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Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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Oak Bowery Church 100 years old page 10

Arkansas Baptist

October 19, 1972

One layman's opinion On the value of pressure groups and lobbying



Dr. Grant

Lobbyists always wear the black hats. They are invariably pictured as the bad guys by the press.

The common public image of pressure groups and lobbyists is one of a marauding band of evil people, secretly handing out large sums of money to buy up the votes of legislators for laws that unfairly bestow special favors on selfish wealthy clients. This may be true for one or two percent, or even

five percent, of all pressure groups and lobbyists in the United States, but in the overwhelming majority of cases, lobbyists perform a very valuable and even indispensable service in the cause of American democracy.

A pressure group, or "political interest group," is simply a group of people who hold a common view on some subject and have banded together to secure a sympathetic governmental policy toward their viewpoint. The old notion that elections are the way citizens express their views on specific subjects in a democracy is simply not true in practice. Elections show how the people feel in very general terms on broad issues, but are totally inadequate for mirroring public opinion on all kinds of specific questions that the legislator must decide by his vote.

Although wining and dining is still a common practice for some lobbyists, the most effective lobbyists today are those who honestly mobilize the most impressive amount of information, legislative assistance, reasonable arguments, and well-timed expressions of citizen support through letters, telegrams, and telephone calls to key political leaders.

In spite of all of our cynicism about lobbyists buying the votes of legislators, the most powerful lobbyists in Washington and in state capitols are not necessarily the ones with the most money. It is those who represent interest groups that are best organized, best led, and who genuinely have a just cause to fight for. Although Roman Catholics are considerably outnumbered by Protestants in the United States, their greater unity and discipline have made them at least as influential in politics as the Protestants.

Political scientists have discovered that the great majority of members of organizations (farm, civic, professional, business, labor, or religious) do not believe their organizations are engaged in politics, even though they really are. One study revealed that members of farm organizations are most aware of political involvement and members of religious groups are least aware of political involvement. I suppose this is because we prefer to think of our efforts to influence governmental policies as "moral crusades" and not as "political action."

I believe Christian citizens could be the most powerful force for good at all levels of government in the United States if they could somehow learn that pressure politics and lobbying are not by definition dirty and evil, but that they are a very healthy part of our American democratic processes. If we Christian citizens don't learn to hang together in working for good government, we may very well hang separately under bad government.

Daniel R. Grant

In this issue

- On the cover this week is the building of Oak Bowery Church near Conway which was the scene of a centennial celebration recently. The story and additional photos of the activities are found on page 10.
- A look at pioneer missions by Southern Baptists in the Philadelphia, Pa., area is provided in a story on page 7. The article is an account of the work by Padgett C. Cope, Little Rock pastor, and his wife.
- First Church, Alma, has dedicated a new building. See an article and photo on page 5.
- Will the state paper survive the cut if your church budget is trimmed? An article by a pastor asks this question to be pondered by every church budget committee. See page 19.



VOL. 71 OCTOBER 19, 1972 NO. 41

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

Editorials

Keys to our continuing growth



A couple of weeks ago, we had the opportunity to worship at the Oak Bowery Church, near Conway, on the 100th anniversary of the church. As we entered the rural church, we remembered that this congregation had been a witness for more than half of the duration of our country, and all but 27 years of the entire existence of our Southern Baptist Convention.

JES

But of higher significance, is the

fact that this open-country work represents much of the greatness of our Southern Baptist effort. We have always chosen to go where the people are. In this respect, we owe a great debt to our rural churches and the pastors who have served them.

Such congregations have provided a major portion of our state and Southern Baptist leadership and are reaching countless thousands for our Lord. It would be difficult, indeed, to over-emphasize the role these sometimes forgotten churches have played in our kingdom's outreach.

We would also like to salute the men who have served and continue to lead these congregations.

A salute to our Chaplains

The guns are blazing away. The chaplain makes his way among the trenches to bring the men comfort through a portion of God's Word. This drama has been re-enacted many times. Almost any serviceman or former military person will tell of the spiritual comfort that these servants of God provide during times of combat.

This is but one aspect of the life of a military chaplain. Not only does he preach, minister to the sick and perform weddings, but he is present to counsel those who have spiritual problems. In short, the chaplain fulfills essentially the same role the pastor does for a church and a community. Southern Baptists currently have 248 chaplains in the Army, 157 in the Navy, and 154 in the Air Force.

Chaplains also serve in the hospitals. We have 60 in the Veterans Administration hospitals and 180 others who minister to the sick in civilian settings. These men play an important role in the lives of those who are ill or who have just lost a loved one.

There are 92 Southern Baptist chaplains serving institutions. Arkansas has five located at Cummins Prison, the Boys' Training School, the Girls' Training School, the Rehabilitation Center, and the Sanatorium.

There are 17 who serve in industry. These men minister to some who otherwise would never have the services of a man of God. Many of these servants of God have sacrificed greatly to preach the Word. In good times, and in bad, in winter, and in summer, in joy and in sorrow, under every adverse condition, these faithful rural ministers have brought their witness to some of the most remote parts of our state.

Still another aspect, which has made Southern Baptists great, was revealed in Dr. Charles Ashcraft's masterful evangelistic message on the Centennial occasion — that is our emphasis on evangelism. There might have been many things which could have been stressed, but our executive secretary chose to deal with the most important. The power of the Word of God was clearly evident as an elderly man and a young lady accepted Christ as their Saviour. And another man moved his membership to the church in his home community.

As we rejoiced with them over the marvelous events of the day, it occurred to us that our denomination will remain a vibrant force for God:

1. As long as we go where the people are — whether open country, small towns, or metropolis areas.

2. As long as we have leadership which will place priority on preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

May these things always be true!

Chaplain James W. Kelly, director of the Chaplain's Division of the Home Mission Board, emphasizes "All of these chaplains are in the United States with the exception of those who are serving with our soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen in foreign areas. These chaplains in your state need you, your outreach and deep concern, more than you need them.

"The majority of these chaplains could move off the scene over night and you would never miss them. How does a prison contribute to the Baptist program? A ship? a base? a hospital? or an industry? You would never miss them but some people would — the people they serve. So I repeat they need you more than you need them."

Arkansas has recognized the vital role of the chaplain. In response to these needs we were the first to elect a state director. Chaplain Wilson Deese serves in this area currently, coordinating the work and assisting in the strengthening of volunteer programs in which local ministers may serve hospitals, jails, and institutions.

Arkansas also provides conferences for chaplains, both full-time and volunteer, so that these men may know that they are a part of the mainstream of Baptist life.

Each of us should be grateful for the work of our chaplains. Let's be sure that they know we are praying for them and that their work is important to us.

I must say it! Statistics or new life?



A baby in the crib is evidence enough of the miracle of birth. What is seen is more than a statistic. A new person doing new things, all in the context of the church is evidence enough of rebirth (II Cor. 5:17.) This also is more than a manipulation of statistics. A renewed church has no trou-

Dr. Ashcraft

ble convincing the public as finances are better, attendance is up, more people are being baptized and the people are living better lives.

What happens here defies statistics. What is spiritual and eternal does not fit well into ledgers or audit columns. The evidence is there, it involves statistics but it is vastly more than human arithmetic.

Many of us have been praying for half a century for a nationwide awakening. Many of us cherish the hope that such shall be the pleasure of God in our lifetime. When it comes, and I believe it surely will, it will defy human evaluation.

Some evidences, however, will be seen as the natural outflow of new life and it will be more than a statistical gazette. Quietly this nation will experience a reduction in the crime rate. Empty pews will be filled, the choir loft loaded.

Spiraling divorce figures will be reduced. The drug traffic will decline. Citizens will be more meticulous about their personal debts. Employees will do a better day's work and employers will pay a better scale. Churches will purchase more baptismal robes.

Women's skirts will be longer and men's hair will be shorter. Corruption in government will decrease. Movies with an X rating will fade. Vulgar TV entertainers will be out of a job and certain TV programs will be off forever.

The brain scrambling beat will be replaced by a sweeter, softer song. People will consume fewer aspirin tablets. Certain specialists in the medical field will have to advertise for customers. Lawyers will represent a higher clientele.

Terms such as "ladylike" and "gentlemanly" will come to greater use. Citizens can walk on the streets and in the parks at night in safety and the life span of cab drivers will be extended. Policemen will enjoy higher respect. Our armies will kill fewer people.

Women will become more feminine and men will become more masculine. The generation gap will be closed and there will be a restoration of family life. Mufflers on motorbikes will be quieter. Pollution will cease to be fashionable.

Power mowers will be quiet on the sabbath. Your neighbor's dog will have better manners. Homosexual clubs will have to hustle for new members. Prostitutes will have more evenings off.

Judeo-Christian type morals will flourish again. The distance between man and animal will be lengthened and the distance between man and God will be shortened.

We will pray for new life and let the consultants bother with statistics.

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

Three added to the staff of Home Mission Board

RIDGECREST, N. C. (BP) - The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board meeting here elected Paul W. Stuart of Ft. Worth to its department of survey and special services and promoted two workers to increased staff other responsibility.

The action, taken at the mid year meeting of the national missions agency at Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly here, named Ernestine Adams of Atlanta, as assistant secretary to the department of missionary education, and Daniel R. Sanchez of Atlanta as consultant for church growth in the department of language missions.

In another decision, the agency changed the name of the missionary education department to the promotion department effective January 1. Kenneth Day is the department secretary.

Two top leadership positions director of the Division of Evangelism and coordinator for missions work in the board's Region III, (Texas and Louisiana North) - went unfilled at the board meeting.

Executive Secretary Arthur B. Rutledge said that replacements for evangelism leader Kenneth Chafin and regional coordinator Wilson Brumley, both now in Houston, would most likely be named at the November meeting of the board of directors.

Stuart, 29, who was honored this year by the Junior Chamber of Commerce as one of the "Outstanding Young Men of America," will be responsible for gathering and utilizing data related to population, social and economic characteristics of the nation for use by SBC national mission leaders.

