounded by Maryland and Virginia. A Bible study fellowship has formed in the home of a young couple and Albright tries to get there each Monday evening, returning home near midnight.

The pattern of Homer Albright's work has been to discover areas growing in population that have few churches. Then he leads in survey work, followed by special events such as revivals or performances by singing groups. From these events he attempts to form a Bible study.

He is most concerned about the three counties without any Southern Baptist witness — not even a Bible study group. He hopes to begin some sort of witness in each of these counties within the next five years.

Albright expects someone else to become pastor of the Moorefield chapel when it becomes a church. He will be starting work in other areas and he expects to continue after he turns 65.

"I've got many good years of work left in me, and I want to spend them here starting mission and churches."

New camp curriculum

NASHVILLE — Workers in church camps now have new curriculum materials available. Three resource books, two designed for leaders and one targeted to youth, are included in the curriculum produced by the church recreation department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

The 96-page "Camp Director's Manual," is a guide for church camp directors which can be used with any age group or an entire church. The manual includes forms, checklists, counselor training information, pre-camp preparation suggestions, recreation activities and program administration guidelines.

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International Lesson

The problems of drugs and alcohol

May 23, 1976

I Cor. 6:9-20

In attempting to discuss the problems of drugs and alcohol, I would be clearly out of my field. Therefore, I have enlisted the services of Dr. Weldon Vogt, Professor of Psychology at Ouachita, who is well qualified by training and experience, to discuss them. After giving a brief exposition of the lesson passage, I shall record my written interview with Dr. Vogt.



Dr. Wolber

The case for sanctification (I Cor. 6:9-20)

The text says that the Christian has been washed, sanctified, and justified. (v. 11) The regenerated person is to order his life in keeping with the guidelines for Christian living as laid down in the passage.

1. Avoid those patterns of conduct that are not beneficial. Libertine gnostics liked to say, "All things are lawful for me," to which he replied that some were not helpful. The serious Christian will ever be considering the social consequences as he asks: "Will it help?"

2. Avoid the exercise of any privilege that would lead to enslavement. Paul's firm answer is, "I will not be enslaved by anything."

3. Avoid that conduct which violates one's commitment unto Christ.

4. Therefore, use your body to glorify God. The body is a temple of the Holy Spirit. Christ has redeemed you and you belong to him. Therefore, "glorify God in your body."

Interview: How acute is the drug problem in America?

It has reached near epidemic levels. This includes all "drugs."

Question: Has the problem leveled off in the past two or three years?

A few years ago the heroin (opiate) problem seemed to be on the decline, and authorities believed the elimination of exports from Turkey and adjacent areas would nearly eliminate the problem. In recent months, however, the influx of heroin and other opiates from Mexico and South America has more than replaced the illicit opium from Turkey and other countries.

Drugs such as marijuana are also being used increasingly. Although marijuana is not physically addicting and

does not necessarily lead to use of other drugs, not many people continue to use marijuana. They either quit or go to the "hard" drugs. An informal study of 400 case histories of confirmed drug addicts in an institution for the treatment of addiction made by this writer, revealed not one who did not start with marijuana as his first drug. Use of other drugs such as "speed" (amphetamines) and barbiturates (most prescription type sleeping pills) seem to fluctuate in the frequency of abuse. Hallucinogens, such as L.S.D., seems to be less used now since fear of the side effects has had its influence.

Why do young people experiment with drugs?

Youth probably have their first experience with drugs the same way they have any other experience, such as smoking, etc.: as an invitation from a friend, sometimes as a dare, or as a curiosity trial to "see what it's like." Most do not continue. Those who do usually do it to be accepted in a peer group or later to try to "drown troubles" or relieve anxiety.

How can we deal with the drug addicts?

This writer does not have the answer to this problem. Many experiments and treatment methods have been tried. The Federal Government treated drug addicts for many years at two large treatment centers using psychiatric and group therapy. These programs were largely unsuccessful. The smaller projects, built on principles close to the principles found in Alcoholics Anonymous, have been more successful. Of course, any effect to make the drugs unavailable helps — as would their complete elimination from the American scene. Condemnation or alienation of the addict is not the answer. These are people who need help spiritually, emotionally, and physically!

