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Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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Arkansas Baptist

newsmagazine

JUNE 3, 1965

Efforts to heal Baptist division

DIVISION among Christian brethren is always a regrettable thing. Many felt keenly the spirit that existed between Convention and Association Baptists in Arkansas in the early 1900's. Efforts were made toward reconciliation.

Caroline Association passed a resolution in its annual meeting, 1902, suggesting that the General Association and State Convention make efforts effecting peace between the bodies. In November both bodies appointed "Peace Committees" at their annual meeting.

After negotiating back and forth the committee from the Association Baptist group submitted the following terms upon which the Convention group must agree if the two were to solve their differences and work together.

The stipulations were:

"(1) The Scriptural right of individual churches to commission and send forth missionaries.

"(2) The arranging of missionary methods so that the reports of missionaries shall include only the work actually performed by the missionaries and paid for by missionary contributions.

"(3) The recognition of each church as a unit and entitled to equal representation with any other church in the Association or Convention.

"(4) The absolute abolition of the office and expense of the Corresponding Secretary under whatever title.

"(5) The right of the churches to instruct their messengers on any subject to be recognized.

"(6) The abolition of the present plan of cooperation with the Home and Foreign Mission Boards of the Southern Baptist Convention." (J. S. Rogers, *His-*

tory of Arkansas Baptists, p. 598)

These were drastic demands. Some of them were innovations in Baptist life. Others were of such nature as to turn back the clock. To have adopted such would have grounded to a halt the state work. But the committee from the Convention group wanted to appease and preserve peace if at all possible. To the astonishment of many they finally agreed to the six demands.

Then in discussing the merger of the *Landmark Baptist Association* publication, with the *Baptist Advance*, Convention publication, confusion arose and the peace effort was abandoned.

Many have felt that Arkansas Baptists should solve their differences and work together. But

Baptist beliefs

Ordained to eternal life

BY HERSCHEL H. HOBBS

Past President, Southern Baptist Convention
First Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

"And as many as were ordained to eternal life believed" (Acts 13:48).

Does this mean that only those who were "ordained to eternal life believed?" Was this a case of God's sovereign choice apart from man's free will? Does it mean that arbitrarily God chooses some men to be saved and others to be lost?

Note in verse 46 that the Jews put or thrust Paul's message from them, judging themselves unworthy of eternal life. This definitely involves man's free will in rejecting God's overture of salvation. Are we then to see in verse 48 only God's sovereign choice with no regard for man's free will? To be consistent we must interpret both verses in the same light.

Paul preached the same message to both Jews and Gentiles. In this message God approached both groups with His saving purpose. The Jews rejected it (v. 46). Some of the Gentiles received and believed it.

whether or not they can jump the hurdles which exist between them remains to be seen. They have not as yet. Much false information was given out against the Convention in the beginning of the trouble and still is. Some men either do not know the meaning of terms and history or will not believe when they are told and shown.

Another peace overture was made at the State Convention meeting in Hot Springs in 1954. Dr. J. S. Rogers made a motion that an invitation be made to the Association Baptists to join the Convention Baptists and that provisions be made to find harmony at their points of difference. The motion was adopted but the invitation was rejected by the Association Baptists. There the matter rests.

In verse 48 the word "ordained" may better be translated "appointed." But better still its basic meaning is "to line up as a military troop in orderly arrangement." In this verse the verb form is a perfect passive. The perfect tense denotes a finished action. The passive voice means that this was done to them by another. If this segment of the verse be interpreted by itself one could claim that it teaches God's choice to save only a selected few. But the larger context clearly shows that both verse 46 and 48 involve the response of man's will also.

Furthermore, if these verses be interpreted in the larger context of the New Testament, we know that God through the gospel offers salvation to all who believe in Jesus (cf. Jn. 3:16). This involves God's sovereignty in setting forth the plan of salvation. It also involves man's free will to reject or accept this plan. The Jews heard it and rejected it. Some of

the Gentiles "glorified the word of the Lord" and received it. As the Jews lined themselves up against the gospel, these Gentiles by their attitude were lined up on the side of the gospel in faith. The subject of the verb "believed" is "as many as were lined up." So "as many as were lined up in orderly arrangement [on the side of the gospel] believed." In other words those who were favorably disposed toward the gospel "believed."

The Bible teaches both the sovereignty of God and the free will of man. God in His sovereignty has made man free. Also in His sovereignty God has set the terms of salvation. Man is free to accept or reject the terms. We see all of these elements in Acts 13:46-48. A sovereign God made the same offer to both Jews and Gentiles. The former rejected; the latter accepted. But neither was a puppet dangled at the end of the string of fate.

Middle of the Road

Building men

BY J. I. COSSEY

BUILDING men could be the greatest job in all the world. There are men — rich, poor; trained, untrained; lost, saved; happy, lonely; loved, hated; wanted, unwanted; successful and un-successful — all kinds of men found wherever you go. Most of these men want to amount to something in life, but regardless of what they want, many of them will be failures. Many of these men are just dragging along without plans for anything better. However, many of them would respond to leadership. Many of these men are gazing into an uncertain future.

Some men have hidden talents, outstanding possibilities for effective service. All they need is to be discovered. They are waiting and

The Bookshelf

The New Churches of Europe, by G. E. Kidder Smith, Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 1964, \$17.50

Mr. Smith, a major architectural historian and photographer, has selected and here interprets more than sixty of the postwar churches of Europe. Since 1945, when the modern movement in religious architecture really began, scores of churches have been rebuilt or designed "from scratch" in Europe by such architects as LeCorbusier, Aalto, Schwarz and other world famous pioneers of the modern movement in architecture.

In order to make the selections covered in this volume, Mr. Smith studied approximately 400 churches out of the thousands that have been built since the war.

The use of contemporary architectural forms in religious structure in the United States, which did not really begin until the middle fifties, was heavily influenced by the experimental postwar decade in Europe.

Then and There, by V. Raymond Edman, Zondervan, 1964, \$3.95

President of Wheaton College from 1940 to 1964, Dr. Edman is now chancellor of the college, with more time for his writing ministry. This book is

hoping that something will happen that will open a door for them. Fairly successful business men are found in this group.

Others have jobs that pay a bare living, and many others are barely existing. There are to be found in this group many men who would welcome a helping hand.

Many men could get along without financial help, but they need advice and moral support.

Some men earn plenty of money but they live above their income. This is tragic. It does not make much difference how much they earn, it is not enough. They need guidance.

The pastor of a church has the best opportunity of any one to be a man-building person. He should know how to economize, how much to buy, sell, and how to enjoy the full use of human resources. The pastor should be the outstanding counselor in the community. He should have the answers to all spiritual, business, home and work problems. Why should not any man, saved or un-saved, feel per-

a book of devotional materials developed around the "thens" and "theres" of the Bible. The book is illustrated with scenic photographs.

Parson to Parson, by Adolph Bedsole, Baker, 1964, \$2.95

As the title indicates, this is written by a preacher for preachers. It is designed to help the minister to take a look at himself, at his spiritual life, his personal relations with his staff members and associates, his work habits, etc. It should be as helpful as it is painful.

Preludes to the Cross, by Paul P. Fryhling, Baker, 1965, \$2.50

Here are nine messages pointing to the cross as the center of redemption and the directing beacon for the Christian life. The author is pastor of the First Covenant Church of Minneapolis.

Washing Elephants and Other Paths to God, by Minton C. Johnston, Abington, 1965, \$2.25

From the beginning of his ministry, Dr. Johnston has kept two things before him: religion ought to be exciting, and one should not preach anything one has not experienced and proved. The 21 inspirational messages contained here reflect these beliefs. Unconventional at times, the brief and direct messages prove deeply relevant to the intimate concerns of life.

fectly free to go to the pastor for any problems that he may be facing? There is no reason why the pastor could not be the community advisor and problem solver for any person in distress.

Do all men have problems? I do. I cannot remember a day in my life when I did not have problems. I have always needed help and guidance. Everything I do seems below par to me and I have never been without the need of help outside of my own strength. I receive much of my needed help from people who have less training than I have, but they are true and tried and have dealt with problems successfully.

In our churches we should be giving interviews with all non-active men in the hope that they may learn how to be productive church members. There is a work in every church for each member. If he is not willing to work we must strive to make him willing. There is no reason for our churches having inactive members. Building men is the main work of a church.

Southwestern Seminary May graduates



CHARLES T. BRAUGHTON
Hot Springs
Bachelor of Divinity



DON R. COOPER
Marion
Bachelor of Divinity



DAVID L. HOLT
Harrison
Bachelor of Divinity



BEN E. HOPE
North Little Rock
Bachelor of Divinity



L. ERNEST PERKINS
Searcy
Bachelor of Divinity



KENNETH G. ROBERTSON
Tillar
Bachelor of Divinity



BOBBY L. WRIGHT
Waldenburg
Bachelor of Divinity



JACQUELINE J. BURTON
Tupelo
Master of Religious
Education



ROSEMARY GOSSETT
Hot Springs
Master of Religious
Education



CAROLE V. GRANT
Alma
Master of Religious
Education



MARSHA G. SHOPPACH
Greenwood
Master of Religious
Education

Arkansan promoted

WACO — Winston C. Beard, associate professor of finance at the University of Texas, has been named chairman and professor of economics and finance at Baylor University's Hankamer School of Business, effective in September.

Beard will replace Dr. Billy J. Hinton, who will become dean of the School of Applied Arts next fall at Southwest Texas State College in San Marcos.

Beard, 35, has been assistant professor of finance at the University of Texas since September 1962. He holds a bachelor of arts degree from Ouachita University, where he graduated *magna cum laude*. He earned his master of business administration degree from the University of Arkansas and a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois.

Before he went to the University of Texas he had been an instructor and assistant business manager at Ouachita, a fellow in economics at the University of Illinois, a research and Extension Center and a Foundation for Eco-

nomics Education Fellow at The Chase Manhattan Bank.

He is a graduate of Fairview High School, Camden, and the son of Mrs. Ruby Beard, presently resident counselor of Flippin-Perrin Girls Dormitory at Ouachita. He is married to the former Mildred Shaffer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John I. Shaffer, Fayetteville. He is a former member of the board of trustees at Ouachita.

Wright to Cole Ridge

EUGENE Wright, pastor of First Church, Blandville, Ky., has resigned to accept the Cole Ridge Church, Blytheville, Rt. 2, effective June 1.

Mr. Wright was the leader in the organization of Goodwin Church, in 1957, and was pastor there for two years. Other churches that he has served include Shell Lake Church, First Church, Palestine, and Knoxville.

He is a native of Mississippi and has pastored there and in Alabama.

J. B. Huffmaster resigns

REV. J. B. Huffmaster has resigned as pastor of Success Church after seven years of service there.

During the time of Mr. Huffmaster's pastorate, the church erected a two-story educational building, installed new pews and pulpit furniture and a piano for their auditorium. There were 65 additions to the church and the budget reached an all-time record during the past year.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Huffmaster have been active in state and associational Baptist affairs. Both have served on state executive boards. He is presently moderator of the association and she is the association Girl's Auxiliary director.

