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3-21-1974

March 21, 1974

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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Arkansas Baptist State Convention, "March 21, 1974" (1974). *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1970-1974*. 175.

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March 21, 1974

Arkansas Baptist

NEWSMAGAZINE



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at Little Rock
page 6**



One layman's opinion

Happiness on a bad TV night



Dr. Grant

Instant recall of all the material I have seen on church bulletin boards is not one of my special talents. Even so, I have never forgotten a cartoon poster that I saw in the First Baptist Church of Hughes many months ago. The message was "Happiness is going to a prayer meeting on a night when there is really nothing good on television anyway."

That quotation and a variety of disturbing thoughts have remained with me. One whole chain of thoughts concerns the problem of finding time for the local church congregation to come together in competition with the multiplicity of secular attractions of the modern world. When I was a child, it was simply one of those things that was understood in the community that nothing would be scheduled on Wednesday night in conflict with the midweek prayer service of the various churches. This high priority in community scheduling made it clear where people ought to be on Wednesday night. Perhaps the cynic would say it was a system designed to prevent the sinner from enjoying his sins on Wednesday night. It was not against the law to schedule a conflict with the prayer meeting hour. The great majority of people simply did not want to do it, so the time was kept open for the churches.

Even though the absence of conflicts does not guarantee a crowd at the local churches, teaching one's children that midweek prayer service is important becomes a little less difficult. I have often thought of the year I spent in Bangkok, Thailand, with its "business-as-usual" policy on Sunday. I have wondered what effect this would have had on my three children if they had grown up in that culture. Maybe the small Christian community there was so close knit, in self-defense, that the absence of Christian traditions in the community at large would have made no impact on the Christian training of my children. It is even possible that some types of American secularism (such as the morality of *Playboy Magazine* and X-rated movies) are greater instruments of the devil than the "business-as-usual-on-Sunday" tradition in Southeast Asia.

But back to enjoying prayer meeting as long as there is nothing good on television. I am convinced there are few things with greater potential for revolutionizing the spirit, enthusiasm, power, and effectiveness, of the local church than the midweek prayer service. Television may not be everyone's hang up on Wednesday night. Whatever the problem, I suspect that a strong revitalized period of prayer with the fellowship of believers in our churches is at the heart of many other much more publicized church needs.

Then happiness would be to ruin the commercial rating of Wednesday night television programs because so many potential viewers are in prayer meeting. — Daniel R. Grant, President, Ouachita Baptist University

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In a rare statement of policy issued by the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, the group has taken a stand on several matters including equal rights and taxation.

Arkansas Baptist

NEWSMAGAZINE

VOL. 73

MARCH 21, 1974

NO. 12

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525 West Capitol Avenue, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201. Published weekly except on July 4 and December 25. Second-class postage paid at Little Rock, Arkansas.

Individual subscription, \$3 per year. Every Resident Family Plan, 18 cents per month or \$2.16 per year per church family. Club plan (10 or more paid annually in advance), \$2.52 per year. Subscriptions to foreign address, \$5 per year. Advertising rates on request.

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

Demon possession



Editor Sneed

In recent days throngs of people have been flocking to see "The Exorcist." This presentation has raised several questions. Should Christian people see this movie? Is demonic possession possible? If so, can these demons be exorcized?

The story is apparently based on an actual historical account. Authoritative sources indicate, however, that the narrative has greatly deviated from the actual

events.

Furthermore, some of those who have viewed the movie report the experience to be extremely disturbing. One lady stated that she had not had a good night's sleep since seeing it. Some believe the film could produce complete mental collapse in the emotionally disturbed. Many have felt a strong presence of evil surrounding the entire movie.

Aside from the satanic connection of the movie the reviews tell us that some of the scenes are strongly

sex orientated. It should be remembered that an individual is influenced by the things which he experiences. If we see that which is degrading, immoral, and depraved, it will inevitably have some unwholesome impact upon us.

The movie and the rapid spread of the occult raises, perhaps, some more important questions: Are there demonic forces abroad? Can they possess or influence a person?

It is quite clear that Jesus believed in the presence of demons as well as their ability to subject an individual. In Luke, Chapter 11, Jesus cast out devils. Afterwards he commented "But if I with the finger of God cast out devils, no doubt the kingdom of God is come upon you." (Luke 11:20.)

Some theologians suggest that Jesus was only adjusting to the primitive concepts of the First Century. However, we must agree with the noted German theologian, Emil Brunner, who said in speaking of the force of evil "He is both one and many. He wills to remain hidden. He pretends to be an 'angel of

(Continued on page 4)

Guest editorial

What is a Baptist editor?

By Harold C. Bennett

A Baptist editor is one who edits and writes editorials as an occupation in a Baptist setting. It is called an occupation, but in fact it becomes more like the conflicts of a major battle campaign; not the peace of an occupation.

The editor is the executive director of the denominational office of information. He shares concepts, news and tidbits of trivia with persons whose minds are already cluttered. As a teacher, his task is to inform and to instruct. As a preacher, he must inspire, enlist and unify the Baptists of the state, the nation and the world.

As a scholar, an editor must be familiar with all the news of *BP, AP, RNS, UPI and ETC!* In addition, he must have read and remembered all the books, periodicals and letters mailed to him gratis.

During stolen moments of creative thought, he becomes a philosopher for the people called Baptists only to have these sacred seconds of time interrupted by the demand of his people to be an entertainer. Too often he must serve as a necessary adjunct or a decorative piece at a religious function.

The editor attempts to console the broken-hearted, to encourage the discouraged and admonish those who sin only to be taken to task by those who say he sins!

A business manager of keen insight, the editor is the top salesman of his firm, an aspiring member of the one hundred thousand subscription club, circulation head, financial officer and office chief, author,

editor and friend of the dropin pastor who is thinking of becoming a dropout.

The editor is expected to provide a Baptist pop-off valve at a cost below scale while still paying the high rate of second class delivery. Between editorials, conferences, business crises, discussions with printers, art layout work and answering "letters to the editor," he prepares and preaches sermons, delivers scholarly lectures, writes for other publications, serves the denomination as a press representative and counsels all who come his way.

His assignment includes the preparation of an edition of "the leading state paper," while at the same time dealing with those who demand space and attempt to dictate format. His exacting task, with unsolicited pushes and pulls, schools him to become a denominational statesman. As an editorializer, he gives (freely) his opinions to persons who do not want it and to those who disagree, seldom hearing from the agreeable.

Through his multifaceted task, the editor attempts to edify and enlighten his readers. He desires to instruct the people of the world about Christ and improve their moral character.

Then, with the paper "put to bed," the editor smiles confidently and gently when some soul quips, "What a job — only one editorial page a week!"

Harold C. Bennett is Executive Secretary of the Florida Baptist Convention. This is an excerpt from a paper delivered at the Feb. 13 meeting of the Southern Baptist Press Association, held in New Orleans.

I must say it!

The biggest peril of bigness



Dr. Ashcraft

Goliath was a big man with big problems. The advantages of bigness were challenged by the perils which beset him. Apart from presenting a bigger target to the local trophy hunters, an unwholesome degree of overconfidence, a mandate by his bigness alone to be chief, his biggest and fatal peril was his tendency to disregard smaller people. He was so big, so strong, so tall that lesser people made too little

an impression upon him.

Churches, denominations, bureaus, publications, governments and establishments become big. With their bigness comes big problems. Along these problems will be found the almost universal tendency to disregard everything which is small, little or lesser.

This unwholesome disregard for the lesser may actually be unplanned and it may occur unconsciously on the part of bigness. While this tendency may be innocent, unplanned, unintended it is quite real to the victim.

It is so real that even gestures, well meaning in nature are tinged with a degree of condescension. Condescension is as vicious and destructive as is the curse of pure contempt. It is not easily forgotten by minorities.

Bigness becomes greatness the moment the proper regard for the less fortunate ones is assumed.

There has never been a finer time for greatness than now for the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. Many of us are determined that our bigness in numbers shall indeed be a mandate to excellence in leadership and setting the pace. However, an equal mandate it will be to reverse the curse of bigness from condescension, contempt and lordship over the lesser advantaged to the recognition, acceptance and identity with them.

Instead of the "self-made man who worshipped the creator" we shall be compassionately concerned and involved constructively and redemptively with minorities. This takes its form in awareness of the unemployed, the disfranchised, the poor, the low income victims, the illiterate, the outcasts, the hated sects and cults, the addicted, the lonely, the hungry, the forgotten, the naked, the prisoners and all which could be included in the list of Luke 4:18-19, Isaiah 61:1-2, and Matthew 25:31-46.

By his sheer bigness Goliath had no other alternative but to go to the head of the column. His was the mandate of bigness and though it took him to a premature grave he nonetheless answered the bell.

Baptists have no alternative but to be what they ought to be, do what they ought to do, say what they ought to say and to rise commensurately to the challenge of greatness, else their bigness itself shall be their epitaph.

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

Editorial (From page 3)

light." (Brunner, *Creation*, p. 143.)

Professor John T. Newport of Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex., emphasizes an important point as he says "Possession, at least among Western people, is a much more rare phenomenon than demonic subjection. In many instances of so-called possession, one is really only dealing with a severe case of demonic subjection or the effects of a mental illness." (Newport, *Demons, Demons, Demons*, p. 76.)

Demonic influence should not be confused with mental illness. Like other types of sickness mental illness should not carry any stigma.

Today there seems to be some valid examples of people being freed from demonic influence. The *New Testament* does not give any detailed explanation of demonic enslavement or victory from it. An over-emphasis on these events can actually enhance the work of Satan. All medieval church rituals, magic, and witchcraft, should be avoided.

We, as Christians, need not fear demonic forces. Christ freed us from all enslavement to evil so long as we conform to his guidance. John tells us "For this purpose the Son of God was manifested that he might destroy the works of the devil." (1 John 3:8.) Thus, the victory is ours. Let us proclaim it.

The bookshelf

Paperbacks recently received: *Mary, Mother of Christ, To the Gadarenes/The Work of Christ*, by E. M. Blaiklock and R. A. Finlayson, Eerdmans.

Jairus to Blind Leaders/Righteousness in Christ, by E. M. Blaiklock and William Lane, Eerdmans.

From Baker Book House: *To Whom*

Shall we Go?, by D. M. Baillie; *Our Heavenly Father*, by Helmut Thielicke; *Preaching on John*, by R. C. H. Lenski.

Studying Adult Life and Work Lessons, Herschel H. Hobbs, Convention Press.

Young Lions of Judah, by Mike Evans, with Bob Summers, Logos. Remarkable

Miracles, by G. C. Bevington.