Born of missionary parents in Hawaii, the Malcom Stuarts of Honolulu, Stuart is a graduate of Ouachita University, Arkadelphia, and Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, where he has been working on a doctorate degree.

He is presently pastor of Normandale Church, Ft. Worth, and previously has served churches in Arkansas, Hawaii and Texas.

Miss Adams, with the Home Mission Board since 1961, has served in assigning and processing of Home Mission speakers for World Mission Conferences, camps, college campuses, Week of Prayer assignments and other engagements.

Born and educated at Thomaston, Ga., Miss Adams has special training in business fields. She served as director of women's and girls activities for the Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Society in Omaha, Neb., before coming to the Home Mission Board.

Sanchez, a native of San Antonio and of Mexican-American parentage, assumed his staff responsibility after serving as a language missionary in Panama for four years and as a field consultant for the board's language missions department for the past two years.

A graduate of Howard Payne College in Brownwood, Tex., and of Southwestern Seminary in Ft. Worth, Sanchez will provide leadership in developing church growth techniques, methods, and application of mission principles for use by language culture churches.

He will serve as consultant on church growth principles, evangelism, language cultures, and needed literature for language groups.

Arkansas all over

Convention wives schedule Luncheon

"The Fascinating Woman — At Home, At Work, At Church" is the theme of the Convention Wives Luncheon to be held Tuesday, Nov. 14 at First Church, Hot Springs. The luncheon is scheduled to begin at 12 noon with an admission price of \$1.75 per ticket. All wives attending the Convention are cordially invited to attend.

Mrs. Joe T. Ford of Little Rock, wife of the state senator from Pulaski County and a well-known inspirational speaker, will be featured on the program.

The luncheon will focus on the scripture found in Ecclesiastes 3:1-8. Convention wives are encouraged to attend the meeting to see if it is possible to complete all that is found in this passage during the course of the luncheon. Reservations should be sent in as soon as possible to Mrs. Lloyd Cloud, First Baptist Church, Hot Springs, Arkansas 71901.

Officers serving this year are President, Mrs. H. D. McCarty, Fayetteville; Vice-President, Mrs. Paige Patterson, Fayetteville; Secretary, Mrs. Don Moore, Ft. Smith; Social Chairmen, Mrs. Lloyd Cloud, Hot Springs; and Mrs. Jim Hill, Hot Springs.

First, Ft. Smith observes SS round-up

Sept. 24, First Church, Ft. Smith, observed Sunday School Round-up establishing a new attendance record during the ministry of Dr. W. L. Bennett with 17,052 in Sunday School. The church set records in the youth division with 253 present; in the elementary division with 327 present; and in the adult Bible class with 96 present. There were 23 additions during the day.

Cynthia Clawson gave a mini-concert in the youth division on Sunday morning, gave her personal testimony, sang twice during the 11 a.m. service, and gave a 20-minute concert in the evening service. The evening concert was followed by sustained applause until Dr. Bennett extended an invitation for Miss Clawson to return.

Another feature of Round-up Sunday was the children's church which was led by Linda Boen of Channel 40, Ft. Smith in which more than 300 elementary students attended. There were 15 professions of faith at this service which was in addition to the 23 who made professions during the 11 a.m. service.



Participating in the cornerstone ceremony were Ralph Manes, C. R. Starbird, Pastor Paul Stockemer, and (background) Derrell Thomas, chairman of the deacons.

First Church, Alma, moves into \$450,000 facilities

First Church, Alma, held dedication ceremonies Sept. 10 for a new auditorium and educational complex costing \$450,000. Ground was broken for the new building on Feb. 9, 1972, and the first Sunday services were held in the building July 30.

The new auditorium accommodates 500 and the educational complex contains 24,000 square feet of space. The educational space is located in two wings, one on either side of the auditorium and includes offices, a pastor's study, records room and work room. The facilities also will be used for a kindergarten program recently started. Features of the dedication day included a cornerstone ceremony following the morning worship service. Leading in the service were Pastor Paul Stockemer and Charles Starbird, Chairman of the Board of Trustees. The afternoon dedication service was highlighted by a message by Dr. Charles Ashcraft, Executive Secretary of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

Members of the building committee for the facilities were Ralph Manes (chairman), Derrell Thomas, Wesley Warnock, and Dathan Molder. A portion of the building was named in honor of the late L. E. Ritchie who also served on the building committee.

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Your superintendent of missions at work

Liberty Association as old as the Southern Baptist Convention

Liberty is the only

association in the

state of Arkansas

that was organized

the same year as the

Southern Baptist

Convention - 1845.

The association received its name from the oldest or-

ganized church in



Sawyers

the area, Liberty Baptist Church, which is located in the open country between Lawson and Urbana. In his book History of Arkansas Baptists, Dr. J. S. Rogers says, "Liberty Association was an aggressive, vigorous body from its organization." According to the present missionary, Conway H. Sawyers, this spirit has continued to manifest itself through the years, and anything the people of Liberty Association have "put their mind to" has usually been done with dispatch.

The present membership of the association is 52 churches and 1 mission. In 1971 these churches reported a total resident membership of 13,282. Total money received was \$1,627,000, of which \$306,000 was given in mission expenditures. The associational office handled over \$40,000 last year and will likely do so again this year.

This numerical and financial strength has enabled the association to develop a camping facility that is being increasingly used by other associations and churches of the state. The member churches feel a strong sense of stewardship of Beech Springs Camp and gladly offer its use to sister associations and churches. Located near Smackover, the camp will presently accommodate 150 people. The newest portion of the facility which will house 48 campers is both heated and air-conditioned.

Like many other associations of the state and Convention, the program of work of Liberty Association has, of necessity, changed much in recent years. During the decade of the 1950's much emphasis was put on organizing new churches. The superintendent of missions says that the need now is for strengthening of these churches and assisting them in doing what they want to do. Meetings and activities designed to accomplish this desire become the Calendar of Activities and largely the program of work for the associational year.

In addition to helping plan and carry out the calendar program, the superintendent of missions and his office serve as a resource and information center. Many questions and inquiries about Arkansas Baptist State Convention and Southern Baptist Convention programs, boards, agencies, etc., are answered during the course of each year.

The office of Liberty Association, located at 912 Mt. Holly St. in El Dorado, also serves as a resource center for such materials as Good News versions of the New Testament, sample copies of various Sunday School Board supplementary materials and resource materials, and Campus Crusade booklets. The office maintains a library of all the monthly publications of the convention and a filmstrip library of more than 200 copies. Filmstrip projectors and 16mm movie projectors and screens are available for member churches to use. Sawyers enjoys tinkering with mimeograph

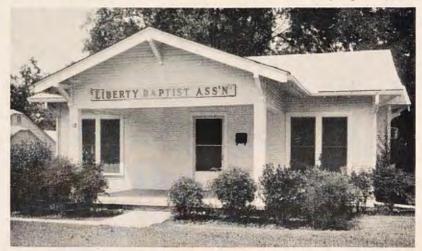
machines and has enabled many churches to secure good used machines for their offices.

Concerning his work, Missionary Sawyers says that the one thing he would like for the pastors, churches, and people of Liberty Association to believe deeply is that he cares for them and their welfare. He may not always be able to help, but he sincerely wants to do so when he can. To assist him in this and all the other work of the association, he has a very able helper in the person of Mrs. H. J. Whitley. She has been with the association for 19 years. Sawyers says with grateful appreciation, "She broke me in when I came here in April of 1962 because she knew much more about the work than I did."

As a means of expressing appreciation for his ten years service as superintendent of missions, Liberty Association made it possible for Sawyers and his wife to visit the Holy Land. They took their two children, 17-year-old Kathy and 13-year-old Larry, with them. The trip to five European countries and the Holy Land was made in January of this year.



These four dormitories are the newest facilities at the Beech Springs Camp.



The associational offices are located in El Dorado.

The Philadelphia story An account of SBC pioneer missions

Padgett C. Cope, pastor of Calvary Church, Little Rock, returned this summer to the church where he and his wife helped start Southern Baptist work in the Philadelphia, Pa., area.

Dr. Cope, who attended the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Philadelphia, visited the Delaware Valley Church, Willingboro, N. J., which was constituted in 1960 and was one of the first fruits of their work.

This story of pioneer Southern Baptist work in this area began Sept. 10, 1959, when Padgett and Betty Cope and their four children arrived in Levittown, N. J. (now Willingboro, N. J.). Dr. Cope had been appointed in August as pastoral missionary to the Greater Philadelphia area.

His task was to locate Southern Baptists who had moved to the area with a view to starting Southern Baptist churches. The first step in this ministry was to start home fellowships. As more Baptists joined the group a Sunday School would be organized. Then came worship services, Church Training, and other programs up to a full range of activities.

Dr. Cope's next task was to find a minister to take the leadership of a newly-constituted Baptist church. Although the Home Mission Board aided the new churches with rent or in buying land for building sites, it was the pastoral missionary's job to do the local negotiating.

Typical of the products of the pioneer work is the Delaware Valley Church. In 1958 three Southern Baptist families started a home fellowship in Levittown, Pa. This group of 20 secured the use of the facilities of the Levittown Public Recreation Association for their place of worship. Two years and 44 members later the group was constituted into the Delaware Valley Church.

From this church came another church. Since the Copes and many of the members lived at Levittown, N. J., now Willingboro, N. J.) it was decided that the Delaware Valley Church should be moved to New Jersey. The members living at Levittown, Pa., constituted themselves into the Haines. Road Church.

The Copes started home fellowships in the Atlantic City, N. J., area and in Paoli, Pa., Garden City Pa., and Wrightstown, N. J. There are now 18 constituted churches with 13 mission chapels and the Baptist Convention of Pennsylvania-South Jersey was organized in 1971 with head-



Dr. and Mrs. Cope returned this summer to the Delaware Valley Church.

quarters in Harrisburg, Pa.