The Success Church in conference voiced its appreciation of the work of the Huffmasters here and pledged their support for recommendation. Mr. Huffmaster will be available for evangelistic or supply work. He may be contacted at Corning, Route 1. — Mrs. Tell Rahm, Church Clerk, Success Baptist Church

Honored at Southern College commencement



MR. WALKER

FOUR Baptist leaders were honored at the 24th annual commencement exercises of Southern College, Walnut Ridge, May 25:

Mrs. Mary M. Stotts, Paragould, who received the Distinguished Baptist Lady Award; Oswald Franz Jr., Thayer, Mo., the Distinguished Baptist Layman Award; Rev. W. Dawson King, Little Rock, the Distinguished Baptist Minister Award; and Rev. Billy Walker, Walnut Ridge, the Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Mrs. Stotts, affectionately known in her community as "Aunt Mary," is a native of Green County and has been a Sunday School teacher for 70 years.

Mrs. Stotts has been active in First Church, Manilla; First Church, Las Cruces, N. M.; and First Church, Paragould, where she now lives.

Her pastor, Rev. Edward Claybrook, states that she has been a definite blessing and made a great contribution through her services in the church.

Mr. Franz is a poultry businessman, and is serving on the board of directors of the National Broiler Council and board of directors of Poultry and Egg National Board. He is president of Franz Food Products, Inc., Mammoth Spring; president of Carthage Poultry Company, Carthage, Mo.; president of Southern Broiler Hatchery, Inc., West Plains, Mo.;



MRS. STOTTS

president of Franz Food Products, Green Forrest.

He is active in Rotary International and has served as district governor of that organization.

He is a deacon of First Church, Thayer, Mo., and chairman of the financial committee; superintendent of the adult department of Sunday School, and a member of the executive board of Missouri Baptist Foundation. He serves as a lay speaker on many occasions.

Mr. King was born in Robline, La., and was educated in Little Rock. He received his college education at Ouachita College and Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

He was ordained to the Baptist ministry by the Immanuel Church, Little Rock, in 1912.

Rev. and Mrs. King served the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention as missionaries to China for 14 years.

For 10 years he served as Secretary of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention and for 14 years as treasurer of Pulaski County Association, currently serving in this capacity.

In 1959 Rev. King became Assistant pastor of First Church, Little Rock, where he is presently working with Dr. Paul Roberts.

Mr. Walker was born in Harrisburg, Pa., moving to Arkansas as a child. He received his public school education at Turrell, Osceola and Marked Tree.



MR. FRANZ

His first church affiliation was with First Church, West Memphis. He was ordained as a deacon in this church and was active in the establishment of mission stations which have grown into full-time churches.

When he entered the ministry, he attended Southern College and later graduated from Memphis State University and attended Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Texas.

He led in the founding of the Baptist Church at Turrell, which was a mission of First Church, West Memphis.

Mr. Walker has been a full-time evangelist for the past 10 years.



MR. KING

Ideas on post '70 planning

By Albert McClellan
—For Baptist Press—

THREE days of very hard work have climaxed 12 months of grass-roots planning and thinking in the denomination's program for the years 1970 onward.

The chairmen of 40 study groups, conducted last December and February, met in Nashville to discuss the 3800 ideas submitted by the study groups. They came forth with a six-page report that will become the basis for the Southern Baptist Convention's long-range planning for the work of the churches as soon as it is evaluated by approximately 3000 people.

Divided into three parts, the report will be submitted to the 625 members of the study groups, to 29 selected churches, to 29 selected associations, to SBC agency executives, and to the state convention secretaries for preliminary evaluation. The report will be released sometime in early summer following this preliminary evaluation.

The final evaluation will be done by 2000 selected churches on a query basis. Following this final evaluation, the '70 Onward Committee will formulate a suggested program for the years 1970 and following, for approval by the Convention in 1966 and 1967.

The period of emphasis for which planning is being done may cover the whole decade of 1970-80.

Porter Routh, Nashville, executive secretary, SBC Executive Committee, in a communication to the '70 Onward Committee and to the Inter-Agency Council's coordinating committee, pointed out that in 1970 the Convention will celebrate its 125th anniversary. He said it seems desirable that the Convention make 1970-80 a decade of great growing strength for Southern Baptists.

The 40 chairmen who spent three days in Nashville discussing the reports were enthusiastic in

their approval of the conversational process that involved so many people in laying a foundation for the next era of progress.

Speaking for the chairman, Dot M. Nelson Jr., a pastor in Birmingham, Ala., said: "We commend the denominational agencies for the Bible-centered program which they continue to provide to all churches large and small, rural and urban, near and far, and we commend the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist leadership for constructive and effective programming which is vitally related to the basic needs of the spiritual life of our Baptist people.

"We commend the SBC Executive Committee for its sensitivity to the wishes of the church that a more practical, person-centered, and spiritual program be continued," he concluded.

S. C. associate editor

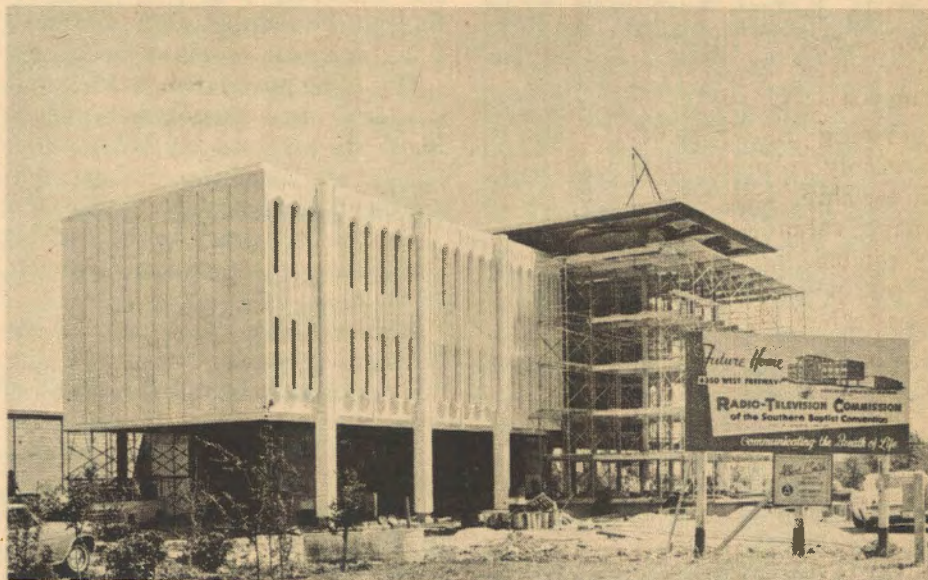
GREENVILLE, S. C. (BP) — John E. Roberts, Thomasville, N. C., has been elected associate editor and business manager of the *Baptist Courier*, official weekly newspaper of the South Carolina Baptist Convention.

Roberts will begin his new duties here July 1 as associate to Courier Editor S. H. Jones. Jones has been editor of the *Courier* since 1948.

A native of Shelby, N.C., the 38-year-old Roberts has been editor of *Charity and Children*, at Thomasville, since 1960. *Charity and Children*, with a 55,000 circulation, is weekly newspaper of the Baptist children's homes of North Carolina. Before 1960, Roberts was director of publicity at Gardner-Webb College (Baptist), Boiling Springs, N. C.

Roberts is a graduate of Furman University (Baptist) here and also of George Peabody College, Nashville.

The *Courier* has a circulation of about 80,000.



TEN years after arriving in Fort Worth, the Radio and Television Commission dedicated this new international Communications Center, its first functional building in 25 years of broadcasting for the Southern Baptist Convention. As seen here, the structure is 75 per cent finished, with completion expected by the last of June. Dedication ceremonies were held June 2, during the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Dallas. There are two buildings in the Center, the front one an office building, and the back building for technical aspects of the works: tape recording, filming, printing, etc. Total area in both is about 40,000 square feet. Cost is approximately \$720,000.

Church Music

Ouachita music camp

PASTORS and Music Directors
—Attention:

In order to facilitate the handling of registrations for music camp, we have set a deadline for having the registrations in this year. The date is June 15. This will give the Church Music office staff one week to process the registrations and assign classes and dormitories. Your cooperation is needed! In years past we have had many campers come at the last minute without pre-registering and this works a real hardship on us.

This is to be one of the finest music camps we have ever conducted and it is our desire to reach not only many of our young people, but to touch as many different churches and associations in our state as possible.

A special feature of the camp this year will be the Graded Choir Leadership class conducted by Miss Eleanor Harwell. Churches should do their very best to see that some of their choir leadership or prospective leadership attend these sessions.

Young people will also profit not only from the inspiration and fellowship, but will be learning many valuable things about leading music and accompanying the worship services, etc., and this will strengthen your church program.

PASTORS and Music Directors
Counselors needed!

WE are always looking for good counselors to care for and work with our young people at camp. This will be an excellent opportunity for someone who cannot afford the camp fee to come and serve as counselor and benefit from the classes at the same time. These persons need to be at least college-age young people, or adults, and need to be a part of the music ministry in their own church. Anyone desiring to serve as counselor for music camp will need to write the Church Music Department, 401 West Capitol,

The unified service

THE unified evangelistic service is combining the Sunday School hour and the morning worship into one distinct evangelistic service.

The reason for an all-out effort for a high attendance at Sunday School is to encourage the lost and unchurched to be present.

This service calls for more careful and prayerful planning than any other religious service. It has a distinct advantage over the Sunday School evangelistic service in that more time is available and the people are involved in only one preaching service.

The plans should be announced to the people, and an effort should be made to get everyone to stay for the service. Here is a suggested schedule for a 9:45 Sunday School:

9:15 Sunday School workers meet pastor and evangelist in auditorium for prayer.

9:30 Sunday School workers go to their places to meet pupils and visitors.

9:45 All departments of the Sunday School assemble in their usual places.

10:05 Go to classrooms for complete records and prayer. Register visitors and classify new members.

Little Rock, giving pertinent information.

Date for camp is June 21-26, beginning Monday evening and closing Saturday noon. The price is \$17.50. Please get your reservation in by sending name, address, age, sex, church, pastor, along with the name of person who will be responsible for the group while in camp, plus \$2.50 registration fee per person. Please use the form on page 17 and 18 of the Church Music Festival booklet for

10:15 Assemble by departments, from juniors up—or perhaps 8 years up—and move into auditorium. Departments are to sit in sections reserved for them. Teachers will sit with their classes and pray without ceasing for those who are unsaved and the unattached Baptists. Be patient and guard against disturbances. The pianist and/or organist will play a hymn as the Sunday School marches in. The choir should be made up of regular members who do not teach in Sunday School.

At 10:25 the pastor should take charge. Have only two appropriate songs, such as "On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand" and "Revive Us Again." The pastor leads in prayer. He then makes an explanation that this is a unified evangelistic service and the children in the elementary departments will be cared for by trained leaders until the close of the service.