From Whitaker: *He Spoke, and I was Strengthened*, by Dick Mills.

Handbook for Christian Writers, compiled by Christian Writers Institute, Creation House.

It is the Lord, Peter M. Rinaldi, Warner Publishing Company.

Letters to the editor

Report on school

I thought you might like a report on the Lay Evangelism School we just had at Eagle Heights. Bro. Clarence Shell, from the Evangelism Department, was our teacher. Bro. Shell reports it was his largest school with 117 enrolled. There were 12 churches that participated, with Eagle Heights having the largest enrollment of 70. The leadership training was offered in the morning, with 13 people qualifying.

This is one of the greatest things that has ever happened to Eagle Heights. Great enthusiasm is prevalent among those who attended to win souls for Christ. On Thursday evening of the school, four were won to the Lord, with various other commitments.

I heartily recommend the Lay Evangelism School to any church. I congratulate the Evangelism Department for making it possible for people to have such fine training. As usual, Bro. Shell was excellent. We are very fortunate to have a man like this in our state. — Kendell W. Black, pastor, Eagle Heights, Harrison

Supports Dr. Ashcraft

I would like to congratulate Mr. Ashcraft for his stand in behalf of Christian athletes, and the reaffirma-

tion of his support for them. Too often we get distortions and misinformation from the secular press. Which makes you wonder if it is not intended. After all, we do know that the secular press continues to hide its face behind anonymity. I'm glad to see that Mr. Ashcraft has put his signature to that which he believes in.

Separation of church and state is one matter, allowing Christian athletes to be heard in public schools by those students so desiring, is yet another. It's too bad that some schools and their advisors have become so intimidated that they cannot make a decision for higher purposes. In a day when so much of the secular concentrates upon the negative, it is refreshing to see such positive forces in action as the "Astronauts Tours," "Christian Athletes," "The Boy Scouts," and the "Girl Scouts." These are the pluses in our society that bespeak the highest ideals of mankind. With a few exceptions, the only praise these attract from the modern day journalists comes in the form of criticism. Nevertheless, I believe that most of us will agree that it is these which make meaningful and useful lives for man's betterment.

Again, I want to say that Mr. Ashcraft deserves to be congratulated for his stand, and I hope that many more of us will do likewise. —Bill Merrell, Magnolia

Through the years

J. T. Elliff and the Buick

By Ralph W. Davis
10th in a series



Davis

From 1947 to 1957 we held Training Union Conventions each spring, the last regular convention being at Immanuel Church, Little Rock, March 15-16, 1957. Each of these began Friday morning and closed at noon Saturday, with bed and breakfast furnished

by people in the host city. The first convention was held at First Church, Pine Bluff, Jan. 30-31, 1974. For several years we secured hundreds of cots at Camp Robinson and put them in basements of churches to care for some of the boys. The churches provided breakfast. During some years we provided

bed and breakfast free for as many as 700 people.

The usual attendance at these conventions was over 1,000. We had some outstanding Training Union Convention presidents. It was while J. T. Elliff was president in 1951-52 that he led the associations on "M" Night in 1951 to raise money that made it possible for them to give me a 1952 Buick when the convention met at the Robinson Auditorium, Little Rock, on March 14-15, 1952.

You can readily see why I appreciated J. T. Elliff's service as convention president. When we were looking for a director for the division of religious education, I was one of the department secretaries who recommended J. T. During the 10 years he served at Baptist Building, I was never given another



By C. W. Brockwell Jr.

I once heard about a man who had a rather peculiar way of giving. First, he placed a check for \$20 in an offering envelope and gave it during the Sunday School. But later, when the offering plate was passed in the Sanctuary, he took back \$19 in change. He was thus credited with a gift of \$20 while actually giving \$1.

No kidding! Some people think up all kinds of ways to get credit for more than they do. In fact, we don't even have to think up ways to get credit. People give it to us every day. They tell us how great our talents are and how well we are doing financially. And God doesn't say a thing. He works so much in the background that we could easily think we are doing it all ourselves.

But those who know better don't mind tithing!

car! He never seemed to catch on to why I had recommended him!

I remember several things about J. T. Elliff. One day at the Baptist Medical Center I had major surgery. As they were bringing me in from the operating room, I began to regain consciousness. Just as I opened my eyes, I saw J. T. standing over me. I said, "No, you're not going to write my obituary — I'm not dead!" That struck J. T. as funny and he laughed so that the nurses had to quieten him down. I guess folks wondered why he was laughing when I was as pale as death.

While J. T. Elliff was Director of Religious Education, he advocated something that I thought was stupid, and I vehemently let my opinions be known. After I lost and he had his way, I said, "That's what I wanted all the time."

Beginning in 1958, the State Youth Convention has been held on Friday before Easter. On April 12, 1974, the seventeenth Youth Convention will be held at the Robinson Auditorium in Little Rock with Grady Nutt as main speaker.

Next week: "Become What?"

Staff changes

Harold Riney, pastor of Webb City Church, has resigned to become pastor of First Church, Forgan, Okla. He came to Webb City in April last year. During his tenure there were nine additions to the Church, 4 of these by baptism, and the total church building debt was paid in January.

Larry Fears, former associate pastor at Shady Grove, has accepted a call to become pastor of the Cedarville Church. He will begin immediately and plans to move to the church field near the first of April. Dennis Mitchell has served as interim pastor at Cedarville since the first of December. The church has just paid off their \$10,000 note eight years ahead of schedule. This was for the combination auditorium and education space built two years ago.

News briefs

- First Church, Perryville, where Jim Fowler serves as pastor, will have a note-burning service March 31 beginning at 10 a.m. Notes on the sanctuary and education building will be burned in the afternoon.

- The Baptist Student Union at Arkansas State University at Beebe will hold a religious music contest March 25 in the gymnasium. Proceeds from the admission charge will go to BSU's summer missions program.

- The Watson Chapel Church, Pine Bluff, held groundbreaking services March 3, for a 6,200 ft. educational building which will cost \$100,000. Among those participating in the services were Charles H. Ashcraft, executive secretary, Arkansas Baptist State Convention; J. Everett Sneed, editor, *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine*, who brought the morning message; Harold White, associational missionary, Harmony Association; and Lee Clements, builder, Mar-K Construction Company. There was a new Sunday School record set with 404 present.

Revivals

First Church, Lockesburg, March 3-11; Stanley Jordan, evangelist, Howard Latimer, music director; nine for baptism and three by letter. James H. Cannon is pastor.

Grace Church, North Little Rock, March 24-31; J. Phillip Allison will be evangelist; Ron Coppock will be music leader. Dennis Tyner is pastor.

Belview Church, Melbourne, March 8-10 led by youth; Jimmy Terrell, evangelist, Roscoe Stedman, music director; four professions of faith, one by letter. Paul Huskey is pastor and Gayle Cooper is youth director.

Little Rock will host FMB appointment service

RICHMOND — A special appointment service for approximately 20 overseas missionary candidates of the Southern Baptist Convention will be held at Little Rock's Robinson Auditorium, April 9 at 7 p.m.

The ceremony will be part of the spring meeting of the Convention's Foreign Mission Board which begins Monday, April 8, and concludes Wednesday, April 10. The public is invited to attend the Tuesday evening appointment service and a business session beginning 9 a.m. Wednesday at Immanuel Church.

Foreign Mission Board staff personnel and missionaries will speak in Little Rock area Baptist churches on Sunday, April 7.

Little Rock will be the first Arkansas city to host such a meeting. The Foreign Mission Board usually meets in Richmond, although at least once a year for the past five years it has met in another city.

This is "to allow Baptist people to participate more directly in the appointment of the missionaries whom they support," says Jesse C. Fletcher, the board's mission support division director.

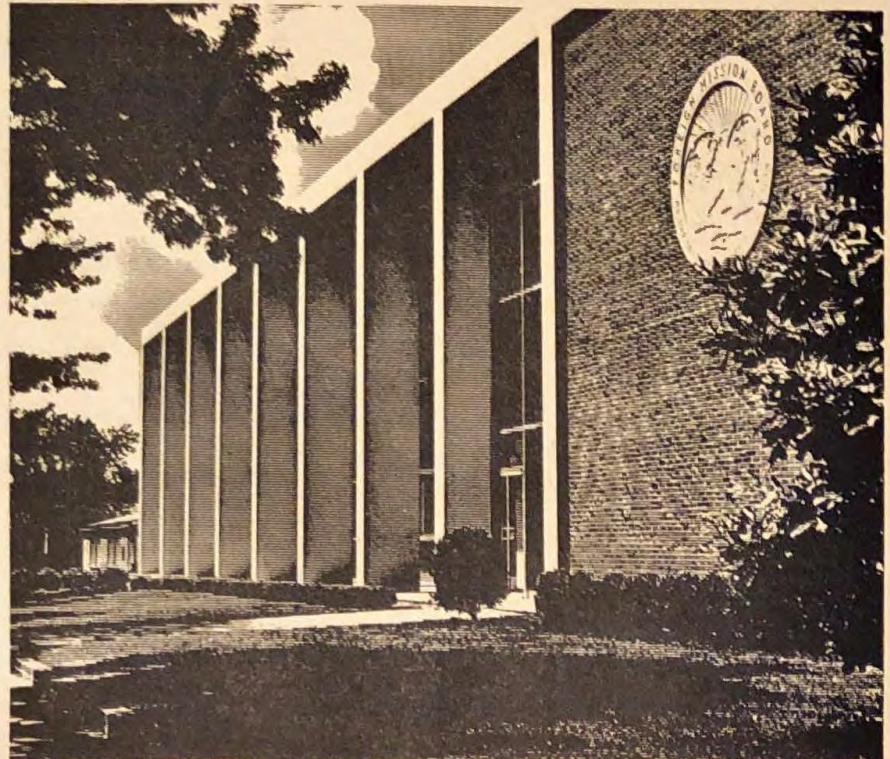
Most of the 67 members of the Foreign Mission Board along with some of the Richmond headquarters staff are expected to be present for the three-day meeting. W. O. Vaught Jr., pastor of Immanuel Church and Arkansas' representative on the Foreign Mission Board, is coordinating the planning for the Little Rock meeting.

Featured speaker for the Tuesday appointment service will be Baker J. Cauthen, executive secretary for the overseas agency. He will present certificates of appointment and deliver the charge to new missionaries following their Christian testimonies and approval by the board.

Ouachita Baptist University's 150-voice choir will sing during the meeting.

In other sessions at Immanuel Church, the board is expected to approve about 90 young people to begin training as missionary journeymen. Journeymen are college graduates no older than 26 who go overseas for two years to work in a specific job alongside career missionaries.