Dr. Cope sees this growing work as "another testimony of what the Cooperative Program dollar is doing in our homeland."

Hardman resigns as BSU director



Winston Hardman, who has served for nine years as Baptist Student Director in Arkansas, has returned to Florida to help his father who has extensive citrus holdings and has recently been in poor health.

Hardman

Hardman served first as Baptist Student Director at the University of Arkansas at Monticello for four years, and for the last five years has served as

October 19, 1972

Baptist Student Director at State College of Arkansas and Hendrix College.

Under his leadership, over 50 of his students have been appointed Summer Missionaries by the Home Mission Board and two have been appointed as Journeymen for two years with the Foreign Mission Board. More than 20 of his students have enrolled at one of our seminaries following college graduation.

Hardman initiated for Southern Baptists their beach ministry on the Florida beaches during the spring breaks of American colleges. Each year since 1957 he has taken approximately 45 students to Daytona Beach. Other groups have followed, and last spring approximately 400 Southern Baptist college students worked at Daytona Beach and Fort Lauderdale during spring break.

In 1970 Hardman, assisted by seven students, directed the Second Touch Coffee House for the Home Mission Board at Daytona Beach. This past summer he was appointed by the Home Mission Board to direct four students in a pilot project ministry at youth hostels in New England. Hardman and the students bicycled from hostel to hostel.

Hardman served as Pi Kappa Alpha Counselor at SCA, was a director of Lions' Club, was a member of Conway Ministerial Alliance, and served on the staff of the Conway Counseling Clinic, sponsored by the Conway Ministerial Alliance. He served as President of the Arkansas Baptist Student Directors' Association in 1968-69.

So you are facing Bereavement

Coleman resigns post at Immanuel, Pine Bluff

By L. H. Coleman (Third in a series)

Sooner or later everyone faces the time of bereavement. The objective of this article is to help you to face your sorrow with greater understanding and courage.

First accept the fact of the passing of your friend or loved one. What is done is done. All the agony, anguish, and anxiety of your soul cannot erase what has happened. The beginning point, therefore, is facing reality.

Our wills must be surrendered to the will of God. What has happened could fall within the category of the permissive, circumstantial or intentional will of God but God's will ultimately has prevailed.

Impossible it is to understand the mysteries of life and death. No man can fathom with finite minds the infinite mind of God. It is best for us that we do not understand the why of every facet of human existence.

Death is a fact of human existence. Man was not meant to live forever in this life. Man's days are numbered and his days are three score years and ten. (Cf. Psalms 90:10) Therefore death is the normal, to-be-expected counterpart of human life. Even Christ did not escape death.

A great consolement to many is the stating of the simple fact that you did what you could for the deceased. If you treated your loved one the way you would like to have been treated under the same circumstances then you have practiced the golden rule. You have no regrets nor guilt feelings because you provided for your dear departed the best in medical skill and human comfort.

Actually the only hope in life or death is Jesus Christ. Our hope lies in Christ and the power of his resurrection. Faith tells us that like as God raised Jesus from the dead likewise those of us who have placed our trust in Jesus will be raised like unto Christ's resurrection. This is the real anchor of the soul in time of sorrow and bereavement. The apostle Paul assumed that we would sorrow for our departed loved ones but he enjoined us to "sorrow not as those who have no hope." (I Thess. 4:13) When you have assurance that the deceased was a follower of Jesus Christ and had accepted Christ as personal Saviour then you have a peace not known to the world

Finally please realize that everything that happens to us directly and indirectly is for a divine purpose. Please reread Romans 8:28. Every experience of the Christian is intended of God to make of us better Christians.

Can you now accept the fact that God's will has been realized? Can you let God speak to you through this experience? Perhaps you can gain new purpose in life. This is a reminder that someday all of us, if Christ tarries in his coming, will go the route of death. Are we living for Christ? Are we making our lives count for the maximum for God? Are we carrying out God's purpose?

Your life is worth living. Your life will continue. Your world has not come to an end. Therefore ask for God's help and assistance in the days ahead. When one lives close to the Lord before the time of bereavement he continues his walk of faith through the dark days also. If Christ will not help you now then he never will. Lean on the everlasting arms of God and be thankful God is ever present to all who call upon Him.

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Religious folk singer

John Hicks, a native Arkansan, has committed his life to writing songs and singing songs about Jesus Christ. He has soung in many churches this past year and was one of the spiritual highlights of the Youth Training Union Conference held in Hot Springs. He has recently released an LP with Evangelist Bennie Hindmon entitled "Missing Heirs." For information concerning open dates for revivals, youth retreats or special youth programs call 374-9284 at Second Church, Little Rock.



Dr. Coleman

L. H. Coleman has resigned as pastor of Immanuel Church, Pine Bluff, effective Nov. 10. His tenure as pastor, I on g est in the church's history, will be 9 years and 9 months.

He is a member of the Boards of Trustees of Baptist Me-

morial Hospital, Memphis (4 years) and Ouachita University (3 years). He was chairman of State Convention Nominating Committee for 2 years and was moderator of the Harmony Baptist Association in 1966. He served two terms as president of the Pine Bluff Ministerial Association.

Immanuel has been in the top twenty churches in baptisms in the state every year except one during his tenure at Immanuel. Immanuel began a kindergarten and day care ministry in 1970 under his leadership. In 1965 and 1972 the church plant underwent extensive remodeling and renovation. In 1972 a new Children's Building was erected at a cost of \$159,000.00. The church began a radio ministry in 1967.

Dr. Coleman came to Pine Bluff from Memphis in February, 1963, where he was for 7½ years Professor of Bible and B.S.U. Director at Memphis State University. He is a graduate of Cumberland University and Southwestern Seminary.

Dr. Coleman will become pastor of Rose Hill Church in Texarkana, Tex.

11-DAY HOLY LAND AND ROME TOUR

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Between parson and pew Getting married?



Mrs. Merritt

By Velma Merritt

The engagement a n n o u n c e ment read, "Rev. Dale Merritt, pastor of Centennial Baptist Church, will perform the doublering ceremony."

That was the first my husband knew he was expected to perform the ceremony for the girl who occasionally attended our church services.

Ministers usually are happy to perform marriages as part of their duty of being a pastor, but at least as a matter of courtesy, they expect to be asked before it is publicly announced that they will do so.

It is helpful if the wedding party consuits the pastor before planning the exact date of their wedding.

One pastor's wife shared with me the hectic schedule her husband had been

Doctrines of the faith The nature of the church

By Jimmy A. Millikin Southern Baptist College

Last week we began a study of the church with a discussion of the nature of a gospel church. Two characteristics were discussed — a New Testament church is local and visible. This week we continue with this aspect of the church by looking at some more characteristics of a New Testament church.

In addition to describing the church as local and visible, a third characteristic is that a New Testament church is a local, visible body of believers. A church is not simply a conglomerate or assembly of people. It is an assembly of people who believe in Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord.

That a New Testament church is composed only of believers is amply demonstrated in the Scriptures. It is plainly

Dr. Millikin stated that the first church was made up of those "that gladly received his word" (Acts 2:41), those "that believe" (Acts 2:44), and those "who are saved" (Acts 2:47.)

When Paul writes the churches he addresses them as "the called of Jesus Christ" (Rom. 1:6), "them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus" and who "call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord" (I Cor. 1:2.) He calls them "saints" (I Cor. 1:2; Eph. 1:1), the "faithful in Christ Jesus" (Eph. 1:1), "the faithful brethren in Christ" (Col. 1:2.) All of these expressions indicate that the churches of the New Testament were made up only of people who believed in Jesus as Saviour and Lord.

But not only is a church made up of believers, a fourth characteristic is that it is made up of baptized believers. It is true that none but believers make up a true church. But not every company or group of believers constitute a church. They must be baptized believers.

The New Testament knows nothing of unbaptized church members. The idea is simply never entertained. The Book of Acts demonstrates that baptism was a universal practice in the New Testament churches, beginning at Pentecost (Acts 2:38, 41) and continuing throughout the Apostolic period (cf. 8:12, 36-38; 9:18; 10:47; 16:14-15, 33; 18:8; 19:5.) Even before this John the Baptist apparently baptized all who sincerely confessed their sins (Mark 1:5.) Jesus and his disciples did the same (John 3:22, 26; 4:1-2.) And our Lord commanded each convert to be baptized (Matt. 28:19-20.)

The fact that a church is made up of baptized believers in Jesus Christ implies a fifth important characteristic of a New Testament church. It is a spiritual organism and not merely an organization. A gospel church is made up of people who have been changed by the Spirit (I Cor. 6:11), indwelt by the Spirit (Rom. 8:9), led by the Spirit (Rom. 8:14), and are brought together by the Spirit (Eph. 4:3-4.)

This all means that a New Testament church is a divine creation, a divine institution. It is not an organization on the order of a lodge or civic club. The church uniquely belongs to God. They are the "churches of Christ" (Rom. 16:16), and the "churches of God" (I Thess. 2:14.) As such, the members of the church are "God's elect" (Rom. 8:33; Col. 3:12.) And being thus chosen and elected by God, the members of New Testament churches are "the people of God" (Rom. 9:25f.; 1 Peter 2:10.) The church owes its beginnings, its history, its present existence, and its destiny to the initiative and power of God's purpose and grace.

October 19, 1972

under during an exceptionally busy time in their church. Sunday afternoon was to be his only time to relax that entire week. At the last minute a couple decided they wanted to have a formal wedding on Sunday afternoon. Everything was planned and the pastor was asked. He could not politely refuse and had to add a rehearsal, wedding, and reception to an already overly-full schedule.

There are times when because of Scriptural convictions a pastor must refuse to perform the marriage ceremony for a couple. It would save embarrassment for everyone concerned if this could be determined before it was announced who would perform the ceremony.

At other times the pastor will simply have another activity planned for the date a couple wants to get married.