10:30 The message which usually should be from 20 to 25 minutes, and then extend the invitation as long as the evangelist is convinced that someone else may come.

At the close of the service receive the offering and make announcements. Present the ones who have made decisions. Have the congregation extend the hand of fellowship. This type of service should be over by 11:30.

If you have not had this kind of service, try it,—Yours for more souls won, Jesse S. Reed, Director

this year.—Hoyt A. Mulkey, Secretary.

Mrs. L. L. Jordan

MRS. L. L. Jordan, 68, wife of Rev. L. L. Jordan, retired Baptist minister, died at her home in Lake City, May 21. Mr. Jordan has held pastorates at Lake City, Plumerville, Cotter and Dyess.

Mrs. Jordan is survived by one brother, W. H. Cranford of Little Rock, and two sisters, Mrs. J. D. Davis of Quanah, Tex., and Mrs. Wade Garton Sr. of Little Rock.

Four worthy events

JUST ahead on the calendar are three State Royal Ambassador camps, and one state Brotherhood Convention - Encampment. All four of these will be held during the period of June 7-25.

Several mailings have been sent to pastors and RA Counselors. These mailings included camp information sheets, camp posters, registration sheets, and camp reminder cards. Camp reservations are coming in to the Brotherhood office daily.

Surely you will want your church to be represented, and well represented, at the RA Camps. The campground is equipped to take care of a large number of boys, with ample facilities of the most modern kind. The swimming pool is magnificent. The playing fields are large and plentiful. Hiking opportunities are limitless. The cabins are permanent brick structures with comfortable new beds. The water supply is from the Little Rock pipe-line. Sanitary conditions are excellent.

Get reservations for your boys in to the Brotherhood office now! The schedule: All-Age Camp, June 7-11; Crusader Camp, June 14-18; Pioneer Camp, June 21-25.

STATE BROTHERHOOD CONVENTION - ENCAMPMENT

A general mailing concerning the Brotherhood convention-encampment has gone out from the Brotherhood office to all pastors, all Brotherhood Presidents, and to many other men. Each camp packet contained a program-poster, an information sheet, and a registration sheet.

There is no registration fee for the convention-encampment. Two meals and a good bed will be furnished those who desire them, and at nominal cost. The convention-encampment is scheduled for June 11-12 at the Arkansas Baptist Campground, with first session beginning at 3 p.m., the second at 7 p.m. and the closing session on Saturday morning at 9.

Let us know that you are com-

Arkansas Baptist Home For Children has need of beef cattle

ABOUT two years ago, the Board of Trustees voted to do away with its dairy herd, and upgrade its beef herd. This was done by selling the dairy cattle and purchasing black angus beef cattle. The Children's Home now has one of the finest herds in southeast Arkansas.

There is a serious problem attached to the situation, however, when one studies it closely. There is a serious shortage of cattle large enough to butcher. The brood heifers have produced fine calves, but they are too small to butcher, and consequently, there is a definite shortage of meat. The calves need at least another year's growth before they will be large enough for consumption.

Since the Home uses about thirty-five head each year, and since we have none large enough to butcher, we are appealing to the friends of the Children's Home to help us. We are looking for thirty-five people, who have cattle, who will donate one head each to the Home. We need cattle large enough to butcher soon. By receiving these cattle and letting ours grow to proper size, we feel we would not be wasting prime beef and would be a better steward of what we are entrusted with.

If you know someone who would donate a beef to us, please let us know, and we will come after it immediately.

Notify J. R. Price, Superintendent, Arkansas Baptist Home for Children, Monticello, Arkansas.

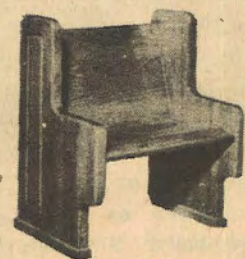
HOUSEPARENTS NEEDED

HOUSEPARENTS are needed at the Arkansas Baptist Home for Children, Monticello, Arkansas. If you are a Christian, between the ages of 25 and 55, in good physical condition, and have no dependent children living with you, you may be eligible for a good position at the Children's Home. Employment at the Home offers good pay, pleasant work, and many fringe benefits. If interested, contact Mr. J. R. Price, Superintendent.

ing so that we can make ample provision for you and yours! — Nelson Tull

WILLIAM S. Garmon, a seminary professor, will direct a 12-month study to determine needs and guidelines for a national ministry by Southern Baptists to the ex-prisoner. The Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention asked Garmon, an associate professor of social ethics at the New Orleans Seminary to make the \$8,500 study. He will spend his sabbatical year on the study, plus other study at the University of Chicago Divinity School and the Chicago Theological Seminary.

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YWA CONFERENCE



GLORIETA, N.M.
JULY 29—AUGUST 4, 1965

TRAVEL VIA CHARTERED BUS

Leave Little Rock July 37

Return August 6

\$105.00 covers expenses from
Little Rock to Little Rock
except meals en route

Make reservations by sending \$15 to:
Woman's Missionary Union
310 Baptist Building
Little Rock

TRAVEL AROUND THE WORLD VIA YWA CONFERENCE

Let WINDY (YWA Mascot) Lasso YOU!

Religious Education

Needed at Siloam

THE FOLLOWING positions are open at Siloam. Anyone interested should write me immediately.



MR. ELLIFF

We need men counselors for all three weeks. We can use several women counselors all three weeks.

We do not have a life guard (adult) the last week, nor an assistant life guard for any of the three weeks. The assistant life guard can be any boy who has passed his life-saving test.

There are openings for 2 recreational assistants for all three weeks. They should be high school juniors or seniors or college boys with athletic experience.

For all of the above positions the person who is accepted will receive his personal room, board,

reservations and insurance. In addition there is an honorarium for the life guard position.

The dates are June 28-July 3; July 5-10; July 12-17.—J. T. Eliff, Director

Training Union

Speaker at Glorieta

MISS Ann Croxton, member of First Church, Cotter, will represent Arkansas in the Southern Baptist Speakers' Tournament at Glorieta during Training Union Week, June 24-30.



MISS CROXTON

Ann won first place in the church, association and district, and then won first place in the 17-18 year Speakers' Tournament held at the State Youth Convention on April 16. Ann also won a one-year scholarship to Ouachita University—Ralph W. Davis, Secretary

Liberty Association

EAST Main Church held ground breaking ceremonies for its new auditorium May 23.

Harmony Church recently broke ground for an educational unit.

Second Church, El Dorado, recently completed a wheel chair ramp to the front entrance.

George Fletcher, former pastor at Three Creeks and Urbana, has accepted a call back to Three Creeks.

East Main's new pastor is Glenn Morgan of Gulfport, Miss. Mr. and Mrs. Morgan have two sons and a daughter.

White River Association

HOPEWELL has remodeled the parsonage for Rev. Jim Fowler and his family.

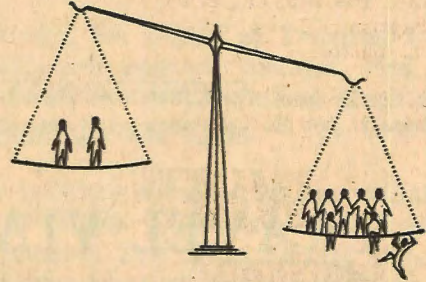
Oak Grove has resumed its ministry after disbanding for the winter.

Cotter has called John Finn, pastor of Calvary Church, Hope.

Your Student Department

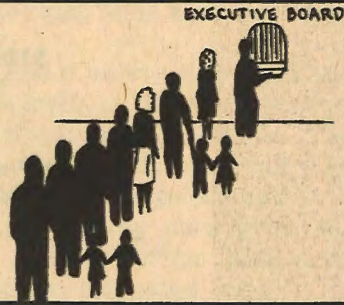
Ministers

11,156 BAPTIST STUDENTS
9,386 OF WHOM ARE IN STATE SCHOOLS.



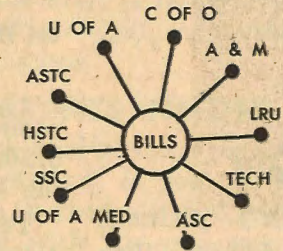
Employs

EIGHT DIRECTORS



Maintains

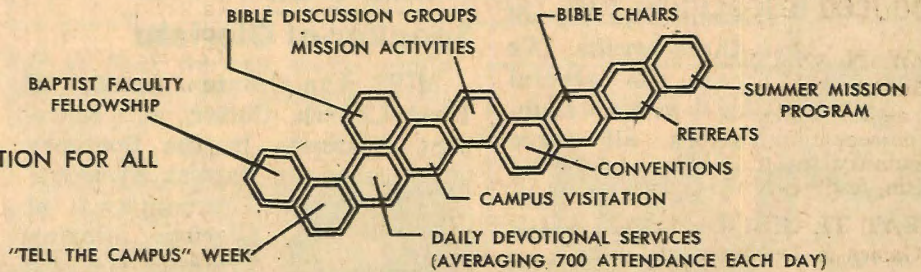
TEN BAPTIST STUDENT CENTERS



Center at HSTC is now under construction

Seeks

A CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FOR ALL



Attempts

TO REACH INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
200 STUDYING IN ARKANSAS



Revival news

PARK Street Church, Bentonville, June 13-20; M. R. Dareing, missionary from Northeastern Oklahoma Association, evangelist; Bill Wall, pastor.

CALVARY Church, Camden, April 18-25; Robert White, Bastrop, La., evangelist; 23 for baptism; 6 by letter; Wayne Carpenter, pastor.

UNION Church, El Dorado, April 28-May 9; Zane Chesser, Norphlet, evan-

gelist; 8 by baptism; 3 by letter; Carter Tucker, pastor.

REV. Ray Nelson, pastor of Fisher Street Church, Jonesboro, returned May 12 from a 10-day revival in Rock City, Wyoming. There were 6 for baptism and 2 by letter and a number of rededications.

FIRST Church, Fairfield, Calif., May 2-9; Bill H. Lewis, pastor, Second, Monticello, evangelist; 51 professions of faith; 44 by baptism; 16 by letter; 1 surrendered to preach.