The board is also expected to hear progress reports on Cooperative Program receipts and the 1973 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.



Headquarters of the Foreign Mission Board is this building at Richmond, Va.

Featured speaker: Baker J. Cauthen

As executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Baker J. Cauthen has called for a growth in missionary personnel and finances and geographical expansion during the decade of the '70s.

In communicating the gospel, Southern Baptists should increase their use of mass media — publications, radio, television — and other creative efforts in evangelism, Cauthen says.

Before becoming executive secretary, he was the board's secretary for the Orient, missionary to China, missions professor at Southwestern Seminary in Ft. Worth, Tex., and pastor of rural and city churches.

A Texan, he was born in Huntsville and grew up in Lufkin. He received the bachelor of arts degree from Stephen F. Austin State College (now University), Nacogdoches, Tex., the master of arts degree from Baylor University, Waco, Tex., and the master and doctor of theology degrees from Southwestern Seminary. He also holds honorary degrees from Baylor University; East Texas Baptist College, Marshall; Stetson University, De Land, Fla.; Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, Tex.; and the University of Richmond (Va.)

Called to his first pastorate at the age of 16, Cauthen served rural Texas churches during student days. In 1933 he began a six-year ministry at Polytechnic Baptist Church, Ft. Worth. Two years later he added teaching responsibilities at Southwestern Seminary.

Appointed for overseas service in 1939, he did evangelistic work in Kweilin, southeast China, for most of the World War II years. In 1945 the Foreign Mission Board elected him secretary for the Orient.

During the nine years he held that position, the board assigned missionaries to seven additional Asian countries, increased its staff in Japan from seven to 100 and relocated many missionaries who were forced out of China by Communist advance.

When Cauthen assumed his present post Jan. 1, 1954, there were 900 missionaries serving in

The cover



W. Douglas Hudgins, (left) retired executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, is president of the Foreign Mission Board. Baker J. Cauthen has served the Board as executive secretary since 1954.

33 countries. By June 1, 1973, 2,510 missionaries were assigned to 77 geographical and political entities. This increase in missionary personnel is the result of the program of advance which envisions an overseas staff of 5,000 serving through a diversity of mission ministries.

In 1973, Cauthen's book *Beyond Call* was released by Broadman Press. Based on charges delivered

to newly appointed missionaries, his testimony speaks to all men and women who have answered God's call to be Christians in all they do.

Cauthen is married to the former Eloise Glass, daughter of Southern Baptist missionaries to China. They have two children, Mrs. Bill R. Mathews Jr. and Ralph B. Cauthen, and two grandsons, John and Steve Cauthen.

Students to serve in 'Project Impact'

The Collegiate Staff of University Church, Fayetteville, has developed what they call Project Impact — Impact standing for "Impossible Action in Christ." The objective of Project Impact is to give some of the hundreds of collegians at the University of Arkansas involved in University Baptist's collegiate program an opportunity to share their gifts, witness and ministry with churches throughout the state, especially with youth. The teams are composed of from eight to 15 young people who have been grounded in the basics of the faith and who have experienced the ministry of the Holy Spirit. The teams will travel anywhere they are invited on an expense only basis. No honorariums are solicited.

Ron Revard, All-Southwest Conference center for the Razorbacks, is the Impact team director. Ron came to know Christ at the U of A, will graduate in May of this year, and plans to spend one more year on the University Church staff before entering seminary. Revard commented that the potential for the team is fantastic, and the results have already been most encouraging. The team is booked for eight more "Impact Weekends" this spring.

H. D. McCarty, pastor of University Church, says that the "impact" college youth have on teenagers is immeasurable. Adults also benefit greatly from the team ministry. Subjects of discipleship, parental authority, the abundant life, guilt and sharing one's faith are presented in workbook and media formats.

For information write Ron Revard, c/o University Church, 315 West Maple, Fayetteville, Ark. 72701.

Hotel reservations lag for Dallas convention

DALLAS (BP) — Many rooms near the Dallas Convention Center are still available for those planning to attend the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) here, June 11-13, 1974.

Thus far, 4,389 rooms for 8,496 guests have been assigned, according to the convention housing bureau.

At this time a year ago, 5,069 rooms had been reserved for the Portland, Ore., meeting of the SBC in June, 1973.

Convention officials say, however, that it is too early to speculate on how much the energy crisis will affect attendance.

Hotel registration cards are being distributed by Baptist state convention offices.

Foundation elects executive director

Harry D. Trulove of Dallas, Tex., will become Executive Director of the Arkansas Baptist Foundation on May 1. He was unanimously elected by the Foundation's board of directors at the quarterly meeting on March 1.

The Foundation was chartered in 1948 as an agency of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. It was created to serve the Convention and its institutions in a specialized area of Christian Stewardship, dealing with wills, trusts, estate planning, and money management.

Trulove will serve as the chief executive officer of the Foundation with offices in the Baptist Building in Little Rock. He will be responsible to a nine man board of directors elected annually by the Convention.



Harry D. Trulove

Since 1969 Trulove has served as secretary of the Estate Stewardship Department of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, after one year as associate in the department. His work in that department involved the development and utilization of materials in estate planning and money management. He led conferences and seminars and participated in a broad area of stewardship work. His duties required him to work very closely with the Texas Baptist Foundation, serving in a practical way as the promotional and educational arm of the Texas Foundation.

Trulove is a native of Rome, Ga., and a graduate of Mercer University, Macon, Ga., with a degree in economics. He received a bachelor of divinity degree in 1957 from Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex. He has held four pastorates in Oklahoma

and Texas, the last one being a six and one-half year tenure as pastor of First Church, Ft. Stockton, Tex.

Prior to entering the ministry, he was an agent for a life insurance company, and before that was enrolled in the management training program of a major department store chain. He served two years in the U.S. Navy during World War II, and completed Navy Officers Candidate School.

His wife Carolyn and 15 year old son Timothy will be joining him in Little Rock early in the summer. An older son and daughter are no longer living at home.

Trulove will be the first full-time executive director of the Foundation in over two years since Ed McDonald resigned that position in January of 1972. Since that time, Roy F. Lewis of the state convention staff has served the Foundation on a part-time basis as Acting Executive Director.

Endowment fund set up at Southern

WALNUT RIDGE — Mr. and Mrs. Carey Rogers of Illinois and Maryland recently announced plans to establish a \$100,000 endowment for scholarships for students of Greene County and surrounding area, who need help to attend Southern Baptist College. The announcement was made March 15 by H. E. Williams, President-emeritus and Special Officer for Development of the school. The full amount will be deposited in the trust department of a bank in the area within the next three years, and interest from the fund will be used by the college as scholarships for deserving young people.

The fund will be known as the "Chappel Rogers Scholarship Fund" in memory of Chappel Rogers, father of Carey Rogers, who served the churches of Greene County and Northeast Arkansas for more than 50 years.

Chappel Rogers was a brother of the late J. S. Rogers, who served as Executive Secretary of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention and as President of Central College from about 1916 to 1940. Dr. Rogers taught at Ouachita University and Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex.

A substantial part of the fund was deposited at the time the fund was established and will provide scholarships for several students at the opening of the fall term of Southern Aug. 26. Applicants should address inquiries to Dr. D. Jack Nicholas, President of the college.

Leadership conference provides for sharing laymen's ideas

Civic involvement, use of retired people, get the laity together and involved, exchange Sunday School teachers and preachers, joint choir festivals, inform and train laymen in personal witnessing, joint stewardship clinics, provide scholarships for students attending Arkansas Baptist College, sponsor more youth to attend summer camp program, eliminate emphasis on color, develop a program to combat juvenile delinquency, share in WMU and Brotherhood mission action and mission study, seek a prayer partner. These and other ideas were presented by the laymen and women attending the annual Leadership Conference for National and Southern Baptists in Arkansas at Camp Paron, March 1-2. Of the 205 registered for the conference, 130 were laymen and women.

Owen Cooper, president of the Southern Baptist Convention and a deacon in his church, made specific recommendations for lay involvement in joint projects. Excerpts from his messages appeared in last week's edition of the *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine*.

Sandy F. Ray, pastor of Cornerstone Church, Brooklyn, N. Y., and president

of the Empire Missionary Baptist State Convention, spoke twice using "Calmness in a Crisis" and "Partnerships With God" as his subjects.

"We are familiar with toys as children, but when we grow to be adults we become familiar with tools," he said. "It is a tragedy for an adult to continue to play with toys when tools are needed for the task of living."

He showed how Paul and John, apostles of Christ, saw themselves as sons of God. He used Jesus' story of the prodigal son to illustrate the current rejection of responsible sonship that is seen too often in our churches today. "The prodigal son came home and asked to be a servant, but the father told him, 'I do not need any more servants. I laid some off today, but I do have a critical need for sons. I only have one son at present and he is not happy with the relationship. If you want to be a servant, I can't use you, but if you care to be a son, I need you badly.' You see, sons are partners in the enterprise and as such share in the responsibility."

Dr. Ray went on to say, "In a partnership with God, man tiptoes to meet the demands of God, and God condescends to work with man. God reveals himself

to us as we show ourselves responsible. This world is in a process of becoming — not what it was, not what it will be. God has the power and man needs the dedication and commitment so together we can build a responsible world."

Other speakers included Loren Belt, Director of Cooperative Ministries in Missouri, and Mrs. Charles H. Ashcraft, wife of Arkansas' executive secretary-treasurer, who gave some practical suggestions for working together.

Robert Bradley, Director of Music Promotion for the Sunday School Publishing Board of the National Baptist Convention, Inc., Nashville, Tenn., led the music, and Mrs. Hazel Hynson, music professor at Arkansas Baptist College, Little Rock, was accompanist.

Cooperating conventions sponsoring the conference were The Regular Arkansas Missionary Baptist State Convention, G. R. Mazique, president; The Consolidated Missionary Baptist State Convention, Fred T. Guy, president; and the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, Don Moore, president. — Robert U. Ferguson, Director of Cooperative Ministries with National Baptists, Arkansas Baptist State Convention

Acteens

Act I scheduled May 4 in Little Rock

Methods and Missions will be featured at Act I for Junior High Acteens. Meeting May 4 with Calvary Church in Little Rock the program will feature three small group conferences. One conference in the morning will be aimed at making Acteens the exciting organization it should be. Skilled leaders will be working with girls and leaders to involve them in planning for exciting studies and activities. There will be a time for sharing and girls are urged to bring with them any materials or displays of activities which have been meaningful to them.

Girls will have the opportunity to dialogue with two of 16 Home and Foreign missionaries who have agreed to be present for the event. Testimonies, good music and short talks will characterize the rest of the program which is using as a theme "Let's Get It All Together."