Once a young couple came to my husband asking him to perform a ceremony which was to be several months away. The date they wanted was when our vacation was planned. Since they had come early, they gladly changed the date a few days to a time when we would be on the church field. There was not a problem involved.

Much confusion could have existed in this case if the couple would have had invitations printed, their engagement announcement out, or if we would have had reservations for our vacation. Fortunately, such was not the case and all went smoothly because they came in advance to speak with their pastor.

A wedding could be planned for an evening when the church is in revival. It could be planned when the pastor would be out of town for vacation, in revival, at a convention, or a speaking engagement. It could be planned when another major activity of the church is happening. A host of problems could develop when a couple doesn't clear with the pastor in advance the date of their wedding. A simple conference with the pastor and a quick check of the church calendar can make that wonderful wedding a happy, unconfused occasion.

Tommy Logue dies

Tommy Logue, 17, son of Dr. and Mrs. Tom Logue of Little Rock, died Oct. 16, a victim of muscular dystrophy. His father is state director of Baptist student work.

He was a senior at Parkview High School where he was one of the 1973 National Merit Scholarship semi finalists.

Funeral services were held Oct. 17 at Lakeshore Drive Church, where he was a member.

The Tommy Logue Memorial Fund has set up, and will benefit BSU work and other causes.





Dr. Ashcraft chats with Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Walls following the services. Walls, a former pastor of the church, is a native of the community and grew up in the church. His birthplace is less than a mile from the church building.



Singing was led by R. H. McNew, who has led singing schools in the church and community for many years. Singing is an important part of the Oak Bowery activities.

Oak Bowery observes centennial

Oak Bowery Church observed their centennial Sunday, Oct. 1. The church, organized in 1872, 'is located in the Saltillo Community nine miles southeast of Conway in Faulkner County.

The church has served the community since the days when the place of worship was a log cabin. The church has lasted through a plank building located on a site donated by a railroad, and a two-story frame building which also contained a lodge hall. During this period (the 1880s) Oak Bowery was a busy community and the church was the scene of revivals, singing schools and Sunday worship for a growing membership. The church was once recognized as the largest rural church in Arkansas.

Changing facilities for changing needs continued to be the historical landmarks for the Oak Bowery Church. In 1925 they removed the second story of the frame building and added a bell tower, constructed a choir loft, and built pews, many of which are in use today. In 1939 a building of native rock was constructed and additional classrooms were built in 1950. Their latest renovation was in 1966 when six more classrooms were added, along with central heat and air and new pews.

Oak Bowery was a member of the United Baptist Association in the early years. In 1888 they were one of the 20 churches forming the Greenbrier Association, but they chose to stay with the Southern Baptist group that formed Faulkner Association in 1928.

Allen Brannon was the first pastor and Wilson Fererson was the first clerk. The first deacons were B. F. Griffith, J. W. Graham and John Butler. Some of the more recent pastors of the church were Gene Smith, Carrol Norman, David Weeks, T. B. Walls, and Paul Hill.

Speaker for the service observing the centennial was Dr. Charles Ashcraft, Executive Secretary of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. Dr. Ashcraft's message, "It Is Wonderful To Be a Christian, and I Must Tell You Why," was followed by two professions of faith and an addition to the church by letter.

The cover



The church's present building was constructed of native stone in 1939. Additional classrooms and a dining hall were added later.

(Below) E. F. Simmons (left) and John Walls discuss the church's past. Simmons, 84, served as pastor in the 1920's and has been Faulkner Association missionary. Walls, 85, is a life-long native of the community and has been a rural pastor.



At the close of the service the Oak Bowery people greeted two who had come making professions of faith and one coming by litter.



Church building plans available

One specific service of our department is to provide, under certain circumstances, construction drawings of churches.

These drawings are available through Church Architecture Department, Nashville, Tennessee.

The capacity of educational space and auditoriums are about the same in each of these plans.

For example, a very small first unit for minimum program and space is Plan M-

73. This rectangle building of 1,519 square feet has an educational capacity of 73 and an auditorium capacity of 80. The drawings cost less than \$2 for this plan.

The largest of these available drawings is Plan M-207; an "L" shaped building of 5,051 square feet with capacities in educational space of 150 and the auditorium of 215. This set of drawings cost \$6.

Presently there are ten sets of drawings. Two sets will be available soon for buildings with basements.

Plans vary in shape from rectangular

to "L" and modified "T" shaped structures. They range in capacity from 75 to 215 and have 20 or 25 square feet of space per child in open rooms for preschoolers and children through the 6th grade or 11 years olds.

The Church Architecture Department also prepares floor plan sketches for churches needing larger buildings and recommends churches refer these sketches to architects for full development.

May I help you with your building plans? —Lawson Hatfield, Church Building Consultant

New associate pastor

Glenn McCathern has been called as the associate pastor of First Church, Van Buren. He graduated from South-western Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex., with a major in religious education in 1972. He has been youth director for Burton Hill Church, Ft. Worth, for the past two vears.





McCathern

Franks

Has work recorded

"Hatred," a reading based on an article written by Joel W. Franks, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Dean Franks of Route One, Gassville, is included on the Youth In Crisis recording album produced and recently released by Guideposts Radio-TV Services. The album has been distributed to 4,000 radio radio stations in the United States and Canada for public service programming.

Franks' original article "My Victory Over Hate" won first place in the 1970 Youth Writing Contest and appeared as the cover story on the April, 1970, issue of Guideposts Magazine. He was awarded a \$2,000 scholarship for the story and is now a sophomore at State College of Arkansas, Conway, where he is floor counselor at Minton Hall, the dorm for on-campus atheletes, and is a member of the SCA Bears Baseball Team.

Franks and his parents are members of the Pilgrim's Rest Church.

Royal Ambassador Fellowship Supper

Nov. 6, 1972, 6:30 p.m. **Park Hill Baptist Church** North Little Rock

There is still time to make reservations. Deadline - Oct. 27. Send to: **Brotherhood Department**

Baptist Building 525 West Capitol Avenue Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Woman's viewpoint More than conquerors

By Iris O'Neal Bowen



Mrs. Bowen

believe anything he, or anyone else, tried to do might as well not be attempted, since it was bound to end in defeat?"

mistic. Did he really

I really meant to just forget about it, since it sounded like someone trying to impress his readers with a deep thought that he might believe, but which I did not intend to accept.

But I could not forget it. I kept saying, "That man is a pessimist," and "That man is drowning in his own disbelief." Finally, I said, "That poor man is a lonely, frightened man who needs a faith in God!"

If we thought every thing we tried to do would end in defeat, how many of us would even attempt anything for God? It is true that not every effort we make as Christians ends with a mountain top experience. Sometimes our reverses

and defeats multiply faster than our At a meeting not efforts!

But we know if we really try, doing our best and asking the guidance of the Holy Spirit, whatever happens will be blessed of the Lord.

It is said that when the Confederate Army retreated after Gettysburg, General Lee wrote to Jefferson Davis, "We must expect reverses, even defeats. They are sent to teach us wisdom and prudence, to call forth greater energies, to prevent our falling into greater disasters."

If this is true of a country such as ours, how much more so it is of the individual. What is a Christian to say about sickness, bereavement troubles?

Must we give in and let these things overcome us, or shall we say with Paul, who kept his soul and body under the control and purpose of God, "Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us." (Romans 8:37)?

Like Paul, we must "keep on keeping on" in the face of reversals and even defeats. Paul knew what to expect as he turned his face toward Rome, but he did not falter, knowing assuredly that he was in the will of God - and nothing else mattered to him!



Holds homecoming

Immanuel Church, Vimy Ridge, held a homecoming service Aug. 27. Highlights of the day included a potluck lunch in the new fellowship hall recently completed, a song service led by Louis Jeffers, a message by Bill Brown of Jacksonville, and a baptismal service. The church, founded in 1917, is under the leadership of Pastor Leroy Patterson (above.)

Arrant is ordained

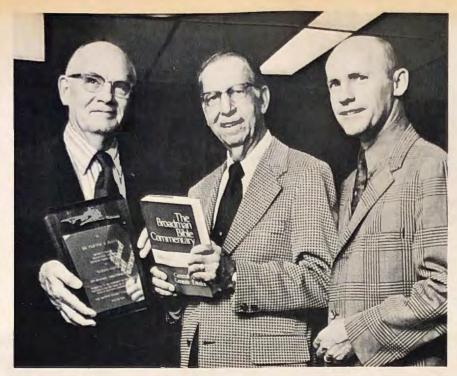
Jim Arrant, pastor of the Bigelow Church, was ordained to the ministry recently by Mt. Vernon Church, West Monroe, La., where he grew up.

Arrant was converted and surrendered to preach while stationed in Japan with the U.S.

Air Force, and was licensed to preach by Nakagami Southern Baptist Church, Tokyo, in 1970. His pastor in Tokyo, Capt. Guy Marchant, gave the charge to the candidate. Also participating in the service was Arrant's brother, Harvey, who presented the Bible.

Arrant

Arrant is married to the former Pat McGrew. They are the parents of one son, Jeffery Shane. Pastor Arrant plans to continue his studies at State College of Arkansas, where he is a sophomore.



NASHVILLE — SPECIAL RECOGNITION — Clifton J. Allen (center), retired editorial secretary of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, was presented a certificate and plaque recently in behalf of the board's trustees. The presentation noted Allen's "significant service" as general editor of the Broadman Bible Commentary and commended him as a "diligent editor, persistent leader, tactful correspondent . . . committed to the authority of the Bible, concerned for the needs of its students." With Allen are James L. Sullivan (left), executive secretary-treasurer of the board, and James W. Clark, director of the Broadman division (BSSB Photo).

Your state convention at work.

Kindergarten workshop scheduled next month

A workshop for kindergarten directors, teachers and committee members is scheduled for Nov. 20-21, in the Park Hill Church, North Little Rock. Pastors, church staff members, parents, and everyone interested in kindergarten have a special invitation to attend the workshop.