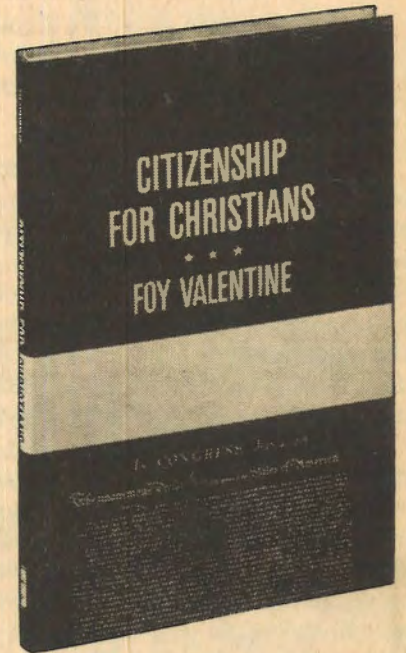
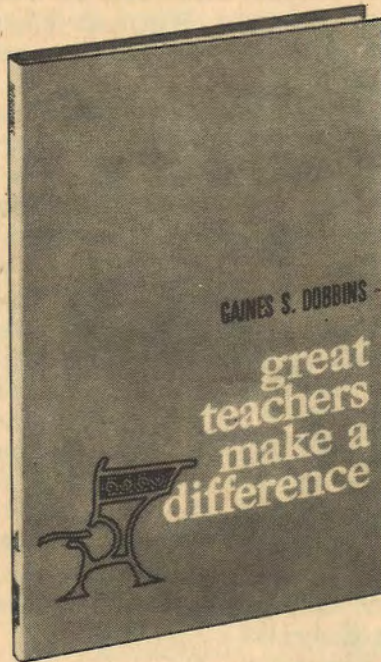
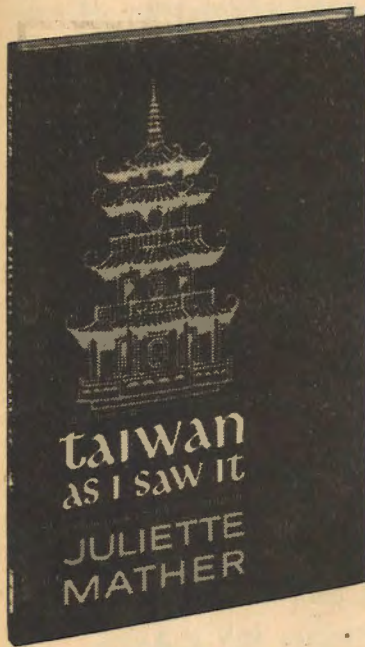
FIRST Church, Rogers, Aug. 8-15; Jerry Hopkins, evangelist; Dean E. Newberry Jr., pastor.

TRINITY Church, El Dorado, Apr. 19-25; Nap Granade, Columbus, Ga., evangelist; Gene Johnson, song leader; 10 for baptism; 2 by letter; 35 rededications; William Huddleston, pastor.

NORTH Side Church, Ft. Smith, Apr. 25-May 2; Elva Adams, pastor, First Church, Barling, evangelist; James R. Woodard, music director; 6 by letter; 7 by baptism; Orville Haley, pastor.

WHERE IS YOUR INTEREST?

Teaching? Missions? Christian Principles?



Here are three new books produced especially for YOU:

TAIWAN AS I SAW IT

by Juliette Mather

The author shares her impressions of the land of Taiwan and its people. In her book, Miss Mather tells of the country, its industry, political life, school systems, Buddhism and Taoism, festivals of the people, and the thrust of Christianity.

GREAT TEACHERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

by Gaines S. Dobbins

The author, a great teacher himself, pays tribute to great teachers in his life and how they have influenced the course of his life. His first chapter pays tribute to his mother, a Sunday school teacher, and two other teachers who helped to set the course of his life. The other chapters describe the influence of great teachers, such as E. Y. Mullins, John R. Sampey, A. T. Robertson, Charles S. Gardner, I. J. Van Ness, and George Albert Coe.

CITIZENSHIP FOR CHRISTIANS

by Foy Valentine

Points out the inescapable responsibility of the Christian as a citizen in any democratic community. In an era of big government—local, state, and national—this book urges Christians to be informed, to be true to their principles, and to be active in community life.

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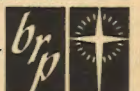
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What a life!

IT sure is hard to please everybody, when you're putting out a paper.

I thought I was doing "Cousin" Ed F. a real favor writing him up and running his picture alongside mine, in this spot week before last. But now he is demanding of me a retraction! The thing that's really "bugging" him, it seems, is having it advertised that he was not at church one Sunday night. He's afraid some might think he was at home watching TV instead of being out somewhere preaching! But if he has a gripe, what about me? One of my friends who read about the confusion of the McDonalds still thought Ed Jr. was my son!

SOMETIMES we are funniest when we don't mean to be.

After featuring the portraits of several distinguished Baptists of Arkansas on our covers in recent weeks, we broke in (May 20) with the likeness of an ancient Persian dignitary, beard and all. Honest, we weren't trying to be funny. We were just trying to boost a television feature of the Radio and Television Commission. But, now that it's done and beyond recall, even we can see, in the sequence, the unintended humor. "Which one of our pastors is this?" has been hurled at us with sly grins from all sides. And one South Arkansas pastor wrote in to say that he thought this one (the ancient Persian) fit in real well with the ones we have been running in the long-time-pastor series!

WOMEN are funny! Having had two grandmothers, one mother, several sisters, one wife, one mother-in-law, two daughters and a number of aunts, I know whereof I speak.

We are paying out a fancy clothes drier, at our house. But my little Maria still must dry something every once in a while on a clothesline. One day recently she tied one end of a clothesline onto the spark cord of our gasoline lawnmower, in the basement. By the time I appeared on the scene, several days later, the spring on the mower's governor was ruined by long over-extension. I told my wife what had happened, in reprimanding tones, and she replied:

"That wouldn't have happened if it had not been for your wet shirt!"

There was something about this strangely reminiscent of something one of us fellows said about his own shortcoming: "The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me... and I did eat!" Yeah, women are funny!

ONE of my friends with the Sunday School Board in Nashville told me the other day that he always looks forward to reading this column. While I was beaming and still trying to think of something that would sound modest in reply, he added: "When I'm up to my neck in religion, you get me out!"

Some weeks our readers have to be philosophers to

find anything really significant in this column. Looks like this is one of those weeks. So, don't complain. You wouldn't want anybody to find out you are not philosophic.

Erwin L. McDonald

IN THIS ISSUE:

WHAT are the issues facing the Southern Baptist Convention today? Our president, Dr. Wayne Dehoney, outlines them for us in his address to the Convention meeting at Dallas. We've re-printed his speech in full for your prayerful perusal, beginning on page 6.

THE President's speech is the subject of today's leading editorial on page 4, "Issues, imperatives." The Editor looks at the "life or death" issue before the Convention: Are Southern Baptists going to get to the main task, the main business, of reaching people for Jesus Christ?

OUR readers take up a variety of subjects in their letters to the editor. Topics include Sunday shows, an offer of free plywood to Vacation Bible Schools and civil rights. See page 4.

FORMER SBC President Herschel Hobbs asks: "Do only those who were ordained to eternal life believe?" He examines a passage from the books of Acts in his "Baptist Beliefs," page 11.

THE tragic story of our missionaries in Cuba is not yet concluded. See the late Baptist Press story on page 5, "Cuban Sentencing Still Unofficial, Corder says."

WHAT is the greatest job in the world for a member of a Baptist church? Dr. J. I. Cossey believes it could be building men. Why it should be a project, how it could be a project, these are the subjects he discusses in today's "Middle of the Road" column, page 11.

COVER story, page 4.

Arkansas Baptist
newsmagazine

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Associated Church Press
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Opinions expressed in editorials and signed articles are those of the writer.

Abbreviations used in crediting news items: BP Baptist Press; CB Church Bulletin; DP Daily Press; EP Evangelical Press.

THE SPORT OF KINGS

BY VINCENT EDWARDS

HOW many young men who caddy at their community golf courses are aware that they are participating in a sport that is over four hundred years old?

Long before the days of Bobby Jones and Byron Nelson, King James I of England was swinging on the royal course what passed for the niblick of his day. Golf was a pastime so popular with rulers that it came to be known as the sport of kings.

One of the game's most famous enthusiasts was unlucky Charles I, who was deposed by the Parliament of Oliver Cromwell and not long afterward lost his head on the scaffold. In 1641 he was in the middle of a game in Scotland when word came that rebellion had broken out in Ireland. In his dismay, he threw aside his club and retired to Holyrood House. While Charles was imprisoned at Newcastle, the English gaoler was kind enough to let him exercise on the golf links in the presence of the royal retinue.

Today women as well as men are golf enthusiasts. They, too, had a royal predecessor. Though few are probably aware of this fact, women players are following in the footsteps of another celebrated ruler, Mary, Queen of Scots. More than once on the links at Seaton, she sought relaxation from her tempestuous career as monarch.

That Mary should have become a devotee of the sport is not surprising. Scotland, more than any other country in the world, has come to be recognized as the original home of golf. Present-day enthusiasm runs high at times. It could not have been any less in the kingdom where one of the early kings had to forbid the importation of golf balls from Holland. He felt that the practice took away "no small quantitie of gold and silver out of the kingdom of Scotland."

In those far-off times, England also banned "golfe and futeball and other unprofitable games." Archery, the sport upon which the defense of the

realm depended, was being neglected in their favor. The golf balls of that period were made of leather and stuffed with feathers until they were as hard as stone.

Of all the famous golf courses in the world, St. Andrews in Scotland is one of the most celebrated. To those who have been there, the very name brings up memories of the fine Scottish weather, with a cool breeze sweeping in from the sea. Broad reaches of sandy dunes are alongside the links.

At St. Andrews the name "bunker" came to be applied, first to sandpits and later to hazards of any sort. Players who went around the course gave to some of the pits such facetious names as "the scholar's bunker," "Tam's coo," "Walkinshaw's grave," "the saucer," "the featherbed hole," and "the crater."

The St. Andrews course is about four miles long. When an important match is in progress, interest infects everyone, from the servants in the hotel to the professors in the university. Of interest is the fact that, while St. Andrews University has a great name of its own, the town's golfing fame overshadows even this. Students have had a reputation for becoming so fond of the sport, to the neglect of their studies, that a song became popular:

"And so while years are moving,
He is steadily improving;
Though he's never any nearer his degree,
There is this consideration:
He has made his reputation
As a golfer in the City by the Sea."

The day has passed when Scotch golfers wear bright-red uniforms as a danger signal to passers-by. However, the short pants in which boy golfers appeared at the St. Andrews course have been adopted by Boy Scouts and other youngsters the world over. Today we call them shorts.



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even for life to Non-drinkers and Non-Smokers!

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Every day in your newspaper you see more evidence that drinking and smoking shorten life. They're now one of America's leading health problems—a prime cause of the high premium rates most hospitalization policies charge.

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(as described in policy). We pay \$2000 cash for accidental death. Or \$2000 cash for loss of one hand, one foot, or sight of one eye. Or \$6000 cash for loss of both eyes, both hands, or both feet.

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Name (PLEASE PRINT) _____
Street or RD # _____ City _____
County _____ State _____ Zip _____
Age _____ Date of Birth _____

Occupation _____ Month _____ Day _____ Year _____
Height _____ Weight _____
Beneficiary _____ Relationship _____

I also apply for coverage for the members of my family listed below:

| NAME | AGE | HEIGHT | WEIGHT | BENEFICIARY | BIRTH DATE |
|----------|-----|--------|--------|-------------|------------|
| 1. _____ | | | | | |
| 2. _____ | | | | | |
| 3. _____ | | | | | |
| 4. _____ | | | | | |

To the best of your knowledge and belief, are you and all members listed above in good health and free from any physical impairment, or disease? Yes No

To the best of your knowledge, have you or any member above listed had medical advice or treatment, or have you or they been advised to have a surgical operation in the last five years? Yes No If so, please give details stating person affected, cause, date, name and address of attending physician, and whether fully recovered.