How big is the alcohol problem?

As stated earlier, the greatest problem drug is alcohol. Well over 100 million Americans use alcoholic beverages. More than 12 million are labeled as "alcoholics."

How fast is it growing and what would you say are its growth trends?

Use of alcohol by youth and women is

increasing more rapidly than any other group. It is more common among the affluent; only a small percentage of the alcoholic population is in the "skid row bum" population. Authorities say its abuse has killed more people, sent more victims to hospitals, generated more police arrests, broken up more marriages and homes, and cost industry more money than has the abuse of heroin, amphetamines, barbiturates, and marijuana combined.

The life span of the average alcoholic is 12 years shorter than the non-alcoholic. Alcoholism is the third leading cause of death in the United States. Alcohol is much harder on the body and mind than heroin! Notice — how this is stated. This writer didn't say that heroin is no worse than alcohol. He said, "Alcohol is much harder on the body and mind than heroin." Alcohol destroys brain cells, is harmful to the liver, heart and other organs.

Heroin is not as physically harmful, and withdrawal pains are shorter and not usually as dangerous. The emphasis here is on the dangerous effect of "legal" alcohol, not that heroin is less dangerous or ought to be legal. If alcohol were invented today, without all the social and economic implications today present, we as a country would outlaw its use and manufacture. Virtually every citizen would support this then.

How vulnerable is the Christian family?

As vulnerable as any or nearly so. Man makes his own choices by will. Adam and Eve had a perfect environment and certainly their heredity was pure, yet they willed to sin. So may the child, husband, or wife in an otherwise Christian family. True the teaching of Biblical truths and the admonition, as well as the warmth and acceptance in a Christian home, are great factors for good and in making right choices. The choices are still there, however. The Christian home is far less likely ground for the growth of alcoholism but insurance it is not.

How can the Christian family fortify itself against the alcohol problem?

Education as to the facts about alcohol and this complete (not just the moral aspects but why it is wrong). Bible study lessons, such as this one, and looking at the facts openly help. Sheltering youth

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(Continued on page 23)

What kind of gospel?

May 23, 1976

Galatians 1:6-8; 11-17

Arkansas Baptists are cooperating together to fulfill the Great Commission (Matt. 28:19-20) in 1976, by calling all persons to "life and liberty" through Jesus Christ. This is no new or novel idea since it was also proclaimed by Paul the Apostle who received it from Jesus Christ in the first century A.D., as he called the Galatian Christians to "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free." (Gal. 5:1)

It is interesting to read a letter written by a male who was steeped in legalism for many years. He possessed all the qualities that were looked upon as liberating in his day and which are still pursued in the modern era. He evidently came from a prominent and influential family. He had an excellent education at the feet of a foremost Jewish rabbi named Gamaliel. He was a Roman citizen and possessed a good legal status. He was very sincere about his "religion" and practiced it faithfully. He had a good job as a persecutor of Christians. (Acts 22) Yet, instead of being free, he was really bound. He was living life on a contractual basis . . . doing something for God, instead of letting God do something in him.

A free gospel (Gal. 1:6)

After Paul met the risen Lord on the road to Damascus, (Acts 22) he realized what liberty meant. Once he had experienced the liberating touch of Jesus, he could not keep it to himself. Following a brief sojourn in the desert, Paul began proclaiming the good news (gospel) of life and liberty through Jesus Christ.

The fiery legalistic Pharisee became the fiery liberated Christian. God did not destroy Paul's personality when He met him in Jesus, He simply enhanced it and turned it in the proper direction. God took the best that the Pharisees had to offer, the "cream of the crop," and used him for Christian ministry. This should put to rest the attitude that God does not call talented people to serve and minister. Nobody is too good for the Lord's service!