The workshop is scheduled during the time of the AEA meeting, since most kindergartens follow the public school calendar and will be dismissed.

The first session of the workshop will begin at 1:30 on Monday afternoon, Nov. 20 and will end at 3:30 on Tuesday afternoon.

Study groups will discuss art, physical education, science and nature, starting a program, developing units, controlling finances, developing relationships, and planning a daily schedule. Leaders of these study groups will be William H. Halbert Jr., weekday early education consultant, Church Administration department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.; Mrs. William H. Halbert Jr., director, day care and kindergarten, Glenwood Church, Nashville, Tenn.; Miss Nancy Norman, elementary director, Park Hill Church, North Little Rock; and Mrs. Fred Williams, preschool director, Geyer Springs First Church, Little Rock.

A dinner meeting is scheduled for 6 on Monday evening. The featured speaker for this meeting will be Johnny G. Biggs, executive director, Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care Services. His topic will be "The Kindergarten Child in Today's World." Tickets for the dinner are \$1.50 each. Reservations should be made by Nov. 6.

The Kindergarten Workshop is a "first" for Arkansas Baptists, and is sponsored by the Sunday School department. For dinner reservations and additional information on the workshop write to: Pat Ratton, Sunday School Department, 525 West Capitol, Little Rock 72201. —Pat Ratton, Sunday School department.

Last call

This is the last call for the State-Wide Church Training Workshop to be held at First Church, Little Rock, Thursday, Oct. 26, 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. As you begin the new church year, all new leaders need definite training if they are to meet the needs of the members of their age groups. All experienced leaders need a refresher course or additional help. This is the time for all church training leaders to get training necessary to begin a new year's work.

Conferences will be conducted for pastors and other staff members and all church training leaders including workers with preschoolers, children, youth and adults.

There will be a special conference for library workers conducted by John Hack of the Library Department of the Sunday School Board. There will be three other leaders from the Sunday School Board and two state approved workers.

Make your plans to attend this important annual workshop for Church Training (TU) workers.

What it's all about

"What It's All About" is a new Program Help by Margaret Sharp which may be ordered from the Materials Services Department of the Sunday School Board for 15¢. The booklet is Program Help item No. 9250. The Church Training director of each church might order enough copies for each leader in the church training program and also a copy for each person he is trying to enlist for a leadership position. This could be a good enlistment aid to give to persons the leaders are trying to enlist in the training program.

This pamphlet would be a great help to church training leaders because a leader's concept of church training will determine the kind of program he plans and promotes.

Another way to find out what it's all about is to read Church Training which is the magazine for general officers of the church training program. Beginning with the October, 1972, issue, there are two additional features. "Tips on Training for the Pastor" will carry information from each age group section of the Church Training Department. This will keep pastors informed about materials and activities relative to the total training program.

The other new feature for each month will be "How to PLAN — ENLIST — PROMOTE." This article will offer suggestions for the church training council and ideas for enlistment projects and promotional suggestions.

WMU District Meetings

Who Should Take The Const??

Oct. 27th

Oct. 30th

Nov. 1st Nov. 2nd

Nov. 6th

Nov. 8th

Nov. 9th

Why Is Everybody Excited Over

Day Sessions

First Church Walnut Ridge

First Church Hope First Church Warren

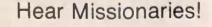
First Church Forrest City

First Church Harrison

Bluff Ave. Church Fort Smith

Learn All About

What Is Con ??





Glendon Grober Missionary Brazil



Bring Sack Lunch!

Night Sessions

Oct. 26th	First Church Walnut Ridge
Oct. 30th	First Church Hope
Oct. 31st	First Church Warren
Nov. 2nd	First Church Forrest City
Nov. 6th	First Church Conway
Nov. 7th	First Church Harrison
Nov. 9th	Bluff Ave. Church Fort Smith



Nursery!

Mrs. J. A. Hogan President Arkansas WMU

Nursery for Pre-Schoolers!

Everybody Cordially Urged To Attend Either Or Both Sessions! Youth and others unable to attend day sessions especially invited for night sessions

to hear missionary and see mission film!

ARKANSAS BAPTIST NEWSMAGAZINE

Page 14

Mission money mailed weekly is a better way

(This is a reprint of a column written by Fred Trachsel, stewardship secretary for the Michigan Baptist Convention, which appeared in the July 10, 1972, issue of the Michigan Baptist Advocate.)

I have had five times more pastoral experience than as a denominational worker; therefore I am able to speak from a pastor's point of view.

One of the first pages of the Advocate which I read as a pastor was the middle fold section recounting Cooperative Program giving. My eyes would quickly fall upon our church's name along with the amount given through (not to) the Cooperative Program. If there was a zero beside our church name it left me with a heartsick feeling. It was as if a knife had pierced my seal of emotion.

Why was I affected so? Well, perhaps it was not a very high motivation, but I wondered what kind of missionary testimony this would reveal before my brethren. I felt indicted because a month had come and gone and our world missionary responsibilities had not been met. How many people in Michigan, Oregon, Panama, Nigeria, Japan, etc., would die and go to Hell because of that "zero" participation?

My face would flush as my conscience was pricked. Then followed the explicit, inaudible question — WHY the failure to share in the Great Commission? I knew our church had voted a specific percentage and even increased such over the previous year. But, the same question still haunted me. Why the zero?!

Then it dawned on me. Our church was contributing through the Cooperative Program monthly rather than weekly. If the last Sunday appeared near the end of the month, the mission check did not reach the Baptist State Convention in time to start those dollars to work from Michigan to the uttermost part of the earth.

What could we do to remedy this unfortunate situation? The answer was very simple. Our church must change the schedule of remitting. From then on our treasurer was instructed to mail the mission money every week — preferably the next day after the tithes and offering were brought to the Lord's House. (I thank the Lord that all of our church members had not picked up our missionary habit of contributing once a month!)

An amazing thing happened after the weekly habit was adopted. First, we contributed more mission money compared to the same length of time before. (But then, doesn't God promise to bless faithfulness?!) Secondly, we never saw another "zero" mark in the Advocate beside our church name.

Davis named Sunday School Board manuscript analyst

NASHVILLE (BP)

- Lynn M. Davis

Ir., public relations

staff member for the

Southern Baptist

Sunday School Board here, has

been named manu-

script analyst in the

board's Church Ser-

vices and Materials

Division,

Oct. 16.

effective



Davis

Davis, former editor of the Ohio Baptist Messenger, has for the past six years been supervisor of the information section in the board's public relations office. In addition, he has been Baptist Press bureau chief at the board, and associate editor of Facts and Trends.

In a recent Baptist Press release, James L. Sullivan, executive secretary of the board, indicated that the manuscript analyst position would change in organizational relationship from the executive office to the Church Services and Materials Division office.

According to Allen B. Comish, division director, Davis, will be responsible for making analyses of church literature manuscripts. His duties will also include work with doctrinal readers outside the board's employ, plus assisting editors with information and practices concerning writers for church literature manuscripts.

A native of Florida, Davis was graduated from Ohio University in 1959. He earned the B.D. degree in 1962 from

Deaths

George Wayland McGhehey, 75, Walnut Ridge, died recently. He pastored churches in Black River and Greene County Associations for many years.

Mrs. Mary Bankston Crumpler, 75, Camden, died Oct. 4. She was a member of Camden Second Church.

Floy Ecyl Wear Steadman, 63, Hermitage, died Sept. 23. She was a member of Saline Church and was church clerk for 17 years.

The moral of this true story is — MAIL MISSION MONEY MONDAY MORNING!! —Roy F. Lewis, Secretary of Stewardship-Cooperative Program New Orleans Seminary.

While attending the seminary, Davis served as assistant director of public relations and as editor of "Vision," a seminary publication. He also served for one year as state secretary of the student department, State Convention of Baptists in Ohio. He served as editor of the Ohio Baptist Messenger, the state Baptist paper, from 1962 until he joined the board in 1966.

Children's rights must be recognized

During a recent visit to the Oklahoma Baptist Children's Home, their director shared with me the following Children's Bill of Rights. Dr. Violet Sturgeon, psychiatric consultant to the Home, developed this document:

CHILDREN'S BILL OF RIGHTS

Amendment 1 — Each child has a right to fulfill his inherent worth and dignity because he is made in the image of God.

Amendment 2 — Each child has a right to food, clothing, and a place to call home.

Amendment 3 — Each child has a right to love and understanding, no matter who he is, where he comes from, and what he has done.

Amendment 4 — Each child is entitled to someone he can trust and who will share his problems, griefs, and fears.

Amendment 5 — Each child has a right to develop himself and his talents in such a way that he may become a responsible, creative person.

Amendment 6 — Each child has a right to recognition and genuine appreciation of his achievements.

Amendment 7 — Each child has a right to become a socially accepted member of the community in which he lives.

Amendment 8 — Each child is entitled to spiritual training, which will give him the opportunity to accept Christ as his Saviour and Lord.

Many parents are unable or unwilling to guarantee these basic rights to their children within the family circle. These basic rights cover emotional, physical, and spiritual needs of the children and recognize the child and his total needs. Arkansas Baptists have committed themselves to insure that these rights of children be fulfilled through the child care ministry of the Arkansas Baptist Convention. This is done primarily through the Baptist Children's Home, group home for boys, foster homes, and counseling services to families and children. —Johnny G. Biggs, Executive Director Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care Services.

Thus, we would join hands with scores of other churches in cooperative world missionary work.

SEMINAR ON WITNESSING TO OTHER FAITHS

Immanuel Baptist Church

Little Rock October 31 – November 1

Sponsored by:

Arkansas Baptist State Convention Home Mission Board, SBC





Lloyd N. Whyte

William R. McLin

October 31-9:15-Noon; 12:45-3 p.m.; 7:30-9 p.m.