Neither I nor any person listed above uses tobacco or alcoholic beverages, and I hereby apply for a policy based on the understanding that the policy does not cover conditions originating prior to its effective date, and that the policy is issued solely and entirely in reliance upon the written answers to the above questions.

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SAVE TWO MONTHS PREMIUM BY PAYING YEARLY!

David and Absalom

BY DANNY GRIFFIN

TEXT: II SAM. 15:11-19:10

JUNE 6, 1965

THE OFFENDER

ABSALOM was the third son of David and his only son by his wife Maacah, the daughter of Tal-



MR. GRIFFIN

mai, king of Geshur. According to all evidences, he was a man of strong persuasion and personal magnetism. After having avenged the violation of his sister Tamar by her half-

brother Ammon, Absalom fled to his grandfather and remained there for three years.

The father heart of David longed relentlessly for Absalom, his exiled son. Finally, through a scheme of Joab, David's dear friend and military leader, Absalom was allowed to return to Jerusalem, but David did not see his returned son for some two years. Only then, after some dispute with Joab, was Absalom allowed to meet with his father. At their meeting the Scripture says that Absalom bowed to the ground, and David kissed him.

To this point the relationship between David and Absalom could appear much akin to the story of the returned prodigal of the New Testament. Perhaps, if the story ended here, we could give ourselves to thankful rejoicing, but the truth of the matter is that what has transpired to this point is but a prelude to a dark time in the life of David and Israel. Absalom, the handsome one, the effective one, the stealer of men's hearts, will become the offender of God, of Israel, and of David. The Scriptures say, "So Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel."

Perhaps today there are those within our churches who present to the world a pious exterior and

speak words which drip with honey, yet underneath it all, there are no real fruits of the Spirit or true spiritual power. Could these be twentieth century Absaloms who rob the Church of her power and glory? Today with so many of our congregations rendered powerless with Sunday morning bench warmers who never attempt in Christ's name to evangelize the lost or keep vital the redeemed, we do have our Absaloms among us.

THE OFFENSE

THE offenses of Absalom were many. To deal with him is to deal with a man impressed so totally with his own selfish intents as to bring upon Israel and David a violation as ravaging as was Ammon's violation of Tamar. His road to ultimate destruction began to show itself when he returned to Jerusalem and began his insidious beguilement of the men of Israel. Perhaps in his youth, and even as a young lad, he had seen in those around him the seeds of deception, and thus it happened that those seeds planted so early in life came to flower in his character as he grew older.

We cannot know all that dominated the life of Absalom the youngster, but the family life of David, with its moments of hideous evil, had charged the early environment of this young man. Surely God's forgiveness and mercy came to the household of David as the Scriptures reveal, but Absalom pursued his own course. Thus, his demanding selfishness remained the dominating force of his life as he stole the hearts of the men of Israel, not through principled respect but through political maneuvering for his own gain.

We at this hour of history must be careful of those Absaloms of the flesh that would steal the heart of our spiritual power. This

is a day of platitudes rarely phrased and programs highly praised. With all the virtues these things may possess, we must not allow them to divest us by mechanical force of that which can only come by divine power. Whether it be the forementioned or some other spiritual Absalom of materialism, false profession, legalism, or the life, we must be on guard. As David fled from the revolt led by Absalom, we too would do well to flee the presence of spiritual Absaloms which bid for our affections and woo our hearts, that we may always with singleness of heart serve Jesus only.

THE OFFENDED

DAVID the King fled from the presence of his son whose conspiracy had stolen the hearts of the people and dissolved his leadership. The power given by God to David to rule Israel had been shattered by the egotism of an untamed youth, in whose life the furies of selfishness and ingratitude had been unleashed. Absalom, whose suave personal appeal and desire for instant success were combined with a lack of principle, morality, and commitment to God, added only insult to injury to the already broken heart of David. Those of us who are fathers are made to cringe at the thought of a son so heartless. It must mirror how hurt the the heart of God is when we his children by grace tread so carelessly on our spiritual responsibility. David, whose past life reeked of lust and murder, had now to face, in his own son, the force of wild demonic sinfulness which was destroying, before his very eyes, the flesh of his flesh and the bone of his bone. As the richness of divine mercy has never fully been fathomed by mortals, so the raging, terrifying, unwielding, consequences of sin has never really been comprehended by human kind.

As Absalom rode through the forest in face of the defeat of his troops which had sought to destroy David, God's anointed, the locks of his hair caught in the branches of a tree, and as he hung

Mr. Griffin is pastor of Elliott Church.

A Smile or Two

Male Pollyanna

BILL JONES may well be called the champion optimist. He was sitting on the roof of his house during a flood, watching the water flow past, when the neighbor who owned a boat rowed across to him.

"Hello, Bill!" said the man.

"Hello, Sam!" replied Bill, pleasantly.

"All your fowls washed away this morning?"

"Yes, but the ducks can swim."

"Orange trees gone, too?"

"Yes, but everybody said the crop would be a failure."

"I see the river's reached above your windows, Bill."

"That's all right, Sam," was the reply. "Those windows needed washing."

Ho hum

IT'S Tom Poston's tale about the two gossips who were discussing the latest arrival in town.

"Nobody," said one, "can say anything bad about that girl."

"No," agreed the other. "Let's talk about somebody else."

A step away

LOST in one of London's famous fogs, an American tourist finally heard footsteps. He called out, "Could you please tell me where I'm going?"

"Into the canal," replied an unhappy voice from the mist. "I've just come out."

Driver's test

TRAFFIC cop: "So, you don't have a license? Lady, don't you know you can't drive without one?"

Woman driver: "Well, that explains everything. I thought it was because I was nervous and nearsighted that I hit those two cars and ran into a fire hydrant!"

MOTHS with ulcers will welcome this news: They're making cloth out of milk these days.

there, Joab brought his death. David had not wished it so, but it was done. Then Absalom's body was cast into a pit, and the people piled stones there as a mark of his repulsiveness. As he lived, so he died.

We today, also shall die as we live. Let us therefore not hesitate, but let us give ourselves to God that our hearts will not be stolen by those spiritual Absaloms that lie in wait to cast us down and compromise our covenant with the living God.

Attendance Report

| Church | May 23, 1965 | | Ch. Adns. |
|-----------------------------|---------------|----------------|-----------|
| | Sunday School | Training Union | |
| Berryville, Freeman Heights | 153 | 56 | |
| Blytheville | | | |
| First | 637 | | 2 |
| Chapel | 59 | 35 | |
| Gosnell | 301 | 105 | 6 |
| Camden | | | |
| Cullendale, First | 440 | 176 | 3 |
| First | 506 | 131 | |
| Crossett | | | |
| First | 546 | | 1 |
| Mt. Olive | 224 | | |
| Dumas, First | 317 | 67 | |
| El Dorado | | | |
| Caledonia | 34 | 24 | |
| Ebenezer | 189 | | 1 |
| First | 850 | 624 | |
| Immanuel | 487 | 128 | |
| Trinity | 229 | 90 | 1 |
| Forrest City, First | 569 | | 2 |
| Greenwood, First | 274 | 97 | |
| Harrison, Eagle Heights | 257 | 96 | |
| Hope, First | 528 | 113 | 3 |
| Huntsville, Calvary | 37 | 26 | |
| Jacksonville | | | |
| First | 437 | 112 | 2 |
| Marshall Rd. | 173 | 88 | |
| Second | 233 | 91 | 2 |
| Jonesboro | | | |
| Central | 629 | | 7 |
| Nettleton | 261 | 142 | 1 |
| Lavaca | 249 | 131 | |
| Little Rock | | | |
| Immanuel | 1,189 | 459 | 1 |
| Rosedale | 255 | 83 | |
| McGehee, First | 434 | 151 | |
| Chapel | 91 | 44 | |
| Magnolia, Central | 734 | 206 | |
| Marked Tree | | | |
| First | 188 | 44 | |
| Neiswander | 144 | 64 | |
| Mena, First | 282 | 109 | |
| Monticello, Second | 287 | 162 | 4 |
| North Little Rock | | | |
| Baring Cross | 642 | 144 | |
| Camp Robinson | 22 | | |
| Southside | 57 | 31 | 2 |
| Calvary | 417 | 92 | |
| Central | 283 | 79 | 1 |
| Forty Seventh St. | 197 | 93 | 2 |
| Grace | 106 | 40 | |
| Gravel Ridge First | 202 | 83 | |
| Chapel | 60 | 36 | |
| Levy | 517 | 155 | 4 |
| Park Hill | 833 | 192 | 6 |
| Sherwood | 187 | 86 | |
| Sixteenth St. | 33 | 14 | |
| Sylvan Hills First | 306 | 114 | |
| Pine Bluff | | | |
| Matthews Memorial | 299 | 137 | |
| Second | 210 | 67 | |
| South Side | 707 | 186 | |
| Tucker Chapel | 35 | 20 | |
| Watson Chapel | 167 | 71 | 2 |
| Siloam Springs, First | 346 | 149 | |
| Springdale, First | 427 | | 2 |
| Star City, First | 244 | 80 | |
| North Side | 84 | 58 | |
| Texarkana, Beech St. | 538 | 181 | 2 |
| Mission | 31 | | |
| Van Buren | | | |
| First | 447 | 146 | 2 |
| Second | 77 | 44 | |
| Ward, Cocklebur | 52 | 32 | |
| Warren | | | |
| First | 395 | 121 | 2 |
| Southside | 74 | 92 | |
| Immanuel | 251 | 98 | |
| Westside | 108 | 58 | 1 |
| West Memphis | | | |
| Ingram Blvd. | 266 | 99 | 2 |

- A—Arkansas State Convention: Efforts to heal division (BL) p10
- B—Baptist beliefs: Eternal life (BB) pp10-11; Beard, Winston C. promoted p12; Bookshelf p11; Building men (MR) p11
- C—Children's Nook p20; Cover story p4
- D—David and Absalom (SS) pp22-23
- E—Editor needed (letter) p4
- H—Huffmaster, J. B. resigns p12
- J—Jordan, Mrs. L. L. dies p15
- L—Liberty Association p17
- M—McDonald, Erwin L.: What a life (PS) p2
- R—Race: Our debt to KKK (E) p3; Kentucky rebuttal (letter) p4; Revivals p19
- S—SBC, Dallas: 'Issues, imperatives' (E) p3; president's address pp6-9; Post '70 planning p14; Science, religion (E) p3; Southern College graduates p13; Southwestern Seminary graduates p12; Sunday shows (letter) p4
- V—Vacation Bible Schools: Plywood available (letter) p4
- W—White River Association p17; Wright, Eugene to Cole Ridge p12

Key to listings: (BB) Baptist Beliefs; (BL) Beacon Lights of Baptist History; (CMH) Courtship, Marriage and the Home; (E) Editorial; (FC) From the Churches; (PS) Personally Speaking; (SS) Sunday School lesson; (MR) Middle of the Road

So be it

THE story of the student who was asked what American was given the nickname of Old Hickory. His answer was, "Henceforth." Called to account for this reply, he showed his teacher his history book, which said, "Henceforth, he was called Old Hickory."