Lineberger

Paul's eagerness soon drew crowds to hear him. But, as he moved from city to city, he was followed by a group of nominal Jewish Christians called Judaizers who insisted on adding to the gospel of Jesus Christ. They taught that a person, a Gentile, should not only accept Jesus as Savior, but should also be circumcised. They believed and taught a salvation of faith plus works. To Paul, a Jew qualified to talk to other Jews, this was the very legalism that had so long enslaved him.

Paul wrote this letter to the Galatian Christians to combat this Judaizing heresy. He wanted them to know that their liberty in Christ was free, "charis" or grace, (a gift), and was not dependent upon moral or ceremonial righteousness. (v. 6) They had been called into the "grace of Christ."

An exclusive gospel (Gal. 1:6-8)

Why were the Galatians "so soon removed" from the good news Paul had delivered to them, and that they had accepted? Why were they deserting the gift of God through Jesus and transferring their allegiance to another "gospel," which really was not good news at all?

The Judaizers were trying to convince the Galatian Christians that their gospel was more "authentic" than Paul's, probably because it was more complicated and allowed for more human involvement and credit. However, Paul quickly let it be known that the Judaizers' gospel was not more authentic, but was in reality completely different! (Gal. 1:6-7)

The good news brought by Jesus is exclusive because it is the only news of its kind, (Acts 4:12) and it is based totally on the works of God through Jesus and not upon the works of man.

These verses should serve as a warning to those movements abroad in our land today which seek to turn the Christian life into a verity of "knitpicking non-essential legalistic charts and facts." As someone has said, "Jesus is not primarily a teacher but a redeemer; the Christian life is not an advanced education, but a deliverance from death into life."

Paul bluntly states that anyone

preaching any other good news than that given through Jesus should be "accursed" (anathema; which literally means "to be cut off from the favor of God." This word was used in Deuteronomy 7:26 and Joshua 6:17-18, to denote a person or thing devoted to destruction. The exact expression is used in only one other place in the Bible, "If any man love not the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be anathema . . ." (I Cor. 16:22) Any person trusting any other authority than Jesus is under God's wrath. (Gal. 1:8)

A life-changing gospel (Gal. 1:11-17)

The ultimate evidence for the liberating power of Jesus is seen in the changed life of Paul. (Gal. 1:13-17) What could have changed a man bent on destroying the early church and her message to a man determined to spread her claims to the ends of the earth, but the revelation of Jesus Christ? (Gal. 1:12)

All that Paul could do for himself through education and zealous religious effort had not brought him to God in a personal way. His excellent family heritage nor his Roman citizenship had earned for him a place in God's kingdom. Even his militant efforts to please God by persecuting others in the name of religion had not brought him the freedom and life he pursued. It was not until Jesus was clearly revealed, or presented before his eyes, that he understood the exhilaration of being free.

A friend of mine who is a teacher told me the story of a 13-year-old boy who was one of his students. This young boy came to school every day sloppily dressed and generally disheveled. He would not bathe, comb his hair, brush his teeth or tuck in his shirt no matter how much advice he received. There seemingly was no hope for him when suddenly he appeared one day with his hair combed, his shirt tucked in, and his body clean. The teacher was amazed and inquired as to why the boy had changed. Was it a whipping from dad? Was it someone's advice? Had he read a book? "Nope," replied the youngster, "I've got a girlfriend." A personal relationship with a person had changed his life.

What kind of gospel? It is a free gospel. It is an exclusive gospel. It is a life-changing gospel.

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International lesson

From page 21

and understanding-age children from the facts about drinking present in the family, among friends or neighbors, may at times be taken as approval or an effort to hide a "forbidden good."

What can be done to help the alcoholic?

Nothing — unless he wants to help himself. Then perhaps about the only hope for the alcoholic is the program of Alcoholics Anonymous. Yes, Christianity is the answer — but all of Christianity. The first few steps in the program of AA constitute a Christian conversion experience (except that the name of Christ is not mentioned as such).

Most members of AA who do stay sober do become Christian as the direct result of the teachings of AA through another AA member who is a Christian. The last step in the 12 steps of AA is Mission Work — helping other alcoholics. Church programs and Christian witnessing are effective if done in the right manner. Condemnation is not the answer, Christianity is. Christianity includes: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, and more love.