November 1 - 9:15-Noon

Lunch, October 31

Served by Immanuel Baptist Church Compliments of Arkansas Baptist State Convention

Nursery

Registration

Name

Your church ____

Write choice of conference(s) ____

Lunch Yes D No D

Number of children for nursery _

Mail to: Pulaski Baptist Association 1522 W. 10th St. Little Rock, Arkansas 72202





C. B. Hastings

William B. Mitchell

Conferences

(Room 230) The Occult (Witchcraft, Satanism, Astrology) Catholicism Jehovah's Witness Mormons-Saints Judaism World Religions in U.S. Christian Science Worldwide Church of God (Armstrong)

Conference leaders from Department of Interfaith Witness, Home Mission Baord



A. Jase Jones

Glenn A. Igleheart

- Study beliefs of other religions
- Learn ways of witnessing
- Receive helpful materials
- Browse through Baptist Book Store of helpful books
- Persons attending all sessions may study three different religions
- Good preparation for March mission study

ARKANSAS BAPTIST NEWSMAGAZINE

Wood declares church must have influence in public affairs

WASHINGTON (BP — Separation of church and state does not mean the separation of religion and politics nor the separation of religion and the state, declared a baptist leader in a major address here.

"Futhermore," he continued, "normative church-state relations must include the right of the church to give expression to its witness and prophetic voice on all matters affecting domestic and foreign policy, war and peace, and the entire legislative and political process because of its concern for the sanctity of the rights of persons."

This broad definition of "public affairs" was spelled out by James E. Wood Jr., new executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, at a dinner meeting of the committee. Wood is the third executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee. He succeeded C. Emanuel Carlson who retired in 1971. J. M. Dawson was the first executive director.

Prior to his coming to the Baptist Joint Committee, Wood was for 17 years on the faculty of Baylor University, Waco, Tex., as professor of history of religions. At Baylor he was also chairman of the J. M. Dawson studies in Church and State, and since its founding in 1958 he has been editor of the Journal of Church and State.

In his first public statement since assuming the office on Sept. 1, Wood explained his understanding of the mandate of the Baptist Joint Committee which is authorized "to act in the field of public affairs" by its nine sponsoring denominations, including the Southern Baptist Convention.

"To be true to its mission," Wood declared, "the church must be involved in public affairs because it seeks to minister to the whole man in the world, and no aspect of life can be regarded as outside of God's concern, dominion and power."

The new executive director refused to predict the future of the Baptist Joint Committee, but he did envision an expanded role in the life of the nation.

"New challenges will arise which call for different responses than those made in the past," Wood said. "It is likely," he continued, "that the agenda of the Baptist Joint Committee may well include altogether new areas of concern and action."

The direction of the new administration of the Baptist Joint Committee was made clear by repeating part of his letter of acceptance earlier in the year. At that time Wood wrote, "May no one fail to understand that our commitment is first to rights, not interests; and to persons, not to institutions, as applied to all men, and not just a few.

Interpreting the care of the church for religious liberty, Wood declared that this "must necessarily include the concern of the church for all civil liberties as inalienable rights of all men."

In his 55-minute inaugural address, Wood asserted that religious liberty, a free church in a free state, demands a secular state. "No establishment of religion," he said, "means a secular state, a limited state in which the people have excluded the authority and jurisdiction of the state from religious affairs."

"The secular state, as expressed in the free society," he explained, "is neither Christian, nor Buddhist, nor Muslim, nor religious, nor irreligious. To express it another way, the secular state seeks neither to promote nor to interfere with religion."

American civilization is based on a pluralistic society, the Baptist Joint Committee executive said. He explained: "A pluralistic society is one in which minority rights are constitutionally guaranteed, and the free exercise of religion — freedom of religion and freedom from religion — is assured."

Wood attacked the "myth" that has evolved in the development of democracy in the modern world that the essence of democracy is simply majority or party rule. "In the free society," he said, "state absolutism is controlled by guarantees of civil liberties, which are, in effect, limitations on government and political authority.

"Civil liberties have no real meaning apart from individual and minority rights, which can be guaranteed only in the free society," he continued. "The totalitarian state allows and demands consent only, while the free society guarantees and requires the right of dissent as well as the voluntary consent of the governed."

"In this regard," Wood said, "it is necessary to realize that minority rights are necessary not only to sustain the principle of religion, but also to maintain a democratic form of government."

Four "fundamental truths" were enunciated as Wood explained the expanding role of the Baptist Joint Committee. They are: "1. Involvement of the church in public affairs is an inescapable responsibility of the church . . .

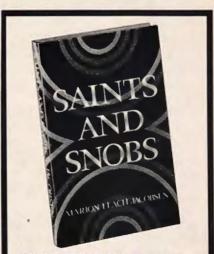
"2. The church is not to be bound to the power structures of this world

"3. The separation of the gospel from politics needs to be seen as an abdication of the Christian responsibility to advance justice and to serve the larger community

"4. The ultimate basis of the free church idea is that which asks only for the right to be free in order to be the church \ldots ."

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER DEACON, CHRISTIAN WORKER Your Life Will Never Be The Same After Walking In The Steps Of Jesus Join Dr. Wayne Dehoney's Sixth Christian Bible Lands Seminar 11 Days to the Holy Land Departure in January College-Seminary Credit Offered You may go for as little as \$80 down on the Budget Plan. Write or phone for details:

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SAINTS AND SNOBS. By Marion Leach Jacobsen. Realistically, the church often does not measure up to what many expect and need. The author calls all Christians to face the real issues in personal relationships.

Cloth \$3.95 Paper \$1.95

at your Baptist Book Store

BAPTIST A BOOK STORE Service with a Christian Distinction Coast to Coast

Scholarship honors missionary nurse

RICHMOND — Patricia E. Farmer of Independence, Mo., has become the first recipient of the Thelma Olney Kite nursing scholarship. She is a sophomore at William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo.

The scholarship was established at William Jewell by Bill O. Kite in memory of his first wife, a nurse, who died in an auto crash in Zambia in October 1970. The couple had been appointed missionaries 2½ years earlier by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

The Kites had discussed the possibility of death in Zambia, and Mrs. Kite had expressed her wish that money not be spent for flowers for her funeral but be used instead to advance the cause of Christ.

According to the public relations office at William Jewell, Miss Farmer was selected to receive the scholarship "because of her dedication as a scholar, her goal of becoming a nurse and her exemplary life as a Christian young woman."

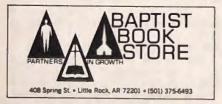
The young nursing student is active in the Christian Student Union, Baptist Young Women and Students for Better Health Involvement. She is a member of Sycamore Hills Baptist Church, Independence, and teaches Sunday School in the beginners department there.

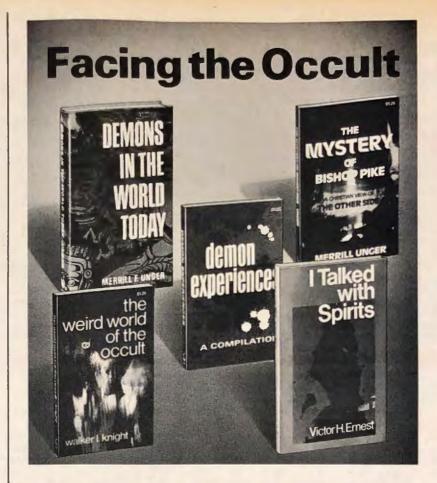
Last summer she was a staffer at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center in North Carolina.

Miss Farmer is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Haynes Farmer of Independence.

The late Mrs. Kite was the former Thelma Olney of Redding, Iowa. After finishing high school she worked for a year in Winona Lake, Ind., before entering nurse's training at St. Joseph (Mo.) Hospital. She had saved enough money for the first year; the next two years she received a scholarship.

After completing her training, she entered Ouachita Baptist College (now University), Arkadelphia, to complete degree requirements and become a missionary nurse. There she and Bill Kite met and were married the following June. The young Mrs. Kite postponed her degree and nursed for two years at All Saints Episcopal Hospital, Ft. Worth, while her husband completed his education.





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BAPTIST A BOOK STORE Service with a Christian Distinction Coast to Coast Can your state Baptist paper survive

It's church budget preparation time again. With inflation, new expenses, and uncertain income some budgeted items are especially vulnerable. If these items had feelings, they would be as uneasy as a turkey just before Thanksgiving and a rookie athlete trying to survive the team cuts.

When the budget sleuths start paring they rarely eliminate things so essential as repairs on the air conditioner. After all, we must have people comfortable at all costs and at all times. If ends are to meet, a Spartan attitude is essential for other areas in the budget. Often the needed advances in mission gifts and staff salaries feel the pinch first. One item is especially fair game for not surviving the cut. It is the state Baptist paper. If it ever got into the budget to start with, it usually runs scared. The Church Budget Plan or Every Family Plan for sending the state denominational paper to resident church families is one of the first things to go in the economy drive. This is regrettable indeed. As music to a choir and quarterlies to a Sunday School are essential, it is a needed tool for being denominationally and religiously informed.

One of the easiest tasks I have had as a pastor is to lead churches to include and keep the denominational paper in the church budget. It is such a bargain that By Ray K. Hodge

trying to save a few dollars by withdrawing this paper is too costly. It would be like saving the expense of regular visits to the dentist, only to pay more in various ways later.

I believe our state Baptist paper provides needed information for us to be better church members and citizens. A church member once complained to me about her paper by saying, "It's only filled with news about Baptist work in the state." Greatl this was a compliment, for our paper keeps us informed about our Baptist people. Beyond state lines, however, our paper also provides information on many pertinent matters, and outside our denomination as well.

Can your paper survive the cut in your church? One of the first excuses usually given for cutting the denominational paper from the church budget is that "many people throw it away without reading it." This is unquestionably true in some cases. But have you considered the alternate option, that keeping it in may reach ten times as many people? Just imagine a church with one thousand members. This would include perhaps 325 resident families. In such a church, a voluntary subscription plan might have as many as 30 subscribing families. Not many would voluntarily subscribe to Sunday School guarterlies either. On the other hand, the Church Budget Plan

would place the paper in all of the resident homes, with one or many persons in most homes reading it. Alright, suppose thrity copies were thrown away unopened. That would leave nearly three hundred families who would read part or all of it. This is ten times more people exposed to this information than would be possible otherwise. And so, the real choice is between risking the possible loss of a few copies of the paper or the certain loss of several hundred potential readers.

the cut?