High finance

"FATHER," asked Junior, "what is a financial genius?" "A financial genius, my son," replied the father thoughtfully, "is a man who can pay his Christmas bills in January."



"I told you he's no atheist, Reverend! He just wants the existence of God proved scientifically by mathematical formula!"

Religious News Digest

By Evangelical Press

Atheist raps 'abuse'

MOSCOW (EP)—Soviet Russia's official atheist magazine has taken a woman writer sharply to task for "crude abuse" of religious believers which, it warned, weakened rather than helped the campaign against religion.

Nauka i Religija ("Science and Religion"), in an open letter signed by three of its editors, told Alla Trubnikova that her widely published insulting attacks on believers were nothing more than a vulgarization of atheist propaganda.

"Reading your articles," the editors said, "one gets the impression that, having taken up the anti-religious theme, you have not bothered to consider properly what modern religion represents and why many Soviet people at the present time still believe in God.

"You attack not so much their belief and the religious ideas they profess as their money-grubbing, idleness, drunkenness, depravity and even their unattractive appearance and physical defects."

The editors cautioned Mrs. Trubnikova that her attacks on believers "disorient propagandists and agitators. They insult believers and evoke their hostility to the atheist message. They give our ideological opponents excuses to defame our atheist propaganda."

Encyclopedia on atheism

ROME (EP) — Protestant, Jewish and Roman Catholic scholars will be among contributors to an encyclopedia on contemporary atheism expected to be published here next year in six languages—Italian, French, English, German, Spanish and Arabic.

The work is being promoted by

Rev. Vincenzo Miano, dean of the faculty of philosophy in the Pontifical Salesian University, who was named secretary general of the Vatican Secretariat for Non-Believers established recently by Pope Paul VI.

So far, the names of the Jewish and Protestant contributors have not been disclosed. The Catholic contributors will include Leo Jozef Cardinal Suenens, archbishop of Malines-Brussels, Belgium, and Jean Guitton, of the French Academy.

The encyclopedia is expected to appear in three or four volumes, with a total of 2,000 pages.

ACP president

OTTAWA, Ont. (EP) — Ernest L. Homewood, Toronto, managing editor of the *United Church Observer* semi-monthly publication of the United Church of Canada, was elected to a two-year term as president of Associated Church Press at its annual meeting here. Outgoing first vice president of the group, he succeeds Henry L. McCorkle, Philadelphia, editor of the *Episcopalian*.

Started about 50 years ago, the ACP represents 168 Protestant, Orthodox and non-denominational newspapers and magazines in the U.S. and Canada with an aggregate circulation of more than 19 million. [*Arkansas Baptist News-magazine* is a member]

Other officers named were: Dr. W. C. Fields, Nashville, Tenn., editor of the *Baptist Program* and chief public relations officer of the Southern Baptist Convention, first vice president; Dr. Kenneth Wilson, New York, executive director of the *Christian Herald*, second vice president; and Kenneth I. Morse, Elgin, Ill., editor of the *Messenger*, Church of the Brethren, treasurer.

Rev. Alfred P. Klausler, Chicago, editor of *Arena*, Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, was re-appointed ACP executive secretary. Delegates voted to establish a full-time secretariat, probably beginning next year.

Next year's 50th anniversary convention will be held April 13-15, in St. Louis, Mo., where the ACP was organized.

Presbyterian giving

ATLANTA (EP) — Members of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S. (Southern) gave an average of \$115.10 each to their denomination in 1964 for a record total of \$108,269,579. The financial statistics were reported here by the Church's General Council which said the per capita last year was \$5.32 higher than in 1963.

The denomination now has 944,516 members in 4,007 congregations, largely in 16 southeastern and southwestern states.

'United church'

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, England (EP) — The Presbyterian Church of England's General Assembly overwhelmingly approved a plan for creating a United Church with the Congregational Union of England and Wales.

Issued last March by a 34-member clergy and lay committee from both denominations, the plan sets forth the structure upon which "a United Church, both catholic and reformed, might be built." It also defines such terms as church membership and baptism.

Following its endorsement by the Presbyterian Assembly at its annual sessions, the plan now goes for study to the denomination's presbyteries and sessions. The Congregationalists were to consider the plan at their May meeting.

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'Issues , imperatives'

THE "life-or-death" issue before the Southern Baptist Convention now in annual session in Dallas is: Are Southern Baptists going to get to the main task, the main business, of reaching people for Jesus Christ?

So declared SBC President Wayne Dehoney, in an address at the opening session of the Convention, Tuesday night. (For the address in full, see elsewhere in this issue.)

That reaching people for Christ is our main business all will agree. But not all agree on how to do this. Some think of it as what is said and done in the church house on Sunday, and, maybe, on Wednesday night, with little or no connection with the world around us seven days a week.

Those who know Dr. Dehoney know that he is not only in favor of preaching the gospel but also believes in living according to the light of the New Testament. He sees the race issue, for example, as "a God-given opportunity for Christians to solve the problems that legislation can never solve." And he places the emphasis in the right place when he says that Christians can find the solution to the race problem "not by marches in the street, or pickets at the gate, or by resolutions in assembly, but by the personal practice of Christian brotherhood in our daily lives."

Our missionaries in foreign lands find themselves greatly handicapped in their efforts to reach people for Christ because so many Americans, the most of them church members, reflect anything but the spirit of Christ in their relationship with people of the colored race. We are going to have to get us a new Bible that will make God and his people respecters of persons, or start living up to the teachings of the Bible we have. Nothing kills one's influence quite like saying one thing and doing something quite different. And it is still true that what we do, rather than what we say, is the sermon we really preach.

Our debt to KKK

AN organization built on hate cannot long endure. The fact that the Ku Klux Klan has elevated to places of adulation three men facing charges of murder in the brutal slaying of Mrs. Viola Gregg Liuzzo of Detroit on a lonely Alabama highway last March 25, reveals as nothing else the spirit and nature of the KKK. A few thousand haters may be attracted to the KKK rallies, but the more the organization shows what it really is, the surer it seals its own fate.

If we must have a maddog loose in the land, it is well to have it belled. The KKK is doing us all a great favor in providing its own bell.

JUNE 3, 1965

Science, religion

THE old question of whether or not there must be an unresolved conflict between science and religion was discussed the other day by Louis Cassels, of United Press International.

Mr. Cassels quotes at length from Dr. John Habgood, former biologist at Cambridge University in England and now an Anglican priest serving as rector of St. John's Church in Jedburgh, Scotland.

According to Dr. Habgood, as quoted by Mr. Cassels from a new book by Dr. Habgood, *Truths in Tension*, "It is possible to be both an honest Christian and an honest scientist.

"Science and religion belong to different ends of the spectrum of knowledge," says Dr. Habgood, and neither has all the answers; man needs both to make sense out of his experience as a thinking creature in an orderly universe. Confusion arises only when people fall into the error of treating religious dogmas as if they were pieces of scientific knowledge or when they imagine that science can give us the answers to religious questions."

Much that is called science is not science and much that is called religion is not worthy of the name. Dr. Habgood is just one of many who see no conflict between true science and true religion.

Spare The Boot And Spoil Any Great University



-Knox in NASHVILLE BANNER

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

the people SPEAK

THE spelling and sentence structure in this department are those of the writers. The only editing of letters to the editor is the writing of headlines and, occasionally, deletion of parts that are not regarded as essential.

Spa Sunday show

I AM Virgil Smith. Don't know any better than to object to a show on Sunday. I am sure you are aware of this show as it is advertised in the Gazette.

I know it takes courage to exist these days, but with me it makes no difference what you say about Hot Springs as they will try any thing to make a dollar.

Pardon me for taking up your time but I had this on my chest and had to get it off.—V. E. Smith, Hot Springs

[Editor's Note: Mr. Smith enclosed an advertisement of a Grand Ole Opry show scheduled for Sunday afternoon and night, June 6, in Convention Auditorium, Hot Springs.—ELM]

For Bible schools

WE have a large amount of plywood scraps, probably a big truck load, that we would give vacation bible school people if they would come and get it. If you would carry a little note in the paper, we would be happy to give this to them free if they will get it out of the stack and put it in their car. We would be glad to give any church a car trunk load of it. It varies in thickness from 1/8 inch up to 1/2 inch and sizes from 6 x 6 inches up to approximately 12 x 18.—H. E. Williams, President, Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge, Ark.

Kentucky rebuttal

SINCE my letter on the civil rights issue was printed ("A Call to Action", April 22) several have raised the objection that for the denomination to take action on this matter would amount to denominational control over the churches. Such an objection, although well intended, is unfounded. Our denomination educates our people in the matter of missions. That is not considered denominational control over the churches. Our denomination educates our people in the matter of stewardship. That is not considered denominational control over the churches. Our denomination educates our people in the matter of Christian education. That is not considered denominational control over the churches. And so on for many other programs. Our denomination can educate our people in the mat-

ter of Christian responsibility in the area of race relations. That would be considered denominational control over the churches. So the argument goes. The logic is faulty, but it is also typically Baptist.

Our denomination can educate our people in this vital area. The denomination has the machinery—the printing, publishing, and distribution facilities. It has the talent—the teachers, scholars, writers, editors, etc. It has the organizational structure—Sunday School, Training Union, WMU, Brotherhood, and auxiliary organizations. The Sunday School Board needs no further authorization from the Convention to engage in such a program. All that is lacking is the moral courage to lead out. The problem of race relations can never be solved by Convention pronouncements, editorials, or occasional references to the matter scattered throughout our church literature. These serve a useful function but they can never reach to the heart of the matter. Only a positive, forthright, consistent program of education that is Biblically based and theologically sound will ever be effective. That is why it must originate at the denominational level. And it would not be denominational control over the churches.

I am as well aware as anyone else that the civil rights issue does not constitute the sum total of the Christian gospel. I am also aware that any "gospel" which is devoid of the application of Christian ethics in the vital matter of race is not even moral, much less Christian. As a denomination we have more at stake in this issue than any other Christian group. It is precisely because there is no ecclesiastical control over the churches that we are being weighed in the balances. If our free church tradition is to have any positive witness for Christ in the world, our freedom must be matched by responsibility. We must not fail.—Vernon R. Mallow, pastor, Woodland Baptist Church, Rt. 2, Morganfield, Ky. 42437

Editor is needed

Since our assistant editor for Ambassador Life and Ambassador Leader is being promoted to editor of the Young Men's Brotherhood publication, we need a young man to help with the editorial work in the Royal Ambassador Department.