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A smile or two

"I got so cold last night I couldn't sleep. I just shivered."

"Did your teeth chatter?"

"I don't know. We don't sleep together."

□

"I had a marvelous day," the first salesman said. "Made a lot of friends for our company." The second salesman seemed to understand. "Me, too," he declared. "I didn't sell anything either."

□

A mother brought her four-year-old twins to a local dry goods store for a fitting of identical coats.

"Would the twins like to see themselves in the mirror?" asked Harry, the owner of the store.

"Oh, that won't be necessary," the mother replied. "They never do. They just look at each other."

□

The Sunday services were over and the members of the little country church were filing past the preacher, complimenting him on his sermon and introducing their guests and friends.

"This is my sister-in-law, Mrs. Hummick," announced one lady as she greeted the minister. And turning to her companion she said impressively, "Parson never forgets a name."

"My!" exclaimed Mrs. Hummick. "How do you manage that?"

"It's nothing," modestly disclaimed the good man. "I merely choose a word which rhymes — let's see, Hummick-stomach — and thus when I see you again I can immediately call your name to mind."

The following Sunday Mrs. Hummick was again a visitor at the church. As she left at the close of the service, the pastor beamed brightly: "Ah, good morning, Mrs. Kelly!"

□

History repeats itself. That's one of the things wrong with history. — Clarence Darrow.

□

The real test in golf and in life is not in keeping out of the rough, but in getting out after we are in. — Leo Aikman.

Attendance report

May 9, 1976

Church	Sunday School	Ch. Trng.	Ch. Adds.
Alexander, First Berryville	105	31	1
First	174	89	
Freeman Heights	181	58	
Rock Springs	72	46	1
Booneville, South Side Camden	66	68	
Cullendale	540	122	2
First	459	141	3
Cash, First	137	50	
Charleston, First	187		
Concord, First	88	33	
Conway, Second	304	110	
Crossett, Mt. Olive	332	162	
Damascus, South Side	116	71	
Des Arc, First	180	36	
El Dorado, West Side	401	396	3
Forrest City, First	545		3
Fouke			
First	86	32	2
Pisgah	78	21	13
Ft. Smith			
First	1245	254	8
Grand Avenue	897	186	2
Mission	11		
Haven Heights	230	122	4
Temple	135	40	
Trinity	155	27	2
Gentry, First	163	59	
Glenwood, First	186	87	2
Grandview	44	33	
Green Forest, First	226	72	
Greenwood, First	272	118	
Hampton, First	154	58	
Hardy, First	139		
Harrisburg, First	126	45	3
Harrison			
Eagle Heights	301	136	4
Woodland Heights	117	62	5
Hatfield, First	67		
Hope, First	418	105	6
Hot Springs			
Grand Avenue	349	121	1
Leonard Street	123	50	7
Memorial	83	38	
Hughes, First	167	58	
Jacksonville			
Bayou Meto	200	80	2
First	425	98	1
Lavaca, First	354	104	2
Little Rock			
Crystal Hill	147	64	
Geyer Springs	679	167	1
Life Line	515	117	2
Martindale	111	48	1
Woodlawn	117	42	
Monticello, Second	318	81	2
Mt. Ida, First	171		
Mulberry, First	162	102	1
Murfreesboro, First	166	44	
North Little Rock			
Indian Hills	200	93	
Levy	416	80	5
Park Hill	760		5
Paragould			
Calvary	244	153	
East Side	250	97	
First	435	59	
Paris, First	337	97	
Pine Bluff			
Centennial	147	54	
East Side	154	81	
Lee Memorial	203	128	4
Second	90	27	
South Side	630	75	
Tucker	7		
Oppelo	24	17	
Watson Chapel	332	82	6
Rogers, Immanuel	504	94	1
Russellville			
First	489	91	3
Second	149	67	3
Sheridan, First	208	45	
Springdale			
Berry Street	88	16	
Caudle Avenue	158	89	1
Elmdale	317	70	1
First	1517		15
Texarkana			
Shiloh Memorial	152	49	3
Trinity	314	139	2
Van Buren, First	557	200	24
Mission	31		
Vandervoort	101	67	2
West Helena			
Second	157	75	2
West Helena Church	288	60	1

Minister fought crime, rode rails, now a missionary

by Walker Knight

MOOREFIELD, W. Va. (BP) — Homer Albright is a small, ruddy-faced man who is quick to talk about the weather, crops, football and especially God. He never lets a conversation end without bringing up "Jesus as Saviour."