ACT, which stands for "Acteens Come Together," is the new term suggested by the girls for their state wide meetings. This is the first under that title, hence, ACT I.



SBC President Owen Cooper leads in an idea-sharing discussion with laymen at the conference.



The Ouachita-Southern Advancement Campaign

The Arkansas Baptist Campaign for Ouachita Baptist University and Southern Baptist College

Calvary Association 80 percent

By Jim E. Tillman, Director

Congratulations to A. E. Queen, associational chairman, and William M. Burnett, coordinator, for the Advancement Campaign in Calvary Association and to Billy Rogers, Region VI chairman. These men have worked tirelessly in the involvement of churches of the Calvary Association in the OBU-SBC Campaign.

A major goal for Phase 2 is to have the associations across the state have at least 80 percent of their churches participating. At the State Convention this past November, Independence, Dardanelle-Russellville, Little Red River, Ashley County, and Ouachita Associations were recognized for having reached this goal. The Carroll County Association remains the only 100 percent association.

The Calvary Association became the seventh to have reached or gone beyond the 80 percent mark. The pastors of these 29 churches are to be commended for their vision in leading their churches into this historic effort for Christian Higher Education.

Participating Churches in Calvary Association:

Antioch, Beebe
Augusta, First
Beebe, First
Bethany, Georgetown
Central, Bald Knob
Crosby, First
El Paso
Good Hope, McCrory
Grace, Augusta
Gregory
Higginson
Hunter, First
Judsonia, First
Kensett, First
McCrory, First
McRae, First
Midway, Judsonia
Morton, McCrory
Mount Hebron, Searcy
Pangburn, First
Patterson, First
Pleasant Grove, Howell
Raynor Grove, McCrory
Rocky Point, Judsonia
Searcy, First

First State Youth Evangelism Conference, Aug. 8-10

The time is right and excitement is growing for our first State Youth Evangelism Conference which will be held at Immanuel Church Aug. 8-10. The conference will be a combination of wonderful Spirit-filled singing and preaching coupled with special leadership seminars that will aid every youth worker in the state.

The leadership training will include two sessions for youth leaders and their pastors. One will be "WOW" training, led by its author, Joe Ford. "WOW" is similar to the Lay Evangelism School which was developed by the Division of Evangelism of the Home Mission Board except that it is a witnessing emphasis designed especially for young people. The other emphasis will be "Reach Out" strategy taught by Steve Cloud, a youth director from Orlando, Florida. The purpose of "Reach Out" is to offer intensive training in personal discipleship and witnessing in the framework of Agape love.

Our congregational meetings will be led by these program personalities: Steve and Susan Boehning, Birchman Avenue Church, Ft. Worth, Texas; Jim Elliff, student, Southwestern Seminary; Ragan and Cynthia Clawson Courtney, musicians from Dallas, Tex.; and Vernard Johnson, saxophonist and doctrinal student, Southwestern Seminary. Friday night we will have as our special guests the musical group, "TRUTH," from Mobile, Ala., in concert. Make plans now to attend. — Dick King

1974 Royal Ambassador Congress scheduled at Geyer Springs Church

Mission displays, mission speakers and mission activities suggestions will be just a few of the learning opportunities for boys attending the 21st Annual State Royal Ambassador Congress. The Congress is to be held on Friday and Saturday, May 3-4. The facilities of First Church Geyer Springs will be the place of the meeting. The address is 5615 Geyer Springs Road, Little Rock.

The first session of the Congress will begin at 1:30 p.m. on Friday. This session will feature the Royal Ambassador speakers contest, "Tell It Like It Is."

The speakers contest is open to boys in three divisions; Crusaders, grades 4-6; Pioneers, grades 7-9; and Ambassador Service, grades 10-12.

Three prizes will be awarded, one for Crusaders, one for Pioneers, and one for Ambassador Service. The winner in each division will receive a scholarship to one week of camp at the state Royal Ambassador Camp in June. The winner in each division will speak at the Friday evening session of the Congress.

Searcy, Second
Temple, Searcy
Tupelo, First
West Point

A plaque will be presented to this association at an appropriate time.

Rules of the contest have been mailed to all counselors, pastors and ministers of education.

Following the afternoon session, a hot dog supper will be served to all who pre-register for the Congress by April 29. The hot dog supper will be from 5-6 p.m.

The evening session will begin at 6:45 p.m. Donald Spiegel, missionary to Brazil, will be the missionary speaker for the session. There will be other emphasis and special features during the evening.

The Saturday session will begin at 8:45 a.m. There will be a conference period for all three divisions of Royal Ambassador, Crusaders, Pioneers and Ambassador Service.

The missionary speaker will be Sam Turner, missionary to Kenya. Each session will feature good singing and special music by singing groups.

Make plans now to have boys from your church attend every session of the Congress. However, it will be an educational trip for them and time well invested.

The program, fellowship, and association with boys from across the state will be educational and inspirational.

Congress information, reservation forms and a poster has been mailed to all counselors of record, pastors and ministers of education.

Make reservations now! Urge all boys to attend. — C. H. Seaton, Director

The Southern accent

'High Church' Baptists



Dr. Williams

Only a few years ago many Baptists felt that a general lack of dignity in the order of their church services and the preacher's pulpit ministry was desirable. In some instances, ministers became well known for their "corny," home-spun mannerisms. Quaint and "back-woodsy" dialect and phrasing in their preaching was widely accepted and admired. Evidence of erudition and intellectualism on the part of a minister often led to suspicion regarding his orthodoxy and identification with the "Baptist faith."

Times have changed unbelievably in recent years. Few of those of yesterday who gained fame for their colloquialism would be noticed, or even accepted, in our churches today. Baptists are no

longer frontier people, lacking in education and cultural attainment. Their level of education and sophistication makes them far different from those of two generations ago. Today, the ratio of Baptists with doctorates approximates any other denomination in America. They have entered all higher levels of modern life on an equal basis with other denominations.

Baptists are no longer economically poor people. Thousands of Baptists are now listed in the millionaire class. Some of the heads of the largest business and industrial enterprises of the world are Baptists.

Baptist church buildings now look like cathedrals when compared with those of only a generation ago. Their institutions also reflect their growing opulence.

Baptist denominational programs are by no means insignificant. Their gifts to all causes now run to billions of dollars.

Growing sophistication is evidenced in the worship services of Baptist people, universally. Fine choirs, directed by professional musicians, now put on musical programs of "high church" quality. Highly skilled renditions of very intricate music is often the norm, rather than the exception.

In the pulpit, there is also growing evidence of sophistication. The ministers are now much better trained than they were a generation ago. The average pastor today is no "bumpkin," lacking pulpit ability and effective leadership to develop and project a well-rounded church program. The average Baptist pastor, in the average town, is as well, or better, trained than the ministers of other denominations.

I like what I see today. Baptists cannot afford to look back to the "good old days," which were, after all, not so good. We live in a world that no longer places a premium on "cornball" personalities in the pulpit. We are rapidly overcoming the natural handicap long placed upon people of the South. It was once said that, "Even the sermon on the mount, quoted with a southern accent, would attract little attention." That was true when that accent was identified with colloquial incompetence and ignorance, but that opinion is rapidly changing. There is little left of the "back-woodsy" flavor to the South. We are rapidly becoming "middle-American" in speech, thinking, and religious practice.

Compared to conditions 50 years ago Baptists, are now "high church." Let it remain so. A little dignity will not hurt us; Religion should tend toward that element. Referring to the Creator as "the man upstairs" cheapens the concept of the mighty God of the scriptures. God is a great, majestic being, and everything we do in His name should be done "decently and in order."

If churches lack proper respect for God, it will show in their worship services and ministry to the community. — H. E. Williams, President Emeritus, Special Officer for Development, Southern Baptist College

Top 25 churches in Cooperative Program gifts in 1973

The 25 churches listed below are the leaders in our state in total gifts through the Cooperative Program during 1973. The list is based on records of gifts received in the Executive Secretary's office and does not include any special or designated amounts.

This list presents those with the largest gifts in dollars. In subsequent issues we will present the 25 leading churches in per capita giving and the leading 25 churches in percentage giving.

Church	Association	Amount
1. Immanuel, Little Rock	Pulaski	\$83,848.14
2. Pulaski Heights, Little Rock	Pulaski	\$74,332.46
3. Fort Smith, First	Concord	\$71,376.96
4. West Memphis, First	Tri-County	\$55,644.07
5. Grand Avenue, Fort Smith	Concord	\$49,888.12
6. Blytheville, First	Mississippi	\$49,878.85
7. Pine Bluff, First	Harmony	\$44,712.08
8. Springdale, First	Washington-Madison	\$40,786.75
9. Camden, First	Liberty	\$39,288.88
10. Park Hill, North Little Rock	North Pulaski	\$38,601.40
11. Crossett, First	Ashley	\$37,338.50
12. Central, Magnolia	Hope	\$35,074.51
13. Paragould, First	Greene	\$34,881.04
14. Baring Cross, North Little Rock	North Pulaski	\$32,121.33
15. Hope, First	Hope	\$31,526.10
16. Jonesboro, First	Mt. Zion	\$29,365.50
17. Central, Jonesboro	Mt. Zion	\$29,275.87
18. Calvary, Little Rock	Pulaski	\$28,506.36
19. Geyer Springs, Little Rock	Pulaski	\$28,091.30
20. Levy, North Little Rock	North Pulaski	\$27,176.73
21. Benton, First	Central	\$26,558.23
22. Harrison, First	Boone-Newton	\$24,550.46
23. Life Line, Little Rock	Pulaski	\$24,438.11
24. South Side, Pine Bluff	Harmony	\$24,090.83
25. Searcy, First	Calvary	\$23,533.46

Did you know . . .

your messengers to the state and Southern Baptist Convention must approve the division of Cooperative Program funds?

State Youth

Friday, April 12, 1974

Little Rock

Afternoon

2:00 - 4:00

Morning Session
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Two consecutive

Younger Youth
Grades 9 and Below

Exhibition Hall

Lower Floor



Program

Speaker



Grady Nutt
Minister, Humorist, Writer
Louisville, Ky.

Music



Russ and Helen Cline
Recording Artists
Kansas City, Mo.

Convention

Robinson Auditorium

Arkansas

Session

5 p.m.

essions in one

Evening Session

6:00 – 7:15 p.m.