We would like for this young man to have a degree in journalism, if possible. Of course, he should be a Southern Baptist who knows our Baptist work and life and is personally committed to the purposes of our denomination. We

The Cover



A NURSING student at Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas lends a compassionate, helping hand to a child in the hospital's pediatrics ward of the beautiful Women's and Children's building. The hospital, and the nearby Baylor University School of Nursing and College of Dentistry, are among the Texas Baptist institutions located in Dallas, site of the 1965 Southern Baptist Convention.

need this young man as soon as possible and would be grateful to you if you could recommend someone who you think might be suited to this job.

Any help you can give us will be greatly appreciated.—Mrs. Cloyd Dunn, Editor, Royal Ambassador Department, Brotherhood Commission, SBC, Memphis, Tenn.

Grover A. Curry

GROVER A. Curry, 73, died May 7 at a Smackover hospital.

Mr. Curry was Sunday School superintendent and a deacon for many years at First Church, Smackover, and for many years had been a deacon in Maple Avenue Church, Smackover, where he was serving at the time of his death.

Mr. Curry was a retired plumber.

Survivors include Mrs. Curry, the former Miss Corinne Stell; two daughters, Mrs. J. B. Moody, Houston, Tex.; and Mrs. C. S. White, North Little Rock, who is a secretary in the office of Woman's Missionary Union, Baptist Building; and a sister, Mrs. H. H. Green, Memphis, Tenn.

Cuban sentencing still unofficial, Corder says

ATLANTA (BP) — Published reports that Southern Baptist missionaries in Cuba were sentenced are still unofficial, a Baptist mission leader said here.

A *New York Times* release said Herbert Caudill of Clinchport, Va., and David Fite, Ft. Worth, received ten and six-year prison sentences, quoting an unnamed Cuban official.

Dr. Loyd Corder, Atlanta, after conferring with the United States State Department, said, "The sentencing has not taken place officially."

"This was someone's idea of what the sentencing would be; they were not speaking for the court, although they may have had inside information, or they may not have had."

Corder is secretary of the language missions department for the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention and directs the agency's work in Cuba.

According to the *Times* report, the tribunal sentenced Caudill, who has spent 35 years in Cuba, for counter-revolutionary activities, espionage, and illegal foreign currency traffic.

The *Times'* news source said Fite, who is the son-in-law of Caudill, received his sentence for illegal foreign currency deals. Fite's parents live at Waynesboro, Ga.

"We still have hopes that our negotiations through diplomatic channels may be productive of favorable results and secure their return to the United States," Corder said.

"Officially, we are still in the same position as before the story was released by the *Times*," he added.

The missionaries and 32 Cuban Baptists were tried May 14. All had been arrested April 8, together with 19 others, including four women. The other 19 have not been tried.

The charges at the May 14 trial against the Cubans were espionage, "ideological diversionism," counter-revolutionary activities, and currency traffic.

At least one Cuban preacher was sentenced to 30 years in prison, the *Times* report stated.

"We are continuing to make every effort possible to secure the early release of the missionaries, and will continue to do so in the event the announced sentencing becomes official," Corder said.

"The White House, the State Department, the Baptist World Alliance, and the Swiss Embassy have given excellent assistance and we will all continue our efforts," he said.

Mrs. Maudie Price

MRS. Maudie Martin Price, 77, of Russellville, widow of Arch Price, died May 29 after a lengthy illness.

She leaves two sons, Clarence Price, postmaster at London, and Eugene Price, Russellville; three daughters, Mrs. Erwin L. McDonald, North Little Rock, Mrs. Melvin Sorrels, London, and Mrs. C. C. Cornett, Russellville.

Funeral services were conducted from London Baptist Church by Rev. Marvil Sorrels.

Mrs. Fannie Huddleston

MRS. Fannie Huddleston, 67, Newport, a member of First Church, died Apr. 30.

Survivors include a daughter, Mrs. Sam Lamitina, Newport, and a son, Rev. William C. Huddleston, pastor of Trinity Church, El Dorado.



THE TEXAS BAPTIST BUILDING: Offices of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, largest of the state Baptist conventions affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention, are located within easy walking distance of the 1965 meeting place for the Southern Baptist Convention. The Baptist Building is across the street from both the First Baptist Church of Dallas, and the Southern Baptist Annuity Board. (BP PHOTO)

ISSUES AND IMPERATIVES

BY DR. WAYNE DEHONEY AT DALLAS MEETING
OF SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION JUNE 1

TONIGHT, as the Southern Baptist Convention convenes for its 108th session, the question in every mind is "What are the issues that confront us?"



DR. DEHONEY

For every Convention in recent years has been characterized by some particular overriding issue.

There was the *theological controversy* at San Francisco. But that issue is now behind us. The theological guidelines for our schools and agencies were clearly defined at Kansas City by the Articles of Faith. Christian integrity demands that those who would be our denominational servants shall respect these guidelines. Now, the time has come for the rest of us to quit debating "Who was Melchizedek?" and proclaim to a lost world "Who is Jesus Christ."

A fast-running *ecumenical tide* has concerned us. The dilemma for Southern Baptists has been that to have unity, we must scrap our convictions; and if we keep our convictions, we cannot have unity! But let us remember that our real enemies are the devil and the forces of materialism, secularism, and atheism—not other Christians and Baptists in other national bodies. Let us continue to seek broader channels of communication and cooperation that will not compromise our conscience, our doctrine or our autonomy.

The *race issue* divides us as it divides a nation. But let us not feel that the race problem is an albatross hung around our necks by history. It is a God-given opportunity for Christians to solve the problems that legislation can never solve; not by marches in the street, or pickets at the gate, or by resolutions in assembly; but by the personal practice of Christian brotherhood in our daily lives.

We are faced with the *social and moral decay* of society; the "sex revolution," rising crime rates, the criminal exploitation of our citizenship by the liquor industry. A penetrating question haunts us, "How can we create a great society out of a morally sick society?" Legislation can structure the economics, but only the church can produce the moral foundations for that great society. God's mandate to 20th century America is "behave or be damned."

Then there are the *schisms and divisions* within our own Convention. There are such wide diversities, socially, theologically and geographically, that some believe a split is inevitable. I do not share in this view. But if a split does come, I can tell you which way I shall go—whichever way the Annuity Board goes!

THE SINGLE ISSUE

IN my opinion the single overriding life-or-death issue now facing our Convention is: *ARE SOUTHERN BAPTISTS GOING TO GET TO THE MAIN TASK, THE MAIN BUSINESS, OF REACHING PEOPLE FOR JESUS CHRIST?*

Today, we are the largest evangelical denomination in the United States and the largest free church group in the world with 10.6 million members and 33,000 churches.

But let us be honest with ourselves. With our big churches, fine buildings, great colleges and seminaries, educated ministry and great prestige, Southern Baptists are less effective today in winning people to Jesus Christ than any of our less privileged forefathers. As Kermit Long says, "Instead of fishers of men, we have become merely keepers of the aquarium, swiping fish from each other's bowls."

The overriding issue is:

Shall we spend our energies maintaining institutions or penetrating the world with the gospel of Christ?

Shall we deify established churches or glorify Jesus Christ by carrying His message to lost men where they are?

Shall we be absorbed by the mechanics of a program or consumed by a passion for people?

Shall we measure our success by the statistics of church membership or by the unsaved multitudes yet to be reached?

Shall we wax fat in our blessings and become insensitive to the lostness of the world about us?

Twenty-five percent of all people who have ever lived are alive today. They are pressing at our doorstep and stretching out to the end of the earth. These millions are lost, without God and without hope in the world.

I believe that God has placed Southern Baptists at this pivotal point in history because *the main thrust of our witness, historically, has been evangelism, outreach, and conquest.*

Let us face today's challenge with a sense of historical continuity and personal destiny. Baptists have a great history, but let us make history today!

Tonight, we assemble in Dallas under the banner of *PROCLAMATION AND WITNESSING*. Here,

Wayne Dehoney is pastor, First Baptist Church, Jackson, Tenn., and SBC president. He was educated at Baylor University (Baptist), Waco, Tex.; Vanderbilt University, Nashville, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville. He was born Aug. 22, 1918 at New Ramer, Colo. He also is a former president of the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference.

in this Convention, may we have a spiritual, yes, even a revival, experience. Here, may we be caught up in a fresh vision of a lost world and launch the greatest evangelistic and missionary thrust this world has ever seen. Here, may the business we consider and the messages we hear *unify* us as one great people of God, *mobilize* us to action, *empower* us by the Holy Spirit and *send* us out to win this world to Jesus Christ.

My clarion call as president is expressed in three imperatives.

1. CONCENTRATE

FIRST, let us *concentrate the total resources* of 10 million Southern Baptists, 33,000 churches and 21 Convention agencies and institutions in a bold, concerted plan of *proclamation and witnessing*.

A. WORLD EVANGELISM

LET us concentrate on world evangelism.

(1) In October of 1966 Billy Graham has called a World Conference on Evangelism in West Berlin to mobilize the total forces of Christianity. Let us now say, "Billy, lead on!" and here in Dallas pledge our concentrated support to this worldwide evangelistic thrust.

(2) Last January, in this very auditorium, Dr. Rubens Lopes, president of the Brazilian Baptist Convention, called for the Baptists of North and South America to unite in a hemispheric evangelistic crusade in 1970 — simultaneous Baptist revivals from Hudson Bay to Buenos Aires! Let us follow the lead of our Latin brethren in this concentrated, united effort to win these sister continents to Jesus Christ.

(3) On Thursday night, Dr. Baker James Cauthen will challenge us with a goal of 5,000 missionaries on the foreign field. We shall hear of the evangelistic crusades in Brazil, Japan, Portugal, Lebanon, Thailand, Malaysia; the two-year Missionary Journeyman program; the use of mass communication; the entering of new fields. Let us undergird with our prayers, our money and our surrendered lives this expanded missionary thrust.

B. THE NATIONAL FIELD

LET us concentrate our total resources to make America Christian.

Tomorrow night, Dr. Arthur Rutledge will report for 2,400 home missionaries. We shall hear of our work in language missions; the US-2 program; the summer missionaries; the Tentmakers; the Christian Service Corps.

"OPERATION PENETRATION"

BUT, the greatest home mission challenge I would call "Operation Penetration"—to penetrate the vast pioneer areas of the north, the east and the west with our Southern Baptist witness.

By 2,000 A.D. ten cities will constitute one-third of the United States population, not one of which is in the old territory of the Southern Baptist Convention. Today, the population of six states can elect a president; not one of which is a Southern state. We must break out of the Bible-belt South, and grow a denomination in these vast urban and industrial centers whose people will determine the

future political, economic and moral destinies of our nation.

(1) Let the Brotherhood step up its program of Laymen Crusades into these areas.