His pleasantness and concern conceal a tough resoluteness that has carried him through life as a Depression-era freight train rider, plant worker, machinist, Baptist pastor and crimefighter.

If there's one thing Albright loves to

challenges that others might consider too big.

About 10 years ago, when he was pastor of Madison Street Baptist Church in Commerce, Ga., he began a lonely, one-man war against crime.

Commerce and surrounding Jackson County was headquarters for an international car-theft ring with connections among some law enforcement agencies. Gambling and bootleg whiskey flourished openly, with slot machines in many business establishments. Everyone seemed to know what was going on, but no one was doing anything about it. That is, no one but Albright.

Beginning with a weekly broadcast on the local radio station, Albright launched a campaign under the theme "Citizens, This Is Your County." As he had guessed, people were only waiting for someone to take the lead. Soon other pastors and community leaders joined the struggle and before too long the movement had elected several candidates on reform tickets.

Tragically, the gangs struck back, killing a newly elected district attorney by bombing his car. Albright was called to Atlanta as a character witness against the local sheriff, who was convicted of car theft. The FBI and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation began to arrest dozens of persons, most still in prison today, including the head of the bootleg ring.

Throughout the fight Albright was harassed with phone calls and his life threatened. But he always asked the callers for time to say a few words and then presented the plan of salvation.

"I knew they were bluffing," he says about their threats. "They would have had the entire county down on them if they had killed me and they knew it."

True, perhaps, but Homer Albright has always been a man with few fears. As a youth from Hoxie, Arkansas, he joined thousands in the Depression who roamed the country by hopping moving freight trains. He went from one coast to the other, even visiting the 1932 World's Fair in Chicago. After a friend lost his legs and eventually his life on the rails, Albright called it quits.

In 1949, Albright summoned all his courage to become a minister. At that time he was 38 years old, had a young family and no college credits; the decision was a big step into the unknown. But while working as a machinist in South Bend, Ind., he and Pearl had helped start a Baptist mission. The memory strengthened the ministerial "call-

ing."

Albright entered Furman University, a Baptist institution in Greenville, S.C., as one of its oldest students. He and Pearl worked in a downtown mission most of the time they were in Furman. After graduation, he went to New Orleans Seminary, serving as pastor of nearby congregations until he received his degree.

A year and a half after the Albrights moved to Rainelle, the mission in Meadow Bright had grown large enough to call a full-time pastor. Albright now had time to focus all his attention on Grace Baptist Church in Rainelle. Under his leadership the church grew rapidly.



Homer Albright visits with an inmate in the Moorefield, W. Va., city jail. Albright, church extension worker for the state Baptists and the Home Mission Board, ministers to a wide spectrum of the people of the northeastern section of the state. (BP photos by Ken Touchton)

Albright speaks of the "miraculous" overcoming of problems at Grace Baptist. A lot to build on was bought when a Louisiana lady, hearing of the congregation's need, gave the exact price of the land. Later, Albright found a lumber yard that sold them building materials

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do, it's build churches and missions. That's fortunate because as a Southern Baptist home missionary in northeastern West Virginia, he plans to begin two or three church-type missions this year.

Albright left what he described as a "comfortable" pastorate in Georgia after wrestling with the impression that he ought to be in "pioneer missions."

Six inches of snow covered the West Virginia hills when the minister and his wife, Pearl, moved to Rainelle to be pastor of two small mission congregations. Seven years there tested their patience, vision and even their sense of call.

Albright, however, is a man of few fears and has proven his ability to meet

See Minister
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