Older Youth
Grades 10 and Above

Music Hall

Main Floor

Highlights

Speech Choir



"Verbatim"
Ouachita Baptist
University

Youth Choir



Central Church
Magnolia, Ark.
Morris Ratley, Director

Other Features

- "Jesus Christ Power and Light Co."
Ouachita B.S.U. Group
- Soloists: Monica Keathley, Bill Canary, John Peeples
- State Youth Bible Drill and Speakers' Tournament

March 21, 1974

Additional Information

- Seating for 5,000 at Robinson Auditorium
- Ample parking at Convention Center for cars
- Parking for busses

Make plans for promotion projects



Hatfield

The state promotion plan for 1974 has several Sunday School projects that could be helpful when properly timed and planned in a church program. April 7 is a suggested High Attendance Day. This is a quarterly event patterned on the

Great Day in the Morning project which was conducted last Oct. 7.

The High Attendance Day for April 7 is a statewide promotion. However, there will not be a statewide follow-up of reporting the attendance of each church through the association. So, just use the High Attendance Day for the good it will do in placing emphasis on visitation of absentees and prospects and reaching many people for Bible Study in your church.

Next, a People Search is an important function for a church. It is a prospect discovery action that is accomplished in its maximum efficiency by a door-to-door census. There is an important resource you may want from the Baptist Book Store. It is a book, *People Search*,

by Kenneth Dean. A church needs only one copy. This book lists 101 ways to find prospects and has a definition or description of every action and resource needed in preparing for conducting, processing and assigning prospects for visitation.

The third project is a Literature Distribution Plan a church could use the week before High Attendance Day, April 7. High Attendance Day is the first Sunday of a new quarter and the distribution plan preceding it has a built-in visit to every family in the Sunday School. More detailed description of the Literature Distribution plan is available through the department. Write and ask for this leaflet.

The fourth suggestion is a Sunday School Revival. We also have a leaflet on this project and encourage you to send for it and consider using the Sunday School organization to assist in your spring revival if it seems appropriate.

Another project is to conduct an Adult Rally. Resource for this meeting will need to be devised largely by the local leadership, based on the needs of Adults in the Sunday School (see *Adult Leadership*, Oct. 1973.)

If you had an earlier rally this new one suggested for April 28 would be a report meeting and a special message from the pastor on witnessing, any subject he feels is needed to encourage better Adult Sunday School work.

You may use all these suggestions, or only some of them. In any case, know what you need most and adapt the above suggestions to your own situation.

Share the Word Now. — Lawson Hatfield, State Sunday School Director

Full schedule for Baptist Youth World Conference

Strength, stamina, and endurance will be helpful when youth go to Portland for the Eighth Baptist Youth World Conference of the BWA. The program of the conference call for a high degree of involvement and interaction on the part of all the delegates. Under the theme "Christ — Our Challenge to Live" the overall objective is "to explore together and affirm each other as different peoples who share the common challenge to live — as the body of Christ."

Conference participants — 10,000 are expected, ages 16-25 — will be divided into eight communities. Each conferee will choose a "satellite" or smaller group. Focuses in the satellites include evangelism and witness, the devotional life, world issues, the arts, leadership, language live-in, and world community building.

The satellites will be further divided into core groups of 11 conferees each. These groups will provide maximum in-depth person-to-person contact.

Morning sessions will be designed for building relationships, study and reflection. The afternoons are devoted to optional experiences — interest centers, investigation tours of life-styles in the Portland area, and sightseeing tours.

Early evening sessions will major on prayer and Bible study groups, a witness forum, singspiration and special speakers. All will then come together each evening for a plenary gathering in the Portland Coliseum for inspiration and joint worship.

A serendipity time closes each day. The variety of these late evening periods ranges from coffee houses to a rock festival and faith inquiries.

Arkansas BSU and WMU are cooperating in sponsoring a bus to the conference. The bus will leave July 25 and return Aug. 10. If you are interested and desire further information, contact either the BSU or WMU office, Box 550, Little Rock, Ark. 72203.

Child Care

Honor a loved one with a gift

The next time you wish to honor a departed friend or loved one, you might desire to do so by sending a memorial gift (in any amount) to the Arkansas Baptist Home for Children. Families of those whose memories you have honored will be notified by an appropriate card (without mentioning the amount given.)

Your dollars do double duty with memorial giving: (1) It is a practical means of honoring the memory of a friend or loved one; and (2) at the same time you lend a helping hand to needy children.

Amount \$ _____

Given by: _____

Address: _____
Town State Zip

In Memory of: _____

Send cards to: _____

Mail to: Arkansas Baptist Home for Children, P. O. Box 180, Monticello, Arkansas 71655. — Johnny G. Biggs, Executive Director, Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care Services.

What does the chaplain do at the Girls Training School?



Lumpykin

What does a chaplain at a Girls Training School do, is a question frequently asked. As a part of the Chaplaincy program of our Missions Department I would like to share with you something of the marvelous opportunities we have

Sunday, and a mid-week service. We solicit the help of youth of various churches in the area by asking them to present musical programs with testimonies, etc. We also use religious films in our program.

The Chaplain interviews each girl after she arrives. At this time we learn something of her background, problems, and spiritual needs. We present her with a new Bible at this time, together with an appropriate Christian witness.

We find during the six months they are on the campus that a certain pattern emerges. At first there is rebellion, loneliness, depression, discouragement. As they adjust they began to take stock of their life, goals, purposes, and aspirations. During this period they usually seek out the Chaplain for help and advice. This affords a wonderful opportunity for a Christian witness and the presentation of Christian ideals for life.

I wish we could say that we win all the lost. This would be ideal but not realistic. But what we can do is to plant seed, and hope that others can cultivate and harvest the fruit. — Doyle L. Lumpykin

as Baptists.

The population at the Training School varies from about 100 to 125. There are three categories of court-defined assignments: the delinquent, the neglected, and the dependent girl. The ages of those assigned range from 12 to almost 18. The Training School has a basic goal of rehabilitation in the mental, social, and spiritual areas. To assist in this there is an accredited High School, a state rehabilitation center, a licensed cosmetology school, and a nurse's aide program.

The spiritual program is under the direction of the Chaplain. We have a Sunday School, two worship services on

Woman's viewpoint

In answer to his call

By Iris O'Neal Bowen

If there is something You would have me do;
A task so small it hardly seems worthwhile,
Or one that is so great I am afraid
I cannot serve, nor go the extra mile,

Then, Lord, I need your help that I may see
That any task has worth, though it be small,
And if You ask my service for the deed,
My proof of love is answering Your call.

But if the call is ominous and dark,
And fear persuades me that I am too weak,
Then, Lord, provide the strength I do not have,
That I may meet the challenge — Oh, I seek

Thy guiding hand — Thy strength each passing day;
Thy sweet and gentle presence on the way.

One of the finest young men in our church has answered the Lord's call to preach — and he gave such a sweet testimony as he told about his call.

He said that he had been feeling the call for quite a while that the Lord wanted him to preach. "But" he said; "I wasn't any great speaker, and my vocabulary wasn't any too good and I wondered how the Lord could use me."

Then he decided that wasn't what was important and what the Lord needed was someone who just wanted

to do what the Lord wanted him to do!

Shouldn't we all pray for the same humble, obedient spirit? Even though we may not feel the call to preach, God does place us in definite areas of service.

And the Lord would have many more servants working in the vineyard, if so many weren't waiting for the know-how.

If God has a job he wants you to do, he can surely supply the know-how!



Mrs. Bowen

Arkansas is first in music growth

The statistical reports from the 1973 associational church letters have just been completed and they reveal a 6.8 percent growth in music enrollment over 1972 throughout the Convention.

Among all the states with full-time church music secretaries, Arkansas was first in percentage of growth over 1972 with 13 percent. This represents a numerical growth of 4,198 over 1972 and brings the number of people enrolled in church music in Arkansas Baptist churches to 35,381.

With this growth in enrollment comes added responsibility on music leadership at every level. We thank God for every opportunity which this expanded enrollment brings both locally and state-wide. — Ervin Keathley, Church Music Secretary.

Ministers' wives plan '1974 Roundup' in Dallas

DALLAS (BP) — The Southern Baptist Convention Ministers' Wives Conference will meet at First Church, Dallas, June 11.

The conference, based on the theme, "1974 Roundup of Ministers' Wives," will include a panel discussion on concerns and current stresses faced by ministers' wives.

Panel members are Mrs. Huber Drumwright, moderator, and Mrs. John Claypool, both of Ft. Worth; Mrs. Forbes Woods and Mrs. John Hurt, both of Dallas.

Special music will be furnished by a trio of ministers' wives, who, with their husbands, are Southern Baptist missionaries in Vietnam. Officers for 1976 will be elected.

Present officers are Mrs. Roy W. Babb, Nashville, Tenn., president; Mrs. James Landes, Dallas, Tex., vice president; Mrs. Charles Jolly, Madison, N. J., recording secretary-treasurer; and Mrs. Emile Williams, Jonesboro, Ark., corresponding secretary.

Officers to serve in 1975 include Mrs. Maurice Clayton, Jackson, Miss., president; Mrs. Conrad R. Willard, Miami, Fla., vice president; Mrs. B. J. Martin, Pasadena, Tex., recording secretary-treasurer; and Mrs. P. A. Michel, Brookhaven, Miss., corresponding secretary.

Nursery Worker Needed

West Little Rock Church

Wednesday night and Sunday

Available for church functions

Call: 565-8284

Southern Baptist Church Music Conference

Park Cities Church, Dallas,
The Sheraton-Dallas Hotel,
Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth
June 8-10

Saturday evening — The Sheraton-Dallas Hotel

8:00 Executive Council pre-conference planning meeting

Sunday afternoon — The Sheraton-Dallas Hotel

Executive Council dinner (council and wives, past presidents and wives), Carriage Club

Sunday evening — Park Cities Church

6:00 "A Service of Praise" — The Centurymen, directed by Beryl Red, New York; concert artists Robert Hale and Dean Wilder, New York City Opera; The Dallas (Tex.) Baptist College Wind Ensemble, directed by Doug Smith

Don Brown, William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo.,
presiding
John F. Gardner, Baptist Sunday School Board,
Nashville, Tenn., coordinator

8:30 Fellowship period, exhibit area, The Sheraton-Dallas Hotel — Hosted by Church Music Department, Baptist General Convention of Texas

Monday morning — The Sheraton-Dallas Hotel

Don Brown, presiding
Beryl Vick, Immanuel Church, Nashville, Tenn., coordinator
Roy Lee Williams, Houston, Tex., timekeeper

8:00 Registration

8:30 Call to order

Hymn

Invocation — Paul McCommon, Georgia Baptist Convention

8:35 Welcome — Sam Prestidge, Baptist General Convention of Texas

8:40 "Electronic Music and the Church" — Rick Powell, composer-arranger-producer, Nashville, Tenn.