(2) Let our seminaries be bridgeheads for an "Operation Penetration," thrusting forth pastors onto the pioneer fields to establish missions and churches.

(3) Let us provide adequate building loan funds for these pioneer churches. For mission money spent in establishing new churches is like seed, returning a harvest fiftyfold and a hundredfold.

(4) Let us give encouragement to Mr. Owen Cooper and our Baptist laymen to organize a non-profit corporation to raise \$50 million to be used in the purchase of church building sites in the pioneer areas.

(5) Let the Radio and Television Commission reinforce this "Operation Penetration" with a saturation exposure of our Baptist witness through mass communication media into these pioneer areas.

C. THE CHURCH FIELD

BUT this concentrated thrust in proclamation and witnessing on the mission fields must be undergirded by a *concentrated emphasis on outreach on every local church field*. Mission advance waits on more money. And more money waits on more people. For example, if the objective of 5,000 missionaries on the foreign field is to be realized we must begin now, in every local church, to broaden the "people base" of our denomination. *The top priority for Southern Baptist advance is not more money or more program, but more people!*

Tomorrow morning, Dr. James Sullivan will present the correlated program of advance for the local church that concentrates the total resources of the Sunday School, Training Union, Brotherhood, WMU, Music and Evangelism Departments in a single emphasis on "proclamation and witnessing."

The Adult Thrust is to continue as a spearhead of advance.

The Sunday School is to take the lead position in outreach.

The Training Union materials in the fall will be on Christian witnessing.

The January Bible Study will be John's witness to Jesus.

The alternate Sunday School lessons for the winter quarter will be on soul winning.

These are but a few of the many facets of this concentrated, correlated emphasis on outreach to be presented tomorrow.

To me, this is the most thrilling and exciting development in the history of Southern Baptist programming. If 33,000 Southern Baptist churches would use these forthcoming program tools to the glory of God, we could turn this world upside down.

May I challenge you, each and everyone, to go back to your local churches committed to being a part of this program of proclamation and witnessing as we match our *evangelical theology* with an *evangelistic methodology*.

II. CONSECRATE

THE second imperative is to *consecrate ourselves* anew to the living person of Jesus Christ to match this *concentrated program with consecrated personnel*.

Recently I read an article on "Why I Quit the Ministry." The author gave six valid and convincing reasons. I, too, had all six reasons and I wondered why I had not "thrown in the sponge," also. Then I realized the author never mentioned *why* he *entered* the ministry in the first place! If you enter *right*, you can never quit!

Brethren, we entered the ministry with a conviction that God had given us a gospel to preach and a message to proclaim to a lost world. And we said with Paul, "Woe is me if I preach not the gospel." But time dimmed the luster of that vision and we have permitted periphery and secondary pursuits to consume us. If God has called you to preach, may I call you to go with me back to the foot of the cross that, together, we may consecrate ourselves anew to the PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL to a lost world.

But someone says, "What is the gospel? Do you not know that this is one of the great theological issues of the day?" Without attempting a definition and, not being facetious, let me simply say: My fellow minister, the *measure of the validity* of the gospel that you preach is not how well you can translate its message from the original languages; or how neat a packet you can make of the theological and philosophical concepts in it; or how well you can defend it with an old orthodoxy or a new intellectualism, as important as these things may seem! But its validity is measured by a simple question, *Does your proclamation of that gospel lead men to become disciples of Jesus Christ?* If it does, you have the gospel. If it does not, I care not how sound is your orthodoxy or how brilliant is your intellectualism you do not have it.

Brethren, let us strip our proclamation of passing theological fads and pseudo-sophisticated enrustments that merely tickle our intellectual fancies. Let us sound a clarion trumpet, stripped of doubt and uncertainty, an authoritative proclamation of a Bible-based message that "God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself. Be ye reconciled to God."

Let us also consecrate ourselves anew to the task of personal witnessing and soul winning.

Occasionally a friend will say to me, "My work is through, here. What's open in Tennessee?" Now what in the world do we as pastors mean when we say, "*My work is through*"? I may be through because of my indiscretion, or my bad judgment, or my lack of Christian virtue. My leadership in a particular church or institution may be through. But my work of personal witnessing is never through! And when we are faithful in this task of personal witnessing, it seems that the Lord always presents ever widening fields of service for us.

Leobardo Estrada, whose sermons on the Spanish Baptist Hour are heard in 14 Latin American countries today, was shining shoes and selling hot tamales on the streets of San Antonio when the Lord saved him and called him to preach. He attended college and seminary and began to work with Latin Americans of the Southwest.

One day the Lord called Leobardo Estrada to New York City where one out of every ten people walking the streets speaks Spanish. Estrada started to work without a church, without a pulpit, without a building, without a congregation, without a single church member. On a rainy day less than three years ago, he went down into the subways to witness and distribute evangelistic tracts. With each tract he extended an invitation to attend preaching services the following Sunday. Four people appeared at the service to hear his sermon. Today, that church has over 250 members, eight other missions and preaching points as well as a fine new building.

This is our primary task, *preacher and layman alike*, to get on the street corners and in the subways and out into the world *proclaiming the gospel and witnessing* for Jesus Christ.

Let us consecrate ourselves anew to the task of proclamation and witnessing, even as we consecrate ourselves anew to the way of the cross. For our witness to Him is not only in word but also in deed and example.

Two theological students came away from hearing Toyohiko Kagawa speak. Both were disappointed. One exclaimed, "What a poor message by such a great man—nothing but trite sayings and soft platitudes." But then he thoughtfully remarked, "However, I guess when a man is hanging on a cross he doesn't have to say much to bear witness."

III. CONSIDER

THE overriding issue, then, for Southern Baptists is: Shall we get on with the main task of proclamation and witnessing and launch the greatest missionary and evangelistic thrust the world has ever seen! And to move out in this advance, we must be compelled by three imperatives:

First, we must concentrate our total resources in a total program of proclamation and witnessing.

Second, we must consecrate ourselves anew to Christ and to the personal task of proclamation and witnessing.

And finally, to give us the spiritual dynamics for the advance, we must *consider* afresh the unlimited power of God.

A. OURSELVES

IF we consider only *ourselves* we are doomed! If we depend upon *our* programs and *our* resources, alone, for success we shall fail miserably. For every human organization and every human program is fraught with human frailties and imperfections. Continued introverted self-study soon degenerates into a debilitating self-criticism. We can dwell on self-analysis so long until "the paralysis of analysis" destroys us. As Southern Baptists we must be done with this sadistic impulse toward self-abuse and self-criticism, the end of which is nothing but

a devastating guilt complex and complete inertia. And if I have not made myself clear, let me put it this way—the sophisticated pseudo-intellectualism whose chief calling is always to examine “what’s wrong with Southern Baptists” and whose only service is continually to pick at the scabs of our imperfections and inadequacies, not only denies the healing power of God’s forgiveness but also the redemptive power of God’s grace that can make marred but surrendered vessels serve His cause.

We can believe in ourselves because we believe in our *cause*. Dr. W. J. Wimpee asked a Frenchman, “Why are you a communist?” He answered, “Because the communists are going to win the world.”

We can believe in ourselves because we believe in our God, and we believe His cause will win! It is God who has brought us as Southern Baptists through 25 years of phenomenal, unmatched growth to this strategic position of world leadership today. And because the hand of God has been upon us we *can* believe in the rightness of our *theology* and the rightness of our *emphases*, and the rightness of our *programs*.

B. OUR ADVERSARIES

AGAIN, if we consider only ourselves and our *adversaries*, we will quit in despair!

At this very moment fellow Baptists rotting in Cuban jails are grim reminders of the naked power and demonic purposes of *communism*. Today, Christians are a shrinking minority in an exploding *world population* where with every one convert to Christianity 25 pagans are born. *Secularism*, *materialism* and *scientism* seem to overwhelm us. If we consider only our adversaries, we will join the parade of pessimists who say that the Christian cause is lost and we are entering a post-Christian era in western civilization.

On Easter Sunday morning, 1799, 18,000 French invaders encircled a little Austrian village. The citizens were panic-stricken. But the pastor said, “Ring the church bells, and let us proceed to worship God on this Eastern morn. We have reckoned our strength and find that it fails. But let us ring the bells, and leave the matter in God’s hands. We know our weakness. But we do not know the power of God!”

When the French troops heard the bells, they thought that an Austrian army had come and fled in panic.

SBC Notes

THE test phase of what Texas Baptist leaders call a new step in evangelism closed at Lubbock, Tex. with an estimated 800 professions of faith in local church revivals and in area-wide crusade. The new program, called “Evangelism in Depth,” was used in what is con-

sidered the largest evangelistic effort by Baptists in west Texas history. The crusade was sponsored by 84 churches of the Lubbock Baptist Association, assisted by the Texas Baptist evangelism division.

THE tiered red-brick Maryland Baptist Building at 100 East 23rd St. in Baltimore has been sold to the Baltimore chapter of the Am-

Southern Baptists, let us ring the bells, and get to the task of proclamation and witnessing! We know our weaknesses, we know the might of our adversaries, but we do not fully know the power of God. Let us cast ourselves upon Him that He might give us victory.

Remember, in the days of Isaiah, the people cried in fear, “Look at Nebuchadnezzar.” But Isaiah proclaimed “No, look at God.” Southern Baptists, this is the note to sound and the message to proclaim. Look not at ourselves, look not at our adversaries, but look to our God and to His power and to His promises. We need to hear again the challenge of William Carey, “If God be for us, who then can be against us?”

In II Kings 6:8-18 we find the story of Benhadad’s invasion of Israel when he marched the armies of Syria to the city of Dothan to capture Elisha.

The Bible describes the scene in the morning, when Elisha’s young servant looked from the wall to see the city besieged by the Syrian army. Tens of thousands of armed soldiers had come up against one lone unarmed prophet of God! And he cries, “Master, what shall we do?” Elisha answers, “Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.” And the prophet drops to his knees and prays, “Open his eyes that he may see.” And, behold, the boy looks, and sees, and the mountains round about are filled with chariots of fire as God’s angels come down in power to protect Elisha and to defeat the armies of Syria and to give victory to His cause and His people.

Fellow Baptists, that is our God. The same God who delivered the children of Israel out of bondage and brought them across the Red Sea on dry land! The same God who was with Paul and Silas in jail and turned that jailhouse into a revival meeting! The same God who brought Jesus Christ forth alive from the grave! And the same God who now works the power of that resurrection in our lives to deliver us from the bondage of sin and death.

Southern Baptists, that God is still on His throne! The reins of this world’s affairs are still in His hands! And He still intervenes in the affairs of men, in power! Today, His cause is our cause! By faith and dedication, His power can be our power! And by His grace, His victory can be our victory.

erican National Red Cross for \$65,000. Simultaneously with this announcement by Roy D. Gresham, executive secretary of the Baptist Convention of Maryland, came the news that all Baptist state offices would move almost immediately into their new building at 1313 York Rd., Lutherville, Md. The new telephone number there will be 823-8555.