Other reasons may be offered for cutting the paper from the budget, However, I have come to feel that our people need to be informed about our work. Our whole missions, evangelism, and denominational enterprise can be boosted by better informed and motivated church members. Our state Baptist paper is an essential tool in accomplishing this objective.

So, be careful with that budget paring knife or you may puncture a life-giving vessel or sever a vital organ. I hope this paper survives the cut in your church. And just in case your church hasn't included it in the budget, I hope it will.

Hodge is pastor of Yates Chapel Church, Durham, N. C.

Book reviews

By E. A. Pipkins

Rudolf Bultmann

Author: Ashcraft, Morris Publisher: Word, 1972 Price: \$3.95 (110 pages)

A man who stands in awe of him should write a book on this theologian who has left his imprint on Christian thinking. But the man must be somewhat fearless if he is to do more than just reflect Bultman's theology. He must come to grips with a superior mind and be critical in his evaluation. He must also speak enough like we do so that we will both understand what he says and feel that his work is worth reading.

From a family of cabinet makers, and a brother to our Executive Secretary, Morris Ashcraft has come to speak to us of Bultmann and he does very well what is expected of him.

In his selection of major viewpoints of Bultmann's theology, he has covered the things a reader will find the most interesting. He saves his evaluations until the conclusion, hardly betraying earlier his personal theology. So in effect, we have undiluted Bultmann followed by Ashcraft's evaluations. Perhaps Ashcraft's theology shows through more in what he does not discuss than what he does.

One thing must be cautioned. Our author has not pre-digested Bultmahn for us. We are still in heavy territory, but he has made the trip enjoyable for us. The book will do with reading more than once. A selected bibliography is suggestive to further reading.

Galatians

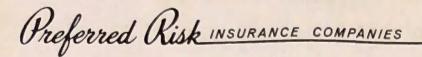
Author: Cole, Alan Publisher: Erdmans, 1970 Price: \$1.95 (188 pages) paper

Of the Tyndale Commentaries our author has written two. The other being, Mark.

Galatians is a controversial letter that challenges our present-day shallow, easy acceptances. A statement of Paul's gospel, which is also that of the church universal, it becomes a current statement of the peril of the church today.

With a "Reformed" background, this conservative speaks scholarly and warm heartedly. He does well by his assignment to keep the Tyndale Commentaries primarily exegetical and truly biblical.

The style is attractive, sub-heads are good, and the treatment of the verse is thorough. Each paragraph is prefaced with the author's translation, which is very helpful to the reader. References are made to other works that will be useful to the teacher preparing for January Bible Study week. At paperback prices it will make a good investment for anyone, especially a Sunday school teacher who will at some other time encounter Galatians.





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ARKANSAS BAPTIST NEWSMAGAZINE

The sinful exploitation of race



In a new book, Th Preaching People to m People, a compila- lo tion of sermons on co outreach, our con- do vention president m

vention president and pastor of Park Hill Baptist Church, North Little Rock, Rheubin South, tells the following story.

Hatfield

Years ago, when I was preaching a re-

vival in another state, I had the opportunity to visit one night with a former seminary classmate and his wife. I had always noticed about this man a stillness, a quietness, an almost inward hurt in his eyes. So, on this particular night, as the three of us were sitting in the drawing room of his lovely home, I told him, "Jimmy, there is something about you that's different; something that I just don't see in most people."

His wife became concerned and tried to turn the conversation away, but he said, "No, wait a minute! I want this man to know why." Then he got up and walked out of the room. He came back in a minute with a stack of pictures and said, "Look at these." He called the name of one of the largest concentration camps in Germany and said, "I was the first officer through the gates, and this is what I saw." There were pictures of stacks of human bodies ready-to-beburned-human bodies, little more than skeletons with skin on them, with sunken eyes and emaciated bodies.

"The commanding officer told me to clean the mess up," he continued. "I cleaned it up, but I wake up at night and see it again and again — what one race can do to another race when it hates that much." Horrors like these resulting from wars have blunted our sensitivity.

What does the Bible say to the issues of our time? What are the Biblical teachings concerning the sinful exploitation of race?

Exploitation is sinful. Exploitation means to basely seek one's advantage or profit through selfish, unfair or illegitimate means.

Exploitation of natural resources is wrong. We can run out of clean water, food, air. Exploitation of business is wrong. We can run out of fairness, competition and honesty. Exploitation of education is wrong. We can run out of teachers, pupils, money.

The exploitation of race is wrong.

By Lawson Hatfield State Sunday School Director new book This kind of ex

This kind of exploitation, too, can be most devastating. We can run out of love, brotherliness, even God. Of course, this does not mean God can be denied his redemptive work. It does mean a man can run out of his capacity to receive and propagate God's mercy if he sinfully exploits God's creation and creatures.

The only hope is love

In Luke 10:25 life's most important question was asked. A scribe-lawyer, with obvious insincerity asked, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?"

It is hard, if not impossible, to start anything with a wrong motive and end with a right result.

However, it is best to respond to a bad motive with a good attitude, hard as it may be to do so. Jesus gave the example in this experience by accepting the question as an honest one. His response was to ask the lawyer a more sincere question. In essence, Jesus asked him to define the meaning of the law in a brief word. "How readest thou?"

The scribe's answer was a good one. He correctly identified the meaning of the law saying it means to love God and love your neighbor.

Then Jesus said, "You know the truth, now do it."

Self-justification is a universal defensive action when one is in a bind. The lawyer, anxious to justify himself in his lack of love for his neighbor asked Jesus, "Who is my neighbor?"

Who can fail to understand Jesus' answer through the matchless parable of the good Samaritan?

As the individual loves God with all his heart, soul and mind, to this extent he will look upon other persons in the same manner God looks upon them.

J. W. Steen says it like this. One cannot love God supremely without loving his neighbors whom God loves irrespective of race or merit. There cannot be genuine love for another person if there is prejudice against him.

Jesus said, "Thou has answered rightly, this do, and thou shalt live."

Divine impartiality

We see in Acts 5:10 Simon Peter learned that God did not and that he should not think of any man as unclean. As Peter followed the events of his

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Sunday School lesson

International

Oct. 22, 1972 Luke 10:25-28; Gal. 2:11-14 Col. 3:11; Acts 10:34-35

vision and the invitation of the Gentile, Cornelius there was but one message to preach. God is no respector of persons.

God looks upon each person in every race as a person, one with personal needs, personal dignity, and personal eternal value. God also sees every man's sinfulness, unworthiness and hardness. He sees hate, frustration, and every form of ungodliness in each man.

Thank God, God loves man.

When a man starts experiencing love for every man, less and less tension and frustration will dominate the world.

A re-learnable lesson

In Galatians and Colossians we see Peter at Antioch was again gripped with fear and prejudice against persons of another race.

Peter again isolated himself from the Gentiles. At this point Peter rebuked the persons and the prejudice that openly violated the principle of Christian love.

Redeeming Christian love alone can displace the sinful exploitation of race.



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Sunday School lesson

The Crisis of Faith



Cooper

By Don Cooper Associate, State Sunday School Department There are tests, the eternal questi

and then there are tests, and then there are tests. Anybody who has lived very long knows the difference. Many are considered minor, while others present themselves as major crises of life.

The crisis of faith is the turning point of faith. The crisis is

a moment when circumstances demand a decision. Do the circumstances demand that we adopt, alter, or reject a course of action? The Christian must decide if the object of his faith is trustworthy. God is trustworthy when he places the supreme test upon the believer.

In our studies we have observed Abraham in several tests of his faith. In this week's study he faces the supreme test. Abraham is called upon to surrender his will to God at the deepest level of his being. This was to be his supreme faith-test. There is no expression of doubt in word or deed. It is hard for us to believe that Abraham did not ask why, but his action response was immediate and positive. We will see that he met this supreme test with supreme faith.

Scripture highlights

Genesis 22:1-4 - The setting

God makes a special visit to Abraham and instructs him to take Isaac and offer him as a burnt offering. As in earlier visits from God, Abraham offers no question or rebuttal. He only speaks to acknowledge God's call. He acts immediately to follow the instructions of God. Again as before, he knew what God wanted him to do. He did not know "why" but he did know "what." The visit must have been at night, for he arose early in the morning, moved in faith to follow God's instruction.

Genesis 22:7-9 - The preparation

The reader is left to his own thoughts as to the details of the journey. We have no record of the conversation nor the events of the more than two days of travel. There seems to be complete trust on the part of Isaac. He does not know the struggle of his father. Perhaps they talked of many things as they walked together.

Verses 7 and 8 are classic. Isaac poses

the eternal question in verse 7, "where is the lamb for the burnt offering?" From the time of the sin of Adam, man has needed an offering, a sacrifice. God is a just God and demands that the penalty of sin be paid. Through the ages man has sought to meet God's requirements for a sin offering. All of man's efforts ultimately failed.

Isaac's question is a very logical one under the circumstances. He knew that they would not make all these preparations without an offering. We should accept the statement as it reads. Isaac had no idea that in God's instruction, he was to be the offering.

Abraham's reply to Isaac shows his complete trust in God. Even though time was growing short for a substitute sacrifice, Abraham knew that "God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering." Certainly Abraham did not know in advance that God would provide a lamb and spare Isaac. His statement is a great affirmation of his faith.

The picture in verse 9 is beyond our comprehension. Abraham had prepared many altars, but none like this one. Such details given in the text only add strength to accepting the literal interpretation of the events. It is not a parable, it is something that actually happened.

Genesis 22:10-13 — The sacrifice

Abraham was going all the way. He "took the knife to slay his son." He proved to God that he would not hold back his dearest possession.