9:25 Introduction of executive council
Presentation of newly-elected vice presidents
Awarding of honorary memberships

9:35 Address: "Worship As Event" — John Claypool, pastor, Broadway Church, Ft. Worth, Tex.

10:00 Exhibit break

Paul Bobbitt, Florida Baptist Convention, presiding
Bill Leach, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn., coordinator
Marvin Spry, Dawson Memorial Church, Birmingham, Ala.

10:25 "News from Broadman Press" — Loren Williams, Music Sales Specialist, Broadman Press, Nashville, Tenn.

10:40 Conference business sessions

Registration and membership report

Final consideration of constitutional amendments

Resolutions committee report

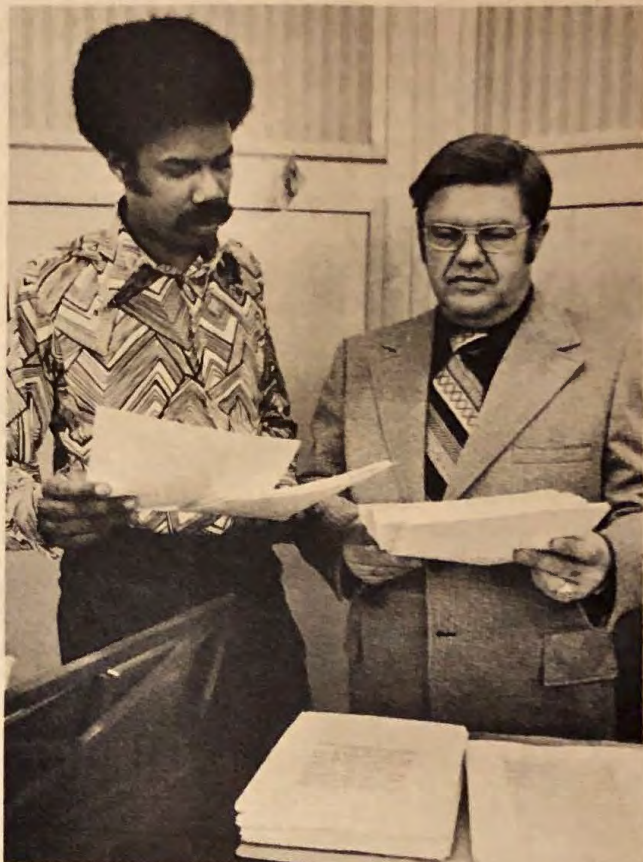
11:05 "Jonah's Tale of a Whale" — The Children's Choir, First Church, Garland, Tex., directed by Harrell Slack

11:45 Lunch

Monday afternoon — The Sheraton-Dallas Hotel

Hugh T. McElrath, Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky.,
presiding
Claude L. Bass, Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee,
Okla., coordinator
Donald Winters, William Carey College, Hattiesburg,
Miss., timekeeper

1:00 "A Tribute to Jane Marshall" — The Sanctuary Choir, First Church, Shawnee, Okla., directed by James Woodward



REVISING BAPTIST HYMNAL — Raoul Cunningham (left), former music director for Green Street Church in Louisville and now assistant to Senator Walter D. Huddleston (D-Ky.), and William J. Reynolds, chairman of the Baptist Hymnal revision committee, go over possible hymns for the new edition. The committee met in Nashville recently. Reynolds is secretary of the church music department of the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville. (BP) Photo by James Lee Young

- 1:50 "Baptist Hymnal (1975 Edition)" — William J. Reynolds, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn., and the Hymnal Revision Committee
- 2:25 Exhibit break
- 2:55 Interest Sessions —
 Emphasis: children's choirs — Mrs. Evelyn Phillips and children from the Southwestern Seminary Children's Choir School, Ft. Worth, Tex.
 Emphasis: contemporary worship — Beryl Vick, convener; "The Church and Electronic Music" — Rick Powell
 Emphasis: the adult choir — Marvin Spry, convener; "Vocal Techniques in the Choral Rehearsal" — James Woodward and the Sanctuary Choir, First Church, Shawnee, Okla.
 Emphasis: music and worship — Donald Winters, convener; "Music, Worship and New Directions in Congregational Involvement" — Sponsored by the Education Division, Hugh T. McElrath
 Emphasis: instrumental music — Carl Perry, First Church, Knoxville, Tenn., convener; "Using Instruments in the Worship Service" — Doug Smith and the Dallas Baptist College Brass Quintet
 Emphasis: new materials and methods — (exhibits)
- 3:50 Division meetings
 Local church division — Dewey Kyle, Huffman Baptist Church, Birmingham, Ala., presiding
 Education division — Hugh McElrath, presiding
 Denominational division — Paul Bobbitt, presiding
- 4:30 Adjourn division meetings
- 5:15 Buses begin leaving the Sheraton-Dallas Hotel for Ft. Worth

Monday evening — Robert E. Naylor Student Center, Southwestern Seminary

Dewey Kyle, presiding
 Paul Welleford, Second Church, Little Rock, Ark., coordinator

6:45 Banquet (in honor of music missionaries) — Music by Southwestern Seminary School of Church Music faculty; Speaker, Jesse Fletcher, director, Mission Support Division, Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Va.

Monday evening — Truett Auditorium, Southwestern Seminary

8:15 Don Brown, presiding
 Hines Sims Achievement Award presentation by Gene Bartlett, Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma to Warren M. Angell, dean emeritus, Warren M. Angell College of Fine Arts, Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Okla.
 "Praise God in His Holiness" — Premiere performance of the SBCMC commissioned anthem for 1974, composer James Cram, Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, Tex., sung by Oratorio Chorus, Southwestern Seminary, Robert Burton, conductor
 Concert: "Belshazzar's Feast" — Composer William Walton, presented by the Southwestern Seminary Oratorio Chorus and the Ft. Worth Oratorio Symphony, Robert Burton, conductor

Tuesday morning

7:30 Exhibitors breakfast
 9:30 Evaluating and planning session (old and new councils)

'Flyer' gambling article draws Texas Baptists' fire

By Dan Martin

DALLAS (BP) — Parimutuel gambling is a hot topic in Texas.

Texas Baptists got into the gambling fray in a new way recently when Texas International Airlines, a regional air carrier, distributed to its patrons a magazine which contained an article favorable to horserace gambling.

The magazine, *Texas Flyer*, contained an article entitled "Off and Running." It was subtitled, "Parimutuel Race Partisans and Religious Zealots Stand at the Starting Gate of a Holy War."

John Hurt, editor of the weekly *Baptist Standard*, suggested Texas Baptists use Texas International "only when essential," because of the article.

Hurt's comments came in response to a letter by Jimmy Allen, pastor of First Church of San Antonio, and former executive secretary of the Texas Christian Life Commission.

Allen had suggested a letter writing campaign to the president of the airline, noting Texas Baptists spend thousands of dollars annually traveling on the airline.

Hurt told a secular news reporter he favors traveling "as little as possible" on the airline until it publicly apologizes for the gambling article.

The matter of horserace gambling has long been a key issue for Texas Baptists. A number of battles have been fought against what Allen terms "an obviously well-financed campaign" to make parimutuel gambling legal in Texas.

The matter is even more critical now, observers point out, since Texas is in process of writing a new constitution to replace a document nearly 100 years old.

The present constitution outlaws parimutuel gambling, banning parimutuel betting and lotteries.

However, a convention committee has proposed "an extremely weak" anti-gambling section, which will be debated in the months ahead.

Hurt has editorialized he will seek to kill the entire constitution "if it lacks barriers which are essential to a decent society."

He also commented: "We will not be satisfied with anything less than a clear prohibition. We want lotteries banned and that means all lotteries. We also want parimutuel gambling prohibited now and forever."

Texas International Vice President James O'Donnel said the airline is "deeply upset" by the article in the *Texas Flyer*, which he said is a special edition of a statewide publication, *Texas Parade Magazine*.

"All they do is wrap a special banner on the cover of 15,000 issues which says 'Texas Flyer,' and we put them in the seat pockets for inflight entertainment," O'Donnel said, explaining that the airline has no editorial control over *Texas Parade*, the magazine.

O'Donnel said the airline does not take stands on political issues, and that the article will more than likely "prompt some soul searching" about the future of the magazine on the airline.

Allen noted he believes the article "is a propaganda piece for the gambling interest."

Whatever the outcome of the *Baptist Standard vs Texas Flyer* issue, the whole war of gambling interests versus Texas Baptists is far from over.

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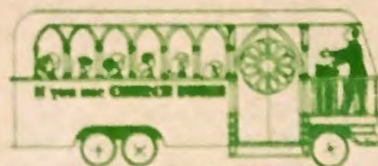
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Baptist commissioner works for prison reform

By Jim Newton
for Baptist Press



THE CONVICT'S CHRISTIAN COMMISSIONER: Tennessee Corrections Commissioner Mark Luttrell, a dedicated Baptist layman, talks to an inmate at the main state prison in Nashville where more than 2,000 prisoners are incarcerated, most in two-man cells smaller than the average bathroom. No matter how busy he may be, Luttrell always has time to listen with Christian compassion to an inmate's problem. (BP) Photo by Steve Wall.

It was an exciting week for Edward LeRoy Leonard, an inmate in the Tennessee State Prison serving a 99-year sentence for murder.

Not only was he to see his 21-year-old son for the first time in 18 years, but he was accompanied on the trip from the state prison in Nashville to Memphis by State Corrections Commissioner Mark Luttrell and Mrs. Luttrell.

Luttrell, a Southern Baptist layman, was going to Memphis to attend the Republican Governor's Conference. During the week he introduced prisoner Leonard to Tennessee Gov. Winfield Dunn during the dedication service of Transition House, a Memphis halfway house for inmates.

The governor was not aware that the thin, neatly dressed man was a "trustee" at the state prison.

The story of how Leonard came to be in Memphis that week is a vivid testimony of the kind of compassionate concern Luttrell demonstrates for the inmates in the Tennessee prison system.

The commissioner wanted to help when he heard that Leonard's son was having serious psychological problems because he had just learned that his real father was in prison on a murder charge, and that his step-father was not his real father.

Luttrell took the responsibility for Leonard. He trusted him, telling Leonard plainly that he knew he would not run off, because Leonard could escape any day he wanted to from the main prison in Nashville where he works at the prison's checkpoint entrance.

The reconciliation between father and son in Memphis that week apparently helped to clear up the young man's problems. "My son liked me right off," Leonard said. And after their three-day visit, his son told him, "After 15 years in prison, I believe you've paid for what you did. The future is what counts now."

Leonard later described Luttrell as "the most wonderful man I've ever known. . . He is the best corrections commissioner we've ever had, and I've been here through four or five commissioners."

Because of Luttrell's concern for the prisoner's plight, some inmates have described him as "a convict's commissioner."

Cares about people

Luttrell, they say, cares about people. He carries a burden for bringing about change in the state's outdated and inadequate prison system, trying to improve the inmate's situation from within the system.

(Continued on page 20)

Commissioner (From page 19)

Though he will work day and night to achieve his goals, he's never too busy to listen to an inmate's problems.

Although he is noted for his compassion, Luttrell can also be tough when the situation demands it, and the inmates respect him for it.

A fellow member of Luttrell's Sunday School class at Immanuel Baptist Church in Nashville said, "He represents Christian dedication through his work in a finer way than anyone I know, including pastors and missionaries. He is deeply committed to carrying out his faith in his daily work. He is able to communicate a real virility, coupled with great compassion and kindness.

Luttrell's pastor described him as an active member who wears his religion well. "It's not for show. He's sincerely interested in all we're trying to do through the church."

Pastor Gaye McGlothlen said Luttrell had recently been elected a deacon and last year was arrangements chairman for a lay renewal weekend led by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's division of evangelism.

Like most of the more progressive advocates of corrections reform, Luttrell firmly believes in a decentralized, community corrections system, where penal institutions are located in major population centers rather than remote isolated regions.

Most of the inmates come from the cities, not isolated areas. He believes rehabilitation is better accomplished when the prisoner has contact with the free world, has support from his family, interested and concerned citizens, and friends.

"Punishment alone is not likely to help motivate a man to improve himself. The ideal thing is for an inmate to walk out of prison a better man — better prepared to withstand temptations, realizing that the type of life he lived before is for the birds," Luttrell explained.

Commissioner Luttrell tries to stress the need to help inmates develop a better self-concept so that the convicts will see themselves "as one of God's creatures with worth and potential," even though they are in prison.

Unfortunately, the average citizen does not see this as the major purpose for most prisons, but the percentage of people who want the prisoner punished, not rehabilitated, seems to be lessening, Luttrell said optimistically.

Luttrell said he feels the best hope for rehabilitating an inmate is for Chris-

tian people to take a personal interest in him, visit him, and try to help him adjust to society.

Large task ahead

The commissioner feels he still has a large task ahead of him. He wants to see the concept of regional correctional institutions become a reality in Tennessee and to decentralize the main prison in Nashville. He would also like to make the department treatment programs as effective as possible, and to "enlist as many interested, compassionate and concerned citizens as possible and put them in touch with prisoners.

"I could put 100 Christian men in touch with 100 inmates and boys immediately, and not only would the inmates benefit, but every one of the Christian men would grow spiritually," he said.

Luttrell feels that, unfortunately, he does not have as much support in his goals from the religious community as there ought to be. Not many Southern Baptists are concerned enough to do anything about it, he admitted.

Mark Luttrell obviously is not only concerned, but is doing something about his concerns.

And in doing so he has personified the compassion of Jesus Christ, who came "to preach the gospel to the poor, ...to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised." (Luke 4:18, KJV)

Evangelists plan meet in Dallas, June 12

DALLAS (BP) — The Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists will meet at First Church here, June 12, 1974, during the week of the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting.

Speakers for the one-afternoon session will include Bailey Smith, First Church, Del City, Okla., and evangelists Moody Adams of Baton Rouge, La., Bill Penley of Asheville, N. C., and John Haggai of Atlanta.

A special guest will be ventriloquist Geraldine Regan and "Rickey."

The conference will open at 12:30 p.m. with an instrumental concert and a concert by music evangelists. Other special music will include presentations by Ivy Walsh of Atlanta, Randall Veazey of Alabama, Lowell Leistner of Orlando, Fla., Bette Stalneckner of Lake Charles, La., Ferrell Brakefield of Oakman, Ala., J. W. and Bettilu Turney, Austin, Tex., and Jayne Ferrell.

Cooperative Program up 15 percent five months

NASHVILLE (BP) — Southern Baptists gave more money through the convention's Cooperative Program (unified budget) and to designated causes during the first five months of fiscal 1973-74, than in the same period of record-breaking fiscal 1972-73, a report here shows.

Cooperative Program receipts for October through February of the current fiscal year totaled \$16,297,122.83, up 15.15 percent over the same period for 1972-73, according to figures released by John Williams, director of financial planning and assistant to the treasurer of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee.

Designated offerings through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions sponsored by the Woman's Mission Union reached a record \$16,140,032 by the end of February.

Total designated offerings for October through February were \$17,709,872.73, a 17.01 percent increase over the same two quarters in 1972-73.

Williams said that although a new one-month period in the history of Cooperative Program giving was realized in January, 1974, totaling \$3,937,030, "This is the first February in Cooperative Program history that receipts ever went over \$3 million.

Cooperative Program contributions reported in February alone, reached \$3,485,787.72 compared with \$2,952,762.46 for the same time in 1973, an 18.05 percent increase.

Extra gifts or overages of \$596,000 from four states sharing funds received from their 1972-73 budgets, plus a longer month, accounted for January being a larger month than February, Williams noted.

"We're looking real good on Cooperative Program gifts. If we continue this pace of giving, both the operating and capital budgets will be met and might enable advance distribution to the agencies," Williams said.

Texas Baptists led the Baptist state conventions in February with \$473,965.42 in Cooperative Program contributions and in designated giving with \$2,581,436.26 for a \$3,055,401.68 total gifts.

Six other Baptist state conventions exceeded \$1 million in total gifts for February: North Carolina (\$1,651,122.34), Tennessee (\$1,378,298.98), Florida (\$1,311,529.50), Georgia (\$1,269,577.43), South Carolina (\$1,164,510.19) and Alabama (\$1,046,500.94).

Giving one's best

By James A. Griffin

Superintendent of Missions, Concord Association

International

March 24, 1974

Acts 6:8 — 8:3.



Griffin

We closed last Sunday's lesson with a notation of the great growth of the church as the apostles under the Holy Spirit's direction through the church selected seven men as special servants. This Sunday's lesson focusing on one person giving his all leads us to another person who led Christianity across many barriers.

The man Stephen

Stephen brought us to several firsts. He was the first non-apostle to die for the name of Jesus. His preaching led to the first persecution of the early church. His wide experience and broad training as a Hellenist Jew helped him to see "this faith" first in its relationship to the world. With his background he was the first to clearly perceive the equality of Jew and Gentile in God's sight. This was carried to its completeness by Paul. He was the first with "position" with the Sanhedrin as inferred by his opening remark "Brethren and Fathers" (Acts 7:2.) He was listed first among the seven (Acts 6:5.) His being on fire for God (full of grace) led to his being the first non-apostle to "work great wonders and signs among the people" and to be the first to bring the Devil's full power against the young church. Stephen was the first to "dispute" in the synagogue — to be followed by Paul through the years. As Jesus' ministry started in the synagogue (Mark 1:21) so did Stephen's.

Similarities

As Andrew introduced Peter to Jesus and Peter became the renown preacher in another approach we can say that Stephen presented Saul (Paul) to Jesus (Acts 22:20; 7:58.) As Jesus was acclaimed and rejected by the same mob so was Stephen. Stephen was pleasing to the church (6:5) and rejected by some of the same group (6:9.) False witnesses were used by religious leaders against Jesus and Stephen. The providing salvation cost Jesus his life and preaching salvation by Jesus cost Stephen his life. Jesus had said in John 15:20 (amplified) "Remember that I told you, a servant is not greater than his master." The inference here in Stephen's death as with Jesus is that his friends left him to die alone. Again we see a parallel with

Jesus' death, when earthly friends failed, both turned to heaven and said "Father forgive them" (Luke 23:34). "Lord fix not this sin upon them" (Acts 7:60.)

Stephen's speech before the Sanhedrin is far longer than any by Peter. It is the longest in Acts. Stephen is the indispensable link between Peter and Paul. The persecution following Stephen's death led to the scattering of the believers asunder without sharing Jesus with any but the Jews (Act 11:19.) However, some told Jesus' story to the Greek (non-Jews) and they believed. As the book of Acts closes out the work of Stephen in the 11th chapter, we see Saul of Tarsus (Paul), his star pupil, coming on the scene for the glory of God. Stephen was a Hellenist, that is a Greek-speaking Jew from abroad; his name means *Crown*.

Our scripture verses (Acts 6:8)

"Now Stephen" was yielded to God's Spirit. He was rightly dividing the word of truth and the sharpness of the Word was cutting away the worldliness of his class. Then the Devil sowed some half truths—you know picked out the words here and there to misquote and cause confusion. A half-truth told about a person will excite and incite a group quicker than a lie anytime.

The charge, as against Jesus, was for blasphemy against the Temple and the law. In general it was that of treason against Moses and therefore against God. The worldly image is contrasted with the Godly image as the Sanhedrin 'judges' saw Stephen's face reflect God's protecting presence.

The defense

Starting in Acts 7 Stephen spoke from his position and acclaimed his accusers as Brethren and fathers. He pleased them when he spoke of the past great history of God's provision for the Jews (Israelites) from Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph and the sojourn, Moses, the Exodus, Moses' rejection, Aaron's transgression for the people, David, Solomon and the Temple. I wonder if the statement in verses 48-50 about God not being confined to any house inferring that God is available to all people caused a violent interruption by the council.

The sharp rebuke by Stephen starting in verse 51 is so different from the

pleasing history of God's provision for the Jews up through verse 47. His defense here turns to a charge against the Jews for (1) killing the prophets, (2) resisting the Holy Spirit, (3) disobedience of the law, (4) being stubborn and stiff-necked people, (5) slaying Jesus the righteous one, etc. How similar it sounds to events around the life and works of Jesus!

His message delivered — they sang no invitation song! They all made decisions. He must die! Wait! the victory was not theirs — it was Stephen's as he said "Look, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing at God's right hand (amplified verse 56.) We can almost hear him singing "That will be Glory for me!"

Was his message a total loss? 'Hardly, as we see these words "the witnesses placed their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul." Saul heard Stephen say "Lord, fix not this sin upon them" and never was the same again. His first reaction was to squelch this movement by any possible method. The blood of Stephen can be said to rest on Saul at this point. He was consenting. Saul, as Paul, later expressed this thought in Romans 1:32.