In the final moment of testing, God did provide. The angel spoke to Abraham. The instruction was for him not to harm Isaac. What was the reasoning for God's action? The answer is in verse 12: "for now I know that thou fearest God." This was the purpose of the testing. God wanted to vividly demonstrate the faithfulness of his servant.

God provided a ram for the sacrifice. Think of Abraham's joy. Isaac could see the joy in his father's face. The ram was immediately offered. It is no wonder that Abraham named the place "Jehovah-jireh" (v. 14). The word means "God will provide" or "God sees and provides."

This lesson treatment is based on the Life and Work Curriculum for Southern Baptist Churches, copyright by The Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Life and Work Oct. 22, 1972 Genesis 22:1-4, 7-13 Hebrews 11:17-19

In verses 15-18 God renews his covenant with Abraham. It must have brought some sense of satisfaction to Abraham to know he had pleased God.

Hebrews 11:17-19 — The confirmation

Again the Hebrew writer affirms the Genesis account. The writer makes specific note that it was done "by faith." This account of the events speaks as though Abraham had indeed offered Isaac. As far as his testing was concerned, the act was completed. In his heart he had already surrendered his son.

Identification

Would God call on a man to offer up his own son? God did make such a demand of Abraham. Would God call on a man in our day to offer his son or daughter? God dogs make such demands even today. These demands are not to offer up a child as a burnt offering. God calls upon Christian parents to be willing to "give-up" their children for many reasons. Sometimes it is a point of testing.

God was not concerned with Isaac as an offering. God was concerned with the faith of Abraham. God was not in the burnt offering business, he was in the business of developing faithful servants. So it is today, God uses many things, including our families, to test us as his children.

One who serves God today can expect to be tested. We can learn from Abraham that we can trust God to give us strength to pass every test.

God needs men today who express great faith. Like Abraham, faithful men may be used of God to bring his blessings to others.

The account of Abraham offering Isaac is too lifelike to think for one moment that it did not occur. It is too vested in people, places, and things to be regarded as a story or parable. It is too deep in human love and emotion not to have been an actual event.

Abraham was instructed of God to offer Isaac. It was not the end result of a series of psychological experiences. He was acting in faithful response to God's instructions. Abraham believed God.

This lesson concludes our study of Abraham's Pioneering Faith. Next week we begin a unit of studies entitled "Jacob — Transforming Faith."



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Attendance report October 8, 1972						
Church	Sunday School	Church Training	Ch. Addms.			
Alexander, First	53	45	2			
Alicia Alma, First	72 403	53 130	47			
Alpena Beirne, First	97 61	53 30	1			
Bentonville, First Bella Vista Mission	261 32		-4			
Berryville First						
Freeman Heights	169 137	72	1			
Rock Springs Blytheville, Gosnell	124 201	62 86	2			
Booneville First	229	185				
Glendale Cabot, Mt. Carmel	81	43				
Camden	192	93				
First Hilfside	454 116	81 32	5			
Cherokee Village Mission Crossett	109	28	1			
First Magnolia	541 214	158 138				
Mt. Olive	279	126	2			
Temple Des Arc, First	92 196	50 73				
Dumas, First Forrest City, First	252 803	67 247	10			
Ft. Smith			10			
Haven Heights Oak Cliff	238 191	150 91	1			
Trinity Gentry, First	301 169	73	3			
Grandview Greenwood, First	102	53 104				
Hampton, First	170	65				
Harrison Eagle Heights	282	136				
Woodland Heights Helena, First	81 294	44 95	23			
Hope Calvary			-			
First	209 530	101 129	3			
Hot Springs, Park Place Hughes, First	439 235	131 59	1			
Jacksonville, Marshall Road Jonesboro	318	129	6			
Central Nettleton	539 339	168	5			
Lake City, Bethabara	109	128 119	2			
Lake Village, Parkway Lavaca, First	58 311	40				
Lepanto, First Lincoln	356	276	3			
First Liberty	220 73	58 39	2			
Little Rock			0			
Crystal Hill Geyer Springs	131 647	75 226	1			
Life Line Martindale	642 99	147	1			
Nall Memorial Sunset Lane	112 235	54 84				
Wakefield First Magnolia, Central	60	39				
Marked Tree	648	229	1			
First Trinity	138 44	48 34				
Melbourne Belview	167	116	1			
First Horseshoe Bend Mission	134	62				
Mountain Home, First	35 314	186				
Murfreesboro, Mt. Moriah North Little Rock	39	23				
Baring Cross Calvary	555 425	151 163	1			
Gravel Ridge	210	111 123	3 10			
Levy Park Hill	435 788	115	6			
Paragould, East Side Paris, First	232 409	99 113				
Pea Ridge, First Pine Bluff	168	50				
Centennial Dollarway	198 115	80 60				
First	727	171	1			
Green Meadows Second	60 172	36 64	3			
Rogers, First Roland, Natural Steps'	689 72	163 52				
Russellville, Second	213	90	7			
Springdale Berry Street	99	53				
Caudle Avenue First	123 780	44				
Oak Grove Strong, First	84 139	35 80				
Van Buren, First Mission	527 37	234	1			
Vandervoort, First	37	33				
Warren Immanuel	273	96	1			
Southside Mission of First West Helena, Second	58 251	46 120				
West Helena, Second W. Memphis, Vanderbilt Ave. Wooster, First	121	65 83				
riooster, rinst		co				

In the world of religion.

Evangelize illiterates with tapes

A six-month-old missionary agency in Orange, Calif., is tooling up to send electronic missionaries with the Scriptures to the globe's 800 million adult illiterates.

Bible Translations on Tape, Inc., directed by veteran Wycliffe Bible Translator Paul Smith who translated the entire New Testament for the Mexican Chinantec Tribespeople, secures cassette players and makes them available to missionaries without cost.

"It's going to be really big," says the tall Texan. "These cassette players can greatly multiply the missionaries' evangelistic efforts. They can take the word of God to reader and non-reader alike, and because of their novelty can win a hearing for the gospel in areas where a missionary is not welcome."

BTT's first project was the purchase of 200 tape players for Vietnam. Missionaries on the field continue to place orders for the players and will supervise the recording and distribution of the little machines.

"There are close to a billion illiterate adults in the world," Smith declares. "The tapes provide a marvelous way to work among this kind of people."

In many tribes, the machines will be

Alma Hunt invited to Bible assembly

NEW YORK — The executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union, Miss Alma Hunt of Birmingham, has been selected as one of three national religious leaders to represent American churches at a meeting of the United Bible Societies in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

According to the American Bible Society here, the three American representatives will be Miss Hunt, Oswald C. J. Hoffmann, president of the Lutheran Council in the U. S. A., and speaker on "The Lutheran Hour" radio program; and Kelly Miller Smith, pastor of First Baptist Church of Capitol Hill, Nashville, Tenn., and assistant dean of the Vanderbilt University Divinity School.

The World Assembly of the United Bible Societies will meet Sept. 25-29. "Let the Word Speak" will be the theme for the meeting. The United Bible Societies has work in 150 countries, working through national Bible Societies which last year distributed 171 million copies of the Scripture in 1457 languages. used to give illiterates an incentive to learn to read. Missionaries have often found that until a person is converted he has little interest in learning to read.

"The tapes don't bypass reading," Smith stresses. "We're using the machines to bring people to reading classes."

Bible Translations on Tape emphasizes straight Scripture reading, but each missionary is free to add church services, music, or instruction as he wishes.

A letter from Lutheran Bible Translators in Liberia, West Africa, requests 1,000 tape players. "This is only a drop in the bucket," Smith says. "They have one tribe that can absorb all 1,000." He reports that tribespeople often will listen to the impersonal mechanical missionary when they won't give the missionary a hearing.

The largest gift to BTT has come from a Wycliffe Bible Translators missionary on furlough from New Guinea who inherited some money. A note with her \$1,546 check read: "If you need more, I'll make it up." She was referring to a matching gift provision offered by Ken Taylor of \$5,000 for the Vietnam project.

How shall they hear? The Bible on tape is one answer.

Christians are urged to love Arabs and Jews

In the wake of the Sept. 5 tragedy of the Olympics, in which 11 members of the Israel team, five Arab terrorists, and a German policeman were killed, John D. Hughey Jr., Baptist mission executive, urged Christians to love Arabs and Jews "and to beseech them in the name of Christ to be reconciled to God."

Hughey is secretary for Europe and the Middle East for the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. In his report to the mission board, at its September meeting, he said, "Christians should pray for Israel and the Arab countries and for the Palestinian Arabs who have no country of their own.

"The whole world mourns the death of 11 fine Israeli athletes. We should mourn also for the Arab terrorists — for what they became and why, for what they did, and for what has happened to them — and for the Arab refugees killed since the tragedy."

Hughey said that now, while the tragic hostility of Arabs and Jews is forced on world consciousness, is a time for diplomats to renew their efforts for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

Hughey directs the work of 81 Southern Baptist missionaries in Arab lands and 30 in Israel.

Broadcasting easier

New opportunities for broadcasting evangelical programs in Spain are increasing rapidly in 1972, according to the Bulletin of Telecommunications Ministries. "After years of silence, followed by intermittent short permits to air gospel messages, several evangelical broadcasters are now moving into this big field," reports the Bulletin.

A 15-minute daily radio program on Radio Espana, begun in January, 1972, by an evangelical, is now bringing in an average of 200 letters per day, the story says.

It is also reported that radio time for an evangelical broadcast has been offered on Radio Miramer, Barcelona, for the price of \$100 for 15 minutes.

Bible readings on the air

When the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission recently asked, "Got a minute for God?" more than 712 radio stations across the nation answered "Yes!"

They received "Living Words For Today" on records containing a different one-minute Bible reading for each day of the year. The readings are designed to be used continuously as the station chooses and are not dated in any way.

Since January, 1972 the Bible has been read on the air in one minute segments 341,319 times.