The Gospel's turning point

Here we encounter one of the great turning points of the Bible. Paul in Acts 26 relates his testimony for Christ. Possibly he was a member of the Sanhedrin. He surely was present for one or both of the council meetings to stop the Apostles from preaching Christ (Acts 4:1-22; 5:17-40.) No doubt he heard Peter's masterful defiant refusal. All of his arrests and destructive acts against the believers had never brought a death like Stephen's. The ringing of Stephen's words "Lord, fix not this sin to them" as he was dying respond with interest as we hear this Paul on the Damascus road call upon the same Lord and said "Who are you, Lord?"

Paul had a very destructive affect on the early church by his disobedience. We bemoan it. We regret it. We make great to-do about it today. Now, that same bemoaning, regretting, etc. let God's Spirit turn his search light on our disobedience. Why not jot down something that you were disobedient about even this week. How much destruction, havoc, or lack of growth do we cause in the 20th century church where we live? We would never drag one to prison — but we would leave them bound in sin's prison by sheer neglect!

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ON THE **MORALE**
SCENE
CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMISSION, SBC

• **DRUG COSTS** — Because drug prices aren't advertised, pharmacists often charge what the traffic will bear. Huge disparities in the cost of prescriptions have developed from one community to another and from store to store. A recent study, directed by Congressman Benjamin Rosenthal of New York, gives these examples: For a generic prescription of 56 capsules of ampicillin in Washington, D. C., the price ranged from \$8.40 to \$17.95; in New York, \$6.50 to \$16.75. Thirty capsules of tetracycline could be bought in Washington for \$1.50 to \$5.50, depending on the store; in New York, for \$2.49 to \$4.95.

(From *Everybody's Money*, Winter 73-74)

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A smile or two

Bald headed people should remember that when God made heads, he covered up the ones he didn't like.

The airplane mechanic had just finished an emergency repair and was cleaning up as the anxious pilot entered the hangar. "There she is, sir, almost as good as new," said the mechanic, gesturing at the plane.

"Can you guarantee your work?" asked the worried pilot.

"Yes sir, you get our standard warranty on all parts and labor," replied the mechanic cheerfully. "Guaranteed for three miles or three minutes — whichever comes first."

If you had your life to live over, you would need a lot more money.

After an arduous session of the Supreme Court many years ago, the Justices once decided on a three-day boat trip for relaxation. On the second day out the late Justice Cardozo, somewhat the worse for mal de mer, was leaning over the rail of the boat which was rocking badly, when Chief Justice Hughes sauntered along. "Can I do anything for you?" asked the Chief Justice. "Yes," answered Judge Cardozo. "Overrule the motion." — *American Opinion*

Daylight saving time has made moonlighters of all of us.

Facing the jury the judge asked angrily: "What possible excuse can you have for acquitting this man?" "Insanity, your honor," replied the foreman of the jury. "All twelve of you?" cried the judge. — *Southern Wings*

Many a person is credited with being brave, when in fact he didn't have enough sense to recognize danger.

A thrilling conversation between a customer and a clerk in a greeting card shop: "How much is the card that says 'YOUR LOVE IS WORTH THE WORLD AND ALL ITS TREASURERS' "? "25¢." "Do you have something cheaper?" — *Orben's Current Comedy*.

When one of the vice-presidents at a bank died, a young assistant went to his boss and inquired: "Do you think I could take his place?" "It's okay with me," said the boss, "if you can arrange it with the undertaker." — *Good Reading*

Reprinted from "Quote" Magazine

Attendance report

March 10, 1974

Church	Sunday School	Church Training	Ch. addns.
Alexander, First	93	48	
Alma, First	431	87	5
Alpena	63	23	
Belreine, First	46	20	
Bentonville, First	94	38	
Berryville			
First	163	57	
Freeman Heights	112	40	
Rock Springs	106	66	
Booneville, First	280	252	3
Cabot, Mt. Carmel	170	81	
Calion	81	39	
Concord, First	96	23	
Conway, Second	309	146	
Crossett			
First	475	157	
Mt. Olive	376	180	2
Dermott, Temple	107	62	7
Des Arc, First	198	67	3
El Dorado			
Caledonia	45	15	2
Trinity	151	57	
Forrest City, First	694		8
Ft. Smith			
First	1212	270	14
Temple	168	79	
Trinity	173	69	1
Windsor Park	774	199	10
Garfield, First	53	29	
Gentry, First	174	59	
Grandview	81	62	3
Hampton, First	142	74	
Hardy, First	102	61	1
Harrison			
Eagle Heights	304	123	8
Woodland Heights	77	44	
Heber Springs, First	302	73	6
Helena, First	239	120	3
Hope			
Calvary	211	65	
First	433	116	1
Hot Springs			
Grand Avenue	436	187	8
Leonard Street	94	86	2
Park Place	343	113	3
Hughes, First	190	59	
Jacksonville			
First	407	70	1
Marshall Road	297	107	
Jonesboro			
Nettleton	228	101	
North Main	826	236	3
Kingston, First	57	45	1
Lambrook, First	98	116	9
Lavaca, First	295	105	
Lexa	175	103	7
Little Rock			
Crystal Hill	156	69	
Geyer Springs	696	225	2
Life Line	661	140	4
Martindale	104	52	
Shady Grove	86	48	
Sunset Lane	226	133	1
Woodlawn	117	41	
Magnolia, Central	616	216	
Melbourne, Belview	130	113	5
Monticello			
First	277	58	1
Second	289	90	
Murreesboro, First	145	66	
North Little Rock			
Calvary	431	119	
Gravel Ridge	222	86	8
Levy	521	125	5
Runyan	106	49	
Sylvan Hills	255	84	5
Park Hill	771		
Paragould			
Calvary	225	178	8
East Side	206	100	8
First	489	132	1
Paris, First	371	114	1
Pine Bluff			
Centennial	151	67	1
First	634	126	3
Green Meadows	55		
Second	139	56	
South Side	700		
Tucker	21		8
Oppello	20		
Watson Chapel	328	83	
Rogers, First	535	119	4
Russellville			
First	511		5
Kelley Heights	44	17	
Second	175	55	
Sheridan, First	246	87	
Springdale			
Berry Street	92		
Caudle Avenue	123		
Elmdale	331	76	3
First	1013		
Van Buren, First	563	184	3
Mission	23		
Vandervoort, First	49	23	
Warren			
Immanuel	301	89	
Westside	62	42	
West Helena			
Second	178	76	
West Helena Church	284	86	1
W. Memphis, Vanderbilt Ave.	126	45	

Baptist body declares position on equal rights, tax policies

By W. Barry Garrett

WASHINGTON (BP) — The Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs in semiannual session here took action on equal rights for all persons, integrity in government and tax policies affecting churches and religious institutions.

Maintained in the nation's capital by eight Baptist denominations in the United States, including the Southern Baptist Convention, and one in Canada, the Baptist Joint Committee is instructed "to act in the field of public affairs whenever the interests or rights of the cooperating conventions" become involved. James E. Wood Jr. is executive director of the committee.

Although Baptists and the Baptist Joint Committee have historically defended religious liberty for all and have stood for human and civil rights, for the first time the committee voted on a comprehensive policy position on equal rights.

In response to a recommendation by Wood, it was voted "that the committee affirm the equality of all persons under law without respect to race, religion, color, sex, or national origin.

The committee felt that in taking this action it was implementing the long-held views by Baptists on religious liberty, human dignity and justice for all people. "Baptist witness to the gospel in public affairs is greatly enhanced by this step," said Wood in commenting on the committee's position.

Following up on earlier action by the Baptist Joint Committee, it went a step further and approved affiliation with the newly formed Religious Committee for Integrity in Government. In October, 1973, the Baptist Joint Committee issued "a statement of concern" about the widespread scandals in government and abuse of political power revealed in the Watergate affairs.

More recently 19 religious leaders of Protestant, Catholic, Jewish and other groups and denominations formed a non-partisan interfaith committee of Washington-based religious staff persons to work toward integrity in government. The Baptist Joint Committee is now an official member of this coalition.

Five initial objectives of the Religious Committee for Integrity in Government are: (1) clarification of moral issues in the present crisis in government, (2) justice for the President and the American people and an orderly inquiry as to

whether grounds exist for the impeachment of the President, (3) campaign reforms, (4) restoration of constitutional checks and balances in the federal government and (5) clarification of moral issues in the coming elections in 1974 and 1976.

In the face of increasing questions concerning the churches and taxation, the Baptist Joint Committee instructed its staff to prepare a position paper on the subject of tax-exempt organizations. To be included in this study will be views on the Internal Revenue Service rule on the percentage of budgets allocated to so-called lobbying activities and other problems relating to continuation of tax exempt status.

The tax status of churches, religious and other charitable agencies has increasingly been questioned in recent years. The Baptist Joint Committee sponsored a national religious liberty conference in 1960 on "The Churches and American Tax Policies."

Several similar consultations have taken place in the states on the same subject.

Religious agencies and institutions have been investigated by the Internal Revenue Service, some have had their tax status challenged and others have cases pending in the courts.

In 1969, the Baptist Joint Committee issued a policy statement on the taxation of church property, which declared: "Any claim which churches may make for exemption from the payment of taxes or for special tax status must be based on either (1) the concept of religious liberty or (2) the concepts of equality or equity."

The new attempt to arrive at a policy position by the Baptist Joint Committee on taxation will be much more comprehensive than anything it has stated in the past.

In other actions at its semiannual meeting the Baptist Joint Committee:

—Set Oct. 7-9, 1974, as its 35th anniversary meeting and instructed its staff to prepare an appropriate observance of the event;

—Expressed concern that the public did not yet understand the Supreme Court's decisions on prayer and Bible reading in public schools. (The committee instructed the staff to continue its efforts in explaining these decisions and in making positive suggestions toward the proper relationships be-

tween religion and public education.);

—Passed resolutions of appreciation for four former members of the Baptist Joint Committee for their long years of service to the committee (Alma Hunt, Southern Baptist, 16 years, Theodore F. Adams, Southern Baptist, eight years, Francis Hensley, American Baptist, eight years, and Homer Tucker, American Baptist, 10 years); and

—Recognized that the assignment to the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs was complex and far-reaching, and voted that the staff continue to give top priority to issues relating to religious liberty and separation of church and state. This was interpreted to mean a reaffirmation of the continuing activity of the staff in public issues as assigned to the committee by the sponsoring denominations.

Two highlights of the meeting of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs were "off the record" meetings with Sen. Birch Bayh (D., Ind.) and Jerome Ziefman, general counsel for the House Committee on the Judiciary. Bayh discussed three proposed constitutional amendments: prayer amendment, anti-abortion amendment and anti-busing amendment.

Ziefman explained the procedures being followed by the House Judiciary Committee in the impeachment investigation of President Nixon.

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